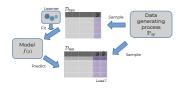
# **Introduction to Machine Learning**

# **Evaluation: In a Nutshell**



## Learning goals

- Understand what the Generalization Error is
- Get an overview on how we evaluate performance of learners
- Learn about some evaluation metrics
- Understand why we do resampling



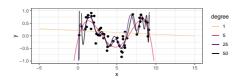
#### **EVALUATING A MODEL**

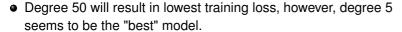
 We have seen how to train models that are optimal in some sense, relative to other possible models. However, how can we assess how good they actually are, in absolute numbers?

• Idea: Use risk  $\sum_{(\mathbf{x},y)\in\mathcal{D}_{\text{train}}}\left[L\left(y,\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})\right)\right]$  after training.

• Problem: This value can be very optimistic.

• Example: Overfitting of a polynomial regression.



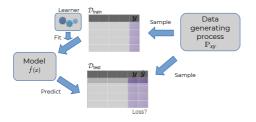


• "Best" means that using new data, this model will probably produce the most meaningful predictions.



## **GENERALIZATION ERROR**

- In other words, the "best" model will generalize well and have a low Generalization Error.
- Formally, for a fixed model, the GE can be expressed via:  $GE(\hat{t}, L) := \mathbb{E}\left[L(y, \hat{t}(\mathbf{x}))\right],$
- i.e., "what is the expected loss for a new observation?"
- Ideally, the GE should be estimated with new, unseen data.
- Usually, we have no access to new unseen data, though.
- Thus, we divide our data set manually into  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{train}}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}$  and use the latter to estimate the GE via some metric  $\rho()$ .





#### **METRICS**

But what is a good metric  $\rho()$ ?

- While we can always use the (inner) loss function that we trained the model on as outer loss to construct a metric  $\rho$ (), this may not always be ideal.
- For both, classification and regression there is a large variety of evaluation metrics, of which we will just cover a fraction.



# **METRICS FOR CLASSIFICATION**

Commonly used evaluation metrics include:

- Accuracy:
  - $\rho_{ACC} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} [y^{(i)} = \hat{y}^{(i)}] \in [0, 1].$
  - "Proportion of correctly classified observations."
- Misclassification error (MCE):
  - $\rho_{MCE} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} [y^{(i)} \neq \hat{y}^{(i)}] \in [0, 1].$
  - "Proportion of incorrectly classified observations."
- Brier Score:
  - $\rho_{BS} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\hat{\pi}^{(i)} y^{(i)})^2$
  - "Squared error btw. predicted probability and actual label."
- Log-loss:
  - $\rho_{LL} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left( -y^{(i)} \log \left( \hat{\pi}^{(i)} \right) \left( 1 y^{(i)} \right) \log \left( 1 \hat{\pi}^{(i)} \right) \right).$
  - "Distance of predicted and actual label distribution."

The probabilistic metrics, Brier Score and Log-Loss, penalize false confidence, i.e. predicting the wrong label with high probability, heavily.



## **METRICS FOR CLASSIFICATION**

For hard-label classification, the confusion matrix is a useful tool:

		True Class y	
		+	_
Pred.	+	True Positive	False Positive
		(TP)	(FP)
ŷ	_	False Negative	True Negative
		(FN)	(TN)

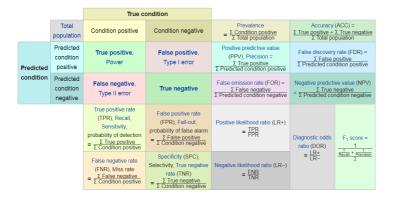


From this matrix a variety of evaluation metrics, including precision and recall, can be computed.

$$Precision = rac{TP}{TP + FP}$$
  $Recall = rac{TP}{TP + FN}$ 

## **METRICS FOR CLASSIFICATION**

- Other frequently used metrics like the False Negative Rate FPR can also be derived from the confusion matrix.
- The confusion matrix below covers many of these.
- Many of these metrics may also go with different names.



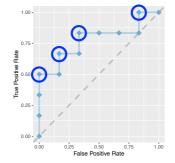






#### **ROC-CURVE**

- The ROC-Curve allows to evaluate binary classifiers beyond single metrics. It compares classifiers using their TPR and FPR, for different thresholds.
- We aim to identify good thresholds that dominate others.
- The area under this curve (AUC) can also be used as metric.





# **METRICS FOR REGRESSION**

Commonly used evaluation metrics include:

- Sum of Squared Errors (SSE):  $\rho_{SSE} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y^{(i)} \hat{y}^{(i)})^2$
- Mean Squared Error (MSE):  $\rho_{MSE} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} SSE$
- Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE):  $\rho_{RMSE} = \sqrt{MSE}$

• R-Squared: 
$$\rho_{R^2} = 1 - \frac{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{m} (y^{(i)} - \hat{y}^{(i)})^2}{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{m} (y^{(i)} - \bar{y})^2}$$

Mean Absolute Error (MAE):

$$ho_{\mathsf{MAE}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} |y^{(i)} - \hat{y}^{(i)}| \in [0; \infty)$$



# IMPROVING ESTIMATION OF GE

We can estimate the GE with one test data set via:

$$\widehat{\mathrm{GE}}(\widehat{f},L) := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{(\mathbf{x},y) \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}} \left[ L\left(y,\widehat{f}(\mathbf{x})\right) \right],$$

i.e. we compute the selected metric  $L\left(y,\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})\right)$  for each observation in the test set and compute the mean.

This will give an appropriate estimate for the GE. However, with only a few test observations (small m), this estimate will be unstable or, in other words, have high variance. We have two options to decrease it:

- Increase m.
- Compute  $\widehat{\mathrm{GE}}(\widehat{f},L)$  for multiple test sets and aggregate them.



#### RESAMPLING

As we do not have access to infinite data and increasing m will mean a reduction of the number of training observations, aggregation over B sets is the preferred option:

$$\mathcal{J} = ((J_{\text{train},1}, J_{\text{test},1}), \dots, (J_{\text{train},B}, J_{\text{test},B}))$$
.

We compute  $\widehat{\mathrm{GE}}(\widehat{f},L)$  for each set and aggregate the estimates. These B distinct sets are generated through **resampling**.

There exist a number of well-established resampling strategies:

- (Repeated) Hold-out / Subsampling
- Cross validation
- Bootstrap



#### RESAMPLING

All methods aim to generate the train-test splits  $\mathcal J$  by splitting the full data set repeatedly. The model is trained on the respective train set and evaluated on the test set.

**Example:** 3-fold cross validation

