

# Feature selection

LING 572

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# Creating attribute-value table

	$f_1$	$f_2$	$\dots$	$f_k$	$y$
$x_1$					
$x_2$					
$\dots$					

- Choose features:
  - Define feature templates
  - Instantiate the feature templates
  - Dimensionality reduction: feature selection
- Feature weighting
  - The weight for  $f_k$ : the whole column
  - The weight for  $f_k$  in  $d_i$ : a cell

# An example: text classification task

- Define feature templates:
  - One template only: word
- Instantiate the feature templates
  - All the words appeared in the training (and test) data
- Dimensionality reduction: feature selection
  - Remove stop words
- Feature weighting
  - Feature value: term frequency (tf), or tf-idf

# Outline

- Dimensionality reduction
- Some scoring functions \*\*
- Chi-square score and Chi-square test
- Hw4

In this lecture, we will use “term” and “feature” interchangeably.

# Dimensionality reduction (DR)

# Dimensionality reduction (DR)

- What is DR?
  - Given a feature set  $r$ , create a new set  $r'$ , s.t.
    - $r'$  is much smaller than  $r$ , and
    - the classification performance does not suffer too much.
- Why DR?
  - ML algorithms do not scale well.
  - DR can reduce overfitting.

# Types of DR

- $r$  is the original feature set,  $r'$  is the one after DR.
- Local DR vs. Global DR
  - Global DR:  $r'$  is the same for every category
  - Local DR: a different  $r'$  for each category
- Term extraction vs. term selection

# Term selection vs. extraction

- Term selection:  $r'$  is a subset of  $r$ 
  - Wrapping methods: score terms by training and evaluating classifiers.
    - ➔ expensive and classifier-dependent
  - Filtering methods
- Term extraction: terms in  $r'$  are obtained by combinations or transformation of  $r$  terms.
  - Term clustering:
  - Latent semantic indexing (LSI)



# Term selection by filtering

- Main idea: scoring terms according to predetermined numerical functions that measure the “importance” of the terms.
- It is fast and classifier-independent.
- Scoring functions:
  - Information Gain
  - Mutual information
  - chi square
  - ...

# Quick summary so far

- DR: to reduce the number of features
  - Local DR vs. global DR
  - Term extraction vs. term selection
- Term extraction
  - Term clustering:
  - Latent semantic indexing (LSI)
- Term selection
  - Wrapping method
  - Filtering method: different functions

# Some scoring functions

# Basic distributions (treating features as binary)

Probability distributions on the event space  
of documents:

$P(t_k)$ : The % of docs where  $t_k$  occurs

$P(\bar{t}_k)$ ,  $P(c_i)$ ,  $P(\bar{c}_i)$

$P(t_k, c_i)$ ,  $P(t_k, \bar{c}_i)$ ,  $P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)$ ,  $P(\bar{t}_k, \bar{c}_i)$ .

$P(t_k|c_i)$ ,  $P(t_k|\bar{c}_i)$ ,  $P(\bar{t}_k|c_i)$ ,  $P(\bar{t}_k|\bar{c}_i)$ .

# Calculating basic distributions

	$\bar{c}_i$	$c_i$
$\bar{t}_k$	a	b
$t_k$	c	d

$$P(t_k, c_i) = d/N$$

$$P(t_k) = (c + d)/N, P(c_i) = (b + d)/N$$

$$P(t_k|c_i) = d/(b + d)$$

$$\text{where } N = a + b + c + d$$

# Term selection functions

- Intuition: for a category  $c_i$ , the most valuable terms are those that are distributed most differently in the sets of possible and negative examples of  $c_i$ .

# Term selection functions

Document frequency:

the num of docs in which  $t_k$  occurs

Pointwise mutual information:

$$MI(t_k, c_i) = \log \frac{P(t_k, c_i)}{P(c_i)P(t_k)}$$

Information gain:  $IG(t_k, c_i) =$

$$P(t_k, c_i) \log \frac{P(t_k, c_i)}{P(c_i)P(t_k)} + P(\bar{t}_k, c_i) \log \frac{P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)}{P(c_i)P(\bar{t}_k)}$$

# Information gain

- $IG(Y|X)$ : We must transmit  $Y$ . How many bits on average would it save us if both ends of the line knew  $X$ ?
- Definition:  
$$IG(Y, X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$



