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Intro machine learning is the study of algorithms that can learn from data, gradually improving their performance. large datasets

mathematical statistics (ST) is the science of making decisions in the face of uncertainty.  
small datasets

$$[Ex] Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1[\text{interesting}] + \beta_2[\text{genre}] + \beta_3[\text{Budget}] + \dots + \varepsilon$$

↓ average rating (or?)

rating of a movie

$$\in [0, 100]$$

Netflix: wants to predict rating of a movie - ML

Disney: wants to make a movie with high rating - ST

needs to understand whether the model is statistically significant  
(hypothesis testing, etc. ...)

[Ex] Handwritten digits recognition - ml

ml	unsupervised learning	"raw data", no label	clustering, learning representation
	<b>supervised learning</b>	labeled	classification, prediction
	reinforcement learning	"multi-armed bandit problem"	exploration v.s. exploitation

Realizable case:

Binary classification  $(X, Y) = (\text{instance}, \text{label})$   
 $(\text{observation}, \text{label})$

[Ex]  $X$ -image,  $Y \in \{+1, -1\}$  (e.g.: "cat", "dog")

$X \in S$  - set of all possible instances

Statistical learning: we will assume that  $(X, Y)$  is random, in other words, it has a probability distribution  $P$   
so we use language of probability theory

Supervised Learning:

$$(X, Y) \in S \times \{+1, -1\}$$

$P$  is the distribution of  $(X, Y)$

i.e.  $P(A) = \text{Probability } ((X, Y) \in A)$

$\Pi$  is the distribution of  $X$

Imposing the probabilistic model on  $(X, Y)$  takes us into realm of Statistical Learning Theory

Goal: predict label  $Y$  based on the observation  $X$

The prediction rule is a function  $g: S \rightarrow \{-1, +1\}$

The quality of a prediction rule  $g$  is measured by the classification/generalization error

$$L(g) = \text{Prob}(Y \neq g(X)) \quad (\text{one prediction})$$

The training data is a sequence  $(X_1, Y_1), (X_2, Y_2), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  of i.i.d. pairs with distribution  $P$ .

a prediction rule

An algorithm takes training data as an input and outputs  $\hat{g}_n = \hat{g}_n((X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n))$

In general, we will consider 2 scenarios:

i) "Realizable" learning: there exists  $g^* \in G$  s.t.  $Y = g^*(x)$  with probability 1.

ii) "Agnostic" learning: there is no  $g \in G$  s.t.  $Y = g^*(x)$  with probability 1.

Realizable scenario:

assume that the set  $G$  of all possible classification rules is finite

By assumption,  $\exists g^* \in G : Y = g^*(x)$  with prob 1

The Empirical Risk Minimization principle:

(<sup>↑</sup>training data) pick any  $\hat{g}_n$  that agrees with the training data ( $\hat{g}_n(x_i) = Y_i, i=1, \dots, n$ )

Question: what is  $L(\hat{g}_n)$ ?

what is  $\text{prob}(L(\hat{g}_n) > \varepsilon) \leq ?$ , given  $\varepsilon > 0$

Here,  $L(g) = \text{Prob}(Y \neq g(X))$

let  $G_B$  = "bad" classification rules =  $\{g \in G : L(g) > \varepsilon\}$

$\text{prob}(L(\hat{g}_n) > \varepsilon) = \text{prob}(\hat{g}_n \in G_B)$

Takes  $g \in G_B$ , if  $\hat{g}_n = g$ ,  $g(x_i) \neq Y_i, i=1, 2, \dots, n$

$\text{prob}(g(x_i) \neq Y_i) > \varepsilon$

$\text{prob}(g(x_i) = Y_i) \leq 1 - \varepsilon$

$\Rightarrow \text{prob}(g(x_i) = Y_i, i=1, \dots, n) = P(g(x_1) = Y_1) \cdot P(g(x_2) = Y_2) \cdots P(g(x_n) = Y_n)$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \text{Pr}(g(x_i) = Y_i)$$

$$\leq (1 - \varepsilon)^n$$

We show that  $\forall g \in G_B, \text{Pr}(\hat{g}_n = g) \leq (1 - \varepsilon)^n \leq e^{-\varepsilon n}$

(since  $1 - \varepsilon \leq e^{-\varepsilon}$ )

Remainder: Union Bound:  $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$

$\therefore$  If  $G_B = \{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ , then  $P(\hat{g}_n \in G_B) = P(\hat{g}_n = g_1 \text{ or } \hat{g}_n = g_2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } \hat{g}_n = g_k)$

$$\leq P(\hat{g}_n = g_1) + P(\hat{g}_n = g_2) + \dots + P(\hat{g}_n = g_k)$$

$$\leq k e^{-\varepsilon n}$$

$$\leq |G| e^{-\varepsilon n}$$

If one requires that  $P(L(\hat{g}_n) \leq \varepsilon) \geq 1 - \delta$

$$\text{then } |G|e^{-\varepsilon n} \leq \delta$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n \geq \frac{\log \frac{|G|}{\delta}}{\varepsilon}$$

E.g. if  $|G| = 10^{14} = 2^m$ ,  $\delta = 2^{-6}$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.01$ , what is  $n$ ? (最少有多少样本)

$$n \geq \frac{16 \log 2}{0.01} = 160 \log 2$$

Record some useful concepts:

ERM: pick a classifier that makes the smallest number of mistakes on observed data.

$$\text{define: } L_n(g) = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \#\{1 \leq j \leq n : g(x_j) \neq y_j\}$$

Remark: By Law of Large Number,  $L_n(g) \xrightarrow{P} L(g)$  since  $\mathbb{E}[L_n(g)] = L(g)$

The ERM states that one pick  $\hat{g}_n$  that minimize  $L_n(g)$  over  $g \in G$

PAC: ("Probably Approximately Correct") Learnability: Leslie Valiant '84

A class  $H$  of hypothesis / binary classifiers is PAC learnable:

if  $\forall \varepsilon, \delta \in (0, 1)$ , any labeling function  $g^*$ , any distribution  $\Pi$  of  $X$ ,

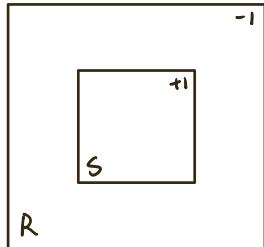
$\exists$  algorithm  $A$ . (e.g. ERM) and a function  $n = u(\varepsilon, \delta, |G|)$  st.  $\Pr[L(\hat{g}_n) > \varepsilon] \leq \delta$

Theore: Any finite set of binary classifiers is PAC-learnable

if we take  $n \geq \frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{\varepsilon}$ , we can satisfy  $\Pr[L(\hat{g}_n) > \varepsilon] \leq \delta$

Infinite set of classifiers

[Example A]



$$\text{Area}(R) = 2 \quad (\text{大正方形})$$

$$\text{Area}(S) = 1$$

$$g^*(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & x \in S \\ -1 & x \in R \setminus S \end{cases}$$

$$\text{let } G = \{\text{all binary function } g: R \rightarrow \{+1, -1\}\}$$

Training Data:  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

$$\text{consider } \hat{g}_n(x) = \begin{cases} Y_i, & x = x_i \text{ for } i=1, \dots, n \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

In particular,  $\hat{g}_n$  is consistent with ERM (sample里见过的都对)

$$\text{But } L(\hat{g}_n) = \Pr[Y \neq \hat{g}_n(x)] = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \text{overfitting}$$

(assume that  $x$  is chosen uniformly from  $R$ ) 选到点的概率是0  $\Rightarrow$  几乎全是-1

$$x \sim U(0, 1) \quad \text{---} \quad \overset{\text{samples}}{\underset{x}{\underbrace{\text{---}}_{\text{---}}}}$$

$$\Pr[X=x] \leq \Pr[X \in [x-h, x+h]] \quad \forall h$$

since  $h$  can be as small as it wants to

$$\therefore \Pr[X=x] = 0$$

but all infinite  $|G|$  is not PAC learnable ②

overfitting:  $L(\hat{g}_n) \rightarrow ?$

If  $G$  is too "large", then any algorithm (in particular ERM) will produce a classifier with large misclassification error.

If  $G$  is "too large"  $\rightarrow$  it is not PAC learnable

An algorithm  $A$  is a map that takes  $G$  and  $(x_i, y_i), i=1, \dots, n$  as input and outputs  $\hat{g} \in G$ .

[Example B]  $x \in [0, 1]$

$$\xrightarrow{-1 \quad x^* \quad +1}, \quad g^*(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x \leq x^* \\ +1, & x > x^* \end{cases}$$

$G = \{g_y, y \in \{0, 1\}\}$  ← 有定义的, 不是 all classifier, 但是 infinite classifiers

$$g_y(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x \leq y \\ +1, & x > y \end{cases}$$
 只能分两段

$(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  iid - training data

$$\xrightarrow{-1 \quad -1 \quad -1 \quad x \quad +1 \quad +1}, \quad x_1, x_2, x_3$$

claim:  $G$  is PAC learnable ③

$\rightarrow$  To show this, we need to estimate its sample complexity

given  $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$ , if  $n \geq n(\varepsilon, \delta)$ ,  $\exists A$  such that, given a sample of size  $n$ ,

$A$  outputs  $\hat{g}$  such that  $L(\hat{g}) < \varepsilon$  with prob  $\geq 1 - \delta$

let's use ERM: specifically, let  $\hat{x} = \max \{x_j : y_j = -1\}$

$$\text{let } \hat{g}_n(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x \leq \hat{x} \\ +1, & x > \hat{x} \end{cases}$$

$$\Pr(L(\hat{g}) > \varepsilon) \leq (1 - \varepsilon)^n \quad (\text{show this!})$$

[Example 1] Task: identify counterfeit banknotes

We know that real banknotes (a) color change under the light  $\in [0, 1]$ , with increment 0.1  
 (b) red/blue fibers  $\in [0, 100]$ , with increment 1

realizable  $\leftarrow$  Assume that for every "real" banknote, (a)(b) belong to a specific range, vice versa

Assume that you have 100 banknotes, known to be real or not

$\rightarrow X$ : banknote,  $Y$ : label {real / fake}

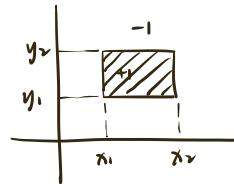
$X \in S$  Domain set =  $\{(x, y) : x \in [0:0.1:1], y \in [0:1:100]\}$

Training data: 100 banknotes

Hypothesis class  $G$ :  $g : S \rightarrow \{+1, -1\}$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \in [x_1, x_2], y \in [y_1, y_2] \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$|G| \leq \binom{11 \times 100}{2} \div 2 - \text{still manageable}$$



Assume that we want a classifier that makes at most 5% mistake.

What is the probability that you will get such a classifier from a sample size 100.

We proved that

$$\Pr(L(\hat{g}_{\text{ERM}}) > 0.05) \leq \frac{10^8}{2} \cdot (1 - 0.05)^{100} \xrightarrow{\text{relax } G}$$

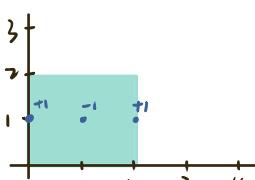
$$= \frac{10^8}{2} \cdot \frac{95^{100}}{10^{100}} \quad \text{prob 小于 1 万是多少?}$$

[Example 2] label  $(x_1, x_2)$ .  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{I}$ ,  $0 \leq x_1 \leq 4$ ,  $0 \leq x_2 \leq 3$

$G = \{ \text{rectangle with vertices } (x_1, x_2) \in [0, 4] \times [0, 3] \}$

Training set:

$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
0	1	1
1	1	-1
2	1	1



let  $g : [0, 2] \times [0, 2] \rightarrow \{-1, +1\}$

$$L(g) = \frac{\#\{(i, j) \in \mathcal{S}, Y_i \neq g(x_{ij})\}}{n} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \leftarrow \text{empirical risk}$$

$(n=3)$

ERM: line segment  $(0, 1)$  to  $(2, 1)$

$\rightarrow$  Agnostic learning (no perfect classifier)

### "No Free Lunch" theorem

An algorithm  $A$  is a mapping from training data  $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$  to the class  $G$  of binary classifiers

Theorem: Assume that  $S$  is finite. Let  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  be the training data such that  $n \in \frac{15}{2}$ .

