

# Regression Tasks - Generalized Linear Models

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**Week 4b**

ECEGR4750 - Introduction to Machine Learning  
Seattle University

October 12, 2023

# Recap and Updates

- Lab Take Home Assignment due this Thursday at 11.59pm
- Office Hours
  - T, Th 12-1p at Bannan 224
  - W 7-9p via Zoom
  - F 9-9.45a via Zoom
- Zoom Link: <https://seattleu.zoom.us/j/7519782079?pwd=cnhCM2tPcHJKVWwxZVArS2VHSUNJZz09>
  - Meeting ID: 751 978 2079
  - Passcode: 22498122
- Linear Regression (Regression):
  - Closed form solution: OLS
  - Numerical solution: LMS (GD, BGD, SGD)
  - Effect of noise on regression
- Logistic Regression (Binary Classification):
  - Numerical solution: MLE
  - Another numerical solution: Newton's Method

# Overview

- 1 Supervised Learning
  - Linear Regression Recap
  - Logistic Regression Recap
- 2 Generalized Linear Models
  - Introduction
- 3 Exponential Family
  - Gaussian Distribution
  - Bernoulli Distribution
  - Multinomial Distribution
  - Other Distributions
- 4 General Recipes for Constructing GLMs

# Generalized Linear Models

We have seen two regression examples that are distinguished by their types of output distribution:

- **Linear Regression:**  $y \in \mathbb{R}$
- **Logistic Regression / Binary Classification:**  $y \in 0, 1$

# Generalized Linear Models

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- **Linear Regression:**  $y \in \mathbb{R}$
- **Logistic Regression / Binary Classification:**  $y \in 0, 1$

Which also means:

- **Linear Regression:**  $y$  is a Gaussian distribution:  $y|x; \theta \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- **Logistic Regression / Binary Classification:**  $y$  is a Bernoulli distribution:  $y|x; \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi)$

where  $\mu$  and  $\phi$  are functions of  $x$  and  $\theta$

# Generalized Linear Models

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For example:

- Gaussian ( $y = \text{real numbers}$ )
- Bernoulli ( $y = \text{binary}$ )
- Multinomial ( $y = \text{multi-class}$ )
- Poisson ( $y = \text{counts}$ )
- Beta & Dirichlet ( $y = \text{probabilities}$ )

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We use the exponential family to unify inference and learning for many important models



# Exponential Family

Probability Density Function (PDF) or a probability distribution can be written as:

## Exponential Family of Generalized Linear Models

$$P(y; \eta) = b(y) \exp \{ \eta^T T(y) - a(\eta) \} \quad (1)$$

where  $y$ ,  $a(\eta)$ , and  $b(y)$  are scalars, and  $T(y)$  have the same dimension as  $\eta$ .

- $\eta$  is the **natural parameter** or **canonical parameter** of the distribution.
- $T(y)$  is the **sufficient statistic**, where often  $T(y) = y$ .
- $b(y)$  is the **base measure**.
- $a(\eta)$  is the **log partition function**.  $e^{-a(\eta)}$  can be considered a normalization term that makes  $p(y; \eta)$  sums or integrates over  $y$  to 1.

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where  $y$ ,  $a(\eta)$ , and  $b(y)$  are scalars, and  $T(y)$  have the same dimension as  $\eta$ .

A fixed choice of  $T$ ,  $a$ , and  $b$  defines a family of distributions that is parameterized by  $\eta$ . As we vary  $\eta$ , we get different distributions within this family.

Let's look at a couple examples...

# Gaussian Distribution

## (Linear Regression)

Gaussian distribution with a mean of  $\mu$  and variance of  $\sigma^2$ , over  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  is written as  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

The value of the variance  $\sigma^2$  has no effect on the final choice of  $\theta$  and  $h_\theta(x)$ . Thus, to simplify derivation, let's set  $\sigma^2 = 1$

$$p(y; \mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(y - \mu)^2 \right\} \quad (2)$$

# Gaussian Distribution

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$$\begin{aligned} p(y; \mu) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(y - \mu)^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(y^2 - 2\mu y + \mu^2) \right\} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}y^2 \right) \right) \exp \left\{ \mu y - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

This equation is the same as Equation 1:

$$P(y; \eta) = b(y) \exp \{ \eta^T T(y) - a(\eta) \}$$

# Gaussian Distribution

## Generalized Linear Model for Gaussian Distribution

$$p(y; \mu) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}y^2 \right) \right) \exp \{ \mu y - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 \}$$

where:

$$b(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}y^2 \right)$$

$$a(\eta) = \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 = \frac{1}{2}\eta^2$$

$$T(y) = y$$

$$\eta = \mu$$

# Bernoulli Distribution

(Binary Classification or Logistic Regression)

Bernoulli distribution with a mean of  $\phi$ , over  $y \in 0, 1$  is written as *Bernoulli*( $\phi$ ).

$$\begin{aligned}p(y = 1; \phi) &= \phi \\p(y = 0; \phi) &= 1 - \phi\end{aligned}$$

