# Introduction to Machine Learning (67577) Lecture 9 

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Multiclass, Ranking, and Complex Prediction Problems

## Outline

(1) Multiclass problems

- One-vs-All and All-Pairs
- Linear Multiclass Predictors
- Cost-sensitive losses
- Multiclass SVM
(2) Structured Output Prediction
(3) Ranking

4 Bipartite Ranking and Multivariate Performance Measures

## Multiclass Categorization

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- E.g.: $x \in \mathcal{X}$ is an image and $\{1, \ldots, k\}$ represents $k$ possible objects
- We'll later consider problems in which $k$ is extremely large, E.g., in translation, $x \in \mathcal{X}$ is a sentence in Hebrew and $\{1, \ldots, k\}$ is all possible sentences in English


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- For every $i$, feed the binary training set

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- In case of ties (more than one $h_{i}$ predicts 1 ), and if $h_{i}$ outputs a confidence as well (e.g. SVM), we can use the confidence of $h_{i}$ to break ties


## All-Pairs reduction

- All pairs of classes are compared to each other.
- For every $1 \leq i<j \leq k$, construct a binary sample, $S_{i, j}$, containing examples from class $i$ against examples from class $j$.
- Call the binary learner to get $h_{i, j}$
- Output the multiclass classifier by predicting the class which had the highest number of "wins"


## Sub-optimality of reductions

- One-vs-All over halfspace binary classifier will fail on the sample below, although it is separable by the resulting hypothesis class



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- The immediate question, how to construct $\Psi$ ?


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- Term-Frequency-Inverse-Document-Frequency:

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- Intuitively, $\Psi_{j}(\mathbf{x}, y)$ should be large if word $j$ appears a lot in $\mathbf{x}$ but does not appear at all in documents that are not on topic $y$ In such case, we tend to believe that the document $\mathbf{x}$ is on topic $y$


## The Multi-vector Construction

$$
h(\mathbf{x})=\underset{y \in[k]}{\operatorname{argmax}}(W \mathbf{x})_{y}=\underset{y \in[k]}{\operatorname{argmax}}\left\langle\mathbf{w}_{y}, \mathbf{x}\right\rangle
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Can be written as $\operatorname{argmax}_{y}\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\rangle$ for

$$
\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)=[\underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{(y-1) n}}, \underbrace{x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{n}}, \underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{(k-y) n}}] .
$$

## Cost-sensitive losses

Which prediction is worse?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{h}_{1}(\text { 国 })=\text { cat } \\
& \mathrm{h}_{2} \text { (国) }=\text { whale }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Cost-sensitive losses

Which prediction is worse?

## $h_{1}$ (园) = cat $h_{2}($ 준 $)=$ whale

- Cost function: $\Delta: \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}$
- Zero-one loss is a special case: $\Delta\left(y, y^{\prime}\right)=\mathbb{1}_{\left[y^{\prime} \neq y\right]}$


## ERM

- ERM problem: find $\mathbf{w}$ that minimizes

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L_{S}\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}\right)=\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \Delta\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right), y_{i}\right)
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- In the realizable case, equivalent to the linear programming problem:

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\forall i \in[m], \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \backslash\left\{y_{i}\right\}, \quad\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, y_{i}\right)\right\rangle>\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, y\right)\right\rangle
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- NP hard in the non-realizable case so we'll use a surrogate convex loss


## Generalized Hinge Loss

Multiclass predictor:

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By definition:

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\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\rangle \leq\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x})\right)\right\rangle
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Therefore,

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\Delta\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}), y\right) \leq \Delta\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}), y\right)+\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x})\right)-\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\right\rangle
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- The generalized hinge loss is convex and $\rho$-Lipschitz, for $\rho=\max _{y^{\prime} \in \mathcal{Y}}\left\|\Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, y^{\prime}\right)-\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\right\|$.


