

LEARNING PROBLEM

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Probability to the rescue

Notation



symbol	meaning
$a, b, c, N \dots$	scalar number
$\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \dots$	column vector
$\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \dots$	matrix
\mathbb{R}	set of real numbers
\mathbb{Z}	set of integer numbers
\mathbb{N}	set of natural numbers
\mathbb{R}^D	set of vectors
$\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, \dots$	set
\mathcal{A}	algorithm

operator	meaning
\mathbf{w}^\top	transpose
$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}$	matrix multiplication
\mathbf{X}^{-1}	inverse



Learning Components



Credit Approval

- Suppose that a bank receives thousands of credit card applications every day, and it wants to automate the process of evaluating them.
- Applicant information

age	23 years
gender	male
annual salary	\$30000
years in residence	1 year
years in job	1 year
current debt	\$15000
...	...

- Approve credit?

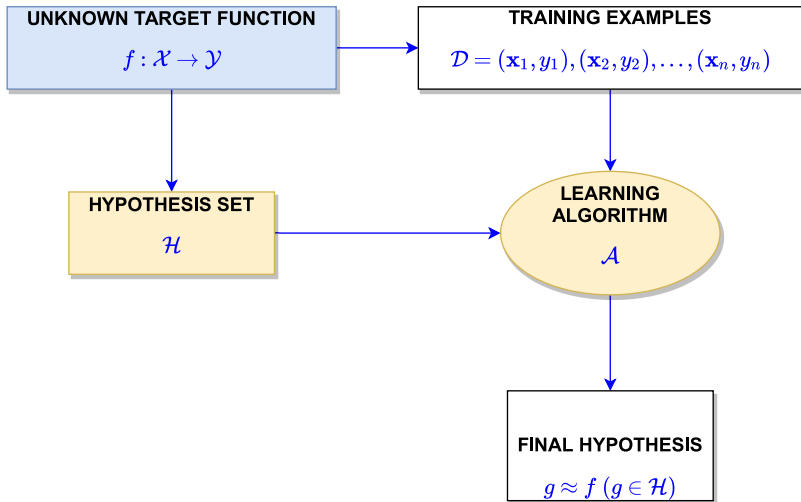
Problem Statement



Formalization

- Input: \mathbf{x} (*customer application*)
- Output: y (*good/bad customer?* or $\{1, -1\}$)
- Data $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)$ (*historical records*)
- Target function: $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ (*ideal credit approval formula*)
- Best approximate function $g : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ (*formula to be used*)

Components of Learning





Solution components

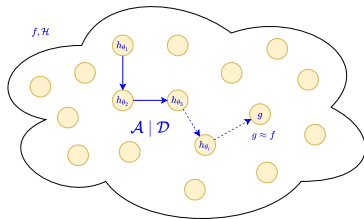
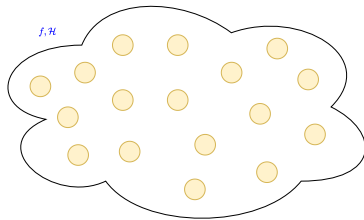
The 2 solution components are referred as the **learning model**

- The **hypothesis set** \mathcal{H} built up from the problem

$$\mathcal{H} = \{h_{\theta_1}, h_{\theta_2}, \dots\}$$

- The **learning algorithm** \mathcal{A} is a **search algorithm** which finds $g \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$g \overset{\text{best}}{\approx} f$$





A Simple Learning Model



A Simple Hypothesis Set

We starts with the simple model (**the perceptron model**)

- For input $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ (*attributes of a customer*)

Approve credit if $\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i \geq \text{threshold}$

Deny credit if $\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i < \text{threshold}$

- This linear formula $h \in \mathcal{H}$ can be written as

$$h(x) = h_{\mathbf{w}, \text{threshold}}(x) = \text{sign} \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i \right) - \text{threshold} \right)$$



A Simple Hypothesis Set (cont.)

