### Sets and Functions: Sets

- 1 A set is an unordered collection of objects. The objects in a set are called *elements*.
- ${f 2}$  The **cardinality** of a set is the number of elements it contains. The **empty set**  $\emptyset$  is the set with no elements.
- **③** If every element of *A* is also an element of *B*, then we say *A* is a **subset** of *B* and write  $A \subset B$ . If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ , then we say that A = B.
- 4 Set operations:
- (i) An element is in the **union**  $A \cup B$  of two sets A and B if it is in A or B
- (ii) An element is in the **intersection**  $A \cap B$  of two sets A and B if it is in A and B.
- (iii) An element is in the **set difference**  $A \setminus B$  if it is in A but not B.
- (iv) Given a set  $\Omega$  and a set  $A \subset \Omega$ , the **complement** of A with respect to  $\Omega$  is  $A^{c} = \Omega \setminus A$ .



- **5** Two sets A and B are **disjoint** if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  (in other words, if they have no elements in common).
- **6** A **partition** of a set is a collection of nonempty disjoint subsets whose union is the whole set.
- **7** The **Cartesian product** of *A* and *B* is

$$A \times B = \{(a,b) : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}.$$

**8** (**De Morgan's laws**) If  $A, B \subset \Omega$ , then

(i)  $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$ , and

(ii)  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ .

A list is an ordered collection of finitely many objects.
Lists differ from sets in that (i) order matters, (ii) repetition matters, and (iii) the cardinality is restricted.

# Sets and Functions: Functions

- **1** If *A* and *B* are sets, then a **function**  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is an assignment of some element of *B* to each element of *A*.
- $\blacksquare$  The set A is called the **domain** of f and B is called the **codomain** of f.
- 4 The **range** of *f* is the image of the domain of *f*.
- **S** The **composition** of two functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  is the function  $g \circ f$  which maps  $a \in A$  to  $g(f(a)) \in C$ .
- **6** The **identity function** on a set *A* is the function  $f: A \rightarrow A$  which maps each element to itself.
- Arr A function f is **injective** if no two elements in the domain map to the same element in the codomain.
- **8** A function f is **surjective** if the range of f is equal to the codomain of f.
- ② A function f is **bijective** if it is both injective and surjective. If f is bijective, then the function from B to A that maps  $b \in B$  to the element  $a \in A$  that satisfies f(a) = b is called the **inverse** of f.
- **10** If  $f:A\to B$  is bijective, then the function  $f^{-1}\circ f$  is equal to the identity function on A, and  $f\circ f^{-1}$  is the identity function on B.

### Programming in Julia

- 1 A value is a fundamental entity that may be manipulated by a program. Values have types; for example, 5 is an Int and "Hello world!" is a String.
- **2** A **variable** is a name used to refer to a value. We can **assign** a value 5 to a variable x using x = 5.
- ③ A function performs a particular task. You prompt a function to perform its task by calling it. Values supplied to a function are called arguments. For example, in the function call print(1,2), 1 and 2 are arguments.
- 4 An **operator** is a function that can be called in a special way. For example, \* is an operator since we can call the multiplication function with the syntax 3 \* 5.
- $\blacksquare$  A statement is an instruction to be executed (like x = -3).
- 6 An expression is a combination of values, variables, operators, and function calls that a language interprets and evaluates to a value.
- A numerical value can be either an **integer** or a **float**. The basic operations are +, -, \*, /, ^, and expressions are evaluated according to the order of operations.
- 8 Numbers can be compared using <, >, ==,  $\le$  or  $\ge$ .
- Textual data is represented using strings. length(s) returns the number of characters in s. The \* operator concatenates strings.
- 10 A boolean is a value which is either true or false. Booleans can be combined with the operators && (and), || (or), | (not).
- 11 Code blocks can be executed conditionally:

12 Functions may be defined using the familiar math notation: f(x,y) = 3x + 2y or using a function block (shift is a **keyword argument**):

- 13 The scope of a variable is the region in the program where it is accessible. Variables defined in the body of a function are not accessible outside the body of the function.
- 14 Array is a compound data type for storing lists of objects. Entries of an array may be accessed with square bracket syntax using an index or using a range object a:b.

- **15** An array comprehension can be used to generate new arrays:  $[k^2 \text{ for } k=1:10 \text{ if } mod(k,2) == 0]$
- **16** A **dictionary** encodes a discrete function by storing input-output pairs and looking up input values when indexed. This expression returns [0,0,1.0]:

17 A while loop takes a conditional expression and a body and evaluates them alternatingly until the conditional expression returns false. A for loop evaluates its body once for each entry in a given iterator (for example, a range, array, or dictionary). Each value in the iterator is assigned to a loop variable which can be referenced in the body of the loop.

### Linear Algebra: Vector Spaces

- **1** A **vector** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a column of n real numbers, also written as  $[v_1, \ldots, v_n]$ . A vector may be depicted as an arrow from the origin in n-dimensional space. The **norm** of a vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is the length  $\sqrt{v_1^2 + \cdots + v_n^2}$  of its arrow.
- 2 The fundamental vector space operations are **vector addition** and **scalar multiplication**.





**3** A **linear combination** of a list of vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$  is an expression of the form

$$c_1\mathbf{v_1} + c_2\mathbf{v_2} + \cdots + c_k\mathbf{v_k}$$

where  $c_1, \ldots, c_k$  are real numbers. The c's are called the **weights** of the linear combination.

- 4 The **span** of a list *L* of vectors is the set of all vectors which can be written as a linear combination of the vectors in *L*.
- **5** A list of vectors is **linearly independent** if and only if the only linear combination which yields the zero vector is the one with all weights zero.
- **6** A **vector space** is a nonempty set of vectors which is closed under the vector space operations.
- A list of vectors in a vector space is a **spanning list** of that vector space if every vector in the vector space can be written as a linear combination of the vectors in that list.
- 3 A linearly independent spanning list of a vector space is called a **basis** of that vector space. The number of vectors in a basis of a vector space is called the **dimension** of the space.
- ② A linear transformation L is a function from a vector space V to a vector space W which satisfies  $L(c\mathbf{v} + \beta \mathbf{w}) = cL(\mathbf{v}) + L(\mathbf{w})$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in V$ . These are "flat maps": equally spaced lines are mapped to equally spaces lines or points. Examples: scaling, rotation, projection, reflection.
- 10 Given two vector spaces V and W, a basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  of V, and a list  $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n\}$  of vectors in W, there exists one and only one linear transformation which maps  $\mathbf{v}_1$  to  $\mathbf{w}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2$  to  $\mathbf{w}_2$ , and so on.
- 11 The rank of a linear transformation from one vector space to another is the dimension of its range.
- 12 The null space of a linear transformation is the set of vectors which are mapped to the zero vector by the linear transformation.
- 13 The rank of a transformation plus the dimension of its null space is equal to the dimension of its domain (the rank-nullity theorem).

# Linear Algebra: Matrix Algebra

- 1 The matrix-vector product Ax is the linear combination of the columns of A with weights given by the entries of x.
- **2** Linear transformations from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$  are in one-to-one correspondence with  $m \times n$  matrices.
- $\centsymbol{3}$  The identity transformation corresponds to the **identity matrix**, which has entries of 1 along the diagonal and zero entries elsewhere.
- **4 Matrix multiplication** corresponds to composition of the corresponding linear transformations: AB is the matrix for which  $(AB)(\mathbf{x}) = A(B\mathbf{x})$  for all  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- $\blacksquare$  A  $m \times n$  matrix is **full rank** if its rank is equal to

 $\min(m, n)$ 

- **3** Ax = b has a solution x if and only if b is in the span of the columns of A. If Ax = b does have a solution, then the solution is unique if and only if the columns of A are linearly independent. If Ax = b does not have a solution, then there is a unique vector x which minimizes  $|Ax b|^2$ .
- If the columns of a square matrix A are linearly independent, then it has a unique **inverse matrix**  $A^{-1}$  with the property that  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  implies  $\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$  for all  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .
- **8** Matrix inversion satisfies  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$  if A and B are both invertible.
- **9** The **transpose** A' of a matrix A is defined so that the rows of A' are the columns of A (and vice versa).
- 10 The transpose is a linear operator: (cA + B)' = cA' + B' if c is a constant and A and B are matrices.
- 11 The transpose distributes across matrix multiplication but with an order reversal: (AB)' = B'A' if A and B are matrices for which AB is defined.
- **12** A matrix A is **symmetric** if A = A'.
- **13** A linear transformation T from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  scales all n-dimensional volumes by the same factor: the (absolute value of the) **determinant** of T.
- 14 The sign of the determinant tells us whether T reverses orientations.
- **15** det  $AB = \det A \det B$  and det  $A^{-1} = (\det A)^{-1}$ .
- **16** A square matrix is invertible if and only if its determinant is nonzero.

