

# Review of Linear Models

Máster Universitario en Ciencia de Datos - Métodos Avanzados en Aprendizaje Automático

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# Introduction to Regression



# Supervised Learning - Regression (I)



## Definition (Supervised Learning)

**Supervised learning** is the machine learning task of learning a function that maps an input to an output based on example input-output pairs.

## Definition (Regression Problem)

A **regression problem** is a supervised learning problem where the outputs are continuous.

## Examples (Regression Problems)

- Predicting the wind energy production at a certain hour using Numerical Weather Predictions.
- Predicting the weight of a person based on the height, age, gender, etc.
- Predicting the future price of a stock based on its current value, the value of related stocks, the current trends, etc.



# Supervised Learning - Regression (II)



## Elements of a Supervised Learning Problem

**Data** Set of input-output pairs,  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ .

**Features** Vector of attributes (independent/input variables, covariates...),  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**Target** Label (dependent variables, outcome...),  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

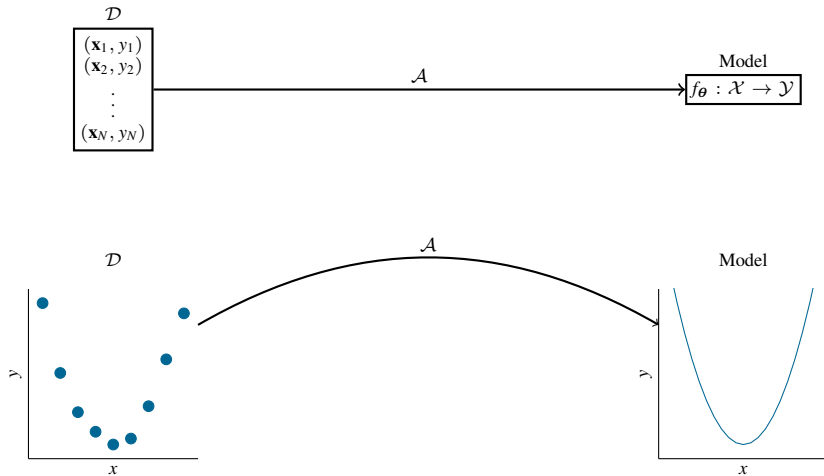
**Model** Mapping from the input to the output space,  $f_{\theta} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , with  $\theta$  the model parameters.

**Learning Algorithm** Procedure to obtain a model based on the data,  $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow f_{\theta}(\cdot)$ .

- In a regression setting usually  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}$ .
- In many situations, specially after preprocessing the data,  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .



# Illustration



# Linear Models

- A simple model consists in defining the output as a linear combination of the inputs (**linear models**).

## Advantages

- 1 Simple.
- 2 Robust (small variance).
- 3 Interpretable.
- 4 Easy to train.
- 5 Easy to predict.

## Disadvantages

- 1 Limited flexibility.
- 2 Under-fitting (large bias).



# Multiple Linear Regression





# Linear Model



- For simplicity,  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- The data becomes  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ , with  $\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,d}) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- 
- The corresponding linear model is a hyperplane, with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ .
    - $b \in \mathbb{R}$  is the intercept or bias term.
    - $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the normal vector of the hyperplane.
    - The model is defined as:

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = b + \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i.$$

- 
- The **learning algorithm** will determine  $b$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  using  $\mathcal{D}$ .



# Linear Model - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional linear model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ .

- 1 Compute the output of the model for  $\mathbf{x} = (1, 1)^\top$ .
- 2 Compute the output of the model for  $\mathbf{x} = (-1, 0)^\top$ .

## Solution

- 1  $f_\theta((1, 1)^\top) = 4$ .
- 2  $f_\theta((-1, 0)^\top) = 0$ .



Notebook

## Multiple Linear Regression: First Example



# Linear Equations (I)

- A procedure is needed to determine the bias  $b$  and the vector  $\mathbf{w}$ .
- A first approach is to try to match all input-output pairs  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Specifically:

$$\begin{cases} b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_1 = y_1 \\ b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_2 = y_2 \\ \dots \\ b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_N = y_N \end{cases} \equiv \begin{cases} b + w_1 x_{1,1} + w_2 x_{1,2} + \dots + w_d x_{1,d} = y_1 \\ b + w_1 x_{2,1} + w_2 x_{2,2} + \dots + w_d x_{2,d} = y_2 \\ \dots \\ b + w_1 x_{N,1} + w_2 x_{N,2} + \dots + w_d x_{N,d} = y_N \end{cases}.$$

- The following matrix notation can simplify the equations:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,1} & x_{1,2} & \dots & x_{1,d} \\ x_{2,1} & x_{2,2} & \dots & x_{2,d} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{N,1} & x_{N,2} & \dots & x_{N,d} \end{pmatrix}; \quad \tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_{1,1} & \dots & x_{1,d} \\ 1 & x_{2,1} & \dots & x_{2,d} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{N,1} & \dots & x_{N,d} \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{pmatrix}; \quad \tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_d \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$  is the data matrix,  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times (d+1)}$  is the data matrix with a constant term,  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  is the vector of targets and  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  is the weight vector with intercept.



## Linear Equations (II)



- The system of equations becomes:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{y}.$$

- 
- Since  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times (d+1)}$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ :
    - $N$  equations.
    - $d + 1$  unknowns.
  - Usually,  $N \gg d + 1$  and the system is **overdetermined**.
  - The inverse of  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}$  is not defined.

- 
- The Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse can be used instead,  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger = \left(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\right)^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top$ .
  - A **different approach** also justifies this method.



# Quality of the Model



- A procedure is needed to determine the bias  $b$  and the vector  $\mathbf{w}$ .
- The solution is to optimize the **quality** of the model, probably not fitting exactly the training data.
- The quality of the model has to be defined. Usually from two points of view:

**Error** An error term  $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  measures how well the model fits the training data.

