

CS534 — Homework Assignment 1 —
Due Oct 6th 11:59pm, 2018

Written assignment

Individual assignment. Submit electronically via TEACH (<https://teach.engr.oregonstate.edu/>).

1. (Probability) Consider two coins, one is fair and the other one has a 1/10 probability for head. Now you randomly pick one of the coins, and toss it twice. Answer the following questions.
 - (a) What is the probability that you picked the fair coin? What is the probability of the first toss being head?
 - (b) If both tosses are heads, what is the probability that you have chosen the fair coin (Hint: Bayes Rule)?
2. (Maximum likelihood estimation for uniform distribution.) Given a set of i.i.d. samples $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \sim \text{uniform}(0, \theta)$.
 - (a) Write down the likelihood function of θ .
 - (b) Find the maximum likelihood estimator for θ .
3. (Weighted linear regression) In class when discussing linear regression, we assume that the Gaussian noise is independently identically distributed. Now we assume the noises $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_n$ are independent but each $\epsilon_m \sim N(0, \sigma_m^2)$, i.e., it has its own distinct variance.
 - (a) Write down the log likelihood function of \mathbf{w} .
 - (b) Show that maximizing the log likelihood is equivalent to minimizing a weighted least square loss function $J(\mathbf{W}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^n a_m (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_m - y_m)^2$, and express each a_m in terms of σ_m .
 - (c) Derive a batch gradient descent algorithm for optimizing this objective.
 - (d) Derive a closed form solution to this optimization problem.
4. (Decision theory). Consider a binary classification task with the following loss matrix:

predicted label \hat{y}	true label y	
	0	1
0	0	10
1	5	0

We have build a probabilistic model that for each example x gives us an estimated $P(y = 1|x)$. It can be shown that, to minimize the expected loss for our decision, we should set a probability threshold θ and predict $\hat{y} = 1$ if $P(y = 1|x) > \theta$ and $\hat{y} = 0$ otherwise.

- (a) Please compute the θ for the above given loss matrix.
 - (b) Show a loss matrix where the threshold is 0.1.
5. Consider the maximum likelihood estimation problem for multi-class logistic regression using the softmax function defined below:

$$p(y = k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{x})}{\sum_{j=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w}_j^T \mathbf{x})}$$

We can write out the likelihood function as:

$$L(\mathbf{w}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^K p(y = k|\mathbf{x}_i)^{I(y_i=k)}$$

where $I(y_i = k)$ is the indicator function, taking value 1 if y_i is k .

- (a) What are i and k in this likelihood function?
- (b) Compute the log-likelihood function.
- (c) What is the gradient of the log-likelihood function w.r.t the weight vector \mathbf{w}_c of class c ? (Precursor to this question, which terms are relevant for \mathbf{w}_c in the loglikelihood function?)