Then for any algorithm  $A$ ,  $\exists$  some distribution  $\Pi$  over  $S$  and  $g^*: Y = g^*(x)$  but

$$\Pr(\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)) \geq \frac{1}{8} \text{ with prob } \frac{1}{8} \text{ where } \hat{g} = A((x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n) \quad P(\text{不得算法犯错概率} > \frac{1}{8}) > \frac{1}{8}$$

Proof: Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$

$$\text{Consider } \max_{g^*, \Pi} E_{\hat{x}} E_{x \sim \Pi} I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)\}$$

$$\Pr(\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)) \geq c > 0$$

pick  $g^{(1)}, g^{(2)}, \dots, g^{(k)}$   
 $\max_{g^*} \geq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k E_{\hat{x}} E_{x \sim \Pi} I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^{(j)}(x)\}$  最大值 > expected

consider a random  $g^*$  s.t.  $\forall x \in S$ ,  $g^*(x) = 1$  with prob  $\frac{1}{2}$  independently.  
 $-1$  with prob  $\frac{1}{2}$

call this distribution  $Q$

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{g^*, \Pi} E_{\hat{x}} E_{x \sim \Pi} I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)\} &\geq E_{g^* \sim Q} E_{\hat{x}} E_x I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)\} \\ &= E_{\hat{x}} E_x E_{g^* \sim Q} I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)\} \\ &\geq E_{\hat{x}} E_x \frac{1}{2} I\{x \notin \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$E_{g^* \sim Q} I\{\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)\} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } x \notin \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{如果见过, 那么会是正确的} \\ \text{如果没见过, 那么有一半概率会错} \end{matrix}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \begin{cases} \geq E_x \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ = \frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$$

[Lemma] let  $Z$  be a r.v. such that  $0 \leq Z \leq 1$ , then  $\Pr(Z \geq \delta) \geq E(Z) - \delta$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proof: } EZ &= EZ \cdot I\{Z \leq \delta\} + EZ \cdot I\{Z > \delta\} \\ &\leq \delta + \Pr(Z > \delta) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Applying the lemma, we get that

$$\max_{g^*} \Pr_{\hat{x}} (\Pr(\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x)) \geq \frac{1}{8}) \geq \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$(\because E_{\hat{x}} (\Pr(\hat{g}(x) \neq g^*(x))) = \frac{1}{4}$$

### Review of conditional probabilities and conditional expectations

[Lemma] let  $Z$  be a r.v. s.t.  $\text{Var}(Z) < \infty$

$$\text{Then, } E[Z] = \underset{z \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{arg\min}} E(Z - z)^2$$

Proof: let  $f(z) = E(Z - z)^2$

$$\text{Then, } f'(z) = 2E(Z - z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow z = E[Z]$$

Finally,  $f''(z) = 2 \Rightarrow E[Z]$  is the minimizer  
(开口向上)

Now, let  $Z, W$  be such that  $\text{Var}(Z)$  and  $\text{Var}(W)$  are finite.

$$\text{Then } E[Z|W=y] = \underset{z \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{arg\min}} E_{Z|W=y} (Z - z)^2$$

Clearly,  $z = z(y)$  above. Therefore,  $E[Z|W=y]$  is a function of  $W$  that minimizes  $E[(Z - f(W))^2]$  over all functions  $f$ .

[Exercise] let  $y(w) = E[Z|W]$ . Prove that for any function  $g$ ,  $E(Z - y(w)) \cdot g(w) = 0$

let  $h(Z)$  be an arbitrary function of  $Z$  s.t.  $E h^2(Z) < \infty$   
then  $E[(w - f(Z)) \cdot h(Z)] = 0$  where  $f(Z) = E[W|Z]$

$$\langle x, y \rangle = E(x, y)$$



## Bayes Classifier

$$y(x) = E[Y|X=x] \quad Y \in \{+1, -1\}$$

Theorem let  $S$  be a finite set.  $X$  has (discrete) distribution  $\Pi$  over  $S$ . Then the best possible binary classifier is given by  $g^*(x) = \text{sign}(E(Y|X=x))$

$g^*(x)$  is known as Bayes classifier

Proof: let  $g: S \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  be arbitrary

$$\Pr(Y \neq g(x)) = \sum_{x \in S} \Pr(Y \neq g(x) | X=x) \cdot \Pi(x)$$

$$\Pr(Y=1 | X=x) + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Pr(Y=1 | X=x) = \frac{1+y(x)}{2} \\ \Pr(Y=-1 | X=x) = \frac{1-y(x)}{2} \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \Pr(Y=t | X=x) = \frac{1+ty(x)}{2}, \quad t \in \{\pm 1\}$$

$$\Pr(Y \neq t | X=x) = \frac{1-ty(x)}{2}$$

$$\text{Then } \Pr(Y \neq g(x)) = \sum_{x \in S} \frac{1-ty(x)}{2} \cdot \Pi(x)$$

想尽量 minimize

$$\geq \sum_{x \in S} \frac{|1-y(x)|}{2} \Pi(x)$$

Equality is achieved when  $g(x), y(x) = |y(x)|$  for all  $x \in S$

$$\Leftrightarrow g(x) = \text{sign}(y(x)) \rightarrow \text{Bayes Classifier}$$

Bayes Risk  $L^* = L(g^*) = \sum_{x \in S} \left( \frac{|1-y(x)|}{2} \right) \Pi(x)$

[Example] 5 cards are drawn at random. 2 are reviewed

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1, & 5 \text{ cards contain an Ace} \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the Bayes classifier and its risk.

Remark: The risk of the Bayes classifier is called the Bayes risk:  $L^* = \Pr(Y \neq g^*(x))$

Solution:  $S \in \{1, 0\}^2 \rightarrow \begin{cases} x=1 \text{ if the pair of cards have at least 1 Ace} \\ x=0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$y(x) = E[Y | X=x] = 1 \cdot \Pr(Y=1 | X=x) + (-1) \cdot \Pr(Y=-1 | X=x)$$

$$\Pr(Y=-1 | X=1) = 0$$

$$\Pr(Y=-1 | X=0) = \frac{\binom{46}{3}}{\binom{50}{3}} \approx 0.77$$

$$\Pr(Y=1 | X=1) = 1$$

$$\Pr(Y=1 | X=0) = 1 - \frac{\binom{46}{2}}{\binom{50}{2}}$$

$$y(0) = 1 \cdot (1-0.77) + (-1) \cdot 0.77 = -0.54$$

$$y(1) = 1 \cdot (1-0) + (-1) \cdot 0 = 1$$

$$g^*(x) = \text{sign}(y(x)) = \begin{cases} 1, & x=1 \\ -1, & x=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X=1) &= 1 - P(\text{both cards are not Aces}) = 1 - \frac{48}{52} \cdot \frac{47}{51} = 0.15 \\
 P(X=0) &= 1 - 0.15 = 0.85 \\
 L^* &= \frac{1-L(y=0)}{2} \cdot \Pi(0) + \frac{1-L(y=1)}{2} \cdot \Pi(1) \\
 &= \frac{1-0.54}{2} \cdot 0.85 + \frac{1-1}{2} \cdot 0.15 \\
 &\approx 0.2
 \end{aligned}$$

### Agnostic PAC-learnability

<sup>(CAPACL)</sup>  
A class  $G$  of binary classifiers is agnostic PAC-learnable if  $\exists m(G; \varepsilon, \delta)$  and an algorithm  $A$  such that  $\forall \varepsilon, \delta > 0$ , any distribution  $P$  of  $(X, Y)$ ,  $L(L(\hat{h}_n)) \leq \min_{g \in G} L(g) + \varepsilon$  with prob  $\geq 1 - \delta$  as long as  $n \geq m(G; \varepsilon, \delta)$

Next goal: understand which classes are PAC learnable. We will start with finite classes, and then will study infinite classes.

Key idea: concept of uniform closeness of the true and empirical risks.

Definition The training set  $X = (X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  is called  $\varepsilon$ -representative if  $L(g) = \Pr(Y \neq g(x))$   
 $\forall g \in G, |L(g) - L(g)| \leq \varepsilon$        $L_n(g) = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \#\{1 \leq j \leq n; g(x_j) \neq y_j\}$   
 $| \text{empirical risk} - \text{true risk} | \leq \varepsilon$        $= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\}$

[Lemma] Assume that  $X$  is  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  representative, and let  $\hat{g}_n$  be the minimizer of the empirical risk:

$$\hat{g}_n = \operatorname{argmin}_{g \in G} L_n(g). \text{ Then}$$

$$L(\hat{g}_n) = \Pr(Y \neq \hat{g}_n(x) | X) \leq \min_{g \in G} L(g) + \varepsilon$$

[proof] let  $\bar{g} = \operatorname{argmin}_{g \in G} L(g)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(\hat{g}_n) &= L_n(\hat{g}_n) + L(\hat{g}_n) - L_n(\hat{g}_n) \\
 &\leq L_n(\bar{g}) + \max_{g \in G} |L(g) - L_n(g)| \\
 L_n(\hat{g}_n) &\leq L_n(\bar{g}) \\
 \text{已是 empirical} &\leq L(\bar{g}) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + |L_n(\bar{g}) - L(\bar{g})| \\
 \text{最优解} &\leq L(\bar{g}) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \\
 &\leq L(\bar{g}) + \varepsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

## Bias-Complexity Tradeoff

This concept refers to the following error decomposition:

Let  $\hat{g}$  be the output of a learning algorithm A given the training data  $\mathcal{D} = (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

$$\text{Then } L(\hat{g}) = \Pr(Y \neq \hat{g}(x) | \mathcal{D})$$

$$= L(\hat{g}) - \min_{g \in G} L(g) + \underbrace{\min_{g \in G} L(g)}_{\geq \text{Bayes Risk } L^*}$$

$\geq$  Bayes Risk  $L^*$

If  $|G|$  is large,  $\min_{g \in G} L(g)$  is small. But  $L(\hat{g}) - \min_{g \in G} L(g)$  is large

## Finite Classes are agnostic PAC learnable

Question: What is the smallest sample size sufficient to guarantee that it is  $\epsilon$ -representative with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ?

$$\text{Assume } |G| < \infty, \text{ then } \Pr(\forall g \in G, |L_n(g) - L(g)| \leq \epsilon)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(\exists g \in G, |L_n(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon)$$

why can apply  $\Pr(\exists g \in G, |L_n(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon)$

min bound ②  $= \Pr(\bigcup_{g \in G} \{|L_n(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon\})$

we need to show the measure of  $L_n(g)$  is concentrated

$$\leq \sum_{g \in G} \Pr(|L_n(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon) \quad \text{around its expected value}$$

$$\leq |G| \max_{g \in G} \Pr(|L_n(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon)$$

apply chebyshew's inequality:  $P(|x - E(x)| \geq k) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{k^2}$

$$\text{Fix } g \in G, \Pr\left(\left|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - L(g)\right| > \epsilon\right)$$

$$L(g) = E L_n(g)$$

$$Z_j = I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\}$$

$Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  are i.i.d.  $\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

$$\Pr\left(\left|\frac{1}{n} \sum Z_j - E \mathbb{Z}\right| > \epsilon\right) \leq \frac{\text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum Z_j\right)}{\epsilon^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum Z_j\right) &= \sum \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} Z_j\right) = n \cdot \frac{1}{n^2} \text{Var}(\mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\text{Var}(\mathbb{Z})}{n} \\ &\leq |G| \frac{\text{Var}(\mathbb{Z})}{n \epsilon^2} \rightarrow \text{PL } \mathcal{D} \text{ is not } \epsilon\text{-representative} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{|G| \text{Var}(\mathbb{Z})}{n \epsilon^2} \leq \delta \Rightarrow n \geq \frac{|G| \text{Var}(\mathbb{Z})}{\delta \epsilon^2} \quad \text{! Bad Bound}$$

$$\Pr(Z=1) = \Pr(Y \neq g(x)) = Pg$$

$$\Pr(Z=0) = 1 - Pg \quad \xrightarrow{\text{suppose Bernoulli distribution}}$$

$$\text{Var}(Z) = Pg(1-Pg) \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

$$f(x) = x(1-x)$$

$$\therefore \Pr(\text{not } \epsilon\text{-representative}) \leq |G| \cdot \frac{1}{4n\delta^2}$$

[Exercise]  $|G|=1000$

We want  $\exists \epsilon$ -representative with prob at least 0.9 and  $\delta=0.1$

$$|G| \cdot \frac{1}{4n\delta^2} \leq 0.1 = \delta$$

$$n \geq \frac{|G|}{4\delta\delta^2} = \frac{10^3}{4 \times 10^{-3}} = 250,000 \quad \text{IRK, bad estimation}$$

$\therefore \exists \epsilon$ -representative with prob  $1-\delta$

$\Leftrightarrow \hat{g}_n$  obtained by ERM satisfy  $L(\hat{g}_n) \leq \min_{g \in G} L(g) + 2\delta$  with prob  $1-\delta$

### Hoeffding's Inequality

**Lemma 4.5** (Hoeffding's Inequality). Let  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$  be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables and assume that for all  $i$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\theta_i] = \mu$  and  $\mathbb{P}[a \leq \theta_i \leq b] = 1$ . Then, for any  $\epsilon > 0$

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\left|\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i - \mu\right| > \epsilon\right] \leq 2 \exp\left(-2m\epsilon^2/(b-a)^2\right).$$

apply Hoeffding's inequality to question:

let  $\theta_i$  be the random variable  $\ln(g_i)$ ,  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n$  are i.i.d.

