Basics

Fundamental Assumption

Data is iid for unknown $P: (x_i, y_i) \sim P(X, Y)$

True risk and estimated error

True risk: $R(w) = \int P(x,y)(y-w^Tx)^2 \partial x \partial y =$ $\mathbb{E}_{x,y}[(y-w^Tx)^2]$

Est. error: $\hat{R}_D(w) = \frac{1}{|D|} \sum_{(x,y) \in D} (y - w^T x)^2$

Standardization

Centered data with unit variance: $\tilde{x}_i = \frac{x_i - \hat{\mu}}{\hat{z}}$ $\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i, \ \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2$

Cross-Validation

For all models m, for all $i \in \{1,...,k\}$ do:

- 1. Split data: $D = D_{train}^{(i)} \uplus D_{test}^{(i)}$ (Monte-Carlo
- 2. Train model: $\hat{w}_{i,m} = \operatorname{argmin} \hat{R}_{train}^{(i)}(w)$
- 3. Estimate error: $\hat{R}_{m}^{(i)} = \hat{R}_{test}^{(i)}(\hat{w}_{i,m})$ Select best model: $\hat{m} = \operatorname{argmin} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \hat{R}_{m}^{(i)}$

Parametric vs. Nonparametric models

Parametric: have finite set of parameters. e.g. linear regression, linear perceptron Nonparametric: grow in complexity with the size of the data, more expressive. e.g. k-NN

Gradient Descent

- 1. Pick arbitrary $w_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- 2. $w_{t+1} = w_t \eta_t \nabla R(w_t)$

Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

- 1. Pick arbitrary $w_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- 2. $w_{t+1} = w_t \eta_t \nabla_w l(w_t; x', y')$, with u.a.r. data point $(x',y') \in D$

Regression

Solve $w^* = \operatorname{argmin} \hat{R}(w) + \lambda C(w)$

Linear Regression

 $\hat{R}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - w^T x_i)^2 = ||Xw - y||_2^2$ $\nabla_w \hat{R}(w) = -2\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i) \cdot x_i$ $w^* = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$

Ridge regression

 $\hat{R}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \lambda ||w||_2^2$ $\nabla_w \hat{R}(w) = -2\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i) \cdot x_i + 2\lambda w$ $w^* = (X^T X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^T y$

L1-regularized regression (Lasso)

 $\hat{R}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \lambda ||w||_1$

Classification

Solve $w^* = \operatorname{argmin} l(w; x_i, y_i)$; loss function l

0/1 loss

 $l_{0/1}(w;y_i,x_i) = 1$ if $y_i \neq \text{sign}(w^T x_i)$ else 0

Perceptron algorithm

Use $l_P(w;y_i,x_i) = \max(0,-y_iw^Tx_i)$ and SGD

$$\nabla_w l_P(w; y_i, x_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y_i w^T x_i \ge 0 \\ -y_i x_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Data lin. separable ⇔ obtains a lin. separator (not necessarily optimal)

Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Hinge loss: $l_H(w;x_i,y_i) = \max(0,1-y_iw^Tx_i)$

$$\nabla_w l_H(w; y, x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y_i w^T x_i \ge 1 \\ -y_i x_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$w^* = \underset{w}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ l_H(w; x_i, y_i) + \lambda ||w||_2^2$$

Kernels

efficient, implicit inner products

Properties of kernel

 $k: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$, k must be some inner product (symmetric, positive-definite, linear) for some space \mathcal{V} . i.e. $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \langle \varphi(\mathbf{x}), \varphi(\mathbf{x}') \rangle_{\mathcal{V}} \stackrel{Eucl.}{=}$ $\varphi(\mathbf{x})^T \varphi(\mathbf{x}')$ and $k(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') = k(\mathbf{x}',\mathbf{x})$

Kernel matrix

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} k(x_1, x_1) & \dots & k(x_1, x_n) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ k(x_n, x_1) & \dots & k(x_n, x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

Positive semi-definite matrices \Leftrightarrow kernels k

Important kernels

Linear: $k(x,y) = x^T y$

Polynomial: $k(x,y) = (x^Ty+1)^d$

Gaussian: $k(x,y) = \exp(-||x-y||_2^2/(2h^2))$ Laplacian: $k(x,y) = \exp(-||x-y||_1/h)$

