Machine Learning and Data Mining

Linear regression

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Supervised learning

- Notation
 - Features X
 - Targets V
 - Predictions \hat{y}
 - Parameters θ



Linear regression



- Define form of function f(x) explicitly
- Find a good f(x) within that family

Notation

$$\hat{y}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \dots$$

Define "feature"
$$x_0 = 1$$
 (constant)
Then

$$\hat{y}(x) = \theta x^T$$

$$\frac{\theta}{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_0, \dots, \theta_n \end{bmatrix}$$
 $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1, x_1, \dots, x_n \end{bmatrix}$



Mean squared error

• How can we quantify the error?

MSE,
$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \hat{y}(x^{(j)}))^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)T})^2$$

- Could choose something else, of course...
 - Computationally convenient (more later)
 - Measures the variance of the residuals
 - Corresponds to likelihood under Gaussian model of "noise"

$$\mathcal{N}(y \; ; \; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y-\mu)^2\right\}$$

MSE cost function

MSE,
$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \hat{y}(x^{(j)}))^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)T})^2$$

Python / NumPy: e = Y - X.dot(theta.T); J = e.T.dot(e) / m # = np.mean(e ** 2)

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Visualizing the cost function







Finding good parameters

- Want to find parameters which minimize our error...
- Think of a cost "surface": error residual for that μ ...



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Linear regression: Gradient descent & stochastic gradient descent

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Gradient descent



- How to change μ to improve J(θ)?
- Choose a direction in which J(θ) is decreasing

Gradient descent



- How to change μ to improve J(θ)?
 - Choose a direction in which $J(\theta)$ is decreasing

• Derivative
$$\frac{\partial J(\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$

- Positive => increasing
- Negative => decreasing

Gradient descent in more dimensions



Gradient descent

- Initialization
- Step size
 - Can change as a function of iteration
- Gradient direction
- Stopping condition

Initialize θ Do { $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$ } while $(\alpha || \nabla J || > \varepsilon$)



Gradient for the MSE

• MSE
$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)^T})^2$$

•
$$\nabla \mathbf{J} = ?$$

 $J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \theta_0 \underline{x}_0^{(j)} - \theta_1 \underline{x}_1^{(j)} - \dots)^2$

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta_0} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} \frac{1}{m} \sum_j (e_j(\theta))^2 & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} e_j(\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} y^{(j)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} \theta_0 x_0^{(j)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} \theta_1 x_1^{(j)} - \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_j \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} (e_j(\theta))^2 \right)^2 \\ &= -x_0^{(j)} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_j \left(2e_j(\theta) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} e_j(\theta) \end{split}$$
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Gradient for the MSE

• MSE
$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)^{T}})^{2}$$

• $\nabla J = ?$ $J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \theta_0 \underline{x}_0^{(j)} - \theta_1 \underline{x}_1^{(j)} - \dots)^2$

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta_0} & \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta_1} & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{m} \sum_j -e_j(\theta) x_0^{(j)} & \frac{2}{m} \sum_j -e_j(\theta) x_1^{(j)} & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$

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Gradient descent

- Initialization
- Step size
 - Can change as a function of iteration
- Gradient direction
- Stopping condition

Initialize θ Do { $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$ } while $(\alpha || \nabla J || > \varepsilon$)

$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)T})^2$$

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = -\frac{2}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)T}) \cdot [x_0^{(j)} x_1^{(j)} \dots]$$
Error magnitude & Sensitivity to each θ_i

Derivative of MSE

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = -\frac{2}{m} \sum_{j} (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)T}) \cdot [x_{0}^{(j)} x_{1}^{(j)} \dots]$$
Error magnitude & Sensitivity to each θ_{i}
• Rewrite using matrix form
$$\underline{\theta} = [\theta_{0}, \dots, \theta_{n}] \qquad \underline{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{0}^{(1)} \dots x_{n}^{(1)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{0}^{(m)} \dots & x_{n}^{(m)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = -\frac{2}{m} (\underline{y}^{T} - \underline{\theta} \underline{X}^{T}) \cdot \underline{X}$$

$$e = Y - X.dot(\text{ theta.T}); \# \text{ error residual} \\ DJ = - e.dot(X) * 2.0/m \# \text{ compute the gradient} \\ \text{theta} = alpha * DJ \# \text{ take a step} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Gradient descent on cost function