( $\because \ln(g_i)$  遵循样本数据  $x$  是 i.i.d. PD)

$$\ln(g) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i, \quad L(g) = E \ln(g) = \mu$$

$$\therefore \Pr\left(\left|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i - \mu\right| > \epsilon\right) \leq 2e^{-2n\epsilon^2}$$

$$\therefore \Pr(\exists g \in G, |\ln(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon) \leq \sum_{g \in G} 2e^{-2n\epsilon^2} = |G| e^{-2n\epsilon^2}$$

$$\therefore n \geq \frac{\log(\frac{|G|}{\delta})}{2\epsilon^2} \text{ then } \Pr(\exists g \in G, |\ln(g) - L(g)| > \epsilon)$$

$$\text{对于上面 Ex., } n \geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot 100 \cdot \log\left(\frac{2 \cdot 10^3}{0.1}\right) \leq 2000$$

more reasonable estimation

Exercise]  $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\} \times \text{binomial } B(4, \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $Y \in \{+1, -1\}$

$$P(Y=1 | X=x) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{label is random guess})$$

Consider  $g(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \text{ is even} \\ -1, & x \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

$$\text{Interpretation: } L(g) = P(Y \neq g(x)) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y(x) = E[Y | X=x] = 0$$

$$g^*(x) = \text{Sign}(y(x)) = \text{either } +1 \text{ or } -1$$

Now,  $P(Y=1 | X=x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4} & x=0, 1, 2 \\ \frac{1}{4} & x=3, 4 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow P(Y=-1 | X=x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & x=0, 1, 2 \\ \frac{3}{4} & x=3, 4 \end{cases}$$

$$L(g) = P(Y \neq g(x)) = \sum_{x=0}^4 P(Y \neq g(x) | X=x) \cdot P(X=x)$$

$$= \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{1}{4}}_{x=0} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{3}{4}}_{x=1} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{1}{4}}_{x=2} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{9}{16}\right) \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{1}{4}}_{x=3} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{3}{4}}_{x=4}$$

Exercise]  $S = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $G = \{g_r, r > 0\}$

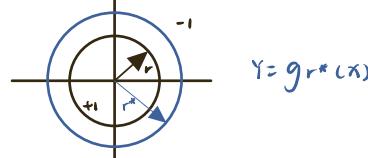
$$g_r(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & \|x\| \leq r \\ -1, & \|x\| > r \end{cases} \quad \text{Assume realizability}$$

Show that  $G$  is PAC-learnable

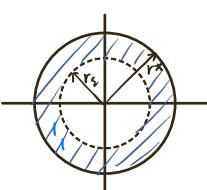
$\rightarrow$  show 2 things: (a) An algorithm  $A \rightarrow \text{ERM}$   
(b)  $\forall \varepsilon, \delta$  s.t.  $\hat{g} = \hat{A}((x_1, Y_1), \dots, (x_n, Y_n))$  satisfies  $\Pr(L(\hat{g}) \geq \varepsilon) \leq \delta$

ERM outputs  $\hat{g}$  that minimizes  $\#\{1 \leq j \leq n : Y_j \neq g(x_j)\}$

$$\therefore L_n(\hat{g}) = 0$$

$$\hat{r} = \min \{r > 0 : \|x_j\| < r \Leftrightarrow Y_j = +1\}$$


Let  $r_s$  be s.t.  $\Pr(r_s \leq \|x\| \leq r_*) = \varepsilon$



(i)  $\Pr(\|x\| \leq r_*) < \varepsilon \Rightarrow$  Circle ( $r=r_*$ ) 面积小于  $\varepsilon \Rightarrow$  有 classifier loss 都小于  $\varepsilon$

(ii)  $\Pr(\|x\| \leq r_*) > \varepsilon$

$\Pr(L(\hat{g}_r) \geq \varepsilon) = \Pr(\hat{r} < r_s) = \Pr(\text{there are no instances with label } +1 \text{ in the ring between circle of radius } r_s \text{ and } r_*)$

$$= \Pr(\|x_j\| > r_* \text{ or } \|x_j\| < r_s \text{ for all } j)$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^n \Pr(\|x_j\| > r_* \text{ or } \|x_j\| < r_s)$$

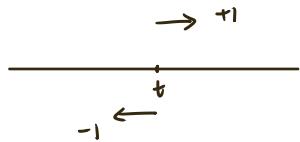
$$= (1-\gamma)^n \leq e^{-\gamma n}$$

( $\because \Pr(\Gamma_{\gamma} \leq \|x\| \leq r^*) = \gamma$ )

To have  $e^{-\gamma n} \geq \delta$ ,  $n \geq \frac{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}{\gamma}$  ( $\Leftrightarrow$  finite class:  $n \geq \frac{\log(\frac{16n}{\delta})}{\gamma}$ )

[Exercise] Let  $S = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $G = \{g_t, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ ,  $g_t(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \geq t \\ -1, & x < t \end{cases}$

Prove that  $G$  is PAC-learnable assume realizability



Vapnik - Chervonenkis

Question: Which classes  $G$  are agnostic PAC learnable?

observation: let  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  be the training data, and  $G$  is the concept class

$$G_c = \{g(x_1), \dots, g(x_n), g \in G\}$$

$$\text{note that } |G_c| \leq 2^n$$

from exercise, we have  $g_r$  (圆弧 classifier)

$$g_r \|x_1\|, \dots, \|x_n\|$$

$$i_1, \dots, i_n \text{ is a permutation such that } \|x_{i_1}\| \leq \|x_{i_2}\| \leq \dots \leq \|x_{i_n}\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \{(g_r(x_{i_1}), \dots, g_r(x_{i_n})), g_r \in G\}$$

$$\text{can tell } Y_{ij} = \begin{cases} +1 & \Rightarrow Y_{ik} = +1 \quad \forall k \leq j \\ -1 & \Rightarrow Y_{ik} = -1 \quad \forall k \geq j \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$  at most  $(n+1)$  vectors

$\rightarrow$  what makes it PAC-learnable

Let  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  is the training data

$G$  is the concept class

$C = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . The set  $G_C = \{g(x_1), \dots, g(x_n)\}, g \in G\}$

$G_C$ : restriction of  $G$  onto  $C$ .

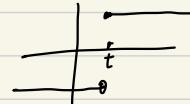
$$|G_C| \leq 2^n$$

If  $|G_C| = 2^n$ , we will say  $G$  shatters  $C$

Remark:  $C$  can be an arbitrary finite set

$$\text{Ex } G = \{g_t, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$g_t(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \geq t \\ -1, & x < t \end{cases}$$



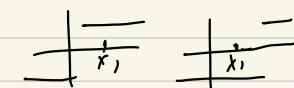
Shift  $t$  to get  $\pm 1$  for  $x$ ,

$$C = \{x_1\}$$

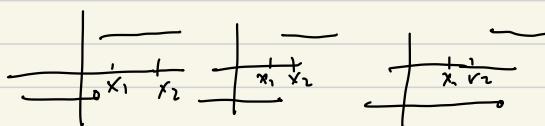
$$G_C = \{g_t(x_1), t \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$= \{+1, -1\}$$

shatters



$$C = \{x_1, x_2\}$$



$$(+1, +1) \quad (-1, +1) \quad (-1, -1)$$

~~(+, -)~~

$$G_C = \{(+1, +1), (-1, -1), (-1, +1)\} \text{ no shatter}$$

Def  $VC(G)$  - the Vapnik-Chervenkin dimension

of  $G$  - is the largest  $d$  such that  $\exists \{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$

that is shattered by  $G$

Remark:  $VC(G) = d \iff \{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$  shattered by  $G$

any set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{d+1}\}$  is not shattered by  $G$ .

Remark: we will prove the "Fundamental theorem of PAC learning"

$G$  is agnostic PAC learnable  $\Leftrightarrow \text{VC}(G) < \infty$

Ex 2  $S$  is infinite  
 $G = \{g_T, T \subseteq S, |T| < \infty\}$

$$g_T(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in T \\ -1, & x \notin T \end{cases}$$

Then  $\text{VC}(G) = \infty$

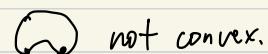
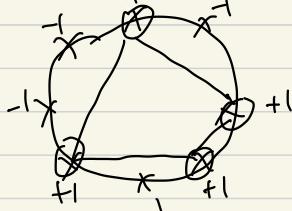
Solution: for any  $d \geq 1$ , we need to find  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\} \subseteq S$   
s.t.  $|G_{x_i}| = 2^d$

Let's take any  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$ ,  $G_c = \{g_T(x_1), \dots, g_T(x_d)\}, T \subseteq S, |T| < \infty\}$   
 $w = \{+1, -1\}^d$ ,  $J = \{j; w_j = +1\}$   
 $\frac{(+1, -1, -1, -1, +1, \dots, +1)}{1 \quad \quad \quad d}$

Take  $T = \{x_j, j \in J\} \Rightarrow (g_T(x_1), \dots, g_T(x_d)) = w$

Ex 3  $G = \{g_A, A \text{ is convex set}\}$

$S = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $g_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in A \\ -1, & x \notin A \end{cases}$



$$\text{VC}(G) = \infty$$

Ex 4  $G$  is finite  $\text{VC}(G) < \infty$

$G_c = \{g(x_1), \dots, g(x_d)\}, g \in G\}$

If  $\text{VC}(G) = d \Rightarrow |G_c| = 2^d$   $|G| \geq 2^d \Rightarrow d \leq \lceil \log_2 |G| \rceil + 1$   
 $\rightarrow$  integer()

Lemma 1: Let  $G$  be a concept class of infinite VC dimension, then  $G$  is not PAC-learnable

Proof:  $G$  is PAC-learnable if  $\forall \epsilon, \delta > 0$ ,

$\exists A$  - an algorithm and  $m = m(\epsilon, \delta)$   $m$  # of training data must form. then if  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  is the training data and  $n \geq m(\epsilon, \delta)$  then  $\Pr(L(\hat{g}) \geq \epsilon) \leq \delta$ ,  $\hat{g} = A((X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n))$

$VC(G) = \infty \Rightarrow \forall n \geq 1, \exists \{X_1, \dots, X_n\} \subseteq S$ , such that  $G$  shatters  $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  for any  $Z \in \{+1, -1\}^n$ ,  $\exists g \in G$  st  $Z = (g(X_1), \dots, g(X_n))$

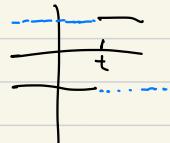
Take  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{8}, \delta = \frac{1}{10}$

Take  $N$  arbitrarily large. Find  $C = \{X_1, \dots, X_N\}$  shattered by  $G$ .  
 By no free lunch theorem for any  $A$ ,  $\max_{g \in G} \Pr_{g \in G}(L(g) \geq \frac{1}{8}) \geq \frac{1}{8}$

Proved by contradiction.

Ex 1:  $G = \{g_t^+, g_t^-, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$

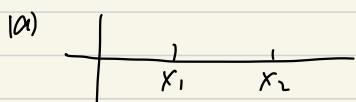
$$S = \mathbb{R}, \quad g_t^+ = \begin{cases} 1 & x > t \\ -1 & x \leq t \end{cases} \quad g_t^- = \begin{cases} 1 & x < t \\ -1 & x \geq t \end{cases}$$



Then  $VC(G) = 2$  (prove this)

(a) Find two points  $\{X_1, X_2\}$  that are shattered.

(b) Show no set of  $\geq 3$  points are shattered.



$$(1, 1) \rightarrow g_t^+, t < x_1$$

$$(1, -1) \rightarrow g_t^-, t \in (x_1, x_2)$$

$$(-1, 1) \rightarrow g_t^+, t \in (x_1, x_2)$$

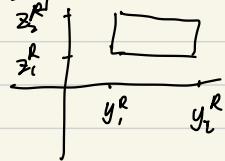
$$(-1, -1) \rightarrow g_t^-, t > x_2$$

(b)  $(-1, 1, -1)$

$(1, -1, 1)$  Nope

Ex 2:  $S = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $G = \{g_R, R \text{ is axis-aligned rectangle}\}$

$$g_R = \begin{cases} 1, & x_1 \in [y_L^R, y_U^R], x_2 \in [z_L^R, z_U^R] \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



(a)

$$\begin{matrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_U \\ \vdots \\ x_R \end{matrix}$$

just need one example

(b) no 5 points are shaded

WLOG, assume that  $x_5$  has the largest coordinate.

$x_1$  has the smallest  $X$  coordinate

$x_2$  has the largest  $y$  coordinate

$x_4$  has the smallest  $y$  coordinate

$x_5$  will be inside the rectangle with -1 which is impossible.



Theorem (R. Dudley) (not in textbook)

Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional space of function  $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Consider

$$C_f = \{f : f(x) > 0\}, f \in L\} \text{ and } \bar{C}_f = \{f : f(x) < 0\}, f \in L\}.$$

$$L = \{I_{C_f} - I_{\bar{C}_f}, f \in F\} \quad \bar{L} = \{I_{\bar{C}_f} - I_{C_f}, f \in F\}$$

$$\text{Then } VC(L) = VC(\bar{L}) = \dim(L)$$

Finite dim:  $L = \{a \cdot x + b, a \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$$a \in \mathbb{R}^d \Rightarrow a = a_1 e_1 + \dots + a_d e_d$$

$$e_j = (0, \dots, 0, \underset{j}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$\langle a, x \rangle + b = a_1 \langle e_1, x \rangle + \dots + a_d \langle e_d, x \rangle + b$$

$$\dim(L) = d+1$$

↓  
constant

Example Polynomials of degree at most  $d$ .