# Information gain\*\*

$$\sum_i IG(t_k, c_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{t \in \{t_k, \bar{t}_k\}} P(t, c) \log \frac{P(t, c)}{P(c)P(t)} \\ &= \sum_{c \in C} \sum_t P(t, c) \log P(c|t) \\ &\quad - \sum_c \sum_t P(t, c) \log P(c) \\ &= -H(C|T) - \sum_c ((\log P(c)) \sum_t P(t, c)) \\ &= -H(C|T) + H(C) = IG(C|T) \end{aligned}$$

# More term selection functions\*\*

GSS coefficient:

$$GSS(t_k, c_i) = P(t_k, c_i)P(\bar{t}_k, \bar{c}_i) - P(t_k, \bar{c}_i)P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)$$

NGL coefficient: N is the total number of docs

$$NGL(t_k, c_i) = \frac{\sqrt{N} GSS(t_k, c_i)}{\sqrt{P(t_k)P(\bar{t}_k)P(c_i)P(\bar{c}_i)}}$$

Chi-square: (one of the definitions)

$$\chi^2(t_k, c_i) = NGL(t_k, c_i)^2 = \frac{(ad-bc)^2 N}{(a+b)(a+c)(b+d)(c+d)}$$

# More term selection functions\*\*

Relevancy score:

$$RS(t_k, c_i) = \log \frac{P(t_k|c_i) + d}{P(\bar{t}_k|\bar{c}_i) + d}$$

Odds Ratio:

$$OR(t_k, c_i) = \frac{P(t_k|c_i)P(\bar{t}_k|\bar{c}_i)}{P(\bar{t}_k|c_i)P(t_k|\bar{c}_i)}$$

# Global DR

- For local DR, calculate  $f(t_k, c_i)$ .
- For global DR, calculate one of the following:

$$\text{Sum: } f_{sum}(t_k) = \sum_{i=1}^{|C|} f(t_k, c_i)$$

$$\text{Average: } f_{avg}(t_k) = \sum_{i=1}^{|C|} f(t_k, c_i) P(c_i)$$

$$\text{Max: } f_{max}(t_k) = \max_{i=1}^{|C|} f(t_k, c_i)$$

$|C|$  is the number of classes

# Which function works the best?

- It depends on
  - Classifiers
  - Data
  - ...
- According to (Yang and Pedersen 1997):
$$\{OR, NGL, GSS\} > \{\chi_{max}^2, IG_{sum}\}$$
$$> \{\#_{avg}\} >> \{MI\}$$

# Feature weighting

# Alternative feature values

- Binary features: 0 or 1.
- Term frequency (TF): the number of times that  $t_k$  appears in  $d_i$ .
- Inversed document frequency (IDF):  $\log |D| / d_k$ , where  $d_k$  is the number of documents that contain  $t_k$ .
- $TFIDF = TF * IDF$
- Normalized TFIDF: 
$$w_{ik} = \frac{tfidf(d_i, t_k)}{Z}$$

# Feature weights

- Feature weight  $\in \{0,1\}$ : same as DR
  - Feature weight  $\in \mathbb{R}$ : iterative approach:
    - Ex: MaxEnt
- ➔ Feature selection is a special case of feature weighting.



# Summary so far

- Curse of dimensionality → dimensionality reduction (DR)
- DR:
  - Term extraction
  - Term selection
    - Wrapping method
    - Filtering method: different functions

# Summary (cont)

- Functions:
  - Document frequency
  - Mutual information
  - Information gain
  - Gain ratio
  - Chi square
  - ...

# Chi square

# Chi square

- An example: is gender a good feature for predicting footwear preference?
  - A: gender
  - B: footwear preference
- Bivariate tabular analysis:
  - Is there a relationship between two random variables A and B in the data?
  - How strong is the relationship?
  - What is the direction of the relationship?