### Linear Algebra: Orthogonality

1 The **dot product** of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is defined by

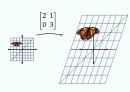
$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \dots + x_n y_n.$$

- **2**  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\| \cos \theta$ , where  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\theta$  is the angle between the vectors.
- $\mathbf{3} \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are orthogonal.
- 4 The dot product is linear:  $\mathbf{x} \cdot (c\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z}) = c\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z}$ .
- **5** The **orthogonal complement** of a subspace  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is the set of vectors which are orthogonal to every vector in V.
- **6** The orthogonal complement of the span of the columns of a matrix A is equal to the null space of A'.
- rank  $A = \operatorname{rank} A'A$  for any matrix A.
- **3** A list of vectors satisfying  $\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_j = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is **orthogonal**. An orthogonal list of unit vectors is **orthonormal**.
- 9 Every orthogonal list is linearly independent
- **10** A matrix U has orthonormal columns if and only if U'U = I. A square matrix with orthonormal columns is called **orthogonal**. An orthogonal matrix and its transpose are inverse.
- 11 Orthogonal matrices represent **rigid transformations** (ones which preserve lengths and angles).
- f 12 If U has orthonormal columns, then UU' is the matrix which represents projection onto the span of the columns of U.

### Linear Algebra: Spectral Analysis

**1** An **eigenvector v** of an  $n \times n$  matrix A is a nonzero vector with the property that A**v** =  $\lambda$ **v** for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . We call  $\lambda$  an **eigenvalue**.

If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of A, then A maps the line  $span(\{\mathbf{v}\})$ 



- ${f 2}$  Eigenvectors of A with distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent.
- $\blacksquare$  Not every  $n \times n$  matrix A has n linearly independent eigenvectors. If A does have n linearly independent eigenvectors, we can make a matrix V with these eigenvectors as columns and get

$$AV = V\Lambda \implies A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$$
 (diagonalization of A)

where  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues.

- 4 If  $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$ , then  $A^n = V\Lambda^n V^{-1}$ .
- $\blacksquare$  If A is a symmetric matrix, then A is **orthogonally diagonalizable**:

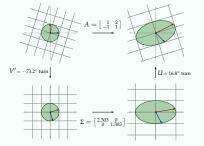
$$A = V\Lambda V'$$
,

where V is an orthogonal matrix (the **spectral theorem**).

③ A symmetric matrix is **positive semidefinite** if its eigenvalues are all nonnegative. We define the square root of a positive semidefinite matrix  $A = V\Lambda V'$  to be  $V\sqrt{\Lambda}V'$ , where  $\sqrt{\Lambda}$  is obtained by applying the square root function elementwise.

### Linear Algebra: SVD

- **1** The **Gram matrix** A'A of any  $m \times n$  matrix A is positive semidefinite. Furthermore,  $|\sqrt{A'Ax}| = |Ax|$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- **2** The **singular value decomposition** is the factorization of any rectangular  $m \times n$  matrix A as  $U\Sigma V'$ , where U and V are orthogonal and  $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  diagonal matrix (with diagonal entries in decreasing order).



- **3** The diagonal entries of  $\Sigma$  are the **singular values** of A, and the columns of U and V are called **left singular vectors** and **right singular vectors**, respectively. A maps each right singular vector  $\mathbf{v}_i$  to the corresponding left singular vector  $\mathbf{u}_i$  scaled by  $\sigma_i$ .
- **4** The vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  stretched the most by A are the ones which run in the direction of the column or columns of V corresponding to the greatest singular value. Same for least.
- **5** For  $k \ge 1$ , the k-dimensional vector space with minimal sum of squared distances to the columns of A (interpreted as points in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ) is the span of the first k columns of U.
- **6** The absolute value of the determinant of a square matrix is equal to the product of its singular values.

#### Multivariable calculus

- **1** A **sequence** of real numbers  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} = x_1, x_2, \dots$  **converges** to a number  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  if the distance from  $x_n$  to x on the number line can be made as small as desired by choosing n sufficiently large. We say  $\lim_{n\to\infty} x_n = x$  or  $x_n \to x$ .
- **(Squeeze theorem)** If  $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$  and if  $\lim_{n \to \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} c_n = b$ , then  $b_n \to b$  as  $n \to \infty$ .
- **3** (Comparison test) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges and if  $|a_n| \leq b_n$  for all n, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

Conversely, if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  does not converge and  $0 \le b_n < a_n$ , then  $\Sigma_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  also does not converge.

- **4** The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^p$  converges if and only if p < -1. The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a^n$  converges if and only if -1 < a < 1.
- $\blacksquare$  The **Taylor series**, centered at c, of an infinitely differentiable function f is defined to be

$$f(c) + f'(c)(x-c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!}(x-c)^2 + \frac{f'''(c)}{3!}(x-c)^3 + \cdots$$

- We can multiply or add Taylor series term-by-term, we can integrate or differentiate a Taylor series term-by-term, we can substitute one Taylor series into another to obtain a Taylor series for the composition.
- **The partial derivative**  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0)$  of a function f(x, y) at a point  $(x_0, y_0)$  is the slope of the graph of f in the x-direction at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$ .
- **3** Given  $\mathbf{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ , we define  $\partial \mathbf{f}/\partial \mathbf{x}$  to be the matrix whose (i,j)th entry is  $\partial f_i/\partial x_j$ . Then

(i) 
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(A\mathbf{x}) = A$$
 (ii)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}'A) = A'$  (iii)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{u}'\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u}'\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{v}'\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ .

lacksquare A function of two variables is **differentiable** at a point if its graph looks like a plane when you zoom in sufficiently around the point. More generally, a function  $\mathbf{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}$  if it is well-approximated by its derivative

$$\lim_{\Delta \mathbf{x} \to \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x}) - \left(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})\Delta \mathbf{x}\right)}{|\Delta \mathbf{x}|} = 0.$$

**10** The **Hessian**  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  is the matrix of its second order derivatives:  $\mathcal{H}_{i,j}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} f(\mathbf{x})$ .

The quadratic approximation of f at the origin is  $f(\mathbf{0}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{0})\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}'\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{0})\mathbf{x}$ .

- II Suppose that f is a continuous function defined on a closed and bounded subset D of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then:
- (i) f realizes an absolute maximum and absolute minimum on D (the extreme value theorem).
- (ii) Any point where f realizes an extremum is either a critical point—meaning that  $\nabla f=0$  or f is non-differentiable at that point—or at a point on the boundary
- (iii) (**Lagrange multipliers**) If f realizes an extremum at a point on a portion of the boundary which is the level set of a differentiable function g with non-vanishing gradient  $\nabla g$ , then either f is non-differentiable at that point or the equation

$$\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$$

is satisfied at that point, for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**13** If  $\mathbf{r}: \mathbb{R}^1 \to \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^1$ , then

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(f \circ \mathbf{r}) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{r}}{\mathrm{d}t}(t). \quad \text{(chain rule)}$$

**13** Integrating a function is a way of totaling up its values.  $\iint_D f(x,y) \, dx \, dy \text{ can be interpreted as the mass of an object}$ 

- occupying the region D and having mass density f(x,y) at each point (x,y).
- Double integration over D: the bounds for the outer integral are the smallest and largest values of y for any point in D, and the bounds for the inner integral are the smallest and largest values of x for any point in a given "y = constant" slice of the region.
- **18** Polar integration over D: the outer integral bounds are the least and greatest values of  $\theta$  for a point in D, and the inner integral bounds are the least and greatest values of r for any point in D along each given " $\theta$  = constant" ray. The area element is  $dA = r dr d\theta$ .