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_d x^d + a_{d+1}$$

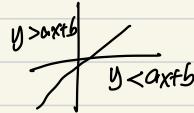
$$\dim(L) = d+1$$

$$y = ax + b$$

$$y - ax - b \geq 0$$

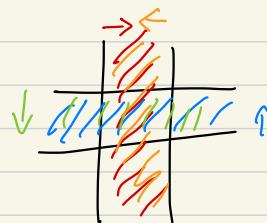
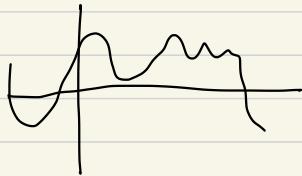


$$\{ (x, y) : y - ax - b \geq 0 \}$$



$$a_0 x^0 + a_1 x^1 + \dots + a_d x^d + a_{d+1} = 0$$

$$\dim = 3 = VC(G) = VC(\overline{G})$$



rectangle formation:  
intersection of

4 half subspaces  
 $\dim \times 4 = 12$  (upper bound?)  
 $\frac{12}{3}$

Proof for (R. Dudley):  $VC(G) \leq \dim(L)$

Let  $\dim(L) = d$ , we need to show no set of  $d+1$  points is shattered by  $G$ .

Take  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{d+1}\}$ . Consider  $T(f) = (f(x_1), \dots, f(x_{d+1}))$

$$T(\alpha f + \beta g) = \alpha T(f) + \beta T(g)$$

Note that  $\dim(\text{Image}(T)) \leq d$  because  $\dim(L) = d$  and linear maps don't increase dimension.

$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  such that  $w \perp \text{Image}(T)$

and  $w \neq 0$ , hence, if  $w = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{d+1})$

$\Rightarrow \exists j$  st  $w_j < 0$  (if  $w_j > 0$ , take  $-w$  instead)

$$A_- = \{1 \leq j \leq n : w_j < 0\} \quad A_+ = \{1 \leq j \leq n : w_j \geq 0\}$$

Assume that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{d+1}\}$  is shattered by  $G$

Since every  $g \in G$  is  $\text{sign}(f)$  for some  $f \in F$ .

$\exists f \in F$  st  $f(x_j) > 0$ ,  $j \in A_-$ ,  $f(x_j) < 0$ ,  $j \in A_+$



On one hand, since  $w \perp \text{Im}(T)$

$$\sum_{j=1}^d w_j f(x_j) = 0$$

On the other hand,  $\sum_{j=1}^{d+1} w_j f(x_j) = \underbrace{\sum_{j \in A_-} w_j f(x_j)}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{\sum_{j \in A_+} w_j f(x_j)}_{\leq 0} < 0$

Contradiction  $\Rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_{d+1}\}$  cannot be shattered by  $G$ .

Example:  $B_d(x, r) = \{g \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|y - x\|_2 \leq r\}$

$G = \{g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{1, -1\}\}$ , where  
 $g = g_{x, r}$ , and  $g_{x, r}(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & g \in B_d(x, r) \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$



ball

Then  $VC(G) \leq d+2$

Express definition of a ball as  $f(g) \geq 0$  for  $f \in L$ , where  $\dim(L) = d+2$

$$\text{norm} = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^d (y_j - x_j)^2} \leq r \Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^d (y_j - x_j)^2 \leq r^2 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^d (y_j^2 - 2x_j y_j + x_j^2) \leq r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -\left(\sum_{j=1}^d y_j^2 - 2 \sum_{j=1}^d x_j y_j + \sum_{j=1}^d x_j^2 - r^2\right) \geq 0$$

$\underbrace{f(y_1, \dots, y_d)}$

$$f_1(y_1, \dots, y_d) = \sum_{j=1}^d y_j^2 \quad f_2(y_1, \dots, y_d) = y_1, \quad \dots \quad f_{d+1}(y_1, \dots, y_d) = y_d$$

$$f_{d+2}(y_1, \dots, y_d) = 1$$

$$f(y_1, \dots, y_d) = -1 \cdot f_1 + 2x_1 f_2 + 2x_2 f_3 + \dots + 2x_d f_{d+1} + (\sum_{j=1}^d x_j^2 - r^2) f_{d+2}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(y_1, \dots, y_d) \in L \text{ and } \dim(L) = d+2$$

$C = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ ,  $G$  - concept class,  $G_C = \{g(y_1), \dots, g(y_k)\} : g \in G\}$

Assume  $VC(G) = d$ . Then  $\exists \{x_1, \dots, x_d\} = C_d$  st  $|G_{C_d}| = 2^d$

What if  $k > d$ ? What can we say about  $|G_C|$ ? (beyond the fact that  $|G_C| \leq 2^k$ )

Def (The growth function)

$$T_G(k) = \max |G_C| \quad C = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$$

Lemma (Shelah-Sauer-Parkes - Vapnik-Chervonenkis)

Let  $G$  be such that  $VC(G) = d$ .

$$\text{Then } T_G(k) \leq \sum_{j=0}^d \binom{k}{j} \quad \binom{k}{j} = \frac{k!}{j!(k-j)!}$$

$$\text{If } k \leq d, \quad T_G(k) \leq \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} = 2^k$$

$$\text{For } k > d, \quad \sum_{j=0}^d \binom{k}{j} \leq \left(\frac{e^k}{d}\right)^d$$

Proof:  $\binom{k}{j} = \frac{k!}{j!(k-j)!} = \frac{k(k-1)\dots(k-j+1)}{d(d-1)\dots(d-j+1) \cdot \frac{d^j}{j!}} < \left(\frac{k}{d}\right)^j \frac{d^j}{j!}$

$$< \frac{k}{d} \leq \left(\frac{k}{d}\right)^d \frac{d^d}{d!}$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^d \binom{k}{j} \leq \sum_{j=0}^d \left(\frac{k}{d}\right)^d \frac{d^d}{j!} = \underbrace{\left(\frac{k}{d}\right)^d \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{ds^j}{j!}}_{e^d} = \left(\frac{ek}{d}\right)^d$$

$$\text{Exercise: } \sum_{j=0}^d \binom{k}{j} \geq \left(\frac{k}{d}\right)^d$$

## Recap

$G_i$  - class of binary classifiers

$$T_a(m) = \max_{C=\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subseteq S} |G_C|$$

Lemma If  $VC(G_i) = d < \infty$ , then  $T_a(m) \leq \left(\frac{m^d}{d}\right)^d$  for all  $m > d$

Example: Let  $G_1, G_2$  be two classes of binary classifiers,

$$VC(G_1) = d_1 < \infty, \quad VC(G_2) = d_2 < \infty$$

$$\text{Let } C_{G_i} = \{g(x) : g(x) = +1 \text{ if } g \in G_i\}$$

$$C_{G_1} \cap C_{G_2} = \{g_1 \cap g_2 : g_1 \in C_{G_1}, g_2 \in C_{G_2}\}$$

Let  $G$  be the set of all classifiers

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in C \text{ for } C \in C_{G_1} \cap C_{G_2} \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

↓  
↓  
intersection

Proof:  $VC(G) < \infty$

idea: If we can show that  $\tau_G(m) = O(m^v)$  for some  $v < \infty$ ,  
then  $VC(G) < \infty$

Fix some  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} = M$

Consider the set  $|M \cap \{x : g(x) = +1\}, g \in G_1\}| \leq \tau_{G_1}(m)$

illustrate:

$$g_t(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \in t \\ -1, & x \notin t \end{cases} \quad M = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$$

$$\xrightarrow{x_1, x_2, x_3} M \cap \{x : g_t(x) = +1\}, g_t \in G_1 = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3), (x_2, x_3)x_3, \emptyset\}$$

$$G_m = \{(+1, +1, +1), (-1, +1, +1), (-1, -1, +1), (-1, -1, -1)\}$$

$$M \cap \{x : g_1(x) = +1\}, g_1 \in G_1 = M_{G_1}$$

$$M \cap \{x : g_2(x) = +1\}, g_2 \in G_2 = M_{G_2}$$

$$G_1 \in M_{G_1}, \quad \therefore \quad |G_1 \cap M_{G_2}| \leq |M_{G_2}| = \tau_{G_2}(m)$$

$$\therefore \quad \Rightarrow |M_{G_1} \cap M_{G_2}| \leq |M_{G_1}| \cdot |M_{G_2}| \leq \tau_{G_1}(m) \cdot \tau_{G_2}(m)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_G(m) &\leq \tau_{G_1}(m) \cdot \tau_{G_2}(m) \\ &\leq \left(\frac{me}{d_1}\right)^{d_1} \cdot \left(\frac{me}{d_2}\right)^{d_2} = O(m^{d_1+d_2}) \\ &\Rightarrow VC(G) < \infty \end{aligned}$$

OK

Example:  $G_1 = \{g_t^+, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$        $\begin{matrix} + \\ - \end{matrix}$        $VC(G_1) = 1$

$$G_2 = \{g_t^-, t \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad \underline{\begin{matrix} + \\ - \end{matrix}} \quad VC(G_2) = 1$$

$$G = \{g_{[a,b]}, a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$g_{[a,b]}(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \in [a, b] \\ -1, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\tau_G(m) \leq \tau_{G_1}(m) \tau_{G_2}(m)$$

$$\tau_{G_1}(m) = m+1, \quad \tau_{G_2}(m) = m+1$$

$$\tau_G(m) = \binom{m+1}{2} \leq (m+1)^2$$

$$\begin{matrix} & & & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & & & -1 & +1 & +1 \\ & & & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ & & & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ & & & +1 & +1 & -1 \\ & & & +1 & -1 & -1 \end{matrix}$$

$(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  is  $\varepsilon$ -representative if

$$\max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} - L(g) \right| \leq \varepsilon$$

$\Pr(Y \neq g(x))$

Theorem: Let  $G$  be a concept class (a class of binary classifiers), and let  $T_G(n)$  be its growth function.

Then  $\max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - L(g) \right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2 \log(2 T_G(n))}{n}}$

with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .

It's sufficient to prove that  $\mathbb{E}_{g \in G} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - L(g) \right] \leq \frac{\sqrt{2 \log(2 T_G(n))}}{\sqrt{n}}$

It's because

$$\Pr(Z > t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}Z}{t} \quad \text{- Markov's inequality.}$$

$$\Pr(Z > \frac{\mathbb{E}Z}{\delta}) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}Z}{\mathbb{E}Z/\delta} = \delta$$

For (agnostic) PAC-learnability, we need

(a) An algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$

(b)  $n(\varepsilon, \delta)$

s.t. given  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  with  $n \geq n(\varepsilon, \delta)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $g_n$  s.t.

$$\Pr(L(g_n) > \varepsilon) \leq \delta$$

In our case, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is ERM, we know that  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ -representative sample yields a classifier  $L(g_n) \leq \varepsilon$

Doing some algebra, we get  $n \geq K \frac{V}{\delta^2 \varepsilon^2} \log(\frac{V}{\delta^2 \varepsilon^2})$ ,  $K = \text{constant}$

Symmetrization inequality:

Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  be random signs.  
ie iid random variables st  $\Pr(\sigma=1) = \frac{1}{2} = \Pr(\sigma=-1)$

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} - L(g) \right| \leq 2 \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} \right|$$

↓  
inner product  $\langle (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n), (I\{Y_1 \neq g(X_1)\}, \dots, I\{Y_n \neq g(X_n)\}) \rangle$   
like random noise

Theorem  $G$  - a class of binary classifiers

$$\max_{g \in G} |L_n(g) - L(g)| \leq \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\log(2 T_0(n))}{n}}$$

with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$  over the choice of the sample  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$

In other words, if  $\rightarrow$  sample size  $n$  as a function of  $\epsilon, \delta$

$$n(\epsilon, \delta) \geq \frac{100}{\delta^2 \epsilon^2} \log\left(\frac{V}{\delta^2 \epsilon}\right)$$

$\Rightarrow \hat{g}_n$  produced by ERM when given a sample of size  $n(\epsilon, \delta)$  satisfies  
 $\Pr(L(\hat{g}_n) > \min_{g \in G} L(g) + \epsilon) \leq \delta$   $\rightarrow$  defn of PAC-learnability

1 shuffle to show that

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} |L_n(g) - L(g)| \leq \frac{4}{\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{\log(2 T_0(n))}$$

Symmetrization inequality:

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} - L(g) \right| \leq 2 \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} \right|$$

$\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  iid random signs independent from  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$ , i.e.  $\Pr(\sigma_i=1) = \Pr(\sigma_i=-1) = \frac{1}{2}$

Note that  $\mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_j \sigma_j I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} \right|$

$$\mathbb{E}_{(x_j, y_j)_{j=1}^n} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \sigma_i I \{ Y_i \neq g(x_i) \} \right|$$

t =  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$   
 $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n} \max_{t \in T} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \sigma_i t_i I \{ Y_i \neq g(x_i) \} \right|$

$t_j \in \{0, 1\}$   
 focus on this.

Remark:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \left\{ f \left( I \{ Y_i \neq g(x_i) \}, \dots, I \{ Y_n \neq g(x_n) \} \right), g \in G \right\} \right| \\
 &= \left| G_C \right|, \quad C = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \\
 &\quad \Downarrow \\
 &\quad \{(g(x_1), \dots, g(x_n)), g \in G\} \\
 &\quad \begin{matrix} -1 & 1 \end{matrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

The number of such vectors is at most  $T_G(n)$ !

