

Softmax Regression

Classify data into multiple classes (e.g., 3 classes: 0, 1, 2)

We want a function that gives class probabilities.

1. Linear Model

For every class j :

$$z_j = w_j^T \cdot x + b_j$$

Where:

- x = input features (2D here)
- w_j = weights for class j
- b_j = bias for class j

This gives raw scores (logits), not probabilities.

2. Softmax Function (converts scores \rightarrow probabilities)

$$\text{Softmax}(z_j) = \frac{e^{z_j}}{\sum_{k=1}^C e^{z_k}}$$

Where:

- C = number of classes
- ✓ Output of softmax:
- Every class gets a probability
 - Probabilities sum to 1

$$\frac{TG \times W}{WG}$$

3. Loss Function: Cross Entropy

Measures how wrong model ~~predicted~~ predictions are.

For each example:

$$L = - \sum_{j=1}^C y_j \log(\hat{y}_j)$$

Where:

- y_j = true label (one-hot)
- \hat{y}_j = predicted probability

Total loss:

$$J = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i$$

Lower loss \rightarrow better model.

4. Gradient Descent (Optimization)

We update weights in the direction that reduces loss.

Gradients:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial w} = \frac{1}{N} X^T (\hat{y} - y)$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial b} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - y_i)$$

Update Rules:

$$w := w - \alpha \frac{\partial J}{\partial w}$$

$$b := b - \alpha \frac{\partial J}{\partial b}$$

Where:

α = learning rate (small step size)

5. Prediction

Pick the class with ~~largest~~ highest probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_j (\hat{y}_j)$$

✓ Gives final class label (0, 1, 2, ...)

• Full concept in 4 lines

Step	Action	Math Output
1.	Linear function	Raw scores z
2.	Softmax	Probabilities
3.	Cross entropy	Loss
4.	Gradient descent	Improve weights

• Intuition

Model draws decision boundaries between groups.

Softmax gives confidence for each class.

Training improves boundaries until most points are classified correctly.