Rademacher complexity and consistency of the estimation

Chanwoo Lee, June 25, 2020

1 Rademacher complexity

Based on many lecture notes and papers related to Rademacher complexity, I find general theorem about the error bound.

Theorem 1.1. *Let ℓ and $\mathcal{F}$ be a considered loss function and function space. From $\{(\boldsymbol{X}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ i.i.d. drawn samples, with probability at least $1-\delta$, we have the following inequality.*

$$\sup_{f\in\mathcal{F}}\left[\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{X},y}(\ell(y, f(\boldsymbol{X})) - \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\boldsymbol{X}_i))\right] \leq \mathcal{R}_n(\ell\circ\mathcal{F}) + \sqrt{\frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{2n}},$$

where $\ell\circ\mathcal{F} = \{\ell\circ f : (\boldsymbol{X}, y)\mapsto \ell(y, f(\boldsymbol{X})) : f\in\mathcal{F}\}$ and $\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{G}) = 2\mathbb{E}\sup_{g\in\mathcal{G}}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n\sigma_i g(\boldsymbol{X}_i)$.

In particular, when $\mathcal{F}$ is a set of $\{-1,1\}$-valued functions defined on $\mathcal{X}$ and $\ell(y, f(\boldsymbol{X})) = \mathbb{1}\{y \neq f(\boldsymbol{X})\}$, one can show $\mathcal{R}_n(\ell\circ\mathcal{F}) = \frac{\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F})}{2}$ (you can check [1]) so that we have the following generalization error, which we based on: For all $f\in\mathcal{F}$,

$$\mathbb{P}[Y\neq f(\boldsymbol{X})] \leq \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}\{y_i\neq f(\boldsymbol{X}_i)\} + \frac{\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F})}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{2n}}. \tag{1}$$

Remark 1. From the definition of sup in Theorem 1.1, Equation (1) holds for any function in $\mathcal{F}$.

Remark 2. Equation (1) holds only when considered function class is a set of $\{-1,1\}$-valued functions. So we cannot directly apply Rademacher complexity of linear predictors.

Remark 3. In [3], they bound the Rademacher complexity using entropy of $\mathcal{F}$. But I am not sure they consider $\mathcal{F}$ as a set of $\{-1,1\}$-valued functions. I think the reason of the authors using entropy is to find the general Rademacher complexity not confined in Euclidean space. In [2] where covering number is used for Rademacher complexity, I can check the authors use covering number for the Rademacher complexity in more general settings than Euclidean spaces.

I find a new way to utilize the Rademacher complexity of linear predictors such that

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_r) = 2\mathbb{E}\sup_{f\in\mathcal{F}}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n\sigma_i f(\boldsymbol{X}_i) \leq \frac{2MG\sqrt{r}}{\sqrt{n}}, \tag{2}$$

where $\mathcal{F}_r = \{f : \mathbb{R}^{d_1\times d_2}\to\mathbb{R} : f(\boldsymbol{X}) = \langle \boldsymbol{B}, \boldsymbol{X}\rangle \text{ with } \boldsymbol{B}\in\mathcal{B}\}$, $\mathcal{B} = \{\boldsymbol{B}\in\mathbb{R}^{d_1\times d_2} : \text{rank}(\boldsymbol{B}) \leq r, \lambda_1(\boldsymbol{B})\leq M\}$, and $G = \max\|\boldsymbol{X}\|$.

Theorem 1.2. *Let loss φ be L-Lipchitz and greater than 0/1 loss. For any $f\in\mathcal{F}_r$, with probability at least $1-\delta$,*

$$\mathbb{P}[Y\neq f(\boldsymbol{X})] \leq \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}\varphi(y_i f(\boldsymbol{X}_i)) + \frac{2LMG\sqrt{r}}{\sqrt{n}} + \sqrt{\frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{2n}}.$$

Proof. Note that

$$\mathbb{P}[Y \neq f(\boldsymbol{X})] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{1}\{y(f(\boldsymbol{X}) < 0\}] \leq \mathbb{E}(\varphi(yf(\boldsymbol{X})) \leq \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\varphi(y_i f(\boldsymbol{X}_i)) + \mathcal{R}_n(\varphi \circ \mathcal{F}_r) + \sqrt{\frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{2n}}.$$

Theorem 1.1 is used in the last inequality. The Rademacher complexity term is bounded by the following inequality.

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\ell \circ \mathcal{F}_r) = 2\mathbb{E}\sup_{\boldsymbol{B}\in\mathcal{B}}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\sigma_i(1 - y_i\langle \boldsymbol{B}, h(\boldsymbol{X}_i)\rangle)_+ \leq 2\mathbb{E}\sup_{\boldsymbol{B}\in\mathcal{B}}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\sigma_i\langle \boldsymbol{B}, h(\boldsymbol{X}_i)\rangle.$$

Therefore, (2) completes the theorem. □

Remark 4. We can apply the theorem with hinge loss or logistic loss with $L = 1$ because $\mathbb{1}\{yf(\boldsymbol{X}) < 0\} \leq \ell_{\text{hinge}}(yf(\boldsymbol{X}))$ and $\mathbb{1}\{yf(\boldsymbol{X}) < 0\} \leq \ell_{\text{logistic}}(yf(\boldsymbol{X}))$

2 Consistency of the probability estimation

We have 3 main assumptions for the consistency of the probability estimation.