Composition rules

Valid kernels k_1, k_2 , also valid kernels: $k_1 + k_2$; $k_1 \cdot k_2$; $c \cdot k_1$, c > 0; $f(k_1)$ if f polynomial with pos. coeffs. or exponential

Reformulating the perceptron

Ansatz: $w^* \in \text{span}(X) \Rightarrow w = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j y_j x_j$ $\alpha^* = \underset{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^n \max(0, -\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i^T x_j)$

Kernelized perceptron and SVM

Use $\alpha^T k_i$ instead of $w^T x_i$, use $\alpha^T D_u K D_u \alpha$ instead of $||w||_2^2$ $k_i = [y_1 k(x_i, x_1), ..., y_n k(x_i, x_n)], D_y = \operatorname{diag}(y)$ Prediction: $\hat{y} = \operatorname{sign}(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i k(x_i, \hat{x}))$ SGD update: $\alpha_{t+1} = \alpha_t$, if mispredicted: $\alpha_{t+1,i} = \alpha_{t,i} + \eta_t$ (c.f. updating weights towards mispredicted point)

Kernelized linear regression (KLR)

Ansatz: $w^* = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x$ $\alpha^* = \operatorname{argmin} ||\alpha^T K - y||_2^2 + \lambda \alpha^T K \alpha$ $=(K+\lambda I)^{-1}y$ Prediction: $\hat{y} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i k(x_i, \hat{x})$

k-NN

 $y = \text{sign} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i [x_i \text{ among } k \text{ nearest neigh-} \right)$ bours of x] - No weights \Rightarrow no training! But depends on all data

Imbalance

up-/downsampling

Cost-Sensitive Classification

Scale loss by cost: $l_{CS}(w;x,y) = c_+ l(w;x,y)$

Metrics

 $n=n_{+}+n_{-}, n_{+}=TP+FN, n_{-}=TN+FP$ Accuracy: $\frac{TP+TN}{n}$, Precision: $\frac{TP}{TP+FP}$

Recall/TPR: $\frac{TP}{n}$, FPR: $\frac{FP}{n}$ F1 score: $\frac{2TP}{2TP+FP+FN} = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{prec} + \frac{1}{rec}}$ ROC Curve: u=TPR, x=FPR

Multi-class

one-vs-all (c), one-vs-one $(\frac{c(c-1)}{2})$, encoding

Multi-class Hinge loss

 $l_{MC-H}(w^{(1)},...,w^{(c)};x,y) =$ $\max(0,1+\max_{j\in\{1,\cdots,y-1,y+1,\cdots,c\}}w^{(j)T}x-w^{(y)T}x)$

Neural networks

Parameterize feature map with θ : $\phi(x,\theta) =$ $\varphi(\theta^T x) = \varphi(z)$ (activation function φ) $\Rightarrow w^* = \underset{w,\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} l(y_i; \sum_{j=1}^{m} w_j \phi(x_i, \theta_j))$

 $f(x; w, \theta_{1:d}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} w_i \varphi(\theta_i^T x) = w^T \varphi(\Theta x)$

Activation functions

Sigmoid: $\frac{1}{1+\exp(-z)}$, $\varphi'(z)=(1-\varphi(z))\cdot\varphi(z)$

tanh: $\varphi(z) = \tanh(z) = \frac{\exp(z) - \exp(-z)}{\exp(z) + \exp(-z)}$

ReLU: $\varphi(z) = \max(z,0)$

Predict: forward propagation

 $v^{(0)} = x$; for l = 1,...,L-1: $\begin{array}{l} v^{(l)}\!=\!\varphi(z^{(l)}),\,z^{(l)}\!=\!W^{(l)}v^{(l-1)}\\ f\!=\!W^{(L)}v^{(L-1)} \end{array}$

Predict f for regression, sign(f) for class.

