CMSC 478 Machine Learning

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(originally prepared by Tommi Jaakkola, MIT CSAIL)

Linear classifiers (with offset)

• A linear classifier with parameters $(\underline{\theta}, \theta_0)$

$$f(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}, \theta_0) = \operatorname{sign} \left(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0 \right) \\ = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0 > 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } \underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0 \le 0 \end{cases}$$



Support vector machine



- We get a max-margin decision boundary by solving a quadratic programming problem
- The solution is unique and sparse (support vectors)

Support vector machine

• Relaxed quadratic optimization problem minimize $\frac{1}{2} ||\underline{\theta}||^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$ subject to $y_i(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x}_i + \theta_0) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$ $\xi_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$



The value of C is an additional parameter we have to set

Beyond linear classifiers...

- Many problems are not solved well by a linear classifier even if we allow misclassified examples (SVM with slack)
- E.g., data from experiments typically involve "clusters" of different types of examples



- The easiest way to make the classifier more powerful is to add non-linear coordinates to the feature vectors
- The classifier is still linear in the parameters, not inputs

non-linear classifier

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r.

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \phi(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \\ x_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}, \theta_0) = \operatorname{sign}(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0)$$

$$\lim_{\text{linear classifier}} f(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}, \theta_0) = \operatorname{sign}(\underline{\theta} \cdot \phi(\underline{x}) + \theta_0)$$

$$\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0 = 0$$

non-linear classifier

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 x_1

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \phi(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ x_2 \\ x_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \\ x_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{x} + \theta_0 = 0$$

$$\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \theta_0 = 0$$
non-linear classifier

linear decision boundary

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non-linear classifier
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r

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$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \phi(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ x_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \\ x_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
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$$\operatorname{linear classifier} \qquad f(\underline{x}; \underline{\theta}, \theta_0) = \operatorname{sign}(\underline{\theta} \cdot \phi(\underline{x}) + \theta_0)$$
$$\underset{\theta_1x_1 + \theta_2x_2 + \theta_3x_1^2 + \theta_4\sqrt{2}x_1x_2 + \theta_5x_2^2 + \theta_0}{\operatorname{non-linear classifier}} = \frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 + \theta_4 + \theta_4 + \theta_2 + \theta_5 + \theta_2}{\operatorname{non-linear classifier}}$$

non-linear decision boundary

 x_1

• By expanding the feature coordinates, we still have a linear classifier in the new feature coordinates but a non-linear classifier in the original coordinates



Learning non-linear classifiers

 We can apply the same SVM formulation, just replacing the input examples with (higher dimensional) feature vectors

minimize
$$\frac{1}{2} \|\underline{\theta}\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$$
 subject to
 $y_i(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{\phi}(\underline{x}_i) + \theta_0) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$
 $\xi_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$

 Note that the cost of solving this quadratic programming problem increases with the dimension of the feature vectors (we will avoid this issues by solving the dual instead)

Non-linear classifiers

- Many (low dimensional) problems are not solved well by a linear classifier even with slack
- By mapping examples to feature vectors, and maximizing a linear margin in the feature space, we obtain non-linear margin curves in the original space



Non-linear classifiers

- Many (low dimensional) problems are not solved well by a linear classifier even with slack
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Problems to resolve

By using non-linear feature mappings we get more powerful sets of classifiers

- Computational efficiency?
 - the cost of using higher dimensional feature vectors (seems to) increase with the dimension
- Model selection?
 - how do we choose among different feature mappings?



Non-linear perceptron, kernels

- Non-linear feature mappings can be dealt with more efficiently through their inner products or "kernels"
- We will begin by turning the perceptron classifier with non-linear features into a "kernel perceptron"
- For simplicity, we drop the offset parameter

$$f(\underline{x};\underline{\theta}) = \operatorname{sign}(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{\phi}(\underline{x}))$$

Initialize: $\underline{\theta} = 0$ For $t = 1, 2, \dots$ (applied in a sequence or repeatedly over a fixed training set) if $y_t(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{\phi}(\underline{x}_t)) \leq 0$ (mistake) $\underline{\theta} \leftarrow \underline{\theta} + y_t \underline{\phi}(\underline{x}_t)$

On perceptron updates

- Each update adds $y_t \phi(\underline{x}_t)$ to the parameter vector
- Repeated updates on the same example simply result in adding the same term multiple times
- We can therefore write the current perceptron solution as a function of how many times we performed an update on each training example

$$\underline{\theta} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i y_i \underline{\phi}(\underline{x}_i)$$
$$\alpha_i \in \{0, 1, \ldots\}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i = \# \text{ of mistakes}$$

Kernel perceptron

• By switching to the "count" representation, we can write the perceptron algorithm entirely in terms of inner products between the feature vectors

$$f(\underline{x};\underline{\theta}) = \operatorname{sign}\left(\underline{\theta} \cdot \underline{\phi}(\underline{x})\right) = \operatorname{sign}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} y_{i} [\underline{\phi}(\underline{x}_{i}) \cdot \underline{\phi}(\underline{x})]\right)$$