Lemma: Let  $t^{(1)}, \dots, t^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Then  $\mathbb{E} \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \sigma_i t_i^{(i)} \right| \leq \max_{j=k+1} \frac{\|t^{(j)}\|_2}{\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{\frac{\log(2k)}{n}}$

Exercise  $\mathbb{E} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_j \sigma_j t_j \right| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{\|t\|_2}{\sqrt{n}}$

Proof: Let  $f(\lambda) = \mathbb{E} e^{\lambda \sigma_i} \leq e^{\frac{\lambda^2}{2}}$

Indeed,  $\mathbb{E} e^{\lambda \sigma_i} = e^{\lambda \cdot \frac{1}{2}} + e^{\lambda \cdot (-1)} \frac{1}{2}$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} (e^\lambda + e^{-\lambda}) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cancel{\frac{\lambda^2}{2}} + \dots + \cancel{\frac{\lambda^k}{k!}} + \dots - \cancel{\frac{\lambda^2}{2}} + \dots - (-1)^k \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} + \dots)$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\lambda^k}{(2k)!} = 1 + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} + \frac{\lambda^4}{4!} + \dots$

$$\lambda^{2k} = (\lambda^2)^k \quad (2k)! = \underbrace{1 \cdot 2 \cdots k}_{k!} \underbrace{2 \cdot 4 \cdots (2k)}_{2^k} \underbrace{(k+1)(k+2) \cdots (2k)}_{2^k} \geq 2^k \cdot k!$$

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\lambda^{2k}}{(2k)!} \leq \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{(\lambda^2)^k}{k! 2^k} = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{(\frac{\lambda^2}{2})^k}{k!} = e^{\frac{\lambda^2}{2}}$$

for  $k \geq 1$

MGF (Moment Generating Function) of  $\sum \sigma_j t_j$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} e^{\lambda \sum \sigma_j t_j} &= \mathbb{E}(e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sigma_1 t_1} \cdots e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sigma_n t_n}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sigma_1 t_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{E} e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sigma_n t_n} \\ &\leq e^{\frac{\lambda^2 \sigma_1^2}{2n}} \cdots e^{\frac{\lambda^2 \sigma_n^2}{2n}} = e^{\frac{\lambda^2}{2n} \cdot \frac{\|t\|^2}{n}} = e^{\frac{\lambda^2 \|t\|^2}{2n}} \end{aligned}$$

Next,  $x \mapsto e^{\lambda x}$  is convex, i.e.  $e^{\lambda \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum \alpha_j x_j \right)} \leq e^{\lambda x_1} + \cdots + e^{\lambda x_n}$

$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \geq 0$  In other words,  $\lambda \mathbb{E} Z \leq \mathbb{E} e^{\lambda Z}$   $\Pr(X=x_j) = \alpha_j$   
 $\sum \alpha_j = 1$  Jensen's inequality

$$Z = \max_{j=1 \dots k} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_i^n \sigma_i t_i^{(j)} \right| \quad (|a| = \max(a, -a))$$

$$e^{\lambda \mathbb{E} Z} \leq \mathbb{E} e^{\lambda Z} = \mathbb{E} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \underbrace{\left( e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sum_i^n \sigma_i t_i^{(j)}} \right)}_0, \underbrace{\left( e^{-\frac{\lambda}{n} \sum_i^n \sigma_i t_i^{(j)}} \right)}_0$$

2 random variables

$$\mathbb{E} \sum_{j=1}^k \left( e^{\frac{\lambda}{n} \sum_i^n \sigma_i t_i^{(j)}} + e^{-\frac{\lambda}{n} \sum_i^n \sigma_i t_i^{(j)}} \right) \leq 2 \sum_{j=1}^k \exp \left( \frac{\lambda^2}{n^2} \frac{\|t^{(j)}\|_2^2}{2} \right)$$

$$\leq k \exp \left( \frac{\lambda^2}{n^2} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \frac{\|t^{(j)}\|_2^2}{2} \right)$$

$$e^{\lambda \mathbb{E} Z} \leq 2k e^{\frac{\lambda^2}{n^2} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \|t^{(j)}\|_2^2}$$

$$\text{Take } \log: \lambda \mathbb{E} Z \leq \frac{\log(2k)}{\lambda} + \frac{\lambda}{2n^2} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \|t^{(j)}\|_2^2$$

$$h(\lambda) = \frac{\log(2k)}{\lambda} + \frac{\lambda}{2n^2} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \|t^{(j)}\|_2^2$$

Time for any  $\lambda > 0$

$$h'(\lambda) = 0 \iff \lambda_* = \frac{\log(2k)}{\frac{1}{n^2} \max_{j=1 \dots k} \|t^{(j)}\|_2^2}$$

$$h(\lambda_x) \geq \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\log(2k)}{n}} \max_{j=1 \dots n} \frac{\|t^{(j)}\|_2}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\} \right| \leq \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\log(2T_0(n))}{n}} + 1$$

$t^{(j)} = (I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\}, \dots, I\{Y_n \neq g(x_n)\})$   
 $\|t^{(j)}\|_2 = \sqrt{n}$

Symmetrization inequality

Let  $G$  be a class of binary classifiers, and  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  are iid Random signs, i.e.,  $\Pr(\sigma_i = 1) = \Pr(\sigma_i = -1) = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} |L_n(g) - L(g)| &= \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - \Pr(Y \neq g(x)) \right| \\ &\leq 2 \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} \right| \end{aligned}$$

Proof: Let  $(X'_1, Y'_1), \dots, (X'_n, Y'_n)$  - an independent copy of  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$

$$\text{Note that } L(g) = \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x'_j)\} \right)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} |L_n(g) - L(g)| = \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x'_j)\} \right| - \mathbb{E} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y'_j \neq g(x'_j)\} \right|$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - I\{Y'_j \neq g(x'_j)\} \right|$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbb{E} Z| &\leq \mathbb{E}|Z| \\ |\sum a_i| &\leq \sum |a_i| \end{aligned}$$

$$\max_i \mathbb{E} Z_i \leq \mathbb{E} \max_i Z_i$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\} - I\{Y'_j \neq g(x'_j)\} \right|$$

Note that we can "switch"  $(X_j, Y_j)$  with  $(X'_j, Y'_j)$  for any  $j$  without changing the expectation.

Equivalently, for any fixed  $g_1, \dots, g_n \in \{-1, 1\}^n$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n g_j (I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\}) - I\{Y'_j \neq g(X'_j)\} \right| = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{(q_1, q_n) \in \prod_{j=1}^n \{0, 1\}} \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n g_j (I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\}) - I\{Y'_j \neq g(X'_j)\} \right| \\
&= \mathbb{E}_{G_1, \dots, G_n} \left[ \max_{g \in G} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n g_j (I\{Y_j \neq g(X_j)\}) - I\{Y'_j \neq g(X'_j)\} \right| \right] \\
|a - b| &\leq |a| + |b| \quad \leq 2 \mathbb{E}_{G_1, \dots, G_n} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}_j [I\{Y'_j \neq g(X'_j)\}] \right]
\end{aligned}$$

END

## The Fundamental Theorem of PAC Learning.

Let  $G$  be a class of binary classifiers. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $G$  is agnostic PAC learnable via the ERM algorithm.
- (b)  $G$  is PAC learnable via the ERM algorithm.
- (c)  $G$  has the "uniform convergence" property:  $\forall \epsilon, \delta > 0, \exists n(\epsilon, \delta)$  s.t.  $\Pr \geq n(\epsilon, \delta)$
- $\max_{g \in G} |L(g) - L(g)| \leq \epsilon$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .
- (d)  $G$  has finite VC dimension.

Proof: (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)

Moreover, we have shown that  $n(\epsilon, \delta) \leq \text{constant} \frac{VC(G)}{\delta^2 \epsilon^2} \log \left( \frac{eVC(G)}{\delta^2 \epsilon^2} \right)$

$$(c) \Rightarrow (a) \quad (a) \Rightarrow (b) \quad (b) \Rightarrow (d)$$

Remark

$$C \frac{\sqrt{V + \log(\frac{1}{\delta})}}{\epsilon^2} \leq n(\epsilon, \delta) \leq C_2 \frac{\sqrt{V + \log(\frac{1}{\delta})}}{\epsilon^2}$$

End of theory.

# Practical stuff

Learning beyond binary classification.

- What if there are 3 or more classes that the objects of interest should be classified into?
- What if the "label"  $Y$  takes values in  $\mathbb{R}$ ?
- Our theory remains valid modulo minor changes.

"One vs All"      Cat vs Dog or Rabbit

yes	no
cat	dog or rabbit

"1 vs 1": if we have  $k$  possible labels,  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ , consider  $\binom{k}{2}$  binary classification problems  
"X is in class  $i$  or X is in class  $j$ ". Pick the label that gets most "+1" votes.

- We will talk about general "prediction" problems:  
predict the "response"  $Y$  based on the "predictor"  $X$ . Prediction is performed via some function  $g \in G$ .

Example Multi-label classification

$X$  is a test paper,  $Y \subseteq \{A, B, C, D, F\}$

Example general regression problem

$X = \text{hours spent on social media / week}$ ,  $Y = \text{GPA } \in [1, 4]$

- Need to generalize from the notion of the loss function, denoted  $\ell(y, g(x))$

e.g. in binary classification,  $\ell(y, g(x)) = I\{y \neq g(x)\}$

In multi-label classification, it can be  $\ell(y, g(x)) = I\{y \neq g(x)\}$

We can also choose

$$\ell(y, g(x)) = \begin{cases} 0, & y = g(x) \\ 1, & y \neq g(x) \text{ and } y \neq 0 \\ 100, & y \neq g(x) \text{ and } y = 1 \end{cases}$$

- The goal remaining as before; minimize  $E\{L(Y, g(x)) \text{ over } g \in G\}$

- Example Regression problem:  $Y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$L(Y, g(x)) = (y - g(x))^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{why squared (MLE)}$$

$$G = \{w, x + b, w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

- Ex Assume that  $X \in \mathbb{R}$ , assume that  $Y_j = \alpha x_j + \beta + \varepsilon_j$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varepsilon_j$  is (a)  $N(0, \sigma^2)$

(b) Laplace distribution with density  $p(x) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-|x|}$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n$  are independent. Show that the MLE of  $\alpha, \beta$  minimizes

$$(a) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (Y_j - \alpha x_j - b)^2 \text{ over } a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(b) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n |Y_j - \alpha x_j - b|$$

Question of practical importance:

can we implement ERM methods that have strong theoretical guarantees?

Example  $S = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $T = \{-1, 1\}$ ,  $(x, y) \in S \times T$

$$G = \{g_t^+, g_t^-\}, \quad g_t^+(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & x \geq t \\ -1, & x < t \end{cases}, \quad g_t^-(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x \geq t \\ +1, & x < t \end{cases}$$

(a) Realizable scenario

$g_n$  minimizes  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j \neq g(x_j)\}$  over  $g \in G$

to  $\frac{t_1}{x_1}, \frac{t_2}{x_2}, \frac{t_3}{x_3}, \dots, \frac{t_n}{x_n} \rightarrow x_{(1)} \text{ is the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ smallest among } x_1, \dots, x_n$

$O(n \log n)$  to sort.  $O(n \log n)$  to find  $t_*$

Compare  $L(g_{t_0}^+), \dots, L(g_{t_n}^+)$

$L(g_{t_0}^-), \dots, L(g_{t_n}^-)$

In agnostic learning framework, we only need to compare the empirical risks of at least  $2^{n+4}$  classifiers.

What about linear separators in dimension 2?

$$\begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ -1 \quad 1 \end{array}$$

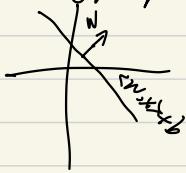
Specifically, let  $S = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $T = \{1, -1\}$

$$G = \{g_L\}, L \rightarrow \text{a half-plane} \quad g_L(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in L \\ -1, & x \notin L \end{cases}$$

Let's take a look at the more general problem:

$$S = \mathbb{R}^d, T = \{1, -1\}$$

The hyperplane is a set of points  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \langle w, x \rangle + b = 0\}$   
 $w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$



The half-spaces are given by  
 $L = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 0\}$

$$\tilde{x} = (x, 1), \tilde{w} = (w, b), \langle w, x \rangle + b = \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle$$

Realizability: there exist  $w_*$  s.t.  $y_j = \text{sign}(\langle w_*, x_j \rangle)$

$$\Rightarrow y_j \langle w_*, x_j \rangle > 0$$

$$\text{Let } \gamma = \min_{j=1,\dots,n} y_j \langle w_*, x_j \rangle \Rightarrow y_j \frac{\langle w_*, x_j \rangle}{\gamma} \geq 1 \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\text{Denote } \tilde{w} = \frac{w_*}{\gamma} \Rightarrow y_j \langle \tilde{w}, x_j \rangle \geq 1 \quad \text{for all } j.$$

Can we find such  $\tilde{w}$ ?