Compute gradient: backpropagation Output layer: $\delta_j = l'_j(f_j)$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i,i}} = \delta_j v_i$

Hidden layer l=L-1,...,1: $\delta_j = \varphi'(z_j) \cdot \sum_{i \in Laver_{i+1}} w_{i,j} \delta_i, \ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i,i}} = \delta_j v_i$

Learning with momentum

 $a \leftarrow m \cdot a + \eta_t \nabla_W l(W; y, x); W_{t+1} \leftarrow W_t - a$

Convolution

- K = kernelSize
- \bullet C = channel
- F = filter
- inputSize = I
- padding = P
- stride = S
- Number of parameters = $K^{dimensions} \times C \times F$
- Output size = $\frac{I+2P-K}{S}+1$
- Inputs = W*H*D*C*N

Clustering

k-mean

$$\hat{R}(\mu) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \min_{j \in \{1, \dots k\}} ||x_i - \mu_j||_2^2$$

 $\hat{\mu} = \operatorname{argmin} \hat{R}(\mu)$...non-convex, NP-hard

Algorithm (Lloyd's heuristic):

- Choose starting centers
- assign points to closest center
- update centers to mean of each cluster
- repeat
- can take exponentially may steps to converge

k-mean++

- Start with random data point as center
- Add centers 2 to k randomly
- proportionally to squared distance to closest selected center

for i=2 to k:

 i_i sampled with prob.

 $P(i_j = i) = \frac{1}{z} \min_{1 \le l \le j} ||x_i - \mu_l||_2^2; \ \mu_j \leftarrow x_{i_j}$

Dimension reduction

PCA

 $D = x_1, ..., x_n \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \ \Sigma = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_i^T, \ \mu = 0$ $(W, z_1, ..., z_n) = \operatorname{argmin} \sum_{i=1}^n ||Wz_i - x_i||_2^2,$ $W = (v_1|...|v_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$, orthogonal; $z_i = W^T x_i$ v_i are the eigen vectors of Σ

Kernel PCA

Kernel PC: $\alpha^{(1)}, ..., \alpha^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ \alpha^{(i)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} v_i$ $K = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i v_i v_i^T, \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_d \geq 0$

New point: $\hat{z} = f(\hat{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i^{(i)} k(\hat{x}, x_i)$

Autoencoders

Find identity function: $x \approx f(x;\theta)$

 $f(x;\theta) = f_{decode}(f_{encode}(x;\theta_{encode});\theta_{decode})$

Probability modeling

Find $h: X \to Y$ that min. pred. error: $R(h) = \int P(x,y)l(y;h(x))\partial yx\partial y = \mathbb{E}_{x,y}[l(y;h(x))]$

For least squares regression

Best $h: h^*(x) = \mathbb{E}[Y|X = x]$

Pred.: $\hat{y} = \hat{\mathbb{E}}[Y|X = \hat{x}] = \int \hat{P}(y|X = \hat{x})y\partial y$

Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

 $\theta^* = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \hat{P}(y_1, ..., y_n | x_1, ..., x_n, \theta)$

E.g. lin. + Gauss: $y_i = w^T x_i + \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ i.e. $y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(w^T x_i, \sigma^2)$, With MLE (use argmin $-\log$): $w^* = \underset{w}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{w} (y_i - w^T x_i)^2$

Bias/Variance/Noise

Prediction error = $Bias^2 + Variance + Noise$

Maximum a posteriori estimate (MAP)

Introduce bias o reduce variance. The small weight assumption is a Gaussian prior $w_i \in \mathcal{N}(0, \beta^2)$

Bay.: $P(w|x,y) = \frac{P(w|x)P(y|x,w)}{P(y|x)} = \frac{P(w)P(y|x,w)}{P(y|x)}$ Now we want to find MAP for w:

$$\hat{w} = argmax_w p(w|\bar{x},\bar{y})$$

$$= argmin_w - \log \frac{p(w) \cdot p(y|x, w)}{p(y|w)}$$
$$= argmin_w \frac{\sigma^2}{\beta^2} ||w||_2^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i)^2$$

Regularization can be understood as MAP inference, with different priors (= regularizers) and likelihoods (= loss functions).

Logistic regression

Link func.: $\sigma(w^T x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T x)}$ (Sigmoid)

 $P(y|x, w) = Ber(y; \sigma(w^T x)) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T x)}$

Classification: Use P(y|x,w), predict most likely class label.