**Complexity** A regularization term  $\mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  penalizes the complexity of the model.

## Error Term for a Linear Model

**Residual** For the  $i$ -th pattern,  $r_i = y_i - f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i) = y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i)$ .

**Mean Squared Error**  $\text{MSE}(b, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbb{E}[R^2] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i))^2$ .

**Mean Absolute Error**  $\text{MAE}(b, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbb{E}[|R|] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i)|$ .



# Quality of the Multidimensional Model - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional linear model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ , and for the following data:

$x_{i,1}$	$x_{i,2}$	$y_i$
1	1	4
-1	0	2

- 1 Compute the Mean Absolute Error.
- 2 Compute the Mean Squared Error.

## Solution

- 1  $\text{MAE}(b, \mathbf{w}) = 1.$
- 2  $\text{MSE}(b, \mathbf{w}) = 2.$

# Training a Linear Model



- The most common choice for the error function is the MSE.
  - It is **differentiable**.
  - It corresponds to the **distance** between the vector of predictions and the vector of targets.
  - It is a natural choice when the observation noise is assumed to be **Gaussian**.
- The learning algorithm for training the linear model consists in solving the problem:

$$\min_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d}} \{\text{MSE}(b, \mathbf{w})\} = \min_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d}} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i))^2 \right\}.$$

- How is this problem solved?
  - It is **differentiable**: the optimum is characterized by the zeros of the gradient.
  - It is **convex**: there are no local minima.





## Training a Linear Model - Optimization (I)



$$\min_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d}} \{\text{MSE}(b, \mathbf{w})\} = \min_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d}} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}\mathbf{x}_i))^2 \right\} \equiv \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \left\{ (\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}})^\top (\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \right\}.$$

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \text{MSE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})|_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}=\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^*} = \mathbf{0} \implies 2\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top (\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^*) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\implies \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\implies \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

$$\implies \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \mathbf{y} = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger \mathbf{y}.$$



# Training a Linear Model - Optimization (II)



- In summary, the Least Squares Linear Model is the solution of the following problem:

$$\min_{\substack{b \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d}} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - (b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i))^2 \right\}.$$

## Least Squares Linear Model

$$\begin{pmatrix} b^\star \\ \mathbf{w}^\star \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\star = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger \mathbf{y} = [\mathbf{1} \quad \mathbf{X}]^\dagger \mathbf{y}.$$



Notebook

## Multiple Linear Regression: Optimization



# Introduction to Classification



# Supervised Learning - Classification (I)



## Definition (Classification Problem)

A **classification problem** is a supervised learning problem where the outputs are discrete.

## Examples (Classification Problems)

- Predicting if a patient has a certain disease or not depending on medical data.
- Predicting the type of object that appears in a picture.
- Distinguishing the type of fish captured using the data provided by several sensors.



# Supervised Learning - Classification (II)



## Elements of a Supervised Learning Problem

**Data** Set of input-output pairs,  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ .

**Features** Vector of attributes (independent/input variables, covariates...),  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**Label** Target (dependent variables, outcome...),  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

**Model** Mapping from the input to the output space,  $f_{\theta} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , with  $\theta$  the model parameters.

**Learning Algorithm** Procedure to obtain a model based on the data,  $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow f_{\theta}(\cdot)$ .

- In a classification setting  $\mathcal{Y} = \{\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots, \mathcal{C}_K\}$ .
- In many situations, specially after preprocessing the data,  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- The resultant model assigns to each input a certain class,  $f_{\theta} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \{\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots, \mathcal{C}_K\}$ .



# Binary Classification and Linear Models



- Probably the most important case is  $K = 2$  (**binary classification**).
  - If  $K > 2$ , there are encoding techniques to transform the problem into several binary subproblems.
- The classes are usually denoted as  $\mathcal{C}_0$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1$ , and they are represented with a 0/1 (or  $-1/1$ ) encoding.
  - The labels are transformed to:

$$t_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y_i = \mathcal{C}_0, \\ 1 & \text{if } y_i = \mathcal{C}_1. \end{cases}$$

- 
- A simple model consists in defining the output as a linear combination of the inputs (**linear models**) plus a **transformation**.
    - Simple. Robust (small variance). Interpretable. Easy to train. Easy to predict.
    - Limited flexibility. Under-fitting (large bias).



# Binary Linear Classification





# Binary Linear Model

- For simplicity,  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- The data becomes  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, t_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ , with  $\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,d}) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $t_i \in \{0, 1\}$ .

- 
- The corresponding linear model is a hyperplane, with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ .
    - $b \in \mathbb{R}$  is the intercept or bias term.
    - $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the normal vector of the hyperplane.
    - The model is defined as:

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0, \\ 1 & \text{if } b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

- The hyperplane divides the space into two halves, one for class  $\mathcal{C}_0$  and the other for class  $\mathcal{C}_1$ .
- 
- The **learning algorithm** will determine  $b$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  using  $\mathcal{D}$ .



# Binary Linear Model - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional binary linear classification model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ .

- 1 Compute the output of the model for  $\mathbf{x}_1 = (1, 1)^\top$ .
- 2 Compute the output of the model for  $\mathbf{x}_2 = (1, -2)^\top$ .
- 3 Compute the output of the model for  $\mathbf{x}_3 = (0, 0)^\top$ .

## Solution

- 1  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_1 = 4 \implies f_\theta(\mathbf{x}_1) = 1 \implies \mathcal{C}_1.$
- 2  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_2 = -2 \implies f_\theta(\mathbf{x}_2) = 0 \implies \mathcal{C}_0.$
- 3  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_3 = 1 \implies f_\theta(\mathbf{x}_3) = 1 \implies \mathcal{C}_1.$



Notebook

Binary Linear Classification: First Example



# Quality of the Model

- A procedure is needed to determine the bias  $b$  and the hyperplane  $\mathbf{w}$ .
- The solution is to optimize the **quality** of the model.
- The quality of the model has to be defined. Usually from two points of view:
  - Fitness** A fitness term  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{D}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  measures how well the model fits the training data.
  - Complexity** A regularization term  $\mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  penalizes the complexity of the model.

