

# Logistic Regression

Background: Generative and  
Discriminative Classifiers

# Logistic Regression

Important analytic tool in natural and social sciences

Baseline supervised machine learning tool for classification

Is also the foundation of neural networks

# Generative and Discriminative Classifiers

Naive Bayes is a **generative** classifier

by contrast:

Logistic regression is a **discriminative** classifier

# Generative and Discriminative Classifiers

Suppose we're distinguishing cat from dog images



imagenet



imagenet

# Generative Classifier (Naive Bayes ):

- Build a model of what's in a cat image
  - Knows about whiskers, ears, eyes
  - Assigns a probability to any image:
    - how cat-y is this image?



Also build a model for dog images

Now given a new image:

**Run both models and see which one fits better**

# Discriminative Classifier (Logistic regression )

Just try to distinguish dogs from cats



Oh look, dogs have collars!  
Let's ignore everything else

# Finding the correct class $c$ from a document $d$ in Generative vs Discriminative Classifiers

## Naive Bayes

$$\hat{c} = \operatorname{argmax}_{c \in C} \underbrace{P(d|c)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(c)}_{\text{prior}}$$

## Logistic Regression

$$\hat{c} = \operatorname{argmax}_{c \in C} P(c/d) \quad \text{posterior}$$

# Components of a probabilistic machine learning classifier

Given  $m$  input/output pairs  $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$ :

1. A **feature representation** of the input. For each input observation  $x^{(i)}$ , a vector of features  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ . Feature  $j$  for input  $x^{(i)}$  is  $x_j$ , more completely  $x_j^{(i)}$ , or sometimes  $f_j(x)$ .
2. A **classification function** that computes  $\hat{y}$ , the estimated class, via  $p(y|x)$ , like the **sigmoid** or **softmax** functions.
3. An objective function for learning, like **cross-entropy loss**.
4. An algorithm for optimizing the objective function: **stochastic gradient descent**.

# The two phases of logistic regression

**Training:** we learn weights  $w$  and  $b$  using **stochastic gradient descent**

**Test:** Given a test example  $x$  we compute  $p(y|x)$  using learned weights  $w$  and  $b$ , and return whichever label ( $y = 1$  or  $y = 0$ ) is higher probability

# Classification in Logistic Regression

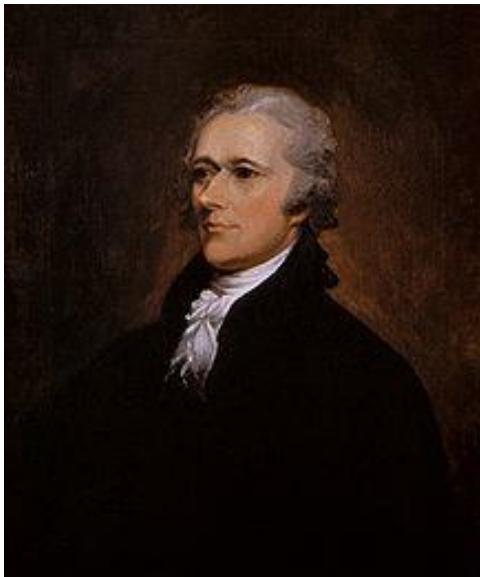
Logistic  
Regression

# Classification Reminder

Positive/negative sentiment

Spam/not spam

Authorship attribution  
(Hamilton or Madison?)



Alexander Hamilton

# Text Classification: definition

*Input:*

- a document  $x$
- a fixed set of classes  $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_J\}$

*Output:* a predicted class  $\hat{y} \in C$

# Binary Classification in Logistic Regression

Given a series of input/output pairs:

- $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$

For each observation  $x^{(i)}$

- We represent  $x^{(i)}$  by a **feature vector**  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$
- We compute an output: a predicted class  $\hat{y}^{(i)} \in \{0,1\}$

# Features in logistic regression

- For feature  $x_i$ , weight  $w_i$  tells us how important is  $x_i$ 
  - $x_i = \text{"review contains 'awesome'"}: w_i = +10$
  - $x_j = \text{"review contains 'abysmal'"}: w_j = -10$
  - $x_k = \text{"review contains 'normal'"}: w_k = -2$

# Logistic Regression for one observation $x$

Input observation: vector  $x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$

Weights: one per feature:  $W = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$

- Sometimes we call the weights  $\theta = [\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n]$

Output: a predicted class  $\hat{y} \in \{0, 1\}$

(multinomial logistic regression:  $\hat{y} \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ )

# How to do classification

For each feature  $x_i$ , weight  $w_i$  tells us importance of  $x_i$

- (Plus we'll have a bias  $b$ )

We'll sum up all the weighted features and the bias

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i + b$$

$$Z = w \cdot x + b$$

If this sum is high, we say  $y=1$ ; if low, then  $y=0$

But we want a probabilistic classifier

We need to formalize “sum is high”.