MLE: argmax
$$P(y_{1:n}|w,x_{1:n})$$

$$\Rightarrow w^* = \underset{w}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(1 + \exp(-y_i w^T x_i))$$

SGD update:
$$w = w + \eta_t yx \hat{P}(Y = -y|w,x)$$

$$\hat{P}(Y = -y|w,x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(yw^T x)}$$

MAP: Gauss. prior $\Rightarrow ||w||_2^2$, Lap. p. $\Rightarrow ||w||_1$ SGD: $w = w(1-2\lambda\eta_t) + \eta_t yx \hat{P}(Y=-y|w,x)$

Bayesian decision theory

- Conditional distribution over labels $P(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{x})$
- Set of actions \mathcal{A}

- Cost function $C: Y \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$ $a^* = \underset{a \in \mathcal{A}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathbb{E}[C(y,a)|x]$

Calculate $\mathbb E$ via sum/integral.

Classification: $C(y,a) = [y \neq a]$; asymmetric:

$$C(y,a) = \begin{cases} c_{FP} , & \text{if } y = -1, a = +1 \\ c_{FN} , & \text{if } y = +1, a = -1 \\ 0 , & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Regression: $C(y, a) = (y - a)^2$; asymmetric: $C(y,a) = c_1 \max(y-a,0) + c_2 \max(a-y,0)$ E.g. $y \in \{-1, +1\}$, predict + if $c_+ < c_-$, $c_+ = \mathbb{E}(C(y,+1)|x) = P(y=1|x) \cdot 0 + P(y=-1|x) \cdot c_{FP}$, c_- likewise

Robbins-Monro condition

Learning rate η_t guarantees convergence if $\sum_t \eta_t = \infty$ and $\sum_t \eta_t^2 < \infty$

Discriminative / generative modeling

Discr. estimate P(y|x), generative P(y,x)Approach (generative): $P(x,y) = P(x|y) \cdot P(y)$ -Estimate prior on labels P(y)

- Estimate cond. distr. P(x|y) for each class y
- Pred. using Bayes: $P(y|x) = \frac{P(y)P(x|y)}{P(x)}$

$$P(x) = \sum_{y} P(x,y)$$

Examples

MLE for $P(y) = p = \frac{n_+}{n}$ MLE for $P(x_i|y) = \mathcal{N}(x_i; \mu_{i,y}, \sigma_{i,y}^2)$:

$$\hat{\mu}_{i,y} = \frac{1}{n_y} \sum_{x \in D_{x_i|y}} x$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{i,y}^2 = \frac{1}{n_y} \sum_{x \in D_{x_i|y}} (x - \hat{\mu}_{i,y})^2$$

MLE for Poi.: $\lambda = \operatorname{avg}(x_i)$

 \mathbb{R}^d : $P(X=x|Y=y) = \prod_{i=1}^d Pois(\lambda_y^{(i)}, x^{(i)})$

Deriving decision rule

 $P(y|x) = \frac{1}{Z}P(y)P(x|y), Z = \sum_{y}P(y)P(x|y)$ $y^* = \max_{y} P(y|x) = \max_{y} P(y)\prod_{i=1}^{d} P(x_i|y)$

Gaussian Bayes Classifier

 $P(x|y) = \mathcal{N}(x; \hat{\mu}_y, \hat{\Sigma}_y)$ $\hat{P}(Y=y) = \hat{n}_x = \frac{n_y}{2}$

$$\hat{P}(Y=y) = \hat{p}_y = \frac{n_y}{n}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_y = \frac{1}{n_y} \sum_{i:y_i=y} x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}_y = \frac{1}{n_y} \sum_{i:y_i=y} x_i \in \mathbb{I}$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}_y = \frac{1}{n_y} \sum_{i:y_i=y} (x_i - \hat{\mu}_y) (x_i - \hat{\mu}_y)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

Fisher's lin. discrim. analysis (LDA, c=2)

Assume: p=0.5; $\hat{\Sigma}_{-}=\hat{\Sigma}_{+}=\hat{\Sigma}$ discriminant function: $f(x)=\log \frac{p}{1-x}+$

$$\frac{1}{2} [\log \frac{|\hat{\Sigma}_{-}|}{|\hat{\Sigma}_{+}|} + ((x - \hat{\mu}_{-})^{T} \hat{\Sigma}_{-}^{-1} (x - \hat{\mu}_{-})) - ((x - \hat{\mu}_{+})^{T} \hat{\Sigma}_{+}^{-1} (x - \hat{\mu}_{+}))]$$

