Machine learning from scratch

Lecture 7: Classification

Alexis Zubiolo alexis.zubiolo@gmail.com

Data Science Team Lead @ Adcash

March 16, 2017

Introduction

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Example:

- ► For digit recognition, there are **10 classes** (one per digit: 0, 1, 2, ..., 9)
- ► For letter recognition, the number of classes depends on the alphabet (e.g. 26 for the latin alphabet).

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One way to formulate the SVM model is by defining **one linear models per class**: $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k$. The goal is to have $\theta_j^T x$ measure the confidence of x having j as a label. This way, the predicted class of x will be the j that maximizes $\theta^T x$.

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Hence, we can define scores $s_j = \theta_j^T x$ for each class j. If the SVM algorithm makes no mistake on the sample (x, y), s_y should be the highest value.

Hinge loss

SVM relies on the **hinge loss**, that is

$$\ell(s_j,s_y) = \max(0,s_j-s_y+\Delta)$$

where:

- s_i is the score for some class $j \neq y$
- \triangleright s_v is the score for the true class y
- ▶ Δ is a **hyper-parameter** that quantifies by how much we want s_y to be bigger than s_j for $j \neq y$

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This loss has to be computed for all the classes **other than the actual class** y. In the end, the total loss for the sample (x, y) is the sum of the loss for all the $j \neq y$:

$$L = \sum_{j
eq y} \ell(s_j, s_y) = \sum_{j
eq y} \max(0, s_j - s_y + \Delta)$$

Illustration on a simple example

Example: Suppose we have 3 classes (1, 2 and 3). We get a training sample (x, y) within the first class (that is, y = 0). We have an SVM algorithm with hyperparameter $\Delta = 10$ that returns scores of 13 for class 1, -7 for class 2, and 11 for class 3.

Question: What is the total loss for this sample?

Illustration on a simple example

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Solution:

$$\begin{split} L &= \ell(s_2, s_1) + \ell(s_3, s_1) \\ &= \max(0, -7 - 13 + 10) + \max(0, 11 - 13 + 10) \\ &= \max(0, -10) + \max(0, +8) \\ &= 0 + 8 \\ &= 8 \end{split}$$

Optimization problem formulation

We saw that for a single sample (x, y), the training loss is:

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where
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 and $s_y = \theta_y^T \mathbf{x}$.

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As for the linear regression, when given a training set $\{(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}), i = 1, \dots, n\}$, we just need to sum the losses for all the training samples:

$$J(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k) = \sum_{i=1}^n L_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, \theta_j^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \theta_{y_i}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} + \Delta)$$

Overfitting and regularization

As for regression tasks, **outliers** can have a dramatic impact on the model we train. We saw that it usually resulted in high weights and that **adding a regularization term** could help.

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We can do the same for the SVM problem:

$$J(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{i \neq y_i} \max(0, \theta_j^T \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \theta_{y_i}^T \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} + \Delta) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^k \|\theta_i\|_2^2$$

where

$$\|\theta_j\|_2^2 = \sum_{m=1}^d \theta_{j,m}^2$$

 $(\theta_i$ is a vector, and $\theta_{i,m}$ its mth value.)

Optimization

We have defined a cost function J we would like to minimize. Again, we can apply an algorithm like gradient descent to find its optimal value. For this, we need to compute J's **gradients**.

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Due to the gradient linearity, we can compute the gradient of each component **separately**. Hence, we need to compute:

- L's gradients
- R's gradients

Reminder: For a sample (x, y), L is given by:

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^{T} \max(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_j^T \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_y^T \boldsymbol{x} + \Delta)$$

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 \rightarrow j = y:

$$\nabla_{\theta_i} L = p \mathbf{x}$$

where p is the number of times the desired margin is not satisfied, that is the number of $j \neq y$ such that

$$\theta_j^T \mathbf{x} - \theta_y^T \mathbf{x} + \Delta > 0$$

Reminder: *R* is given by:

$$R(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k) = \sum_{j=1}^k \|\theta_j\|_2^2$$

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Conclusion: We have the analytic expression of the gradients of L and R and are able to apply the gradient descent (stochastic or batch) to it.

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In this lecture, we've seen Classification models with the example of SVMs:

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- ▶ How to compute the gradient
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Next time, we'll go a bit further and have a **practical session** about classification.

Thank you! Questions?