

# **Linear Models**

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# Overview

- Linear models.
- Parameter estimation.
- Linear in the parameters.
- Classification.
- The nonlinear bits.



# Linear models

Linear model has general form

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{m} w_i x_i$$

where  $x_i$  is the *i*th component of input x.

- Assume  $x_0 = 1$  and therefore  $w_0$  is the bias.
- Can represent lines and planes.
- Should ALWAYS try simplest model first!



## **Parameter estimation**

- Least squares estimation.
- Choose parameters that minimise, SSE

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ \hat{f}(x_i) - z_i \right]^2$$

- Unique minimum...
- Optimum when noise is Gaussian.
- Corresponds to maximum-likelihood estimate.



### Least squares cost function





#### Least squares parameters

#### Define the design matrix



Then

 $z = \Phi w + e$ 



A bit of maths  $SSE = (z - \Phi w)^T (z - \Phi w)$  $= z^T z - z^T \Phi w - w^T \Phi^T z + w^T \Phi^T \Phi w$  $= z^T z - 2z^T \Phi w + w^T \Phi^T \Phi w$  $\frac{\partial SSE}{\partial w} = -2z^T \Phi + 2w^T \Phi^T \Phi = 0$  $w^T \Phi^T \Phi = z^T \Phi$  $\hat{w} = \left(\Phi^T \Phi\right)^{-1} \Phi^T z$ 















# How can we generalise this?

Consider instead

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} w_i \phi_i(x)$$

- Where  $\phi(x_i)$  is a nonlinear function of the inputs.
- Nonlinear transform of the inputs and then form a linear model.



# Linear in the parameters

- A nonlinear model that is often called linear.
- Can apply simple estimation to the parameters.
- But... it is nonlinear in the basis functions.
- Linear in the parameters but nonlinear input-output relationship.

















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# **Parameter estimation**

• Define the design matrix

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_m(x_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x_N) & \cdots & \phi_m(x_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

• Then the optimal parameters given by  $\hat{w} = (\Phi^T \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^T z$ 















## Example – how does it work?





### Example – how does it work?





#### Example – how does it work?

Add all these together

To get the function estimate



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#### Example – when it all goes wrong





# Linear classification

How do we apply linear models to classification – output is now categorical?

- Discriminant analysis.
- Probit analysis.
- Log-linear regression.
- Logistic regression.

Aim is to get a linear decision boundary.



# Logistic regression

- A regression model for Bernoulli-distributed targets.
- Form the linear model

$$\operatorname{logit}(p) = \ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{m} w_i x_i$$

where 
$$p = \Pr(y = 1 \mid x) = \frac{e^{w_0 + w_1 x_1 + \cdots}}{1 + e^{w_0 + w_1 x_1 + \cdots}}$$



# Can we generalise it?

Instead of

$$\operatorname{logit}(p) = \ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{m} w_i x_i$$

use a linear in the parameters model  $logit(p) = ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} w_i \phi_i(x)$ 



















# Parameter estimation

- Maximum likelihood.
- Maximise the probability of getting the observed results given the parameters.
- Although unique minimum need to use iterative techniques (no closed form solution).



















# Example – class probabilities





# But...









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# **Basis function optimisation**

#### Need to estimate:

- Type of basis functions.
- Number of basis functions.
- Positions of basis functions.

These are nonlinear problems – difficult!



# Types of basis functions

- Usually choose a favourite!
- Examples include: Polynomials:  $\phi(x) = \{1, x_1, x_2, x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, ...\}$ Gaussians:  $\phi_i(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x-c_i\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

Fourier:  $\phi(x) = \sin nx$ ,  $\cos nx$ ...

....



# Number of basis functions

- How many basis functions?
- Slowly increase number until overfit data.
- Exploratory vs optimal.



# Positions of basis functions

- This is really difficult!
- One easy possibility is to put one basis function on each data point.
- Uniform grid (but curse of dimensionality).
- Advantage of global basis functions e.g. polynomials – don't need to optimise positions.



# Note on Data

How much data do we need?

- Enough to train the model?
- But how much is this?
- What about validating and testing the model?
- Need train, validate and test data!



# **Concluding remarks**

- Always try the simplest possible model first (e.g. linear).
- Can make nonlinear in the input but linear in the parameters.
- But becomes nonlinear optimisation.
- Is least squares/maximum likelihood the best way?