

COL866: Foundations of Data Science

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Machine Learning: Generalization

Machine Learning

Generalization bounds

Theorem

For any hypothesis class \mathcal{H} and distribution D , if a training sample S is drawn from D of size $n \geq \frac{2}{\varepsilon} [\log_2(2\mathcal{H}[2n]) + \log_2(1/\delta)]$. then with probability at least $(1 - \delta)$, every $h \in \mathcal{H}$ with error $\text{err}_D(h) \geq \varepsilon$ has $\text{err}_S(h) > 0$. Equivalently, every $h \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\text{err}_S(h) = 0$ has $\text{err}_D(h) < \varepsilon$.

Theorem

For any hypothesis class \mathcal{H} and distribution D , if a training sample S is drawn from D of size $n \geq \frac{8}{\varepsilon^2} [\log_2(2\mathcal{H}[2n]) + \log_2(2/\delta)]$. then with probability at least $(1 - \delta)$, every $h \in \mathcal{H}$ will have $|\text{err}_D(h) - \text{err}_S(h)| \leq \varepsilon$.

Theorem (Sauer's Lemma)

If $\text{VCdim}(\mathcal{H}) = d$, then $\mathcal{H}[n] \leq \sum_{i=0}^d \binom{n}{i} \leq \left(\frac{en}{d}\right)^d$.

Theorem

For any hypothesis class \mathcal{H} and distribution D , a training sample S of size

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} [\text{VCdim}(\mathcal{H}) \log(1/\varepsilon) + \log(1/\delta)]\right)$$

is sufficient to ensure that with probability at least $(1 - \delta)$, every $h \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\text{err}_D(h) \geq \varepsilon$ has $\text{err}_S(h) > 0$.

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Generalization bounds: VC dimension

- The VC-dimension of intervals on a real line is ____?
- For intervals on the real line, $H[n] = \text{____?}$
- The VC-dimension of convex polygons in d dimensional space is ____?
- For convex polygons in d dimensional space, $H[n] = \text{____?}$
- The VC-dimension of halfspaces in d dimensional space is ____?

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Generalization bounds: VC dimension

- The VC-dimension of intervals on a real line is 2?
- For intervals on the real line, $H[n] = \underline{O(n^2)}$?
- The VC-dimension of convex polygons in d dimensional space is ∞ ?
- For convex polygons in d dimensional space, $H[n] = \underline{2^n}$?
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Theorem (Radon)

Any set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ with $|S| \geq d + 2$, can be partitioned into disjoint subsets A and B such that $CV(A) \cap CV(B) \neq \emptyset$. Here $CV(\cdot)$ denotes the convex hull of the points.

Machine Learning: Online learning and Perceptron

- The learning scenario that we have seen until now is called the **batch learning** scenario.
- We now discuss the **online learning** scenario where we remove the assumption that data is sampled from a fixed probability distribution (or from any probabilistic process at all).
- Here are some main ideas of online learning:
 - At each time $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, the algorithm is presented with an arbitrary example $x_t \in \mathcal{X}$.
 - The algorithm is told the true label $c^*(x_t)$ and is charged for a mistake, i.e., when $c^*(x_t) \neq \ell_t$.
 - The goal of the algorithm is to make as few mistakes as possible.
- Online learning model is harder than the batch learning model. (In fact, we will show that an online algorithm can be converted to a batch learning algorithm)

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- Case study:
 - Let $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}^d$ and let the target hypothesis be a disjunction.
 - Question: Can you give an online algorithm that makes bounded number of mistakes?
 - Question: Argue that for any deterministic algorithm A there exists a sequence of examples σ and disjunction c^* such that A makes at least d mistakes on sequence σ labeled by c^* .

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 - Question: Show that there always exists an online algorithm that makes at most $\log_2 |\mathcal{H}|$ mistakes.

End