Sapienza University of Rome

Master in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Machine Learning

A.Y. 2024/2025

Prof. Luca locchi

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

1/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Overview

- Probabilistic generative models
- Probabilistic discriminative models
- Logistic regression

References

C. Bishop. Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning. Sect. 4.2, 4.3

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

3/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Probabilistic Models for Classification

Given $f: \mathbf{X} \to C$ ($\mathbf{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$), $D = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, c_n)_{n=1}^n\}$ and $\mathbf{x} \notin D$, estimate

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{x},D)$$

Simplified notation without D in the formulas.

 $P(C_i|\mathbf{x})$: posterior, $P(\mathbf{x}|C_i)$: class-conditional densities

Two families of models:

- Generative: estimate $P(\mathbf{x}|C_i)$ and then compute $P(C_i|\mathbf{x})$ with Bayes
- Discriminative: estimate $P(C_i|\mathbf{x})$ directly

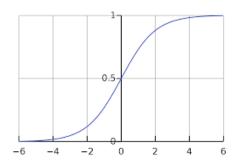
Probabilistic Generative Models

Consider two classes. Find the conditional probability:

$$P(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{x}|C_1)P(C_1)}{P(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{P(\mathbf{x}|C_1)P(C_1)}{P(\mathbf{x}|C_1)P(C_1) + P(\mathbf{x}|C_2)P(C_2)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)} = \sigma(a)$$

with:

$$a=\lnrac{P(\mathsf{x}|C_1)P(C_1)}{P(\mathsf{x}|C_2)P(C_2)}$$
 $\sigma(a)=rac{1}{1+\exp(-a)}$ sigmoid function



Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

5/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Probabilistic Generative Models

Consider parametric model $P(\mathbf{x}|C_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ same covariance matrix for all classes

$$a = \ln \frac{P(\mathbf{x}|C_1)P(C_1)}{P(\mathbf{x}|C_2)P(C_2)} = \ln \frac{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})P(C_1)}{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})P(C_2)} = \ldots = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$$

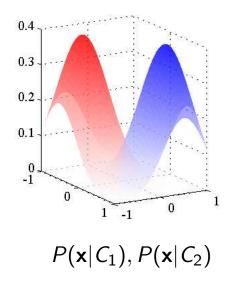
with:

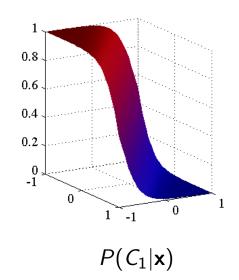
$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mu_1 - \mu_2), \ w_0 = -\frac{1}{2}\mu_1^T\mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1}\mu_1 + \frac{1}{2}\mu_2^T\mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1}\mu_2 + \ln\frac{P(C_1)}{P(C_2)}.$$

Thus

$$P(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x} + w_0),$$

Probabilistic Generative Models





Decision rule: $c = C_1 \iff P(c = C_1 | \mathbf{x}) > 0.5$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

7/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Probabilistic Generative Models

Summary

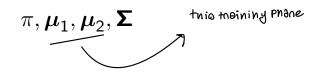
$$P(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(a), \qquad a = \ln \frac{P(\mathbf{x}|C_1)P(C_1)}{P(\mathbf{x}|C_2)P(C_2)}$$

$$P(C_2|\mathbf{x}) = 1 - P(C_1|\mathbf{x})$$

Parametric model

$$P(C_1) = \pi$$
 $P(C_2) = 1 - \pi$ $P(\mathbf{x}|C_1) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ $P(\mathbf{x}|C_2) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

Unknown



Maximum likelihood (2 classes)

Maximum likelihood solution for 2 classes

Assuming $P(C_1) = \pi$ (thus $P(C_2) = 1 - \pi$), $P(\mathbf{x}|C_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

Given data set $D = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, t_n)_{n=1}^N\}$, $t_n = 1$ if \mathbf{x}_n belongs to class C_1 , $t_n = 0$ if \mathbf{x}_n belongs to class C_2

Let N_1 be the number of samples in D belonging to C_1 and N_2 be the number of samples in C_2 ($N_1 + N_2 = N$)

Likelihood function

$$P(\mathbf{t}|\pi,\mu_1,\mu_2,\mathbf{\Sigma},D)=\prod_{n=1}^N [\pi\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n;\mu_1,\mathbf{\Sigma})]^{t_n} [(1-\pi)\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n;\mu_2,\mathbf{\Sigma})]^{(1-t_n)}$$

ML solution: Estimate model parameters $\hat{\pi}$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_1$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_2$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

9/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Maximum likelihood (2 classes)

Maximum likelihood solution for 2 classes

Maximizing log likelihood function, we obtain

$$\hat{\pi} = \frac{N_1}{N}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{N_1} \sum_{n=1}^{N} t_n \mathbf{x}_n \qquad \hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{N_2} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (1 - t_n) \mathbf{x}_n$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{\Sigma}} = \frac{N_1}{N} S_1 + \frac{N_2}{N} S_2$$

with
$$S_i = \frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{n \in C_i} (\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i) (\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i)^T$$
, $i = 1, 2$

