

① Term Project.

{ A Experimental
B Theoretical 5-pages

① Summary

② { advocate
critic

This time: Boosting (Adaboost)

NUS Prof. (Generalization)

Recap: ℓ_1 -regular. (Lasso / Compressed Sensing)

① Mathematical

② Graph Proof

$$\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_t (y_t - \theta^T x_t)^2 + \lambda \|\theta\|_1.$$

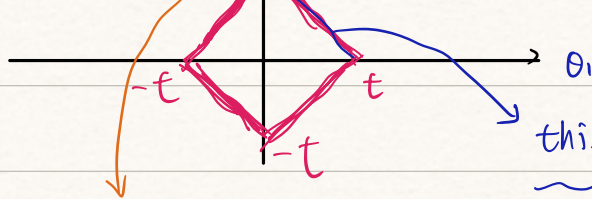
↕ Equivalent.

$$\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2n} \|y - X\theta\|^2 \quad \text{s.t. } \|\theta\|_1 \leq t \quad \text{for some } t \geq 0$$

(LASSO)

Figure:





this probability is very small!

(Lebesgue Measure)

Boosting / Adaboost (Feature selection)

Decision stump (Axis-aligned linear separators)

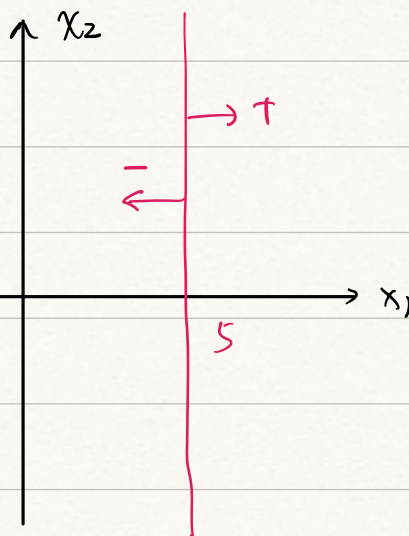
$$h(x; \theta) = \text{sign}(s(x_k - \theta_0)), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad k \in \{1, \dots, d\} \quad s \in \{\pm 1\}$$

$$\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}$$

[Example]

$$\begin{cases} s = +1 \\ \underline{k=1} \Rightarrow \text{Focus on } x_1 \\ \underline{\theta_0 = 5} \end{cases}$$

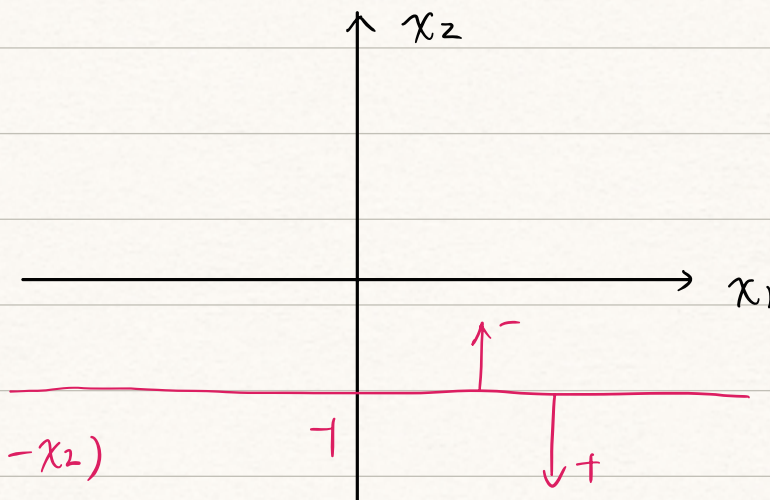
$$h(x, \theta) = \text{sign}(x_1 - 5)$$



[Example]

$$\begin{cases} s = - \\ k=2 \\ \theta_0 = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$h(x, \theta) = \text{sign}(-1 - x_2)$$

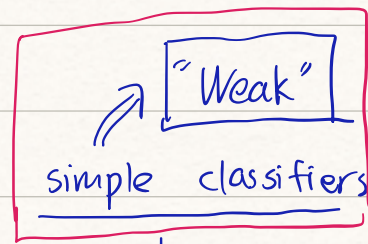


Pretty Simple Classifier!



