

## Tutorial Linear Classification

**Problem 1:** Consider a generative classification model for  $C$  classes defined by class probabilities  $p(y = c) = \pi_c$  and general class-conditional densities  $p(x | y = c, \theta_c)$  where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$  is the input feature vector and  $\theta = \{\theta_c\}_{c=1}^C$  are further model parameters. Suppose we are given a training set  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{n=1}^N$  where  $y^{(n)}$  is a binary target vector of length  $C$  that uses the 1-of- $C$  (one-hot) encoding scheme, so that it has components  $y_c^{(n)} = \delta_{ck}$  if pattern  $n$  is from class  $y = k$ . Assuming that the data points are i.i.d., show that the maximum-likelihood solution for the class probabilities  $\pi$  is given by

$$\pi_c = \frac{N_c}{N}$$

where  $N_c$  is the number of data points assigned to class  $c$ .

The data likelihood given the parameters  $\{\pi_c, \theta_c\}_{c=1}^C$  is

$$p(\mathcal{D} | \{\pi_c, \theta_c\}_{c=1}^C) = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{c=1}^C (p(x^{(n)} | \theta_c) \pi_c)^{y_c^{(n)}}$$

and so the data log-likelihood is given by

$$\log p(\mathcal{D} | \{\pi_c, \theta_c\}_{c=1}^C) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \log \pi_c$$

In order to maximize the log likelihood with respect to  $\pi_c$  we need to preserve the constraint  $\sum_c \pi_c = 1$ . For this we use the method of Lagrange multipliers where we introduce  $\lambda$  as an unconstrained additional parameter and find a local extremum of the unconstrained function

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \log \pi_c - \lambda \left( \sum_{c=1}^C \pi_c - 1 \right).$$

instead. See [wikipedia article on Lagrange multipliers](#) for an intuition of why this works. This function is a sum of concave terms in  $\pi_c$  as well as  $\lambda$  and is therefore itself concave in these variables. We can find the extremum by finding the root of the derivatives. Setting the derivative with respect to  $\pi_c$  equal to zero, we obtain

$$\pi_c = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{n=1}^N y_c^{(n)} = \frac{N_c}{\lambda}.$$

Setting the derivative with respect to  $\lambda$  equal to zero, we obtain the original constraint

$$\sum_{c=1}^C \pi_c = 1$$

where we can now plug in the previous result  $\pi_c = \frac{N_c}{\lambda}$  and obtain  $\lambda = \sum_c N_c = N$ . Plugging this in turn into the expression for  $\pi_c$  we obtain

$$\pi_c = \frac{N_c}{N}$$

which we wanted to show.

**Problem 2:** Using the same classification model as in the previous question, now suppose that the class-conditional densities are given by Gaussian distributions with a shared covariance matrix, so that

$$p(x | y = c, \theta) = p(x | \theta_c) = \mathcal{N}(x | \mu_c, \Sigma).$$

Show that the maximum likelihood estimate for the mean of the Gaussian distribution for class  $c$  is given by

$$\mu_c = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ y^{(n)}=c}}^N x^{(n)}$$

which represents the mean of the observations assigned to class  $c$ .

Similarly, show that the maximum likelihood estimate for the shared covariance matrix is given by

$$\Sigma = \sum_{c=1}^C \frac{N_c}{N} S_c \quad \text{where} \quad S_c = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ y^{(n)}=c}}^N (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T.$$

Thus  $\Sigma$  is given by a weighted average of the sample covariances of the data associated with each class, in which the weighting coefficients  $N_c/N$  are the prior probabilities of the classes.

We begin by writing out the data log-likelihood.

$$\begin{aligned} & \log p(\mathcal{D} | \{\pi_c, \theta_c\}_{c=1}^C) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \log \pi_c \cdot p(x^{(n)} | \mu_c, \Sigma) \end{aligned}$$

Then we plug in the definition of the multivariate Gaussian

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \log \left( (2\pi)^{-\frac{D}{2}} \det(\Sigma)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c) \right) \right) + y^{(n)} \log \pi_c$$

and simplify.

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \left( D \log 2\pi + \log \det(\Sigma) + (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c) - 2 \log \pi_c \right)$$

1-bit

$C=5 \rightarrow$

1  $\rightarrow$  00001

2  $\rightarrow$  00010

3  $\rightarrow$  00100

$\vdots$

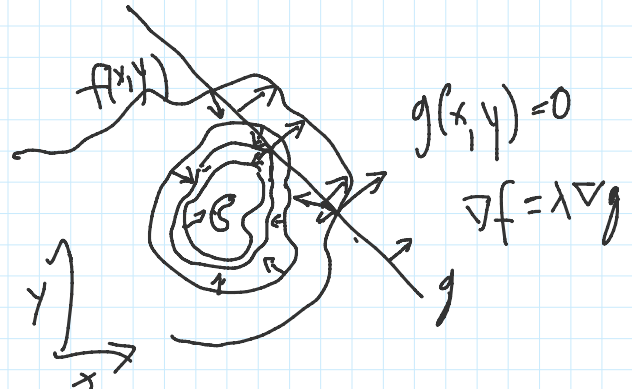
$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$x^0 = 1$

$$p(\mathcal{D} | \pi, \theta) = \prod_n p(x^n, y^n)$$

$$= \prod_n p(x^n | y^n, \theta) \cdot p(y^n | \pi)$$

$$= \prod_n \prod_c \left[ p(x^n | x=c, \theta) \cdot p(y=c | \pi) \right]^{y_c^{(n)}}$$



$$-\log x = \log x^{-1}$$

This expression is concave in  $\mu_c$ , so we can obtain the maximizer by finding the root of the derivative. With the help of the matrix cookbook, we identify the derivative with respect to  $\mu_c$  as

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N y_c^{(n)} \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)$$

which we can set to 0 and solve for  $\mu_c$  to obtain

$$\mu_c = \frac{1}{\sum_{n=1}^N y_c^{(n)}} \sum_{n=1}^N y_c^{(n)} x^{(n)} = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ y^{(n)}=c}}^N x^{(n)}.$$

To find the optimal  $\Sigma$ , we need the trace trick

$$a = \text{Tr}(a) \text{ for all } a \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Tr}(ABC) = \text{Tr}(BCA).$$

With this we can rewrite

$$(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c) = \text{Tr} \left( \overset{A}{\Sigma^{-1}} \overset{B}{(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T} \right)$$

and use the matrix-trace derivative rule  $\frac{\partial}{\partial A} \text{Tr}(AB) = B^T$  to find the derivative of the data log-likelihood with respect to  $\Sigma$ . Because the log-likelihood contains both  $\Sigma$  and  $\Sigma^{-1}$ , we convert one into the other with  $\log \det A = -\log \det A^{-1}$  to obtain

$$-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \left( -\log \det \Sigma^{-1} + \text{Tr} \left( \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \right) \right) + \text{const w.r.t. } \Sigma.$$


Finally, we use rule (57) from the matrix cookbook  $\frac{\partial \log |\det X|}{\partial X} = (X^{-1})^T$  and compute the derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\Sigma^{-1}$  as

$$-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} \left( -\Sigma^T + (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \right).$$

We find the root with respect to  $\Sigma$  and find

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)}} \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C y_c^{(n)} (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T \right)^T = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{c=1}^C \overset{\substack{N_c \\ N_c}}{\downarrow} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ y^{(n)}=c}}^N (x^{(n)} - \mu_c)(x^{(n)} - \mu_c)^T$$

which we can immediately break apart into the representation in the instructions.

Tr  = sum of diagonal  
=  $\sum_i a_{ii}$   
(a)