Tutorial 6

CPSC 340

- Regularization
- RBF Basis
- Robust Regression
- Gradient descent

Regularization

Regularization - Motivation





- Overfitting on the training set is a common problem
- Having too many features and little data can lead to overfitting
 - Underdetermined system: fewer equations than unknowns
 - Either no solution or infinitely many solutions
- To address this:

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2}||Xw - y||^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}||w||^2$$

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• Unique solution

- Overfitting on the training set is a common problem
- · Having too many features and little data can lead to overfitting
 - Underdetermined system: fewer equations than unknowns
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- To address this:
 - Select a subset of features L1 regularization

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||Xw - y||^2 + \lambda_1 ||w||_1$$

• Reduce the magnitude of the weight parameters corresponding to possibly noisy features - L2 and L1 regularization

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||Xw - y||^2 + \lambda_2 ||w||^2$$

Regularization - Motivation

• Select a subset of features - L1 regularization

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||Xw - y||^2 + \lambda_1 ||w||_1$$

• Reduce the magnitude of the weight parameters corresponding to possibly noisy features - *L*2 and *L*1 regularization

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||Xw - y||^2 + \lambda_2 ||w||^2$$



Regularization - Definition

- Regularization is a method that helps in preventing overfitting
- It controls the model complexity
- Small values for the weights leads to a simpler model
- A simpler model is less prone to overfitting
- It penalizes the objective function to avoid the model from closely matching possibly noisy data points



Regularization - Definition



• Consider the following L2 regularized least square objective function

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• How does λ_2 affect the decision boundary ?

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- How does λ_2 affect the decision boundary ?
 - λ_2 controls a trade off between fitting the training set well and keeping the weights small
 - Large λ_2 can lead to underfitting (a more linear, simple model)
 - Small λ₂ can lead to overfitting (a more complicated model larger range of values for the parameters)

Regularization - Exercise

• Consider the following L2 regularized least square objective function

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||Xw - y||^2 + \lambda_2 ||w||^2$$

• How does λ_2 affect the decision boundary ?



Radial Basis Function

RBF Basis - Motivation

• Observe the following dataset with two features X and Y



- Can we fit a linear regression that seperates the two classes (blue and red) sufficiently ?
- One approach is to transform the features into a new space where the data is linearly separable

RBF Basis

• We transform the data to a higher dimensional space



RBF Basis

• We can then separate the higher dimensional data using a linear plane



• Given $X \in R^{N \times D}$, transform X to $Z \in R^{N \times N}$ where

$$Z_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{||X_i - X_j||^2}{2\sigma^2})$$

where σ controls the influence of nearby points

• Intuitively, Z_{ij} is a similarity value between sample *i* and sample *j*

RBF Basis - Pros & Cons



- Pros
 - Non-linear decision boundary
 - For some applications, such similarity-based features are very robust
- Cons
 - Non-parametric grows with N
 - Can lead to overfitting

• Consider the following dataset

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5\\ 1 & 2\\ 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Transform the dataset into the RBF space with $\sigma=1$

$$X_{rbf} = ?$$

$$f(w) = ||Xw - y||_2^2$$

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- Recall that RBF can lead to a model that is too complicated for the dataset potentially causing overfitting
- Regularization helps against overfitting
- Add the L1 and L2 regularization terms to f(w)

• Least square function

$$f(w) = ||Xw - y||_2^2$$

• Transform this objective function to one that uses RBF features

$$f(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2$$

- Recall that RBF can lead to a model that is too complicated for the dataset potentially causing overfitting
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- Add the L1 and L2 regularization terms to f(w)

$$f(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \lambda_1 ||w||_1 + \lambda_2 ||w||_2^2$$

• Suggest one way to choose the values for λ_1 and λ_2

• Least square function

$$f(w) = ||Xw - y||_2^2$$

• Transform this objective function to one that uses RBF

$$f_{rbf}(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2$$

- Recall that RBF can lead to a model that is too complicated for the dataset potentially causing overfitting
- Regularization helps against overfitting
- Add the L1 and L2 regularization terms to f(w)

$$f_{rbf}(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \lambda_1 ||w||_1 + \lambda_2 ||w||_2^2$$

• How do we choose the values for λ_1 and λ_2 ?