#### Numerical Computation: machine arithmetic

- ① Computers store numerical values as sequences of bits. The **type** of a numeric value specifies how to interpret the underlying sequence of bits as a number.
- 2 The Int64 type uses 64 bits to represent the integers from  $-2^{63}$  to  $2^{63}-1$ . For  $0 \le n \le 2^{63}-1$ , we represent n using its binary representation, and for  $1 \le n \le 2^{63}$ , we represent -n using the binary representation of  $2^{64}-n$ . Int64 arithmetic is performed modulo  $2^{64}$ .
- **3** The **Float64** type uses 64 bits to represent real numbers. We call the first bit  $\sigma$ , the next 11 bits (interpreted as a binary integer)  $e \in [0, 2047]$ , and the final 52 bits  $f \in [0, 2^{52} 1]$ . If  $e \notin \{0, 2047\}$ , then the number represented by  $(\sigma, e, f)$  is

$$x = (-1)^{\sigma} 2^{e-1023} \left( 1 + f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{52} \right).$$

The representable numbers between consecutive powers of 2 are the ones obtained by 52 recursive iterations of binary subdivision. The value of e indicates the powers of 2 that x is between, and the value of f indicates the position of x between those powers of 2.

The **Float64** exponent value e=2047 is reserved for Inf and NaN, while e=0 is reserved for the **subnormal numbers**:  $(\sigma,0,f)$  represents  $(-1)^{\sigma}f/2^{1074}$ .

The BigInt and BigFloat are types use an arbitrary number of bits and can handle very large numbers or very high precision. Computations are much slower than for 64-bit types.

#### **Numerical Computation: Error**

- **1** If  $\widehat{A}$  is an approximation for A, then the **relative error** is  $\widehat{A} = A$
- **2 Roundoff error** comes from rounding numbers to fit them into a floating point representation.
- **3 Truncation error** comes from using approximate mathematical formulas or algorithms.
- 4 Statistical error arises from using randomness in an approximation.
- **15** The **condition number** of a function measures how it stretches or compresses *relative* error. The condition number of a problem is the condition number of the map from the problem's initial data a to its solution S(a):

$$\kappa(a) = \frac{|a| |\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}a} \mathbf{S}(a)|}{|\mathbf{S}(a)|}.$$

**6** A problem is **well-conditioned** if its condition number is modest and **ill-conditioned** if the condition number is large.

- **?** The condition number of  $a \mapsto a^n$  is  $\kappa(a) = n$ , and the condition number of  $a \mapsto a b$  is  $\frac{a}{a b}$  (so subtracting b is ill-conditioned near b—this is called **catastrophic cancellation**)
- ② An algorithm which solves a problem with error much greater than  $\kappa\epsilon_{\rm mach}$  is **unstable**. An algorithm is unstable if at least one of the steps it performs is ill-conditioned. If every step of an algorithm is well-conditioned, then the algorithm is at table.
- 10 The condition number of an matrix A is defined to be the maximum condition number of the function  $x \mapsto Ax$  over its domain. The condition number is equal to the ratio of the largest to the smallest singular value of A.

### Numerical Computation: PRNGs

- 1 A pseudorandom number generator (PRNG) is an algorithm for generating a deterministic sequence of numbers which is intended to share properties with a sequence of random numbers. The PRNG's initial value is called its seed.
- **2** The **linear congruential generator**: fix positive integers M, a, and c, and consider a seed  $X_0 \in \{0, 1, \dots, M-1\}$ . We return the sequence  $X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots$ , where  $X_n = \text{mod}(aX_{n-1} + c, M)$  for  $n \ge 1$ .
- **3** The **period** of a PRNG is the minimum length of a repeating block. A long period is a desirable property of a PRNG, and a very short period is typically unacceptable.
- **4 Frequency tests** check whether blocks of terms appear with the appropriate frequency (for example, we can check whether  $a_{2n} > a_{2n-1}$  for roughly half of the values of n).

#### Numerical Computation: Automatic Differentiation

- 1 A dual number is an object that can be substituted into a function *f* to yield both the value of the function and its derivative at a point *x*.
- **2** If f is a function which can act on matrices, then  $\begin{bmatrix} x & 1 \\ 0 & x \end{bmatrix}$  represents a dual number at x, since  $f\left(\begin{bmatrix} x & 1 \\ 0 & x \end{bmatrix}\right) =$
- $\begin{bmatrix} f(x) f'(x) \\ 0 f(x) \end{bmatrix}$ . (This identity is true for any function f which can be defined as a limit of polynomial functions, since it can

can be defined as a limit of polynomial functions, since it can be checked to hold for f+g and fg whenever it holds for f and g, and it holds for the identity function).

To find the derivative of f with automatic differentiation, every step in the computation of f must be dual-number-aware. See the packages ForwardDiff (for Julia) and autograd (for Python).

# Numerical Computation: Optimization

- **1 Gradient descent** seeks to minimize  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  by repeatedly stepping in f's direction of maximum decrease. We begin with a value  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and repeatedly update using the rule  $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n \epsilon \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})$ , where  $\epsilon$  is the **learning rate**. We fix a small number  $\tau > 0$  and stop when  $|\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_n)| < \tau$ .
- ② A function is strictly **convex** if its Hessian is positive semidefinite everywhere. A strictly convex function has at most one local minimum, and any local minimum is also a global minimum. Gradient descent will find the global minimum for a convex function, but for non-convex functions it can get stuck in a local minimum.
- 3 Algorithms similar to gradient descent but with usually faster convergence: conjugate gradient, BFGS, L-BFGS.

### **Probability: Counting**

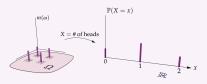
- **1 Fundamental principle of counting:** If one experiment has *m* possible outcomes, and if a second experiment has *n* possible outcomes for each of the outcomes in the first experiment, then there are *mn* possible outcomes for the pair of experiments.
- **2** The number of ways to arrange n objects in order is  $n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot n$  (read n factorial).
- **S Permutations**: if *S* is a set with *n* elements, then there are  $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$  ordered *r*-tuples of distinct elements of *S*.
- **4 Combinations**: The number of *r*-element subsets of an *n*-element set is  $\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$ .

## Probability: Probability Spaces

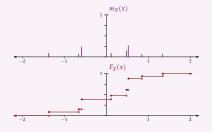
- **1** Given a random experiment, the set of possible outcomes is called the **sample space**  $\Omega$ , like  $\{(H,H),(H,T),(T,H),(T,T)\}$ .
- **2** We associate with each outcome  $\omega \in \Omega$  a **probability mass**, denoted  $m(\omega)$ . For example,  $m((H,T)) = \frac{1}{4}$ .
- **3** In a random experiment, an **event** is a predicate that can be determined based on the outcome of the experiment (like "first flip turned up heads"). Mathematically, an event is a subset of  $\Omega$  (like  $\{(H, H), (H, T)\}$ ).
- **4** Basic set operations  $\cup$ ,  $\cap$ , and  $^c$  correspond to disjunction, conjunction, and negation of events:
- (i) The event that *E* happens or *F* happens is  $E \cup F$ .
- (ii) The event that *E* happens and *F* happens is  $E \cap F$ .
- (iii) The event that E does not happen is  $E^{c}$ .
- **5** If *E* and *F* cannot both occur (that is,  $E \cap F = \emptyset$ ), we say that *E* and *F* are **mutually exclusive** or **disjoint**.
- **6** If *E*'s occurrence implies *F*'s occurrence, then  $E \subset F$ .
- **?** The probability  $\mathbb{P}(E)$  of an event E is the sum of the probability masses of the outcomes in that event. The domain of  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $2^{\Omega}$ , the set of all subsets of  $\Omega$ .
- **8** The pair  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$  is called a probability space. The fundamental probability space properties are
- (i)  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$  "something has to happen"
- (ii)  $\mathbb{P}(E) > 0$  "probabilities are non-negative"
- (iii)  $\mathbb{P}(E \cup F) = \mathbb{P}(E) + \mathbb{P}(F)$  if E and F are mutually exclusive "probability is additive".
- 9 Other properties which follow from the fundamental
- (i)  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$
- (ii)  $\mathbb{P}(E^{\mathsf{c}}) = 1 \mathbb{P}(E)$
- (iii)  $E \subset F \implies \mathbb{P}(E) \leq \mathbb{P}(F)$  (monotonicity)
- (iv)  $\mathbb{P}(E \cup F) = \mathbb{P}(E) + \mathbb{P}(F) \mathbb{P}(E \cap F)$  (principle of inclusion-exclusion).