## Fitness Term for a Classification Linear Model

**Correct Prediction** For the  $i$ -th pattern,

$$c_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t_i \neq f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i) \\ 1 & \text{if } t_i = f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i) \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (t_i = 0, b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 0) \text{ or } (t_i = 1, b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0), \\ 1 & \text{if } (t_i = 0, b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0) \text{ or } (t_i = 1, b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 0). \end{cases}$$

**Accuracy**  $\text{Acc}(b, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbb{E}[C] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N c_i.$



# Quality of the Model - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional binary linear classification model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ , and for the following data:

$x_{i,1}$	$x_{i,2}$	$t_i$
1	1	1
1	-2	0
0	0	0

- 1 Compute the Accuracy.

## Solution

- 1  $\text{Acc}(b, \mathbf{w}) = \frac{2}{3} \approx 66.66\%$ .



Notebook

Binary Linear Classification: Quality of the Model



# Training a Linear Model: Using the Regression Framework



- The most common choice for the evaluating the model the Accuracy.
    - It is a sensible and intuitive measure.
    - It is **non-convex**.
    - It is **non-differentiable**.
    - It is **discontinuous**.
- 
- Optimizing the accuracy is a problem that cannot (in general) be tackled directly.
- 
- An alternative idea could be to train a linear regression model.
    - Labels  $-1/1$ .
    - The label is predicted taking the sign.



Notebook

Binary Linear Classification: Training a Regression Linear Model





# Training a Linear Model: Logistic Regression (I)



- A different quality measure is needed.
    - It should be simpler to optimize than the Accuracy.
    - It should not penalize points far from the decision boundary (on the correct side).
- 
- A probabilistic approach can be helpful.
  - In particular, the main framework is the **Logistic Regression**.
    - The linear model is used to estimate the posterior probability of one class.
    - A sigmoid transformation is used.

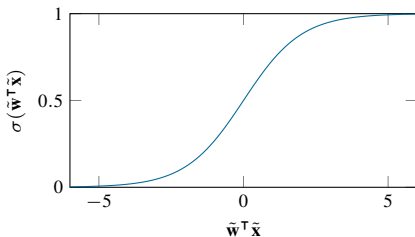


# Training a Linear Model: Logistic Regression (II)

- Denoting by  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = [1, \mathbf{x}]$  and by  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = [b, \mathbf{w}]$ , the posterior probabilities are defined as:

$$p(\mathcal{C}_1|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}},$$

$$p(\mathcal{C}_0|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 1 - p(\mathcal{C}_1|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} = \frac{e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} = \sigma(-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}).$$



- $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} < 0 \implies p(\mathcal{C}_1|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) < 0.5$ : Class  $\mathcal{C}_0$  is predicted.
- $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \geq 0 \implies p(\mathcal{C}_1|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \geq 0.5$ : Class  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is predicted.



# Training a Linear Model: Logistic Regression - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional binary linear classification model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ .

- 1 Compute the probability of  $\mathbf{x}_1$  belonging to class  $\mathcal{C}_1$  for  $\mathbf{x}_1 = (1, 1)^\top$ .
- 2 Compute the probability of  $\mathbf{x}_2$  belonging to class  $\mathcal{C}_1$  for  $\mathbf{x}_2 = (1, -2)^\top$ .
- 3 Compute the probability of  $\mathbf{x}_3$  belonging to class  $\mathcal{C}_1$  for  $\mathbf{x}_3 = (0, 0)^\top$ .

## Solution

- 1  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_1 = 4 \implies p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \approx 98.2\%$ .
- 2  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_2 = -2 \implies p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_2; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \approx 11.9\%$ .
- 3  $b + \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_3 = 1 \implies p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_3; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \approx 73.1\%$ .



# Training a Linear Model - Maximum Likelihood (I)



- The probabilistic interpretation can help to define a quality measure.
- The **likelihood** of the data is commonly the choice:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(t_i | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \underbrace{p(\mathcal{C}_0 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})^{1-t_i} p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})^{t_i}}_{\begin{cases} p(\mathcal{C}_0 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) & \text{if } t_i = 0, \\ p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) & \text{if } t_i = 1. \end{cases}}.$$

- The **cross-entropy** error is defined as the minus log-likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) &= -\log \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1-t_i) \log(p(\mathcal{C}_0 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})) - t_i \log(p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}))) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1-t_i) \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) - t_i \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i))). \end{aligned}$$



# Training a Linear Model - Maximum Likelihood - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 2-dimensional binary linear classification model with parameters  $\theta = \{b, \mathbf{w}\}$ , with  $b = 1$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2)^\top$ , and for the following data:

$x_{i,1}$	$x_{i,2}$	$t_i$
1	1	1
1	-2	0
0	0	0

- 1 Compute the likelihood of this model.

## Solution

$$\textcircled{1} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \underbrace{p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})}_{1-p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_2; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})} \underbrace{p(\mathcal{C}_0 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_2; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})}_{1-p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_3; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})} p(\mathcal{C}_0 | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_3; \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \approx 23.3 \, \%.$$



# Training a Linear Model - Maximum Likelihood (II)



- The minimizer of  $\text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$  is the maximizer of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}; \tilde{\mathbf{w}})$ .
- The learning algorithm for training a Linear Logistic Regression model consists in solving the problem:

$$\min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \{\text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})\} = \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1 - t_i) \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) - t_i \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i))) \right\}.$$

- 
- How is this problem solved?
    - It is **convex**: there are no local minima.
    - It is **differentiable**: the optimum is characterized by the zeros of the gradient.