• Least square function

$$f(w) = ||Xw - y||_2^2$$

$$f_{rbf}(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2$$

- Recall that RBF can lead to a model that is too complicated for the dataset - potentially causing overfitting
- Regularization helps against overfitting
- Add the L1 and L2 regularization terms to f(w)

$$f_{rbf}(w) = ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \lambda_1 ||w||_1 + \lambda_2 ||w||_2^2$$

- How do we choose the values for λ_1 and λ_2 ?
 - Cross-validation

• Given the regularized RBF model,

$$f_{rbf}(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} ||w||_2^2$$

solve for w



• Given the regularized RBF model,

$$f_{rbf}(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} ||w||_2^2$$

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• Given the regularized RBF model,

$$f_{rbf}(w) = \frac{1}{2} ||X_{rbf}w - y||_2^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} ||w||_2^2$$

solve for w

$$w = (X_{rbf}^T X_{rbf} + I\lambda_2)^{-1} X_{rbf}^T y$$

Robust Regression

- Least-squares estimates assumes that the residuals (w^Tx_i y_i) are normally distributed
- Outliers violate this assumption which can cause poor least-square models



• Weighted least squares error assigns a weight z_i to each training example x_i

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i (w^T x_i - y_i)^2$$

• To reduce the influence of outliers on the decision boundary, assign lower z_i to the outlier observations

- To compute w that minimizes f(w) we need to derive the partial derivatives of f(w) w.r.t each w_i and update w_i using gradient descent
- Given the one-dimensional weighted least square error function

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i (w x_i - y_i)^2$$

derive
$$\frac{\partial f(w)}{\partial w}$$

Weighted Least-Squares

• Weighted least square error function

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i (w^T x_i - y_i)^2$$



- Problem: weighted least squares requires us to know the identity of the outliers
- We can change the least square error function

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (w^{T} x_{i} - y_{i})^{2}$$

to the L1-norm error function that is robust to outliers

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |y_i - w^T x_i|$$

• Problem: the L1 norm is not differentiable



- Problem: the L1 norm is not differentiable
- Solution: approximate the L1 norm and obtain a differential objective function
- We can change the L1-norm objective function

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |y_i - w^T x_i|$$

to the approximated objective function that is differentiable

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}$$

•
$$|r| \approx \sqrt{r^2 + \epsilon}$$
 where ϵ is a small value

• Given the approximation

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}$$

derive $\frac{\partial f(w)}{\partial w_j}$

• Given the approximation

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}$$

Let $r_i = y_i - w^T x_i$

Let

$$\frac{\partial \sqrt{r^2 + \epsilon}}{\partial r} = \frac{2r}{2\sqrt{r^2 + \epsilon}} = \frac{r}{\sqrt{r^2 + \epsilon}}$$
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial w_j} = -\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - w^T x_i) x_{ij}}{\sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}}$$
$$v_i = \frac{y_i - w^T x_i}{\sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}}$$
$$\nabla f(w) = -X^T y$$

Gradient Descent with minFunc

• Given the least square error function

$$f(w) = ||Xw - y||_2^2$$

we want our model prediction Xw to be as close to y as possible

- The minimum is attained when $\nabla_w f(w) = 0$
- We can minimize f(w) by using gradient descent

- Gradient descent is an iterative method
- The idea is to compute a better estimation of w each iteration
- Each iteration, we update w_i as follows

$$w_i = w_i - \alpha \frac{\partial f(w)}{\partial w_i}$$

where α is the step size



In the file robustRegression.m

```
21 % Solve least squares problem
22 w = findMin(@funObj.w,100,X,y);
23
24 model.w = w:
25 model.predict = @predict:
26
27 end
28
29 function [yhat] = predict(model,Xtest)
30 w = model.w:
 31 yhat = Xtest*w;
32 end
33
34 function [f,g] = funObj(w,X,y)
35
36 end
```

• What should we write under funObj to minimize,

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}$$

Gradient Descent

$$f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{(y_i - w^T x_i)^2 + \epsilon}$$

```
34 function [f,g] = funObj(w,X,y)
35 % Compute residual
36 r = X^*w - y;
37
38
   % Compute objective function
39
   f = sum(sqrt(r.^2 + epsilon)));
40
41 % Compute sign-of-residual approximation
42 v = r./(sqrt(r.^2 + epsilon));
43
44 % Compute gradient
45 q = X' * v:
46
47 end
```