

#### Introduction

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# The Housing Price Example (1/3)

▶ Given the dataset of m houses.

Living area	No. of bedrooms	Price
2104	3	400
1600	3	330
2400	3	369
:	:	:

Predict the prices of other houses, as a function of the size of living area and number of bedrooms?



## The Housing Price Example (2/3)

or boar comb	Price
3	400
3	330
3	369
1.00	1
	3 3 3

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 2104\\3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}^{(1)} = 400 \qquad \mathbf{x}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1600\\3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}^{(2)} = 330 \qquad \mathbf{x}^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 2400\\3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}^{(3)} = 369$$
$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}^{(1)T}\\\mathbf{x}^{(2)T}\\\mathbf{x}^{(3)T}\\\vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2104&3\\1600&3\\2400&3\\\vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 400\\330\\369\\\vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

▶  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ :  $\mathbf{x}_1^{(i)}$  is the living area, and  $\mathbf{x}_2^{(i)}$  is the number of bedrooms of the ith house in the training set.



## The Housing Price Example (3/3)

Living area	No. of bedrooms	Price
2104	3	400
1600	3	330
2400	3	369
:	÷	÷

- ► Predict the prices of other houses ŷ as a function of the size of their living areas x<sub>1</sub>, and number of bedrooms x<sub>2</sub>, i.e., ŷ = f(x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>)
- E.g., what is  $\hat{y}$ , if  $x_1 = 4000$  and  $x_2 = 4$ ?
- As an initial choice:  $\hat{y} = f_w(x) = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2$



# Linear Regression



- ▶ Our goal: to build a system that takes input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and predicts output  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- In linear regression, the output  $\hat{y}$  is a linear function of the input x.

$$\begin{split} \hat{y} &= \mathtt{f}_\mathtt{w}(\mathtt{x}) = \mathtt{w}_1 \mathtt{x}_1 + \mathtt{w}_2 \mathtt{x}_2 + \cdots + \mathtt{w}_n \mathtt{x}_n \\ \\ \hat{y} &= \mathtt{w}^\intercal \mathtt{x} \end{split}$$

- $\boldsymbol{\hat{y}}$ : the predicted value
- n: the number of features
- $\mathtt{x}_\mathtt{i} :$  the <code>ith</code> feature value
- $w_j$ : the jth model parameter ( $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ )



Linear regression often has one additional parameter, called intercept b:



 $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$ 

► Instead of adding the bias parameter b, we can augment **x** with an extra entry that is always set to 1.

 $\hat{y} = f_w(x) = w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \dots + w_n x_n$ , where  $x_0 = 1$ 



#### Linear Regression - Model Parameters

$$\hat{\mathtt{y}} = \mathtt{f}_{\mathtt{w}}(\mathtt{x}) = \mathtt{w}_0 \mathtt{x}_0 + \mathtt{w}_1 \mathtt{x}_1 + \mathtt{w}_2 \mathtt{x}_2 + \dots + \mathtt{w}_n \mathtt{x}_n$$

- Parameters  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are values that control the behavior of the model.
- **w** are a set of weights that determine how each feature affects the prediction.
  - $w_i > 0$ : increasing the value of the feature  $x_i,$  increases the value of our prediction  $\boldsymbol{\hat{y}}.$
  - $w_i < 0$ : increasing the value of the feature  $x_i,$  decreases the value of our prediction  $\hat{y}.$
  - $w_i=0:$  the value of the feature  $x_i,$  has no effect on the prediction  $\boldsymbol{\hat{y}}.$



# How can you learn Model Parameters w?



#### Linear Regression - Cost Function (1/2)



- One reasonable model should make  $\hat{y}$  close to y, at least for the training dataset.
- **•** Residual: the difference between the dependent variable y and the predicted value  $\hat{y}$ .

$$r^{(i)} = y^{(i)} - \hat{y}^{(i)}$$



#### Linear Regression - Cost Function (2/2)



#### ► Cost function J(w)

- For each value of the **w**, it measures how close the  $\hat{y}^{(i)}$  is to the corresponding  $y^{(i)}$ .
- We can define J(w) as the mean squared error (MSE):

$$\begin{split} J(\mathbf{w}) &= \text{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i}^{m} (\hat{y}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2 \\ &= \text{E}[(\hat{y} - y)^2] = \frac{1}{m} ||\hat{y} - y||_2^2 \end{split}$$



