

10. Instance based learning

10.1 K-nearest neighbors

$F : X \rightarrow C$ with $D = \{(x_n, t_n)_{n=1}^N\}$,

Classification with **K-NN**,

1. Find K nearest neighbors of new instance x
2. Assign to x the **most common label** among the majority of neighbors

Likelihood of c to new x :

$$p(c|x, D, K) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{x_n \in N_K(x, D)} \mathbb{I}(t_n = c),$$

with $N_K(x, D)$ nearest point and $\mathbb{I}(e) = \{1 \text{ if } e \text{ is true, } 0 \text{ if } e \text{ is false.}\}$

Requires storage of all the data set, and depends on a **distance function**.

Increasing K brings to smoother regions (reducing overfitting).

With $K=1$ a point is the closest to itself (perfect, but expensive, **overfit**).

With **$K>1$ reduce overfit**, but doesn't ensure better performance.

Distance function: $\|x - x_n\|^2 = x^T x + x_n^T x_n - 2x^T x_n.$

can be kernelized by using a kernel $k(x, x_n)$

Regression $X \rightarrow R$

1. **Compute** $N_K(x_q, D)$: K-nearest **neighbors** of x_q
2. **Fit a regression model** $y(x; w)$ on $N_K(x_q, D)$
3. **Return** $y(x_q; w)$

Advantages of KNN: input space doesn't converge to an optimal solution, so use **KNN transforming input space to feature space** (expensive).

