

**Purpose:**

- Review essentials of probability
- Review theory of linear regression
- Use Python to solve a linear regression problem

**Directions:** This homework is to be done individually. Please upload a set of solutions containing your name and @ucsc.edu e-mail address to Canvas. Typeset (e.g. TeX) solutions are preferred, but scans or photographs of hand-written solutions are acceptable *provided that they are neat and legible*. The TA may deduct points for poorly organized or illegible solutions.

Question:	1	2	3	4	Total
Points:	23	30	35	12	100
Bonus Points:	0	0	0	6	6
Score:					

**Questions:** (ordered roughly by increasing difficulty)

1. **Conditional Probability Review:** There are 52 cards in a standard deck (excluding Jokers), with 13 cards per suit. The suits are Hearts, Spades, Diamonds, and Clubs, where Hearts and Diamonds are *red* and Spades and Clubs are *black*. Each suit contains 3 *face* cards (Jack, Queen, King), and 10 additional cards (Ace, Two, ..., Ten). Suppose we remove both *red* Kings and draw a card uniformly at random from the rest of the deck. *Give your answer as a fraction. Correct answers need not show work.*
  - (a) (3 points) What is the probability that the card you draw is a *face* card?  $P(F)$
  - (b) (3 points) What is the probability that the card you draw is *black*?  $P(B)$
  - (c) (4 points) What is the probability that the card you draw is a *black face* card?  $P(BF)$
  - (d) (4 points) Given that the card you draw is black, what is the probability that it is a *face* card?  $P(F|B)$
  - (e) (4 points) Given that the card you draw is a *face* card, what is the probability it is *black*?  $P(B|F)$
  - (f) (*Ungraded*) Verify that the five probabilities just calculated are consistent with the definition of conditional probability and Bayes's Rule (i.e.  $P(BF) = P(F|B)P(B) = P(B|F)P(F)$ )
  - (g) (5 points) Given that the card you draw is *not* a Two, what is the probability it is a Heart?

**2. Linear Regression:**

For this question, we will consider artificial data. Let us first start with the equation

$$X\theta' = \mathbf{z}'$$

where we fix  $X$  and give an arbitrary vector  $\theta$  from which to determine the value of  $\mathbf{y}'$ .

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 & 2 \\ 1 & 6 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & 7 & 7 \\ 1 & 8 & 6 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix} ; \quad \theta' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{z}' = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 20 \\ 10 \\ 11 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

To  $\mathbf{z}'$ , we add a small amount of noise  $\mathbf{v}$  (which is *not* necessarily orthogonal to the  $X\theta$  hyperplane!) and consider the resultant vector

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z}' + \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 19 \\ 10 \\ 11 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

We now consider the linear regression problem of finding  $\theta$  in

$$\mathbf{y}' := X\theta$$

such that the mean squared error between the components of  $\mathbf{y}'$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  is minimized. For the purpose of checking the reasonableness of our answer, we have generated our data in this way so  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  will be close(*ish*).

We recommend using Python for this problem.

```
data =
[[3, 9, 2, 19],
 [6, 9, 1, 19],
 [7, 7, 7, 10],
 [8, 6, 4, 11],
 [1, 0, 8, -3]]
```

Our *training* data is a list of examples (or *instances*), where each example has been written on its own line in a row of four values. The first three values of each row are *features* of the data (corresponding to the values of  $X$  without the column of ones). The last entry in each line is the *label* (or *target*) of the instance and is the corresponding component of  $\mathbf{y}$  (*not*  $\mathbf{y}'$ ).

Our training data consists of 5 instances. We may label the first three features of the data with the variables  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  (considering  $x_0 = 1$  for the omitted column of  $X$ ). The first instance therefore has features  $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 9, x_3 = 2$  and target  $y = 19$ .

- (3 points) Tell us which machine learning method (or library, such as Scikit-learn in Python, which is fine) you will use to solve this linear regression problem (this is your preference).
- (11 points) Run a linear regression algorithm on the full training set (other than using the closed-form least square solution). The input features should be a 4-dimension vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$ , where  $x_0 = 1$  is a constant, and  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  correspond to the first, second, and third column in data. Report the model and “root mean squared error”. The root mean squared error is defined as  $RMSE = \sqrt{\sum_i (f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2 / N}$ , where  $f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$  is the prediction of instance- $i$ , and  $N$  is the number of samples. Note in some tools, such as scikit-learn, the constant feature  $x_0$  is added by default thus the input of your feature should simply be  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .
- (8 points) Suppose you had an *unlabeled* instance  $\mathbf{x} = [3, 3, 5]$ . What prediction for the label would the model from part (b) give?
- (8 points) If the examples are re-ordered (so the rows of  $X$  and elements of  $\mathbf{y}$  are permuted), what happens to the learned  $\theta$  vector and why?

3. **More Probability Review:** Assume that the probability of obtaining heads when tossing a coin is  $\lambda$ .

- (12 points) What is the probability of obtaining the first head at the  $(k + 1)$ -th toss?
- (13 points) What is the expected number of tosses needed to get the first head?
- (10 points) What is the expected number of heads when tossing  $N$  times?

4. **A Continuous Variable plus Bayes's Rule:** Suppose it will rain  $g(x) = \cot(x\pi/2)$  cm tomorrow, where  $x \in (0, 1]$  is some unknown parameter. In this part of the world,  $(1-x)$  is precisely the probability of hearing thunder before sunset. This morning you assigned probability density  $(n+1)x^n$  to each value of  $x \in (0, 1]$  (your prior belief) where  $n \geq 1$ .
- (a) (12 points) What is your expected value for  $x$  at midday?
- (b) (6 points (bonus)) You hear no thunder before sunset. What probability density do you now assign to each value of  $x$  (your posterior), following Bayes's Rule? *Give your answer as a function  $f(x)$  depending on  $n$ . Hint: constant factors may be ignored until the end, when we only need to ensure  $\int_0^1 f(x)dx = 1$ .*