# Training a Linear Model - Optimization (I)

$$\min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \{\text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})\} = \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1-t_i) \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) - t_i \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i))) \right\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1-t_i) \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) - t_i \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i))) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N ((1-t_i) \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - t_i (1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - t_i \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - t_i \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i + t_i \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) - t_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i. \end{aligned}$$



## Training a Linear Model - Optimization (II)



- In summary, the Linear Logistic Regression Model is the solution of the following problem:

$$\min_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N (-(1-t_i) \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)) - t_i \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i))) \right\}.$$

- There is not closed-form solution to the resultant equation for the stationary points:

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \text{CE}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) - t_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = 0.$$

- An iterative algorithm, such as **gradient descent**, should be used.





# Training a Linear Model - Optimization (III)



- The minus gradient is a descent direction:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x} + \epsilon) &\approx f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})^T \epsilon \\ \implies f(\mathbf{x} - \eta \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})) &\approx f(\mathbf{x}) - \eta \|\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2 \leq f(\mathbf{x}). \end{aligned}$$

- Updating the current estimation in the direction of the minus gradient seems a sensible idea.

## Linear Logistic Regression Model

- The model can be trained iteratively by updating the weights as:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^{(k+1)} = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^{(k)} - \eta^{(k)} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \sigma \left( \left( \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^{(k)} \right)^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \right) - t_i \right) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i.$$



Notebook

Binary Linear Classification: Optimization



# Introduction to Regularized Learning



# Bias–Variance and Regularization



## Bias–Variance Trade-off

- Error due to **Bias**: Difference between the expected prediction of the model and the correct value to be predicted.
- Error due to **Variance**: Variability of a model prediction for a given data point.

## Definition (Regularization)

- **Regularization** usually denotes the set of techniques that attempt to improve the estimates by biasing them away from their sample-based values towards values that are deemed to be more “physically plausible”.
- The variance of the model is reduced to the expense of a potentially higher bias.



# Over-Fitting and Under-Fitting (I)



## Over-Fitting

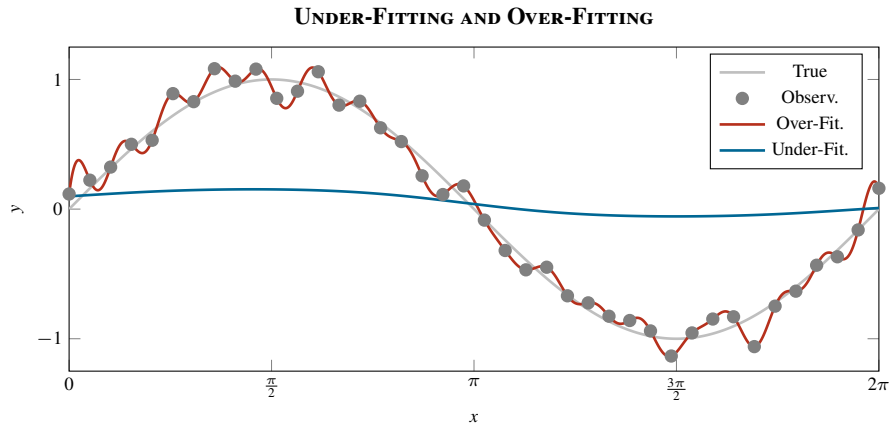
- The resultant model is overly complex to describe the data under study.
  - Limited number of training data.
  - Learning machine too complex (many free parameters).
- Large variance, small bias.

## Under-Fitting

- The resultant model is overly simple to describe the data under study.
  - Learning machine too simple.
- Large bias, small variance.



# Over-Fitting and Under-Fitting (II)



# Need of Regularization - Example



## Example (“Ill-Posed” Problem)

- Regression dataset E2006-log1p of the LIBSVM repository.
  - 16 087 patterns for training, 3308 patterns for testing.
  - 4 272 227 features.
- Even the simplest models (linear) will have 220 free parameters per pattern.
- The complexity of the model has to be controlled.
- Probably not all the features will be relevant.
  - A model based on a subset of the features seems a sensible option.



# Need of Regularization - Exercise



## Exercise

Given a 3-dimensional problem with the following data:

$x_{i,1}$	$x_{i,2}$	$x_{3,2}$	$y_i$
1	0	1	2
1	1	1	3

- 1 Define a linear model  $\{b, w_1, w_2, w_3\}$  with the smaller possible MSE. Is it possible to get a perfect training prediction?
- 2 Are there more than one model that can solve perfectly the problem above? Is there anyway to determine which one should be preferred?

## Solution

- 1 The model  $\{b = 2, w_1 = 0, w_2 = 1, w_3 = 0\}$  fits the data perfectly.
- 2 For example,  $\{b = 0, w_1 = 1, w_2 = 1, w_3 = 1\}$ . There is no information to prefer one or the other.



# Why Is Regularization Necessary?



- 1 There are more variables than observations ( $d \gg N$ ).
- 2 The optimum estimator is not unique.
- 3 Numerical instabilities (e.g. if  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}$  is close to singular): small changes in the data lead to large changes in the model.
- 4 Over-fitting avoidance: obtain more robust models that generalize well.
- 5 Parsimony and interpretability: simpler model than can help to understand the relation between inputs and outputs.



Notebook

## The Need of Regularization



# Regularized Learning



- Regularized learning consists in models trained by optimizing objective functions of the form:

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}} + \gamma \mathcal{R}.$$

- The main term of the objective function is an **error term**  $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}}$ .
  - It represents how well the model fits the training data  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - Examples: mean squared error (regression) and minus (log)likelihood (classification).
- The additional term is a **regularization term**  $\mathcal{R}$ . It penalizes the complexity of the model, with several purposes:
  - Avoid over-fitting.
  - Introduce prior knowledge.
  - Enforce certain desirable properties.
- $\gamma$  is a regularization parameter.
  - It is responsible for the balance between accuracy and complexity.