Comments on gradient descent

- Very general algorithm
 - we'll see it many times
- Local minima
 - Sensitive to starting point



Comments on gradient descent

- Very general algorithm
 - we'll see it many times
- Local minima
 - Sensitive to starting point
- Step size
 - Too large? Too small? Automatic ways to choose?
 - May want step size to decrease with iteration
 - Common choices:
 - Fixed
 - Linear: C/(iteration)
 - Line search / backoff (Armijo, etc.)
 - Newton's method



Newton's method

- Want to find the roots of f(x)
 - "Root": value of x for which f(x)=0
- Initialize to *some* point x
- Compute the tangent at x & compute where it crosses x-axis

$$abla f(z) = rac{0 - f(z)}{z' - z} \quad \Rightarrow \quad z' = z - rac{f(z)}{\nabla f(z)}$$

• Optimization: find roots of $\nabla J(\theta)$

$$\nabla \nabla J(\theta) = \frac{0 - \nabla J(\theta)}{\theta' - \theta} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \theta' = \theta - \frac{\nabla J(\theta)}{\nabla \nabla J(\theta)}$$
("Step size", = 1/\nabla \nabla J; inverse curvature)

- Does not always converge; sometimes unstable
- If converges, usually very fast
- Works well for smooth, non-pathological functions, locally quadratic
- For n large, may be computationally hard: O(n²) storage, O(n³) time







Stochastic / Online gradient descent

• MSE

$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} J_j(\underline{\theta}), \qquad J_j(\underline{\theta}) = (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)^T})^2$$

• Gradient

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} \nabla J_{j}(\underline{\theta}) \qquad \nabla J_{j}(\underline{\theta}) = (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)}) \cdot [x_{0}^{(j)} x_{1}^{(j)} \dots]$$

- Stochastic (or "online") gradient descent:
 - Use updates based on individual datum j, chosen at random
 - At optima, $\mathbb{E}\left[\nabla J_j(\underline{\theta})\right] = \nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = 0$

(average over the data)

- Update based on each datum at a time
 - Find residual and the gradient of its part of the error & update

```
Initialize \theta
Do {
for j=1:m
\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J_{j}(\theta)
} while (not done)
```



- Update based on each datum at a time
 - Find residual and the gradient of its part of the error & update

```
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- Update based on each datum at a time
 - Find residual and the gradient of its part of the error & update

```
Initialize \theta
Do {
for j=1:m
\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J_{j}(\theta)
} while (not done)
```



$$J_{j}(\underline{\theta}) = (y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)^{T}})^{2}$$
$$\nabla J_{j}(\underline{\theta}) = -2(y^{(j)} - \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^{(j)^{T}}) \cdot [x_{0}^{(j)} x_{1}^{(j)} \dots$$

Initialize θ Do { for j=1:m $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J_{j}(\theta)$ } while (not converged)

Benefits

- Lots of data = many more updates per pass
- Computationally faster
- Drawbacks
 - No longer strictly "descent"
 - Stopping conditions may be harder to evaluate
 (Can use "running estimates" of J(.), etc.)
- Related: mini-batch updates, etc.

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Linear regression: direct minimization

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MSE Minimum

- Consider a simple problem
 - One feature, two data points
 - Two unknowns: θ_0 , θ_1
 - Two equations:

$$y^{(1)} = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x^{(1)}$$

 $y^{(2)} = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x^{(2)}$



• Can solve this system directly:

$$\underline{y}^T = \underline{\theta} \, \underline{X}^T \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \underline{\hat{\theta}} = y^T (\underline{X}^T)^{-1}$$

- However, most of the time, m > n
 - There may be no linear function that hits all the data exactly
 - Instead, solve directly for minimum of MSE function

MSE Minimum

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = -\frac{2}{m}(\underline{y}^T - \underline{\theta}\underline{X}^T) \cdot \underline{X} = \underline{0}$$

• Reordering, we have

$$\underline{y}^{T} \underline{X} - \underline{\theta} \underline{X}^{T} \cdot \underline{X} = \underline{0}$$
$$\underline{y}^{T} \underline{X} = \underline{\theta} \underline{X}^{T} \cdot \underline{X}$$
$$\underline{\theta} = \underline{y}^{T} \underline{X} (\underline{X}^{T} \underline{X})^{-1}$$



- X (X^T X)⁻¹ is called the "pseudo-inverse"
- If X^T is square and independent, this is the inverse
- If m > n: overdetermined; gives minimum MSE fit

Python MSE

• This is easy to solve in Python / NumPy...

$$\underline{\theta} = \underline{y}^T \underline{X} (\underline{X}^T \underline{X})^{-1}$$

y = np.matrix([[y1], ..., [ym]])
X = np.matrix([[x1_0 ... x1_n], [x2_0 ... x2_n], ...])

