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Title: Using the Support Vector Machine functionality in the e1071 library to learn from the Mammographic Mass Data Set and make predictions using the learned model.

Purpose: Programming Assignment 1 for CECS 551 taught by Dr. Todd Ebert

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Background: Although we have not tackled SVM's in great detail, this exercise gave us the opportunity to become familiarized with the SVM functionality in the e1071 library. The library includes various machine learning algorithms, but for this exercise I used the svm and tune.svm function. The tune.svm function was used to fine tune the 'cost' and 'gamma' parameters by seeing how the svm performed with a set of these parameters. I used the Mammographic Masses Data Set provided by UC Irvine by loading it as a dataframe in my R script. I gave the user the option to rid the dataset of rows containing '?' or replacing '?' with -1. The results were not identical mainly because more data is available when using the -1 replacement. Finally, I ran svm using three different kernels: linear, 2nd order polynomial, and (for fun) a 3rd order polynomial. Cross validation was not performed and tests were done using the entire dataset. Finally, the accuracy was determined by inputting the dataset into the learned model and examining how well it performed by calculating the percentage of correct predictions. It is interesting to examine why the 2nd order polynomial kernel performs worse than a linear kernel. A possible explanation is that a linear model works better with this particular dataset. Furthermore there is no correlation between accuracy and model complexity. It is possible that the accuracy fluctuates as the complexity of the model increases. In a future class, we will learn how to use different models alongside cross validation to find the best model for the dataset of interest.

Results: A random run when removing rows with NA gave the following results:

Accuracy using linear classifier: 0.8277108
Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 2: 0.6566265
Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 3: 0.8192771

A random run when replacing NA with -1:

Accuracy using linear classifier: 0.8324662
Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 2: 0.7585848
Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 3: 0.8345473

Conclusion: It's interesting that the linear kernel performs better than the polynomial classifier. One would expect the contrary. Yet, after doing some reading, I learned that a polynomial/nonlinear classifier is more likely to overfit, thus performing poorly on the test data. This is termed 'generalization error'. A way this problem can be solved is by using more data. This leads me to the next point: it is possible that the data set is too small. There are 5 features for about 800 data points resulting in poor performance by a high-order kernel.

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```
# SET WORKING DIRECTORY AND IMPORT NECESSARY LIBRARIES
```

```
setwd('C:/Users/barse/Google Drive/CSULB Spring 2017/CECS551/ProgrammingAssignments/Assignment1')
library(e1071)
```

```
# READ MAMMOGRAPHIC MASSES DATASET INTO A DATAFRAME, REPLACE '?' WITH NA
```

```
mammo_df <- read.csv(file='mammographic_masses.csv', header=FALSE, sep=',', na.strings="?")
```

```
# SET COLUMNS NAME OF DATAFRAME
```

```
column_names <- c('Birads','Age','Shape','Margin','Density','Severity')
colnames(mammo_df) <- column_names
```

```
# CHECK WHETHER TO REPLACE '?' WITH 'NA' OR '-1' (EXERCISE 1 AND 2 DISTINCTIONS)
```

```
exercise <- readline("Which exercise do you want to run? \n\n1: Rows with NA removed\n2: '?' replaced with -1\n")
```

```
if (exercise == "1") {
  # REMOVE ROWS WITH 'NA'
  mammo_df <- mammo_df[complete.cases(mammo_df),]
} else if (exercise == "2") {
  # REPLACE 'NA' WITH -1
  mammo_df[is.na(mammo_df)] <- -1
}
```

```
# LEARN MODEL USING LINEAR KERNEL
```

```
mammo_svm <- svm(Severity~., data=mammo_df, kernel='linear', type='C-classification')
print(mammo_svm)
```

```
# TEST MODEL AND SHOW SUMMARY
```

```
predictions <- predict(mammo_svm, mammo_df[,-6])
predictions_table <- table(predictions=predictions, truth=mammo_df[,6])
```

```
mean = mean(predictions==mammo_df[,6])[1]
```

```
# LEARN MODEL USING DEGREE 2 POLYNOMIAL
```

```
mammo_svm_poly <- svm(Severity~., data=mammo_df, kernel='polynomial',degree=2, type='C-classification')
print(summary(mammo_svm_poly))

predictions_poly <- predict(mammo_svm_poly, mammo_df[,-6])
predictions_table_poly <- table(predictions=predictions_poly, truth=mammo_df[,6])

mean_poly <- mean(predictions_poly==mammo_df[,6])

# JUST FOR FUN, LEARN MODEL USING DEGREE 3 POLYNOMIAL
mammo_svm_poly3 <- svm(Severity~., data=mammo_df, kernel='polynomial',degree=3, type='C-classification')
print(summary(mammo_svm_poly3))

predictions_poly3 <- predict(mammo_svm_poly3, mammo_df[,-6])
predictions_table_poly3 <- table(predictions=predictions_poly3, truth=mammo_df[,6])

mean_poly3 <- mean(predictions_poly3==mammo_df[,6])

# PRINT FINAL RESULTS
cat("Accuracy using linear classifier: ", mean, '\n')
cat("Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 2: ", mean_poly, '\n')
cat("Accuracy using polynomial classifier with degree 3: ", mean_poly3)
```