EECS 445

Introduction to Machine Learning

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Abstract

Theory and implementation of state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms for large-scale real-world applications. Topics include supervised learning (regression, classification, kernel methods, neural networks, and regularization) and unsupervised learning (clustering, density estimation, and dimensionality reduction).

1 Readings

1.1 Probability Distributions

Definition 1.1 (Binary Variable)**.** Single variable that can take on either 1, or 0; $x \in \{0, 1\}$. We denote μ $(0 \leq \mu \leq 1)$ to be the probability that the random binary variable $x = 1$

$$p(x = 1|\mu) = \mu$$

$$p(x = 0|\mu) = 1 - \mu$$

Definition 1.2 (Bernoulli Distribution)**.** Probability distribution of the binary variable x, where μ is the probability $x = 1$.

$$\mathrm{Bern}(x|\mu) = \mu^x(1-\mu)^{1-x}$$

The distribution has the following properties:

- $\mathrm{E}(x) = \mu$
- $\mathrm{Var}(x) = \mu(1-\mu)$
- $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\} \to p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) = \Pi_{n=1}^{N} p(x_n|\mu)$
- Maximum likelihood estimator: $\mu_{ML} = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=1}^{N} x_n = \frac{numOfOnes}{sampleSize}$ (aka. sample mean)

Definition 1.3 (Binomial Distribution)**.** Distribution of m observations of $x = 1$, given a sample size of N.

$$\mathrm{Bin}(m|N, \mu = {}^{N}_{m}\mu^m(1-\mu)^{N-m}$$

- $\mathrm{E}(m) = N\mu$
- $\mathrm{Var}(m) = N\mu(1-\mu)$

The Beta Distribution

In order to develop a Bayesian treatment for fitting data sets, we will introduce a prior distribution $p(\mu)$.

- **Conjugacy:** when the prior and posterior distributions belong to the same family.

Definition 1.4 (Beta Distribution)**.**

$$\mathrm{Beta}(\mu|a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\mu^{a-1}(1-\mu)^{b-1}$$

Where $\Gamma(x)$ is the gamma function. The distribution has the following properties:

- $\mathrm{E}(\mu) = \frac{a}{a+b}$
- $\mathrm{Var}(\mu) = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}$

- conjugacy
- $a \to \infty || b \to \infty \to$ variance
  $to0$

Conjugacy can be shown by the distribution by the likelihood function (binomial):

$$p(\mu|m, l, a, b) \propto \mu^{m+a-1}(1-\mu)^{l+b-1}$$

Normalized to:

$$p(\mu|m, l, a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(m+a+l+b)}{\Gamma(m+a)\Gamma(l+b)}\mu^{m+a-1}(1-\mu)^{l+b-1}$$

- **Hyperparameters:** parameters that control the distribution of the regular parameters.
- **Sequential Approach:** method of learning where you make use of an observation one at a time, or in small batches, and then discard them before the next observatiosn are used. (Can be shown with a Beta, where observing $x = 1 \to a++, x = 0 \to b++$, then normalizing)
- For a finite data set, the posterior mean for μ always lies between the prior mean and the maximum likelihood estimate.
- A general property of Bayesian learning is when we observe more and more data the uncertainty of the posterior distribution will steadily decrease.
- More information and examples of probability distributions can be found in Appendix B of Bishop's 'Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning.'

1.2 Linear Models for Regression

- **Linear Regression:** $y(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1x_1 + \ldots + w_Dx_D$
- Limited on linear function of input variables x_i
- Extend the model with nonlinear functions, where $\phi_j(x)$ are known as basis functions:

$$y(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{M-1} w_j\phi_j(x)$$

- w_0 allows for any fixed offset in data, and is known as the **bias parameter**.
- Given a dummy variable $\phi_0(x) = 1$, our model becomes:

$$y(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} w_j\phi_j(x) = \mathbf{W^T}\phi(x)$$

- Functions of this form are called **linear models** because the function is linear in weight.

Maximum likelihood and least squares

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