Which can be written as (see previous lecture):

$$p(y; \phi) = \phi^y (1 - \phi)^{1-y} \quad (3)$$

# Bernoulli Distribution

Let's derive Equation 1 from Equation 3. First, take the log of  $p(y; \phi)$  and exp of the log ( $p(y; \phi) = \exp(\log(p(y; \phi)))$ ):



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$$\begin{aligned} p(y; \phi) &= \exp(\log(p(y; \phi))) \\ &= \exp(\log(\phi^y (1 - \phi)^{1-y})) \\ &= \exp(y \log \phi + (1 - y) \log(1 - \phi)) \\ &= \exp(y \log \phi - y \log(1 - \phi) + \log(1 - \phi)) \\ &= \exp\left(y \log\left(\frac{\phi}{1 - \phi}\right) + \log(1 - \phi)\right) \end{aligned}$$

## Generalized Linear Model for Bernoulli Distribution

$$p(y; \phi) = \exp \left( y \log \left( \frac{\phi}{1-\phi} \right) + \log(1 - \phi) \right) \quad (4)$$

This Equation 4 is in the same form as Equation 1:

$$P(y; \eta) = b(y) \exp \{ \eta^T T(y) - a(\eta) \}$$

where:

$$b(y) = 1$$

$$a(\eta) = -\log(1 - \phi)$$

$$T(y) = y$$

$$\eta = \log \frac{\phi}{1 - \phi}$$

# Bernoulli Distribution

Let's express  $a(\eta)$  in terms of  $\eta$  and verify that it is a function of  $\eta$ .

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$$\eta = \log \frac{\phi}{1 - \phi}$$

$$e^\eta = \frac{\phi}{1 - \phi}$$

$$e^\eta(1 - \phi) = \phi$$

$$e^\eta = (e^\eta + 1)\phi$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\eta}}$$

Plug  $\phi$  back into  $a(\eta)$ :

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$$e^\eta = (e^\eta + 1)\phi$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\eta}}$$

Plug  $\phi$  back into  $a(\eta)$ :

$$a(\eta) = -\log \left( 1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\eta}} \right) = \log \frac{e^{-\eta}}{1 + e^{-\eta}} = -\log(1 + e^\eta)$$

This equation is the same form as Equation 1

# Bernoulli Distribution

## Generalized Linear Model for Bernoulli Distribution

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where:

$$b(y) = 1$$

$$a(\eta) = -\log(1 + e^\eta)$$

$$T(y) = y$$

$$\eta = \log \frac{\phi}{1 - \phi}$$

# Multinomial Distribution

(Multi-Class Classification)

**Multi-class Classification:**  $y$  can take on any of  $k$  values

Given a training set  $\{(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)}) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n\}$ , let  $y^{(i)} \in 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

For example, we want to choose whether the Iris in the picture belongs to one of the 3 classes: 'Setosa', 'Virginica', 'Versicolor'.

In this case,  $k = 3$ .

We can perform a **one-hot encoding**, in which  $y \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , and  $\sum_{j=1}^k y_j = 1$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

'Setosa'   'Virginica'   'Versicolor'

# Multinomial Distribution

## Prediction Function

Find the prediction, which is the distribution over the  $k$  classes.

Define the Softmax function as our hypothesis.  $\text{Softmax} : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  turns  $(t_1, \dots, t_k) = (\theta_1^T x, \dots, \theta_k^T x)$  into a probability vector with non-negative entries that sum up to 1:

$$\begin{bmatrix} P(y = 1|x; \theta) \\ \vdots \\ P(y = k|x; \theta) \end{bmatrix} = \text{softmax}(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\exp(\theta_1^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(\theta_j^T x)} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\exp(\theta_k^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(\theta_j^T x)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $x, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, k$



# Multinomial Distribution

## Loss Function

We can shorten  $\phi_i = \frac{\exp(\theta_i^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(\theta_j^T x)}$ , hence:

$$P(y = i | x; \theta) = \phi_i = \frac{\exp(\theta_i^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(\theta_j^T x)}$$

## How do we train for $\theta$ ?

Let's define cross-entropy loss  $\ell_{ce} : \mathbb{R}^k$ :

### Cross-Entropy Loss

$$\ell_{ce} = - \sum_{j=1}^k t_j \log(\phi_j)$$

where  $t_j$  is the truth label for class  $j$  and  $\phi_j$  is the softmax probability.

# Multinomial Distribution

## Loss Function

The gradient of the loss function is:

$$\frac{\partial \ell_{ce}(\theta)}{\partial \theta_j} = \sum_{j=1}^k \left( \phi_j^{(i)} - 1_{\{y^{(i)} = j\}} \right) \dot{x}^{(i)}$$

where  $\phi_j = \frac{\exp(\theta_j^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(\theta_j^T x)}$  is the probability that the model predicts class  $j$  for sample  $x^{(i)}$ .

We can iterate  $\theta$  using gradient descent methods to minimize the loss function  $\ell(\theta)$ .

# Multinomial Distribution

## Predicting the Output

After obtaining the final values of  $\theta$ , calculate  $\phi_j$  for each class  $j$ . The class with the greatest value of  $\phi$  will be returned as the predicted class.

