

CSE 404: Introduction to Machine Learning (Fall 2019)

Homework #4

Note: (1) LFD refers to the textbook “Learning from Data”.

1. (20 points) Recall the objective function for linear regression can be expressed as

$$E(w) = \frac{1}{N} \|Xw - y\|^2,$$

as in (3.3) of LFD. Minimizing this function with respect to w leads to the optimal w as $(X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$. This solution holds only when $X^T X$ is nonsingular. To overcome this problem, the following objective function is commonly minimized instead:

$$E_2(w) = \|Xw - y\|^2 + \lambda \|w\|^2,$$

where $\lambda > 0$ is a user-specified parameter. Please do the following:

- (a) (10 points) Derive the optimal w that minimize $E_2(w)$.

Solution: $\nabla E_2(w) = 2X^T(Xw - y) + 2\lambda w = 0 \Rightarrow w = (X^T X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^T y$

- (b) (10 points) Explain how this new objective function can overcome the singularity problem of $X^T X$.

Solution:

$$\forall v \neq 0, v^T(X^T X + \lambda I)v = v^T(X^T X)v + \lambda v^T v.$$

Since $v^T(X^T X)v \geq 0$ and $\lambda v^T v > 0$, $X^T X + \lambda I$ is positive definite. Hence it is invertible.

2. (20 points) Exercise 3.3 in LFD (page 87).

Solution:

(a) $H^T = (X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T)^T = X((X^T X)^{-1})^T X^T = X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T = H$

- (b) When $K = 1$, it holds.

Assume when $K = n$ it holds. For $K = n + 1$, $H^{n+1} = H^n H = H H = H$

Hence $H^K = H$ holds for any positive integer K .

- (c) When $K = 1$, it holds.

Assume when $K = n$ it holds. For $K = n + 1$, $(I - H)^{n+1} = (I - H)^n (I - H) = (I - H)(I - H) = (I - H)$

Hence $(I - H)^K = (I - H)$ holds for any positive integer K .

(d) $\text{trace}(H) = \text{trace}(X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T) = \text{trace}(X^T X (X^T X)^{-1}) = \text{trace}(I_{(d+1) \times (d+1)}) = d + 1$