# **Probability: Random Variables**

- $\blacksquare$  A random variable is a number which depends on the result of a random experiment (one's lottery winnings, for example). Mathematically, a random variable is a function X from the sample space  $\Omega$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- **2** The **distribution** of a random variable X is the probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  which maps each set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{P}(X \in A)$ . The probability mass function of the distribution of X may be obtained by pushing forward the probability mass from each  $\omega \in \Omega$ :



**3** The **cumulative distribution function** (CDF) of a random variable X is the function  $F_X(x) = \mathbb{P}(X \le x)$ .



**4** The **joint distribution** of two random variables X and Y is the probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which maps  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{P}((X,Y) \in A)$ . The probability mass function of the joint distribution is  $m_{(X,Y)}(x,y) = \mathbb{P}(X = x \text{ and } Y = y)$ .

### Probability: Conditional Probability

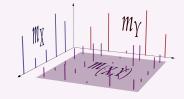
**1** Given a probability space  $\Omega$  and an event  $E \subset \Omega$ , the **conditional probability measure** given E is an updated probability measure on  $\Omega$  which accounts for the information that the result  $\omega$  of the random experiment falls in E:

$$\mathbb{P}(F \mid E) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(F \cap E)}{\mathbb{P}(E)}$$

- **2** The conditional probability mass function of Y given  $\{X=x\}$  is  $m_{Y\mid X=x}(y)=m_{X,Y}(x,y)/m_X(x)$ .
- **3** Bayes' theorem tells us how to update beliefs in light of new evidence. It relates the conditional probabilities  $\mathbb{P}(A \mid E)$  and  $\mathbb{P}(E \mid A)$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(A \mid E) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E \mid A)\mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(E)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E \mid A)\mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(E \mid A)\mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(E \mid A^c)\mathbb{P}(A^c)}$$

- **4** Two events E and F are **independent** if  $\mathbb{P}(E \cap F) = \mathbb{P}(E)\mathbb{P}(F)$ .
- **5** Two random variables X and Y are **independent** if the every pair of events of the form  $\{X \in A\}$  and  $\{Y \in B\}$  are independent, where  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $B \subset \mathbb{R}$ .
- **6** The PMF of the joint distribution of a pair of independent random variables factors as  $m_{X,Y}(x,y) = m_X(x)m_Y(y)$ :



### Probability: Expectation and Variance

**1** The **expectation**  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  (or **mean**  $\mu_X$ ) of a random variable X is the *probability-weighted average of* X:

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} X(\omega) m(\omega)$$

- ${f 2}$  The expectation  ${\Bbb E}[X]$  may be thought of as the value of a random game with payout X, or as the long-run average of X over many independent runs of the underlying experiment. The **Monte Carlo** approximation of  ${\Bbb E}[X]$  is obtained by simulating the experiment many times and averaging the value of X.
- The expectation is the center of mass of the distribution of *X*:
- **⚠** The expectation of a function of a discrete random variable (or two random variables) may be expressed in terms of the PMF  $m_X$  of the distribution of X (or the PMF  $m_{(X,Y)}$ ) of the joint distribution of X and Y):

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}[g(X)] &= \sum_{x \in \mathbb{R}} g(x) m_X(x) \\ \mathbb{E}[g(X,Y)] &= \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} g(x,y) m_{(X,Y)}(x,y). \end{split}$$

**5** Expectation is **linear**: if  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and X and Y are random variables defined on the same probability space, then

$$\mathbb{E}[cX + Y] = c\,\mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y]$$

- **6** The **variance** of a random variable is its average squared deviation from its mean. The variance measures how spread out the distribution of X is. The **standard deviation**  $\sigma(X)$  is the square root of the variance.
- **?** Variance satisfies the properties, if X and Y are independent random variables and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$Var(aX) = a^2 Var X$$

$$Var(X + Y) = Var(X) + Var(Y)$$

**3** The **covariance** of two random variables X and Y is the expected product of their deviations from their respective means  $\mu_X = \mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\mu_Y = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ :

$$\mathrm{Cov}(X,Y) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y].$$

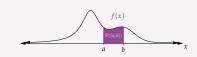
- **9** The covariance of two independent random variables is zero, but zero covariance does not imply independence.
- **10** The **correlation** of two random variables is their normalized covariance:

$$Corr(X,Y) = \frac{Cov(X,Y)}{\sigma(X)\sigma(Y)} \in [-1,1]$$

11 The covariance matrix of a vector  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, \dots, X_n]$  of random variables defined on the same probability space is defined to be the matrix  $\Sigma$  whose (i,j)th entry is equal to  $\mathrm{Cov}(X_i,X_j)$ . If  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{0}$ , then  $\Sigma = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}']$ .

### **Probability: Continuous Distributions**

**1** If  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{P}(A) = \int_A f$ , where  $f \geq 0$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f = 1$ , then we call  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$  a **continuous probability space**.



- **2** The function f is called a **density**, because it measures the amount of probability mass per unit volume at each point (2D volume = area, 1D volume = length).
- **③** If (X,Y) is a pair of random variables whose joint distribution has density  $f_{X,Y}: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ , then the conditional distribution of Y given the event  $\{X=x\}$  has density  $f_{Y\mid X=x}$  defined by

$$f_{Y|\{X=x\}}(y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)},$$

where  $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dy$  is the PDF of X.

**4** If a random variable *X* has density  $f_X$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x) f_X(x) \, \mathrm{d}x.$$

**5** CDF sampling:  $F^{-1}(U)$  has CDF F if  $f_U = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}$ .

### **Probability: Conditional Expectation**

**1** The **conditional expectation** of a random variable given an event is the expectation of the random variable calculated with respect to the conditional probability measure given that event: if (X, Y) has PMF  $m_{X,Y}$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[Y \mid X = x] = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{R}} y m_{Y \mid X = x}(y),$$

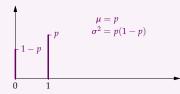
where  $m_{Y|X=x}(y) = \frac{m_{X,Y}(x,y)}{m_{Y}(x)}$ . If (X,Y) has pdf  $f_{X,Y}$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[Y \mid X = x] = \int_{\mathbb{D}} y f_{Y \mid X = x}(y) \, \mathrm{d}y.$$

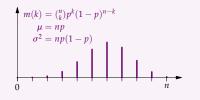
- **2** The conditional expectation of a random variable Y given another random variable X is obtained by substituting X for x in the expression for the conditional expectation of Y given X = x. Thus  $\mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]$  is a random variable.
- **3** If *X* and *Y* are independent, then  $\mathbb{E}[Y | X] = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ . If *Z* is a function of *X*, then  $\mathbb{E}[ZY | X] = Z\mathbb{E}[Y | X]$ .
- **4** The **law of iterated expectation**:  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y | X]] = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ .

# **Probability: Common Distributions**

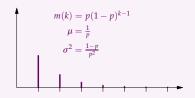
**1 Bernoulli** (Ber(p)): A weighted coin flip.



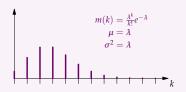
**2 Binomial** (Bin(n, p)): A sum of n independent Ber(p)'s.



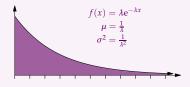
**3 Geometric** (Geom(p)): Time to first success (1) in a sequence of independent Ber(p)'s.



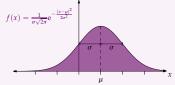
**4 Poisson distribution** (Poiss( $\lambda$ )): Limit as  $n \to \infty$  of Binomial $\left(n, \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)$ .