#### How can you learn Model Parameters?

- ▶ We want to choose **w** so as to minimize J(**w**).
- ► Two approaches to find w:
  - Normal equation closed form solution
  - Gradient descent iterative optimization



# Normal Equation



#### Derivatives and Gradient (1/4)



[https://mathequality.wordpress.com/2012/09/26/derivative-dance-gangnam-style/]



#### Derivatives and Gradient (2/4)

- ► The first derivative of f(x), shown as f'(x), shows the slope of the tangent line to the function at the poa x.
- ▶  $f(x) = x^2 \Rightarrow f'(x) = 2x$
- If f(x) is increasing, then f'(x) > 0
- If f(x) is decreasing, then f'(x) < 0
- If f(x) is at local minimum/maximum, then f'(x) = 0





#### Derivatives and Gradient (3/4)

- $\blacktriangleright$  What if a function has multiple arguments, e.g.,  $f(x_1,x_2,\cdots,x_n)$
- ▶ Partial derivatives: the derivative with respect to a particular argument.
  - $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}$ , the derivative with respect to  $x_1$
  - $\frac{\partial \hat{f}}{\partial x_2}$ , the derivative with respect to  $x_2$
- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$ : shows how much the function f will change, if we change  $x_i$ .
- ► Gradient: the vector of all partial derivatives for a function f.

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_1} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_n} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Derivatives and Gradient (4/4)

• What is the gradient of  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 - x_1x_2 + x_3^2$ ?

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}_1} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3^2) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3^2) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}_3} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3^2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \mathbf{x}_2 \\ -\mathbf{x}_1 \\ 2\mathbf{x}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



▶ To minimize  $J(\mathbf{w})$ , we can simply solve for where its gradient is 0:  $\nabla_{\mathbf{w}}J(\mathbf{w}) = 0$ 

 $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x}$ 

. . .





## Normal Equation - Example (1/7)

Living area	No. of bedrooms	Price
2104	3	400
1600	3	330
2400	3	369
1416	2	232
3000	4	540

- Predict the value of  $\hat{y}$ , when  $x_1 = 4000$  and  $x_2 = 4$ .
- We should find  $w_0$ ,  $w_1$ , and  $w_2$  in  $\hat{y} = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2$ .
- $\blacktriangleright \mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{y}.$



# Normal Equation - Example (2/7)

Livi	ng a	rea	No.	of b	edrooms	s   Price		
2	104			3		400		
1	600			3		330	330	
2	400			3		369		
1	416			2		232		
3	000			4		540		
Г	1	210	4 3	1		F 400 -	1	
	1	160	0 3			330		
<b>X</b> =	1	240	0 3		у —	369		
	1	141	6 2			232		
L	. 1	300	0 4	]		540 _		



#### Normal Equation - Example (3/7)





# Normal Equation - Example (4/7)

	4.90366455e + 00	7.48766737e - 04	-2.09302326e + 00 ]
$(\mathbf{X}^{\intercal}\mathbf{X})^{-1} =$	7.48766737e - 04	2.75281889e - 06	-2.18023256e - 03
	-2.09302326e + 00	-2.18023256e - 03	2.22674419e + 00



# Normal Equation - Example (5/7)

$$\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2104 & 1600 & 2400 & 1416 & 3000 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 400 \\ 330 \\ 369 \\ 232 \\ 540 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1871 \\ 4203712 \\ 5921 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Normal Equation - Example (6/7)

$$\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 4.90366455e + 00 & 7.48766737e - 04 & -2.09302326e + 00 \\ 7.48766737e - 04 & 2.75281889e - 06 & -2.18023256e - 03 \\ -2.09302326e + 00 & -2.18023256e - 03 & 2.22674419e + 00 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1871 \\ 4203712 \\ 5921 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} -7.04346018e + 01 \\ 6.38433756e - 02 \\ 1.03436047e + 02 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Normal Equation - Example (7/7)

• Predict the value of y, when  $x_1 = 4000$  and  $x_2 = 4$ .

