

# Introduction to Machine Learning

## Multiclass Classification and Losses



### Learning goals

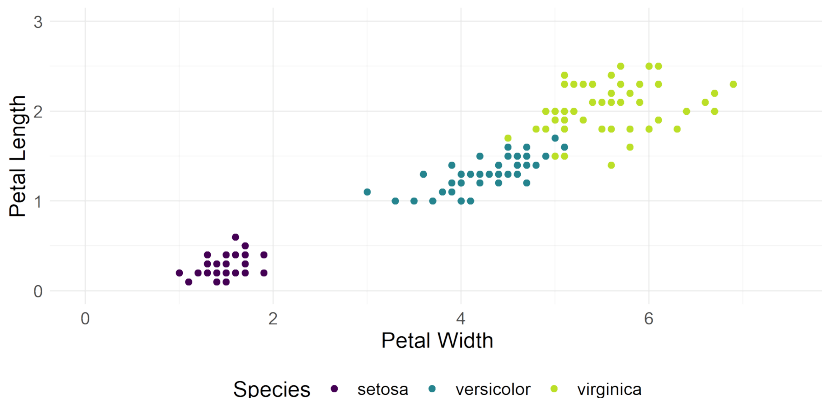
- Know what multiclass means and which types of classifiers exist
- Know the MC 0-1-loss
- Know the MC brier score
- Know the MC logarithmic loss

# MULTICLASS CLASSIFICATION

**Scenario:** Multiclass classification with  $g > 2$  classes

$$\mathcal{D} \subset (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^n, \mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, g\}$$

**Example:** Iris dataset with  $g = 3$



# REVISION: RISK FOR CLASSIFICATION

**Goal:** Find a model  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^g$ , where  $g$  is the number of classes, that minimizes the expected loss over random variables  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathbb{P}_{xy}$

$$\mathcal{R}(f) = \mathbb{E}_{xy}[L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \sum_{k \in \mathcal{Y}} L(k, f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbb{P}(y = k | \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}) \right]$$

The optimal model for a loss function  $L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))$  is

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{Y}} L(k, f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbb{P}(y = k | \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}).$$

Because we usually do not know  $\mathbb{P}_{xy}$ , we minimize the **empirical risk** as an approximation to the **theoretical risk**

$$\hat{f} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(f) = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^n L(y^{(i)}, f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})).$$

# TYPES OF CLASSIFIERS

- We already saw losses for binary classification tasks. Now we will consider losses for **multiclass classification** tasks.
- For multiclass classification, loss functions will be defined on
  - vectors of scores

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_g(\mathbf{x}))$$

- vectors of probabilities

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, \pi_g(\mathbf{x}))$$

- hard labels

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = k, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, g\}$$

# ONE-HOT ENCODING

- Multiclass outcomes  $y$  with classes  $1, \dots, g$  are often transformed to  $g$  binary (1/0) outcomes using

$$\text{with } \mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- One-hot encoding does not lose any information contained in the outcome.

Example: Iris

Species	Species.setosa	Species.versicolor	Species.virginica
versicolor	0	1	0
virginica	0	0	1
versicolor	0	1	0
versicolor	0	1	0
setosa	1	0	0
setosa	1	0	0

# 0-1-Loss

## 0-1-LOSS

We have already seen that optimizer  $\hat{h}(\mathbf{x})$  of the theoretical risk using the 0-1-loss

$$L(y, h(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{1}_{\{y \neq h(\mathbf{x})\}}$$

is the Bayes optimal classifier, with

$$\hat{h}(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \max_{l \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbb{P}(y = l \mid \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x})$$

and the optimal constant model (featureless predictor)

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = k, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, g\}$$

is the classifier that predicts the most frequent class  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, g\}$  in the data

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \text{mode} \left\{ y^{(i)} \right\}.$$

# MC Brier Score



# MC BRIER SCORE

The (binary) Brier score generalizes to the multiclass Brier score that is defined on a vector of class probabilities  $(\pi_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, \pi_g(\mathbf{x}))$

$$L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = \sum_{k=1}^g (\mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} - \pi_k(\mathbf{x}))^2.$$

The optimal constant model  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_g)$  (outputting a vector of constant class probabilities) is

$$\pi_k(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \min_{\theta_k} \mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(\theta) = \arg \min_{\theta_k} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^g (\mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}} - \theta_k)^2 \right)$$

We solve this by setting the derivative w.r.t.  $\theta_k$  to 0

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(\theta)}{\partial \theta_k} = -2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}} - \theta_k) = 0$$

$$\hat{\pi}_k(\mathbf{x}) = \theta_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}},$$

being the fraction of class- $k$  observations.

# MC BRIER SCORE

**Claim:** For  $g = 2$  the MC Brier score is exactly twice as high as the binary Brier score, defined as  $(\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$ .

**Proof:**

$$L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = \sum_{k=0}^1 (\mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} - \pi_k(\mathbf{x}))^2$$

For  $y = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) &= (1 - \pi_0(\mathbf{x}))^2 + (0 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = (1 - (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x})))^2 + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 \\ &= \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 = 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 \end{aligned}$$

For  $y = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) &= (0 - \pi_0(\mathbf{x}))^2 + (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = (-(1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x})))^2 + (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 \\ &= 1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 + 1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 \\ &= 2 \cdot (1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2) = 2 \cdot (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 & \text{for } y = 0 \\ 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - 1)^2 & \text{for } y = 1 \end{cases} = 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$$

# Logarithmic Loss

# LOGARITHMIC LOSS (LOG-LOSS)

The generalization of the Binomial loss (logarithmic loss) for two classes is the multiclass **logarithmic loss** / **cross-entropy loss**:

$$L(y, \pi(x)) = - \sum_{k=1}^g \mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} \log(\pi_k(\mathbf{x})),$$

with  $\pi_k(\mathbf{x})$  denoting the predicted probability for class  $k$ .

The optimal constant model  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_g)$  (outputting a vector of constant class probabilities) is

$$\pi_k(\mathbf{x}) = \theta_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}},$$

being the fraction of class- $k$  observations.

**Proof:** Exercise.

In the upcoming section we will see how this corresponds to the (multinomial) **softmax regression**.

# LOGARITHMIC LOSS (LOG-LOSS)

**Claim:** For  $g = 2$  the log-loss is equal to the Bernoulli loss, defined as

$$L_{0,1}(y, \pi_1(\mathbf{x})) = -y \log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1 - y) \log(1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} L_{0,1}(y, \pi_1(\mathbf{x})) &= -y \log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1 - y) \log(1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= -y \log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1 - y) \log(\pi_0(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= -\mathbb{1}_{\{y=1\}} \log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbb{1}_{\{y=0\}} \log(\pi_0(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= -\sum_{k=0}^1 \mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} \log(\pi_k(\mathbf{x})) = L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) \end{aligned}$$