Regression review

EXTREME GRADIENT BOOSTING WITH XGBOOST



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Regression basics

• Outcome is real-valued



Common regression metrics

- Root mean squared error (RMSE)
- Mean absolute error (MAE)

Computing RMSE

Actual	Predicted
10	20
3	8
6	1

Computing RMSE

Actual	Predicted	Error
10	20	-10
3	8	-5
6	1	5

Computing RMSE

Actual	Predicted	Error	Squared Error
10	20	-10	100
3	8	-5	25
6	1	5	25

- Total Squared Error: 150
- Mean Squared Error: 50
- Root Mean Squared Error: 7.07

Computing MAE

Actual	Predicted	Error
10	20	-10
3	8	-5
6	1	5

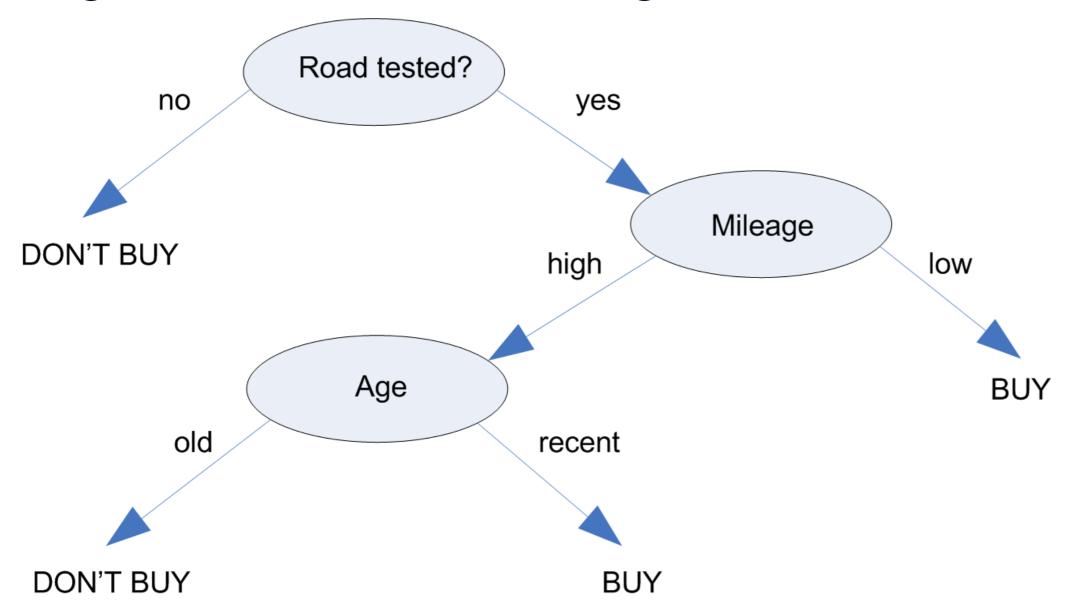
• Total Absolute Error: 20

Mean Absolute Error: 6.67

Common regression algorithms

- Linear regression
- Decision trees

Algorithms for both regression and classification



¹ https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/en/SS3RA7_15.0.0/com.ibm.spss.modeler.help/nodes_treebuilding.htm



Let's practice!

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Objective (loss) functions and base learners

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Objective Functions and Why We Use Them

- Quantifies how far off a prediction is from the actual result
- Measures the difference between estimated and true values for some collection of data
- Goal: Find the model that yields the minimum value of the loss function

Common loss functions and XGBoost

- Loss function names in xgboost:
 - reg:linear use for regression problems
 - reg:logistic use for classification problems when you want just decision, not probability
 - binary:logistic use when you want probability rather than just decision

Base learners and why we need them

- XGBoost involves creating a meta-model that is composed of many individual models that combine to give a final prediction
- Individual models = base learners
- Want base learners that when combined create final prediction that is non-linear
- Each base learner should be good at distinguishing or predicting different parts of the dataset
- Two kinds of base learners: tree and linear

Trees as base learners example: Scikit-learn API

```
import xgboost as xgb
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
boston_data = pd.read_csv("boston_housing.csv")
X, y = boston_data.iloc[:,:-1],boston_data.iloc[:,-1]
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test= train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2,
                                                         random state=123)
xg_reg = xgb.XGBRegressor(objective='reg:linear', n_estimators=10,
                                                   seed=123)
xg_reg.fit(X_train, y_train)
preds = xg_reg.predict(X_test)
```



Trees as base learners example: Scikit-learn API

```
rmse = np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_test,preds))
print("RMSE: %f" % (rmse))
```

RMSE: 129043.2314

Linear base learners example: learning API only

```
import xgboost as xgb
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
boston_data = pd.read_csv("boston_housing.csv")
X, y = boston_data.iloc[:,:-1],boston_data.iloc[:,-1]
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test= train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2,
                                                          random state=123)
DM_train = xqb.DMatrix(data=X_train,label=y_train)
DM_test = xqb.DMatrix(data=X_test,label=y_test)
params = {"booster":"qblinear", "objective": "req:linear"}
xq_req = xqb.train(params = params, dtrain=DM_train, num_boost_round=10)
preds = xg_reg.predict(DM_test)
```



Linear base learners example: learning API only

```
rmse = np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_test,preds))
print("RMSE: %f" % (rmse))
```

RMSE: 124326.24465

Let's get to work!

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Regularization and base learners in XGBoost

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Regularization in XGBoost

- Regularization is a control on model complexity
- Want models that are both accurate and as simple as possible
- Regularization parameters in XGBoost:
 - gamma minimum loss reduction allowed for a split to occur
 - alpha I1 regularization on leaf weights, larger values mean more regularization
 - lambda I2 regularization on leaf weights

L1 regularization in XGBoost example



Base learners in XGBoost

- Linear Base Learner:
 - Sum of linear terms
 - Boosted model is weighted sum of linear models (thus is itself linear)
 - Rarely used
- Tree Base Learner:
 - Decision tree
 - Boosted model is weighted sum of decision trees (nonlinear)
 - Almost exclusively used in XGBoost

Creating DataFrames from multiple equal-length lists

```
pd.DataFrame(list(zip(list1,list2)),columns=
["list1","list2"]))
```

- zip creates a generator of parallel values:
 - \circ zip([1,2,3],["a","b""c"]) = [1,"a"],[2,"b"],[3,"c"]
 - generators need to be completely instantiated before they can be used in DataFrame objects
- list() instantiates the full generator and passing that into the DataFrame converts the whole expression

Let's practice!

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