Q: Can we "combine" several such
Form a "Strong" classifier?

Base Learner



simple classifiers to

↓
"Decision stumps"

~~Eg:~~ $\phi(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}) = [h(\underline{x}_i; \underline{\theta}_i); i=1, \dots, m]^T \Rightarrow$ Consider m decision stumps ^{$\in \{\pm 1\}^m$}

↓
 $\underline{\theta}_i = \{s_i, k_i, \theta_{0i}\}$

⇒ Difficult to get (learn) parameters

Run a linear classifier based on $\phi(\underline{x}, \underline{\theta})$

~~Eg:~~ Collect the output of all decision stumps into a SINGLE classifier.

⇒ $\begin{cases} \text{Tractable} \\ \text{Generalization Well} \end{cases}$

↓
Ensemble $\rightarrow h_m(\underline{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j h(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}_j)$, $\alpha_j \geq 0$ & $\sum \alpha_j = 1$. ^{convex combin.}

e.g. if $m=2$, and $h(\cdot; \underline{\theta}_2)$ is more "reliable",
then we may choose $\alpha_2 = 0.8$, $\alpha_1 = 0.2$.

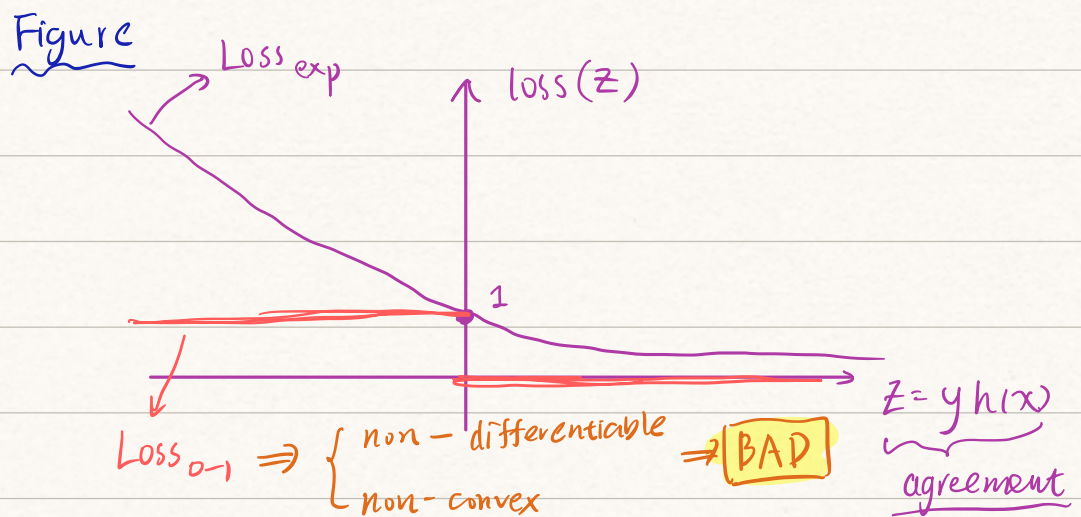
Rmk: Each stump has $\alpha_j \rightarrow$ "votes".

Ensemble $h_m(\underline{x})$ classifies a data \underline{x}' according to
the votes α_j of each stump $h(\cdot; \underline{\theta}_j)$

Our Aim: Learn $\{(\theta_j, \alpha_j)\}_{j=1}^m$ where $\theta_j = \{s_j, k_j, \theta_{0j}\}$

Weak Learner $\xRightarrow{\text{Ensemble}}$ Strong Learner
 \downarrow
Stump

Exponential Loss $\rightarrow \text{Loss}_{\text{exp}}(y, h(x)) = \exp(-y h(x)) = \exp(-z)$
label \rightarrow prediction



Remark: $\text{Loss}_{0-1}(z) \leq \text{Loss}_{\text{exp}}(z)$

\Downarrow
The exp. loss is a SURROGATE to the 0-1 loss.
 $\rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{convex} \\ \text{differentiable} \end{cases}$

Aim: Learn parameters θ_j and votes α_j GREEDILY.