Note: details in C. Bishop. PRML. Section 4.2.2

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Maximum likelihood (2 classes)

Prediction of new sample $\mathbf{x}' \notin D$

$$P(C_1|\mathbf{x}') = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}' + w_0) \begin{cases} > 0.5 \Rightarrow C_1 \\ \leq 0.5 \Rightarrow C_2 \end{cases}$$

with **w** and w_0 computed from $hat\pi, \hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\mu}_2, \hat{\Sigma}$ (maximum likelihood solution)

Generative model

 $\hat{P}(\mathbf{x}|C_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}})$ can be used to generate new samples for C_i

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

11/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Maximum likelihood (K classes)

Given

$$f: \mathbf{X} \to \{C_1, \dots, C_K\}, D = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, t_n)_{n=1}^N\}$$

$$t_n = (0, \ldots, 1, \ldots, 0)$$
: 1-of-K (one-hot) encoding $(t_{nk} = 1 \text{ iff } f(\mathbf{x}_n) = C_k)$

estimate

$$P(C_k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{x}|C_k)P(C_k)}{\sum_{j} P(\mathbf{x}|C_j)P(C_j)} = \frac{exp(a_k)}{\sum_{j} exp(a_j)}$$

(normalized exponential or softmax function)

with
$$a_k = \ln P(\mathbf{x}|C_k)P(C_k)$$

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Maximum likelihood (K classes)

Gaussian Naive Bayes

$$P(C_k) = \pi_k, P(\mathbf{x}|C_k) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

Training: Estimate from *D*

$$\hat{\pi}_k = rac{N_k}{N}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_k = rac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N t_{nk} \, \mathbf{x}_n$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{\Sigma}} = \sum_{k=1}^K rac{N_k}{N} S_k \;, \quad S_k = rac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N t_{nk} (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T$$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

13/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Maximum likelihood (K classes)

Prediction of new sample $\mathbf{x}' \notin D$

$$\underset{C_k \in C}{\operatorname{argmax}} \, \hat{P}(C_k | \mathbf{x}') = \underset{k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \, \frac{exp(a_k)}{\sum_j exp(a_j)}$$

with
$$a_k = \ln \hat{P}(\mathbf{x}'|C_k)\hat{P}(C_k) = \ln \hat{\pi}_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}'; \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}})$$

Probabilistic Models

Represent posterior distributions with parametric models.

For two classes

$$P(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(a)$$

For $k \ge 2$ classes

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(a_k)}{\sum_j exp(a_j)}$$

$$a_k = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$$

This is valid for all the class-conditional distributions in the exponential family (including Gaussians). [Bishop, Sect. 4.2.4]

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

15 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Notation

Target function: $f: \Re^d \mapsto C$

Dataset
$$D = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, t_n)_{n=1}^N\} = \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{t} \rangle$$

X: matrix $(N \times d)$ of input values

t: vector (N) of output values

Compact notation

Model

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = (w_0 \ \mathbf{w}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$ilde{\mathbf{w}} = \left(egin{array}{c} w_0 \ \mathbf{w} \end{array}
ight), ilde{\mathbf{x}} = \left(egin{array}{c} 1 \ \mathbf{x} \end{array}
ight)$$

$$a_k = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

17 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Maximum Likelihood for parametric models

Likelihood for a parametric model \mathcal{M}_{Θ} of dataset $D = \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{t} \rangle$: $P(\mathbf{t}|\Theta, \mathbf{X})$,

Maximum likelihood solution:

$$\Theta^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\Theta} \ln P(\mathbf{t}|\Theta, \mathbf{X})$$

When \mathcal{M}_{Θ} belongs to the exponential family, likelihood $P(\mathbf{t}|\Theta, \mathbf{X})$ can be expressed in the form $P(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{X})$, with maximum likelihood

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \ln P(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{X})$$

Probabilistic Discriminative Models

Estimate directly

$$P(C_k|\tilde{\mathbf{x}},D) = \frac{exp(a_k)}{\sum_j exp(a_j)}$$
 $a_k = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$

with maximum likelihood

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} \ln P(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{X})$$

without estimating the model parameters.

Simplified notation (dataset omitted): $P(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

19 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Logistic regression

Probabilistic discriminative model based on maximum likelihood.

Two classes

Given data set
$$D = \{(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n, t_n)_{n=1}^N\}$$
, with $t_n \in \{0, 1\}$

Likelihood function:

$$p(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} y_n^{t_n} (1 - y_n)^{1-t_n}$$

with
$$y_n = p(C_1|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n) = \sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n)$$

Note: t_n : value in the data set corresponding to \mathbf{x}_n , y_n : posterior prediction of the current model $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$ for \mathbf{x}_n .

Logistic regression

Cross-entropy error function (negative log likelihood)

$$E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \equiv -\ln p(\mathbf{t}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = -\sum_{n=1}^{N} [t_n \ln y_n + (1-t_n) \ln(1-y_n)]$$

Solution concept: solve the optimization problem

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$$

Many solvers available.

