Classification algorithms

This chapter covers

- Introducing classification
- The perceptron algorithm
- The SVM algorithm
- SGD logistic regression
- The Bernoulli naive Bayes algorithm
- The decision tree (CART) algorithm

In the previous chapter, we looked at the computer science fundamentals required to implement ML algorithms from scratch. In this chapter, we focus on supervised learning algorithms. Classification is a fundamental class of algorithms and is widely used in machine learning. We will derive from scratch and implement several selected classification algorithms to build our experience with fundamentals and motivate the design of new ML algorithms. The algorithms in this chapter were selected because they illustrate important algorithmic concepts and expose the reader to progressively more complex scenarios that can be implemented from scratch. These concepts have wide application, including email spam detection, document classification, and customer segmentation.

5.1 Introduction to classification

In *supervised learning*, we are given a dataset $D=\{(x_1,y_1),...,(x_n,y_n)\}$, consisting of tuples of data x and labels y. The goal of a *classification algorithm* is to learn a mapping from inputs x to outputs y, where y is a discrete quantity (i.e., $y \in \{1,...,K\}$). If K=2, we have a binary classification problem, while for K>2, we have multiclass classification.

A classifier h can be viewed as a mapping between a d-dimensional feature vector $\varphi(x)$ and a k-dimensional label y (i.e., $h: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$). We often have several models to choose from; let's call this set of classifier models H. Thus, for a given $h \in H$, we can obtain a prediction $y = h(\varphi(x))$. We are typically interested in predicting new or unseen data—in other words, our classifier h must be able to *generalize* to new data samples.

Finding the right classifier is known as *model selection*. We want to choose a model that has a sufficient number of parameters (degrees of freedom) to avoid underfitting or overfitting to training data, as shown in figure 5.1.

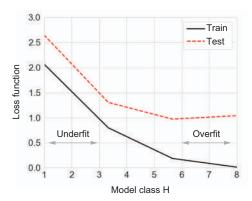


Figure 5.1 Model selection to avoid overfitting or underfitting to training data

For model classes H=[1,2,3], training and test loss functions are both decreasing, which indicates that there's more capacity to learn; as a result, these models underfit the data. For model classes H=[6,7,8], the training loss decreases while the test loss is starting to increase, which indicates that we are overfitting the data.

5.2 Perceptron

Let's start with the most basic classification model: a *linear classifier*. We'll be using the perceptron classifier on the iris dataset. We can define a linear classifier as shown in equation 5.1.

$$h(x;\theta) = \operatorname{sign}(\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_d x_d + \theta_0)$$

$$= \operatorname{sign}(\theta \cdot x + \theta_0) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \theta \cdot x + \theta_0 \ge 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } \theta \cdot x + \theta_0 < 0 \end{cases}$$
(5.1)

Notice how the sign function of the inner product between the parameter θ and the feature input x maps to ± 1 labels. Geometrically, $\theta_x + \theta_0 = 0$ describes a hyperplane in d-dimensional space uniquely determined by the normal vector θ . Any point that lies on the same side as the normal θ is labeled +1, while any point on the opposite side is labeled -1. As a result, $\theta_x + \theta_0 = 0$ represents the *decision boundary*. Figure 5.2 illustrates these concepts in 2 dimensions.

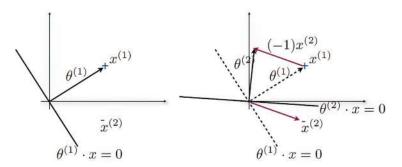


Figure 5.2 Linear classifier a decision boundary

How do we measure the performance of this classifier? One way is to count the number of mistakes it makes compared to ground truth labels *y*. We can count the number of mistakes as follows.

$$\mathcal{E}_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [[y_i \neq h(x_i; \theta)]] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [[y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0) \le 0]]$$
 (5.2)

Here, [[•]] is an indicator function, which is equal to 1 when the expression inside is true and 0 otherwise. Notice in equation 5.2, a mistake occurs whenever the label $y_i \in [+1,-1]$ disagrees with the prediction of the classifier $h(x_i;\theta) \in [+1,-1]$ (i.e., their product is negative).

Another way to measure the performance of a binary classifier is via a confusion matrix.

Figure 5.3 shows the table of errors called the *confusion matrix*. The prediction is correct when the predicted value matches the actual value, as in the case of true positive (TP) and true negative (TN). Similarly, the prediction is wrong when there is a mismatch between predicted and actual values, as in the case of false positive (FP) and false negative

		Actual	
		<i>y</i> = 1	<i>y</i> = 0
Predicted	ŷ = 1	TP	FP
	$\hat{y} = 0$	FN	TN

Figure 5.3 Confusion matrix for a binary classifier

(FN). As we vary the classification threshold, we get different values for TP, FP, FN, and TN. To better visualize the performance of the classifier under different classification thresholds, we can construct two additional figures: receiver operating characteristic (ROC) and precision-recall curve (see figure 5.4).

In the ROC plot on the left of figure 5.4, TPR stands for *true positive rate* and can be computed as follows: TPR = TP/(TP + FN). We can also compute the *false positive rate*

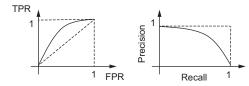


Figure 5.4 Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) plot (left) and precision-recall plot (right)

(FPR) as FPR = FP/(FP + TN). By varying our classification threshold, we get different points along the ROC curve. Perfect classification results in TPR = 1 and FPR = 0; in reality, the closer we are to the upper-left corner, the better the classifier will be. At the chance level, we get the diagonal TPR = FPR line. The quality of ROC curve is often summarized by a single number using the area under the curve or AUC. Higher AUC scores are better, with a maximum of AUC = 1.

In information retrieval, it is common to use a precision-recall plot, as shown on the right-hand side of figure 5.4. The precision is defined as Precision = TP/(TP + FP), and the recall is defined as Recall = TP/(TP + FN). A precision-recall curve is a plot of precision versus recall as we vary the classification threshold. The curve can be summarized by a single number using the mean precision by averaging over the recall values, which approximates the area under the curve. Additionally, for a fixed threshold, we can summarize performance in a single statistic, called the *F1 score*, which is the harmonic mean of precision and recall: F1 = 2PR/(P + R).

Perceptron is a mistake-driven algorithm: it starts with θ =0 and successively adjusts the parameter θ for each training example until there are no more classification mistakes, assuming the data is linearly separable. The perceptron update rule can be summarized as follows.

if
$$y_i \neq h(x_i; \theta^{(k)})$$
 then
$$\theta^{(k+1)} = \theta^{(k)} + y_i x_i$$

$$\theta_0^{(k+1)} = \theta_0^{(k)} + y_i$$
(5.3)

Here, index k denotes the number of times the parameter updates (aka the number of mistakes). You can think of a θ_0 update as similar to a θ update but with x=1. If the training examples are linearly separable, then the perceptron algorithm in equation 5.3 converges after a finite number of iterations. Notice that the order of input data points makes a difference in how parameter θ is learned; therefore, we can randomize (shuffle) the training dataset. In addition, we can introduce a learning rate to help with θ convergence—the properties of which we'll discuss following the implementation. The perceptron algorithm can be summarized in the pseudo-code in figure 5.5.

