Consistency of probability estimation

Chanwoo Lee, July 2, 2020

Lemma 1. Let $\mathcal{F}(k) = \{f : \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2} \to \mathbb{R} : f(\boldsymbol{X}) = \langle \boldsymbol{B}, \boldsymbol{X} \rangle \text{ where } \|\boldsymbol{B}\| \leq k \}$. Suppose that a considered feature space is uniformly bounded such that $\|\boldsymbol{X}\| \leq G$. Then the covering number with respect to infinity norm is bounded by,

$$\log N_{\infty}(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)) \le \mathcal{O}\left(d_1 d_2 \log\left(\frac{Gk}{\epsilon}\right)\right).$$

Proof. Define $\mathcal{B}_k = \{ \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2} : \|\mathbf{B}\| \leq k \}$. By the definition of infinity norm in the function space, we have

$$||f_{\mathbf{B}} - f_{\mathbf{B}'}||_{\infty} = ||\langle \mathbf{B}, \cdot \rangle - \langle \mathbf{B}, \cdot \rangle||_{\infty} = \sup_{||\mathbf{X}|| \le G} |\langle \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}', \mathbf{X} \rangle| = G||\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}'||_{2}$$

Therefore, the metric space $(\mathcal{F}(k), \|\cdot\|_{\infty})$ is isomorphic to the metric space $(\mathcal{B}_k, G\|\cdot\|_2)$. We can check the covering number $N_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{B}_k) \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)^{d_1 d_2}\right)$ which proves the lemma.

Remark 1. When we restrict the considered linear function class to

$$\mathcal{F}_r(M) = \{ f : \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2} \to \mathbb{R} : f(\boldsymbol{X}) = \langle \boldsymbol{B}, \boldsymbol{X} \rangle \text{ s.t. } \operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{B}) \leq r, \lambda_1(\boldsymbol{B}) \leq M \}.$$

One can verify that

$$\log N_{\infty}(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}_r(M)) \le \mathcal{O}\left(d_1 d_2 \log\left(\frac{rGM}{\epsilon}\right)\right),$$

from the inclusion $\mathcal{F}_r(M) \subset \mathcal{F}(rM)$.

Lemma 2. Let k > 0 be a given constant. If $\frac{1}{Ke} > L > 0$, we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{O}(L)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L})} \sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)} d\omega \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{L\log\left(\frac{k}{\sqrt{L}}\right)}\right).$$

Proof.

$$\int_{\mathcal{O}(L)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L})} \sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)}} d\omega = k \left[\omega\sqrt{\log\left(\frac{1}{\omega}\right)}\right]_{\mathcal{O}(L/k)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L}/k)}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{L\log\left(\frac{k}{\sqrt{L}}\right)}\right)$$
(1)

The first equality in (1) is from changing variable. Notice that

$$\int_{\mathcal{O}(L)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L})} \sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)}} d\omega \ge \int_{\mathcal{O}(L)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L})} \sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\omega}\right)} - \mathcal{O}(1) d\omega, \tag{2}$$

from the condition on L. Combining Equation (1) and Equation (2) completes the proof.

Lemma 3.
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}\sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\sqrt{L}}\right)} \leq \sqrt{n} \ holds \ if \ L \leq \frac{\log(n) + 2\log(k)}{n}$$
.

Proof. Suppose $L \leq \frac{\log(n) + 2\log(k)}{n}$. By plugging in, we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}\sqrt{\log\left(\frac{k}{\sqrt{L}}\right)} \le \sqrt{\frac{n}{\log(n) + 2\log(k)}\left(\log(n) + 2\log(k) - \log\log(nk^2)\right)} < \sqrt{n}.$$

Let \bar{f}_{π} be a Bayes rule. In addition, let $e_V(f, \bar{f}_{\pi}) = \mathbb{E}\{V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_{\pi}, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\}$ with $V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) = S(y)L\{yf(\boldsymbol{X})\}$.

Based on function class $\mathcal{F}_r(M)$, we have the following theorem.

