

Machine Learning

B. Supervised Learning: Nonlinear Models B.1. Nearest-Neighbor Models

Lars Schmidt-Thieme

Information Systems and Machine Learning Lab (ISMLL) Institute for Computer Science University of Hildesheim, Germany

Syllabus



Fri. 26.10. (1) 0. Introduction

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- Fri. 2.11. (2) A.1 Linear Regression
- Fri. 9.11. (3) A.2 Linear Classification
- Fri. 16.11. (4) A.3 Regularization
- Fri. 23.11. (5) A.4 High-dimensional Data

B. Supervised Learning: Nonlinear Models

- Fri. 30.11. (6) B.1 Nearest-Neighbor Models
- Fri. 7.12. (7) B.4 Support Vector Machines
- Fri. 14.12. (8) B.3 Decision Trees
- Fri. 21.12. (9) B.5 A First Look at Bayesian and Markov Networks — Christmas Break —
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C. Unsupervised Learning

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Outline



1. Distance Measures

2. K-Nearest Neighbor Models

3. Scalable Nearest Neighbor

Outline



1. Distance Measures

2. K-Nearest Neighbor Models

3. Scalable Nearest Neighbor

Motivation



So far, regression and classification methods covered in the lecture can be used for

- numerical variables,
- ▶ binary variables (re-interpreted as numerical), and
- nominal variables (coded as set of binary indicator variables). often called scalar variables.

Often one is also interested in more complex variables such as

set-valued variables,

▶ ...

sequence-valued variables (e.g., strings),

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Motivation



There are two kinds of approaches to deal with complex variables:

I. feature extraction

- 1. derive binary or numerical variables,
- 2. then use standard methods on the feature vectors.

II. kernel methods

- 1. establish a distance measure between two values,
- 2. then use methods that use only distances between objects (but no feature vectors).

Distance measures



Let d be a distance measure (also called metric) on a set \mathcal{X} , i.e.,

$$d: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}^+_0$$

with

- 1. *d* is **positiv definite**: $d(x, y) \ge 0$ and $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$
- 2. *d* is symmetric: d(x, y) = d(y, x)
- 3. *d* is **subadditive**: $d(x, z) \le d(x, y) + d(y, z)$ (triangle inequality)

(for all $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$.)

Example: **Euclidean metric** on $\mathcal{X} := \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$d(x,y) := (\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - y_i)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

with $p \in \mathbb{R}, p$

Minkowski Metric / L_p metric Minkowski Metric / L_p metric on $\mathcal{X} := \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$d(x,y) := (\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - y_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

 $\geq 1.$

p = 1 (taxicab distance; Manhattan distance):

$$d(x,y) := \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - y_i|$$

p = 2 (euclidean distance):

$$d(x,y) := \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - y_i)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

 $p = \infty$ (maximum distance; Chebyshev distance):

$$d(x,y) := \max_{i=1}^n |x_i - y_i|$$



Minkowski Metric / L_p metric / Example

Example:

$$x := \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y := \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_{L_1}(x, y) = |1 - 2| + |3 - 4| + |4 - 1| = 1 + 1 + 3 = 5$$

$$d_{L_2}(x,y) = \sqrt{(1-2)^2 + (3-4)^2 + (4-1)^2} = \sqrt{1+1+9} = \sqrt{11} \approx 3.32$$

$$d_{L_{\infty}}(x,y) = \max\{|1-2|, |3-4|, |4-1|\} = \max\{1,1,3\} = 3$$



Similarity measures



Instead of a distance measure sometimes **similarity measures** are used, i.e.,

sim :
$$\mathcal{X} imes \mathcal{X} o \mathbb{R}^+_0$$

with

• sim is symmetric: sim(x, y) = sim(y, x).

Some similarity measures have stronger properties:

- sim is discerning: $sim(x, y) \le 1$ and $sim(x, y) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x = y$
- $sim(x,z) \ge sim(x,y) + sim(y,z) 1.$

Some similarity measures have values in [-1,1] or even \mathbb{R} where negative values denote "dissimilarity".

Distance vs. Similarity measures



A discerning similarity measure can be turned into a semi-metric (pos. def. & symmetric, but not necessarily subadditive) via

$$d(x,y) := 1 - \sin(x,y)$$

In the same way, a metric can be turned into a discerning similarity measure

(with values possibly in $]-\infty,1]$).