 $\hat{y} = -7.04346018e + 01 + 6.38433756e - 02 \times 4000 + 1.03436047e + 02 \times 4 \approx 599$ 



# Gradient Descent



## Gradient Descent (1/2)

- Gradient descent is a generic optimization algorithm capable of finding optimal solutions to a wide range of problems.
- ▶ The idea: to tweak parameters iteratively in order to minimize a cost function.





# Gradient Descent (2/2)

- Suppose you are lost in the mountains in a dense fog.
- ► You can only feel the slope of the ground below your feet.
- A strategy to get to the bottom of the valley is to go downhill in the direction of the steepest slope.





### Gradient Descent - Iterative Optimization Algorithm

- ► Choose a starting point, e.g., filling **w** with random values.
- ▶ If the stopping criterion is true return the current solution, otherwise continue.
- Find a descent direction, a direction in which the function value decreases near the current point.
- Determine the step size, the length of a step in the given direction.





#### Gradient Descent - Key Points

- Stopping criterion
- Descent direction
- Step size (learning rate)



### Gradient Descent - Stopping Criterion

▶ The cost function minimum property: the gradient has to be zero.

 $\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} J(\mathbf{w}) = 0$ 





## Gradient Descent - Descent Direction (1/2)

- ► Direction in which the function value decreases near the current point.
- ► Find the direction of descent (slope).
- Example:





• Follow the opposite direction of the slope.





#### Gradient Descent - Learning Rate

- Learning rate: the length of steps.
- ▶ If it is too small: many iterations to converge.

• If it is too high: the algorithm might diverge.





#### Gradient Descent - How to Learn Model Parameters w?

- Goal: find w that minimizes  $J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (w^{\mathsf{T}} x^{(i)} y^{(i)})^2$ .
- Start at a random point, and repeat the following steps, until the stopping criterion is satisfied:
  - 1. Determine a descent direction  $\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w}$
  - 2. Choose a step size  $\eta$
  - 3. Update the parameters:  $w^{(next)} = w \eta \frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w}$  (should be done for all parameters simultanously)




### Gradient Descent - Different Algorithms

- Batch gradient descent (all samples)
- Stochastic gradient descent (1 sample)
- Mini-batch gradient descent (a mini-batch of samples e.g., 200 samples)



[https://towardsdatascience.com/gradient-descent-algorithm-and-its-variants-10f652806a3]



### Mini-Batch Gradient Descent

- Batch gradient descent: at each step, it computes the gradients based on the full training set.
- Stochastic gradient descent: at each step, it computes the gradients based on just one instance.
- Mini-batch gradient descent: at each step, it computes the gradients based on small random sets of instances called mini-batches.



### Comparison of Algorithms for Linear Regression

Algorithm	Large <i>m</i>	Large <i>n</i>
Normal Equation	Fast	Slow
Batch GD	Slow	Fast
Stochastic GD	Fast	Fast
Mini-batch GD	Fast	Fast





# Generalization



#### Training Data and Test Data

- Split data into a training set and a test set.
- Use training set when training a machine learning model.
  - Compute training error on the training set.
  - Try to reduce this training error.
- ► Use test set to measure the accuracy of the model.
  - Test error is the error when you run the trained model on test data (new data).

Full Dataset:	
Training Data	Test Data
est data (new data	).

Cull Determine



Generalization

- Generalization: make a model that performs well on test data.
  - Have a small test error.
- Challenges
  - 1. Make the training error small.
  - 2. Make the gap between training and test error small.



#### More About The Test Error

► The test error is defined as the expected value of the error on test set.

$$\begin{split} \text{MSE} &= \frac{1}{k}\sum_{i}^{k}(\hat{y}^{(i)}-y^{(i)})^2, \text{ k: the num. of instances in the test set} \\ &= \text{E}[(\hat{y}-y)^2] \end{split}$$

• A model's test error can be expressed as the sum of bias and variance.

$$\mathbf{E}[(\mathbf{\hat{y}} - \mathbf{y})^2] = \mathbf{Bias}[\mathbf{\hat{y}}, \mathbf{y}]^2 + \mathbf{Var}[\mathbf{\hat{y}}] + \varepsilon^2$$







### **Bias and Underfitting**

• Bias: the expected deviation from the true value of the function.