We'd like a principled classifier that gives us a probability, just like Naive Bayes did

We want a model that can tell us:

$$p(y=1|x; \theta)$$

$$p(y=0|x; \theta)$$

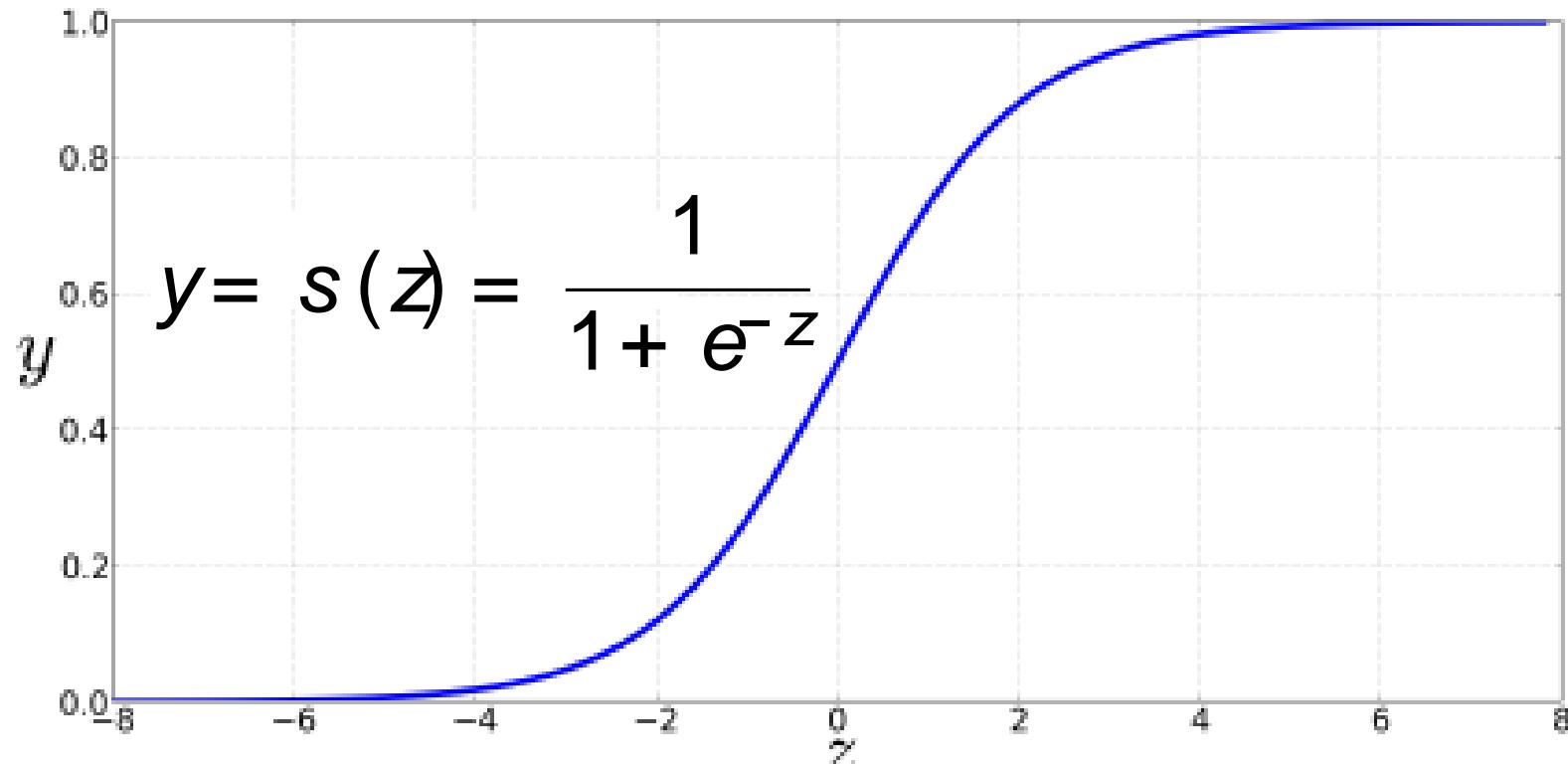
The problem: z isn't a probability, it's just a number!

