林轩田《机器学习基石》课程笔记8 -- Noise and Error

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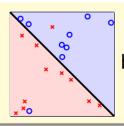
上一节课,我们主要介绍了VC Dimension的概念。如果Hypotheses set的VC Dimension是有限的,且有足够多N的资料,同时能够找到一个hypothesis使它的 $E_{in} \approx 0$,那么就能说明机器学习是可行的。本节课主要讲了数据集有Noise的情况下,是否能够进行机器学习,并且介绍了假设空间H下演算法A的Error估计。

— Noise and Probablistic target

上节课推导VC Dimension的数据集是在没有Noise的情况下,本节课讨论如果数据集本身存在Noise,那VC Dimension的推导是否还成立呢?

首先, Data Sets的Noise一般有三种情况:

- 由于人为因素, 正类被误分为负类, 或者负类被误分为正类;
- 同样特征的样本被模型分为不同的类;
- 样本的特征被错误记录和使用。



briefly introduced noise before pocket algorithm

age	23 years
gender	female
annual salary	NTD 1,000,000
year in residence	1 year
year in job	0.5 year
current debt	200,000
credit? $\{no(-1), yes(+1)\}$	

but more!

- noise in y: good customer, 'mislabeled' as bad?
- noise in y: same customers, different labels?
- noise in x: inaccurate customer information?

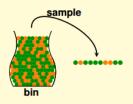
does VC bound work under noise?

之前的数据集是确定的,即没有Noise的,我们称之为Deterministic。现在有Noise 了,也就是说在某点处不再是确定分布,而是概率分布了,即对每个(x,y)出现的概率是P(y|x)。

因为Noise的存在,比如在x点,有0.7的概率y=1,有0.3的概率y=0,即y是按照 P(y|x)分布的。数学上可以证明如果数据集按照P(y|x)概率分布且是iid的,那么以前证明机器可以学习的方法依然奏效,VC Dimension有限即可推断Ein和Eout是近似的。

Probabilistic Marbles

one key of VC bound: marbles!



'deterministic' marbles

- marble $\mathbf{x} \sim P(\mathbf{x})$
- deterministic color

 [f(x) ≠ h(x)]

'probabilistic' (noisy) marbles

- marble $\mathbf{x} \sim P(\mathbf{x})$
- probabilistic color
 [y ≠ h(x)] with y ~ P(y|x)

same nature: can estimate $\mathbb{P}[\text{orange}]$ if $\overset{i.i.d.}{\sim}$

VC holds for
$$\underbrace{\mathbf{x}}^{i.i.d.} \underbrace{P(\mathbf{x}), y}^{i.i.d.} \underbrace{P(y|\mathbf{x})}_{\sim} P(y|\mathbf{x})$$

P(y|x)称之为目标分布(Target Distribution)。它实际上告诉我们最好的选择是什么,同时伴随着多少noise。其实,没有noise的数据仍然可以看成"特殊"的P(y|x)概率分布,即概率仅是1和0.对于以前确定的数据集:

$$P(y|x) = 1, for y = f(x)$$

$$P(y|x) = 0, for y \neq f(x)$$

Target Distribution $P(y|\mathbf{x})$

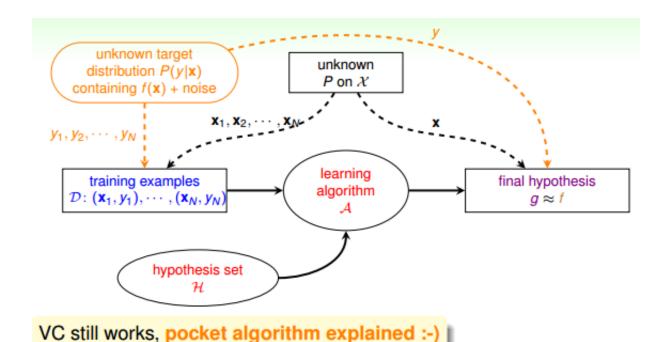
characterizes behavior of 'mini-target' on one x