## Generalized Hinge Loss

The generalized hinge loss equals zero when:

$$
\forall y^{\prime} \in \mathcal{Y} \backslash\{y\}, \quad\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\rangle \geq\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)\right\rangle+\Delta\left(y^{\prime}, y\right) .
$$



## Multiclass SVM

## Parameters:

- class sensitive feature mapping, $\Psi$
- cost function $\Delta: \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}$
- regularization parameter $\lambda>0$

Solve:
$\underset{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}}{\operatorname{argmin}}\left(\lambda\|\mathbf{w}\|^{2}+\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \max _{y^{\prime} \in \mathcal{Y}}\left(\Delta\left(y^{\prime}, y_{i}\right)+\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, y^{\prime}\right)-\Psi\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, y_{i}\right)\right\rangle\right)\right)$
Output:

$$
h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x})=\underset{y \in \mathcal{Y}}{\operatorname{argmax}}\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\rangle
$$

## SGD implementation

- Loss function:

$$
\ell(\mathbf{w},(\mathbf{x}, y))=\max _{y^{\prime} \in \mathcal{Y}}\left(\Delta\left(y^{\prime}, y\right)+\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, y^{\prime}\right)-\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\right\rangle\right)
$$

- Sub-gradient calculation
- find $\hat{y} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{y^{\prime} \in \mathcal{Y}}\left(\Delta\left(y^{\prime}, y\right)+\left\langle\mathbf{w}^{(t)}, \Psi\left(\mathbf{x}, y^{\prime}\right)-\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\right\rangle\right)$
- set $\mathbf{v}_{t}=\Psi(\mathbf{x}, \hat{y})-\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)$


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- Cost-sensitive losses
- Multiclass SVM


## (2) Structured Output Prediction

(3) Ranking

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## Structured Output Prediction

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- $\mathcal{X}=$ set of images
- $\mathcal{Y}$ all possible words in English



## Structured Output Prediction

The good news: sample complexity of multiclass SVM does not depend on $|\mathcal{Y}|$ but rather on $\|\Psi(\mathbf{x}, y)\|$ and $\|\mathbf{w}\|$.

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However, the huge size of $\mathcal{Y}$ poses computational challenges:
(1) To apply the multiclass prediction we need to solve a maximization problem over $\mathcal{Y}$. How can we predict efficiently when $\mathcal{Y}$ is so large?
(2) How do we train w efficiently? In particular, to apply the SGD rule we again need to solve a maximization problem over $\mathcal{Y}$.

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Solution:

- Endow $\Psi$ and $\Delta$ with structure that allows fast maximization over $\mathcal{Y}$


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- Type 1 features: (capture pixels in the image whose gray level values are indicative to a certain letter)

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\Psi_{i, j, 1}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})=\frac{1}{r} \sum_{t=1}^{r} x_{i, t} \mathbb{1}_{\left[y_{t}=j\right]}
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- Type 2 features: (capture "it is likely to see the pair 'qu' in a word")

$$
\Psi_{i, j, 2}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})=\frac{1}{r} \sum_{t=2}^{r} \mathbb{1}_{\left[y_{t}=i\right]} \mathbb{1}_{\left[y_{t-1}=j\right]}
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- Type 2 features: (capture "it is likely to see the pair 'qu' in a word")

$$
\Psi_{i, j, 2}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})=\frac{1}{r} \sum_{t=2}^{r} \mathbb{1}_{\left[y_{t}=i\right]} \mathbb{1}_{\left[y_{t-1}=j\right]}
$$

- Claim: The problem $\operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}}\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\rangle$ can be solved efficiently using dynamic programming


## Dynamic Programming

- Can rewrite the problem as:

$$
h_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x})=\underset{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{t=1}^{r}\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\phi}\left(\mathbf{x}, y_{t}, y_{t-1}\right)\right\rangle
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$$

- Maintain a matrix $M \in \mathbb{R}^{q, r}$ such that

$$
M_{s, \tau}=\max _{\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{\tau}\right): y_{\tau}=s} \sum_{t=1}^{\tau}\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \phi\left(\mathbf{x}, y_{t}, y_{t-1}\right)\right\rangle
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$$

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- Calculate $M$ in a recursive manner:

$$
M_{s, \tau}=\max _{s^{\prime}}\left(M_{s^{\prime}, \tau-1}+\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \phi\left(\mathbf{x}, s, s^{\prime}\right)\right\rangle\right)
$$

## Outline

(1) Multiclass problems

- One-vs-All and All-Pairs
- Linear Multiclass Predictors
- Cost-sensitive losses
- Multiclass SVM


## (2) Structured Output Prediction

(3) Ranking

## 4 Bipartite Ranking and Multivariate Performance Measures

## Ranking

structured output svm

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After training, the structured SVM model allows one to predict for new ...
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## SVM-Struct Support Vector Machine for Complex Outputs

 www.cs.cornell.edu/people/tj/svm_light/svm_struct.html *Overview. SVMstruct is a Support Vector Machine (SVM) algorithm for predicting multivariate or structured outputs. It performs supervised learning by ...