The code consists of Perceptron class with two functions: fit and predict. In the fit function, we take the training data *X* and labels *y*, and upon encountering an error (in which case, the if statement condition is true), we update the learning rate and update theta, as derived previously. Finally, in the predict function, we make a prediction for test data based on the sign of the decision boundary.

```
1: class perceptron
 2: function fit(X, y):
 3: k = 1
 4: for epoch = 1, 2, \ldots, \text{num\_epochs}
         for i = 1, 2, ..., N
 5:
             if y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0) \le 0
 6:

\eta = \frac{1}{k+1}

Updates the learning rate
 7:
 8:
                 \left. egin{aligned} \theta &= \theta + \eta \ y_i x_i \\ \theta_0 &= \theta_0 + \eta \ y_i \end{aligned} \right| Updates the theta
 9:
10:
11:
         end for
12:
13: end for
14: return \theta, \theta_0
15: function predict(X):
16: \hat{y} = \text{sign} (\theta \cdot X + \theta_0)
                                                                            Figure 5.5 Perceptron
17: return \hat{y}
                                                                            algorithm pseudo-code
```

We now have all the tools to implement the perceptron algorithm from scratch! In the following code listing, we classify irises by training the perceptron algorithm on the training feature data and making a prediction based on the test data.

Listing 5.1 Perceptron algorithm

```
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy.stats import randint
from sklearn.datasets import load iris
from sklearn.metrics import confusion matrix
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
class perceptron:
   def __init__(self, num_epochs, dim):
      self.num epochs = num epochs
      self.theta0 = 0
     self.theta = np.zeros(dim)
   def fit(self, X train, y train):
      n = X train.shape[0]
     dim = X train.shape[1]
     k = 1
      for epoch in range(self.num_epochs):
          for i in range(n):
                                                     idx = randint.rvs(0, n-1, size=1)[0]
              if (y train[idx] * (np.dot(self.theta,

    X train[idx,:]) + self.theta0) <= 0): 
    ← Hinge loss</pre>
                  eta = pow(k+1, -1)
                                               Updates learning rate
                  k += 1
```

```
self.theta = self.theta + eta *
                 y train[idx] * X train[idx, :]
                                                     Updates theta
                 self.theta0 = self.theta0 + eta *
                                                     and theta0
                 ⇒ y train[idx]
              #end if
         print("epoch: ", epoch)
         print("theta: ", self.theta)
         print("theta0: ", self.theta0)
         #end for
     #end for
   def predict(self, X_test):
     n = X \text{ test.shape}[0]
     dim = X test.shape[1]
     y pred = np.zeros(n)
     for idx in range(n):
         y_pred[idx] = np.sign(np.dot(self.theta, X_test[idx,:]) +
         ⇒ self.theta0)
     #end for
     return y pred
if name == " main ":
   iris = load iris()
                      X = iris.data[:100,:]
   X train, X test, y train, y test = train test split(X, y, test size=0.2,
   ⇒ random_state=42)
   #perceptron (binary) classifier
   clf = perceptron(num epochs=5, dim=X.shape[1])
   clf.fit(X train, y train)
   y_pred = clf.predict(X_test)
   cmt = confusion matrix(y test, y pred)
   acc = np.trace(cmt)/np.sum(np.sum(cmt))
   print("percepton accuracy: ", acc)
   #generate plots
   plt.figure()
   sns.heatmap(cmt, annot=True, fmt="d")
   plt.title("Confusion Matrix"); plt.xlabel("predicted");
    plt.ylabel("actual")
   plt.savefig("./figures/perceptron acc.png")
   plt.show()
```

After running the algorithm, we get the classification accuracy results on the test dataset shown in figure 5.6.

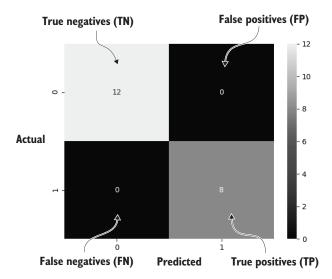


Figure 5.6 Perceptron binary classifier confusion matrix (iris dataset)

Let's take a second look at our implementation and understand it a little better. The perceptron algorithm can be formulated as stochastic gradient descent that minimizes a hinge loss function. Consider a loss function that penalizes the magnitude of disagreement $z_i = y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0)$ between the label y_i and the prediction $h(x_i; \theta)$.

$$\operatorname{Loss}_{h}(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \max\{1 - z_{i}, 0\} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \max\{1 - y_{i}(\theta \cdot x_{i} + \theta_{0}), 0\}$$
 (5.4)

This is known as a hinge loss function, as illustrated in figure 5.7.

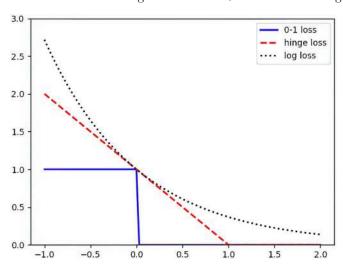


Figure 5.7 Hinge loss, 0–1 loss, and log-loss functions

The stochastic gradient descent attempts to minimize the hinge loss by taking a gradient with respect to θ . However, the max operator is not differentiable at z_i =1. In fact,

we have several possible gradients at that point, which are collectively known as *subdif-ferential*. Since hinge loss is a piecewise linear function, the gradient for $z_i > 1$ is equal to 0, while the gradient for $z_i \le 1$ is equal to equation 5.5.

$$\nabla_{\theta} (1 - y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0)) = -y_i x_i$$

$$\nabla_{\theta_0} (1 - y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0)) = -y_i$$
 (5.5)

Combining the expressions in equation 5.5 with a stochastic gradient descent update (where eta is the learning rate), we have equation 5.6.

$$\theta^{(k+1)} = \theta^{(k)} - \eta_k \nabla_{\theta} \operatorname{Loss}_h(\gamma_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0))$$
(5.6)

We get the perceptron algorithm! In the next section, we'll talk about another important classification algorithm: support vector machine (SVM).

5.3 Support vector machine

In the previous section, we evaluated the performance of our classifier by minimizing the expected loss function (aka empirical risk). One problem with the current formulation is there are multiple classifiers (multiple parameter values θ and θ_0) that can achieve the same empirical risk. So how do we choose the best model, and what does *best* mean?

One solution is to regularize the loss function to favor small parameter values, as shown in equation 5.7.

$$L_n(\theta, \theta_0) = \frac{\lambda}{2} ||\theta||^2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Loss}(y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0))$$
 (5.7)

Here, the regularization applies to θ but not θ_0 . The reason is because θ specifies the orientation of the decision boundary, whereas θ_0 is related to its offset from the origin, which is unknown at the start.

Let's try to understand the decision boundary better from a geometric point of view. It's desirable for the decision boundary, first, to classify all data points correctly and, second, to be maximally removed from all the training examples (i.e., to have the maximum margin). Suppose condition 1 is met and to optimize for condition 2, we need to compute and maximize the distance from every training example to the decision boundary. Geometrically, this distance is as follows.

$$\gamma_i = \frac{y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0)}{\|\theta\|} \tag{5.8}$$

Since we want to maximize the margin, we would like to maximize the minimum distance to the decision boundary across all data points (i.e., find $max[min_i \gamma i]$). This

can be formulated more simply as a quadratic program with linear constraints. A *quadratic program* is a type of mathematical optimization problem that involves optimizing a quadratic objective function subject to linear constraints on the variables.

We are essentially minimizing the regularized loss function by choosing θ with a small l_2 norm subject to the constraints that every training example is correctly classified (see figure 5.8).