# Some Other Common Exponential Distribution

Distribution	$\eta$	$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{y})$	$\mathbf{a}(\eta)$	$b(\mathbf{y})$
Bernoulli	$\log\left(\frac{\phi}{1-\phi}\right)$	$y$	$\log(1 + \exp(\eta))$	1
Gaussian	$\mu$	$y$	$\frac{\eta^2}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{y^2}{2}\right)$
Poisson	$\log(\lambda)$	$y$	$\exp(\eta)$	$\frac{1}{y!}$
Geometric	$\log(1 - \phi)$	$y$	$\log\left(\frac{e^\eta}{1-e^\eta}\right)$	1

Note: not all distributions belong to the exponential family! For example: Uniform distribution over an interval  $[a, b]$ :

$$p(y; a, b) = \frac{1}{b - a} \cdot 1_{a \leq y \leq b}$$

# Constructing GLMs

There are many types of distributions (Exponential Families):

- Gaussian ( $y$  = real numbers)
- Bernoulli ( $y$  = binary)
- Multinomial ( $y$  = multi-class)
- Poisson ( $y$  = counts)
- Beta & Dirichlet ( $y$  = probabilities)

We can create a general rule to construct a GLM.

# Constructing GLMs

Given inputs  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  (where  $d$  is the number of features) and a target  $y$ , create a model  $h_{\theta}(x)$

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①  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{ExponentialFamily}(\eta)$

Given feature  $x$  and weight  $\theta$ , the distribution of target  $y$  follows some exponential family distribution with a parameter of  $\eta$ .

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- 1  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{ExponentialFamily}(\eta)$

Given feature  $x$  and weight  $\theta$ , the distribution of target  $y$  follows some exponential family distribution with a parameter of  $\eta$ .

- 2  $\eta = \theta^T x$ , in which  $\theta, x \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$

Assume a linear model, in which the inputs  $x$  and the natural parameter  $\eta$  are linearly related.



# Constructing GLMs

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- 2  $\eta = \theta^T x$ , in which  $\theta, x \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$

Assume a linear model, in which the inputs  $x$  and the natural parameter  $\eta$  are linearly related.

- 3  $h_\theta(x) = E[y|x; \theta]$

Predict the expected value  $T(y)$  given  $x$ . In our examples, we assume  $T(y) = y$ . This means, prediction will satisfy  $h_\theta(x) = E[y|x; \theta]$ . Note that, the expected value is equivalent to the arithmetic mean.

# Constructing GLMs

## Terminologies

Model Parameter  
 $\theta$

Natural Parameter  
 $\eta$

Canonical Parameter  
 $E[T(y); \eta]$   
 $\left( \begin{array}{l} \phi: \text{Bernoulli} \\ \mu: \text{Gaussian} \\ \lambda: \text{Poisson} \end{array} \right)$

- Linear Function:  $\eta = \theta^T x$   
relates the model parameters  $\theta$  and the natural parameter  $\eta$ .
- Canonical Response Function:  $g(\eta) = E[T(y); \eta]$   
expresses the mean of the distribution  $E[T(y); \eta]$  as a function of the natural parameter  $\eta$ . The canonical function  $g$  varies depending on the distribution *ExponentialFamily*( $\eta$ ).
- Canonical Link Function:  $g^{-1}$

# Constructing GLMs

## Examples

### 1 Bernoulli Distribution

1  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi)$

# Constructing GLMs

## Examples

### ① Bernoulli Distribution

①  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi)$

②  $g(\eta) = E[T(y); \eta]$

$$1/(1 + e^{-\eta}) = \phi$$

# Constructing GLMs

## Examples

### ① Bernoulli Distribution

①  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi)$

②  $g(\eta) = E[T(y); \eta]$

$$1/(1 + e^{-\eta}) = \phi$$

③  $h_{\theta}(x) = E[y|x; \theta]$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \phi \quad (\text{mean of a Bernoulli distribution})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-\eta}) \quad (\text{substituting link function from 2})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-\theta^T x}) \quad (\text{substituting linear function } \eta = \theta^T x)$$

# Constructing GLMs

## Examples

### 1 Bernoulli Distribution

1  $y|x, \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi)$

2  $g(\eta) = E[T(y); \eta]$

$$1/(1 + e^{-\eta}) = \phi$$

3  $h_{\theta}(x) = E[y|x; \theta]$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \phi \quad (\text{mean of a Bernoulli distribution})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-\eta}) \quad (\text{substituting link function from 2})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-\theta^T x}) \quad (\text{substituting linear function } \eta = \theta^T x)$$

### 2 Gaussian Distribution:

1  $y|x, \theta \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

2  $g(\eta) = E[T(y); \eta]$

$$\eta = \phi$$

3  $h_{\theta}(x) = E[y|x; \theta]$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \mu \quad (\text{mean of a Gaussian distribution})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \eta \quad (\text{substituting link function from 2})$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta^T x \quad (\text{substituting linear function } \eta = \theta^T x)$$

# References



Chris Re, Andrew Ng, and Tengyu Ma (2023)

CSE229 Machine Learning

*Stanford University*