```
# Solution 1: "manual"
    th = y.T * X * np.linalg.inv(X.T * X);
```

```
# Solution 2: "least squares solve"
   th = np.linalg.lstsq(X, Y);
```

Normal equations

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\underline{y}^T - \underline{\theta}\underline{X}^T) \cdot \underline{X} \quad = \quad \underline{0}$$

- Interpretation:
 - $(y \theta X) = (y y^{n})$ is the vector of errors in each example
 - X are the features we have to work with for each example
 - Dot product = 0: orthogonal



$$\underline{y}^T = [y^{(1)} \dots y^{(m)}]$$
$$\underline{x}_i = [x_i^{(1)} \dots x_i^{(m)}]$$

Normal equations

$$\nabla J(\underline{\theta}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\underline{y}^T - \underline{\theta}\underline{X}^T) \cdot \underline{X} \quad = \quad \underline{0}$$

- Interpretation:
 - $(y \theta X) = (y y^{n})$ is the vector of errors in each example
 - X are the features we have to work with for each example
 - Dot product = 0: orthogonal
- Example:



$$\underline{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\underline{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \qquad \theta = \begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.57 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

 $\underline{e} = (y - \hat{y}) = [-0.57 \ 0.85 \ -0.28]^T$

Effects of MSE choice

Sensitivity to outliers



L1 error



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Cost functions for regression

$$\ell_2 : (y - \hat{y})^2$$
 (MSE)

$$\ell_1 : |y - \hat{y}|$$
 (MAE)

Something else entirely...

$$c - \log(\exp(-(y - \hat{y})^2) + c)$$
(???)

"Arbitrary" functions can't be solved in closed form...

- use gradient descent



$$\leftarrow (y - \hat{y}) \rightarrow$$

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Linear regression: nonlinear features

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More dimensions?





$$\hat{y}(x) = \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}^T$$

$$\underline{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_0 & \theta_1 & \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Nonlinear functions

- What if our hypotheses are not lines?
 - Ex: higher-order polynomials



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Nonlinear functions

- Single feature x, predict target y:

Linear regression in new features

Sometimes useful to think of "feature transform"

$$\Phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots \end{bmatrix} \qquad \hat{y}(x) = \underline{\theta} \cdot \Phi(x)$$

Higher-order polynomials



Features

- In general, can use any features we think are useful
- Other information about the problem
 - Sq. footage, location, age, ...
- Polynomial functions
 - Features [1, x, x², x³, …]
- Other functions
 - 1/x, sqrt(x), x₁ * x₂, ...
- "Linear regression" = linear in the parameters
 - Features we can make as complex as we want!

Higher-order polynomials

- Are more features better?
- "Nested" hypotheses
 - 2nd order more general than 1st,
 - 3^{rd} order "" than 2^{nd} , ...
- Fits the observed data better





Overfitting and complexity

- More complex models will always fit the training data better
- But they may "overfit" the training data, learning complex relationships that are not really present



Test data

- After training the model
- Go out and get more data from the world
 - New observations (x,y)
- How well does our model perform?



Training versus test error

- Plot MSE as a function of model complexity
 - Polynomial order
 - Decreases
 - More complex function fits training data better
 - What about new data?
 - 0th to 1st order
 - Error decreases
 - Underfitting
 - Higher order
 - Error increases
 - Overfitting



Machine Learning and Data Mining

Linear regression: bias and variance

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Inductive bias

- The assumptions needed to predict examples we haven't seen
- Makes us "prefer" one model over another
- Polynomial functions; smooth functions; etc
- Some bias is necessary for learning!



Bias & variance



Bias & variance



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Detecting overfitting

- Overfitting effect
 - Do better on training data than on future data
 - Need to choose the "right" complexity
- One solution: "Hold-out" data
- Separate our data into two sets
 - Training
 - Test
- Learn only on training data
- Use test data to estimate generalization quality
 - Model selection
- All good competitions use this formulation
 - Often multiple splits: one by judges, then another by you

What to do about under/overfitting?

- Ways to increase complexity?
 - Add features (e.g. higher polynomial), parameters
 - We'll see more...
- Ways to decrease complexity?