Cosine Similarity

The angle between two vectors in \mathbb{R}^N can be used as distance measure

$$d(x,y) := ext{angle}(x,y) := ext{arccos}(rac{\langle x,y
angle}{||x||_2\,||y||_2})$$

To avoid the arccos, often the cosine of the angle is used as similarity measure (cosine similarity):

$$sim(x, y) := cosangle(x, y) := \frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{||x||_2 ||y||_2}$$

Example:

$$x := \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y := \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sin(x,y) = \frac{1 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 4 + 4 \cdot 1}{\sqrt{1 + 9 + 16}\sqrt{4 + 16 + 1}} = \frac{18}{\sqrt{26}\sqrt{21}} \approx 0.77$$



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Distances for Nominal Variables

- 1. Binary variables:
 - ▶ there is only one reasonable distance measure:

$$d(x,y) := 1 - \mathbb{I}(x = y)$$
 with $\mathbb{I}(x = y) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- This coincides with
 L_∞, ½L₁ and ½L₂ distance for the indicator/dummy variables.
- 2. Nominal variables (with more than two possible values):
 - The same distance measure is useful.
- 3. Hierarchical variables
 - (i.e., a nominal variable with levels arranged in a hierarchy)
 - ▶ there are more advanced distance measures (not covered here).

Distances for Set-valued Variables

For **set-valued variables** (which values are subsets of a set A) the **Hamming distance** often is used:

$$d(x,y) := |(x \setminus y) \cup (y \setminus x)| = |\{a \in A \mid \mathbb{I}(a \in x) \neq \mathbb{I}(a \in y)\}|$$

(= the number of elements contained in only one of the two sets). Example:

$$d(\{a, e, p, l\}, \{a, b, n\}) = 5, \quad d(\{a, e, p, l\}, \{a, e, g, n, o, r\}) = 6$$

Also often used is the similarity measure Jaccard coefficient:

$$sim(x,y) := \frac{|x \cap y|}{|x \cup y|}$$

Example:

$$sim(\{a, e, p, l\}, \{a, b, n\}) = \frac{1}{6}, \quad sim(\{a, e, p, l\}, \{a, e, g, n, o, r\}) = \frac{2}{8}$$



Distances for Strings / Sequences



edit distance / Levenshtein distance:

d(x, y) := minimal number of single character deletions, insertions or substitutions to transform x in y

Examples:

d(man, men) = d(house, spouse) =

d(order, express order) =

Distances for Strings / Sequences



edit distance / Levenshtein distance:

d(x, y) := minimal number of single character deletions, insertions or substitutions to transform x in y

Examples:

d(man, men) = 1d(house, spouse) = 2

d(order, express order) = 8

Distances for Strings / Sequences

The edit distance is computed recursively. With

$$x_{1:i} := (x_{i'})_{i'=1,...,i} = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_i), \quad i \in \mathbb{N}$$

we compute the number of operations to transform $x_{1:i}$ into $y_{1:j}$ as

$$\begin{array}{ll} c(x_{1:i}, y_{1:j}) := \min \{ \begin{array}{ll} c(x_{1:i-1}, y_{1:j}) + 1, & // \text{ delet } x_i, x_{1:i-1} \rightsquigarrow y_{1:j} \\ c(x_{1:i}, y_{1:j-1}) + 1, & // x_{1:i} \rightsquigarrow y_{1:j-1}, \text{ insert } y_j \\ c(x_{1:i-1}, y_{1:j-1}) + I(x_i \neq y_j) \} & // x_{1:i-1} \rightsquigarrow y_{1:j-1}, \text{ substitute } y_j \\ \text{ for } x_i \end{array}$$

starting from

Such a recursive computing scheme is called dynamic programming.



Distances for Strings / Sequences

Example: compute d(excused, exhausted).

		е	Х	С	u	S	е	d
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
е	1							
х	2							
h	3							
а	4							
u	5							
s	6							
t	7							
е	8							
d	9							



Distances for Strings / Sequences

Example: compute d(excused, exhausted).

		е	Х	С	u	S	е	d
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
е	1	0						
х	2	1						
h	3	2						
а	4	3						
u	5	4						
S	6	5						
t	7	6						
е	8	7						
d	9	8						







Distances for Strings / Sequences

Example: compute d(excused, exhausted).