# Regularization Functions



# Regularization Functions



- There are different regularization functions  $\mathcal{R}(\theta)$  that assigns to each set of parameters  $\theta$  a measure of its complexity.
- Depending on the chosen function, the effect over  $\theta$  will change.
- The influence of the regularization functions is particularly clear on linear models.
  - Each coefficient of  $\mathbf{w}$  corresponds to an input feature.
  - If  $w_i = 0$ , then the  $i$ -th feature is ignored.
  - If  $w_i = w_j$ , then the  $i$ -th feature is somehow similar to the  $j$ -th feature.



## $\ell_2$ Norm (I)

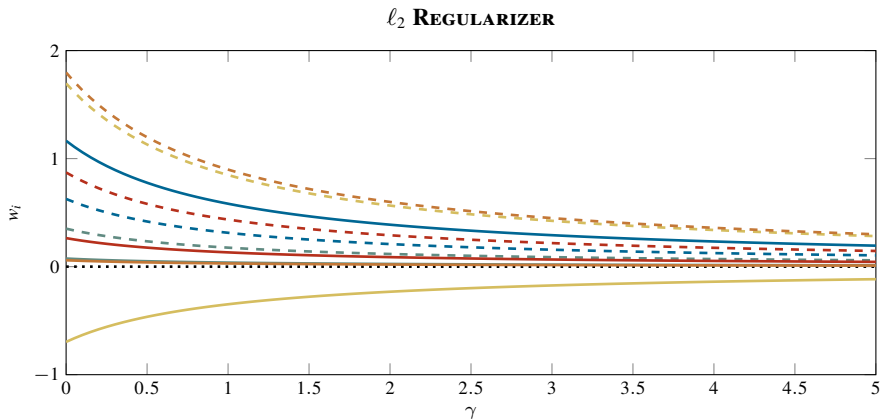


- Classical term, known as Tikhonov regularization, it corresponds to the sum of the squares of the entries:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^d w_i^2.$$

- It controls the complexity of the model.
- It is differentiable, and hence easy to optimize.
- It pushes the entries towards zero.



$\ell_2$  Norm (II)

## $\ell_2$ Norm - Exercise



### Exercise

Given the following 3-dimensional linear models, compute their squared  $\ell_2$  norm to check which one is simpler according to this criterion:

- ①  $\{w_1 = 1, w_2 = 1, w_3 = 1\}$ .
- ②  $\{w_1 = 3, w_2 = 0, w_3 = 0\}$ .
- ③  $\{w_1 = 2, w_2 = 2, w_3 = 0\}$ .

### Solution

- ①  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = 3$ .
- ②  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = 9$ .
- ③  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = 8$ .





# $\ell_1$ Norm (I)

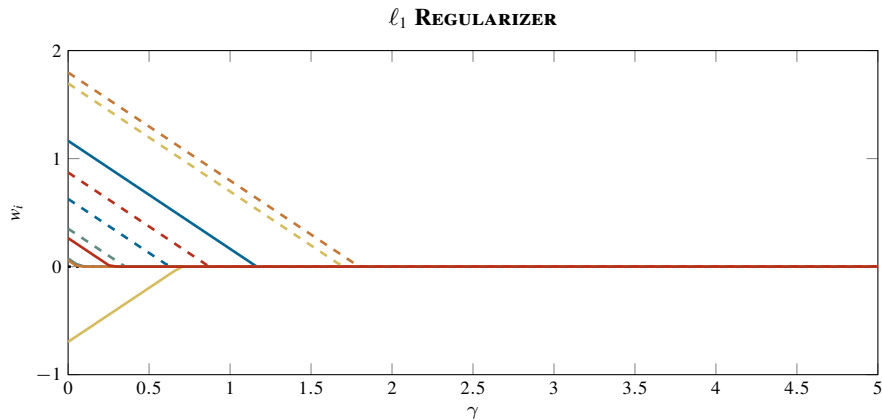


- It corresponds to the sum of the absolute values of the entries:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^d |w_i|.$$

- It controls the complexity of the model.
- The absolute value is non-differentiable around zero, and hence this term is more involved to optimize.
- It pushes the entries towards zero enforcing some of them to be identically zero.
  - It enforces sparsity.



$\ell_1$  Norm (II)

# $\ell_1$ Norm - Exercise



## Exercise

Given the following 3-dimensional linear models, compute their  $\ell_1$  norm to check which one is simpler according to this criterion:

- ①  $\{w_1 = 1, w_2 = 1, w_3 = 1\}$ .
- ②  $\{w_1 = 3, w_2 = 0, w_3 = 0\}$ .
- ③  $\{w_1 = 2, w_2 = 2, w_3 = 0\}$ .

## Solution

- ①  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_1 = 3$ .
- ②  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_1 = 3$ .
- ③  $\|\mathbf{w}\|_1 = 4$ .



Notebook

Regularization Functions: The  $\ell_p$  Norm



# Combinations



- The previous regularizers can be combined to enforce several structures at the same time.

## $\ell_1$ and $\ell_2$

- Advantages of the  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$  approaches combined.
- The  $\ell_2$  term controls the overall complexity.
- The  $\ell_1$  term imposes sparsity.



Notebook

Regularization Functions: Combination of the  $\ell_1$  Norm and the  $\ell_2$  Norm



## Regularized Linear Models



# The Optimization Problem of a Regularized Model



- The optimization problem to train a regularized model can be formulated as:

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \{ \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \gamma \mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \}.$$

- There exists an equivalence between this unconstrained model and the following constrained formulation:

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \{ \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \} \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \leq c.$$

- 
- In the case of a regression linear model:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \gamma \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) \right\} \equiv \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right\} \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) \leq c.$$

- In the case of a classification linear model:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \{ \text{CE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) \} \equiv \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \{ \text{CE}(\mathbf{w}) \} \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) \leq c.$$





Notebook

Linear Models and the  $\ell_p$  Norm



# Ridge Regression



- This linear model uses the Tikhonov regularization:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbf{w}_i^2.$$

- The objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2.$$

- The complexity of the model is controlled.
  - In the presence of noise:

$$\mathbf{w}^\top (\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}^\top \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \leq \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + \|\mathbf{w}\|_2 \|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}\|_2 \stackrel{?}{\approx} \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}.$$

- No structure is imposed.
  - The resultant model typically depends on all the variables.