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- E.g. | $\mathbf{y}$ | sorted $\mathbf{y}$ | $\pi(\mathbf{y})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | -1 | 4 |
| 1 | 0.5 | 3 |
| 6 | 1 | 5 |
| -1 | 2 | 1 |
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- $\pi(\mathbf{y})_{i}$ is the position of $y_{i}$ in the sorted vector. Top-ranked instances are those that achieve the highest values in $\pi(\mathbf{y})$.


## Loss functions for Ranking

## Kendall-tau loss:

- Count the number of pairs $(i, j)$ that are in different order in the two permutations:

$$
\Delta\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)=\frac{2}{r(r-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{r} \mathbb{1}_{\left[\operatorname{sign}\left(y_{i}^{\prime}-y_{j}^{\prime}\right) \neq \operatorname{sign}\left(y_{i}-y_{j}\right)\right]} .
$$

More useful than the 0-1 loss as it reflects the level of similarity between the two rankings.

## Loss functions for Ranking

## Normalized Discounted Cumulative Gain (NDCG):

- Emphasizes correctness at the top of the list by using a discount
- Define a discounted cumulative gain measure:

$$
G\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{r} D\left(\pi\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)_{i}\right) y_{i}
$$

where $D$ is a decreasing function

- Normalized discounted cumulative gain

$$
\Delta\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)=1-\frac{G\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)}{G(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y})}
$$

- NDCG is often used to evaluate the performance of search engines since in such applications it makes sense to completely ignore elements which are not at the top of the ranking.


## Discounted cumulative gain - example

$$
G\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{r} D\left(\pi\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)_{i}\right) y_{i}
$$

| $\mathbf{y}^{\prime}$ | sorted $\mathbf{y}^{\prime}$ | $\pi\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)$ | $D\left(\pi\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)\right)$ | $\mathbf{y}$ | $D(\pi(\mathbf{y}))$ | $\pi(\mathbf{y})$ | sorted $\mathbf{y}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | -1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 4 | -2 |
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| 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| -1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| 0.5 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 |

$$
\Delta\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)=1-\frac{G\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}, \mathbf{y}\right)}{G(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y})}=1-\frac{17}{17}=0
$$

## Linear Predictors for Ranking

- Linear predictor

$$
h_{\mathbf{w}}\left(\left(\mathbf{x}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_{r}\right)\right)=\left(\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{1}\right\rangle, \ldots,\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{r}\right\rangle\right) .
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$$

- Therefore, with $\Psi(\overline{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{v})=\sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i} \mathbf{x}_{i}$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\pi\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})\right) & =\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i}\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle \\
& =\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}}\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i} \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle \\
& =\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}}\langle\mathbf{w}, \Psi(\overline{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{v})\rangle
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\max _{\mathbf{v} \in V}\left[\Delta(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y})+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(v_{i}-\pi(\mathbf{y})_{i}\right)\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle\right]
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- Each step of SGD for the resulting learning problem boils down to "the assignment problem" and can be solved efficiently using the "Hungarian method"


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4) Bipartite Ranking and Multivariate Performance Measures

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- $\theta$ controls the tradeoff between precision and recall


## Multivariate Performance Measures

Example:

- $y^{\prime}$ predicts by the halfspace ('dots' $=$ positive, 'stars' $=$ negative)
- $y$ predicts by the ellipse ( within $=$ positive, outside $=$ negative)


$$
\text { Precision }=\frac{T P}{T P+F P}
$$

$$
\text { Recall }=\frac{T P}{T P+F N}
$$

## Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve



## Multivariate Performance Measures

For every $\theta$ we can define a single number that measures the performance.