		е	х	С	u	S	е	d
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
е	1	0	1					
Х	2	1	0					
h	3	2	1					
а	4	3	2					
u	5	4	3					
s	6	5	4					
t	7	6	5					
е	8	7	6					
d	9	8	7					



Distances for Strings / Sequences

Example: compute d(excused, exhausted).

		е	х	С	u	S	е	d
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
е	1	0	1	2				
х	2	1	0	1				
h	3	2	1	1				
а	4	3	2	2				
u	5	4	3	3				
s	6	5	4	4				
t	7	6	5	5				
е	8	7	6	6				
d	9	8	7	7				



Distances for Strings / Sequences

Example: compute d(excused, exhausted).



The Levenshtein distance is the last entry of the matrix.



Machine Learning 2. K-Nearest Neighbor Models

Outline



1. Distance Measures

2. K-Nearest Neighbor Models

3. Scalable Nearest Neighbor

Neighborhoods

Let d be a distance measure. For a dataset

$$D \subseteq X \times Y$$

and $x \in \mathcal{X}$ let

$$D = \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\}$$

be an enumeration with increasing distance to x, i.e.,

$$d(x,x_n) \leq d(x,x_{n+1}), \quad n = 1,\ldots,N$$

(ties broken arbitrarily).

The first $K \in \mathbb{N}$ points of such an enumeration, i.e.,

$$C_{K}(x) := \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots (x_{K}, y_{K})\}$$

are called a K-neighborhood of x (in D).



Nearest Neighbor Regression and Classification Models

The K-nearest neighbor regressor

$$\hat{y}(x) := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{(x',y') \in C_K(x)} y'$$

The K-nearest neighbor classifier

$$\hat{p}(Y = y \mid x) := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{(x',y') \in C_K(x)} \mathbb{I}(y = y')$$

and then predict the class with maximal predicted probability

$$\hat{y}(x) := \underset{y \in \mathcal{Y}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \hat{p}(Y = y \mid x)$$

i.e., the majority class in the neighborhood.

Nearest Neighbor Regression Algorithm



1 predict-knn-reg $(q \in \mathbb{R}^M, \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \in \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathbb{R}, K \in \mathbb{N}, d\}$ 2 allocate array D of size N3 for n := 1 : N: 4 $D_n := d(q, x_n)$ 5 $C := \operatorname{argmin-k}(D, K)$ 6 $\hat{y} := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_{C_k}$ 7 return \hat{y}

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Nearest Neighbor Classification Algorithm

1 predict-knn-class($q \in \mathbb{R}^M, \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \in \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathcal{Y}, K \in \mathbb{N}, d\}$: allocate array D of size N2 for n := 1: N: 3 $D_n := d(q, x_n)$ 4 $C := \operatorname{argmin-k}(D, K)$ 5 allocate array \hat{p} of size $|\mathcal{Y}|$ 6 7 for k := 1 : K: $\hat{p}_{C_k} := \hat{p}_{C_k} + 1/K$ 8 return \hat{p} 9

Compute the argmin



Note: $\pi_x(n) := x_n$ comparison by x-values. Here, $\mathcal{X} := \mathbb{N}$.



Compute the argmin / find (naive)



- 5 return k
 - requires
 - x is sorted (increasingly w.r.t. π)
 - returns smallest index k with π(x_k) ≤ π(z)
 ▶ 0, if π(z) < π(x₁)

Note: Esp. for larger K it is better to use binary search.



Decision Boundaries



For 1-nearest neighbor, the predictor space is partitioned in regions of points that are closest to a given data point:

$$\operatorname{region}_D(x_1), \operatorname{region}_D(x_2), \ldots, \operatorname{region}_D(x_N)$$

with

$$\operatorname{region}_D(x) := \{ x' \in \mathcal{X} \mid d(x', x) \le d(x', x'') \quad \forall (x'', y'') \in D \}$$

These regions often are called **cells**, the whole partition a **Voronoi tesselation**.

Decision Boundaries

1.0

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

0.0

0.0

Ř



0.6

0.8

1.0

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0.4

0.2



Decision Boundaries





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Complexity of K-Nearest Neighbor Classifier



as it just stores all the training examples.