- Set $w_0 = -threshold$

$$h(x) = h_{\mathbf{w}}(x) = \text{sign} \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i \right) + w_0 \right)$$

- Introduce an artificial coordinate $x_0 = 1$

$$h(x) = h_{\mathbf{w}}(x) = \text{sign} \left(\sum_{i=0}^d w_i x_i \right)$$

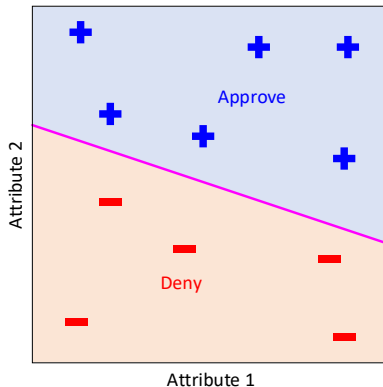
- In vector form, the perceptron implements

$$h(x) = h_{\mathbf{w}}(x) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$



2D Model

- **Decision boundaries:** line
- **Decision regions:** approve and deny regions





A Simple Learning Algorithm

We use the simple learning algorithm (**perceptron learning algorithm - PLA**) to implement

$$h(x) = h_{\mathbf{w}}(x) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$

- Given the training set

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$$

- pick a *misclassified* point (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \neq y_i$$

- and update the weight vector

$$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + y_n \mathbf{x}_n$$



Iterations of PLA

- At iteration $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ pick a misclassified point from

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$$

and run a PLA iteration on it

- That's it



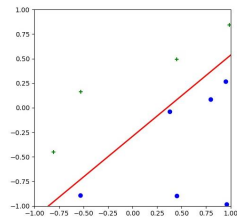
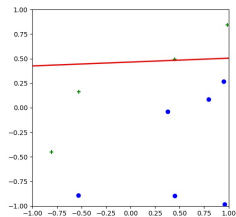
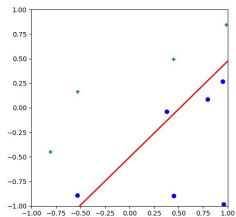
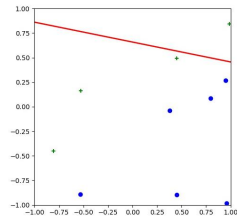
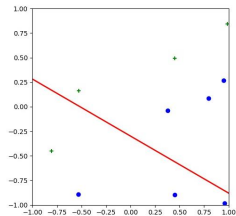
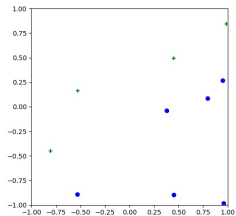
Is It Learning Algorithm?

A Simple Learning Model

Type of Learnings

Feasibility Of Learning

Probability to the
rescue





A Learning Puzzle



$y = -1$



$y = +1$



$y = ?$



Type of Learnings

Basic Premise of Learning



“using a set of observations to uncover an underlying process”

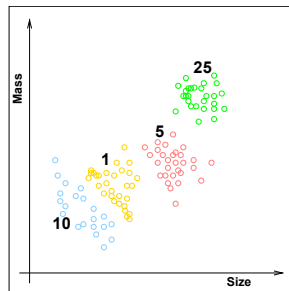
broad premise \implies many variations

- Supervise learning
- Unsupervised learning
- Reinforcement learning



Supervised Learning

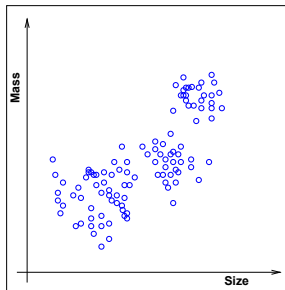
- We get data \mathcal{D} : (**input**, **correct output**)
 - When the **output** is one of *a finite set of values*, the learning problem is called **classification**
 - When the **output** is a *number*, the learning problem is called **regression**
- Example from vending machine - **coin classification**



Unsupervised Learning



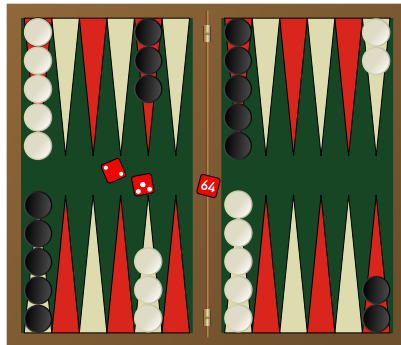
- Instead of (input, correct input), we get (input, ?)



