# Deep Transfer Learning

Logistic Regression, Multi-class Classification

Ashley Gao

William & Mary

September 25, 2023

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023

## Overview

- Classification: predicting a discrete-valued target
  - Binary classification: predicting a binary-valued target
  - Multiclass classification: predicting a discrete (> 2)-valued target
- Examples of binary classification:
  - predict whether a patient has a disease, given the presence or absence of various symptoms
  - classify e-mails as spam or non-spam
  - predict whether a financial transaction is fraudulent

## Overview

- Binary linear classification
  - classification: given a D-dimensional input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$  predict a discrete-valued target
  - binary: predict a binary target  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ 
    - Training examples with t = 1 are called positive examples, and training examples with t = 0 are called negative examples.
    - $t \in \{0, 1\}$  or  $t \in \{+1, -1\}$  is for computational convenience.
  - linear: model prediction y is a linear function of x, followed by a threshold r

$$z = \boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{x} + b \tag{1}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & z \ge r \\ 0 & z < r \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

# Some Simplification

- Eliminating the threshold
  - We can assume without loss of generality (WLOG) that the threshold
     r = 0:

$$\boldsymbol{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{x} + b \ge r \Longleftrightarrow \boldsymbol{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{x} + b - r \ge 0 \tag{3}$$

- Eliminating the bias
  - Add a dummy feature x0 which always takes the value 1. The weight  $w_0 = b$  is equivalent to a bias (same as linear regression)
- Simplified model
  - Receive input  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}$  with  $x_0 = 1$ :

$$z = \boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{x} \tag{4}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & z \ge r \\ 0 & z < r \end{cases} \tag{5}$$

# Some Examples

- Let's consider some simple examples to examine the properties of our model
- Let's focus on minimizing the training set error, and forget about whether our model will generalize to a test set.

5/44

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023

# Some Examples

## NOT

$x_0$	$x_1$	t
1	0	1
1	1	0

- Suppose this is our training set, with the dummy feature  $x_0$  included
- Which conditions on w0, w1 guarantee perfect classification?
  - When  $x_1 = 0$ , need:  $z = w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 \ge 0 \iff w_0 \ge 0$
  - When  $x_1 = 1$ , need:  $z = w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 < 0 \iff w_0 + w_1 < 0$
- Possible solution:  $w_0 = 1, w_1 = -2$
- Is this the only solution?



## Some Examples

#### AND

Example solution:  $w_0 = -1.5, w_1 = 1, w_2 = 1$ 

## The Geometric Picture

- Training examples are points
- Weights (hypotheses) w can be represented by half-spaces.

$$H_{+} = \{ \boldsymbol{x} : \boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{x} \ge 0 \}, H_{-} = \{ \boldsymbol{x} : \boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{x} < 0 \}$$

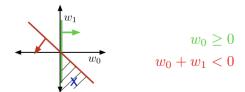
- The boundaries of these half-spaces pass through the origin (why?)
- Decision boundary:  $\{x : w^{\top}x = 0\}$ 
  - In 2-D, it's a line, but in high dimensions it is a hyperplane
- If the training examples can be perfectly separated by a linear decision rule, we say data is linearly separable.

8/44

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023

## The Geometric Picture

Weight space



- Weights (hypotheses) w are points
- Each training example x specifies a half-space w must lie in to be correctly classified:  $w^{\top}x \ge 0$  if t = 1.
- For NOT example:
  - $x_0 = 1, x_1 = 0, t = 1 \Longrightarrow (w_0, w_1) \in \mathbf{w} : w_0 \ge 0$
  - $x_0 = 1, x_1 = 1, t = 0 \Longrightarrow (w_0, w_1) \in \mathbf{w} : w_0 + w_1 < 0$
- The region satisfying all the constraints is the feasible region; if this region is nonempty, the problem is feasible, otherwise it is infeasible.

# Summary — Binary Linear Classifiers

• Summary: Targets  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ , inputs  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}$  with  $x_0 = 1$ , and model is defined by weights  $\mathbf{w}$  and

$$z = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x} \tag{6}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & z \ge r \\ 0 & z < r \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

- How can we find good values for w?
- If the training set is linearly separable, we could solve for *w* using linear programming
  - We could also apply an iterative procedure known as the perceptron algorithm (but this is primarily of historical interest).
- If it's not linearly separable, the problem is harder
  - Data is almost never linearly separable in real life.



