

#### **10-301/601 Introduction to Machine Learning**

Machine Learning Department School of Computer Science Carnegie Mellon University

# **Linear Regression + Optimization for ML**

Matt Gormley & Henry Chai Lecture 8 Sep. 22, 2021

#### **Reminders**

- **Homework 3: KNN, Perceptron, Lin.Reg.**
	- **Out: Mon, Sep. 20**
	- **Due: Sun, Sep. 26 at 11:59pm**
	- **IMPORTANT: you may only use 2 grace days on Homework 3**

#### **OPTIMIZATION METHOD #1: GRADIENT DESCENT**

#### Gradient Descent

#### Algorithm 1 Gradient Descent

1: procedure 
$$
GD(\mathcal{D}, \theta^{(0)})
$$

- 2:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta^{(0)}$
- 3: while not converged do 4:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \gamma \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$





There are many possible ways to detect **convergence**. For example, we could check whether the L2 norm of the gradient is below some small tolerance.

 $||\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}J(\boldsymbol{\theta})||_2 \leq \epsilon$ 

Alternatively we could check that the reduction in the objective function from one iteration to the next is small.

### **GRADIENT DESCENT FOR LINEAR REGRESSION**

#### Linear Regression as Function  $\mathcal{D} = {\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}}_{i=1}^N$ Approximation where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^M$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$

1. Assume  $D$  generated as:

$$
\mathbf{x}^{(i)} \sim p^*(\cdot)
$$
  

$$
y^{(i)} = h^*(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})
$$

2. Choose hypothesis space, H: all linear functions in M-dimensional space

$$
\mathcal{H} = \{h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} : h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^M\}
$$

3. Choose an objective function: mean squared error (MSE)

$$
J(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} e_i^2
$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y^{(i)} - h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}))^{2}$   
=  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y^{(i)} - \theta^{T} \mathbf{x}^{(i)})^{2}$ 

- 4. Solve the unconstrained optimization problem via favorite method:
	- gradient descent
	- closed form
	- stochastic gradient descent
	- $\sim 100$

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \operatornamewithlimits{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})
$$

5. Test time: given a new x, make prediction  $\hat{y}$ 

$$
\hat{y} = h_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^T \mathbf{x}
$$

# Linear Regression by Gradient Desc.

#### **Optimization Method #1: Gradient Descent**

- 1. Pick a random **θ**
- 2. Repeat: a. Evaluate gradient ∇J(**θ**) b. Step opposite gradient
- 3. Return **θ** that gives smallest J(**θ**)







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# Optimization for Linear Regression

*Chalkboard*

- Computing the gradient for Linear Regression
- Gradient Descent for Linear Regression

### GD for Linear Regression

Gradient Descent for Linear Regression repeatedly takes steps opposite the gradient of the objective function



#### **CONVEXITY**

#### **Convexity**

Function  $f: \mathbb{R}^M \to \mathbb{R}$  is convex if  $\forall$   $\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^M$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^M$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$ :

 $f(t\mathbf{x}_1 + (1-t)\mathbf{x}_2) \le tf(\mathbf{x}_1) + (1-t)f(\mathbf{x}_2)$ 



#### Convexity

Suppose we have a function  $f(x): \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$ .

- The value  $x^*$  is a global minimum of f iff  $f(x^*) \leq f(x), \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- The value  $x^*$  is a local minimum of  $f$  iff  $\exists \epsilon$  s.t.  $f(x^*) \leq f(x), \forall x \in [x^* \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$ .



• Each **local minimum** is a **global minimum**

#### **Nonconvex Function**



- A *nonconvex* function is **not convex**
- Each **local minimum** is **not** necessarily a **global minimum** <sup>20</sup>

#### **Convexity**



Each **local minimum** of a **convex** function is also a **global minimum**.

Function  $f: \mathbb{R}^M \to \mathbb{R}$  is strictly convex if  $\forall$   $\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^M$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^M$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$ :  $f(t\mathbf{x}_1 + (1-t)\mathbf{x}_2) < tf(\mathbf{x}_1) + (1-t)f(\mathbf{x}_2)$  $tf(x_1) + (1-t)f(x_2)$  $f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2)$ ...  $tx_1 + (1-t)x_2$  $x_2$  $x_1$ 

A **strictly convex**  function has a **unique global minimum**.

