Logistic regression

Comments

- Mini-review and feedback
- These are equivalent: $\mathbf{x}^{\top}\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}^{\top}\mathbf{x}$
- Clarification: this course is about getting you to be able to think as a machine learning expert
 - There has to be some confusion to start
 - A bit different than other courses, where need to learn a topic x (e.g., calculus) without really needing to understand why you learn topic x
 - Here you are being trained to think about how to formulate a problem, solve the problem and evaluate the problem all at once
 - Keeping it all straight takes some time

Exercise: what is c(w)?

- Recall when we did MLE (maximum likelihood) for Poisson
- Assumed p(x) was Poisson, learned lambda

$$\lambda_{\mathrm{ML}} = rg\max_{\lambda \in (0,\infty)} \{ p(\mathcal{D}|\lambda) \}$$

$$\min_{w} c(w)$$

$$w = \lambda$$
$$c(w) = -\ln p(\mathcal{D}|\lambda)$$



Why is Poisson regression more complicated?

- Estimated lambda for Poisson p(y), had closed form
- Estimated Poisson p(y | x), no longer have closed form!
 - Why not?!
- Why do we focus on Poisson distribution?
 - Just a canonical example, not necessarily particularly important
- Why do variable names change?
 - Previously had lambda and now have w?
 - lambda is now a function of x, i.e., $\lambda = \exp(\mathbf{x}^{\top}\mathbf{w})$

Poisson regression



 $p(y|\theta) = \exp(\theta y - a(\theta) + b(y))$

Examples

$$\theta = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w}$$

Gaussian distribution

-1

$$a(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}\theta^2 \qquad \qquad f(\theta) = \theta$$

• Poisson distribution

$$a(\theta) = \exp(\theta)$$
 $f(\theta) = \exp(\theta)$

• Bernoulli distribution

$$a(\theta) = \ln(1 + \exp(\theta))$$
 $f(\theta) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\theta)}$

Exercise: How do we extract the form for the exponential distribution? $\lambda \exp(-\lambda y)$ $\lambda = f(\theta)$ $\theta = f^{-1}(\lambda)$

Recall exponential family distribution

$$p(y|\theta) = \exp(\theta y - a(\theta) + b(y))$$

• How do we write the exponential distribution this way?

• What is the transfer f?

What is c(w) for GLMS?

- Still formulating an optimization problem to predict targets y given features x
- The variables we learn is the weight vector w
- What is c(w)? $MLE : c(\mathbf{w}) \propto -\ln p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w})$

$$\propto -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \ln p(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{w})$$
$$\arg\min_{\mathbf{w}} c(\mathbf{w}) = \arg\max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathcal{D} | \mathbf{w})$$

• Can we add regularization? How?

Add a prior, do MAP!

Extra exercises

- Go through the derivation of c(w) for logistic regression
- Derive Maximum Likelihood objective in Section 8.1.2

Benefits of GLMs

- Gave a generic update rule, where you only needed to know the transfer for your chosen distribution
 - e.g., linear regression with transfer f = identity
 - e.g., Poisson regression with transfer f = exp
 - e.g., logistic regression with transfer f = sigmoid
- We know the objective is convex in w!

Convexity

- Convexity of negative log likelihood of (many) exponential families
 - The negative log likelihood of many exponential families is convex, which is an important advantage of the maximum likelihood approach
- Why is convexity important?
 - e.g., why is (sigmoid(xw) y)² not a good choice for binary classification?
 - Euclidean loss (squared loss) for sigmoid results in a non-convex function





How can we check convexity?

• Can check the definition of convexity

$$f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \le tf(x_1) + (1-t)f(x_2)$$

- Can check second derivative for scalar parameters (e.g. λ) and Hessian for multidimensional parameters (e.g., $_{\rm W}$)
 - e.g., for linear regression (least-squares), the Hessian is $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{X}^{ op} \mathbf{X}$ and so clearly positive semi-definite
 - e.g., for Poisson regression, the Hessian of the negative log-likelihood is $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{X}$ and so clearly positive semi-definite

Logistic regression

1.
$$\operatorname{logit}(E[y|\mathbf{x}]) = \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{x}$$

2. $p(y|\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{Bernoulli}(\alpha)$
where $\operatorname{logit}(x) = \ln \frac{x}{1-x}$, $y \in \{0,1\}$, and $\alpha \in (0,1)$
 $E[y|\mathbf{x}] = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{x}}}$
 $\alpha = p(y=1|\mathbf{x})$
 $g(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w}) = \operatorname{logit}(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w})$
 $f(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w}) = g^{-1}(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w})$
 $= \operatorname{sigmoid}(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w})$
 $= \mathbb{E}[y|\mathbf{x}]$

$$p(y|\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{1+e^{-\omega^T \mathbf{x}}}\right)^y \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+e^{-\omega^T \mathbf{x}}}\right)^{1-y}.$$



Prediction with logistic regression

- So far, we have used the prediction f(xw)
 - eg., xw for linear regression, exp(xw) for Poisson regression
- For binary classification, want to output 0 or 1, rather than the probability value p(y = 1 | x) = sigmoid(xw)
- Sigmoid has few values xw mapped close to 0.5; most values somewhat larger than 0 are mapped close to 0 (and vice versa for 1)
- Decision threshold:
 - sigmoid(xw) < 0.5 is class 0
 - sigmoid(xw) > 0.5 is class 1



Logistic regression is a linear classifier

- Hyperplane $\mathbf{w}^{\top}\mathbf{x} = 0$ separates the two classes
 - P(y=1 | x, w) > 0.5 only when $\mathbf{w}^{\top}\mathbf{x} \ge 0$.
 - P(y=0 | x, w) > 0.5 only when P(y=1 | x, w) < 0.5, which happens when $\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} < 0$



Logistic regression versus linear regression

- Why might one be better than the other? They both use a linear approach
- Linear regression could still learn <x, w> to predict E[Y | x]
- Demo: logistic regression performs better under outliers, when the outlier is still on the correct side of the line
- Conclusion:
 - logistic regression better reflects the goals of predicting p(y=1 | x), to finding separating hyperplane
 - Linear regression assumes E[Y | x] a linear function of x!

Whiteboard

- Logistic regression
 - maximum likelihood with weightings on samples
 - optimization strategy
 - issues with minimizing Euclidean distance for sigmoid
- Multinomial logistic regression
- Next class:
 - generative approach: naive Bayes