Towards Logistic Regression

## Loss Function

- Instead: define loss function then try to minimize the resulting cost function
  - Recall: cost is loss averaged (or summed) over the training set
- Seemingly obvious loss function: 0-1 loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{0,1}(y,t) = \begin{cases} 0 & y = t \\ 1 & y \neq t \end{cases}$$
 (8)

$$\mathcal{L}_{0,1}(y,t) = \mathbb{I}(y \neq t) \tag{9}$$

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 12/44

# Attempt 1: 0-1 loss

• Usually, the cost  $\mathcal{J}$  is the averaged loss over training examples; for 0-1 loss, this is the misclassification rate:

$$\mathcal{J} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{I}(y^{(i)} \neq t^{(i)})$$
 (10)

- Problem: how to optimize? In general, a hard problem (can be NP-hard)
- This is due to the step function (0-1 loss) not being nice (continuous/smooth/convex etc)

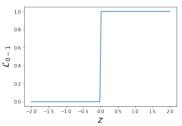


## Attempt 1: 0-1 loss

- Minimum of a function will be at its critical points.
- Let's try to find the critical point of 0-1 loss
- Chain rule:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{0,1}}{\partial w_j} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{0,1}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial w_j} \tag{11}$$

• But  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{0,1}}{\partial z}$  is zero everywhere it's defined!



•  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{0,1}}{\partial w_j} = 0$  means that changing the weights by a very small amount probably has no effect on the loss  $\Longrightarrow$  Almost any point has 0 gradient!

## Attempt 2: Linear Regression

- Sometimes we can replace the loss function we care about with one
  which is easier to optimize. This is known as relaxation with a smooth
  surrogate loss function.
- One problem with  $\mathcal{L}_{0,1}$ : defined in terms of final prediction, which inherently involves a discontinuity
- Instead, define loss in terms of  $\mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}$  directly
  - Redo notation for convenience:  $z = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$

# Attempt 2: Linear Regression

We already know how to fit a linear regression model. Can we use this instead?

$$z = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x} \tag{12}$$

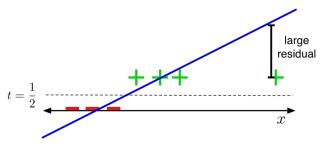
$$\mathcal{L}_{SE} = \frac{1}{2}(z - t)^2 \tag{13}$$

- Doesn't matter that the targets are actually binary. Treat them as continuous values.
- For this loss function, it makes sense to make final predictions by thresholding *z* at 0.5

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 16/44

# Attempt 2: Linear Regression

• The problem:



- The loss function hates when you make correct predictions with high confidence!
- If t = 1, it's more unhappy about z = 10 than z = 0.

# Attempt 3: Logistic Activation Function

- There's obviously no reason to predict values outside [0, 1]. Let's squash y into this interval.
- The logistic function is a kind of sigmoid, or S-shaped function:

$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}} \tag{14}$$

• A linear model with a logistic nonlinearity is known as log-linear:

$$z = \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} \tag{15}$$

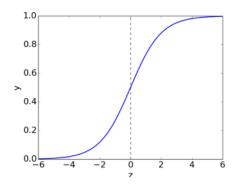
$$y = \sigma(z) \tag{16}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{SE} = \frac{1}{2}(y - t)^2 \tag{17}$$

• Used in this way,  $\sigma$  is called an activation function.

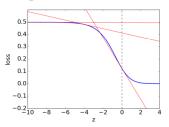
William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 18/44

# Attempt 3: Logistic Activation Function



## Attempt 3: Logistic Activation Function

• The problem: (plot of  $\mathcal{L}_{SE}$  as a function of z, assuming t = 1)



$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial w_j} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial w_j}$$

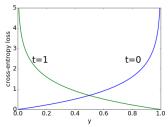
- For  $z \ll 0$ , we have  $\sigma(z) \approx 0$ .
- $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z} \approx 0$  (check!)  $\Longrightarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial w_j} \approx 0 \Longrightarrow$  derivative w.r.t.  $w_j$  is small  $\Longrightarrow w_j$  is like a critical point
- If the prediction is really wrong, you should be far from a critical point (which is your candidate solution).

# Logistic Regression

- Because  $y \in [0, 1]$ , we can interpret it as the estimated probability that t = 1. If t = 0, then we want to heavily penalize  $y \approx 1$ .
- The people who were 99% confident a certain presidential candidate would win were much more wrong than the ones who were only 90% confident, given that the person didn't win.
- Cross-entropy loss (aka log loss) captures this intuition:

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE}(y,t) = \begin{cases} -\log y & \text{if } t = 1 \\ -\log(1-y) & \text{if } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= -t\log y - (1-t)\log(1-y) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



## Logistic Regression

#### • Logistic regression:

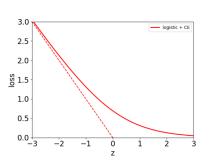
$$z = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$$

$$y = \sigma(z)$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE} = -t \log y - (1 - t) \log(1 - y)$$

Plot is for target t = 1.