**5** Exponential distribution (Exp( $\lambda$ )): Limit as  $n \to \infty$  of distribution of 1/n times a Geometric( $\lambda/n$ ).



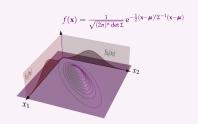
**3 Normal distribution**  $(\mathcal{N}(\mu,\sigma^2))$ : Limit as  $n\to\infty$  of the distribution of  $\frac{X_1+X_2+\cdots+X_n}{\sqrt{n}}$ , for any independent sequence  $X_1,\ldots,X_n$  of identically distributed random variables (i.i.d.) with  $\mathbb{E}[X_1]=\mu$  and  $\mathrm{Var}(X_1)=\sigma^2<\infty$  (see Central Limit Theorem).



**? Multivariate normal distribution**  $(\mathcal{N}(0,\Sigma))$ : if  $Z = (Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n)$  is a vector of independent  $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ 's, A is an  $m \times n$  matrix of constants, and  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , then the vector

$$X = AZ + \mu$$

is **multivariate normal**. The covariance matrix of X is  $\Sigma = AA'$ .



### Probability: Central Limit Theorem

**1** A sequence of random variables  $X_1, X_2, \ldots$ , **converges** in **probability** to X if  $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ , for any  $\epsilon > 0$ .

② A sequence  $v_1, v_2, \ldots$  of probability measures on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  converges to a probability measure v if  $v_n(A) \rightarrow v(A)$  for every set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  with the property that  $v(\partial A) = 0$  (intuitively, two measures are close if they put approximately the same amount of mass in approximately the same places). We say  $X_n$  **converges in distribution** to v if the distribution of  $X_n$  converges to v.

**3 Chebyshev's inequality**: if *X* is a random variable with variance  $\sigma^2$  < ∞, then *X* differs from its mean by more than *k* standard deviations with probability at most  $k^{-2}$ :

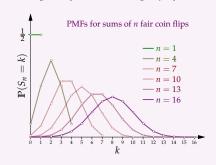
$$\mathbb{P}(|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| > k\sigma) \le \frac{1}{k^2}$$

**4 Law of large numbers**: if  $X_1, X_2, \ldots$  is a sequence of independent samples from a finite-variance distribution with mean  $\mu$ , then the sequence's running average converges in probability to  $\mu$ : for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{X_1+\cdots+X_n}{n}\notin [\mu-\epsilon,\mu+\epsilon]\right)\to 0,$$

as  $n \rightarrow 0$ 

**5** The PDF of a sum of n independent samples from a finite-variance distribution looks increasingly bell-shaped as n increases, regardless of the distribution being sampled from.



**6** We define the **standardized running sum** of  $X_1, X_2, ...$  to have zero mean and unit variance for all  $n \ge 1$ :

$$S_n^* = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n - n\mu}{\sigma\sqrt{n}}$$

**?** Central limit theorem: the sequence of standardized sums of an i.i.d. sequence of finite-variance random variables converges in distribution to  $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ : for any interval [a,b], we have

$$\mathbb{P}(S_n^* \in [a,b]) \to \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

as  $n \to \infty$ 

**8** Multivariate central limit theorem: If  $X_1, X_2,...$  is a sequence of independent random vectors whose common distribution has mean  $\mu$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , then

$$\frac{\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{X}_n - n\mu}{\sqrt{n}}$$

converges in distribution to  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ .

② The central limit theorem explains the ubiquity of the normal distribution in statistics: many random quantities may be realized as a sum of a multitude of independent contributions.

### Statistical Learning: Theory

**1 Statistical learning:** Given some samples from a probability space with an unknown probability measure, we seek to draw conclusions about the measure.

**②** Supervised learning: (X, Y) is drawn from an unknown probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$  on a product space  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ , and we aim to predict Y given X, based on a i.i.d. collection of samples from  $\mathbb{P}$  (the training data).

Example:  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2]$ , where  $X_1$  is the color of a banana,  $X_2$  is the weight of the banana, and Y is a measure of deliciousness. Values of  $X_1, X_2$ , and Y are recorded for many bananas, and they are used to predict Y for other bananas whose  $\mathbf{X}$  values are known.

**3** We call the components of **X** *features*, *predictors*, or *input variables*, and we call Y the *response variable* or *output variable*.

lacksquare A supervised learning problem is a **regression** problem if Y is quantitative  $(\mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R})$  and a **classification** problem if  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a set of labels.

**5** To choose a prediction function  $h: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$ , we specify a

- (i) a space  ${\cal H}$  of candidate functions, and
- (ii) a loss (or risk) functional L from  $\mathcal{H}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

The **target function** is  $\operatorname{argmin}_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L(h)$ .

6 If the loss functional for a regression problem is

$$L(h) = \mathbb{E}[(h(X) - Y)^2]$$

and  $\mathcal{H}$  contains  $r(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}[Y | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}]$ , then r is the target function. If the loss functional for a classification problem is

$$L(h) = \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbf{1}_{\{h(X)\neq Y\}}\right],$$

and  $\mathcal{H}$  contains  $G(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{argmax}_c \mathbb{P}(Y = c \,|\, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$ , then G is the target function.

☑ Since  $\mathbb{P}$  is unknown, we must approximate the target function with a function  $\hat{h}$  whose values can be computed from the training data. A **learner** is a function which takes a set of training data and returns a prediction function  $\hat{h}$ .

 $\blacksquare$  The **empirical probability measure** on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$  is the measure which assigns a probability mass of  $\frac{1}{n}$  to the location of each training sample  $(X_1, Y_1), (X_2, Y_2), \ldots, (X_n, Y_n)$ . The **empirical risk** of a candidate function h is the risk functional evaluated with respect to the empirical measure of the training data. The **empirical risk minimizer** (ERM) is the function which minimizes empirical risk.

**9 Generalization error** (or *test* error) is the difference between empirical risk and the actual value of the risk functional.

10 The ERM can **overfit**, meaning that test error and  $L(\hat{h})$  are large despite small empirical risk.

Example: if  $\mathcal{H}$  is the space of polynomials and no two training samples have the same  $\mathbf{x}$  values, then then there are functions in  $\mathcal{H}$  which have zero empirical risk.



11 Mitigate overfitting with inductive bias:

- (i) Use a restrictive class  $\mathcal H$  of candidate functions.
- (ii) **Regularize**: add a term to the loss functional which penalizes complexity.

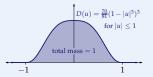
12 Inductive bias can lead to underfitting: relevant relations are missed, so both training and test error are larger than necessary. The tension between the costs of high inductive bias and the costs of low inductive bias is called the bias-complexity (or bias-variance) tradeoff.

13 No-free-lunch theorem: all learners are equal on average (over all possible problems), so inductive bias appropriate to a given type of problem is essential to have an effective learner for that type of problem.

### Statistical Learning: Kernel density estimation

**1** Given n samples  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$  from a distribution with density f on  $\mathbb{R}$ , we can estimate the PDF of the distribution by placing 1/n units of probability mass in a small pile around each sample.

We choose a kernel function for the shape of each pile:



**3** The width of each pile is specified by a **bandwidth**  $\lambda$ :  $D_{\lambda}(u) = \frac{1}{2} D\left(\frac{u}{1}\right)$ .

4 The **kernel density estimator** with bandwidth  $\lambda$  is the sum of the piles at each sample:

$$\widehat{f}_{\lambda}(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} D_{\lambda}(x - X_i).$$

**5** To choose a suitable bandwidth, we seek to minimize the integrated squared error (ISE)  $L(f) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} (f - \widehat{f})^2$ .

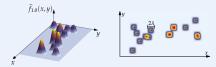
**6** We approximate the minimizer of *L* with the minimizer of the **cross-validation loss estimator** 

$$J(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{f}_{\lambda}^{2} - \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{f}_{\lambda}^{(-i)}(X_{i}),$$

where  $\widehat{f}_{\lambda}^{(-i)}$  is the KDE with the *i*th sample omitted.