### Perceptron Algorithm (Frank Rosenblatt)

Given  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , let  $w_0 = \underbrace{(0, \dots, 0)}_d$

for  $t = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\text{if } \exists 1 \leq j \leq n \quad y_j \langle w^{(t)}, x_j \rangle \leq 0$$

$$\text{then } w^{(t+1)} = w^{(t)} + y_j x_j \quad \text{else return } w^{(t)}$$

Perception or + the / present = general off object method  
 $\sum_j w_j x_j > 0 \Leftrightarrow y_j = +1$   
 $\Leftrightarrow y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle > 0, 1 \leq j \leq n$   
 $y_j = \min_j y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle \Rightarrow \min_j y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle = 1$

Goal: find a vector  $w$  s.t.  $y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle \geq 1$  for all  $j$

Perception Algorithm (Frank Rosenblatt)

Given  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , let  $w_0 = \underbrace{(0, \dots, 0)}_d$

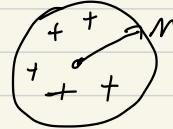
for  $t=1, 2, \dots$

if  $\exists 1 \leq j \leq n \quad y_j \langle w^{(t)}, x_j \rangle \leq 0$

then  $w^{(t+1)} = w^{(t)} + y_j x_j$  else return  $w^{(t)}$

Th Assume that  $\max_j \|x_j\| \leq M$

Then the perception algorithm stops after at most  $(\frac{M}{\gamma})^2$  iterations



Pf: Let  $\tilde{w} = \frac{w_t}{\gamma}$  be s.t.  $y_j \langle \tilde{w}, x_j \rangle \geq 1$

$$\text{Consider } \langle w_{t+1}, \tilde{w} \rangle = \langle w_t + y_j x_j, \tilde{w} \rangle = \langle w_t, \tilde{w} \rangle + y_j \underbrace{\langle x_j, \tilde{w} \rangle}_{\geq 1} \geq \langle w_t, \tilde{w} \rangle + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle w_{t+1}, \tilde{w} \rangle \geq t+1$$

$$\text{At the same time, } \|w_{t+1}\|^2 = \|w_t + y_j x_j\|^2 = \langle w_t + y_j x_j, w_t + y_j x_j \rangle$$

$$= \|w_t\|^2 + \|x_j\|^2 + 2 y_j \underbrace{\langle w_t, x_j \rangle}_{\leq 0} \leq \|w_t\|^2 + M^2 \leq (t+1) M^2$$

$$\text{Combine 2 inequalities, } (t+1) \leq \langle w_{t+1}, \tilde{w} \rangle \leq \|w_{t+1}\| \cdot \|\tilde{w}\| \leq M \sqrt{t+1} \cdot \frac{1}{\gamma}$$

$$\Rightarrow t+1 \leq \frac{M}{\gamma} \sqrt{t+1} \Rightarrow t+1 \leq \left(\frac{M}{\gamma}\right)^2$$

Perception as the pseudo-gradient descent method.

Question: find  $w$  s.t.  $y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle > 0 \forall j$

know:  $\exists \tilde{w}$  s.t.  $y_j \langle \tilde{w}, x_j \rangle \geq 1 \forall j$

We can "find"  $\tilde{w}$  by minimizing  $F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x - \tilde{w}\|_2^2$   $\nabla F(x) = x - \tilde{w}$

To minimize any differentiable function  $F$ , we can use the gradient descent method:

let  $x_0 = 0$ , for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ ,  $x_{t+1} = x_t - h \nabla F(x_t)$   $\nabla F(x_1, \dots, x_T) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial x_d} \end{pmatrix}$

Pseudo-gradient descent: instead of using  $\nabla F(x_t)$ , assume that we can find  $v_t$  such that  $\langle \nabla F(x_t), v_t \rangle \geq \gamma > 0$ . Then define  $x_{t+1} = x_t - h \cdot v_t$

$v_t = -y_j x_j$ , where  $y_j \langle w, x_j \rangle < 0$  for the perception.

Convergence of GD

Assume that  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\|\nabla F(x) - \nabla F(y)\| \leq L \|x - y\|. \quad \text{E.g. if } F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x - \tilde{w}\|^2, \text{ then } \nabla F(x) - \nabla F(0) = x - \tilde{w} \Rightarrow L = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \nabla F(w_t), -h y_j x_j \rangle = \underbrace{-h y_j \langle w_t, x_j \rangle}_{\geq 0} \geq h$$

Taylor's expansion:

$$F(x+z) = F(x) + \langle \nabla F(\tilde{x}), z \rangle, \text{ where } \tilde{x} \text{ is a point on an interval connecting } x \text{ and } x+z$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow F(x+z) - F(x) &= \langle \nabla F(x), z \rangle + \langle \nabla F(\tilde{x}) - \nabla F(x), z \rangle \\ \text{Let } x_{t+1} = x_t - h \nabla F(x_t) &\quad F(x_{t+1}) - F(x_t) = \langle \nabla F(x_t), -h \nabla F(x_t) \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla F(\tilde{x}) - \nabla F(x_t), -h \nabla F(x_t) \rangle \\ &= -h \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2 + \|\nabla F(\tilde{x}) - \nabla F(x_t)\| \cdot h \|\nabla F(x_t)\| \\ &\leq -h \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2 + L \|x_t - \tilde{x}\| \cdot h \|\nabla F(x_t)\| \\ &\leq -h \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2 + L \|x_{t+1} - x_t\| \cdot h \|\nabla F(x_t)\| \\ &\leq -h \|\nabla F(x_t)\| + L h^2 \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } h \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2L}\right], \text{ then RHS} \leq -\frac{h}{2} \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2$$

$$\sum_{t=0}^T F(x_{t+1}) - F(x_t) = F(x_{t+1}) - F(x_0) \leq -\frac{h}{2} \sum_{t=0}^T \|\nabla F(x_t)\|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla F(x_t) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow x_t \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} x_* \text{ s.t. } \nabla F(x_*) = 0$$

$$w_{t+1} = w_t + h y_j x_j$$

One the one hand,

$$\begin{aligned} F(w_{t+1}) &= F(w_t) + \langle \nabla F(w_t), w_{t+1} - w_t \rangle + \langle \nabla F(\tilde{w}) - \nabla F(w_t), w_{t+1} - w_t \rangle \\ \tilde{w} &\in [w_t, w_{t+1}] \\ \Rightarrow F(w_{t+1}) - F(w_t) &\leq h \langle \nabla F(w_t), y_j x_j \rangle \\ &\leq h \|y_j x_j\|_2^2 \\ &= -h + h^2 \|x_j\|_2^2 \leq -h + h^2 M^2 \end{aligned}$$

Take the sum for  $t=0, \dots, T$

$$\begin{aligned} F(w_{T+1}) - F(w_0) &= F(w_T) - F(w_{T-1}) + \dots \\ &= F(w_{T+1}) - F(w_0) \leq -hT + Th^2 M^2 \end{aligned}$$

Since the number of steps of perceptron doesn't depend on  $h$

We have that

$$\frac{1}{2} \|w_{T+1} - w_0\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \|w_0\|^2 \leq -hT + Th^2 M^2$$

we know that  $\|w_0\| \leq \frac{1}{\gamma}$

$$\cancel{h} T \leq Th^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|w_0\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|w_{T+1} - w_0\|^2$$

$$\leq Th^2 + \frac{1}{2h} \|w_0\|^2 \quad \forall h > 0$$

$$\text{Optimize over } h \Rightarrow \sqrt{T} \leq (\sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) \sqrt{T} \|w_0\| \cdot M^2$$

$$T \leq (\sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) \|w_0\|^2 \cdot M^2 = (\sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) \left(\frac{M}{\gamma}\right)^2$$

## Logistic Regression (an example of a "generalized linear model")

It is an example of a discriminative model: namely, it specifies the form of  $P(Y|X=x)$

Here, we will assume that  $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $Y \in \{0, 1\}$

Assume that  $\Pr(Y=1|X=x) = p(x)$  - function of  $x$

Remark: if  $p(x) > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow$  the best guess is  $Y=1$ , otherwise  $Y=0$ .

Note that  $(X_1, Y_1)$  is the observed data, then  $\mathcal{L}(p(x)) = p(x)^{Y_1} (1-p(x))^{1-Y_1}$

If the training data is  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$

then  $\mathcal{L}(p(x)) = \prod_{j=1}^n p(X_j)^{Y_j} (1-p(X_j))^{1-Y_j}$

$$p(x)^Y = e^{Y \log p(x)} \quad \Downarrow \quad e^{\sum_{j=1}^n Y_j \log p(x_j)} + \sum_{j=1}^n (1-Y_j) \log (1-p(x_j))$$

$$\log \mathcal{L}(p(x)) = \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^n Y_j \log \frac{p(x_j)}{1-p(x_j)}}_{\text{"log odds ratio"}} + \sum_{j=1}^n \log (1-p(x_j))$$

$$\text{Main assumption: } \log \frac{p(x)}{1-p(x)} = \langle w, x \rangle + b = \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle \quad \tilde{x} = (x, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \quad \tilde{w} = (w, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log \mathcal{L} &= \sum_{j=1}^n Y_j \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle + \sum_{j=1}^n \log (1-p(x_j)) \\ \frac{p(x)}{1-p(x)} &= e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle} = p(\tilde{x}) = \frac{e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle}}{1+e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle}} \\ &\Rightarrow p(\tilde{x}) = \frac{1}{1+e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x} \rangle}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, maximizing  $\log \mathcal{L}(p)$  is equivalent to maximizing

$$\sum_{j=1}^n Y_j \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle - \sum_{j=1}^n \log (1+e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n \log (1+e^{\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle}) = \sum_{j=1}^n Y_j \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle \Rightarrow \text{convex}$$

minimize over  $\tilde{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \Rightarrow$  it has a unique minimizer  $\hat{w}$

Remark: a sufficient condition for  $F$  to be convex is that the eigenvalues of the Hessian have to be nonnegative

Let  $\hat{w}$  be the optimal solution  $\Rightarrow \hat{p}(x) = \frac{e^{<\hat{w}, x>}}{1 + e^{<\hat{w}, x>}}$

$$\hat{p}(x) \geq \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow e^{<\hat{w}, x>} \geq 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow <\hat{w}, x> \geq 0$$

### Boosting

$$G = \{g : S \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}\}$$

Example will be on BB

(Q: What if we look at classifiers of the form  
 $\text{sign}(\alpha g_1 + (1-\alpha) g_2)$ ,  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ ?  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ )

Recall that our goal is to find some  $g$  (a binary classifier) s.t.

$\Pr(Y \neq g(x))$  is small

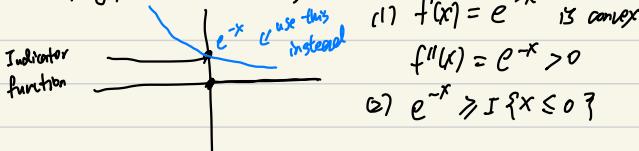
Note that  $\Pr(Y \neq g(x)) = \Pr(Y g(x) < 0) = \mathbb{E} I\{Y g(x) < 0\}$

Any function  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be transformed into a binary classifier

$$g_f = \text{sign}(f) = \begin{cases} 1, & f \geq 0 \\ -1, & f < 0 \end{cases}$$

Problem: given a class  $G$  of functions  $g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , minimize the empirical risk

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n I\{Y_j g(x_j) < 0\}$$



Instead, consider the problem  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n e^{-Y_j g(x_j)}$   $\rightarrow$  minimize over  $g \in G$   
The function  $\mathbb{Z} \mapsto e^{-z}$  is convex, so this can often be done numerically.

Question: Since  $\forall g \in G$ ,  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n e^{-Y_j g(x_j)} \rightarrow \mathbb{E} e^{-Y g(x)}$

It's natural to ask which  $g$  minimizes  $\mathbb{E} e^{-Y g(x)}$  over all  $g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Bayes' classifier

Reminder : The minimum of  $\mathbb{E} I\{Yg(x) < 0\}$  is achieved for  $g(x) = \text{sign}(\mathbb{E}(Y|X=x))$

Theorem: Let  $\tilde{g}$  minimize  $\mathbb{E} e^{-Yg(x)}$ . Then  $\text{sign}(\tilde{g}) = g^*$

Proof : Assume that  $X$  takes values  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ . (Discrete)

$$\mathbb{E} e^{-Yg(x)} = \sum_{j=1}^k \mathbb{E}[e^{-Yg(x)} | X=x_k] \Pr(X=x_k)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{-Yg(x)} | X=x_k] = e^{1-g(x_k)} p_r(Y=1 | X=x_k) + e^{-1-g(x_k)} p_r(Y=-1 | X=x_k)$$

$$\text{We know that } \Pr(Y=1 | X=x_k) = \frac{1+\eta(x_k)}{2}, \quad \Pr(Y=-1 | X=x_k) = \frac{1-\eta(x_k)}{2}$$

$$\text{while } \eta(x_k) = \mathbb{E}[Y | X=x_k] \quad \text{let } g(x_k) = \frac{\eta}{2} \quad \Pr(Y=t | X=x_k) = \frac{1+t\eta(x_k)}{2} \quad t=1 \text{ or } -1$$

Therefore, if suffices to minimize  $F(t) = e^{-t} \frac{1+\eta(x_k)}{2} + e^t \frac{1-\eta(x_k)}{2}$  over  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$F'(t) = -\frac{1}{e^t} \frac{1+\eta(x_k)}{2} + e^t \frac{1-\eta(x_k)}{2} = 0$$

$$= -(1+\eta(x_k)) + e^{2t} (1-\eta(x_k)) = 0 \Rightarrow e^{2t} = \frac{1+\eta(x_k)}{1-\eta(x_k)}, \quad t = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1+\eta(x_k)}{1-\eta(x_k)}$$

$F$  - "base class" of binary classifiers (e.g. threshold classifiers)

$$G = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j f_j, \quad k \geq 1, \quad \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \geq 0, \quad f_1, \dots, f_k \in F \right\}$$

Any  $g \in G$  can be transformed into a binary classifier via  $g \rightarrow \text{sign}(g)$

Recall that for any binary classifier  $h$ ,  $I\{Y \neq h(x)\} = I\{Yh(x) < 0\}$

$\mathbb{E} I\{Yg(x) < 0\}$  is minimized for  $g_x(x) = \text{sign}(\mathbb{E}(Y|X=x))$

In the expression  $\mathbb{E} e^{-Yg(x)}$  is minimized for  $\tilde{g}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1+\eta(x)}{1-\eta(x)}$ , where

$$\eta(x) = \mathbb{E}(Y|X=x)$$

$$\text{sign}\left(\frac{1+\eta(x)}{1-\eta(x)}\right) = 1 \iff \frac{1+\eta(x)}{1-\eta(x)} \geq 1 \iff \eta(x) \geq 0 = \text{sign}(\eta(x))$$

$\Rightarrow$  we recover the Bayes classifier!