\Downarrow greedy alg.

Assume that we learn $(m-1)$ -th weak classifier & their votes, i.e., $\{(\theta_j, \alpha_j)\}_{j=1}^{m-1}$. These are fixed for learning

the m -th term $\alpha_m \cdot h(\cdot; \theta_m)$

Consider the ensemble:

$$\underline{h_m(x)} = \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j h(x; \theta_j)$$

$$= \left[\sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \alpha_j h(x; \theta_j) \right] + \alpha_m h(x; \theta_m)$$

$$= \underline{h_{m-1}(x)} + \alpha_m h(x; \theta_m)$$

Compute the exp. loss on a given dataset $\mathcal{D}_n = \{(x_t, y_t)\}_{t=1}^n$

$$J(\underbrace{\alpha_m}_{\text{vote}}, \underbrace{\theta_m}_{\text{stump}}) = \sum_{t=1}^n \text{loss}_{\text{exp}}(y_t, \underline{h_m(x_t)})$$

ensemble learner

$$= \sum_{t=1}^n \exp(-y_t \underline{h_m(x_t)})$$

ensemble at m -th iter

Our aim is to minimize this!

$$= \sum_{t=1}^n \exp(-y_t \underline{h_{m-1}(x_t)} - y_t \alpha_m h(x_t; \theta_m))$$

ensemble at $(m-1)$ -th iter

$$= \sum_{t=1}^n \underbrace{W_{m-1}(t)}_{\text{Loss} \rightarrow t \& m-1} \exp(-y_t \alpha_m h(x_t; \theta_m))$$



$\underline{W_{m-1}(t) := \exp(-y_t h_{m-1}(x_t))}$
→ "weights" Associated to data point (x_t, y_t)
after $(m-1)$ -th iteration

$$\underline{\text{Note: } W_m(t) = W_{m-1}(t) * \exp(-y_t \alpha_m h(x_t; \theta_m))}$$

Ada Boost Alg.

⇒ Input: $\mathcal{D}_n = \{(x_t, y_t)\}_{t=1}^n$

$$\text{Loss} = \exp(-y z)$$

$$Z = \sum \alpha_i g_m(x)$$

- Initialize weight: $W_0(t) = \frac{1}{n}$ For all t .

→ we have $(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$ $i=1, 2, \dots, m-1$
(stump)

- At Boosting Stage m , find a base learner $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$ that minimize:

$$\hat{\theta}_m = \arg \min_{\theta_m} - \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) y_t h(x_t; \theta_m)$$

⇓

Learn the Stump.

↪ weighted trg loss.

$$\tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) = \frac{W_{m-1}(t)}{\sum_t W_{m-1}(t)}$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_m = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1 - \hat{\epsilon}_m}{\hat{\epsilon}_m} \right)$$

↪ normalized weight

$\hat{\epsilon}_m =$

- Choose vote $\hat{\alpha}_m \in \mathbb{R}$ using a formula (comes from Greedy)

- Update the weights $\tilde{W}_m(t) = \frac{\tilde{W}_{m-1}(t)}{Z_m} \exp(-y_t h(x_t, \hat{\theta}_m) \hat{\alpha}_m)$

$$= \begin{cases} \exp(\alpha_m) & \text{inequal} \\ \exp(-\alpha_m) & \text{equal} \end{cases}$$

Note: ①

$$- \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) y_t h(x_t; \theta_m)$$