- can be viewed as 'ideal mini-target' + noise, e.g.
 - $P(\circ|\mathbf{x}) = 0.7, P(\times|\mathbf{x}) = 0.3$
 - ideal mini-target $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$
 - 'flipping' noise level = 0.3
- deterministic target f: special case of target distribution
 - $P(y|\mathbf{x}) = 1 \text{ for } y = f(\mathbf{x})$
 - $P(y|\mathbf{x}) = 0$ for $y \neq f(\mathbf{x})$

goal of learning:

predict ideal mini-target (w.r.t. P(y|x)) on often-seen inputs (w.r.t. P(x))

在引入noise的情况下,新的学习流程图如下所示:



二、ERROR Measure

机器学习需要考虑的问题是找出的矩g与目标函数f有多相近,我们一直使用 E_{out} 进行误差的估计,那一般的错误测量有哪些形式呢?

我们介绍的矩g对错误的衡量有三个特性:

• out-of-sample: 样本外的未知数据

• pointwise: 对每个数据点x进行测试

classification: 看prediction与target是否一致, classification error通常称为
 0/1 error

how well? previously, considered out-of-sample measure

$$E_{\text{out}}(g) = \underset{\mathbf{x} \sim P}{\mathcal{E}} \llbracket g(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x}) \rrbracket$$

- more generally, error measure E(g, f)
- naturally considered
 - out-of-sample: averaged over unknown x
 - pointwise: evaluated on one x
 - classification: [prediction ≠ target]

PointWise error实际上就是对数据集的每个点计算错误并计算平均,*Ein*和*Eout*的 pointwise error的表达式为:

in-sample

$$E_{\text{in}}(g) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \text{err}(g(\mathbf{x}_n), f(\mathbf{x}_n))$$

out-of-sample

$$E_{\text{out}}(g) = \underset{\mathbf{x} \sim P}{\mathcal{E}} \operatorname{err}(g(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}))$$

pointwise error是机器学习中最常用也是最简单的一种错误衡量方式,未来课程中,我们主要考虑这种方式。pointwise error一般可以分成两类: 0/1 error和squared error。 0/1 error通常用在分类 (classification) 问题上,而squared error通常用在回归 (regression) 问题上。

0/1 error

$$\operatorname{err}(\tilde{y}, y) = [\tilde{y} \neq y]$$

- correct or incorrect?
- · often for classification

squared error

$$\operatorname{err}(\tilde{y}, y) = (\tilde{y} - y)^2$$

- how far is \(\tilde{\gamma} \) from \(\gamma ?
- often for regression

Ideal Mini-Target由P(y|x)和err共同决定,0/1 error和squared error的Ideal Mini-

Target计算方法不一样。例如下面这个例子,分别用0/1 error和squared error来估计最理想的mini-target是多少。0/1 error中的mini-target是取P(y|x)最大的那个类,而squared error中的mini-target是取所有类的加权平方和。

Ideal Mini-Target

interplay between noise and error:

 $P(y|\mathbf{x})$ and err define ideal mini-target $f(\mathbf{x})$

$$P(y = 1 | \mathbf{x}) = 0.2, P(y = 2 | \mathbf{x}) = 0.7, P(y = 3 | \mathbf{x}) = 0.1$$

$$\tilde{y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{avg. err } 0.8 \\ 2 & \text{avg. err } 0.3(*) \\ 3 & \text{avg. err } 0.9 \\ 1.9 & \text{avg. err } 1.0(\text{really? :-})) \end{cases}$$

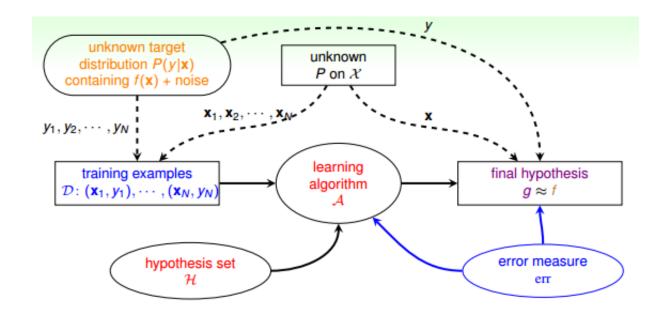
 $\operatorname{err}(\tilde{y}, y) = [\tilde{y} \neq y]$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname*{argmax}_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(y|\mathbf{x})$$

$$\operatorname{err}(\tilde{y}, y) = (\tilde{y} - y)^2$$

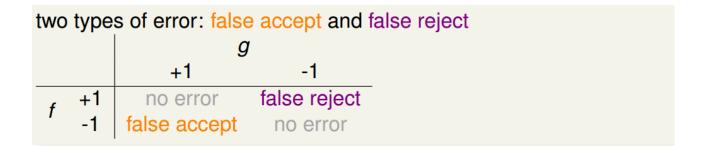
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} y \cdot P(y|\mathbf{x})$$

