

Advance Machine Learning

Quiz: Boosting

February 14th, 2017

NAME: _____

1. Consider the following dataset $(x_1 = (0, -1), y_1 = -1), (x_2 = (1, 0), y_2 = 1), (x_3 = (-1, 0), y_3 = 1)$ and $(x_4 = (0, 1), y_4 = -1)$ with corresponding weights $w_1 = \frac{2}{7}, w_2 = \frac{1}{7}, w_3 = \frac{2}{7}, w_4 = \frac{2}{7}$.

- (a) **(2 pts)** Compute the weighted misclassification rate of the following classifier:

$$g_{1,0.5}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x^1 > 0.5 \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This stump misclassifies x_3 and gives $\frac{w_3}{\sum_{i=1}^4 w_i} = \frac{2}{7}$ misclassification rate.

- (b) **(2 pts)** Find a stump that minimizes the weighted misclassification rate.

Here is one solution that misclassification x_2 and gives $\frac{1}{7}$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x^1 < -0.5 \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2. **(1.5 pts)** What are the strategies for dealing with overfitting in gradient boosting? Explain at least three strategies.

I accepted many answers here. I was hoping to hear about how you do regularization: shrinkage, number of trees, subsampling, tree depth parameter.

3. Consider the following training set as input to adaboost: $(A, -1), (B, -1), (C, 1), (D, 1), (E, -1)$, and $(F, 1)$. After the first iteration the base classifier misclassifies points E and F . After the second iteration the base classifier misclassifies points A and F (See the Adaboost algorithm)

- (a) **(2 pts)** What are the weights of each point in the training set after one iteration?

$$err_1 = \frac{1}{3}, \alpha_1 = \log \frac{2/3}{1/3} = \log 2 \text{ so}$$

$$w_A = w_B = w_C = w_D = \frac{1}{6} \text{ and } w_E = w_F = \frac{1}{3}$$

- (b) **(2.5 pts)** What is the prediction the algorithm would give to point A using two rounds of Adaboost ($M=2$)?

$$err_2 = \frac{1/6 + 1/3}{8/6} = \frac{3}{8}, \alpha_2 = \log \frac{1-3/8}{3/8} = \log \frac{5}{3}$$

$$G(A) = \text{sign}(\log 2 G_1(A) + \log \frac{5}{3} G_2(A)) = \text{sign}(-\log 2 + \log \frac{5}{3}) = -1$$