## Deep learning preliminaries

STAT 4710

November 14, 2023

## Rolling into a new unit!

Unit 1: R for data mining
Unit 2: Prediction fundamentals
Unit 3: Regression-based methods
Unit 4: Tree-based methods
Unit 5: Deep learning

Lecture 1: Deep learning preliminaries
Lecture 2: Neural networks
Lecture 3: Deep learning for images
Lecture 4: Deep learning for text
Lecture 5: Unit review and quiz in class

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Natural language processing
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- Chatbots




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- Predictive models as graphs
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- Image classification
- Convolutional neural networks

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## Models as graphs: Linear regression

$$
\widehat{Y}=\beta_{0}+\beta_{1} X_{1}+\beta_{2} X_{2}+\beta_{3} X_{3}
$$



## Models as graphs: Logistic model

$$
Z=\beta_{0}+\beta_{1} X_{1}+\beta_{2} X_{2}+\beta_{3} X_{3} ; \quad \hat{p}=\operatorname{logistic}(Z)=\frac{e^{Z}}{1+e^{Z}}
$$



## Models as graphs: Multi-class logistic model

Suppose the response has more than two levels.


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## The cross-entropy loss function

Suppose we have a true label $Y$ and fitted probabilities $\hat{p}_{1}, \hat{p}_{2}, \hat{p}_{3}$. Define

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\text { cross-entropy loss } L(Y, \widehat{p})= \begin{cases}-\log \left(\hat{p}_{1}\right) & \text { if } Y=1 \\ -\log \left(\hat{p}_{2}\right) & \text { if } Y=2 \\ -\log \left(\hat{p}_{3}\right) & \text { if } Y=3\end{cases}
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The cross-entropy loss generalizes the negative logarithm of the logistic likelihood.


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\widehat{\beta}=\underset{\beta}{\arg \min } \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L\left(Y_{i}, f_{\beta}\left(X_{i}\right)\right)+\lambda \cdot \text { penalty }(\beta)
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For example, ridge regression has

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L\left(Y_{i}, \widehat{Y}_{i}\right)=\left(Y_{i}-\widehat{Y}_{i}\right)^{2} ; \quad f_{\beta}(X)=\beta_{0} X_{0}+\cdots+\beta_{p-1} X_{p-1} ; \quad \text { penalty }(\beta)=\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \beta_{j}^{2}
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Training predictive models $=$ solving optimization problems.

## Convexity: A crucial property of $F$

The hardness of the optimization problem arg $\min F(\beta)$ depends crucially on whether the objective function $F$ is convex, or "bowl-shaped."


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The hardness of the optimization problem arg min $F(\beta)$ depends crucially on whether the objective function $F$ is convex, or "bowl-shaped."


For convex functions, any local minimum must also be a global minimum.
It is much easier to find local minima than global minima.

## Which methods have convex objectives?

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## Convex

- Linear and logistic regression
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## Not convex

- Tree-based methods
- Neural networks



## Gradient descent

1. Choose some initial value of $\beta$.
2. Evaluate the gradient $\nabla F(\beta)$ at that point; it is the direction in which $F$ increases the fastest. The negative gradient is the direction in which $F$ decreases the fastest.
3. Take small step in negative gradient direction: $\beta \leftarrow \beta-\gamma \nabla F(\beta) ; \gamma$ called the learning rate.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until gradient is near zero.


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As long as the learning rate $\gamma$ is not too large, gradient descent is guaranteed to converge to a global minimum regardless of initialization if $F$ is convex.

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While it is computationally infeasible to find global minima for non-convex optimization,

- Local minima may still give reasonable models
- Other tricks, like multiple restarts, give better solutions



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- Solving optimization problems is a key part of training predictive models.
- Hardness of optimization depends on whether objective function is convex; linear and logistic regression are convex but trees and neural networks are not.
- Gradient descent is a common way to "go downhill" along an objective function, arriving at a local minimum (and for convex objectives, a global one).

