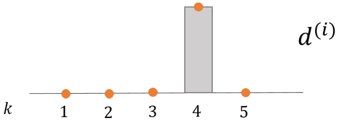
Introduction to Machine Learning

Information Theory for Machine Learning



Learning goals

- Minimizing KL is equivalent to maximizing the log-likelihod
- Minimizing KL is equivalent to minimizinig cross-entropy
- Minimizing cross-entropy between modeled and observed probabilities is equivalent to log-loss minimization

KL VS MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD

Minimizing KL between the true distribution $p(x)$ and approximating model $q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is equivalent to maximizing the log-likelihood.

$$\begin{aligned} D_{KL}(p \| q_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})) &= \mathbb{E}_{x\sim p}\left[\log \frac{p(x)}{q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta})}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{x\sim p} \log p(x) - \mathbb{E}_{x\sim p} \log q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

The first term above does not depend on $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} D_{KL}(p \| q_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) &= \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\mathbb{E}_{x\sim p} \log q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbb{E}_{x\sim p} \log q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

For a finite dataset of n samples from p, this is approximated as

$$\arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbb{E}_{x\sim p} \log q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log q(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\,.$$

KL VS CROSS-ENTROPY

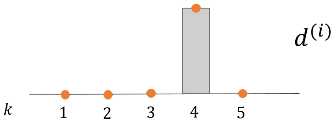
From this here we can actually see much more:

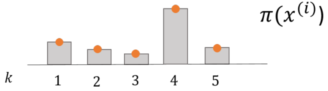
$$\arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} D_{KL}(p \| q_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p} \log q(x|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} H_{q_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(p)$$

- So minimizing with respect to KL is the same as minimizing with respect to cross-entropy!
- That implies minimizing with respect to cross-entropy is the same as maximum likelihood!
- Remember, how we only characterized cross-entropy through source coding / bits? We could now motivate cross-entropy as the "relevant" term that you have to minimize, when you minimize KL - after you drop $\mathbb{E}_p \log p(x)$, which is simply the neg. entropy H(p)!
- Or we could say: Cross-entropy between *p* and *q* is simply the expected negative log-likelihood of *q*, when our data comes from *p*!

CROSS-ENTROPY VS. LOG-LOSS

- Consider a multi-class classification task with dataset $\mathcal{D} = \left(\left(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, y^{(1)}\right), \ldots, \left(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, y^{(n)}\right)\right)$.
- For g classes, each $y^{(i)}$ can be one-hot-encoded as a vector $d^{(i)}$ of length g. $d^{(i)}$ can be interpreted as a categorical distribution which puts all its probability mass on the true label $y^{(i)}$ of $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$.
- $\pi(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is the probability output vector of the model, and also a categorical distribution over the classes.





CROSS-ENTROPY VS. LOG-LOSS

To train the model, we minimize KL between $d^{(i)}$ and $\pi(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$:

$$\arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} D_{KL}(d^{(i)} \| \pi(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} H_{\pi(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}(d^{(i)})$$

We see that this is equivalent to log-loss risk minimization!

$$\begin{aligned}
R &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} H_{\pi_k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}(d^{(i)}) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(- \sum_{k} d_k^{(i)} \log \pi_k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \underbrace{\left(- \sum_{k=1}^{g} [y^{(i)} = k] \log \pi_k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)}_{\text{log loss}} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (- \log \pi_{y^{(i)}}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta}))
\end{aligned}$$

CROSS-ENTROPY VS. BERNOULLI LOSS

For completeness sake:
Let us use the Bernoulli loss for binary classification:

$$L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = -y \log(\pi(\mathbf{x})) - (1 - y) \log(1 - \pi(\mathbf{x}))$$

If p represents a $\text{Ber}(y)$ distribution (so deterministic, where the true label receives probability mass 1) and we also interpret $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ as a Bernoulli distribution $\text{Ber}(\pi(\mathbf{x}))$, the Bernoulli loss $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x}))$ is the cross-entropy $H_{\pi(\mathbf{x})}(p)$.

ENTROPY AS PREDICTION LOSS

Assume log-loss for a situation where you only model with a constant probability vector π. We know the optimal model under that loss:

$$\pi_k = \frac{n_k}{n} = \frac{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} [y^{(i)} = 1]}{n}$$

What is the (average) risk of that minimal constant model?

ENTROPY AS PREDICTION LOSS

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{R} &= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(-\sum_{k=1}^{g}[y^{(i)} = k]\log\pi_k\right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{n}\sum_{k=1}^{g}\sum_{i=1}^{n}[y^{(i)} = k]\log\pi_k \\
&= -\sum_{k=1}^{g}\frac{n_k}{n}\log\pi_k \\
&= -\sum_{k=1}^{g}\pi_k\log\pi_k = H(\pi)
\end{aligned}
$$

So entropy is the (average) risk of the optimal "observed class frequency" model under log-loss!