On the other hand, predicting using a K-nearest neighbor classifier is slow:

► To predict the class of a new point x, the distance d(x, x_i) from x to each of the N training examples (x₁, y₁),..., (x_N, y_N)

has to be computed.

- ► For a predictor space X := ℝ^M, each such computation needs O(M) operations.
- We then keep track of the K points with the smallest distance.

In total one needs O(NM + NK) operations.



Partial Distances / Lower Bounding



In practice, nearest neighbor classifiers often can be accelerated by several methods.

Partial distances:

Compute the distance to each training point x' only partially, e.g.,

$$d_r(x,x') := (\sum_{m=1}^r (x_m - x'_m)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad r \leq M$$

As d_r is non-decreasing in r, once $d_r(x, x')$ exceeds the K-th smallest distance computed so far, the training point x' can be dropped.

This is a heuristic:

it may accelerate computations, but it also may slow it down (as there are additional comparisons of the partial distances with the K smallest distance).



Nearest Neighbor Classification Algorithm

1 predict-knn-reg $(q \in \mathbb{R}^M, \mathcal{D}^{train} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \in \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathbb{R}, K \in \mathbb{N}, d\}$:

- ² allocate array D of size N
- 3 for n := 1 : N:

$$D_n := d(q, x_n)$$

$$5 \quad C := \operatorname{argmin-k}(D, K)$$

$$\hat{y} := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_{C_k}$$

7 return \hat{y}

Machine Learning 3. Scalable Nearest Neighbor

1 predict-knn-reg $(q \in \mathbb{R}^M, \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \in \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathbb{R}, K \in \mathbb{N}$ allocate array D of size N2 3 for n := 1 : N: 4 $D_n := d(q, x_n)$ 5 $C := \operatorname{argmin-k}(D, K)$ 6 $\hat{y} := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_{C_k}$ 7 return \hat{v} 1 predict-knn-class $(q \in \mathbb{R}^M, \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} := \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \in \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathbb{R}, K \in \mathbb{N}, d\}$ 2 $C := \pi_1(\text{ARGCLOS-K}(q, x_1, x_2, ..., x_N, K))$ 3 $\hat{y} := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_{C_k}$ 4 return \hat{y} ⁶ argclos-k($q \in \mathbb{R}^M, x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathbb{R}^M, K \in \mathbb{N}$): allocate array D of size N7 8 for n := 1 : N: 9 $D_n := d(q, x_n)$ $C := \operatorname{argmin-k}(D, K)$ 11 return $\{(C_k, D_{C_k}) | k = 1 : |C|\}$



Find Neighbors / Without Lower Bounding

argclos-k(
$$q \in \mathbb{R}^{M}, x_{1}, \dots, x_{N} \in \mathbb{R}^{M}, K \in \mathbb{N}$$
):
allocate array T of size K for pairs $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}$
for $n = 1$: min (K, N) :
 $d := \sum_{m=1}^{M} (q_{m} - x_{n,m})^{2}$
for $n = K + 1$: N :
 $d := \sum_{m=1}^{M} (q_{m} - x_{n,m})^{2}$
if $d < \pi_{2}(T_{K})$:
g insert-bottomk $(T, (n, d), \pi_{2}, 0)$
return T

Note: ARGCLOS-K returns the K points closest to q and their distances. $\pi_2(n, d) := d$ comparison by second component (distance).

Find Neighbors / With Lower Bounding

argclos-k(
$$q \in \mathbb{R}^{M}, x_{1}, \dots, x_{N} \in \mathbb{R}^{M}, K \in \mathbb{N}$$
):
allocate array T of size K for pairs $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}$
for $n = 1$: min(K, N):
 $d := \sum_{m=1}^{M} (q_{m} - x_{n,m})^{2}$
insert-bottomk($T, (n, d), \pi_{2}, 1$)
for $n = K + 1$: N :
 $d := 0$
 $m := 1$
while $m \leq M$ and $d < \pi_{2}(T_{K})$:
 $d := d + (q_{m} - x_{n,m})^{2}$
 $m := m + 1$
if $d < \pi_{2}(T_{K})$:
issert-bottomk($T, (n, d), \pi_{2}, 0$)
return T

Note: ARGCLOS-K returns the K points closest to q and their distances. $\pi_2(n, d) := d$ comparison by second component (distance).