 $Bias[\hat{v}, v] = E[\hat{v}] - v$ 

- A high-bias model is most likely to underfit the training data.
  - High error value on the training set.
- Underfitting happens when the model is too simple to learn the underlying structure of the data.





### Variance and Overfitting

- ► Variance: how much a model changes if you train it on a different training set. Var[ŷ] = E[(ŷ - E[ŷ])<sup>2</sup>]
- A high-variance model is most likely to overfit the training data.
  - The gap between the training error and test error is too large.
- Overfitting happens when the model is too complex relative to the amount and noisiness of the training data.





- ▶ Assume a model with two parameters  $w_0$  (intercept) and  $w_1$  (slope):  $\hat{y} = w_0 + w_1 x$
- ► They give the learning algorithm two degrees of freedom.
- We tweak both the  $w_0$  and  $w_1$  to adapt the model to the training data.
- ► If we forced w<sub>0</sub> = 0, the algorithm would have only one degree of freedom and would have a much harder time fitting the data properly.



## The Bias/Variance Tradeoff (2/2)

- ► Increasing degrees of freedom will typically increase its variance and reduce its bias.
- ► Decreasing degrees of freedom increases its bias and reduces its variance.
- This is why it is called a tradeoff.



[https://ml.berkeley.edu/blog/2017/07/13/tutorial-4]



- One way to reduce the risk of overfitting is to have fewer degrees of freedom.
- Regularization is a technique to reduce the risk of overfitting.
- For a linear model, regularization is achieved by constraining the weights of the model.

 $J(\mathbf{w}) = MSE(\mathbf{w}) + \lambda R(\mathbf{w})$ 



# Regularization (2/2)

- ► Lasso regression (/1):  $\mathbb{R}(\mathbf{w}) = \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\mathbf{w}_i|$  is added to the cost function:  $J(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbb{MSE}(\mathbf{w}) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\mathbf{w}_i|$
- ► Ridge regression (/2):  $R(\mathbf{w}) = \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^2$  is added to the cost function.  $J(\mathbf{w}) = MSE(\mathbf{w}) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^2$
- ► ElasticNet: a middle ground between /1 and /2 regularization.  $J(\mathbf{w}) = MSE(\mathbf{w}) + \alpha\lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} |w_i| + (1 - \alpha)\lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^2$



# Hyperparameters



### Hyperparameters and Validation Sets (1/2)

- ► Hyperparameters are settings that we can use to control the behavior of a learning algorithm.
- ► The values of hyperparameters are not adapted by the learning algorithm itself.
  - E.g., the  $\alpha$  and  $\lambda$  values for regularization.
- We do not learn the hyperparameter.
  - It is not appropriate to learn that hyperparameter on the training set.
  - If learned on the training set, such hyperparameters would always result in overfitting.



### Hyperparameters and Validation Sets (2/2)

- ► To find hyperparameters, we need a validation set of examples that the training algorithm does not observe.
- ▶ We construct the validation set from the training data (not the test data).
- We split the training data into two disjoint subsets:
  - 1. One is used to learn the parameters.
  - 2. The other one (the validation set) is used to estimate the test error during or after training, allowing for the hyperparameters to be updated accordingly.

Full Dataset:				
Training Data	Validation Data	Test Data		



### **Cross-Validation**

- Cross-validation: a technique to avoid wasting too much training data in validation sets.
- The training set is split into complementary subsets.
- Each model is trained against a different combination of these subsets and validated against the remaining parts.
- Once the model type and hyperparameters have been selected, a final model is trained using these hyperparameters on the full training set, and the test error is measured on the test set.





- Linear regression model  $\hat{y} = \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x}$ 
  - Learning parameters **w**
  - Cost function J(w)
  - Learn parameters: normal equation, gradient descent (batch, stochastic, mini-batch)

#### Generalization

- Overfitting vs. underfitting
- Bias vs. variance
- Regularization: Lasso regression, Ridge regression, ElasticNet
- Hyperparameters and cross-validation



# Classification



### Evaluation of Classification Models (1/3)

- ► In a classification problem, there exists a true output y and a model-generated predicted output ŷ for each data point.
- ► The results for each instance point can be assigned to one of four categories:
  - True Positive (TP)
  - True Negative (TN)
  - False Positive (FP)
  - False Negative (FN)



### Evaluation of Classification Models (2/3)

- True Positive (TP): the label y is positive and prediction  $\hat{y}$  is also positive.
- True Negative (TN): the label y is negative and prediction  $\hat{y}$  is also negative.