Theorem 0.1. Assume that

- 1. For some positive sequence such that $s_n \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$, there exists $f_{\pi}^* \in \mathcal{F}_r(M)$ such that $e_V(f_{\pi}^*, \bar{f}_{\pi}) \leq s_n$.
- 2. There exists $0 \le \alpha < \infty$ and $a_1 > 0$ such that, for any sufficiently small $\delta > 0$,

$$\sup_{\{f \in \mathcal{F}: e_V(f, \bar{f}_\pi) \le \delta\}} \|sign(f) - sign(\bar{f}_\pi)\|_1 \le a_1 \delta^{\alpha},$$

3. Considered feature space is uniformly bounded such that there exists $0 < G < \infty$ satisfying $\|X\| \leq G$

Then, for the estimator \hat{p} obtained from our algorithm, there exists a constant a_2 such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\|\hat{p} - p\|_1 \ge \frac{1}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}a_1(m+1)\delta_n^{2\alpha}\right\} \le 15\exp\{-a_2n(\lambda J_{\pi}^*)\},$$

provided that $\lambda^{-1} \geq \frac{rGJ_{\pi}^*}{2\delta_n^2}$ where $J_{\pi}^* = \max(J(f_{\pi}^*), 1)$ and $\delta_n = \max\left(\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log(n) + 2\log(rGM)}{n}\right), s_n\right)$.

Proof. We apply Theorem 3 in [2] to our case. First, notice that trucation on the loss function V is not needed by third assumption:

$$||yf(\boldsymbol{X})|| = ||\langle B, \boldsymbol{X} \rangle|| \le ||B|| ||\boldsymbol{X}|| \le rGM,$$

which implies uniformly boundness of V. Let V be bounded by T. For the second equation of Assumption 2 in [2],

$$\operatorname{var}\{V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_{\pi}, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\} \leq \mathbb{E}|V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_{\pi}, \boldsymbol{X}, y)|^{2}$$

$$\leq T\mathbb{E}|V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_{\pi}, \boldsymbol{X}, y)|$$

$$= Te_{V}(f, \bar{f}_{\pi}).$$

Therefore, β in [2] can be replaced by 1 from the following inequality.

$$\sup_{\{f \in \mathcal{F}: e_V(f, \bar{f}_\pi) \leq \delta\}} \operatorname{var}\{V(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\} \leq \sup_{\{f \in \mathcal{F}: e_V(f, \bar{f}_\pi) \leq \delta\}} Te_V(f, \bar{f}_\pi) \leq T\delta$$

Now we check Assumption 3 in [2]. Notice that

$$H_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}^V(k)) \le H_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)) \le \log N_\infty(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)),$$
 (3)

because for functions f_{ℓ} and f_{u} , $||V(f_{\ell},\cdot) - V(f_{u},\cdot)||_{2} \le ||f_{\ell} - f_{u}||_{2}$. The last inequality in (3) is from Lemma 9.22 in [1]. From Lemma 1, we have

$$\log N_{\infty}(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)) \le \mathcal{O}\left(d_1 d_2 \log\left(\frac{Gk}{\epsilon}\right)\right) \approx \mathcal{O}\left(\log\left(\frac{Gk}{\epsilon}\right)\right).$$

Therefore, we have the following equation from Lemma 2.

$$\phi(\epsilon, k) \approx \int_{\mathcal{O}(L)}^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{L})} \log \left(\frac{kG}{\omega} \right) d\omega / L \lessapprox \mathcal{O} \left(\left(\log \left(\frac{kG}{L} \right) / L \right)^{1/2} \right),$$

where $L = \min\{\epsilon^2 + \lambda(k/2 - 1)H_\pi^*, 1\}$. Solving Assumption 3 in [2] gives us $\epsilon_n^2 = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log(n) + 2\log(rGM)}{n}\right)$ by Lemma 3 when $\epsilon_n^2 \ge \lambda rGJ_\pi^*$. Plugging each variable into Theorem 3 proves the theorem. Notice that condition of λ is replaced because $\{\epsilon_n^2 \ge \lambda rGJ_\pi^*\} \subset \{\epsilon_n^2 \ge 2\lambda J_\pi^*\}$ when $rG \ge 2$.

References

- [1] Michael R Kosorok. Introduction to empirical processes and semiparametric inference. Springer Science & Business Media, 2007.
- [2] Junhui Wang, Xiaotong Shen, and Yufeng Liu. Probability estimation for large-margin classifiers. *Biometrika*, 95(1):149–167, March 2008.