- The problem is convex and differentiable.



# Ridge Regression: Optimization



$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right\}.$$

---

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w})|_{\mathbf{w}=\mathbf{w}^*} = \mathbf{0} &\implies -\mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}^*) + \gamma \mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{0} \\ &\implies -\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}^* + \gamma \mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{0} \\ &\implies (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \gamma \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} \\ &\implies \boxed{\mathbf{w}^* = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \gamma \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$



Notebook

Ridge Regression



# Lasso



- This linear model uses as regularizer the  $\ell_1$  norm:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^d |w_i|.$$

- The objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma \|\mathbf{w}\|_1.$$

- This regularizer enforces some of the coefficients to be identically zero.
    - The model performs an implicit feature selection, the features with coefficient equal to zero can be discarded.
    - It also avoids the over-fitting.
- 
- The problem is convex but non-differentiable.



Notebook

Lasso



# Elastic-Net



- This linear model combines the advantages of the  $\ell_1$  norm with those of the  $\ell_2$  norm.
- It is more stable than Lasso regarding feature selection.
- The regularizer is therefore a combination of both:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 + \frac{\gamma'_2}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2.$$

- Thus the objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2.$$

- 
- The problem is convex but non-differentiable.



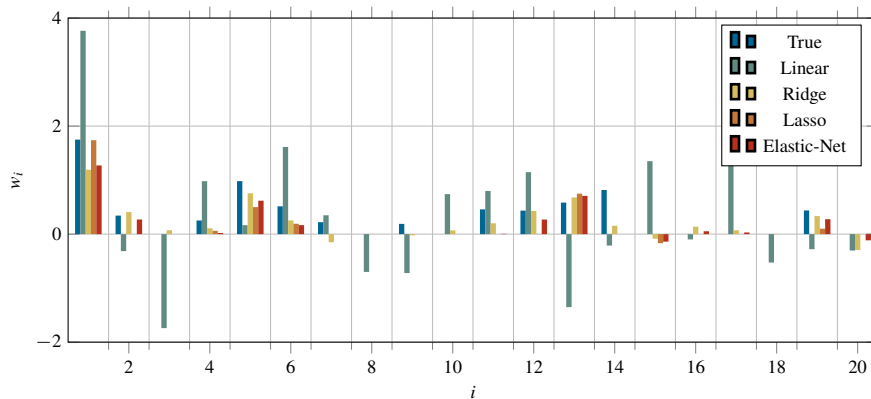
Notebook

Elastic-Net





## EXAMPLE OF REGULARIZED LINEAR MODELS



# Review of Linear Models

Carlos María Alaíz Gudín

## Introduction to Regression

Supervised Learning - Regression

Illustration

Linear Models

## Multiple Linear Regression

Linear Model

Linear Equations

Quality of the Model

Learning Algorithm

## Introduction to Classification

Supervised Learning - Classification

Binary Classification and Linear Models

## Binary Linear Classification

Binary Linear Model

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Ridge Regression

Lasso

Elastic-Net

Illustration



## Additional Material - Linear Regression Models



# Training a Linear Model - Example



## Example (Perfect Case)

- In the perfectly linear case,  $y_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + b$ .
- In matrix notation,  $\mathbf{y} = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$ .
- Therefore, the linear model becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^\star &= \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger \mathbf{y} \\ &= \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \right)^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \mathbf{y} \\ &= \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \right)^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \right) \\ &= \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \right)^{-1} \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \\ &= \tilde{\mathbf{w}}.\end{aligned}$$



# Training a Linear Model - Bayesian Perspective (I)



- There is an additional justification for using the MSE in a linear model.
- The output is assumed to be a linear transformation of the input corrupted with Gaussian noise:

$$y_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i,$$

where  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$ .

- The likelihood of the data becomes:

$$p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^N \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_i^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) = \prod_{i=1}^N \exp\left(-\frac{(y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

- $\mathbf{w}^* \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is selected as the maximizer of the likelihood:

$$\max_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^N p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w}) \right\} = \max_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^N \exp\left(-\frac{(y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \right\}.$$



## Training a Linear Model - Bayesian Perspective (II)



- Equivalently, instead of maximizing the likelihood, the minus log-likelihood is minimized:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i)^2 \right\},$$

which coincides with the least squares problem for a linear model.

- 
- Bayesian linear regression is more than this.
  - The **prior** can be used to impose structure, use prior knowledge, etc.



## Additional Material - Linear Classification Models



# Expressions for the Gradient of the Sigmoid Transformation

- The linear model with sigmoid transformation satisfies the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) &= \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} = \frac{1}{(1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}})^2} e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} \frac{e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}}{1 + e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}))\tilde{\mathbf{x}};\end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \log(\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) = \frac{1}{\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = (1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}))\tilde{\mathbf{x}};$$

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \log(1 - \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) = \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \log(\sigma(-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) = -(1 - \sigma(-\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}))\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = -\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}})\tilde{\mathbf{x}}.$$

- These properties are one of the reasons why this function is so commonly used





## Additional Material - More Regularization Functions



$\ell_{2,1}$  Norm: Framework

- Each  $\mathbf{w}$  is composed by  $d_g$  groups of  $d_f = \frac{d}{d_g}$  features each group:

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} w_{1,1} \\ \vdots \\ w_{1,d_f} \\ \vdots \\ w_{d_g,1} \\ \vdots \\ w_{d_g,d_f} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $w_{g,f}$  is the  $f$ -th entry of the  $g$ -th group.