Summary : minimizing  $\mathbb{E} e^{-Yg(x)}$  over all functions  $g$  gives us a Bayes classifier.

$\Rightarrow$  it makes sense to look at the "empirical" version of this problem,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n e^{-y_j g(x_j)}$$

where  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  is the training data.

Let  $G$  be a class of function, and let us consider minimizing  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_j e^{-y_j g(x_j)}$  over  $g \in G$

Definition: We will say that a class  $\mathcal{F}$  of binary classifier satisfies the following for any  $n \geq 1$ , any  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , any nonnegative weights  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  s.t.  $\sum_i w_i = 1$ ,  $\exists f \in \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $\sum_i w_i I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\} \leq \frac{1}{2}$

(by probability)

Remark: If  $f \in \mathcal{F} \Leftrightarrow -f \in \bar{\mathcal{F}} \Rightarrow$  then  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies the weak learnability assumption. If loss  $f > \frac{1}{2}$ , we pick  $-f$  which is  $\overset{1}{\underset{2}{\leftarrow}}$  satisfied.

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_j e^{-y_j g(x_j)} \rightarrow \text{minimize over } g \in \mathcal{G}$$

Using the notion of pseudogradient descent

Assume that at iteration  $t$ , we have  $g_t \in \mathcal{G}$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_j e^{-y_j (g_t(x_j) + \alpha f(x_j))}$$

Goal: find  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  that make this expression as small as possible

The function  $f$  can be viewed as a "proxy" to the gradient.

The methods of this type are referred to as "steepest descent" methods. num ok.

$$\rightarrow = \frac{1}{n} \sum_j e^{-y_j g(x_j)} e^{-y_j \alpha f(x_j)}$$

$$\text{Let } \tilde{w}_j = \frac{1}{n} e^{-y_j g(x_j)} > 0$$

Then, we are trying to minimize  $\sum_j \tilde{w}_j e^{-\alpha y_j f(x_j)}$  over  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

If  $\tilde{w}_j = \frac{w_j}{\sum_i w_i}$  so that  $\sum_i \tilde{w}_i = 1$ , then we need to minimize  $\sum_i \tilde{w}_i e^{-\alpha y_i f(x_i)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note that } \sum_i \tilde{w}_i e^{-\alpha y_i f(x_i)} &= \sum_i \tilde{w}_i e^{-\alpha I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\}} + \sum_i \tilde{w}_i e^{\alpha I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\}} \\ &\quad + \sum_i \tilde{w}_i e^{\alpha I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\}} = e^{-\alpha} \sum_i \tilde{w}_i + (e^{\alpha} - e^{-\alpha}) \sum_i \tilde{w}_i I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\} \\ &= e^{-\alpha} + (e^{\alpha} - e^{-\alpha}) \sum_i \tilde{w}_i I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\} \end{aligned}$$

To minimize this expression, (1) minimize  $\sum_i \tilde{w}_i I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\}$  WRT  $f \in \mathcal{F}$   
 (2) minimize wrt  $\alpha$

$$\text{Let } C_{n,f}(f) = \sum_i \tilde{w}_i I\{y_i \neq f(x_i)\}$$

$\Pr(X=x_i)$

Weak Learnability  $\rightarrow \exists \{\tilde{w}_j\}_{j=1}^n, \exists f \in \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $C_{n,f}(f) \leq \frac{1}{2}$

Next, the minimum  $\alpha \rightarrow e^{-\alpha} + (e^\alpha - e^{-\alpha}) e_{n,w}(f)$  is achieved

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - e_{n,w}(f)}{e_{n,w}(f)}$$

### Adaboost

Initialize  $w_j^{(1)} = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $j=1, \dots, n$ ,  $g_0 \Rightarrow 0$  for  $t=1, \dots, T$  do

(i) Call the weak Learner

(ii) WL outputs  $f_t$  s.t.  $e_{n,w}(f_t) \leq \frac{1}{2}$

$$(iii) \alpha_t = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - e_{n,w}(f_t)}{e_{n,w}(f_t)} \geq 0$$

(iv) Update the weights

$$w_j^{(t+1)} = \frac{w_j^{(t)} e^{-\gamma_j \alpha_t f_t(x_j)}}{Z_t} \text{ - normalizing factor}$$

$$Z_t = \sum_j^n w_j^{(t)} e^{-\gamma_j \alpha_t f_t(x_j)}$$

$$\text{Output } \hat{g}_T = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t f_t}{\sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t}$$

Theorem Assume that for my probability  $w_1, \dots, w_n$ , the WL finds  $f$  st  $\sum_j^n w_j I\{y_j + f(x_j) \} \leq \frac{1}{2} - \gamma$

for some  $\gamma > 0$ . Then the training error of Adaboost satisfies

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_j^n I\{y_j + \text{sign}(\hat{g}_T(x_j)) \} \leq e^{-2\gamma T}$$

$$\text{Proof: } \frac{1}{n} \sum_j^n I\{y_j + \text{sign}(\hat{g}_T(x_j)) \} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_j^n I\{y_j + \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t f_t(x_j) \} \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_j^n e^{-\gamma_j \hat{g}_T(x_j)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_j^n e^{-\gamma_j \frac{T}{2} \alpha_t f_t(x_j)}$$

$$\text{Note that } w_j^{(t+1)} = \frac{1}{n} \frac{e^{\frac{\gamma_j}{2} \alpha_t f_t(x_j)}}{\sum_i^n Z_i}$$

$$e^{-\gamma_j \frac{T}{2} \alpha_t f_t(x_j)} = \prod_i^n Z_i w_j^{(t)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_T &= \prod_j^n w_j^{(t)} e^{-\alpha_t \gamma_j f_t(x_j)} \\ &= e^{-\alpha_T} + (e^{\alpha_T} - e^{-\alpha_T}) \prod_j^n w_j^{(t)} I\{y_j + f_t(x_j) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Plugging in } \alpha_T = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - e_{n,w}(f_T)}{e_{n,w}(f_T)}$$

$$e_{n,w}(f_T) = \prod_j^n w_j^{(t)} I\{y_j \neq f_t(x_j)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_T &= \sqrt[n]{e_{n,w}(f_T) (1 - e_{n,w}(f_T))} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} - \gamma \leq \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \gamma\right)\left(\frac{1}{2} + \gamma\right)} \end{aligned}$$

## Regression and Linear Regression

Assume that  $Y$  can take values beyond  $-1, +1$  (or  $0, 1$ ), specifically assume that  $Y \in \mathbb{R}$

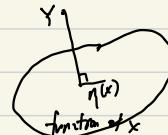
- $Y$  will be called the "response variable".
- The goal is to predict  $Y$  based on the observation  $X$
- $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the coordinates of  $X$  are called "features".
- $X$  is also called the "predictor variable".

Example Predict the final exam grade =  $Y$  base on  $\underbrace{\text{uniform grade}, \text{hw1}, \text{hw2}}_{\text{features}}$

Reminder: The condition expectation of  $Y$  given  $X=x$ , denoted  $\eta(x)$ ,

$$\underset{Y|X=x}{\text{minimize}} E(Y - z)^2$$

In other words,  $\eta(x) = E(Y|X=x)$  is the best function approximation of  $Y$  as a function of  $X$



Mathematically,

$\eta(x)$  minimizes  $E(Y - f(x))^2$  over all functions  $f$ .

Given the training data  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$ , we consider the problem of minimizing  $\frac{1}{n} \sum (Y_j - f(X_j))^2$  over  $f \in F$

Question: Let  $\hat{f}_n$  be the solution of the problem. What is  $E(Y - \hat{f}_n(x))^2$ ?

Note that  $E(Y - \hat{f}_n(x))^2 = E(Y - \eta(x) + \eta(x) - \hat{f}_n(x))^2$

$$= E(Y - \eta(x))^2 + E(\eta(x) - \hat{f}_n(x))^2 + 2E(Y - \eta(x))(\eta(x) - \hat{f}_n(x))$$

$$= E(Y - \eta(x))^2 + E(\eta(x) - \hat{f}_n(x))^2$$

$$\leq E(Y - \eta(x))^2 + E(\eta(x) - \hat{f}(x))^2 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{approximation error} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

$$+ E(\hat{f}(x) - \hat{f}_n(x))^2 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{training error} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

$$+ E[\hat{f}(x) - \hat{f}_n(x)]E[(Y - \eta(x))(\eta(x) - \hat{f}(x))|x]$$

$$E(Y|x) = \eta(x)$$

Comparison to Mathematical Statistics.

$$Y = \alpha X + \beta + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

MLE of  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is given by the solution of

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_j (Y_j - \hat{\alpha}' X_j - \hat{\beta})^2 \rightarrow \text{minimize over } \alpha', \beta'.$$

Fact: If  $(Y, X)$  has bivariate normal distribution then,

$$\mathbb{E}(Y|X=x) = \alpha x + b !$$

app error

$$\mathbb{E}(\eta(x) - f(x)) = 0$$

Error decomposition in linear regression

$$\mathbb{E}(Y - g(x))^2 = \mathbb{E}(Y - \eta(x))^2 + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(\bar{g}(x) - \eta(x))^2}_{\text{app error of } G} + \mathbb{E}(g(x) - \bar{g}(x))^2$$

In statistics, a common assumption is that  $(X, Y)$  has multivariate normal distribution. In this case,  $\eta(x) = \langle w_x, x \rangle + b_x$  is a linear function of  $X$ , and  $\frac{Y - \eta(x)}{\sigma}$  is normally distributed.  $Y = \langle w_x, x \rangle + b_x + \varepsilon$

Allows to do inference: build confidence intervals / test statistical hypotheses.

Solution of linear regression problem

$$G = \langle g_{w,b}(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b \rangle$$

Goal: find  $w, b$  that minimize

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (Y_j - \langle w, x_j \rangle - b)^2 \text{ over } w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

Simplify:

$$\tilde{x}_j = (x_j, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$$

$$\tilde{w} = (w, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$$

$$\langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle = \langle w, x_j \rangle + b$$

$$\text{Let } \vec{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{x}_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_1 - \langle \tilde{x}_1, \tilde{w} \rangle \\ Y_2 - \langle \tilde{x}_2, \tilde{w} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ Y_n - \langle \tilde{x}_n, \tilde{w} \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \vec{Y} - \vec{X} \tilde{w}$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{1}{n} \sum_j (Y_j - \langle \tilde{w}, \tilde{x}_j \rangle)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \| \vec{Y} - \mathbb{X} \tilde{w} \|_2^2 = F(\tilde{w})$$

If  $\mathbb{X} = (x^{(1)} / x^{(2)} / \dots / x^{(d+1)})$

$$H(w) = \mathbb{X} w, \quad \nabla H(w) = \mathbb{X}$$

$$\nabla F(w) = -2 \mathbb{X}^T (\vec{Y} - \mathbb{X} \tilde{w}) = 0$$

$$(\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X}) \tilde{w} = \vec{Y} \quad (\text{normal equations})$$

If  $(\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})$  is invertible

$$\mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (d+1)}, \quad n > d+1$$

$$\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{(d+1) \times (d+1)}$$

$$\therefore \hat{w} = (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1} \vec{Y}$$

Cont'd:

$$\hat{w} = (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1} \vec{Y} \quad \text{if } \mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X} \text{ is invertible.}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X}) \hat{w} = \vec{Y}$$

$$A \hat{w} = b$$

$$\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X} = (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^T \Rightarrow \mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X} = V \Lambda_x V^T \text{ where } V = (v_1 / \dots / v_p) \text{ is a matrix of eigenvectors.}$$

$$\Lambda_x = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{-1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p - \text{eigenvalues.}$$

$$V \Lambda_x V^T \hat{w} = \vec{Y} \quad \text{since } V^T V = I_p, \quad \Lambda_x V^T \hat{w} = V^T \vec{Y} \quad V^T \hat{w} = \Lambda_x^{-1} (V^T \vec{Y})$$

### The Ridge Regression

Let  $\lambda > 0$  - the "regularization parameter"

$$\frac{1}{n} \| \vec{Y} - \mathbb{X} w \|_2^2 + \lambda \| w \|_2^2 \rightarrow \text{minimize over } w \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{regularization/penalty term}}$   
Tikhonov regularization

$$F(w) = \frac{1}{n} \| \vec{Y} - \mathbb{X} w \|_2^2 + \lambda \| w \|_2^2$$

$$\nabla F(w) = -\frac{2}{n} \mathbb{X}^T (\vec{Y} - \mathbb{X} w) + 2\lambda w$$

$$\nabla F(w) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{2}{n} \mathbb{X}^T \vec{Y} - 2(\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})w + \lambda w$$

$\hat{w}$  solves the system

$$X^T X w + \lambda I \cdot w = X^T y \Leftrightarrow (X^T X + \lambda I) w = X^T y$$

$$\hat{w} = (X^T X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^T y$$

$$\text{If } X^T X = V \Lambda_x V^T, \text{ then } X^T X + \lambda I = V (\Lambda_x + \lambda I) V^T$$

Numerical Instability problem disappears, but need to pay attention to  $\lambda \|w\|_2^2$ .