⇒ Motivation

$$\text{Claim: } -y_t h(x_t; \theta_m) = 2 \cdot \mathbb{1}\{y_t \neq h(x_t; \theta_m)\} - 1$$

pf: ① $y_t = h(x_t; \theta_m) \Rightarrow \text{LHS} = -1 \quad \text{RHS} = -1$

② $y_t \neq h(x_t; \theta_m) \Rightarrow \text{LHS} = +1 \quad \text{RHS} = +1$

$$- \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) y_t h(x_t; \theta_m) \begin{cases} y_t = h \Rightarrow 1 \\ y_t \neq h \Rightarrow -1 \end{cases}$$

$$= \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) [2 \cdot \mathbb{1}\{y_t \neq h(x_t; \theta_m)\} - 1]$$

$$= \sum_{t=1}^n 2 \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) \mathbb{1}\{y_t \neq h(x_t; \theta_m)\} - 1 \quad (\text{since } \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) = 1)$$

$$:= 2\hat{\epsilon}_m - 1.$$

$$\hat{\epsilon}_m = \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t) \mathbb{1}\{y_t \neq h(x_t; \hat{\theta}_m)\}$$

weighted training loss $= \sum_{t: \text{misclassified}} \tilde{W}_{m-1}(t)$

Rmk: Since $\tilde{W}_0(t) = \frac{1}{n}$, $t=1, 2, \dots, n$. $\epsilon_1 = \text{trg error} = \sum_{t: y_t \neq h(x_t, \theta_1)} \frac{1}{n}$

② Update Rule of Weights (when we attain $\hat{\theta}_m$)

$$\tilde{W}_m(t) = \frac{\tilde{W}_{m-1}(t)}{Z_m} \exp \left(\overbrace{-y_t h(x_t; \hat{\theta}_m)}^{e \in \{\pm 1\}} \tilde{\alpha}_m \right)$$

$$= \frac{\tilde{W}_{m-1}(t)}{Z_m} \times \begin{cases} e^{-\tilde{\alpha}_m}, & \text{if } y_t = h(x_t, \hat{\theta}_m) \\ e^{+\tilde{\alpha}_m}, & \text{if } y_t \neq h(x_t, \hat{\theta}_m) \end{cases}$$

increase weight

\Rightarrow So, if $\tilde{\alpha}_m > 0$ (usual case), the examples that are misclassified by $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$ are given higher weights in the next boosting stage.

Final classifier $\rightarrow \underline{h_m(x) = \sum_{j=1}^m \tilde{\alpha}_j h(x; \hat{\theta}_j)}$

Q: How to choose the votes $\tilde{\alpha}_j$



$$\tilde{\alpha}_m = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1 - \hat{\epsilon}_m}{\hat{\epsilon}_m} \right) \quad \hat{\epsilon}_m = \sum_{t=1}^n \tilde{w}_{m-1}(t) \mathbb{1} \{ y_t \neq h(x_t; \hat{\theta}_m) \}$$

$\hat{\epsilon}_m$: weighted training error when we consider the optimized stump $\underline{h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)}$ \Rightarrow m-th iteration (update)

Remark: ① $\hat{\epsilon}_m = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{\alpha}_m = +\infty \leftrightarrow$ put all weights on classifier $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$



$h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$ perfectly classifies all training samples



② $\hat{\epsilon}_m = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \tilde{\alpha}_m = 0 \rightarrow$ No weights on classifier $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$



$h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_m)$ is 'maximally confused'

How does AdaBoost Perform?



Guarantee by a theorem:

[THM]: If each base classifier $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_j)$ is slightly better than random guessing, i.e., $\hat{\epsilon}_j < \frac{1}{2}$



\Downarrow
 $\sum \widetilde{W}_{j-1}(t)$
 t : classified wrongly on
 $h(\cdot; \hat{\theta}_j)$

the training error decrease to 0 exponentially,
i.e., $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \mathbb{1} \{y_t h_m(x_t) \leq 0\} \leq \exp(-2 \sum_{j=1}^m (\frac{1}{2} - \hat{\epsilon}_j)^2)$



In particular, if there exists δ s.t.

$$\underline{\frac{1}{2} - \hat{\epsilon}_j \geq \delta}$$

then $\frac{1}{n} \sum \mathbb{1} \{y_t h_m(x_t) \leq 0\} \leq \exp(-2m\delta^2)$



training error (0-1)