$$z = w \cdot x + b$$

Solution: use a function of z that goes from 0 to 1

$$y = s(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-z)}$$

# The very useful sigmoid or logistic function



# Idea of logistic regression

We'll compute  $w \cdot x + b$

And then we'll pass it through the sigmoid function:

$$\sigma(w \cdot x + b)$$

And we'll just treat it as a probability

# Making probabilities with sigmoids

$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 1) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 0) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-(w \cdot x + b))}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \end{aligned}$$

By the way:

$$\begin{aligned} P(y=0) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) & = \sigma(-(w \cdot x + b)) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} & \text{Because} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-(w \cdot x + b))}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} & 1 - \sigma(x) = \sigma(-x) \end{aligned}$$

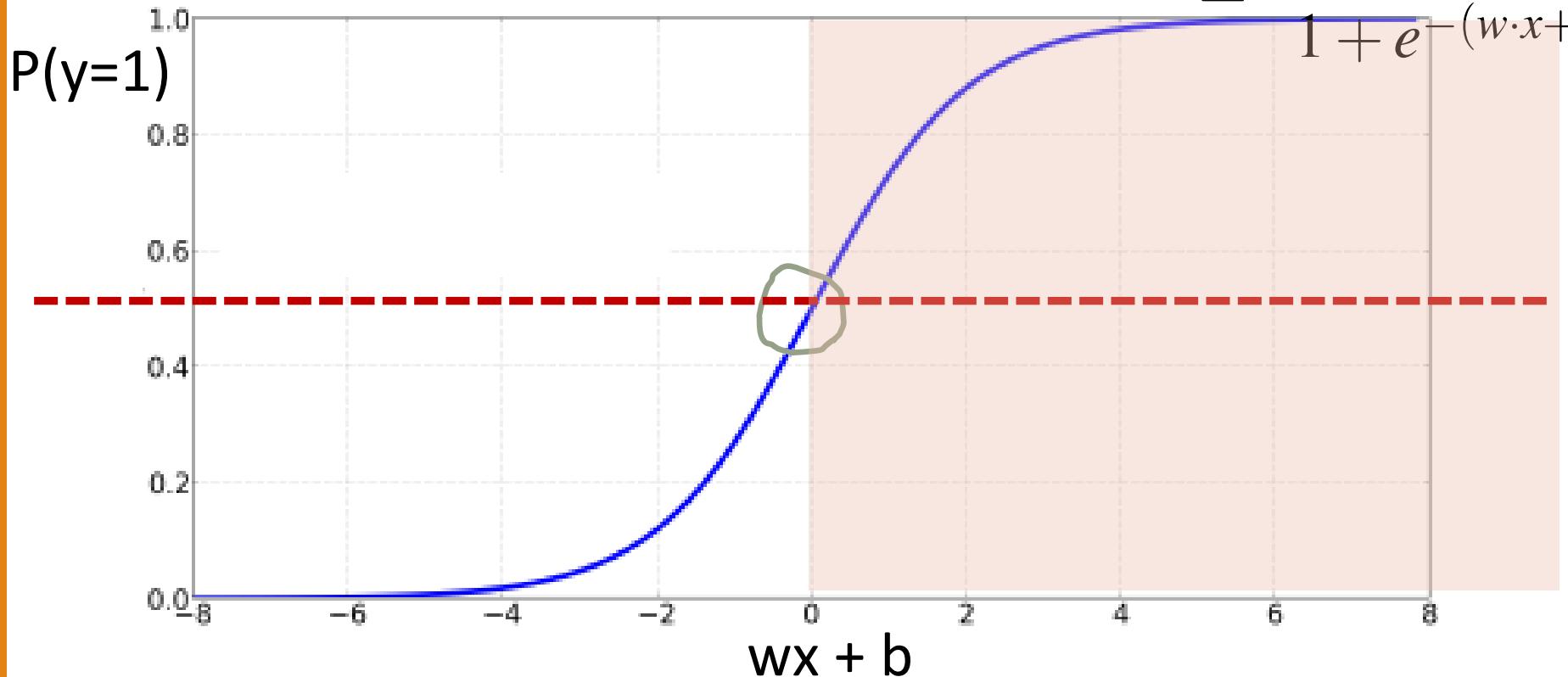
# Turning a probability into a classifier

$$\hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P(y=1|x) > 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

0.5 here is called the **decision boundary**

The probabilistic classifier  $P(y = 1) = \sigma(w \cdot x + b)$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w \cdot x + b)}}$$



# Turning a probability into a classifier

$$\hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P(y=1|x) > 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Logistic Regression

Logistic Regression: a text example  
on sentiment classification

# Sentiment example: does $y=1$ or $y=0$ ?

It's hokey . There are virtually no surprises , and the writing is second-rate . So why was it so enjoyable ? For one thing , the cast is great . Another nice touch is the music . I was overcome with the urge to get off the couch and start dancing . It sucked me in , and it'll do the same to you .