- This framework can be easily extended to groups of different sizes.
- The variable  $\mathbf{w}$  can be seen also as a matrix with  $d_f$  rows and  $d_g$  columns.
- The regularizers should respect this structure.



$\ell_{2,1}$  Norm (I)

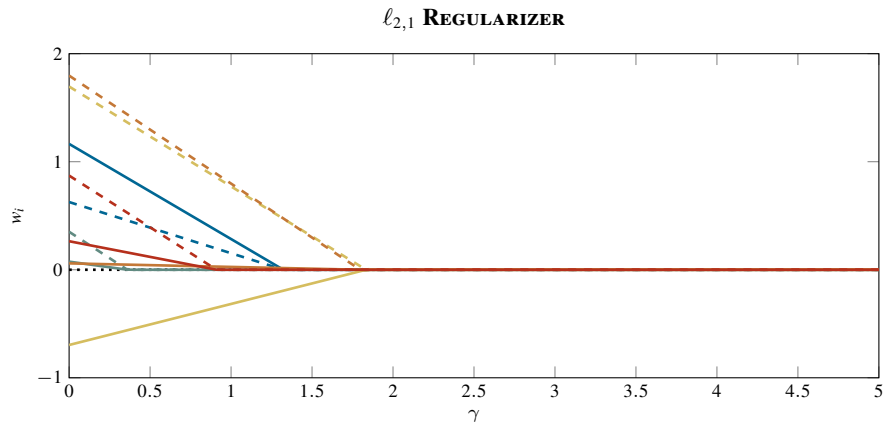
- The regularizer is the  $\ell_{2,1}$  norm:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_{2,1} = \sum_{g=1}^{d_g} \sqrt{\sum_{f=1}^{d_f} w_{g,f}^2},$$

which is just the  $\ell_1$  norm of the  $\ell_2$  norm of the different groups.

- It controls the complexity of the model.
- The  $\ell_2$  norm (not squared) is non-differentiable around zero, hence this term is more involved to optimize.
- It pushes the groups towards zero enforcing some of them to be identically zero.
  - It enforces sparsity at group level.



$\ell_{2,1}$  Norm (II)

# Transformed Norms

- The regularization is applied over a linear transformation  $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{w}$ .
- The transformation allows for more involved structures.

## Generalized $\ell_2$ Norm

- The regularizer is  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$ .
- It pushes the transformed vector towards zero.

## Generalized Lasso

- The regularizer is  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{w}\|_1$ .
- It pushes the transformed vector towards zero enforcing some of the elements to be identically zero.
  - It enforces sparsity over the transformed vector.



# Transformed Norms: Total Variation (I)

- The Total Variation is a family of regularizers that penalize the differences between adjacent entries.
  - It assumes some spatial location.
- It transforms the variable through a differentiating matrix:

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

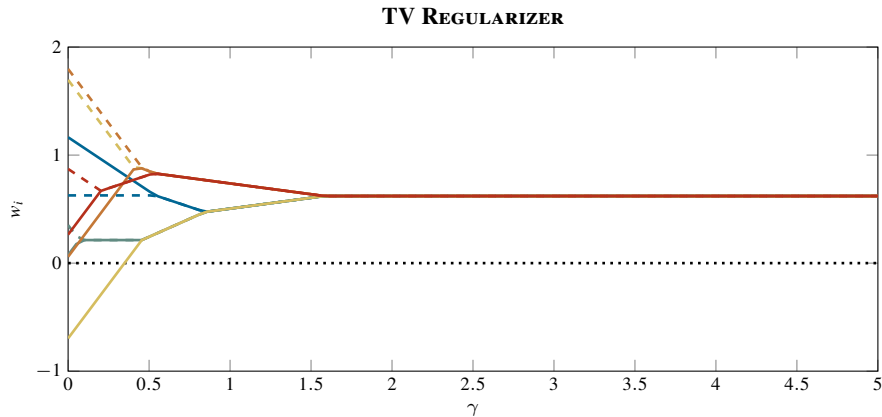
- The TV regularizer penalizes the  $\ell_1$  norm of the differences:

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{D}\mathbf{w}\|_1 = \sum_{i=2}^d |w_i - w_{i-1}|.$$

- The  $\ell_1$  norm enforces sparsity.
- Some of the terms  $w_i - w_{i-1}$  are zero, and hence  $w_i = w_{i-1}$ .
- The vector  $\mathbf{w}$  is piece-wise constant.



# Transformed Norms: Total Variation (II)



# Transformed Norms: Others



## Graph-Based Total Variation

- An extension of the Total Variation regularizer.
- The differences between any pair of entries connected according to a graph are penalized.
- The classical Total Variation is recovered when the graph is a chain.
- When the graph is a lattice, it becomes a two-dimensional Total Variation.

## Trend Filtering

- Similar idea than Total Variation but for higher degrees.
- Instead of penalizing the first differences, higher orders are penalized.





# Combinations



- The previous regularizers can be combined to enforce several structures at the same time.

## $\ell_1$ and $\ell_{2,1}$

- Sparsity both at group level and at coefficient level.

## $\ell_1$ and Total Variation

- Some of the entries are identically zero.
- The remaining entries tend to be piece-wise constant.



## Additional Material - More Regularized Linear Models



# Group Variants: Framework



- In certain circumstances, some features are grouped as corresponding to the same source.
  - E.g., different meteorological variables (wind speed, temperature) corresponding to the same geographical point.
- A grouping effect in the features is thus desirable.
  - All the features of a group should be active, or inactive, at the same time.
  - But they are different features, and they can have different coefficients.
- In this way, relevant groups can be detected.