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

21/30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Iterative reweighted least squares

Apply Newton-Raphson iterative optimization for minimizing $E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$.

Gradient of the error with respect to $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$

$$\nabla E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} (y_n - t_n) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n$$

Gradient descent step

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \leftarrow \tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{H}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})^{-1} \nabla E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$$

 $m{H}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \nabla \nabla E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$ is the Hessian matrix of $E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$ (second derivatives with respect to $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$).

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Iterative reweighted least squares

Given $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \left(egin{array}{c} ilde{\mathbf{x}}_1^T \ \dots \ ilde{\mathbf{x}}_N^T \end{array}
ight) \qquad \mathbf{t} = \left(egin{array}{c} t_1 \ \dots \ t_N \end{array}
ight),$

 $\mathbf{y}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^T$ posterior predictions of model $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$

 $R(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$: diagonal matrix with $R_{nn} = y_n(1 - y_n)$

we have

$$abla E(ilde{f w}) = ilde{f X}^T({f y}(ilde{f w}) - {f t})$$

$$m{H}(ilde{\mathbf{w}}) =
abla
abla E(ilde{\mathbf{w}}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} y_n (1 - y_n) ilde{\mathbf{x}}_n ilde{\mathbf{x}}_n^T = ilde{\mathbf{X}}^T m{R}(ilde{\mathbf{w}}) ilde{\mathbf{X}}$$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

23 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Iterative reweighted least squares

Iterative method:

- 1. Initialize $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$
- 2. Repeat until termination condition

$$\tilde{\textbf{w}} \leftarrow \tilde{\textbf{w}} - (\tilde{\textbf{X}}^{\intercal} \, \textbf{\textit{R}}(\tilde{\textbf{w}}) \, \tilde{\textbf{X}})^{-1} \tilde{\textbf{X}}^{\intercal} (\textbf{y}(\tilde{\textbf{w}}) - \textbf{t})$$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Multiclass logistic regression

K classes

$$P(C_k|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = \frac{exp(a_k)}{\sum_j exp(a_j)}$$
 $a_k = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_k^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ $k = 1, ..., K$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1^T \\ \dots \\ \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_N^T \end{pmatrix}$$
 $\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} t_1^T \\ \dots \\ t_N^T \end{pmatrix}$ 1-of- K encoding of labels

$$\mathbf{y}_n^T = (y_{n1} \dots y_{nK})^T$$
 posterior prediction of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n$ for model $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K$

$$\mathbf{Y}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1,\ldots,\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1^T \\ \ldots \\ \mathbf{y}_N^T \end{pmatrix}$$
 posterior predictions of model $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1,\ldots,\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

25 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Multiclass logistic regression

Discriminative model

$$P(\mathbf{T}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1,\ldots,\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^K P(C_k|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n)^{t_{nk}} = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^K y_{nk}^{t_{nk}}$$

with $y_{nk} = \mathbf{Y}[n, k]$ and $t_{nk} = \mathbf{T}[n, k]$.

Multiclass logistic regression

Cross-entropy error function

$$E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = -\ln P(\mathbf{T}|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = -\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K t_{nk} \ln y_{nk}$$

Iterative algorithm

gradient
$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i} E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = \dots$$

Hessian matrix $\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_k} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_j} E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_K) = \dots$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

27 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Summary

Given a target function $f: \mathbf{X} \to C$, and data set D

assume a parametric model for the posterior probability $P(C_k|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \tilde{\mathbf{w}})$ sigmoid $\sigma(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$ (2 classes) or softmax $\frac{e \times p(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_k^T\tilde{\mathbf{x}})}{\sum_{j=1}^K e \times p(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_j^T\tilde{\mathbf{x}})}$ (K classes)

Define an error function $E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$ (negative log likelihood)

Solve the optimization problem

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}} E(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})$$

Classify new sample $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}'$ as C_{k^*} where $k^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{k=1,...,K} P(C_k | \tilde{\mathbf{x}}', \tilde{\mathbf{w}}^*)$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

Generalization

Given a target function $f: \mathbf{X} \to C$, and data set D

assume a prediction parametric model $y(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$, $y(\mathbf{x}; \theta) \approx f(\mathbf{x})$

Define an error function $E(\theta)$

Solve the optimization problem

$$\theta^* = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\theta} E(\theta)$$

Classify new sample \mathbf{x}' as $y(\mathbf{x}'; \theta^*)$

Luca locchi

6. Probabilistic models for classification

29 / 30

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Machine Learning (2024/2025)

Learning in feature space

All methods described above can be applied in a transformed space of the input (feature space).

Given a function $\phi : \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \mapsto \mathbf{\Phi}$ ($\mathbf{\Phi}$ is the *feature space*) each sample $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n$ can be mapped to a feature vector $\phi_n = \phi(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n)$

Replacing $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n$ with ϕ_n in all the equations above, makes the learning system to work in the feature space instead of the input space.

We will see in the next lectures why this trick is useful.