Learning Models by Fitting Parameters: Linear and Ridge Regression

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CS5350/6350: Machine Learning

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(CS5350/6350)

Linear Models for Regression

September 6, 2011 1 / 17

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- Given: a set of N input-response pairs
- The inputs (x) and the responses (y) are one dimensional scalars
- **Goal:** Model the relationship between x and y

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• Let's assume the relationship between x and y is linear

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- Let's assume the relationship between x and y is linear
- Linear relationship can be defined by a straight line with parameter w
- Equation of the straight line: y = wx



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- The line may not fit the data *exactly*
- But we can try making the line a reasonable approximation



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• The total squared error:
$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - wx_i)^2$$



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- The total squared error: $E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i wx_i)^2$
- The best fitting line is defined by w minimizing the total error E



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- The total squared error: $E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i wx_i)^2$
- The best fitting line is defined by w minimizing the total error E
- Just requires a little bit of calculus to find it (take derivative, equate to zero..)

- Analogy to line fitting: In higher dimensions, we will fit hyperplanes
- For 2-dim. inputs, linear regression fits a 2-dim. plane to the data



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Image: Image

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- Similar intuition carries over to higher dimensions too
 - Fitting a *D*-dimensional hyperplane to the data
 - Hard to visualize in pictures though..
- The hyperplane is defined by parameters \mathbf{w} (a D imes 1 weight vector)

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- Given training data $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$
- Inputs \mathbf{x}_i : *D*-dimensional vectors (\mathbb{R}^D), responses y_i : scalars (\mathbb{R})

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- Given training data $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$
- Inputs \mathbf{x}_i : *D*-dimensional vectors (\mathbb{R}^D) , responses y_i : scalars (\mathbb{R})
- The linear model: response is a linear function of the model parameters

$$y = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = b + \sum_{j=1}^{M} w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x})$$

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$$y = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = b + \sum_{j=1}^{M} w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x})$$

- w_j 's and b are the model parameters (b is an offset)
 - Parameters define the mapping from the inputs to responses

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- w_j 's and b are the model parameters (b is an offset)
 - Parameters define the mapping from the inputs to responses
- Each ϕ_j is called a basis function
 - Allows change of representation of the input x (often desired)

The linear model:

$$y = b + \sum_{j=1}^{M} w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}) = b + \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x})$$

- $\phi = [\phi_1, \dots, \phi_M]$
- $\mathbf{w} = [w_1, \dots, w_M]$, the weight vector (to learn using the training data)

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- We consider the simplest case: $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$
 - $\phi_j(\mathbf{x})$ is the *j*-th feature of the data (total *D* features, so M = D)

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 Note: Nonlinear relationships between x and y can be modeled using suitably chosen φ_j's (more when we cover Kernel Methods)

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(a)

- Given training data $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$
- Fit each training example (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) using the linear model

$$y_i = b + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$$

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• Y: $N \times 1$, X: $N \times (D+1)$, w: $(D+1) \times 1$

(a)

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Linear Regression: The Objective Function

• Parameter w that satisfies $y_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$ exactly for each *i* may not exist

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- Parameter w that satisfies $y_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$ exactly for each *i* may not exist
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Linear Regression: The Objective Function

- Parameter **w** that satisfies $y_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$ exactly for each *i* may not exist
- So we look for the closest approximation
- Specifically, w that minimizes the following sum-of-squared-differences between the truth (y_i) and the predictions (w^Tx_i), just as we did for the one-dimensional case:

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i)^2$$

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Linear Regression: The Objective Function

- Parameter **w** that satisfies $y_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$ exactly for each *i* may not exist
- So we look for the closest approximation
- Specifically, w that minimizes the following sum-of-squared-differences between the truth (y_i) and the predictions (w^Tx_i), just as we did for the one-dimensional case:

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i)^2$$

• Following the matrix notation, we can write the above as:

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})$$

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Linear Regression: Least-Squares Solution

• Taking derivative w.r.t w, and equating to zero, we get

$$\nabla E(\mathbf{w}) = -\mathbf{X}^{T}(\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}) = 0$$
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• Taking inverse on both sides, we get the solution

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mathsf{w}}} = (\boldsymbol{\mathsf{X}}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{X}})^{-1}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{X}}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Y}}$$

• The above is also called the least-squares solution (since we minimized a sum-of-squared-differences objective)

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- The above is also called the least-squares solution (since we minimized a sum-of-squared-differences objective)
- Note: The same solution holds even if the responses are vector-valued (assume K responses per input)
 - **Y** will be an $N \times K$ matrix (assuming K responses per input)
 - w will be a $D \times K$ matrix (k-th column is the weight vector for the k-th response variable)

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- Note: other form of penalization are also possible. For example:
 - Sum of absolute values of the coefficients: $\sum_{j=1}^{D} |w_j|$ (called ℓ_1 norm)

• The modified objective becomes

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = rac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}) + rac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$$

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- The hyperparameter λ controls the amount of regularization
- Important: It's a standard way to control overfitting in supervised learning
- Common form of a penalized loss function in supervised learning looks like:

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \ell(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{w}) + R(\mathbf{w})$$

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- Regularization is particularly important for small N, large D

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Coming back to the penalized least-squares objective for linear regression

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w}$$

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- Penalized linear regression is also known as ridge regression
- Ridge regression also useful when $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ is not invertible
 - Standard least-squares solution $\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}$ will not be valid
 - Adding the $\lambda \mathbf{I}$ makes $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})$ invertibe

- Recall: solving for w requires inverting $D \times D$ matrices $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ or $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})$
- Matrix inversion can be expensive if data dimensionality D is large

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- One solution: Iterative minimization of the loss function
 - $E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})$: Linear Regression
 - $E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$: Ridge Regression
- How: Using Gradient Descent (GD)
- A general recipe for iteratively optimizing similar loss functions

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- Recall: solving for w requires inverting $D \times D$ matrices $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ or $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})$
- Matrix inversion can be expensive if data dimensionality D is large
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- How: Using Gradient Descent (GD)
- A general recipe for iteratively optimizing similar loss functions
- Gradient Descent rule:
 - Initialize the weight vector $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}^0$
 - Update **w** by moving along the direction of negative gradient $-\frac{\partial E}{\partial w}$

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- Repeat until convergence:

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- α is the learning rate
- **Stop:** When some criteria is met (e.g., max. # of iterations), or the rate of decrease of **E** falls below some threshold
 - Small α : slow convergence but small residual error
 - $\bullet\,$ Large $\alpha:$ fast convergence but large residual error

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- Note that convergence rate depends on the error at each iteration
 - Error over all examples: $\sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{x}_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i y_i)$

- The least-squares linear regression objective is a convex function
 - It has a unique minimum

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- Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD): Variant of GD which computes the gradient of E(w) w.r.t. a single training example and thus allows updating w using one example at a time (unlike GD which uses all the data to make each update of w). SGD for linear regression looks like:
 - repeat-while-converged {for i=1:N { $\mathbf{w} \alpha \mathbf{x}_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i y_i)$ }}

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- Linear Classifiers
 - Hyperplane based class separators
 - The Perceptron algorithm
 - Maximum Margin Hyperplanes: Introduction to Support Vector Machines

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