# Group Lasso and Group Elastic-Net



## Group Lasso Model

- This linear model uses as regularizer the  $\ell_{2,1}$  norm,  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_{2,1}$ .
- The objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma \|\mathbf{w}\|_{2,1}.$$

## Group Elastic-Net Model

- The regularizer is a combination of the  $\ell_{2,1}$  norm and the  $\ell_2$  norm.
- The objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{w}\|_{2,1} + \frac{\gamma_2}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2.$$



# Fused Lasso

- This linear model uses as regularizer the  $\ell_1$  norm and the TV regularizer:

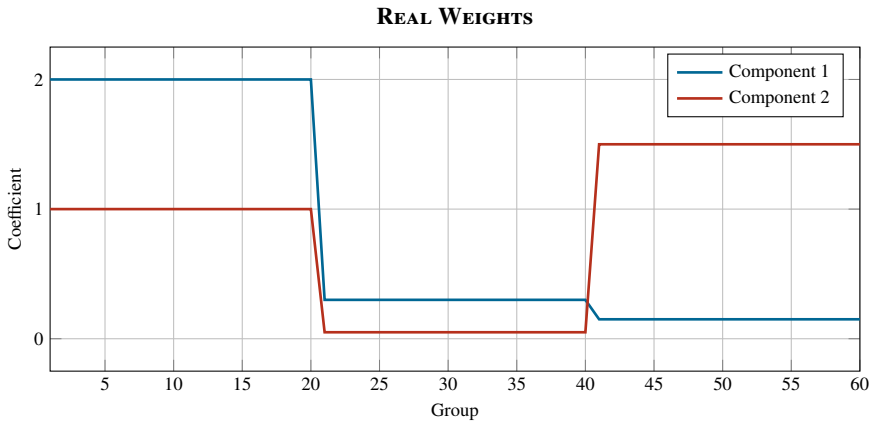
$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 + \gamma'_2 \text{TV}(\mathbf{w}).$$

- It assumes that the features have some spatial location, and that they are ordered according to it.
  - A sensible model should assign similar coefficients to adjacent features.
- There are, therefore, sparse and piece-wise constant coefficients.
- The objective function is:

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{w}\|_1 + \gamma_2 \text{TV}(\mathbf{w}).$$

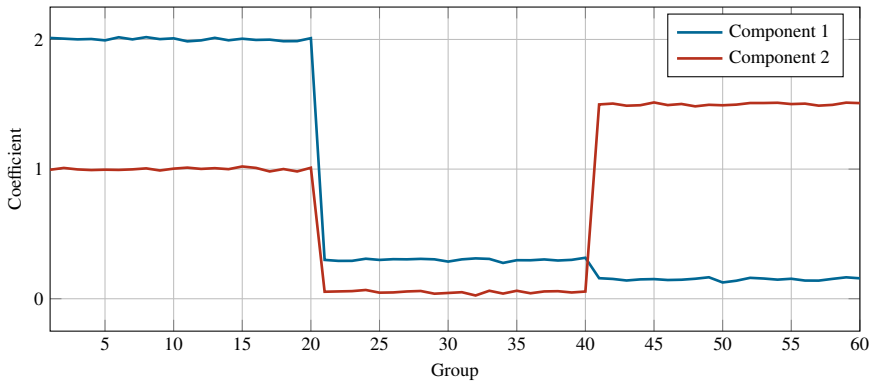


## Illustration (I)



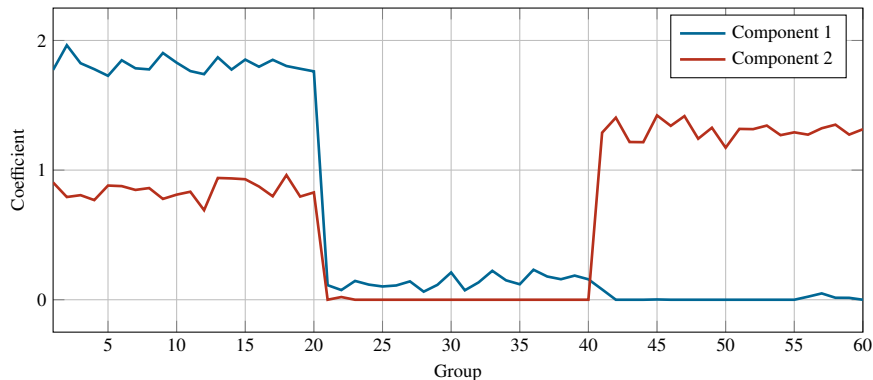
## Illustration (II)

## NOISY WEIGHTS



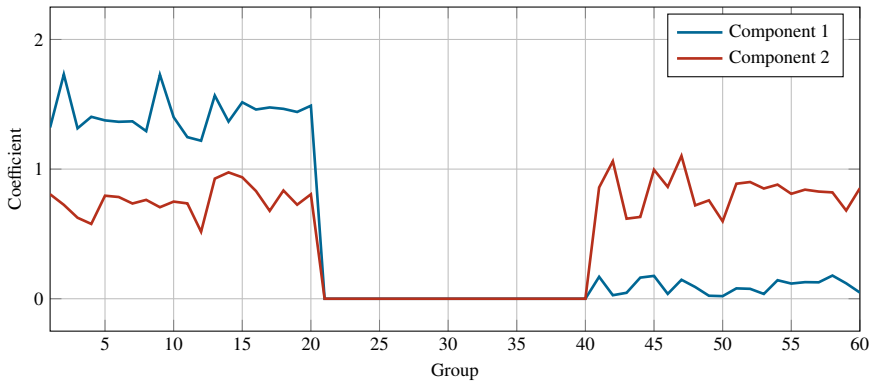
## Illustration (III)

LASSO RECOVERED WEIGHTS





## Illustration (IV)

**GROUP LASSO RECOVERED WEIGHTS**

## Illustration (V)

**FUSED LASSO RECOVERED WEIGHTS**