Search trees



Search trees:

Do not compute the distance of a new point x to **all** training examples, but

- 1. organize the training examples as a tree (or a DAG) with
 - sets of training examples at the leaves and
 - a prototype (e.g., the mean of the training examples at all descendent leaves) at each intermediate node.
- 2. starting at the root, recursively
 - compute the distance to all children of the actual node and
 - branch to the child with the smallest distance,
- 3. compute distances only to training examples in the leaf finally found.

This is an approximation.

Search trees





Search trees





Approximate Nearest Neighbor



- for low dimensions, k-d trees (k-dimensional trees) can be used
 only useful for very low dimensions (2d, 3d)
 - ▶ in computational geometry, computer graphics, computer vision
- ► for higher dimensions locality-sensitive hashing performs better
 - only works with specific distances (Euclidean/L2, L1, Hamming)

Locality-Sensitive Hashing [?]

- idea: create a hash key function h that puts
 - close instances into the same bin, but

► far instances into different bins. allowing some errors.

• for $x \in \mathbb{R}^M$, the discretized projection on a random line is

$$egin{aligned} h_{a,b,r}(x) &:= \left\lfloor rac{a^T x + b}{s}
ight
ceil, \quad a \in \mathbb{R}^M, \, b \in [0,s], s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \ & ext{where } a_m \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1), \, b \sim ext{unif}(0,s) \end{aligned}$$

use the concatenation of L such projection keys as hash key

$$\begin{aligned} h_{A,b,r}(x) &:= (h_{A_{I,.},b_{I},s}(x))_{I=1,...,L} \\ &= (\left\lfloor \frac{1}{s}(Ax+b)_{I} \right\rfloor)_{I=1,...,L}, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times M}, b \in [0,s]^{L}, s \in \mathbb{R}^{+} \end{aligned}$$

• build H such hash maps and test all points found in any of them.





Editing / Pruning / Condensing:

shrink the set of training data points,

e.g., select a subset of the original training data points.

Example: remove all points with cells that are surrounded by cells of points of the same class.

$$X_{ ext{edited}} \mathrel{\mathop:}= \{(x,y) \in X \,|\, \exists (x',y') \in X, R(x') \cap R(x)
eq \emptyset ext{ and } y'
eq y \}$$

This basic editing algorithm

- ▶ retains the decision function,
- ▶ has complexity $O(M^3 N^{\lfloor \frac{M}{2} \rfloor} \log N)$ (with $\lfloor x \rfloor := \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \leq x\}$; Duda et al. 2001, p. 186).

See e.g., Ottmann/Widmayer 2002, p. 501–515 for computing Voronoi diagrams in two dimensions.





1.	procedure KNN-EDIT-TRAINING-DATA $(\mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} \subset \mathbb{R}^M \times \mathcal{V})$
2:	compute Voronoi cells $R(x)$ for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}}$,
3:	esp. Voronoi neighbors $N(x) := \{(x', y') \in \mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} \mid R(x) \cap R(x') \neq \emptyset\}$
4:	$E := \emptyset$
5:	for $(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}^{train}$ do
6:	hasNeighborOfOtherClass := false
7:	for $(x', y') \in N(x)$ do
8:	if $y \neq y'$ then
9:	hasNeighborOfOtherClass := true
10:	if not hasNeighborOfOtherClass then
11:	$E := E \cup \{(x, y)\}$
12:	return $\mathcal{D}^{\text{train}} \setminus E$







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Summary



- ► Simple classification and regression models can be built by
 - averaging over target values (regression)

counting the occurrences of the target class (classification)
 of training instances close by (measured in some distance measure).

- ► The nearest neighbor takes always a fixed number *K* of nearest points into account.
 - Alternatively, one also could weight points with some similarity measure (called kernel or Parzen window),
 - \Rightarrow the model is called kernel regression and kernel classification.
- There are no learning tasks for these models, as simply all training instances are stored ("memory-based methods").
- Therefore, to compute predictions is more costly than for say linear models. There are several acceleration techniques

partial distances / lower bounding



Further Readings

[?, chapter 13.3, 2.3.2], [?, chapter 1.4.2, 14.1+2+4], [?, chapter 2.2.3,].

References

