

Machine Data and Learning

Assignment-2: Bias-Variance Trade-off

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Task 1: Gradient Descent

(a)

Gradient descent is an optimization algorithm used to fit a model to its training data.

Assume we have a dataset of the form

$$X = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$$

$$Y = [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n]$$

Where x_i are the independent variables and y_i are the dependent variables

To find the line of best fit (m is the slope and c is the signed y-intercept)

$$y = mx + c$$

We first define a cost function such as Mean-Squared Error (MSE)

$$J = \text{cost} = \text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (y_i - (mx_i + c))^2$$

Now, we find the gradient of the cost function J with respect to m and c

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial m} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (2(y_i - (mx_i + c))(-x_i))$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial m} = -\frac{2}{n} \sum_i x_i (y_i - (mx_i + c))$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial c} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (2(y_i - (mx_i + c))(-1))$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial c} = -\frac{2}{n} \sum_i (y_i - (mx_i + c))$$

Let us define L to be the learning rate. It determines the step size in each iteration. A small value would increase accuracy but require more iterations, while a high value would decrease accuracy but require less iterations. Now, we update m and c in the opposite direction of the gradient, with the step size L

$$m = m - L \times \frac{\partial J}{\partial m}$$

$$c = c - L \times \frac{\partial J}{\partial c}$$

We continue this process until our loss function reaches an almost constant value. After we get our final m and c , we have our fitted model.