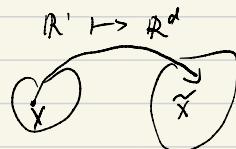
Polynomial Regression (Linear regression for polynomial functions).

Assume that  $(X, Y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$

$$G = \{ p(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_d x^d, a_0, \dots, a_d \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

Idea: create a mapping  $X \mapsto \underbrace{(x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^d)}_{\tilde{x}} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

feature space



$$(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n) \rightarrow (\tilde{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\tilde{x}_n, y_n)$$

$$\langle w, \tilde{x} \rangle = w_0 x + w_1 x^2 + \dots + w_d x^d$$

Linear regression problem corresponds to solving  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_i (y_i - \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=0}^d w_j x_j)^2$

Also the idea of SVM

Non-learnability of Linear Regression

Let  $(X, Y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , and  $G = \{ f_w(x) = w x, w \in \mathbb{R} \}$

What does it mean for  $G$  to be "learnable"?

It means that  $\exists$  an algorithm  $A$ , s.t. for any distribution over  $(X, Y)$ , and  $\epsilon, \delta > 0$ ,  $\exists n = n(\epsilon, \delta)$ , such that for all  $n \geq n(\epsilon, \delta)$ ,  $A((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n))$  outputs  $\hat{w}$ , s.t.  $E(Y - \hat{w}_n x)^2 \leq \min_{w \in G} E(Y - w x)^2 + \epsilon$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$ .

Example let  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $\delta = 0.5$ ,  $n \geq n(\epsilon, \delta)$

let  $\mu = \log(\frac{100}{2n})$ . Consider two distributions.

$$P_1 : \frac{\begin{matrix} y=-1 \\ y=0 \end{matrix}}{\mu \quad 1} \qquad P_2 : \frac{\begin{matrix} y=-1 \\ y=1 \end{matrix}}{\mu \quad 1}$$
$$P_r((x,y)=(1,0)) = \mu \qquad P_r((x,y)=(\mu,-1)) = 1$$
$$P_r((x,y)=(\mu,1)) = 1-\mu$$

For  $P_1$ ,  $\Pr(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n) = (1-\mu)^n \geq e^{-\lambda n} = 0.99$

Since  $1-\mu \geq e^{-\lambda n} = 1 - \lambda n + \frac{(\lambda n)^2}{2} = 1 - \lambda n + \lambda^2 n^2$

$1-\mu \geq 1 - \lambda n + \lambda^2 n^2$  when  $\mu \approx 0$

For  $P_2$ ,  $\Pr(X_1 = \dots = X_n = \mu) = 1$

We don't know whether the observation comes from which distr

$\Rightarrow A$  will produce the same output  $\hat{w}_n$  regardless of the distribution.

(i)  $|\hat{w}_n| < \frac{1}{2\mu}$ , then  $E_{P_1}(Y - \hat{w}_n x)^2 = E((1 - \hat{w}_n \mu)^2) \xrightarrow{|\hat{w}_n \mu| \ll 1} (1 - \frac{1}{2})^2 = \frac{1}{4}$

But  $\min_w E_{P_1}(Y - wx)^2 = 0$ , for  $w = -\frac{1}{\mu}$

(ii)  $|\hat{w}_n| \geq \frac{1}{2\mu}$  consider  $P_1$ :  $E_{P_1}(Y - \hat{w}_n x)^2 = \mu(0 - \hat{w}_n \cdot 1)^2 + ((1-\mu)(-1 - \hat{w}_n \mu))^2 \geq \mu \cdot \hat{w}_n^2 \geq \frac{1}{4\mu}$   
 $\hat{w}_n = \frac{\log(\frac{1}{2\mu})}{2\mu}$

But  $\min_w E_{P_1}(Y - wx)^2 \leq E_{P_1}(Y - 0 \cdot x)^2 = 1-\mu$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{from } \frac{1}{4\mu} \text{ to } \frac{1}{4\mu}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\mu} - (1-\mu) > \varepsilon = 0.01 \text{ for } n \text{ large enough}$$

Remark: (a) To make the problem learnable, we need to assume that

(i)  $\|x\|_2 \leq M$  (textbook details)

(ii)  $\|w\|_2 \leq R$

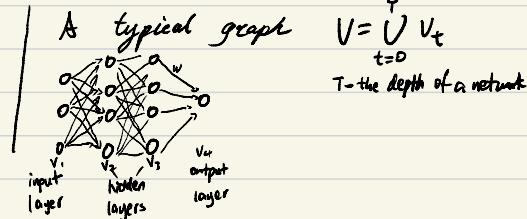
(b) Compare this to Gaussian linear regression:

$y = \alpha x + \epsilon$ ,  $x, \epsilon$  are independent, normally distributed, the no assumption on  $\alpha$  is required.

# Artificial Neural Nets

• Feedforward neural networks

$(V, E)$  - a graph  
↓  
a set of vertices → edges  
or nodes



Each edge in  $E$  connects a vertex in  $V_t$  to a vertex in  $V_{t+1}$  for some  $t$ .  
Nodes correspond to "artificial neurons".

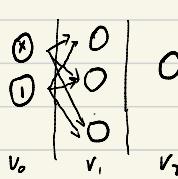
Each neuron is modeled by an "activation function"  $\sigma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such as

(a)  $\sigma(x) = I\{x \geq 0\}$

(b)  $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$  (sigmoid)

(c)  $\sigma(x) = \max(0, x)$  (ReLU, rectified linear units).

Let  $O_{t,i}(x)$  be the output of neuron  $i$  in level  $t$  when given input  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .  
By design,  $O_{0,j}(x) = x_j$ ,  $O_{0,0}(x) = 1$ . The input to  $V_{t+1,j}$  ( $j$ -th neuron in layer  $t+1$ )



$$O_{t+1,j} = \sum_{r} W((t,r), (t+1,j)) O_{t,r}(x)$$

$$r((t,r), v_{t+1,j}) \in E$$

$$O_{0,1}(x) = x$$

$$O_{0,2}(x) = 1$$

$$O_{1,1} = W((0,1), (1,1)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,1)) \cdot 1$$

$$O_{1,2} = W((0,1), (1,2)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,2)) \cdot 1$$

$$O_{1,3} = W((0,1), (1,3)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,3)) \cdot 1$$

Apply activation function:  $O_{1,1} = \sigma(O_{1,1})$ ,  $O_{1,2} = \sigma(O_{1,2})$ ,  $O_{1,3} = \sigma(O_{1,3})$

$$O_{2,1} = W((1,1), (2,1)) \sigma(W((0,1), (1,1)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,1)) \cdot 1)$$

Explicitly:  $O_{2,1} = W((1,1), (2,1)) \sigma(W((0,1), (1,1)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,1)) \cdot 1)$

$$+ W((1,2), (2,1)) \sigma(W((0,1), (1,2)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,2)) \cdot 1)$$

$$+ W((1,3), (2,1)) \sigma(W((0,1), (1,3)) \cdot x + W((0,2), (1,3)) \cdot 1)$$

$G_{V,E,w} = \{g_{V,E,G,w}, w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$  Graph representation

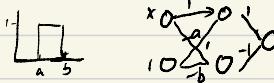
Question: how expressive can these classes be?

Th: Let  $f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is continuous.

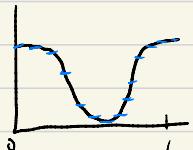
Then  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists (V, E)$  and weights  $w \in \mathbb{R}^{|E|}$ , such that  $|g_{V,E,g_w}(x) - f(x)| \leq \epsilon$ ,  $\forall x \in [0,1]$ .

We will take  $\sigma(x) = I\{x \geq 0\}$ .

$$I\{x \in (a,b)\} = \sigma(x-a) - \sigma(x-b)$$



$\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists k$  and  $0 < x_1 < \dots < x_k < 1$  s.t.  $\forall j \leq k$ ,  $|f(x) - f(\frac{x_j + x_{j+1}}{2})| \leq \epsilon$  for  $x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]$

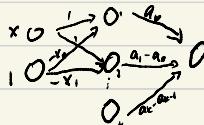


$$\tilde{f}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j I\{x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]\} \text{ . Here, } a_j = f\left(\frac{x_j + x_{j+1}}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \tilde{f}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j (\sigma(x-x_{j-1}) - \sigma(x-x_j))$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k a_j \sigma(x-x_{j-1}) - \sum_{j=1}^k a_j \sigma(x-x_j)$$

$$= a_0 \sigma(x-x_0) + \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \sigma(x-x_j) - a_k \sigma(x-x_k)$$



1 hidden layer nn can approximate any continuous function.

Final: given , approximate it with nn

## Gradient Descent of NN

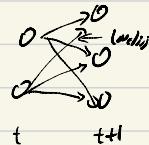
$$G = \{g_{V, E, G, W} \in \mathbb{R}^{|E|}\}$$

Goal:  $\min F(W) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n (Y_j - g_W(X_j))^2$  over  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{|E|}$

$$(V, E), V = \bigcup_{t=0}^T V_t, V_t = (v_{t+1}, v_{t+2}, \dots, v_{t+k_t}), W_t \in \mathbb{R}^{k_{t+1} \times k_t}$$

$(W_t)_{i,j}$  = height on the edge b/w  $v_{t+1,i}$  and  $v_{t,j}$

$$W = (W_0, \dots, W_{T-1}), F(W) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j (Y_j - g_W(X_j))^2$$



Pick some  $t, i \leq k_{t+1}, j \leq k_t$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{t+1,i}} F(W) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j (g_W(X_j) - Y_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{t+1,i}} g_W(X_j)$$

Ex. (a)  $T=1 \Rightarrow$  no hidden layers

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Input} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{O}} \xrightarrow{\text{w}_0 \rightarrow} \text{O} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{O}} \xrightarrow{\text{w}_0 \rightarrow} \text{O} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{O}} \end{array} \quad g_W(x) = \sigma(W_0 \cdot X) = \sigma(W_0 \cdot O_0) \quad \text{Output o layer} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{0,i}} g_W(x) = \sigma'(W_0 \cdot O_0)(O_0)_i \\ \nabla_W g_W(x) = \sigma'(W_0 \cdot O_0)O_0$$

Ex 2: 1 hidden layer

$$\begin{array}{l} O_0 - \text{output of layer 0} \\ O_1 = W_0 O_0 - \text{inputs of layer 1} \end{array}$$

$$O_1 = \sigma(W_0 O_0) = \sigma(A_1) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma(w_{0,1} \cdot O_0) \\ \vdots \\ \sigma(w_{0,k_1} \cdot O_0) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$O_2 = \sigma(A_2) = \sigma(W_1 O_1) = \sigma(W_1 \sigma(W_0 O_0))$$

$$\nabla g_{W_1} = \sigma'(W_1 \sigma(W_0 O_0)) \cdot O_1$$

$$\text{Differentiate w.r.t. } W_0 \quad \nabla g_{W_0} = \sigma'(W_1 \sigma(W_0 O_0)) W_1 \sigma'(O_0 \vec{w}_0) O_0, \text{ where } \sigma(O_0 \vec{w}_0)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \sigma'(W_1) \cdot O_1 \\ \vdots \\ \sigma'(W_1) \cdot O_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remark  $W_t \in \mathbb{R}^{k_t \times k_{t-1}}$ ,  $k_t = \# \text{ of nodes in layer } t$

$$\left( \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ k_t \end{smallmatrix} \right) \rightarrow (1 \ z \ \dots \ k_t)$$

$$O_{t-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k_{t-1}} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0^T & 0 & & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_2^T & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & 0 \\ 0 & & & 0 & 0_{t-1}^T \end{pmatrix} = O_{t-1}$$

$$\text{Then } W_t O_{t-1} = O_{t-1} w_t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{In general, } \nabla_{w_0} \sigma(W_{T-1} \sigma(W_{T-2} (\dots \sigma(w \circ o_0) \dots))) \\ = \sigma'(W_{T-1} O_{T-1}) W_{T-1} \sigma'(W_{T-2} O_{T-2}) \times \dots \times w_1 \sigma'(w \circ o_0) O_0 \end{aligned}$$