 - Remove features ("feature selection") (e.g. lower polynomial)
 - "Fail to fully memorize data"
 - Partial training
 - Regularization



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Linear regression: regularization

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Linear regression

- Linear model, two data
- Quadratic model, two data?
 - Infinitely many settings with zero error
 - How to choose among them?
- Higher order coefficents = 0?
 - Uses knowledge of where features came from...
- Could choose e.g. minimum magnitude: $\min \underline{\theta} \theta^T \quad s.t. \quad J(\underline{\theta}) = 0$
- A type of *bias*: tells us which models to prefer





Regularization

 Can modify our cost function J to add "preference" for certain parameter values

$$J(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} (\underline{y} - \underline{\theta} \underline{X}^T) \cdot (\underline{y} - \underline{\theta} \underline{X}^T)^T + \alpha \, \theta \theta^T$$

L₂ penalty: "Ridge regression"

• New solution (derive the same way) $\underline{\theta} = \underline{y} \underline{X} (\underline{X}^T \underline{X} + \alpha I)^{-1}$

Problem is now well-posed for any degree

- Notes:
 - "Shrinks" the parameters toward zero
 - Alpha large: we prefer small theta to small MSE
 - Regularization term is independent of the data: paying more attention reduces our model variance

Regularization

• Compare between unreg. & reg. results



Different regularization functions

• More generally, for the L_p regularizer: $(\sum |\theta_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$

Isosurfaces: $\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_{p} = \text{constant}$



 L_0 = limit as p -> 0 : "number of nonzero weights", a natural notion of complexity L^{∞} = limit as p -> ∞ : "maximum parameter value"

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Regularization: L1 vs L2

• Estimate balances data term & regularization term



Regularization: L1 vs L2

- Estimate balances data term & regularization term
- Lasso tends to generate sparser solutions than a quadratic regularizer.



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Linear regression: hold-out, cross-validation

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Model selection

- Which of these models fits the data best?
 - p=0 (constant); p=1 (linear); p=3 (cubic); ...
- Or, should we use KNN? Other methods?
- Model selection problem
 - Can't use training data to decide (esp. if models are nested!)
- Want to estimate $\mathbb{E}_{(x,y)}[J(y, \hat{y}(x; D))]$

J = loss function (MSE) D = training data set



Hold-out method

- Validation data
 - "Hold out" some data for evaluation (e.g., 70/30 split)
 - Train only on the remainder
- Some problems, if we have few data:
 - Few data in hold-out: noisy estimate of the error
 - More hold-out data leaves less for training!



Cross-validation method

- K-fold cross-validation
 - Divide data into K disjoint sets
 - Hold out one set (= M / K data) for evaluation
 - Train on the others $(= M^*(K-1) / K data)$



Cross-validation method

- K-fold cross-validation
 - Divide data into K disjoint sets
 - Hold out one set (= M / K data) for evaluation
 - Train on the others (= $M^{*}(K-1) / K$ data)



Cross-validation

- Advantages:
 - Lets us use more (M) validation data
 - (= less noisy estimate of test performance)
- Disadvantages:
 - More work
 - Trains K models instead of just one
 - Doesn't evaluate any *particular* predictor
 - Evaluates K different models & averages
 - Scores hyperparameters / procedure, not an actual, specific predictor!
- Also: still estimating error for M' < M data...

Learning curves

- Plot performance as a function of training size
 - Assess impact of fewer data on performance
 Ex: MSE0 MSE (regression)
 or 1-Err (classification)



• If slope is high, decreasing *m* (for validation / cross-validation) might have a big impact...

Leave-one-out cross-validation

- When K=M (# of data), we get
 - Train on all data except one
 - Evaluate on the left-out data
 - Repeat M times (each data point held out once) and average



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Cross-validation Issues

- Need to balance:
 - Computational burden (multiple trainings)
 - Accuracy of estimated performance / error
- Single hold-out set:
 - Estimates performance with M' < M data (important? learning curve?)
 - Need enough data to trust performance estimate
 - Estimates performance of a particular, trained learner
- K-fold XVal
 - K times as much work, computationally
 - Better estimates, still of performance with M' < M data
- LOO XVal
 - M times as much work, computationally
 - $M' \approx M$, but overall error estimate may have high variance