

Series 4, Nov 10th, 2016
(SVM / Kernel)

It is not mandatory to submit solutions and sample solutions will be published after one week. If you choose to submit your solution, please send an e-mail from your `ethz.ch` address with subject Exercise4 containing a PDF (~~AT~~TeX or scan) to `yehuda.levy@inf.ethz.ch` until Wednesday, Nov 16th 2016.

Problem 1 (Support Vector Machines):

The objective of this exercise is to investigate the L_2 -SVM which uses the square sum of the slack variables ξ_i in the objective function instead of the linear sum of the slack variables (i.e. squaring the hinge loss). Let $S = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ be a training set of examples and binary labels $y_i \in \{-1, +1\}$. The primal formulation of the L_2 -SVM is as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}, \xi} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \frac{C}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & y_i \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ & \xi_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

- Reformulate the above optimization as an unconstrained optimization problem.
- Give a step-by-step solution to deriving the optimal parameters using stochastic gradient descent.

Problem 2 (Deriving the SVM Dual):

Consider the following SVM formulation:

$$\text{minimize}_{w, \xi} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \tag{2}$$

subject to

$$y_i \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, n \tag{3}$$

and

$$\xi_i \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, n \tag{4}$$

- Write down the Lagrangian using α_i as the Lagrange multiplier corresponding to constraint 3 and γ_i as the Lagrange multiplier corresponding to constraint 4.

- Compute the derivative of the Lagrangian with respect to \mathbf{w} and ξ_i .
- Solve for the dual and show it is given by

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j. \quad (5)$$

subject to

$$0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n \quad (6)$$

Problem 3 (Kernelized Ridge Regression):

Consider the following ridge regression problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_{i=1}^n \|y_i - \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2,$$

- Compute the derivative of the above objective function with respect to \mathbf{w} , and derive its closed form solution.
- Show that the closed form solution you derived in the previous step can be written as

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y}.$$

- Substitute $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{X}^T \alpha$ to kernelize the above ridge regression problem.