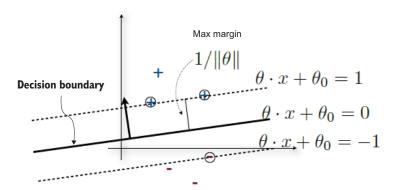


Figure 5.8 Max margin solution of SVM classifier

Notice that as we minimize $||\theta||^2$, we are effectively increasing the distance $\gamma_i \approx 1/||\theta||$ between the decision boundary and the training data points indexed by i. Geometrically, we are pushing the margin boundaries away from each other, as shown in figure 5.8. At some point, they cannot be pushed further without violating classification constraints. At this point, the margin boundaries lock into a unique maximum margin solution. The training data points that lie on the margin boundaries become *support* vectors. We only need a *subset* of training examples (support vectors) to fully learn SVM model parameters.

Let's see if we gain any advantages from solving the *dual* form of the quadratic program. Recall that if the primal is a minimization problem, then the dual is a maximization problem (and vice versa). Additionally, each variable of the original (primal) program becomes a constraint in the dual program, and each constraint in the primal program becomes a variable in the dual program.

We can obtain the dual form by writing out the Lagrangian (i.e., by adding constraints to the objective function with nonnegative Lagrange multipliers).

$$\max_{\alpha \ge 0} L(\theta, \theta_0; \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} ||\theta||^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [y_i(\theta \cdot x_i + \theta_0) - 1]$$
 (5.10)

We can now compute the gradient with respect to our parameters.

$$\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta, \theta_0; \alpha) = \theta - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i y_i x_i = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta_0} L(\theta, \theta_0; \alpha) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i y_i = 0$$
(5.11)

By substituting the expression for θ back into our Lagrangian, we get the following.

(dual)
$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \alpha_{j} y_{i} y_{j} \left[x_{i}^{T} x_{j} \right]$$
subject to $\alpha_{i} \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} y_{i} = 0$ (5.12)

The most notable change in the dual formulation is that d-dimensional data points x_i and x_j interact via the inner product. This has significant computational advantages over the primal formulation (in addition to simpler constraints in the dual).

The inner product measures the degree of similarity between two vectors and can be generalized via the kernels $K(x_i, x_j)$. *Kernels* measure a degree of similarity between objects, without explicitly representing them as feature vectors. This is particularly advantageous when we don't have access to or choose not to look into the internals of our objects. Typically, a kernel function that compares two objects $x_i, x_j \in X$ is symmetric $K(x_i, x_j) = K(x_j, x_i)$ and nonnegative $K(x_i, x_j) \ge 0$. There is a wide variety of kernels, ranging from graph kernels that compute the similarity between graphs to string kernels and document kernels. One popular kernel example we will use in our SVM implementation is a radial basis function (RBF) kernel, shown in the following equation.

$$K(x_i, x_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{||x_i - x_j||^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$
 (5.13)

We are now ready to implement a binary SVM classifier from scratch, using the CVX-OPT optimization package. CVXOPT is a free software package for convex optimization based on Python programming language and can be downloaded at cvxopt.org.

The standard form of a quadratic program (QP) following CVXOPT notation is shown in the following equation.

$$\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} x^{T} P x + q^{T} x \quad \text{subject to} \quad G x \le h, \ A x = b$$
 (5.14)

Note that this objective function is convex if and only if matrix *P* is positive semidefinite. The CVXOPT QP expects the problem in the form of equation 5.14 parameterized by

(P,q,G,h,A,b). Let us convert our dual QP into this form. Let P be a matrix such that the following is true.

$$P_{ij} = y_i y_j \left[x_i^T x_j \right] \tag{5.15}$$

Then, the optimization program becomes the following.

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \alpha^T P \alpha \quad \text{subject to} \quad \alpha_i \ge 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i y_i = 0$$
 (5.16)

We can further modify the QP by multiplying the objective and the constraint by -1, which turns this into a minimization problem and reverses the inequality. In addition, we can convert the sum over alphas into a vector form by multiplying the alpha vector by an all-ones vector.

$$\min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \alpha^T P \alpha - 1^T \alpha \quad \text{subject to} \quad -\alpha_i \le 0, \ y^T \alpha = 0$$
 (5.17)

We can now use CVXOPT to solve our SVM quadratic program. Let's start by looking at the pseudo-code in figure 5.9.

```
1: class SupportVectorMachine
 2: function fit(X, y):
 3: P_{ij} = y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)
 4: q = -1
 5: G_{ij} = -1
                               Formulates the SVM
 6: h = 0
                               Quadratic Program
 7: A = y
 8: b = 0
 9: sol = cvxopt.solvers.qp(P,q,G,h,A,b) \leftarrow Solves with CVXOPT
10: alphas = sol[x]
11: S = alphas > 1e - 11 \leftarrow  Finds support vectors
13: \theta_0 = y_s - \sum_{m \in s} \alpha_m y_m \left[ x_m^T x_s \right] \leftarrow Finds the intercept
14: return \theta, \theta_0
15: function predict(X, \theta, \theta_0):
16: \hat{y} = \text{sign } (\theta^T X + \theta_0) \leftarrow \text{Makes a prediction}
                                                                                Figure 5.9 Support vector
17: return \hat{y}
                                                                                machine pseudo-code
```

The SVM class consists of two functions: fit and predict. In the fit function, we start off by formulating the quadratic problem to be solved by CVXOPT and defining all input parameters: (P, q, G, h, A, b). After calling the solver, we find the support vectors

as alphas greater than 0 (up to a rounding error). Next, we compute the normal vector and the intercept, as discussed previously. In the predict function, we use the computed normal and intercept support vectors to make a label prediction on test data.

Listing 5.2 SVM algorithm

```
import cvxopt
         import numpy as np

    For comparison only

         from sklearn.svm import SVC
         from sklearn.datasets import load iris
         from sklearn.metrics import accuracy score
         from sklearn.model selection import train test split
         def rbf kernel(gamma, **kwargs):
             def f(x1, x2):
              distance = np.linalg.norm(x1 - x2) ** 2
              return np.exp(-gamma * distance)
             return f
         class SupportVectorMachine(object):
           def __init__(self, C=1, kernel=rbf_kernel, power=4, gamma=None):
             ⇒ self.C = C
               self.kernel = kernel
Regularization
                                         Kernel
               self.power = power
    constant
                                         parameters
               self.qamma = qamma
               self.lagr multipliers = None
               self.support vectors = None
               self.support vector labels = None
               self.intercept = None
           def fit(self, X, y):
               n samples, n features = np.shape(X)
               if not self.gamma:
                   self.gamma = 1 / n features
               self.kernel = self.kernel(
                                               Initializes the kernel
                   power=self.power,
                                               method with parameters
                   gamma=self.gamma)
               kernel matrix = np.zeros((n samples, n samples))
               for i in range(n samples):
                                                                     Calculates the
                   for j in range(n_samples):
                                                                     kernel matrix
                       kernel matrix[i, j] = self.kernel(X[i],
                       P = cvxopt.matrix(np.outer(y, y) * kernel matrix,
               ⇒ tc='d')
                                                                      Defines the quadratic
               q = cvxopt.matrix(np.ones(n samples) * -1)
                                                                      optimization problem
               A = cvxopt.matrix(y, (1, n samples), tc='d')
               b = cvxopt.matrix(0, tc='d')
```

```
if not self.C: #if its empty
             G = cvxopt.matrix(np.identity(n samples) * -1)
             h = cvxopt.matrix(np.zeros(n samples))
         else:
             G max = np.identity(n samples) * -1
             G min = np.identity(n samples)
             G = cvxopt.matrix(np.vstack((G max, G min)))
Solves the
             h max = cvxopt.matrix(np.zeros(n samples))
quadratic
             h min = cvxopt.matrix(np.ones(n samples) * self.C)
optimization
problem, using    h = cvxopt.matrix(np.vstack((h_max, h_min)))
cvxopt
         minimization = cvxopt.solvers
        ⇒ .qp(P, q, G, h, A, b)
         # Get indexes of non-zero lagr. multipiers
         idx = lagr mult > 1e-11
         # Get the corresponding lagr. multipliers
                                                       Extracts
         self.lagr multipliers = lagr mult[idx]
         # Get the samples that will act as support
                                                       support
                                                       vectors

⇒ vectors

         self.support vectors = X[idx]
         # Get the corresponding labels
         self.support_vector_labels = y[idx]
         self.intercept = self.support vector labels[0]
                                                          Calculates the intercept with
         for i in range(len(self.lagr multipliers)):
                                                          the first support vector
           self.intercept -= self.lagr multipliers[i] *
        self.support vector labels[
              i] * self.kernel(self.support_vectors[i], self.support_vectors[0])
     def predict(self, X):
                                   Iterates through list of samples
         y pred = []
                                   and makes predictions
         for sample in X:
             prediction = 0
             # Determine the label of the sample by the support vectors
             for i in range(len(self.lagr multipliers)):
                 prediction += self.lagr multipliers[i] *
                 ⇒ self.support vector labels[
                     i] * self.kernel(self.support vectors[i], sample)
             prediction += self.intercept
             y pred.append(np.sign(prediction))
         return np.array(y_pred)
   def main():
     #load dataset
     iris = load iris()
     X = iris.data[:100,:]
     y = 2*iris.target[:100] - 1 <---- Maps to {+1,-1} labels
```

```
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.4)
clf = SupportVectorMachine(kernel=rbf_kernel, gamma = 1)
clf.fit(X_train, y_train)
y_pred = clf.predict(X_test)
accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
print ("Accuracy (scratch):", accuracy)

clf_sklearn = SVC(gamma = 'auto')
clf_sklearn.fit(X_train, y_train)
y_pred2 = clf_sklearn.predict(X_test)
accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred2)
print ("Accuracy :", accuracy)

if __name__ == "__main__":
main()
```