Initialize: $\alpha_i = 0, i = 1, ..., n$ Repeat until convergence:

for
$$t = 1, ..., n$$

if $y_t \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i [\phi(\underline{x}_i) \cdot \phi(\underline{x}_t)] \right) \le 0$ (mistake)
 $\alpha_t \leftarrow \alpha_t + 1$

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Feature mappings and kernels

- In the kernel perceptron algorithm, the feature vectors appear only as inner products
- Instead of explicitly constructing feature vectors, we can try to explicate their inner product or kernel
- $K: \mathcal{R}^d \times \mathcal{R}^d \to \mathcal{R}$ is a kernel function if there exists a feature mapping such that

$$K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = \phi(\underline{x}) \cdot \phi(\underline{x}')$$

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• Examples of polynomial kernels

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
K(\underline{x},\underline{x}') &=& (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}') \\
K(\underline{x},\underline{x}') &=& (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}') + (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}')^2 \\
K(\underline{x},\underline{x}') &=& (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}') + (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}')^2 + (\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}')^3 \\
K(\underline{x},\underline{x}') &=& (1+\underline{x}\cdot\underline{x}')^p, \quad p=1,2,\ldots
\end{array}$$

- The feature "vectors" corresponding to kernels may also be infinite dimensional (functions)
- This is the case, e.g., for the radial basis kernel

$$K(\underline{x},\underline{x}') = \exp\left(-\beta \|\underline{x} - \underline{x}'\|^2\right), \ \beta > 0$$

• Any distinct set of training points, regardless of their labels, are separable using this kernel function!

Kernel perceptron cont'd

• We can now apply the kernel perceptron algorithm without ever explicating the feature vectors

$$f(\underline{x};\alpha) = \operatorname{sign}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} y_{i} K(\underline{x}_{i},\underline{x})\right)$$

Initialize: $\alpha_i = 0, i = 1, ..., n$ Repeat until convergence:

for
$$t = 1, ..., n$$

if $y_t \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i K(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_t) \right) \leq 0$ (mistake)
 $\alpha_t \leftarrow \alpha_t + 1$

Kernel perceptron: example

• With a radial basis kernel n

$$f(\underline{x};\alpha) = \operatorname{sign}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} y_{i} K(\underline{x}_{i},\underline{x})\right)$$



Kernel SVM

• We can also turn SVM into its dual (kernel) form and implicitly find the max-margin linear separator in the feature space, e.g., corresponding to the radial basis kernel $\frac{n}{2}$

$$f(\underline{x};\alpha) = \operatorname{sign}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i y_i K(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}) + \theta_0\right)$$



Extra Slides

Composition rules for kernels

- We can construct valid kernels from simple components
- For any function $f: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, if K_1 is a kernel, then so is

I)
$$K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = f(\underline{x})K_1(\underline{x}, \underline{x}')f(\underline{x}')$$

• The set of kernel functions is closed under addition and multiplication: if K_1 and K_2 are kernels, then so are

2)
$$K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = K_1(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') + K_2(\underline{x}, \underline{x}')$$

3) $K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = K_1(\underline{x}, \underline{x}')K_2(\underline{x}, \underline{x}')$

 The composition rules are also helpful in verifying that a kernel is valid (i.e., corresponds to an inner product of some feature vectors)

- The feature "vectors" corresponding to kernels may also be infinite dimensional (functions)
- This is the case, e.g., for the radial basis kernel

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- Any distinct set of training points, regardless of their labels, are separable using this kernel function!
- We can use the composition rules to show that this is indeed a valid kernel

$$\exp\{-\beta \|\underline{x} - \underline{x}'\|^2\} = \exp\{-\beta \underline{x} \cdot \underline{x} + 2\beta \underline{x} \cdot \underline{x}' - \beta \underline{x}' \cdot \underline{x}'\}$$

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$$= \underbrace{\exp\{-\beta \underline{x} \cdot \underline{x}\}}_{f(\underline{x})} \exp\{2\beta \underline{x} \cdot \underline{x}'\} \underbrace{\exp\{-\beta \underline{x}' \cdot \underline{x}'\}}_{f(\underline{x}')}$$

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Kernels

• By writing the algorithm in a "kernel" form, we can try to work with the kernel (inner product) directly rather than explicating the high dimensional feature vectors

$$K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = \phi(\underline{x}) \cdot \phi(\underline{x}')$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \exp(-\|\underline{x} - \underline{x}'\|^2) \quad \text{(e.g.)}$$

• All we need to ensure is that the kernel is "valid", i.e., there exists some underlying feature representation

Valid kernels

• A kernel function is valid (is a kernel) if there exists some feature mapping such that

$$K(\underline{x}, \underline{x}') = \phi(\underline{x}) \cdot \phi(\underline{x}')$$

 Equivalently, a kernel is valid if it is symmetric and for all training sets, the Gram matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} K(\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_1) & \cdots & K(\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_n) \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ K(\underline{x}_n, \underline{x}_1) & \cdots & K(\underline{x}_n, \underline{x}_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

is positive semi-definite