It's hokey. There are virtually no surprises , and the writing is second-rate.  
 So why was it so enjoyable? For one thing , the cast is  
great. Another nice touch is the music I was overcome with the urge to get off  
 the couch and start dancing . It sucked me in, and it'll do the same to you .

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 & x_2=2 & & \\
 & & x_3=1 & \\
 x_1=3 & & x_5=0 & \\
 & // & & \\
 & & x_6=4.19 & \\
 & & & x_4=3
 \end{array}$$

Var	Definition	Value in Fig. 5.2
$x_1$	count(positive lexicon) $\in$ doc)	3
$x_2$	count(negative lexicon) $\in$ doc)	2
$x_3$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “no”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	1
$x_4$	count(1st and 2nd pronouns $\in$ doc)	3
$x_5$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “!”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	0
$x_6$	log(word count of doc)	$\ln(66) = 4.19$

# Classifying sentiment for input x

Var	Definition	Value	
$x_1$	$\text{count}(\text{positive lexicon}) \in \text{doc}$	3	( <i>great, nice,</i>
$x_2$	$\text{count}(\text{negative lexicon}) \in \text{doc}$	2	<i>enjoyable, etc.</i> )
$x_3$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “no”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	1	
$x_4$	$\text{count}(1\text{st and 2nd pronouns} \in \text{doc})$	3	
$x_5$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “!”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	0	
$x_6$	$\ln(\text{word count of doc})$	$\ln(66) = 4.19$	

Suppose  $w = [2.5, -5.0, -1.2, 0.5, 2.0, 0.7]$

$$b = 0.1$$

# Classifying sentiment for input $x$

$$p(+|x) = P(Y=1|x) = s(w \cdot x + b)$$

$$= s([2.5, -5.0, -1.2, 0.5, 2.0, 0.7] \cdot [3, 2, 1, 3, 0, 4.19] + 0.1)$$

$$= s(.833)$$

$$= 0.70$$

$$p(-|x) = P(Y=0|x) = 1 - s(w \cdot x + b)$$

$$= 0.30$$

# Classification in (binary) logistic regression: summary

Given:

- a set of classes: (+ sentiment, - sentiment)
- a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  of features  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ 
  - $x_1 = \text{count}(\text{"awesome"})$
  - $x_2 = \log(\text{number of words in review})$
- A vector  $\mathbf{w}$  of weights  $[w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$ 
  - $w_i$  for each feature  $f_i$

$$\begin{aligned} P(y=1) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w \cdot x + b)}} \end{aligned}$$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent

## Logistic Regression

Our goal: minimize the loss

Let's make explicit that the loss function is parameterized by weights  $\theta=(w,b)$

- And we'll represent  $\hat{y}$  as  $f(x; \theta)$  to make the dependence on  $\theta$  more obvious

We want the weights that minimize the loss, averaged over all examples:

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m L_{\text{CE}}(f(x^{(i)}; \theta), y^{(i)})$$

# How much do we move in that direction ?

- The value of the gradient (slope in our example)  $\frac{d}{dw} L(f(x; w), y)$  weighted by a **learning rate**  $\eta$
- Higher learning rate means move  $w$  faster

$$w^{t+1} = w^t - h \frac{d}{dw} L(f(x; w), y)$$

# Mini-batch training

Stochastic (online) gradient descent chooses a single random example at a time.

That can result in choppy movements

More common to compute gradient over batches of training instances.

**Batch training:** entire dataset

**Mini-batch training:**  $m$  examples (512, or 1024)

# Confusion Matrix

Measurement	Formula
Accuracy, recognition rate	$\frac{TP + TN}{P + N}$
Error rate, misclassification rate	$\frac{FP + FN}{P + N}$
True positive rate, sensitivity, recall	$\frac{TP}{P}$
True negative rate, specificity	$\frac{TN}{N}$
Precision	$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$
$F_1$ value, harmonic mean of precision and recall	$\frac{2 \times \text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$
$F_\beta$ value, where $\beta$ is a non-negative real number	$\frac{(1 + \beta^2) \times \text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\beta^2 \times \text{precision} + \text{recall}}$

Actual \ Predicted			Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	$TP$	$FN$	$P$
No	$FP$	$TN$	$N$
Total	$P'$	$N'$	$P + N$

The END

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