# Raw frequencies

	sandal	sneaker	Leather shoe	boots	others
male	6	17	13	9	5
female	13	5	7	16	9

Feature: male/female

Classes: {sandal, sneaker, ....}

# Two distributions

Observed distribution (O):

	Sandal	Sneaker	Leather	Boot	Others
Male	6	17	13	9	5
Female	13	5	7	16	9

Expected distribution (E):

	Sandal	Sneaker	Leather	Boot	Others	Total
Male						50
Female						50
Total	19	22	20	25	14	100

# Two distributions

Observed distribution (O):

	Sandal	Sneaker	Leather	Boot	Others	Total
Male	6	17	13	9	5	50
Female	13	5	7	16	9	50
Total	19	22	20	25	14	100

Expected distribution (E):

	Sandal	Sneaker	Leather	Boot	Others	Total
Male	9.5	11	10	12.5	7	50
Female	9.5	11	10	12.5	7	50
Total	19	22	20	25	14	100

# Chi square

- Expected value =  
row total \* column total / table total
- $\chi^2 = \sum_{ij} (O_{ij} - E_{ij})^2 / E_{ij}$
- $\chi^2 = (6-9.5)^2/9.5 + (17-11)^2/11 + \dots$   
 $= 14.026$



# Calculating $\chi^2$

- Fill out a contingency table of the observed values  $\rightarrow O$
- Compute the row totals and column totals
- Calculate expected value for each cell assuming no association  $\rightarrow E$
- Compute chi square:  $(O-E)^2/E$

# When r=2 and c=2

O =

	$\bar{c}_i$	$c_i$	total
$\bar{t}_k$	a	b	a+b
$t_k$	c	d	c+d
total	a+c	b+d	N

E =

	$\bar{c}_i$	$c_i$	total
$\bar{t}_k$	$\frac{(a+c)(a+b)}{N}$	$\frac{(b+d)(a+b)}{N}$	a+b
$t_k$	$\frac{(a+c)(c+d)}{N}$	$\frac{(b+d)(c+d)}{N}$	c+d
total	a+c	b+d	N

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i,j} \frac{(O_{i,j} - E_{i,j})^2}{E_{i,j}} = \frac{(ad-bc)^2 N}{(a+b)(a+c)(b+d)(c+d)}$$

$\chi^2$  test

# Basic idea

- Null hypothesis (the tested hypothesis): no relation exists between two random variables.
- Calculate the probability of having the observation with that  $\chi^2$  value, assuming the hypothesis is true.
- If the probability is too small, reject the hypothesis.

# Requirements

- The events are assumed to be independent and have the same distribution.
- The outcomes of each event must be mutually exclusive.
- At least 5 observations per cell.
- Collect raw frequencies, not percentages

# Degree of freedom

- Degree of freedom  $df = (r - 1) (c - 1)$   
r: # of rows    c: # of columns
- In this Ex:  $df = (2-1) (5-1) = 4$

# $\chi^2$ distribution table

	0.10	0.05	0.025	0.01	0.001
1	2.706	3.841	5.024	6.635	10.828
2	4.605	5.991	7.378	9.210	13.816
3	6.251	7.815	9.348	11.345	16.266
4	7.779	9.488	11.143	13.277	18.467
5	9.236	11.070	12.833	15.086	20.515
6	10.645	12.592	14.449	16.812	22.458
...					

df=4 and  $14.026 > 13.277$

→  $p < 0.01$

→ there is a significant relation

# $\chi^2$ to P Calculator

<http://faculty.vassar.edu/lowry/tabs.html#csq>



# Steps of $\chi^2$ test

- Select significance level  $p_0$
- Calculate  $\chi^2$
- Compute the degree of freedom  
 $df = (r-1)(c-1)$
- Calculate  $p$  given  $\chi^2$  value (or get the  $\chi^2_0$  for  $p_0$ )
- if  $p < p_0$  (or if  $\chi^2 > \chi^2_0$ )  
then reject the null hypothesis.

# Summary of $\chi^2$ test

- A very common method for significant test
- Many good tutorials online
  - Ex: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chi-square\\_distribution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chi-square_distribution)

# Hw4

# Hw4

- Q1-Q3: kNN
- Q4: chi-square for feature selection
- Q5-Q6: The effect of feature selection on kNN
- Q7: Conclusion

# Q1-Q3: kNN

- The choice of  $k$
- The choice of similarity function:
  - Euclidean distance: choose the **smallest** ones
  - Cosine function: choose the **largest** ones
- Binary vs. real-valued features

# Q4-Q6

- Rank features by chi-square scores
- Remove non-relevant features from the vector files
- Run kNN using the newly processed data
- Compare the results with or without feature selection.