If f is a density on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then we use the KDE

$$\widehat{f}_{\lambda}(x,y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} D_{\lambda}(x - X_i) D_{\lambda}(y - Y_i).$$



**3 Stone's theorem** says that the ratio of the CV ISE to the optimal- $\lambda$  ISE converges to 1 in probability as  $n \to \infty$ . Also, the optimal  $\lambda$  goes to 0 like  $\frac{1}{n^{1/5}}$ , and the minimal ISE goes to 0 like  $\frac{1}{4\sqrt{5}}$ .

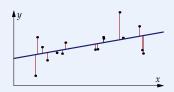
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i D(x - X_i) / \sum_{i=1}^{n} D(x - X_i).$$

#### Statistical Learning: Parametric regression

- $\blacksquare$  **Parametric regression** uses a family  $\mathcal H$  of candidate functions which is indexed by finitely many parameters.
- **2 Linear regression** uses the set of affine functions:  $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{x} \mapsto \beta_0 + [\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p] \cdot \mathbf{x} : \beta_0, \dots \beta_p \in \mathbb{R}\}.$
- 3 We choose the parameters to minimize a risk function, customarily the **residual sum of squares**:

$$RSS(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \beta_0 - \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i)^2 = |\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2,$$

where  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_n]$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = [\beta_0, \dots, \beta_p]$ , and X is an  $n \times (p+1)$  matrix whose ith row is a 1 followed by the components of  $\mathbf{x}_i$ .



- **4** The RSS minimizer is  $\beta = (X'X)^{-1}X'Y$ .
- 3 We can use the linear regression framework to do polynomial regression, since a polynomial is linear in its coefficients: we supplement the list of regressors with products of the original regressors.

# Statistical Learning: Optimal classification

- **1** Consider a classification problem with feature set  $\mathcal{X}$  and class set  $\mathcal{Y}$ . For each  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ , we define  $p_y = \mathbb{P}(Y = y)$  and let  $f_y$  be the conditional PMF or PDF of X given  $\{Y = y\}$  (y's class conditional distribution).
- ② Given a prediction function (or **classifier**) h and an enumeration of the elements of  $\mathcal{Y}$  as  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{|\mathcal{Y}|}\}$ , we define the (normalized) **confusion matrix** of h to be the  $|\mathcal{Y}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|$  matrix whose (i,j)th entry is  $\mathbb{P}(h(\mathbf{X}) = y_i \mid Y = y_j)$ .
- If  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-, +\}$ , the conditional probability of correct classification given a positive sample is the **detection rate** (DR), while the conditional probability of incorrect classification given a negative sample is the **false alarm rate** (FAR).
- 4 The **precision** of a classifier is the conditional probability that a sample is positive given that the classifier predicts positive, and **recall** is a synonym of detection rate.
- 3 The **likelihood ratio test** generalizes the Bayes classifier by allowing a variable tradeoff between false-alarm rate and detection rate: given t>0, we say  $h_t(\mathbf{x})=-1$  if  $f_+(\mathbf{x})/f_-(\mathbf{x})< t$  and  $h_t(\mathbf{x})=1$  otherwise.
- $holimits_{-}$  The Neyman-Pearson lemma says that no classifier does better on both false alarm rate and detection rate than  $h_t$ .
- f 8 The receiver operating characteristic of  $h_t$  is the curve

 $\{(FAR(h_t), DR(h_t)) : t \in [0, \infty]\}.$  1 The AUROC (area under the ROC) is close to 1 for an excellent classifier and close to  $\frac{1}{2}$  for a worthless one. NP says that no classifier is above the ROC. We choose a point on the ROC curve based on context-specific considerations.



### Statistical Learning: QDA, LDA, Naive Bayes

**1 Quadratic discriminant analysis** (QDA) is a classification algorithm which uses the training data to estimate the mean  $\mu_y$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma_y$  of each class conditional distribution:

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{y} = \operatorname{mean}(\{\mathbf{x}_{i} : y_{i} = y\})$$

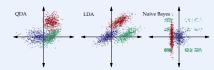
$$\widehat{\Sigma}_{V} = \text{mean}(\{(\mathbf{x}_{i} - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{V})(\mathbf{x}_{i} - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{V})' : y_{i} = y\}).$$

Each distribution is assumed to be multivariate normal  $(\mathcal{N}(\hat{\mu}_y, \hat{\Sigma}_y))$  and the classifier  $h(y) = \operatorname{argmax}_y \hat{p}_y \hat{f}_y(\mathbf{x})$  is proposed (where  $\{\hat{p}_y: y \in \mathcal{Y}\}$  are the class proportions from the training data).

- 2 Linear discriminant analysis (LDA) is the same as QDA except the class covariance matrices are assumed to be equal and are estimated using all of the data, not just class-specific samples.
- **3** QDA and LDA are so named because they yield class prediction boundaries which are quadric surfaces and hyperplanes, respectively.
- 4 Naive Bayes classifier assumes that the features are conditionally independent given *Y*:

$$f_{\mathcal{Y}}(x_1,\ldots,x_p) = f_{\mathcal{Y},1}(x_1)\cdots f_{\mathcal{Y},d}(x_p),$$
 for some  $f_{\mathcal{Y},1},\ldots f_{\mathcal{Y},p}.$ 

**5** Example assumption-satisfying data sets:



### Statistical Learning: Logistic regression

**1 Logistic regression** for binary classification estimates  $r(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 \mid X = x)$  as a *logistic function* of a linear function of  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\hat{r}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\alpha + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{x}),$$

where

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

 $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}.$ 2 We choose  $\alpha$  and  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p$  to minimize the risk

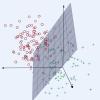
 $L(r) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ y_i \log \frac{1}{r(x_i)} + (1 - y_i) \log \frac{1}{1 - r(x_i)} \right],$ 

which applies large penalty if  $y_i = 1$  and  $r(x_i)$  is close to zero or if  $y_i = 0$  and  $r(x_i)$  is close to 1.

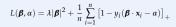
**3** *L* is convex, so it can be reliably minimized using numerical optimization algorithms.

### Statistical Learning: Support vector machines

**1** A support vector machine (SVM) chooses a hyperplane  $H \subset \mathbb{R}^p$  and predicts classification  $(\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\})$  based on which side of H the feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$  lies on.

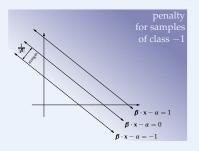


- **2**  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \operatorname{sgn}(\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{x} \alpha)$  is the prediction function, where  $H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p : \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{x} \alpha = 0\}.$
- 3 We train the SVM with the



where  $[u]_+$  denotes  $\max(0, u)$ , the positive part of u.

**4** The parameters  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  encode both H and the a distance—called the **margin**—from H to a parallel hyperplane where we begin penalizing for lack of decisively correct classification. The margin is  $1/|\beta|$  (and can be adjusted without changing H by scaling  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$ ).



- **6 Kernelization**: mapping the feature vectors to a higher dimensional space allows us to find nonlinear separating surfaces in the original feature space.

### Statistical Learning: Neural networks

- **1** A **neural network** function  $N : \mathbb{R}^p \to \mathbb{R}^q$  is a composition of affine transformations and componentwise applications of a function  $K : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ .
  - (i) We call K the activation function. Common choices:
     (a) u → max(0, u) (rectifier, or ReLU)
    - (b)  $u \mapsto 1/(1+e^{-u})$  (logistic)
- (ii) Component-wise application of K on  $\mathbb{R}^t$  refers to the function  $K.(x_1, \dots, x_t) = (K(x_1), \dots, K(x_t))$ .
- (iii) An affine transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^t$  to  $\mathbb{R}^s$  is a map of the form  $A(\mathbf{x}) = W\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$ , where W is an  $s \times t$  matrix and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^s$ . Entries of W are called weights and entries of  $\mathbf{b}$  are called biases.