# **CONVEXITY AND LINEAR REGRESSION**

#### Convexity and Linear Regression

The **Mean Squared Error** function, which we minimize for learning the parameters of Linear Regression, **is convex**!

…but in the general case it is **not strictly convex**.

#### Gradient Descent & Convexity

- Gradient descent is a **local optimization algorithm**
- If the function is **nonconvex**, it will find a local minimum, not necessarily a global minimum
- If the function is **convex**, it will find a global minimum



#### Regression Loss Functions

#### **In-Class Exercise:**

*Which of the following could be used as loss functions for training a linear regression model?* 

*Select all that apply.*

A. 
$$
\ell(\hat{y}, y) = ||\hat{y} - y||_2
$$
\nB.  $\ell(\hat{y}, y) = |\hat{y} - y|$ \nC.  $\ell(\hat{y}, y) = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{y} - y)^2$ \nD.  $\ell(\hat{y}, y) = \frac{1}{4}(\hat{y} - y)^4$ \nE.  $\ell(\hat{y}, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(\hat{y} - y)^2 & \text{if } |\hat{y} - y| \le \delta \\ \delta|\hat{y} - y| - \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ \nF.  $\ell(\hat{y}, y) = \log(\cosh(\hat{y} - y))$ 



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#### **OPTIMIZATION METHOD #2: CLOSED FORM SOLUTION**

#### Calculus and Optimization

#### **In-Class Exercise** Plot three functions:

1. 
$$
f(x) = x^3 - x
$$
  
\n2.  $f'(x) = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$   
\n3.  $f''(x) = \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$ 



# Optimization: Closed form solutions

#### *Chalkboard*

- Zero Derivatives
- Example: 1-D function
- Example: higher dimensions

### **CLOSED FORM SOLUTION FOR LINEAR REGRESSION**

#### Linear Regression as Function  $\mathcal{D} = {\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}}_{i=1}^N$ Approximation where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^M$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$

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- 4. Solve the unconstrained optimization problem via favorite method:
	- gradient descent
	- closed form
	- stochastic gradient descent
	- $\sim 100$

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \operatornamewithlimits{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})
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5. Test time: given a new x, make prediction  $\hat{y}$ 

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\hat{y} = h_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^T \mathbf{x}
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### Optimization for Linear Regression

*Chalkboard*

– Closed-form (Normal Equations)

#### **COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY**

# Computational Complexity of OLS

To solve the Ordinary Least Squares problem we compute:

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2} (y^{(i)} - (\boldsymbol{\theta}^{T} \mathbf{x}^{(i)}))^2
$$

$$
= (\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X})^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{Y})
$$

The resulting shape of the matrices:



Background: Matrix Multiplication Given matrices A and B

- If A is  $q \times r$  and B is  $r \times s$ , computing AB takes  $O(qrs)$
- If A and B are  $q \times q$ , computing AB takes  $O(q^{2.373})$
- If **A** is  $q \times q$ , computing  $A^{-1}$  takes  $O(q^{2.373})$ .



#### Gradient Descent

Cases to consider gradient descent:

- 1. What if we **can not** find a closed-form solution?
- 2. What if we **can**, but it's inefficient to compute?
- 3. What if we **can**, but it's numerically unstable to compute?

# Empirical Convergence



- *Def*: an **epoch** is a single pass through the training data
- 1. For GD, only **one update** per epoch
- 2. For SGD, *N* **updates**  per epoch *N = (# train examples)*
- SGD reduces MSE much more rapidly than GD
- For GD / SGD, training MSE is initially large due to uninformed initialization

# **LINEAR REGRESSION: SOLUTION UNIQUENESS**

#### **Question:**

Consider a 1D linear regression model trained to minimize MSE.

How many solutions (i.e. sets of parameters w,b) are there for the given dataset?



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#### **Question:**

- Consider a **2D** linear regression model trained to minimize MSE
- How many solutions (i.e. sets of parameters  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$ , b) are there for the given dataset?



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To solve the Ordinary Least Squares  
problem we compute:  

$$
\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\text{argmin}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2} (y^{(i)} - (\theta^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}))^2
$$

$$
= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y})
$$

These geometric intuitions align with the linear algebraic intuitions we can derive from the normal equations.

- 1. If  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})$  is invertible, then there is exactly one solution.
- 2. If  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})$  is not invertible, then there are either no solutions or infinitely many solutions.

