

Linear regression

Setup: Given $\mathcal{D} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$, $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$

Workflow: i) Model definition: parametrization, likelihood, prior
 $\hookrightarrow \theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$

ii) Training to identify $\theta^* \stackrel{=}{=} \underbrace{p(\theta|\mathcal{D})}_{\text{posterior}}$

iii) Perform predictions $f_\theta(x^*)$? $\underbrace{p(f(x^*)|x^*, \mathcal{D})}_{\text{predictive posterior}}$

1) Model: $y = \underbrace{f_\theta(x)}_{\text{model form}} + \underbrace{\varepsilon}_{\text{noise}}$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_\theta(x) = w^T x, \quad w \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_n^2) \end{array} \right\} \checkmark$

Parameters: $\theta := \{w_1, \dots, w_d, \sigma_n^2\}$

Likelihood: $y_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p(y_i | x_i, \theta) = \mathcal{N}(y_i | w^T x_i, \sigma_n^2)$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \mathcal{N}(y | XW, \sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \dots & x_{1d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & \dots & x_{nd} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times d}, \quad W = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix}_{d \times 1}$$

2.) Training: Goal \rightarrow estimate θ^* that 'best' explain \mathcal{D} .

$$\theta_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(y | X, W, \sigma^2)$$

Likelihood: $p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) = p(y_1, \dots, y_n | x_1, \dots, x_n, w_1, \dots, w_d, \sigma_n^2)$

$$\text{i.i.d.} \quad = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{N}(y_i | w^T x_i, \sigma_n^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(w, \sigma_n^2) &:= -\log p(y|X, w, \sigma^2) \\ &= \frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_n^2) + \frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \underbrace{(y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)}_{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Assume that σ_n^2 is known, hence we will only estimate w .

$$\bullet \text{ optimization } \begin{cases} \text{GD: } w^{n+1} = w^n - \eta \nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w^n) \\ \text{Newton: } w^{n+1} = w^n - \eta H_n^{-1} \nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w^n) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w) &:= -X^T y + X^T X w \\ \nabla_w^2 \mathcal{L}(w) &= X^T X \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \text{GD: } w^{n+1} &= w^n - \eta [X^T X w^n - X^T y] \\ \text{Newton: } w^{n+1} &= w^n - \eta (X^T X)^{-1} [X^T X w^n - X^T y] \end{aligned}$$

Solve for w_{MLE} analytically:

$$w_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \min_w -\log p(y|X, w) := \mathcal{L}(w)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(w) = \frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_n^2) + \frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \underbrace{(y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)}_{\text{quadratic form}} \leftarrow$$

Identify critical points:

$$\nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw) &= \frac{1}{2} (y^T y - y^T Xw - (Xw)^T y + (Xw)^T Xw) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ y^T y - \underbrace{y^T Xw + w^T X^T y}_{w^T X^T y} + w^T X^T X w \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w) = -X^T y + X^T X w$$

Condition satisfied by critical points,

$$\nabla_w L(w) = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$W_{MLE} = \underbrace{(X^T X)^{-1}}_{\text{needs to be invertible.}} X^T y$$

Solution
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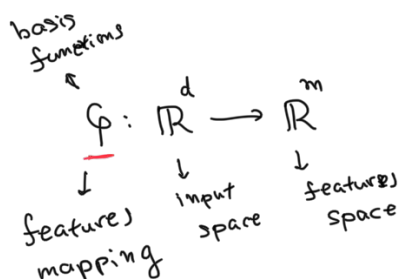
Observe that $H := \nabla_w^2 L(w) = \underbrace{X^T X}_{\text{symmetric positive-definite}}$

$\Rightarrow L(w)$ is strictly convex in W and W_{MLE} is a unique global minimizer.

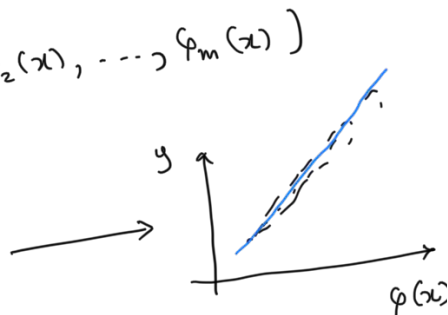
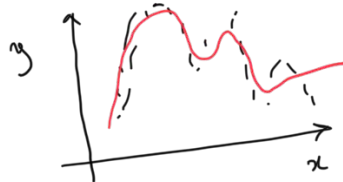
Linear regression with basis functions:

Model Setup:

$$y = f_\theta(x) + \varepsilon \quad \begin{cases} \cdot f_\theta(x) = w^T \phi(x) \\ \cdot \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \end{cases}$$



$$\phi(x) = (\phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \dots, \phi_m(x))$$



$$y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}$$

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x_1) & \dots & \phi_m(x_1) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x_n) & \dots & \phi_m(x_n) \end{bmatrix}_{n \times m}$$

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1}$$

2.) MLE for W :

$$W_{MLE} = \underbrace{(\Phi^T \Phi)^{-1}}_{m \times m} \underbrace{\Phi^T}_{m \times 1} y_{n \times 1}$$

Maximum a-posteriori estimation (MAP):

Set-up: Given $\mathcal{D} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$, $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$

Model : $y = f_{\theta}(x) + \epsilon$

$\iff p(y|x, \theta) : \text{likelihood}$

assume a prior $\theta \sim p(\theta) : \text{prior}$

Bayes rule :
$$p(\theta|D) = \frac{\overbrace{p(D|\theta)}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\theta)}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{p(D)}_{\text{marginal likelihood / evidence}}}$$

$\hookrightarrow \int p(D|\theta) p(\theta) d\theta$

Goal : $\theta_{\text{MAP}} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta|D)$ (vs $\theta_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(D|\theta)$)

Recall, for linear regression :

Bayes
$$p(w|x, y) \propto \underbrace{p(y|x, w)}_{\text{likelihood}} \cdot \underbrace{p(w)}_{\text{prior}}$$

(omitting $p(y)$ since it does not depend on θ)

$\theta_{\text{MAP}} = \arg \min_{\theta} - \log p(w|x, y)$

* We need to assume a prior for $w \sim p(w)$.
The simplest choice is to assume $p(w) = \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda^{-1})$

$$-\log p(w|x, y) = -\log p(y|x, w) - \log p(w)$$

$$= \cancel{\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_n^2)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} (y-xw)^T (y-xw)}_{\text{likelihood}} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{2} w^T w}_{\text{prior}} := \mathcal{L}(w)$$

$w^T w := \|w\|_2^2 \checkmark$

Critical points :

$$\nabla_w \mathcal{L}(w) = 0 \implies w_{\text{MAP}} = (X^T X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^T y$$

vs

$$x_{MLE} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

Comments on MLE vs MAP:

Pros of MAP : • easy to compute and interpretable (interpolates between the MLE and the prior)

- It is more resilient against overfitting.
- Tends to look like the MLE asymptotically ($n \rightarrow \infty$)

Cons of MAP :

- It is just a point-estimate (no quantification of uncertainty)

- Unlike the MLE, the MAP is not invariant to re-parametrization.

- Must assume an appropriate prior for θ , possible choices :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \|\theta\|_2 \leftarrow p(\theta) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \bar{b}^2) \rightarrow \text{promote "simple" models} \\ \|\theta\|_1 \leftarrow p(\theta) \sim \text{Lap}(b) \rightarrow \text{promote "sparsity"} \end{array} \right.$$