We can see that SVM classification accuracy based on our implementation matches the accuracy of sklearn model!

5.4 Logistic regression

Logistic regression is a classification algorithm. Let's dive into some of the theory behind logistic regression before implementing it from scratch! In a probabilistic view of classification, we are interested in computing $p(C_k|x)$ the probability of class label C_k , given the input data x. Consider two classes C_1 and C_2 ; we can use Bayes rule to compute our posterior probability.

$$p(C_1|x) = \frac{p(x|C_1)p(C_1)}{p(x|C_1)p(C_1) + p(x|C_2)p(C_2)}$$
(5.18)

Here, $p(C_k)$ are prior class probabilities. We can divide the right-hand side by the numerator and obtain the following.

$$p(C_1|x) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{p(x|C_2)p(C_2)}{p(x|C_1)p(C_1)}} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)} = \sigma(a)$$
 (5.19)

Here, we defined the following.

$$a = \ln \frac{p(x|C_1)p(C_1)}{p(x|C_2)p(C_2)}$$
 (5.20)

In the multiclass scenario (K>2), we have the following.

$$p(C_k|x) = \frac{p(x|C_k)p(C_k)}{\sum_i p(x|C_i)p(C_i)} = \frac{\exp(a_k)}{\sum_i \exp(a_i)}$$
(5.21)

In equation 5.21, $a_k = \ln p(x|C_k)p(C_k)$. This expression is also known as a *softmax* function. The softmax function takes a vector of K real values and transforms it into a vector of K real values that sum up to 1. Therefore, the output of the softmax function can be interpreted as a probability distribution. Now, it's a matter of choosing conditional densities that model the data well. In the case of binary logistic regression parameterized by θ and with class label $y = C_k$, we have the following equation.

$$p(C_k|x) = p(y|x, \theta) = \text{Ber}\left(y|\sigma\left(\theta^T x\right)\right)$$
 (5.22)

We can compute the joint distribution as follows.

$$p(x_i, y_i | \theta) = p(y_i | x_i, \theta) p(x_i | \theta) = \text{Ber}\left(y | \sigma\left(\theta^T x\right)\right) p(x_i | \theta)$$
 (5.23)

Since we are not modeling the distribution of data $p(x_i|\theta) = p(x_i)$, we can write the log likelihood as follows.

$$\log p(D|\theta) = \log \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(x_i, y_i|\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(x_i, y_i|\theta)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \operatorname{Ber} \left(y | \sigma \left(\theta^T x \right) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \left[\sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right)^{y_i} \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right)^{1 - y_i} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i \log \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) + (1 - y_i) \log \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right) \right]$$
 (5.24)

Note that we are interested in maximizing the log likelihood or, equivalently, minimizing the loss or the negative log likelihood (NLL).

$$\min_{\theta} \text{Loss}(\theta) = \min_{\theta} \text{NLL}(\theta) = \max_{\theta} \log p(D|\theta)$$
 (5.25)

We are planning on minimizing the logistic regression loss via stochastic gradient descent (SGD), which can be written as follows.

$$\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k - \eta_k g_k \tag{5.26}$$

Here, g_k is the gradient and η_k is the step size. To guarantee the convergence of SGD, the conditions expressed in the following equation, known as *Robbins-Monro conditions*, on the learning rate must be satisfied.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \eta_k = \infty$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \eta_k^2 < \infty$$
(5.27)

We can use the following learning rate schedule, which satisfies the conditions in equation 5.27.

$$\eta_k = (\tau_0 + k)^{-\kappa} \tag{5.28}$$

Here, $\tau_0 \ge 0$ slows down early iterations of the algorithm and $\kappa \in (0.5, 1]$ controls the rate at which old values are forgotten. To compute the steepest descent direction g_k , we need to differentiate our loss function NLL(θ).

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \log p(D|\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i \frac{d}{d\theta} \log \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) + (1 - y_i) \frac{d}{d\theta} \log \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right) \right]
+ \left(1 - y_i \right) \frac{d}{d\theta} \log \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right) \right]
= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i \frac{\sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right)}{\sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right)} (-x_i) \right]
+ \left(1 - y_i \right) \frac{\sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right)}{1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right)} (-x_i) \right]
= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i x_i \left(1 - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right) - (1 - y_i) x_i \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right]
= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i - \sigma \left(\theta^T x_i \right) \right] x_i
= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[y_i - \mu_i \right] x_i = -X^T (\mu - y)$$
(5.29)

In equation 5.29, we used the fact that $d/dx \, \sigma(x) = (1 - \sigma(x)) \, \sigma(x)$ and the mean of the Bernoulli distribution $\mu_i = \sigma(\theta^T x_i)$. Note that there exist a number of autograd libraries to avoid deriving the gradients by hand. Furthermore, we can add regularization to control parameter size. Our regularized objective and the gradient become the following.

$$\min_{\theta} \text{Loss}(\theta) = \min_{\theta} [\text{NLL}(\theta) + \lambda \theta^{T} \theta]$$

$$g_{k} = X^{T} (\mu - y) + 2\lambda \theta$$
(5.30)

We are now ready to implement SGD for logistic regression. Let's start with the following pseudo-code, as shown in figure 5.10.

```
1: class sgdlr
 2: function lr_objective(\theta, X, y, \lambda)
 3: \mu_i = \operatorname{sigmoid}(\theta^T X_i)
 4: cost = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} [y_i \log \mu_i + (1 - y_i) \log (1 - \mu_i)] + \lambda \theta^T \theta
 6: return cost, grad
 7: function fit(X, y):
 8: \eta_i = (\tau + i)^{-\kappa} \leftarrow Sets the learning rate
 9: for i = 1, 2, ... num_iter
        cost, grad = lr\_objective(\theta, X, y, \lambda)
10:
        \theta = \theta - \eta_i \text{ grad} \leftarrow \text{Updates the theta}
11:
12: end for
13: return \theta
14: function predict(X, \theta):
15: \hat{y} = \text{sigmoid } (\theta^T X) \leftarrow \text{Makes a prediction}
                                                                                Figure 5.10 Logistic regression
                                                                                algorithm pseudo-code
16: return \hat{y}
```

The sgdlr class consists of three main functions: lr_objective, fit, and predict. In the lr_objective function, we compute the regularized objective function and the gradient of the objective as discussed in the text. In the fit function, we first set the learning rate, and for each iteration, we update the theta parameters in the direction opposite to the gradient. Finally, in the predict function, we make a binary prediction of the label based on test data. In the following code listing, we use a synthetic Gaussian mixture dataset to train the logistic regression model.