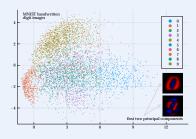
- 2 The architecture of a neural network is the sequence of dimensions of the domains and codomains of its affine maps. For example, a neural net with  $W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{5 \times 3}$ ,  $W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 5}$ , and  $W_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 4}$  has architecture [3,5,4,1].
- 4 For classification, we
- (i) let  $\mathbf{y}_i = [0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots 0] \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{Y}|}$ , with the location of the nonzero entry indicating class (this is called **one-hot encoding**).
- (ii) replace the identity map in the diagram with the **softmax** function  $\mathbf{u}\mapsto \left[e^{u_j}/\left(\sum_{k=1}^n e^{u_k}\right)\right]_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{Y}|}$ , and
- (iii) replace the cost function with  $C(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}_i) = -\log(\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{y}_i)$ .

- **5** When the weight matrices are large, they have many parameters to tune. We use a custom optimization scheme:
- (i) Start with random weights and a training input  $x_i$ .
- (ii) Forward propagation: apply each successive map and store the vectors at each green or purple node. The vectors stored at the green nodes are called activations.
- (iii) **Backpropagation**: starting with the *last* green node and working left, compute the change in cost per small change in the vector at each green or purple node. By the chain rule, each such gradient is equal to the gradient computed at right-adjacent node times the derivative of map between the two nodes. The derivative of  $A_j$  is  $W_j$ , and the derivative of K. is  $\mathbf{v}\mapsto \mathrm{diag}\left(\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}K}{\mathrm{d}u}\right)(\mathbf{v})\right)$ .
- (iv) Compute the change in cost per small change in the weights and biases at each blue node. Each such gradient is equal to the gradient stored at the next purple node times the derivative of the intervening affine map. We have  $\frac{\partial (Wx+b)}{\partial b} = I \text{ and } \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial (Wx+b)}{\partial W} = \mathbf{v'}\mathbf{x'}.$
- (v) Stochastic gradient descent: repeat (ii)—(iv) for each sample in a randomly chosen subset of the training set and determine the average desired change in weights and biases to reduce the cost function. Update the weights and biases accordingly and iterate to convergence.

### Statistical Learning: Dimension reduction

- **1** The goal of **dimension reduction** is to map a set of n points in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  to a lower-dimensional space  $\mathbb{R}^k$  while retaining as much of the data's structure as possible.
- ② Dimension reduction can be used as a visualization aid or as a feature pre-processing step in a machine learning model.
- Structure may be taken to mean variation about the center, in which case we use principal component analysis:
- (i) Store the points' components in an  $n \times p$  matrix,
- (ii) de-mean each column,
- (iii) compute the SVD  $U\Sigma V'$  of the resulting matrix, and
- (iv) let W be the first k columns of V.

Then  $WW': \mathbb{R}^p \to \mathbb{R}^p$  is the rank-k projection matrix which minimizes the sum of squared projection distances of the points, and  $W': \mathbb{R}^p \to \mathbb{R}^k$  maps each point to its coordinates in that k-dimensional subspace (with respect to the columns of W).



**4** Structure may be taken to mean pairwise proximity of points, which **stochastic neighbor embedding** attempts to preserve. Given the data points  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  and a parameter  $\rho$  called the **perplexity** of the model, we define

$$P_{i,j}(\sigma) = \frac{e^{-|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|^2/(2\sigma^2)}}{\sum_{k \neq j} e^{-|\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j|^2/(2\sigma^2)}},$$

and for each j we define  $\sigma_j$  to be the solution  $\sigma$  of the equation

$$2^{-\sum_{i\neq j}P_{i,j}(\sigma)\log_2P_{i,j}(\sigma)}=\rho.$$

We define  $p_{i,j}=\frac{1}{2n}(P_{i,j}(\sigma_j)+P_{j,i}(\sigma_i))$ , which describes the similarity of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_j$ . Given  $\mathbf{y}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{y}_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ , we define similarities

$$q_{i,j} = \frac{(1 + |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2)^{-1}}{\sum_{k \neq j} (1 + |\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{y}_j|^2)^{-1}}.$$

We choose  $\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$  to minimize

$$C(\mathbf{y}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{y}_n) = \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} p_{i,j} \log_2 \frac{p_{i,j}}{q_{i,j}}.$$



#### Statistics: Point estimation

- 1 The central problem of statistics is to make inferences about a population or data-generating process based on the information in a finite sample drawn from the population.
- 2 Parametric estimation involves an assumption that the distribution of the data-generating process comes from a family of distributions parameterized by finitely many real numbers, while nonparametric estimation does not. Examples: QDA is a parametric density estimator, while kernel density estimation is nonparametric.
- Point estimation is the inference of a single real-valued feature of the distribution of the data-generating process (such as its mean, variance, or median).
- ⚠ A **statistical functional** is any function T from the set of distributions to  $[-\infty,\infty]$ . An **estimator**  $\widehat{\theta}$  is a random variable defined in terms of n i.i.d. random variables, the purpose of which is to approximate some statistical functional of the random variables' common distribution. *Example: Suppose that*  $T(v) = the mean of v, and that <math>\widehat{\theta} = (X_1 + \cdots + X_n)/n$ .
- **⑤** The empirical measure  $\hat{v}$  of  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$  is the probability measure which assigns mass  $\frac{1}{n}$  to each sample's location. The **plug-in estimator** of  $\theta = T(v)$  is obtained by applying T to the empirical measure:  $\hat{\theta} = T(\hat{v})$ .
- **6** Given a distribution v and a statistical functional T, let  $\theta = T(v)$ . The **bias** of an estimator of  $\theta$  is the difference between the estimator's expected value and  $\theta$ . Example: The expectation of the sample mean  $\hat{\theta} = (X_1 + \dots + X_n)/n$  is  $\mathbb{E}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)/n = \mathbb{E}[v]$ , so the bias of the sample mean is the sample me
- $\ref{eq:theory}$  The standard error  $\mathrm{se}(\widehat{\theta})$  of an estimator  $\widehat{\theta}$  is its standard deviation.
- **8** An estimator is **consistent** if  $\widehat{\theta} \to \theta$  in probability as  $n \to \infty$ .
- The mean squared error of an estimator is defined to be

$$MSE(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[(\widehat{\theta} - \theta)^2].$$

10 MSE is equal to variance plus squared bias. Therefore, MSE converges to zero as the number of samples goes to  $\infty$  if and only if variance and bias both converge to zero.

#### Statistics: Confidence interva

- Consider an unknown probability distribution v from which we get n independent samples  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ , and suppose that  $\theta$  is the value of some statistical functional of v. A **confidence interval** for  $\theta$  is an interval-valued function of the sample data  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ . A confidence interval has **confidence level**  $1 \alpha$  if it contains  $\theta$  with probability at least  $1 \alpha$ .
- **②** If  $\hat{\theta}$  is unbiased, then  $(\hat{\theta} k \operatorname{se}(\hat{\theta}), \hat{\theta} + k \operatorname{se}(\hat{\theta}))$  is a 1 −  $\frac{1}{k^2}$  confidence interval, by Chebyshev's inequality.
- If  $\hat{\theta}$  is unbiased and approximately normally distributed, then  $\left(\hat{\theta}-1.96\,\mathrm{se}(\hat{\theta}),\hat{\theta}+1.96\,\mathrm{se}(\hat{\theta})\right)$  is an approximate 95% confidence interval, since 95% of the mass of the standard normal distribution is in the interval [-1.96,1.96].
- ⚠ Let  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , and suppose that T is a function from the set of distributions to the set of real-valued functions on I. A  $1-\alpha$  confidence band for T(v) is pair of random functions  $y_{\min}$  and  $y_{\max}$  from I to  $\mathbb{R}$  defined in terms of n independent samples from v and having  $y_{\min} \leq T(v) \leq y_{\max}$  everywhere on I with probability at least  $1-\alpha$ .

### Statistics: Empirical CDF convergence

Statistics is predicated on the idea that a distribution is

well-approximated by independent samples therefrom. The Glivenko-Cantelli theorem is one formalization of this idea: If F is the CDF of a distribution v and  $\widehat{F}_n$  is the CDF of the empirical distribution  $\widehat{v}_n$  of n samples from v, then  $F_n$  converges to F along the whole number line:



$$\max_{x\in\mathbb{R}}|F(x)-\widehat{F}_n(x)|\to 0 \text{ as } n\to\infty,$$

n probability.