# Logistic Regression - Numerical Instabilities

- If we implement logistic regression naively, we can end up with numerical instabilities.
- Consider: t = 1 but you're really confident that  $z \ll 0$
- If *y* is small enough, it may be numerically zero. This can cause very subtle and hard-to-find bugs.

$$y = \sigma(z) \Rightarrow y \approx 0 \tag{18}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE} = -t \log y - (1 - t) \log(1 - y) \tag{19}$$

23/44

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023

# Logistic Regression - Numerical Stable Version

• Instead, we combine the activation function and the loss into a single logistic-cross-entropy function

$$\mathcal{L}_{LCE} = \mathcal{L}_{CE}(\sigma(z), t) = -t \log(\frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}) - (1 - t) \log(1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}) \ (20)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{LCE} = t\log(1 + e^{-z}) - (1 - t)(-z - \log(1 + e^{-z}))$$
 (21)

$$\mathcal{L}_{LCE} = z - zt + \log(1 + e^{-z}) \tag{22}$$

Equivalently,

$$\mathcal{L}_{LCE} = t\log(1 + e^{-z}) + (1 - t)\log(1 + e^{z})$$
 (23)

# Gradient Descent for Logistic Regression

- ullet How do we minimize the cost  ${\mathcal J}$  for logistic regression? No direct solution.
  - Taking derivatives of  $\mathcal{J}$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{w}$  and setting them to 0 doesn't have an explicit solution.
- However, the logistic loss is a convex function in w, so let's consider the gradient descent method/
  - Recall: we initialize the weights to something reasonable and repeatedly adjust them in the direction of the steepest descent.
  - A standard initialization is w = 0.

## Gradient of Logistic Loss

Back to logistic regression:

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE}(y,t) = -t\log y - (1-t)\log(1-y) \tag{24}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(-z)}}, z = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$$
 (25)

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{CE}}{\partial w_j} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{CE}}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial w_j}$$
 (26)

26/44

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{CE}}{\partial w_j} = \left(-\frac{t}{y} + \frac{1-t}{1-y}\right) \cdot y(1-y) \cdot x_j = (y-t)x_j \tag{27}$$

Gradient descent update to find the weights of logistic regression:

$$w_j \leftarrow w_j - \alpha \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial w_j} = w_j - \frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^{(i)} - t^{(i)}) x^{(i)}$$
 (28)

Multiclass Classification and Softmax Regression

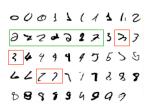
William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 27/44

## Overview

- Classification: predicting a discrete-valued target
  - Binary classification: predicting a binary-valued target
  - Multiclass classification: predicting a discretev(> 2)-valued target
- Examples of multi-class classification
  - predict the value of a handwritten digit
  - classify e-mails as spam, travel, work, personal

## **Multiclass Classification**

• Classification tasks with more than two categories:





## **Multiclass Classification**

- Targets form a discrete set  $\{1, ..., K\}$ .
- It's often more convenient to represent them as one-hot vectors, or a one-of-K encoding:
  - Entry *k* is 1, the other entries are all 0's.
  - k is not to be confused with K.

$$t = (0, ..., 0, 1, 0, ..., 0) \in \mathbb{R}^K$$
 (29)

## **Multiclass Linear Classification**

- We can start with a linear function of the inputs.
- Now there are D input dimensions and K output dimensions, so we need  $K \times D$  weights, which we arrange as a weight matrix W.
- Also, we have a *K*-dimensional vector *b* of biases.
- A linear function of the inputs:

$$z_k = \sum_{j=1}^{D} w_{kj} x_j + b_k \text{ for } k = 1, 2, ..., K$$
 (30)

• We can eliminate the bias b by taking  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times (D+1)}$  adding a dummy variable x0 = 1. So, vectorized:

$$z = Wx + b$$
, or with dummy  $x_0 = 1, z = Wx$  (31)

## Multiclass Linear Classification

- How can we turn this linear prediction into a one-hot prediction?
- We can interpret the magnitude of  $z_k$  as a measure of how much the model prefers k as its prediction.
- If we do this, we should set

$$y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & i = \underset{k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ z_k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (32)

• Exercise: how does the case of K = 2 relate to the prediction rule in binary linear classifiers?

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 32/44

# Softmax Regression

- We need to soften our predictions for the sake of optimization.
- We want soft predictions that are like probabilities, i.e.,  $0 \le y_k \le 1$  and  $\sum_k y_k = 1$ .
- A natural activation function to use is the softmax function, a multivariable generalization of the logistic function:

$$y_k = \text{softmax}(z_1, ..., z_K)_k = \frac{e^{z_k}}{\sum_{k'} e^{z_{k'}}}$$
 (33)

- Outputs can be interpreted as probabilities (positive and sum to 1)
- If  $z_k$  is larger than the others, then  $\operatorname{softmax}(z)_k \approx 1$  and it behaves like argmax.
- The inputs  $z_k$  are called the logits.