Assumption 1. *For some positive sequence such that $s_n \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$, there exists $f_\pi^* \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $e_V(f_\pi^*, \bar{f}_\pi) \leq s_n$.*

Assumption 2. *There exist constants $0 \leq \alpha < \infty, 0 \leq \beta \leq 1, a_1 > 0$ and $a_2 > 0$ such that, for any sufficiently small $\delta > 0$,*

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

$$\sup_{\{f\in\mathcal{F}: e_{V^T}(f,\bar{f}_\pi)\leq\delta\}} var\{V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\} \leq a_2\delta^\beta. \tag{3}$$

Assumption 3. *For some constant $a_3, a_4, a_5 > 0$, and $\epsilon_n > 0$,*

$$\sup_{k\geq 2}\int_{a_4 L}^{\sqrt{a_3 L^\beta}} \sqrt{H_2(\omega, \mathcal{F}^V(k))}d\omega/L \leq a_5\sqrt{n}, \text{ where } L = L(\epsilon, \lambda, k) = \min\{\epsilon^2 + \lambda(k/2 - 1)J_\pi^*, 1\}.$$

Remark 5. Equation (3) in Assumption 2 can be made interpretable. Consider the following equation.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}\{V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\} &\leq \mathbb{E}|V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)|^2 \\ &\leq T\mathbb{E}|V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)| \\ &= T\|V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\|.\end{aligned}$$

(3) can be replaced by

$$\sup_{\{f\in\mathcal{F}: e_{V^T}(f,\bar{f}_\pi)\leq\delta\}} \|V^T(f, \boldsymbol{X}, y) - V(\bar{f}_\pi, \boldsymbol{X}, y)\|_1 \leq a_2\delta^\beta/T.$$

Therefore, the equations in Assumption 2 control local smoothness of the classifier function and truncated loss function.

Remark 6. Assumption 3 measures the complexity of considered function space. Notice that

$$H_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}^V(k)) \leq H_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)) \leq H_\infty(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k)),$$

because for functions f_ℓ and f_u, $\|V^T(f_\ell, \cdot) - V^T(f_u, \cdot)\|_2 \leq \|f_\ell - f_u\|_2 \leq \|f_\ell - f_u\|_\infty$. I assume that $H_2(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}^V(k))$ is replaced by $H_s(\epsilon, \mathcal{F}(k))$ where $s = 2$ or ∞ , for better interpretation sacrificing weak assumption. Then, solving the equation in Assumption 3,

$$g(\sqrt{a_3 L\beta}) - g(a_4 L) = \sup_{k\geq 2} \int_{a_4 L}^{\sqrt{a_3 L^\beta}} \sqrt{H_s(\omega, \mathcal{F}(k))} d\omega \leq a_5 \sqrt{n}, \tag{4}$$

gives us the relation of $\epsilon_n = g(n)$, which determines the value δ_n in the convergence rate in Theorem 2.1. Integration of entropy is closely related to upper bound of Rademacher complexity (Dudley's theorem) such that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{R}}_n(\mathcal{F}) &\leq 2\epsilon + \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{n}} \int_{\frac{\epsilon}{4}}^{\infty} \sqrt{H_\infty(\omega, \mathcal{F})} d\omega, \text{ or} \\ \hat{\mathcal{R}}_n(\mathcal{F}) &\leq \inf_{\epsilon \leq 0} 4\epsilon + 12 \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{H_2(\omega, \mathcal{F})}{n}} d\omega. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Since when solving (4), we only consider $\mathcal{O}\Big(\max(g(\sqrt{L^\beta}), g(L)\Big)$, the upper bounds of (5) have the same order with the left side term of (4). Therefore, we can relate Rademacher complexity with Assumption 3 with stricter condition.

Theorem 2.1. *Under Assumptions 1-3, for the estimator $\hat{p}$ obtained from our method, there exists a constant $a_6 > 0$ such that*

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{ \|\hat{p} - p\|_1 \geq \frac{1}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} a_1 (m+1) \delta_n^{2\alpha} \right\} \leq 15 \exp\{-a_6 n (\lambda J_\pi^*)^{2-\beta}\},$$

provided that $\lambda^{-1} \geq 4\delta_n^{-2} J_\pi^*$, where $\delta_n^2 = \min\{\max(\epsilon_n^2, s_n), 1\}$. Simplified version of the above argument is

$$\|\hat{p} - p\|_1 = \mathcal{O}_p \left\{ \frac{1}{m} + a_1 (m+1) \delta_n^{2\alpha} \right\},$$

provided that $n(\lambda J_\pi^*)^{2-\beta}$ is bounded away from 0.

References

[1] Peter L Bartlett and Shahar Mendelson. Rademacher and gaussian complexities: Risk bounds and structural results. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 3(Nov):463–482, 2002.

[2] Ulrike von Luxburg and Olivier Bousquet. Distance-based classification with lipschitz functions. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 5(Jun):669–695, 2004.

[3] Kush R Varshney and Alan S Willsky. Linear dimensionality reduction for margin-based classification: high-dimensional data and sensor networks. *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, 59(6):2496–2512, 2011.