### Evaluation of Classification Models (3/3)

- False Positive (FP): the label y is negative but prediction  $\hat{y}$  is positive (type I error).
- False Negative (FN): the label y is positive but prediction  $\hat{y}$  is negative (type II error).







## Why Pure Accuracy Is Not A Good Metric?

- Accuracy: how close the prediction is to the true value.
- Assume a highly unbalanced dataset
- ► E.g., a dataset where 95% of the data points are not fraud and 5% of the data points are fraud.
- ► A a naive classifier that predicts not fraud, regardless of input, will be 95% accurate.
- ► For this reason, metrics like precision and recall are typically used.



#### It is the accuracy of the positive predictions.

$$ext{Precision} = ext{p}( ext{y} = 1 \mid \hat{ ext{y}} = 1) = rac{ ext{TP}}{ ext{TP} + ext{FP}}$$





- ▶ Is is the ratio of positive instances that are correctly detected by the classifier.
- Also called sensitivity or true positive rate (TPR).

Recall = 
$$p(\hat{y} = 1 | y = 1) = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$
  
Recall =  $\frac{1}{TP}$ 



- ► F1 score: combine precision and recall into a single metric.
- ► The *F*1 score is the harmonic mean of precision and recall.
- Whereas the regular mean treats all values equally, the harmonic mean gives much more weight to low values.
- ► *F*1 only gets high score if both recall and precision are high.

$$F1 = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{\text{precision}} + \frac{1}{\text{recall}}}$$



- The confusion matrix is  $K \times K$ , where K is the number of classes.
- It shows the number of correct and incorrect predictions made by the classification model compared to the actual outcomes in the data.





### Confusion Matrix - Example



$$TP = 3, TN = 5, FP = 1, FN = 2$$

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} = \frac{3}{3+1} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$Recall (TPR) = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} = \frac{3}{3+2} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$FPR = \frac{FP}{TN + FP} = \frac{1}{5+1} = \frac{5}{6}$$



### Precision-Recall Tradeoff

- ▶ Precision-recall tradeoff: increasing precision reduces recall, and vice versa.
- Assume a classifier that detects number 5 from the other digits.
  - If an instance score is greater than a threshold, it assigns it to the positive class, otherwise to the negative class.
- Raising the threshold (move it to the arrow on the right), the false positive (the 6) becomes a true negative, thereby increasing precision.
- ► Lowering the threshold increases recall and reduces precision.





# The ROC Curve (1/2) $% \left( 1/2\right) \left( 1/2$

- $\blacktriangleright$  True positive rate (TPR) (recall): p( $\hat{y}=1~|~y=1)^{-\text{Recall}=}$
- False positive rate (FPR):  $p(\hat{y} = 1 | y = 0)$



The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves summarize the trade-off between the TPR and FPR for a model using different probability thresholds.





# The ROC Curve (2/2) $% \left( 2/2\right) \left( 2/2$

- ► Here is a tradeoff: the higher the TPR, the more FPR the classifier produces.
- ► The dotted line represents the ROC curve of a purely random classifier.
- A good classifier moves toward the top-left corner.
- Area under the curve (AUC)





# **Decision Trees**



## Buying Computer Example (1/3)

▶ Given the dataset of m people.

id	age	income	student	credit rating	buys computer
1	youth	high	no	fair	no
2	youth	high	no	excellent	no
3	middleage	high	no	fair	yes
4	senior	medium	no	fair	yes
5	senior	low	yes	fair	yes
÷	:		:	:	÷

- Predict if a new person buys a computer?
- Given an instance  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ , e.g.,  $\mathbf{x}_1^{(i)} = \text{senior}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2^{(i)} = \text{medium}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_3^{(i)} = \text{no}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_4^{(i)} = \text{fair}$ , then  $\mathbf{y}^{(i)} = ?$