Reinforcement Learning



- Instead of (input, correct input),
we get (input, some output, grade *for this output*)





Feasibility Of Learning



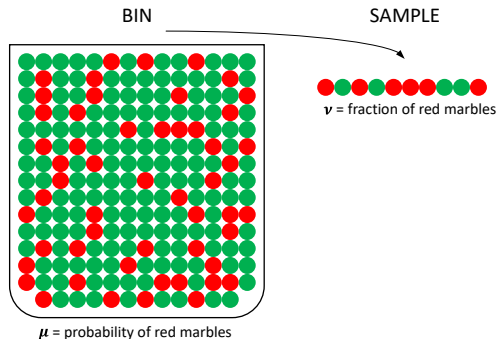
A Related Experiment - Bin Problem

- Consider a **BIN** with red and green marbles

$$P[\text{picking a red marble}] = \mu$$

$$P[\text{picking a green marble}] = 1 - \mu$$

- The value of μ is unknown to us
- We pick N marbles independently
- The fraction of red marbles in **SAMPLE** = ν



Does ν say anything about μ ?



- **No!** (certain answer)
 - Sample can be mostly red while bin is mostly red
- **Yes!** (uncertain answer)
 - Sample frequency ν is likely close to bin frequency μ



What does ν say about μ ?

- In a big sample (large N), ν is probably close μ (within ϵ)
- Formally,

$$P[|\nu - \mu| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N} \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0$$

This is called **Hoeffding's Inequality**

- **Bound** does not depend on μ ; tradeoff: N, ϵ and the bound
- We have

$$\nu \approx \mu \implies \mu \approx \nu$$

- In other words, the statement " $\mu = \nu$ " is **probably approximately correct** (P.A.C)

Connection to Learning



- **Bin problem:** The unknown is a number μ
- **Learning problem:** The unknown is a function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$
- Each marble ● is a point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$

Bin problem	Learning problem
●	hypothesis got it right $h(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})$
●	hypothesis got it wrong $h(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x})$



Connection to Learning (cont.)

- The error rate within the sample, which corresponds to ν in the bin model, will be called the *in-sample error*, (domain \mathcal{D})

$$\begin{aligned} E_{in}(h) &= \text{fraction of } \mathcal{D} \text{ where } f \text{ and } h \text{ disagree} \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{I}[h(\mathbf{x}_n) \neq f(\mathbf{x}_n)] \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbb{I}[\text{statement}] = 1$ if the statement is true, and $= 0$ if the statement is false

- In the same way, we define the *out-of-sample error*, (domain \mathcal{X})

$$E_{out}(h) = P(h(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x})), \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$$

which corresponds to μ in the bin model.



Connection to Learning (cont.)

- The Hoeffding inequality becomes:

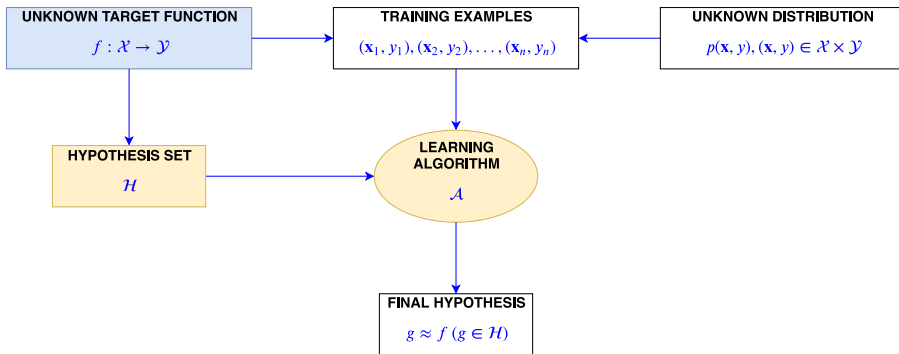
$$P[|E_{in}(h) - E_{out}(h)| > \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-2\epsilon^2 N} \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0$$

Inductive Learning Hypothesis

Generalization is possible.

- If a machine performs well on most **training data** AND it is not too complex, it will probably do well on **similar test data**.

Back to Learning Diagram



References



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