- Averaging sensitivity and specificity: $\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T P}{T P+F N}+\frac{T N}{T N+F P}\right)$. This is the accuracy on positive examples averaged with the accuracy on negative examples.
- $F_{1}$-score: The $F_{1}$ score is the harmonic mean of the precision and recall: $\frac{1}{\text { Precision }+\frac{1}{\text { Recall }}}$.
- Recall at $k$ : We measure the recall while the prediction must contain at most $k$ positive labels. That is, we should set $\theta$ so that $T P+F P \leq k$. E.g., convenient for fraud detection
- Precision at $k$ : We measure the precision while the prediction must contain at least $k$ positive labels. That is, we should set $\theta$ so that $T P+F P \geq k$.


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- But, the recall of such predictor is 0 , hence the $F_{1}$ score is also 0 , which means that the loss $1-F_{1}$ will be 1 (worst possible).
- Conclusion: we need to train our predictor with an appropriate loss function for the problem


## Linear Predictors for Multivariate Measures

- Linear predictor:

$$
h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})=\left(\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{1}\right\rangle, \ldots,\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{r}\right\rangle\right) .
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- Actual prediction:

$$
\mathbf{b}\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)=\left(\operatorname{sign}\left(y_{1}^{\prime}-\theta\right), \ldots, \operatorname{sign}\left(y_{r}^{\prime}-\theta\right)\right) \in\{ \pm 1\}^{r} .
$$

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$$

- Observe, for all performance measures defined before, exists some $V \subseteq\{ \pm 1\}^{r}$ s.t.

$$
\mathbf{b}\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)=\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i} y_{i}^{\prime}
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- Linear predictor:

$$
h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})=\left(\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{1}\right\rangle, \ldots,\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{r}\right\rangle\right)
$$

- Actual prediction:

$$
\mathbf{b}\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)=\left(\operatorname{sign}\left(y_{1}^{\prime}-\theta\right), \ldots, \operatorname{sign}\left(y_{r}^{\prime}-\theta\right)\right) \in\{ \pm 1\}^{r}
$$

- Observe, for all performance measures defined before, exists some $V \subseteq\{ \pm 1\}^{r}$ s.t.

$$
\mathbf{b}\left(\mathbf{y}^{\prime}\right)=\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i} y_{i}^{\prime}
$$

- E.g., for recall at $k$ take $V$ to be all vectors in $\{ \pm 1\}^{r}$ that has at most $k$ pluses


## Linear Predictors for Multivariate Measures

- Hinge loss for multivariate:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}}), \mathbf{y}\right) & =\Delta\left(\mathbf{b}\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})\right), \mathbf{y}\right) \\
& \leq \Delta\left(\mathbf{b}\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})\right), \mathbf{y}\right)+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(b_{i}\left(h_{\mathbf{w}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}})\right)-y_{i}\right)\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle \\
& \leq \max _{\mathbf{v} \in V}\left[\Delta(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y})+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(v_{i}-y_{i}\right)\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

## SGD for Multivariate Measures

- Applying SGD involves solving the maximization problem in the definition of the loss

$$
\underset{\mathbf{v} \in V}{\operatorname{argmax}}\left[\Delta(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y})+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(v_{i}-y_{i}\right)\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle\right]
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- Key idea, suppose $\Delta$ only depends on $a=T P, b=F P$ and partition $V$ into sets of the form

$$
\overline{\mathcal{Y}}_{a, b}=\left\{\mathbf{v}:\left|\left\{i: v_{i}=1 \wedge y_{i}=1\right\}\right|=a \wedge\left|\left\{i: v_{i}=1 \wedge y_{i}=-1\right\}\right|=b\right\}
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- Withint each $\overline{\mathcal{Y}}_{a, b}$ the value of $\Delta$ is constant, so we only need to maximize the expression

$$
\max _{\mathbf{v} \in \overline{\mathcal{Y}}_{a, b}} \sum_{i=1}^{r} v_{i}\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle .
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$$

- This can be done efficiently by sorting the examples according to $\left\langle\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{i}\right\rangle$


## Summary

- Multiclass problems
- Simple reductions
- Linear predictors and Multiclass SVM
- Structured Output Prediction
- Ranking
- Bipartite Ranking and Multivariate Performance Measures
- Efficient sub-gradient calculations using combinatorial optimization (dynamic programming, assignment problems, sorting)