2 The **Dvoretzky-Kiefer-Wolfowitz inequality** (DKW) says that the graph of  $\hat{F}_n$  lies in the  $\epsilon$ -band around the graph of F with probability at least  $1-2e^{-2n\epsilon^2}$ .

### Statistics: Bootstrapping

- Bootstrapping is the use of simulation to approximate the value of the plug-in estimator of a statistical functional which is expressed in terms of independent samples from v. Example: if  $\theta = T(v)$  is the variance of the median of 3 independent samples from v, then the bootstrap estimate of  $\theta$  is obtained as a Monte Carlo approximation of  $T(\widehat{v})$ : we sample 3 times (with replacement) from  $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ , record the median, repeat B times for B large, and take the sample variance of the resulting list of B numbers.
- ${f 2}$  The bootstrap approximation of  $T(\widehat{v})$  may be made as close to  $T(\widehat{v})$  as desired by choosing B large enough. The difference between T(v) and  $T(\widehat{v})$  is likely to be small if n is large (that is, if many samples from v are available).
- The bootstrap is useful for computing standard errors, since the standard error of an estimator is often infeasible to compute analytically but conducive to Monte Carlo approximation

#### Statistics: Maximum likelihood estimation

**1** Maximum likelihood estimation is a general approach for proposing an estimator. Consider a parametric family  $\{f_{\theta}(x) : \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$  of PDFs or PMFs. Given  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the likelihood  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{x}} : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{x}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(x_1) f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(x_2) \cdots f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(x_n).$$

If **X** is a vector of n independent samples drawn from  $f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(x)$ , then  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  is small or zero when  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is not in accordance with the observed data.

Example: Suppose  $x \mapsto f(x;\theta)$  is the density of a uniform random variable on  $[0,\theta]$ . We observe four samples drawn from this distribution: 1.41, 2.45, 6.12, and 4.9. Then the likelihood of  $\theta=5$  is zero, and the likelihood of  $\theta=10^6$  is very small.

The maximum likelihood estimator is

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{MLE} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \subset \mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

Equivalently,  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathrm{MLE}} = \mathrm{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \; \ell_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ , where  $\ell_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  denotes the logarithm of  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ .

Example: Suppose that  $x \mapsto f(x; \mu, \sigma^2)$  is the normal density with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then the maximum likelihood estimator is the minimizer of the log-likelihood

$$-\frac{n}{2}\log 2\pi - n\log \sigma - \frac{(X_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \dots - \frac{(X_n - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

Setting the derivatives with respect to  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  equal to zero, we find  $\mu = \overline{X} = \frac{1}{n}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)$  and  $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n}((X_1 - \overline{X})^2 + \dots + (X_n - \overline{X})^2)$ . So the maximum likelihood estimators agree with the plue-in estimators.

- **3** MLE enjoys several nice properties: under certain regularity conditions, we have (stated for  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^1$ ):
- (i) Consistency:  $\mathbb{E}[(\widehat{\theta}-\theta)^2] \to 0$  as the number of samples goes to  $\infty$ .
- (ii) **Asymptotic normality**:  $(\widehat{\theta} \theta) / \sqrt{\operatorname{Var} \widehat{\theta}}$  converges to  $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$  as the number of samples goes to  $\infty$ .
- (iii) Asymptotic optimality: the MSE of the MLE converges to 0 approximately as fast as the MSE of any other consistent estimator.
- A Potential difficulties with the MLE:
- (i) Computational challenges. It might be hard to work out where the maximum of the likelihood occurs, either analytically or numerically.
- (ii) Misspecification. The MLE may be inaccurate if the distribution of the samples is not in the specified parametric family.
- (iii) **Unbounded likelihood**. If the likelihood function is not bounded, then  $\widehat{\theta}$  is not well-defined.

## Statistics: Hypothesis testing

- Hypothesis testing is a disciplined framework for adjudicating whether observed data do not support a given hypothesis
- 2 Consider an unknown distribution from which we will observe n samples  $X_1, \ldots X_n$ .
- (i) We state a hypothesis  $H_0$ -called the **null hypothesis**-about the distribution.
- (ii) We come up with a **test statistic** T, which is a function of the data  $X_1, \dots X_n$ , for which we can evaluate the distribution of T assuming the null hypothesis.
- (iii) We give an **alternative hypothesis**  $H_{\rm a}$  under which T is expected to be significantly different from its value under  $H_{\rm 0}$ .
- (iv) We give a significance level  $\alpha$  (like 5% or 1%), and based on  $H_a$  we determine a set of values for T—called the *critical region*—which T would be in with probability at most  $\alpha$  under the null hypothesis.
- (v) After setting H<sub>0</sub>, H<sub>a</sub>, α, T, and the critical region, we run the experiment, evaluate T on the samples we get, and record the result as t<sub>obs</sub>.
- (vi) If  $t_{obs}$  falls in the critical region, we reject the null hy-

pothesis. The corresponding *p*-value is defined to be the minimum *a*-value which would have resulted in rejecting the null hypothesis, with the critical region chosen in the same way\*.

Example: Muriel Bristol claims that she can tell by taste whether the tea or the milk was poured into the cup first. She is given eight cups of tea, four poured milk-first and four poured tea-first.

We posit a null hypothesis that she isn't able to discern the pouring method, under which the number of cups identified correctly is 4 with probability  $1/\binom{8}{4} \approx 1.4\%$  and at least 3 with probability  $17/70 \approx 24\%$ . Therefore, at the 5% significance level, only a correct identification of all the cups would give us grounds to reject the null hypothesis. The p-value in that case would be 1.4%.

- ☑ Failure to reject the null hypothesis is not necessarily evidence *for* the null hypothesis. The **power** of a hypothesis test is the conditional probability of rejecting the null hypothesis given that the alternative hypothesis is true. A *p*-value may be low either because the null hypothesis is true or because the test has low power.
- ⚠ The **Wald test** is based on the normal approximation. Consider a null hypothesis  $\theta = 0$  and the alternative hypothesis  $\theta \neq 0$ , and suppose that  $\hat{\theta}$  is approximately normally distributed. The Wald test rejects the null hypothesis at the 5% significance level if  $|\hat{\theta}| > 1.96 \text{ se}(\hat{\theta})$ .
- **3** The **random permutation test** is applicable when the null hypothesis is that the mean of a given random variable is equal for two populations.
- (i) We compute the difference between the sample means for the two groups.
- (ii) We randomly re-assign the group labels and compute the resulting sample mean differences. Repeat many times.
- (iii) We check where the original difference falls in the sorted list of re-sampled differences.

Example: Suppose the heights of the Romero sons are 72, 69, 68, and 66 inches, and the heights of the Larsen sons are 70, 65, and 64 inches. Consider the null hypothesis that the expected heights are the same for the two families, and the alternative hypothesis that the Romero sons are taller on average (with  $\alpha=5\%$ ). We find that the sample mean difference of about 2.4 inches is larger than 88.5% of the mean differences obtained by resampling many times. Since 88.5% < 95%, we retain the null hypothesis.

[3] If we conduct many hypothesis tests, then the probability of obtaining some false rejections is high (xkcd. com/882). This is called the **multiple testing problem**. The **Bonferroni** method is to reject the null hypothesis only for those tests whose *p*-values are less than  $\alpha$  divided by the number of hypothesis tests being run. This ensures that the probability of having even one false rejection is less than  $\alpha$ , so it is very conservative.

### Statistics: dplyr and ggplot2

1 dplyr is an R package for manipulating data frames. The following functions filter rows, sort rows, select columns, add columns, group, and aggregate the columns of a grouped data frame.

```
flights %>%
filter(month == 1, day < 5) %>%
arrange(day, distance) %>%
select(month, day, distance, air_time) %>%
mutate(speed = distance / air_time * 60) %>%
group_by(day) %>%
summarise(avgspeed = mean(speed,na.rm=TRUE))
```

2 ggplot2 is an R package for data visualization. Graphics are built as a sum of *layers*, which consist of a data frame, a **geom**, a **stat**, and a mapping from the data to the geom's **aesthetics** (like x, y, color, or size). The appearance of the plot can be customized with scales, coords, and themes.