Listing 5.3 SGD Logistic regression

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

def generate_data():

    n = 1000
    mu1 = np.array([1,1])
    mu2 = np.array([-1,-1])
    pik = np.array([0.4,0.6])

X = np.zeros((n,2))
    y = np.zeros((n,1))

for i in range(1,n):
    u = np.random.rand()
    idx = np.where(u < np.cumsum(pik))[0]</pre>
```

```
if (len(idx) == 1):
             X[i,:] = np.random.randn(1,2) + mu1
             y[i] = 1
             X[i,:] = np.random.randn(1,2) + mu2
             y[i] = -1
     return X, y
    class sqdlr:
         def init (self):
         self.num iter = 100
         self.lmbda = 1e-9
         self.tau0 = 10
          self.kappa = 1
          self.eta = np.zeros(self.num iter)
          self.batch_size = 200
          self.eps = np.finfo(float).eps
     def fit(self, X, y):
          theta = np.random.randn(X.shape[1],1) <---- Random init
Learning
   rate
         for i in range(self.num iter):
schedule
         ⇒ self.eta[i] = (self.tau0+i)**(-self.kappa)
         batch data, batch labels = self.make batches(
          X,y,self.batch_size)

    □ Divides data into batches

         num batches = batch data.shape[0]
         num updates = 0
          J hist = np.zeros((self.num iter * num batches,1))
          t hist = np.zeros((self.num iter * num batches,1))
          for itr in range (self.num iter):
              for b in range(num batches):
                  Xb = batch data[b]
                  yb = batch labels[b]
                  J cost, J grad = self.lr objective(theta, Xb, yb, self.lmbda)
                  theta = theta - self.eta[itr]*(num batches*J grad)
                  J hist[num updates] = J cost
                  t hist[num updates] = np.linalg.norm(theta,2)
                  num updates = num updates + 1
              print("iteration %d, cost: %f" %(itr, J_cost))
         y pred = 2*(self.sigmoid(X.dot(theta)) > 0.5) - 1
         y_err = np.size(np.where(y_pred - y)[0])/float(y.shape[0])
         print("classification error:", y err)
```

```
self.generate_plots(X, J_hist, t_hist, theta)
    return theta
def make batches(self, X, y, batch size):
    n = X.shape[0]
    d = X.shape[1]
    num batches = int(np.ceil(n/batch size))
    groups = np.tile(range(num batches),batch size)
    batch data=np.zeros((num batches,batch size,d))
    batch labels=np.zeros((num batches,batch size,1))
    for i in range(num_batches):
        batch data[i,:,:] = X[groups==i,:]
        batch labels[i,:] = y[groups==i]
    return batch data, batch labels
def lr_objective(self, theta, X, y, lmbda): <---- Computes the objective
    n = y.shape[0]
    y01 = (y+1)/2.0
    mu = self.sigmoid(X.dot(theta))
    mu = np.maximum(mu,self.eps)
                                       Bounds away from
                                     zero and one
    mu = np.minimum(mu,1-self.eps)
    cost = -(1/n)*np.sum(y01*np.log(mu) +
    (1-y01)*np.log(1-mu))+np.sum(lmbda*theta*theta) <---- Computes cost
    grad = X.T.dot(mu-y01) + 2*lmbda*theta
                                                    Computes the gradient
                                                   of the Ir objective
    #compute the Hessian of the lr objective
    \#H = X.T.dot(np.diag(np.diag(mu*(1-mu)))).dot(X) +
    ⇒ 2*lmbda*np.eye(np.size(theta))
    return cost, grad
def sigmoid(self, a):
    return 1/(1+np.exp(-a))
def generate plots(self, X, J hist, t hist, theta):
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(J hist)
    plt.title("logistic regression")
    plt.xlabel('iterations')
    plt.ylabel('cost')
    #plt.savefig('./figures/lrsgd loss.png')
    plt.show()
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(t hist)
```