# Softmax Regression

 If a model outputs a vector of class probabilities, we can use cross-entropy as the loss function, where the log is applied elementwise.

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{t}) = -\sum_{k=0}^{K} t_k \log y_k = -\mathbf{t}^{\mathsf{T}}(\log y)$$
 (34)

• Just like with logistic regression, we typically combine the softmax and cross-entropy into a softmax-cross-entropy function

34 / 44

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023

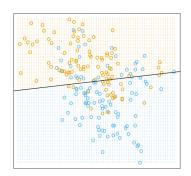
Linear Classifiers vs. KNN

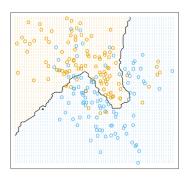
## Linear Classifiers vs. KNN

• Linear classifiers and KNN have very different decision boundaries:

Linear Classifier

K Nearest Neighbours





## Linear Classifiers vs. KNN

- Advantages of linear classifiers over KNN?
  - Robustness to irrelevant features
    - Linear classifiers are generally robust to irrelevant or redundant features.
  - Scalability
    - Linear classifiers can handle high-dimensional feature spaces efficiently and are more scalable as the number of features increases.
    - The curse of dimensionality!
  - Easy updates of the model
- Advantages of KNN over linear classifiers?
  - No assumption of data distribution
    - It is a non-parametric method, which means it does not assume any specific functional form for the decision boundaries.
  - Non-linearity
    - KNN can capture complex, non-linear decision boundaries
  - Robustness to imbalanced data
    - It relies on the local neighborhood and not global statistics.

Limitations of Linear Classification

# A Few Basic Concepts

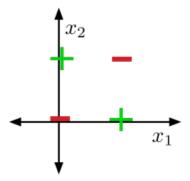
- A hypothesis is a function  $f: X \to \mathcal{T}$  that we might use to make predictions (recall X is the input space and  $\mathcal{T}$  is the target space).
- The hypothesis space  $\mathcal{H}$  for a particular machine learning model or algorithm is a set of hypotheses that it can represent.
  - ullet E.g., in linear regression,  ${\cal H}$  is the set of functions that are linear in the data features
  - The job of a machine learning algorithm is to find a good hypothesis  $f \in \mathcal{H}$
- The members of  $\mathcal{H}$ , together with an algorithm's preference for some hypotheses of  $\mathcal{H}$  over others, determine an algorithm's inductive bias.
  - Inductive biases can be understood as general natural patterns or domain knowledge that helps our algorithms to generalize;
    - $\bullet~$  E.g., linearity, continuity, simplicity (  $L_2$  regularization) ...
  - The so-called No Free Lunch (NFL) theorems assert that if datasets/problems were not naturally biased, no ML algorithm would be better than another

# A Few Basic Concepts

- If an algorithm's hypothesis space  $\mathcal{H}$  can be defined using a finite set of parameters, denoted  $\theta$ , we say the algorithm is parametric.
  - In linear regression,  $\theta = (w, b)$
  - Other examples: logistic regression, neural networks, k-means and Gaussian mixture models
- If the members of  $\mathcal{H}$  are defined in terms of the data, we say that the algorithm is non-parametric.
  - In *k*-nearest neighbors, the learned hypothesis is defined in terms of the training data
  - Other examples: Gaussian processes, decision trees, support vector machines, kernel density estimation
  - These models can sometimes be understood as having an infinite number of parameters

## Limits of Linear Classification

• Some datasets are not linearly separable, e.g. XOR,

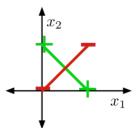


• Visually obvious, but how to show this?

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 41/44

# Showing that XOR is not linearly separable (proof by contradiction)

- If two points lie in a half-space, the line segment connecting them also lies in the same half-space.
- Suppose there were some feasible weights (hypothesis). If the positive examples are in the positive half-space, then the green line segment must be as well.
- Similarly, the red line segment must line within the negative half-space



• But the intersection can't lie in both half-spaces. Contradiction!

William & Mary CSCI 680 September 25, 2023 42/44

## Limits of Linear Classification

• Sometimes we can overcome this limitation using feature maps, just like for linear regression. E.g., for XOR:

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_1 x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$x_1$	$x_2$	$\psi_1(\mathbf{x})$	$\psi_2(\mathbf{x})$	$\psi_3(\mathbf{x})$	$\mid t \mid$
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1	0

• This is linearly separable.

### In the Future

- Feature maps are hard to design well, so next time we'll see how to learn nonlinear feature maps directly using neural networks...
- The basics of NN will be covered in this class.

