

I2ML :: BASICS

Data

$\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^p$: p -dimensional **feature space** / input space
Usually we assume categorical features to be numerically encoded.

\mathcal{Y} : **target space**
e.g.: $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}$ for regression, $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$ or $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$ for binary classification, $\mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, g\}$ for multi-class classification with g classes

$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_p)^T \in \mathcal{X}$: **feature vector** / covariate vector

$y \in \mathcal{Y}$: **target variable** / output variable
Concrete samples are called labels

$(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$: i -th **observation** / sample / instance / example

$\mathbb{D} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^n$: **set of all finite data sets**

$\mathbb{D}_n = (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^n \subseteq \mathbb{D}$: **set of all finite data sets of size n**

$\mathcal{D} = ((\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots, (\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, y^{(n)})) \in \mathbb{D}_n$: **data set** of size n . An n -tuple, a family indexed by $\{1, \dots, n\}$. We use \mathcal{D}_n to emphasize its size.

$\mathcal{D}_{\text{train}}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{test}} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$: **data sets for training and testing**
Often: $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_{\text{train}} \dot{\cup} \mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}$

\mathbb{P}_{xy} : **joint probability distribution on $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$**

Classification

$o_k(y) = \mathbb{I}(y = k) \in \{0, 1\}$: multiclass one-hot encoding, if y is class k
We write $o(y)$ for the g -length encoding vector and $o_k^{(i)} = o_k(y^{(i)})$

$\pi_k = \mathbb{P}(y = k)$: **prior probability** for class k
In case of binary labels we might abbreviate: $\pi = \mathbb{P}(y = 1)$.

Model and Learner

Model / Hypothesis: $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^g$ maps features to predictions, often parametrized by $\theta \in \Theta$ (then we write $f_\theta(\mathbf{x})$ or $f(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$).

$\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$: **parameter space**

$\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_d) \in \Theta$: model **parameter** vector
Some models may traditionally use different symbols.

$\mathcal{H} = \{f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^g \mid f \text{ belongs to a certain functional family}\}$:
Hypothesis space – set of functions to which we restrict learning

Learner / Inducer : $\mathbb{D} \times \Lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ takes a training set $\mathcal{D}_{\text{train}} \in \mathbb{D}$, produces model $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^g$, with hyperparam. configuration $\lambda \in \Lambda$.
We also write : $\mathbb{D} \times \Lambda \rightarrow \Theta$ or $\mathcal{I}_\lambda : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \Theta$

$\Lambda = \Lambda_1 \times \Lambda_2 \times \dots \times \Lambda_\ell \subseteq \mathbb{R}^\ell$: **hyperparameter space**
 Λ_j are usually bounded real or integer intervals or a finite categorical set

$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_\ell) \in \Lambda$: **hyperparameter configuration**

$r = y - f(\mathbf{x})$ or $r^{(i)} = y^{(i)} - f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$: $(i$ -th) **residual** in regression

Classification

$\pi_k(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ **probability prediction** for class k , approximates $\mathbb{P}(y = k \mid \mathbf{x})$; for binary we abbreviate with $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ for $\mathbb{P}(y = 1 \mid \mathbf{x})$.

$f_k(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: **scoring** / discriminant **function** for class k ;
for binary we use $f(\mathbf{x}) = f_1(\mathbf{x}) - f_2(\mathbf{x})$

$h(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$: **hard label function**;
Typically created by $h(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \max_{k \in \{1, \dots, g\}} f_k(\mathbf{x})$ or
 $h(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \max_{k \in \{1, \dots, g\}} \pi_k(\mathbf{x})$

$yf(\mathbf{x})$ or $y^{(i)}f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$: **margin** for $(i$ -th) observation in binary classification

$c \in \mathbb{R}$, s.t. $h(\mathbf{x}) := [\pi(\mathbf{x}) \geq c]$ or $h(\mathbf{x}) := [f(\mathbf{x}) \geq c]$: **threshold**
for hard label assignment in binary case (common: $c = 0$ for scoring, $c = 0.5$ for probabilistic classifiers)

$\hat{y}, \hat{f}, \hat{h}, \hat{\pi}_k(\mathbf{x}), \hat{\pi}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\hat{\theta}$
The hat symbol denotes **learned** functions and parameters.