Predict: $y = \text{sign}(f(x)) = \text{sign}(w^T x + w_0)$ $w = \hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\hat{\mu}_+ - \hat{\mu}_-);$ $w_0 = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mu}_-^T \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \hat{\mu}_- - \hat{\mu}_+^T \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \hat{\mu}_+)$

Outlier Detection

 $P(x) \le \tau$

Categorical Naive Bayes Classifier

MLE for feature distr.: $\hat{P}(X_i = c|Y = y) = \theta_{c|y}^{(i)}$ $\theta_{c|y}^{(i)} = \frac{Count(X_i = c, Y = y)}{Count(Y = y)}$ Prediction: $y^* = argmax\hat{P}(y|x)$

Missing data

Mixture modeling

Model each c. as probability distr. $P(x|\theta_j)$

$$P(D|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{k} w_j P(x_i|\theta_j)$$

$$L(w,\theta) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \sum_{j=1}^{k} w_j P(x_i | \theta_j)$$

Gaussian-Mixture Bayes classifiers

Estimate prior P(y); Est. condistr. for each class: $P(x|y) = \sum_{j=1}^{k_y} w_j^{(y)} \mathcal{N}(x; \mu_j^{(y)}, \Sigma_j^{(y)})$

Hard-EM algorithm

Initialize parameters $\theta^{(0)}$

E-step: Predict most likely class for each point: $z_i^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmax} P(z|x_i, \theta^{(t-1)})$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}^{z} P(z|\theta^{(t-1)}) P(x_i|z,\theta^{(t-1)});$$

M-step: Compute the MLE: $\theta^{(t)}$ argmax $P(D^{(t)}|\theta)$, i.e. $\mu_j^{(t)} = \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{i:z_i=j} x_i$

Soft-EM algorithm

E-step: Calc p for each point and cls.: $\gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i)$ M-step: Fit clusters to weighted data points:

$$w_j^{(t)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i); \ \mu_j^{(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i) x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i)}$$
$$\sigma_j^{(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i) (x_i - \mu_j^{(t)})^T (x_i - \mu_j^{(t)})}{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i)}$$

Soft-EM for semi-supervised learning

labeled y_i : $\gamma_j^{(t)}(x_i) = [j = y_i]$, unlabeled: $\gamma_i^{(t)}(x_i) = P(Z = j | x_i, \mu^{(t-1)}, \Sigma^{(t-1)}, w^{(t-1)})$

Useful math

Probabilities

$$\mathbb{E}_{x}[X] = \begin{cases} \int x \cdot p(x) \partial x & \text{if continuous} \\ \sum_{x} x \cdot p(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu_{X})^{2}] = \mathbb{E}[X^{2}] - \mathbb{E}[X]^{2}$$

$$\begin{split} &P(A|B) \!=\! \tfrac{P(B|A)\cdot P(A)}{P(B)}; \, p(Z|X,\!\theta) \!=\! \tfrac{p(X,Z|\theta)}{p(X|\theta)} \\ &P(x,\!y) \!=\! P(y|x)\cdot P(x) \!=\! P(x|y)\cdot P(y) \end{split}$$

Bayes Rule

 $P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A) \cdot P(A)}{P(B)}$

P-Norm

 $||x||_p = (\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}, 1 \le p < \infty$

Some gradients

Some gradients $\begin{aligned} & \nabla_x ||x||_2^2 = 2x \\ & f(x) = x^T A x; \ \nabla_x f(x) = (A + A^T) x \\ & \text{E.g.} \ \nabla_w \log(1 + \exp(-y \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})) = \\ & \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-y \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})} \cdot \exp(-y \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}) \cdot (-y \mathbf{x}) = \\ & \frac{1}{1 + \exp(y \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})} \cdot (-y \mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$

Convex / Jensen's inequality

g(x) convex $\Leftrightarrow g''(x) > 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda \in [0, 1] :$ $g(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2) \leq \lambda g(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)g(x_2)$

Gaussian / Normal Distribution

cond.
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} exp(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2})$$

Multivariate Gaussian

 Σ = covariance matrix, μ = mean $f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{|\Sigma|}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)}$

Empirical: $\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i x_i^T$ (needs centered data points)

Positive semi-definite matrices

 $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is psd \Leftrightarrow $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x^T M x \ge 0 \Leftrightarrow$

all eigenvalues of M are positive: $\lambda_i \ge 0$