

LEARNING FROM DATA

XIAOMO LIU

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ABSTRACT

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* Department of Biology, University of Examples, London, United Kingdom

¹ Department of Chemistry, University of Examples, London, United Kingdom

1 PERCEPTRON ALGORITHM

The perceptron algorithm is the most simple learning algorithm for classification problem. It works as follows

$$h(x) = \text{sign} \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i \right) + b \right) \quad (1)$$

where w_i is the weight for feature x_i and b is a bias term. We can easily rewrite it in terms of linear algebra. We will treat bias b as a constant weight $w_0 = b$. With this convention $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^d w_i x_i$. From this notation, it looks like there is no difference between weights and bias in perceptron model. A natural question is that if weight and bias are similar, why we even bother to introduce both weight and bias?

2 LOGISTIC REGRESSION

The logistic regression utilizes logistic function.

$$f(x) = \frac{L}{1 + e^{-k(x-x_0)}} \quad (2)$$

where L defines the curve's maximum value and k specifies steepness of the curve and x_0 is the centre of the curve. Sigmoid function is a special case of logistic function. The logistic regression is also a classification algorithm.

To answer this question, let take a look at the property of sigmoid function in Figure 1 and 2. In a nutshell, the weight w controls its steepness of sigmoid functions and bias b enables to shift the entire curve to left and right. Let take back and take glimpse at its property.

- Sigmoid has a nearly linear range around its centre 0 and becomes non-linear at two ends.
- Sigmoid has finite limits at negative infinity and infinity, most often going either from 0 to 1 or from -1 to 1 depending on convention.
- Sigmoid can model many natural processes, such as those of complex system learning curves, exhibit a progression from small beginnings that accelerates and approaches a climax over time.
- Sigmoid is differentiable. Its derivative is $\frac{1}{dx}y = y(1-y)$.

The key difference between

3 METHODS

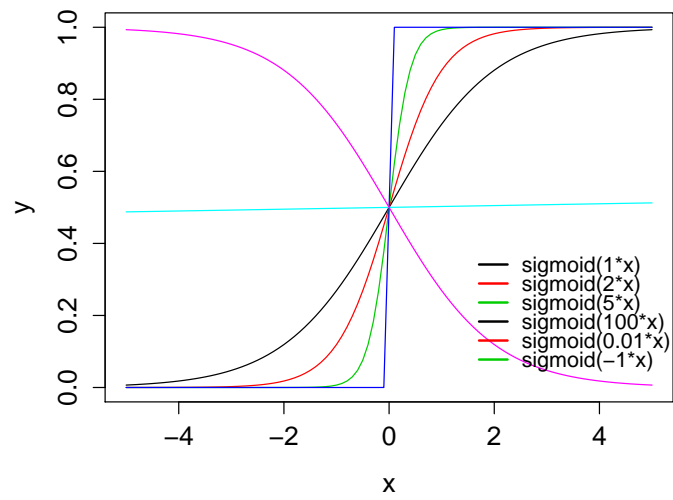


Figure 1: Sigmoid function with a single variant x , various choice of parameter w .

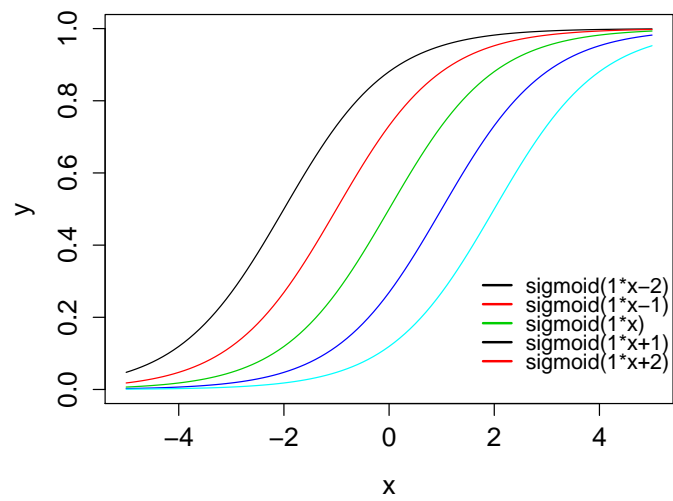


Figure 2: Sigmoid function with a single variant x , various choice of bias b .