Loss, Risk and ERM

$L : \mathcal{Y} \times \mathbb{R}^g \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$: **loss function**: Quantifies "quality" $L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))$ of prediction $f(\mathbf{x})$ (or $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x}))$ of prediction $\pi(\mathbf{x})$) for true y .

(Theoretical) risk: $\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{R}(f) = \mathbb{E}_{((\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathbb{P}_{xy})}[L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))]$

Empirical risk: $\mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n L(y^{(i)}, f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}))$,
analogously: $\mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}} : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$; $\mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n L(y^{(i)}, f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} \mid \theta))$

Empirical risk minimization (ERM): $\hat{\theta} \in \arg \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(\theta)$

Bayes-optimal model: $f^* = \arg \min_{f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^g} \mathcal{R}(f)$

Regularized risk: $\mathcal{R}_{\text{reg}} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{R}_{\text{reg}}(f) = \mathcal{R}_{\text{emp}}(f) + \lambda \cdot J(f)$ with regularizer $J(f)$, complexity control parameter $\lambda > 0$ (analogous for θ).

Regression Losses

L2 loss / squared error:

- $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = (y - f(\mathbf{x}))^2$ or $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = 0.5(y - f(\mathbf{x}))^2$
- Convex and differentiable, non-robust against outliers
- Optimal constant model: $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y^{(i)} = \bar{y}$
- Optimal model over \mathbb{P}_{xy} for unrestricted \mathcal{H} : $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}[y|\mathbf{x}]$

L1 loss / absolute error:

- $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = |y - f(\mathbf{x})|$
- Convex and more robust, non-differentiable
- Optimal constant model: $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{med}(y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(n)})$
- Optimal model over \mathbb{P}_{xy} for unrestricted \mathcal{H} : $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{med}[y|\mathbf{x}]$

Classification Losses

0-1-loss (binary case)
 $L(y, h(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{I}(y \neq h(\mathbf{x}))$
 $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{I}(yf(\mathbf{x}) < 0)$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$
Discontinuous, results in NP-hard optimization

Brier score (binary case)
 $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = (\pi(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$
Least-squares on probabilities

Log-loss / Bernoulli loss / binomial loss (binary case)
 $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = -y \log(\pi(\mathbf{x})) - (1 - y) \log(1 - \pi(\mathbf{x}))$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$
 $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = \log(1 + (\frac{\pi(\mathbf{x})}{1 - \pi(\mathbf{x})})^{-y})$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$

Assuming a logit-link $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = \exp(f(\mathbf{x})) / (1 + \exp(f(\mathbf{x})))$:
 $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = -y \cdot f(\mathbf{x}) + \log(1 + \exp(f(\mathbf{x})))$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$
 $L(y, f(\mathbf{x})) = \log(1 + \exp(-y \cdot f(\mathbf{x})))$ for $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$
Penalizes confidently-wrong predictions heavily

Brier score (multi-class case)
 $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = \sum_{k=1}^g (\pi_k(\mathbf{x}) - o_k(y))^2$

Log-loss (multi-class case)
 $L(y, \pi(\mathbf{x})) = - \sum_{k=1}^g o_k(y) \log(\pi_k(\mathbf{x}))$

Optimal constant models
0-1-loss: $h(\mathbf{x}) \in \arg \max_{j \in \{0, 1\}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(y^{(i)} = j)$
Brier and log-loss (binary): $\hat{\pi}(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{y}$
Brier and log-loss (multiclass): $\hat{\pi}(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n o_1^{(i)}, \dots, \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n o_g^{(i)} \right)$