```
plt.title("LR theta 12 norm")
    plt.xlabel('iterations')
    plt.ylabel('theta 12 norm')
     #plt.savefig('./figures/lrsgd theta norm.png')
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(self.eta)
    plt.title("LR learning rate")
    plt.xlabel('iterations')
    plt.ylabel('learning rate')
     #plt.savefig('./figures/lrsgd learning rate.png')
    plt.show()
    plt.figure()
    x1 = np.linspace(np.min(X[:,0])-1,np.max(X[:,0])+1,10)
    plt.scatter(X[:,0], X[:,1])
    plt.plot(x1, -(theta[0]/theta[1])*x1)
    plt.title('LR decision boundary')
    plt.grid(True)
    plt.xlabel('X1')
    plt.ylabel('X2')
     #plt.savefig('./figures/lrsgd_clf.png')
    plt.show()
if __name__ == "__main__":
X, y = generate data()
sgd = sgdlr()
theta = sgd.fit(X,y)
```

Figure 5.11 shows the stochastic nature of the loss function that decreases with the number of iterations as well as the decision boundary learned by our binary logistic regression.

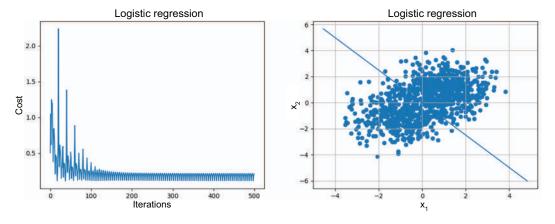


Figure 5.11 SGD logistic regression: Cost (left) and decision boundary (right)

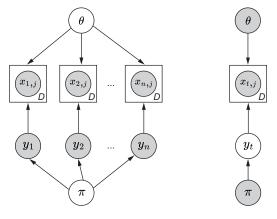
A natural extension to the binary logistic regression is a multinomial logistic regression that handles more than 2 classes.

5.5 Naive Bayes

This section focuses on understanding, deriving, and implementing the naive Bayes algorithm. The fundamental (naive) assumption of the algorithm is that the features are conditionally independent, given the class label. This allows us to write the class conditional density as a product of one-dimensional densities.

$$p(x_i|y=c,\theta) = \prod_{j=1}^{D} p(x_{ij}|y=c,\theta_{jc})$$
 (5.31)

The model is called naive because we don't expect the features to be conditionally independent. However, even if the assumption is false, the model performs well in many scenarios. Here, we will focus on Bernoulli Naive Bayes for document classification, with the graphical model shown in figure 5.12. Note the shaded nodes represent the observed variables.



Naïve Bayes (train)

Naïve Bayes (test)

Figure 5.12 Naive Bayes probabilistic graphical model

The choice of class conditional density $p(x|y=c,\theta)$ determines the type of Naive Bayes classifier, such as Gaussian, Bernoulli, or multinomial. In this section, we focus on Bernoulli naive Bayes, due to its high performance in classifying documents.

Let x_{ij} be Bernoulli random variables indicating the presence $(x_{ij}=1)$ or absence $(x_{ij}=0)$ of a word $j \in \{1,...,D\}$ for document $i \in \{1,...,N\}$, parameterized by θ_{jc} for a given class label $y=c \in \{1,...,C\}$. In addition, let π be a Dirichlet distribution representing the prior over the class labels. Thus, the total number of learnable parameters is $|\theta|+|\pi|=O(DC)+O(C)=O(DC)$, where D is the dictionary size and C is the number of classes. Due to the small number of parameters, the Naive Bayes model is immune to overfitting.

We can write down the class conditional density as shown in equation 5.32.

$$p(x|y=c,\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \prod_{j=1}^{D} p(x_{ij}|y=c,\theta_{jc}) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \prod_{j=1}^{D} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta_{jc})$$
 (5.32)

We can derive the Naive Bayes inference algorithm by maximizing the log likelihood. Consider words x_i in a single document i.

$$p(x_i, y_i | \theta) = p(y_i | \pi) \prod_{j=1}^{D} p(x_{ij} | y_i, \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{c=1}^{C} \pi_c^{1[y_i = c]} \prod_{j=1}^{D} \prod_{c=1}^{C} p(x_{ij} | \theta_{jc})^{1[y_i = c]}$$
(5.33)

Using the Naive Bayes assumption, we can compute the log likelihood objective.

$$\log p(D|\theta) = \log \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(x_i, y_i|\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(x_i, y_i|\theta)$$

$$= \sum_{c=1}^{C} N_c \log \pi_c + \sum_{i=1}^{D} \sum_{c=1}^{C} \sum_{i:y_i=c} \log p(x_{ij}|\theta_{jc})$$
(5.34)

Note this is a constrained optimization program, since the probabilities of class labels must sum to one: $\sum \pi_c = 1$. We can solve the optimization problem in equation 5.34 using a Lagrangian by including the constraint in the objective function and setting the gradient of the Lagrangian $L(\theta, \lambda)$ with respect to (wrt) model parameters to zero.

$$L(\theta, \lambda) = \log p(D|\theta) + \lambda \left(1 - \sum_{c} \pi_{c}\right)$$
 (5.35)

Differentiating wrt π_c , we get the following.

$$\frac{d}{d\pi_c}L(\theta,\lambda) = \frac{d}{d\pi_c}\log p(D|\theta) - \lambda = N_c \frac{1}{\pi_c} - \lambda = 0$$
 (5.36)

This gives us an expression for π_c in terms of λ : $\pi_c = (1/\lambda) N_c$. To solve for λ , we use our sum to one constraint.

$$\sum_{c} \pi_{c} = 1 \to \sum_{c} \frac{1}{\lambda} N_{c} = 1 \to \lambda = \sum_{c} N_{c}$$
 (5.37)

Substituting λ back into expression for π_c , we get $\pi_c = N_c / \sum N_c = N_c / N_{tot}$. Similarly, we can compute the optimum θ_{jc} parameters by setting the gradient of objective wrt θ_{jc} to zero.

$$\frac{d}{d\theta_{jc}} \log p(D|\theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta_{jc}} \sum_{i:y_i=c} \left[x_{ij} \log(\theta_{jc}) + (1 - x_{ij}) \log(1 - \theta_{jc}) \right] = 0$$

$$= \sum_{i:y_i=c} \left[\frac{x_{ij}}{\theta_{jc}} - \frac{1 - x_{ij}}{1 - \theta_{jc}} \right] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{N_{jc}}{\theta_{jc}} = \frac{1}{1 - \theta_{jc}} [N_c - N_{jc}] \rightarrow N_{jc} = N_c \theta_{jc} \tag{5.38}$$

As a result, the optimum maximum likelihood estimate (MLE) value of $\theta_{jc} = N_{jc}/N_o$ where $N_c = \sum 1[y_i = c]$, which makes intuitive sense as a ratio of counts. Note that it's straightforward to add a Beta conjugate prior for the Bernoulli random variables and a Dirichlet conjugate prior for the class density to smooth the MLE counts.

$$p(\pi|D) = \text{Dir}(N_1 + \alpha_1, ..., N_c + \alpha_c)$$

$$p(\theta_{ic}|D) = \text{Beta}([N_c - N_{ic}] + \beta_0, N_{ic} + \beta_1)$$
(5.39)

Here, we use *conjugate prior* for computational convenience, since the posterior and prior have the same form, which enables closed-form updates.

During test time, we would like to predict the class label *y* given the training data *D* and the learned model parameters. Applying the Bayes rule, we get the following.

$$p(y = c | x_{i,1}, ..., x_{i,D}, D) \propto p(y = c | D) p(x_{i,1}, ..., x_{i,D} | y = c, D)$$

$$= p(y = c | D) \prod_{j=1}^{D} p(x_{ij} | y = c, D)$$
(5.40)

Substituting the distributions for p(y=c|D) and $p(x_{ij}|y=c,D)$ and taking the log, we get the following.

$$\log p(y = c | x, D) \propto \log \hat{\pi}_c + \sum_{j=1}^{D} \left(1 [x_{ij} = 1] \log \hat{\theta}_{jc} + 1 [x_{ij} = 0] \log \left(1 - \hat{\theta}_{jc} \right) \right)$$
(5.41)

Here, π_c and θ_{jc} are the MLE estimates obtained during training. The Naive Bayes algorithm is summarized in the pseudo-code shown in figure 5.13.

The runtime complexity of MLE inference during training is O(ND), where N is the number of training documents and D is the dictionary size. The runtime complexity during test time is O(TCD), where T is the number of test documents, C is the number

```
1: Training:
 2: N_c = 0, N_{ic} = 0
 3: for i = 1, 2, ..., n do
       c = y_i //class label for ith example
       N_c = N_c + 1
       for j = 1, \ldots, D do
         if x_{ii} = 1 then
 7:
              N_{jc} = N_{jc} + 1
 8:
10: end for
11: \hat{\pi}_c = \frac{N_c}{N}, \hat{\theta}_{jc} = \frac{N_{jc}}{N}
12: return \hat{\pi}_c, \hat{\theta}_c
13: Testing (for a single test document):
14: for c = 1, 2, ..., C do
        \log p[c] = \log \pi_c
15:
        for j = 1, 2, ..., D do
16:
17:
           if x_i = 1 then
               \log p[c] + = \log \hat{\theta}_{ic}
18:
19:
           else
               \log p[c] + = \log \left(1 - \hat{\theta}_{ic}\right)
20:
        end for
21:
22: end for
                                                           Figure 5.13 Naive Bayes
23: c = \arg\max_{c} \log p[c]
                                                           algorithm pseudo-code
24: return c
```

of classes, and D is the dictionary size. Similarly, space complexity is the size of arrays required to store model parameters that grow as O(DC). We are now ready to implement the Bernoulli Naive Bayes algorithm in the following listing!

Listing 5.4 Bernoulli naive Bayes algorithm

```
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

from time import time
from nltk.corpus import stopwords
from nltk.tokenize import RegexpTokenizer

from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score
from sklearn.datasets import fetch_20newsgroups
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import CountVectorizer

sns.set_style("whitegrid")
tokenizer = RegexpTokenizer(r'\w+')
stop_words = set(stopwords.words('english'))
stop_words.update(['s','t','m','1','2'])
```