有了错误衡量,就会知道当前的矩g是好还是不好,并会让演算法不断修正,得到更好的矩g,从而使得g与目标函数更接近。所以,引入error measure后,学习流程图如下所示:



三、Algorithmic Error Measure

Error有两种: false accept和false reject。false accept意思是误把负类当成正类, false reject是误把正类当成负类。 根据不同的机器学习问题,false accept和false reject应该有不同的权重,这根实际情况是符合的,比如是超市优惠,那么false reject应该设的大一些;如果是安保系统,那么false accept应该设的大一些。

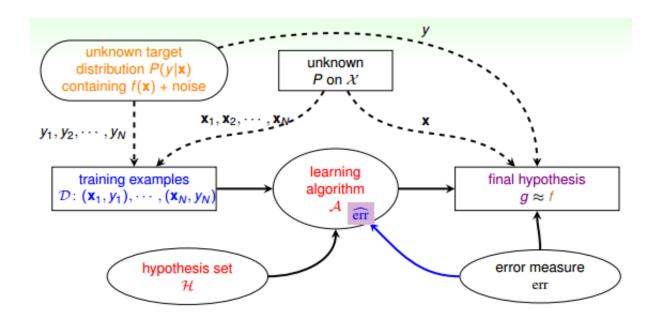


机器学习演算法A的cost function error估计有多种方法,真实的err一般难以计算,常用的方法可以采用plausible或者friendly,根据具体情况而定。

Algorithmic Error Measures err

- true: just err
- plausible:
 - 0/1: minimum 'flipping noise'—NP-hard to optimize, remember? :-)
 - squared: minimum Gaussian noise
- friendly: easy to optimize for ${\cal A}$
 - · closed-form solution
 - convex objective function

引入algorithm error measure之后,学习流程图如下:



四、Weighted Classification

实际上,机器学习的Cost Function即来自于这些error,也就是算法里面的迭代的目标函数,通过优化使得Error (Ein) 不断变小。

cost function中,false accept和false reject赋予不同的权重,在演算法中体现。对不同权重的错误惩罚,可以选用virtual copying的方法。

Systematic Route: Connect E_{in}^{w} and $E_{in}^{0/1}$

original problem

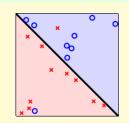
$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & h(\mathbf{x}) \\
 & +1 & -1 \\
\hline
y & +1 & 0 & 1 \\
1000 & 0 & 1
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & (\mathbf{x}_1, +1) \\
 & (\mathbf{x}_2, -1) \\
 & (\mathbf{x}_3, -1) \\
 & \cdots \\
 & (\mathbf{x}_{N-1}, +1) \\
 & (\mathbf{x}_N, +1) & 1
\end{array}$$

equivalent problem

after copying -1 examples 1000 times, E_{in}^{w} for LHS $\equiv E_{\text{in}}^{0/1}$ for RHS!

Weighted Pocket Algorithm



$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} & h(\mathbf{x}) \\ & +1 & -1 \\ \hline y & +1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline y & -1 & 1000 & 0 \\ \end{array}$$

using 'virtual copying', weighted pocket algorithm include:

- weighted PLA: randomly check -1 example mistakes with 1000 times more probability
- weighted pocket replacement: if \mathbf{w}_{t+1} reaches smaller $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}_{\text{in}}^{\text{w}}$ than $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$, replace $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ by \mathbf{w}_{t+1}

systematic route (called 'reduction'): can be applied to many other algorithms!

本节课主要讲了在有Noise的情况下,即数据集按照P(y|x)概率分布,那么VC Dimension仍然成立,机器学习算法推导仍然有效。机器学习cost function常用的Error 有0/1 error和squared error两类。实际问题中,对false accept和false reject应该选择不同的权重。

注明:

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