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2. If  $(X^T X)$  is not invertible and integrated X being full rank. no solutions or inf That is, there is **no feature that** Invertability of  $(X^T X)$  is **is a linear combination of the other features**.

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### Solving Linear Regression

#### **Question:**

**True or False:** If Mean Squared Error (i.e.  $\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(y^{(i)}-h(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}))^2$ ) has a unique minimizer (i.e.  $\argmin$ ), then Mean Absolute Error (i.e.  $\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}|y^{(i)} - h(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})|$ ) must also have a unique minimizer.

#### **Answer:**



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# **OPTIMIZATION METHOD #3: STOCHASTIC GRADIENT DESCENT**

#### Gradient Descent

#### Algorithm 1 Gradient Descent

- 1: **procedure**  $GD(\mathcal{D}, \theta^{(0)})$ <br>2:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta^{(0)}$
- 2:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta^{(0)}$ <br>3: while no
- while not converged do

4: 
$$
\boldsymbol{\theta} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\gamma} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})
$$

5: return  $\theta$ 



### Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

#### Algorithm 2 Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)





Per-example objective:  $I^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ 

Original objective: 
$$
J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})
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### Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

#### **Algorithm 2 Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)**



Per-example objective:  $I^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ 

Original objective: 
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In practice, it is common to implement SGD using sampling **without** replacement (i.e. shuffle $(\{1,2,...N\})$ , even though most of the theory is for sampling **with** replacement (i.e. Uniform({1,2,…N}).

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#### Expectations of Gradients





# **LINEAR REGRESSION: PRACTICALITIES**

# Empirical Convergence



- *Def*: an **epoch** is a single pass through the training data
- 1. For GD, only **one update** per epoch
- 2. For SGD, *N* **updates**  per epoch *N = (# train examples)*
- SGD reduces MSE much more rapidly than GD
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#### Convergence of Optimizers



# **SGD FOR LINEAR REGRESSION**

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5. Test time: given a new x, make prediction  $\hat{y}$ 

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#### Gradient Calculation for Linear Regression

Derivative of  $J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ :

$$
\frac{d}{d\theta_k} J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{d}{d\theta_k} \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\theta_k} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2
$$
  
\n
$$
= (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) \frac{d}{d\theta_k} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})
$$
  
\n
$$
= (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) \frac{d}{d\theta_k} \left( \sum_{j=1}^K \theta_j x_j^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right)
$$
  
\n
$$
= (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) x_k^{(i)}
$$

ent of  $J^{(i)}(\theta)$ <br>  $\nabla_{\theta}J^{(i)}(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{d}{d\theta_1}J^{(i)}(\theta) \\ \frac{d}{d\theta_2}J^{(i)}(\theta) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{d}{d\theta_M}J^{(i)}(\theta) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (\theta^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})x_1^{(i)} \\ (\theta^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})x_2^{(i)} \\ \vdots \\ (\theta^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})x_N^{(i)} \end{bmatrix}$ <br>  $= (\theta^T\mathbf{x}^{$ Gradient of  $J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  $\mathbf{y} = (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) \mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ 

Derivative of  $J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ :

$$
\frac{d}{d\theta_k}J(\boldsymbol{\theta})=\sum_{i=1}^N\frac{d}{d\theta_k}J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\\=\sum_{i=1}^N(\boldsymbol{\theta}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)}-y^{(i)})x_k^{(i)}
$$

Gradient of  $J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ [used by Gradient Descent] $\mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^N (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ 

# SGD for Linear Regression

SGD applied to Linear Regression is called the "Least Mean Squares" algorithm



# Optimization Objectives

*You should be able to…*

- Apply gradient descent to optimize a function
- Apply stochastic gradient descent (SGD) to optimize a function
- Apply knowledge of zero derivatives to identify a closed-form solution (if one exists) to an optimization problem
- Distinguish between convex, concave, and nonconvex functions
- Obtain the gradient (and Hessian) of a (twice) differentiable function

# Linear Regression Objectives

*You should be able to…*

- Design k-NN Regression and Decision Tree Regression
- Implement learning for Linear Regression using three optimization techniques: (1) closed form, (2) gradient descent, (3) stochastic gradient descent
- Choose a Linear Regression optimization technique that is appropriate for a particular dataset by analyzing the tradeoff of computational complexity vs. convergence speed
- Distinguish the three sources of error identified by the bias-variance decomposition: bias, variance, and irreducible error.