```
class naive bayes:
        def __init__(self, K, D):
                             self.K = K
          self.D = D
                                Dictionary size
Class
priors
       ⇒ self.pi = np.ones(K)
          self.theta = np.ones((self.D, self.K))
      def fit(self, X train, y train):
          num docs = X train.shape[0]
          for doc in range (num docs):
              label = y_train[doc]
              self.pi[label] += 1
              for word in range(self.D):
                  if (X train[doc][word] > 0):
                      self.theta[word] [label] += 1
                  #end if
              #end for
          #end for
          #normalize pi and theta
          self.pi = self.pi/np.sum(self.pi)
          self.theta = self.theta/np.sum(self.theta, axis=0)
      def predict(self, X test):
          num docs = X test.shape[0]
          logp = np.zeros((num docs,self.K))
          for doc in range(num_docs):
              for kk in range(self.K):
                  logp[doc][kk] = np.log(self.pi[kk])
                  for word in range (self.D):
                      if (X test[doc][word] > 0):
                          logp[doc][kk] += np.log(self.theta[word][kk])
                      else:
                          logp[doc][kk] += np.log(1-self.theta[word][kk])
                      #end if
                  #end for
              #end for
          #end for
          return np.argmax(logp, axis=1)
    if name == " main ":
      import nltk
      nltk.download('stopwords')
      #load data
      print("loading 20 newsgroups dataset...")
      tic = time()
      classes = ['sci.space', 'comp.graphics', 'rec.autos', 'rec.sport.hockey']
```

```
dataset = fetch_20newsgroups(shuffle=True, random state=0,

⇒ remove=('headers','footers','quotes'), categories=classes)

X train, X test, y train, y test = train test split(dataset.data,
➡ dataset.target, test size=0.5, random state=0)
toc = time()
print("elapsed time: %.4f sec" %(toc - tic))
print("number of training docs: ", len(X train))
print("number of test docs: ", len(X test))
print("vectorizing input data...")
cnt vec = CountVectorizer(tokenizer=tokenizer.tokenize, analyzer='word',

→ ngram range=(1,1), max df=0.8, min df=2, max features=1000,
⇒ stop words=stop words)
cnt vec.fit(X train)
toc = time()
print("elapsed time: %.2f sec" %(toc - tic))
vocab = cnt vec.vocabulary
idx2word = {val: key for (key, val) in vocab.items()}
print("vocab size: ", len(vocab))
X train vec = cnt vec.transform(X train).toarray()
X test vec = cnt vec.transform(X test).toarray()
print("naive bayes model MLE inference...")
K = len(set(y train)) #number of classes
D = len(vocab) #dictionary size
nb clf = naive bayes(K, D)
nb clf.fit(X train vec, y train)
print("naive bayes prediction...")
y pred = nb clf.predict(X test vec)
nb_clf_acc = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
print("test set accuracy: ", nb clf acc)
```

As we can see from the output, we achieve 82% accuracy on the 20 newsgroups test dataset.

5.6 Decision tree (CART)

This section focuses on the classification and regression trees (CART) algorithm. Tree-based algorithms partition the input space into axis parallel regions such that each leaf represents a region. They can then be used to either classify the region by taking a majority vote or regress the region by computing the expected value. Tree-based models are interpretable and provide insight into feature importance. They are based on a greedy, recursive algorithm, since the optimum partitioning of space is NP complete.

In tree-based models during training, we are interested in constructing a binary tree in a way that optimizes an objective function and does not lead to underfitting or overfitting. A key determinant in growing a decision tree is the choice of the feature and the threshold to use when classifying the data points. Consider an input data matrix $X_{n\times d}$ with n data points of dimension (feature size) d. We would like to find the

optimum feature and threshold for that feature that results in the split of data with minimum cost. Let $j \in \{1, ..., d\}$ represent feature dimension and $t \in \tau_j$ represent a threshold for feature j out of all possible thresholds τ_j (constructed by taking midpoints of our data x_{ij}). Then, we would like to compute the following.

$$j^*, t^* = \arg\min_{j \in \{1, \dots, d\}} \min_{t \in \tau_j} \operatorname{cost}(\{x_i, y_i : x_{ij} \le t\}) + \operatorname{cost}(\{x_i, y_i : x_{ij} > t\})$$
(5.42)

Before we look at an example, let's look at potential costs we can use for optimizing the tree for classification. Our goal in defining a cost function is to evaluate how good our data partition is. We would like the leaf nodes to be pure (i.e., contain data from the same class and still be able to generalize to test data). In other words, we would like to limit the depth of the tree (to prevent overfitting) while minimizing impurity. One notion of impurity is the Gini index.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k (1 - \pi_k) = \sum_k \pi_k - \sum_k \pi_k^2 = 1 - \sum_k \pi_k^2$$
 (5.43)

Here, π_k is a fraction of points in the region that belongs to cluster k.

$$\pi_k = \frac{1}{|D|} \sum_{i \in D} 1[y_i = k] \tag{5.44}$$

Notice that since π_k is the probability of a random point in the leaf belonging to class k and $1 - \pi_k$ is the error rate, the Gini index is the expected error rate. If the leaf cluster is pure $(\pi_k = 1)$, then the Gini index is zero. Thus, we are interested in minimizing the Gini index.

An alternative objective is entropy, as shown in the following equation.

$$H(\pi) = -\sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \log \pi_k$$
 (5.45)

Entropy measures the amount of uncertainty. If we are certain that the leaf cluster is pure (i.e., $\pi_k = 1$), then the entropy is zero. Thus, we are interested in minimizing entropy when it comes to CART.

Let's look at a one-dimensional example of choosing the optimum splitting feature and its threshold. Let X = [1.5, 1.7, 2.3, 2.7, 2.7] and class label y = [1, 1, 2, 2, 3]. Since the data is one-dimensional, our task is to find a threshold that will split X in a way that minimizes the Gini index. If we choose a threshold $t_1 = 2$ as a midpoint between 1.7 and 2.3 and compute the resulting Gini index, we get the following equation.

$$G = \frac{2}{5}G_{left} + \frac{3}{5}G_{right} = \frac{2}{5} \times 0 + \frac{3}{5} \times \left(1 - \frac{2^2}{3} - \frac{1}{3}^2\right) = 0.27$$
 (5.46)

Here, G_{left} is the Gini index of $\{x_i, y_i: x_{ij} \le 2\}$ and is equal to zero, since both class labels are equal to 1 (i.e., a pure leaf cluster) and G_{right} is the Gini index of $\{x_i, y_i: x_{ij} > 2\}$ and contains a mix of class labels $y_{right} = [2,2,3]$.

The key to CART algorithm is finding the optimal feature and threshold such that the cost (e.g., Gini index) is minimized. During training, we'll need to iterate through every feature one by one and compute the Gini cost for all possible thresholds for that feature. But how do we compute τ_j , a set of all possible thresholds for feature j? We can sort the training data X[:,j] in $O(\log n)$ time and consider all midpoints between two adjacent data values. Next, we'll need to compute the Gini index for each threshold that can be done as shown in equation 5.47. Let m be the size of the node and m_k be the number of points in the node that belong to class k.

$$G = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k^2 = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{k} \left(\frac{m_k}{m}\right)^2$$
 (5.47)

We can iterate through the sorted thresholds τ_j in O(n) time and compute the Gini index that would result in applying that threshold in each iteration. For *i*-th threshold, we get the following.

$$G_{i} = \frac{i}{m}G_{i}^{left} + \frac{m-i}{m}G_{i}^{right}$$

$$G_{i}^{left} = 1 - \sum_{k} \left(\frac{m_{k}^{left}}{i}\right)^{2}$$

$$G_{i}^{right} = 1 - \sum_{k} \left(\frac{m_{k}^{right}}{m-i}\right)^{2}$$
(5.48)

Having found the optimum feature and threshold, we split each node recursively until the maximum depth is reached. Once we've constructed a tree during training, given test data, we simply traverse the tree from root to leaf, which stores our class label. We can summarize the CART algorithm in the pseudo-code in figure 5.14.

As we can see from the definition of TreeNode, it stores the predicted class label, id of the feature to split on and the best threshold to split on, pointers to the left and right subtrees, as well as the Gini cost and size of the node. We can grow the decision tree recursively by calling the grow_tree function, as long as the depth of the tree is less than the maximum depth determined ahead of time. First, we compute the class

