

Demo: Binary Logistic Regression in One Dimension

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from sklearn import datasets, linear_model, preprocessing
%matplotlib inline
```

The Logistic Model

This demo helps to visualize an important classification method known as binary logistic regression. Logistic regression does not model the binary label $y \in \{-1, 1\}$ as a deterministic function of the features $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, ..., x_d]^T$, nor as a deterministic function of \mathbf{x} plus additive random noise like we did with linear regression. Instead, it models y as random with a probability that is determined by \mathbf{x} through

$$Pr\{y = 1|\mathbf{x}\}.$$

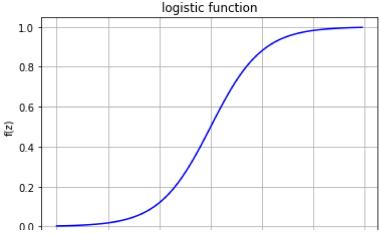
In particular, the logistic model says that this probability is completely determined by the linear score or discriminant z:

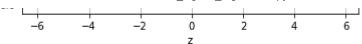
$$Pr\{y = 1 | \mathbf{x}\} = f(z), \quad z = b + w_1 x_1 + \dots + w_d x_d,$$
 (2)

where b is the intercept term (or bias), $w_1, ..., w_d$ are the classifier weights, and $f(\cdot)$ is

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}},$$

which is known as the *logistic function* or the *sigmoid*. We plot f(z) below.





To illustrate the workings of the logistic function, this demo considers the simple case that d=1 (i.e., one scalar feature). In this case, we can write

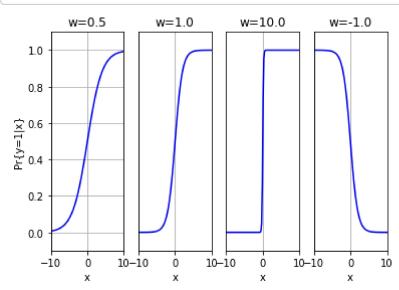
$$z = b + wx$$
.

We'd like to understand the roles of b and w, as well as how to fit these parameters to data.

Effect of weight and intercept

To understand the effect of the weight w, we first set the intercept to zero (i.e., b = 0). Below, we plot $Pr\{y = 1|x\} = f(wx)$ versus x for three different values of w.

```
In [3]: | nx = 100
          xmax = 10
          x = np. linspace(-xmax, xmax, 100)
          w1s = np. array([0.5, 1, 10, -1])
          nplot = wls. size
          for iplot, w1 in enumerate (w1s):
               py = f(w1*x)
               plt. subplot (1, nplot, iplot+1)
               plt. plot (x, py, 'b-')
               plt.axis([-xmax, xmax, -0.1, 1.1])
               plt.grid()
               if (iplot == 0):
                    plt. ylabel ('Pr\{y=1 | x\}')
                    plt.yticks([])
               plt. xticks([-10, 0, 10])
               plt.xlabel('x')
               plt. title ('w=\{0:.1f\}'. format (w1))
```



The figures above show that, when w is positive, $P\{y=1|x\}$ transitions monotonically from low to high as x increases. Meanwhile, when w is negative, $P\{y=1|x\}$ transitions monotonically from high to low as x increases. Furthermore, the speed of the transition is proportional to the magnitude of w.

In all of these plots, $P\{y=1|x\}=0.5$ when x=0. This is a consequence of the fact that we used b=0 for these plots.

Below is an interactive demonstration of these concepts, where you can select any values of b and w. By adjusting b, you can see the curve shift from left to right, and by adjusting w, you can see the transition sharpen.

By writing $z = b + wx = w(\frac{b}{w} + x)$ and recognizing that $\Pr\{y = 1 | x\} = 0.5$ whenever z = 0, we can see that $\Pr\{y = 1 | x\} = 0.5$ whenever $x = -\frac{b}{w}$.

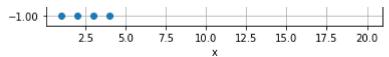
interactive(children=(IntSlider(value=0, description='b', max=10, min=-10), IntSlider(value=1, description='w'...

Demonstration on a Very Simple Dataset

Next we use a simple data-fitting problem to illustrate the advantages of logistic regression over least-squares (LS) linear regression for binary classification.

Suppose we are given the eight (x_i, y_i) samples shown in the scatter plot below.





Just by looking at the dataset, we can see that a good rule would be to predict y = 1 whenever x > 5 and y = -1 when x < 5.

Try LS Linear Regression

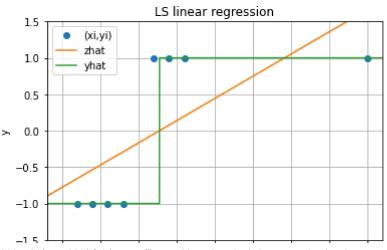
Let's first try fitting a LS linear regression model to the data, to see if it behaves as expected.

Now, LS linear regression will return a real-number prediction, not a binary prediction as we desire for classification. To address this issue, we quantize the LS linear prediction (call it $^{\land}_{\mathcal{Z}}$) to $^{\land}_{\mathcal{Y}}=1$ whenever $^{\land}_{\mathcal{Z}}\geq 0$ and to $^{\land}_{\mathcal{Y}}=-1$ whenever $^{\land}_{\mathcal{Z}}<0$.

Below, we fit the LS-linear model and plot $^{\wedge}_{Z}$ and $^{\wedge}_{Y}$ as a function of a test feature x.

```
In [6]: from sklearn import datasets, linear_model
    linreg = linear_model.LinearRegression()
    linreg.fit(xvec.reshape(-1, 1), yvec)
    b = float(linreg.intercept_)
    w = float(linreg.coef_)
    print('b=',b)
    print('w=',w)
```

```
b= -0.7784342688330871
w= 0.12210733628754307
```



```
0.0 2.5 5.0 7.5 10.0 12.5 15.0 17.5 20.0
```

The plot above shows that LS linear regression works to some extent, but not perfectly. It predicts y=1 whenever x>6.25 and y=-1 when x<6.25, and thus mis-labels the $(x_i, y_i)=(6, 1)$ training sample.

What is happening is that the LS regression line (i.e., $\hat{z}(x) = \hat{b} + \hat{w}x$) is pulled to the right in order to fit the $(x_i, y_i) = (20, 1)$ sample. As a result, the zero-crossing of $\hat{z}(x)$ occurs at x = 6.25 and not at x = 5 as desired. This behavior will result whenever there is an imbalance in feature values of the two classes.

Try Logistic Regression

Next we will fit a logistic regression model to the dataset. The sklearn module provides a LogisticRegression method to do this. The interface is almost identical to the LinearRegression method that we used above.

Note that sklearn's LogisticRegression uses L2 regularization by default. We don't need regularization for this example, so we'll disable it by setting penalty=none.

```
logreg = linear model.LogisticRegression(penalty='none')
In
   [16]:
           logreg = linear model.LogisticRegression()
           logreg. fit (xvec. reshape (-1, 1), yvec)
           b = float(logreg.intercept_)
           w = float(logreg.coef)
           print('b=',b)
           print('w=',w)
           b= -5.62241853945352
           w= 1.1208791859700278
In [17]: | yhat = logreg. predict(x. reshape(-1, 1))
           zhat = b + w*x
           plt.plot(xvec, yvec, 'o', label='(xi, yi)')
           plt. plot(x, zhat, label='zhat')
           plt. plot(x, yhat, label='yhat')
           plt. plot (x, f(zhat), label='Pr\{y=1 | x\}')
           plt.grid()
```