#### Language and Statistics II

Lecture 5: Log-Linear Models (The Details) Noah Smith

## Today's Plan

- (Anonymous) pop quiz
- Maximum Entropy modeling
- Relationship to log-linear models
- How to do it!
- Feature selection
- Regularization
- Conditional estimation



# Maximum Likelihood (Multinomial)



## Maximum Likelihood Estimation

 Given a model family, pick the parameters to maximize

p(data | model)

- Examples:
  - $\left|\sum \left(x_i \hat{\mu}\right)^2\right|$ - Gaussian:  $\hat{\mu} = \bar{x}, \hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{\bar{i}}{n}}$
  - Bernoulli:  $\hat{p} = \frac{n_{\text{success}}}{p}$
  - <sup>*n*</sup>  $\forall i, \hat{p}_i = \frac{n_i}{n_i}$ – Multinomial:
  - *n*-gram model?

-HMM?



## Using the Chain Rule



Pr(Color, Shape, Size) = Pr(Color) • Pr(Shape | Color) • Pr(Size | Color, Shape)

# Add an Independence Assumption?



Pr(Color, Shape, Size) = Pr(Color) • Pr(Shape) • Pr(Size | Color, Shape)

#### **Reverse Arrows?**



Pr(Color, Shape, Size) = Pr(Size) • Pr(Shape | Size) • Pr(Color | Size)

## Strong Independence?



Pr(Color, Shape, Size) = Pr(Size) • Pr(Shape) • Pr(Color)

## This Is Hard!

- Different factorizations affect
  - Model size (e.g., number of parameters or df)
  - Complexity of inference
  - "Interpretability"
  - Goodness of fit to the data
  - Generalization
  - Smoothing methods
- How would it change if we used log-linear models?
- Arguable: some major "innovations" in NLP involved really good choices about independence assumptions, directionality, and smoothing!





Desideratum: after we pick features, picking the weights should be the computer's job!

## **Some Intuitions**

- Simpler models are better
  - (E.g., fewer degrees of freedom)– Why?
- Want to fit the data
- Don't want to assume that an unobserved event has probability 0

#### Occam's Razor

One should not increase, beyond what is necessary, the number of entities required to explain anything.

#### Uniform model

small	0.083	0.083	0.083
small	0.083	0.083	0.083
large	0.083	0.083	0.083
large	0.083	0.083	0.083

## Constraint: Pr(small) = 0.625

small	0.104	0.104	0.104	
small	0.104	0.104	0.104	
large	0.063	0.063	0.063	
large	0.063	0.063	0.063	

Where did the constraint come from?

0.625

Pr(/\, small) = 0.048

0.048



0.625

# Pr(large, ) = 0.125

0.048



0.625

Maximum Entropy  
$$\max_{p} H(p) = \max_{p} \sum_{x} -p(x)\log p(x)$$

subject to

$$\sum_{x} p(x) = 1, \quad \forall x, p(x) \ge 0$$
  
$$\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}, \quad \mathbf{E}_{p} \begin{bmatrix} f_{j}(X) \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_{j}$$
  
$$\sum_{x} p(x) f_{j}(x) = \alpha_{j}$$

## **Questions Worth Asking**

- Does a solution always exist?
   What to do if it doesn't?
- How to find the solution?



## Max Ent



Maximum Entropy  
$$\max_{p} H(p) = \max_{p} \sum_{x} -p(x)\log p(x)$$

subject to

$$\sum_{x} p(x) = 1, \quad \forall x, p(x) \ge 0$$
  
$$\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}, \quad \mathbf{E}_{p} \begin{bmatrix} f_{j}(X) \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_{j}$$
  
$$\sum_{x} p(x) f_{j}(x) = \alpha_{j}$$

## Marginal Constraints

$$\sum_{x} p(x) f_{j}(x) = \alpha_{j}$$

$$\sum_{x} p(x) f_{j}(x) = \frac{1}{D} \sum_{i=1}^{D} f_{j}(\tilde{x}_{i})$$
Example:
$$\sum_{x} p(x) \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } x \text{ is square} \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} = \frac{1}{D} \sum_{i=1}^{D} \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } \tilde{x}_{i} \text{ is square} \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} = \frac{\text{count(square)}}{D}$$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  represent the set of distributions p that meet the constraints.

# Claim 1

The unique solution to the maximum entropy problem

$$\underset{p \in \mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} H(p)$$

is a **log-linear** model on the **same** features as  $\mathcal{P}$ .

# Claim 2

The unique solution to the maximum entropy problem

 $\underset{p \in \mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmax}} H(p)$ 

is the log-linear model on the same features as  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{P}}$  that also solves

$$\underset{p \in \text{Loglinear}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} p(\vec{\tilde{x}})$$

#### **Mathematical Magic**



## **Mathematical Magic**

For details: see handout on course page.

- 1. Use Lagrangean multipliers (one per constraint).
- 2. Take the gradient, set equal to zero.
- 3. Algebra ...
- 4. Voilà! Maximum likelihood problem!



## **Additional Point**

- If the constraints are empirical, then they are satisfiable (solution exists).
- So there is a **unique** solution to: Max Ent = Log-linear MLE

## Slightly More General View

 Instead of "maximize entropy," can describe this as "minimize divergence" to a **base** distribution *q* (which happens so far to be uniform, but needn't have been).

$$D(p||q) = \sum_{x} p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

• Everything goes through pretty much the same.

# Training the Weights

- Old answer: "iterative scaling"
  - Specialized method for this problem
  - Later versions: Generalized IS (Darroch and Ratliff, 1972) and Improved IS (Della Pietra, Della Pietra, and Lafferty, 1995)
- More recent answer:
  - It's unconstrained, convex optimization!
  - See Malouf (2002) for comparison.

# Improved Iterative Scaling (Della Pietra et al., 1997)

- Initialize each  $\theta_i$  arbitrarily.
- **Let:**  $f_{\#}(x) = \sum_{i} f_{j}(x)$
- Repeat until convergence:

- Solve for each 
$$\delta_j$$
:  $\sum_{x} \tilde{p}(x) f_j(x) = \sum_{x} \frac{\exp f(x) \cdot \theta}{Z(\theta)} f_j(x) e^{\delta_j f_{\#}(x)}$ 

- Update: 
$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j + \delta_j$$

Berger's IIS tutorial gives a derivation.

### **Gradient Ascent**

- Initialize each  $\theta_i$  arbitrarily.
- Repeat until convergence:
  - Line search for step size:

$$\hat{\alpha} \leftarrow \operatorname*{arg\,max}_{\alpha} f\Big(\vec{\theta} + \alpha \nabla f\Big(\vec{\theta}\Big)\Big)$$

- Gradient step:

$$\vec{\theta} \leftarrow \vec{\theta} + \hat{\alpha} \nabla f\left(\vec{\theta}\right)$$

## **Quasi-Newton Methods**

- Use the same information as gradient ascent: function value and gradient.
- Build up an approximate Hessian matrix (second derivatives) over time.
- Converge **much** faster.
- There are existing implentations: you provide a function that computes f and  $\nabla f$ .
- (Could use true Hessian, but n×n second derivatives to compute!)
- Common examples: conjugate gradient, L-BFGS.

# What are the Function and Gradient?