```
1: class TreeNode(gini, num_samples, num_samples_class, class_label):
 2: self.gini = gini // gini cost
 3: self.num_samples = num_samples // size of node
 4: self.num samples class = num samples class //number of pts with label k
 5: self.class_label = class_label //predicted class label
 6: self.feature_idx = 0 //idx of feature to split on
 7: self.threshold = 0 //best threshold to split on
 8: self.left = None //left subtree pointer
 9: self.right = None //right subtree pointer
10: function grow_tree(X_train, y_train, depth)
11: class_label = majority_vote(y_train)
12: gini = compute gini(v train)
13: node = new TreeNode(gini, class_label)
14: //split recursively until max depth is reached
15: if depth < max_depth
      idx, threshold = best_split(X_train, y_train)
16:
      if idx is not None:
17:
         indices_left = X_train[:,idx] < threshold
18:
         node.feature_index = idx
19:
         node.left = grow_tree(X_left, y_left, depth + 1)
20:
         node.right = grow_tree(X_right, y_right, depth +1)
21.
22: return node
```

Figure 5.14 CART decision tree algorithm pseudo-code

label via majority vote and the Gini index for training labels. Next, we determine the best split by iterating over all features and over all possible splitting thresholds. Once we determine the best feature idx and feature threshold to split on, we initialize left and right pointers of the current node with new TreeNode objects that contain data less than the splitting threshold and greater than the splitting threshold, respectively. We iterate in this fashion until reaching the maximum tree depth. We are now ready to implement the CART algorithm.

Listing 5.5 CART decision tree algorithm

```
import numpy as np
       import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
       from sklearn.datasets import load iris
       from sklearn.metrics import accuracy score
       from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
       class TreeNode():
           def __init__(self, gini, num_samples, num_samples_class, class label):
Number of

→ Gini cost

            self.qini = qini
node points
            self.num samples = num samples
                                                  Size of the node
  with the
         → self.num_samples_class = num_samples_class
   label k
            self.class label = class label
```

```
self.feature idx = 0
                                              idx of the feature to split on
          \Rightarrow self.treshold = 0
            self.left = None

    Left subtree pointer

 threshold
            self.right = None
to split on
                                          Right subtree pointer
       class DecisionTreeClassifier():
        def init (self, max depth = None):
            self.max depth = max depth
        def best_split(self, X_train, y_train):
            m = y_train.size
            if (m <= 1):
                return None, None
Number of
 points of
            mk = [np.sum(y train == k) for k in range(self
  class k 

→ .num classes)]
                                                                      Gini of the
                                                                     current node
            best_gini = 1.0 - sum((n / m) ** 2 for n in mk)
            best idx, best thr = None, None
             #iterate over all features
             for idx in range(self.num features):
                 thresholds, classes = zip(*sorted(zip(X[:,
              → idx], y)))
   Sorts data
      along a
                 num left = [0]*self.num classes
     selected
                num right = mk.copy()
      feature
                 for i in range(1, m):
                                                Iterate over all
                                                possible split positions
                     k = classes[i-1]
                     num left[k] += 1
                     num_right[k] -= 1
                     qini left = 1.0 - sum(
                         (num left[x] / i) ** 2 for x in range(self.num classes)
                     gini right = 1.0 - sum(
                         (num right[x] / (m - i)) ** 2 for x in
                         ⇒ range(self.num classes)
                     gini = (i * gini left + (m - i) * gini right) / m
                     if thresholds[i] == thresholds[i - 1]:
                         continue
                     if (gini < best gini):
                         best gini = gini
                         best idx = idx
                         best thr = (thresholds[i] +
                         ⇒ thresholds[i - 1]) / 2 <--- Midpoint
```

```
#end if
        #end for
    #end for
    return best idx, best thr
def gini(self, y train):
   m = y train.size
    return 1.0 - sum((np.sum(y_train == k) / m) ** 2 for k in
    range(self.num classes))
def fit(self, X train, y train):
    self.num classes = len(set(y train))
    self.num features = X train.shape[1]
    self.tree = self.grow_tree(X_train, y_train)
def grow tree(self, X train, y train, depth=0):
    num samples class = [np.sum(y train == k) for k in
    ⇒ range(self.num classes)]
    class_label = np.argmax(num_samples_class)
    node = TreeNode(
       gini=self.gini(y train),
       num samples=y train.size,
        num samples class=num samples class,
        class_label=class_label,
    )
                                        Split recursively until the
                                        maximum depth is reached
    if depth < self.max depth:
        idx, thr = self.best split(X train, y train)
        if idx is not None:
            indices_left = X_train[:, idx] < thr</pre>
            X left, y left = X train[indices left], y train[indices left]
            X right, y right = X train[~indices left],
    y_train[~indices_left]
            node.feature index = idx
            node.threshold = thr
            node.left = self.grow tree(X left, y left, depth + 1)
            node.right = self.grow tree(X right, y right, depth + 1)
    return node
def predict(self, X test):
    return [self.predict helper(x test) for x test in X test]
def predict helper(self, x test):
    node = self.tree
    while node.left:
        if x test[node.feature index] < node.threshold:</pre>
            node = node.left
        else:
            node = node.right
    return node.class label
```

As we can see from the output, we achieve the test classification accuracy of 80% on the iris dataset.

5.7 Exercises

- **5.1** Given a data point $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and a hyperplane $\theta \cdot x + \theta_0 = 0$, compute the Euclidean distance from the point to the hyperplane.
- **5.2** Given a primal linear program (LP) $\min c^T x$ subject to $Ax \le b$, $x \ge 0$, write down the dual version of the LP.
- **5.3** Show that the radial basis function (RBF) kernel is equivalent to computing similarity between two infinite dimensional feature vectors.
- **5.4** Verify that the learning rate schedule $\eta_k = (\tau_0 + k)^{-\kappa}$ satisfies Robbins-Monro conditions.
- **5.5** Compute the derivative of the sigmoid function $\sigma(a) = [1 + \exp(-a)]^{-1}$.
- **5.6** Compute the runtime and memory complexity of the Bernoulli naive Bayes algorithm.

Summary

- The goal of a classification algorithm is to learn a mapping from inputs *x* to outputs *y*, where *y* is a discrete quantity.
- Perceptron is a classification algorithm that updates the decision boundary until there are no more classification mistakes.
- SVM is a max-margin classifier. The training data points that lie on the margin boundaries become support vectors.
- Logistic regression is a classification algorithm that computes class conditional density based on a softmax function.

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• The naive Bayes algorithm assumes features are conditionally independent, given the class label. It is commonly used in document classification.

• The CART decision tree is a greedy, recursive algorithm that finds the optimum feature splits by minimizing an objective function, such as the Gini index.