## Binary Logistic Regression

Aaron Avram

June 4 2025

## Introduction

In this write up I will go through my derivation of the objective function and the optimization algorithm for my Multinomial Logistic Regression model.

## Construction

For my notation let  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  be the matrix with each of the n training inputs as rows. Where we define p to be the dimension of each input vector (or equivalently the number of features). Next let  $y \in \{1, \ldots, K\}^n$  equal the vector of training labels, where there are K output classes. I will apply the shortcut used in the Binary Model Construction where each row of X is given an additional final entry with a 1, to account for the bias term. So X is now a  $n \times (p+1)$  dimensional matrix. The model is parametrized by K-1 p+1 dimensional vectors  $\theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(k-1)}$ , which I will collectively refer to by the flattened combined vector  $\theta$ . Where the probabilities are given by:

$$\Pr(\kappa | x; \theta^{(\kappa)}) = \begin{cases} \frac{\exp((\theta^{(\kappa)})^T x)}{1 + \sum_{1 \le i < K} \exp((\theta^{(i)})^T x)} & \kappa < K \\ \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{1 \le i < K} \exp((\theta^{(i)})^T x)} & \kappa = K \end{cases}$$

The log likelihood function is then given by:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \sum_{1 \le r \le n} \log \Pr(y_r | x_r; \theta^{y_r})$$

Using a one hot encoding with the kronecker delta function we can write this as:

$$= \sum_{1 \le r \le n} \sum_{1 \le s \le K} \delta_{y_r s} \log \Pr(y_r | x_r; \theta^{(s)})$$

Consider the Likelihood function with respect to one input vector  $x_r$  and one parameter  $\theta^{(j)}$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{rj}(\theta) = \log \Pr(y_r|x_r)$$

However we can condense this further, as if  $y_r \neq j$  the numerator of the probability function is irrelevant to  $\theta^{(j)}$ , and if we decompose the fraction via the logarithm rules we can omit the numerator

term and replace it with a kronecker delta. I.e Suppose  $\Pr = N/D$  then  $\log(\Pr) = \log(N) - \log(D)$  and so if N is independent of  $\theta(j)$  we can omit it. Thus:

$$\mathcal{L}_{rj}(\theta) = \delta_{y_r j} \log(\exp((\theta^{(j)})^T x_r)) - \log(1 + \sum_{1 \le i < K} \exp((\theta^{(i)})^T x))$$
$$= \delta_{y_r j}(\theta^{(j)})^T x_r - \log(1 + \sum_{1 \le i < K} \exp((\theta^{(i)})^T x))$$

## **Gradient Calculations**

First lets take the partial derivative with respect to  $\theta^{(j)}$  we find

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{rj}}{\partial \theta^{(j)}} = \delta_{y_r j} x_r - \frac{x_r \exp((\theta^{(j)})^T x_r)}{1 + \sum_{1 \le i < K} \exp((\theta^{(i)})^T x)}$$
$$= x_r (\delta_{y_r j} - \Pr(j|x_i))$$

Now let us take the second partial derivative of this expression with respect to  $\theta^{(i)}$ 

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^{(i)}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{rj}}{\partial \theta^{(j)}} = \begin{cases} -x_r x_r^T \Pr(j|x_r) (1 - \Pr(j|x_r)) & i = j \\ x_r x_r^T \Pr(j|x_r) \Pr(i|x_r) & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

We can make this more compact utilizing the kronecker delta function:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^{(i)}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{rj}}{\partial \theta^{(j)}} = x_r x_r^T \Pr(i|x_r) (\delta_{ij} - \Pr(j|x_r))$$

Now let  $\Pr(j|x_r) = P_{jr}$  So the total second derivative of  $\mathcal{L}$  is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^{(i)}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta^{(j)}} = \sum_{1 \le r \le n} x_r x_r^T p_{ir} (\delta_{ij} - p_{jr})$$
$$= \sum_{1 \le r \le n} x_r x_r^T p_{ir} (\delta_{ij} - p_{jr})$$

If we let  $W_{ij} = \text{diag}(p_{ir}(\delta_{ij} - p_{jr}))_r$  We can write this more compactly by observing that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^{(i)}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta^{(j)}} = X^T W_{ij} X$$

Thus the Hessian of the Log-Likelihood is the block matrix H with blocks  $H_{ij} = W_{ij}$ , where this is the Hessian of the flattened vector  $\theta$  made by combining all  $\theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(K-1)}$ . Note that the Gradient of this flattened vector is the vector created by stacking the columns of the Jacobian.