### Buying Computer Example (2/3)

id	age	income	student	credit rating	buys computer
1	youth	high	no	fair	no
2	youth	high	no	excellent	no
3	middleage	high	no	fair	yes
4	senior	medium	no	fair	yes
5	senior	low	yes	fair	yes
÷	:	:	:	÷	÷
youth middle_aged senior					
student? yes credit_rating?					
	no vas foir avcallant				

no

yes

yes

no



### Buying Computer Example (3/3)

- Given an input instance  $x^{(i)}$ , for which the class label  $y^{(i)}$  is unknown.
- ▶ The attribute values of the input (e.g., age or income) are tested.
- ► A path is traced from the root to a leaf node, which holds the class prediction for that input.
- E.g., input  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  with  $\mathbf{x}_1^{(i)} = \text{senior}, \mathbf{x}_2^{(i)} = \text{medium}, \mathbf{x}_3^{(i)} = \text{no}, \text{ and } \mathbf{x}_4^{(i)} = \text{fair}.$




# **Decision Trees**



- A decision tree is a flowchart-like tree structure.
  - The topmost node: represents the root
  - Each internal node: denotes a test on an attribute
  - Each branch: represents an outcome of the test
  - Each leaf: holds a class label





## Training Algorithm (1/2)

- ► Decision trees are constructed in a top-down recursive divide-and-conquer manner.
- The algorithm is called with the following parameters.
  - Data partition D: initially the complete set of training data and labels D = (X, y).
  - Feature list: list of features  $\{x_1^{(i)},\cdots,x_n^{(i)}\}$  of each data instance  $x^{(i)}.$
  - Feature selection method: determines the splitting criterion.



# Training Algorithm (2/2)

- ▶ 1. The tree starts as a single node, N, representing the training data instances D.
- ▶ 2. If all instances **x** in **D** are all of the same class, then node **N** becomes a leaf.
- ► 3. The algorithm calls feature selection method to determine the splitting criterion.
  - Indicates (i) the splitting feature  $\boldsymbol{x}_k,$  and (ii) a split-point or a splitting subset.
  - The instances in D are partitioned accordingly.
- ▶ 4. The algorithm repeats the same process recursively to form a decision tree.



## Training Algorithm - Termination Conditions

- ► The training algorithm stops only when any one of the following conditions is true.
- ▶ 1. All the instances in partition D at a node N belong to the same class.
  - It is labeled with that class.
- ► 2. No remaining features on which the instances may be further partitioned.
- ▶ 3. There are no instances for a given branch, that is, a partition  $D_j$  is empty.
- In conditions 2 and 3:
  - Convert node N into a leaf.
  - Label it either with the most common class in D.
  - Or, the class distribution of the node tuples may be stored.



# Ensembles



### Wisdom of the Crowd

- Ask a complex question to thousands of random people, then aggregate their answers.
- ▶ In many cases, this aggregated answer is better than an expert's answer.
- This is called the wisdom of the crowd.
- ► Similarly, the aggregated estimations of a group of estimators (e.g., classifiers or regressors), often gets better estimations than with the best individual estimator.
- A group of estimators is an ensemble, and this technique is called Ensemble Learning.



- Two main categories of ensemble learning algorithms.
- Bagging
  - Use the same training algorithm for every estimator, but to train them on different random subsets of the training set.
  - E.g., random forest

#### Boosting

- Train estimators sequentially, each trying to correct its predecessor.
- E.g., adaboost and gradient boosting



- Random forest builds multiple decision trees that are most of the time trained with the bagging method.
- ▶ It, then, merges the trees together to get a more accurate and stable prediction.





- AdaBoost: train a new estimator by paying more attention to the training instances that the predecessor underfitted.
- Each estimator is trained on a random subset of the total training set.
- AdaBoost assigns a weight to each training instance, which determines the probability that each instance should appear in the training set.





## Gradient Boosting (1/3)

- Just like AdaBoost, Gradient Boosting works by sequentially adding estimators to an ensemble, each one correcting its predecessor.
- ► However, instead of tweaking the instance weights at every iteration, this method tries to fit the new estimator to the residual errors made by the previous estimator.



# Gradient Boosting (2/3)

- ► Let's go through a regression example using Gradient Boosted Regression Trees.
- Fit the first estimator on the training set.

```
tree_reg1 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
tree_reg1.fit(X, y)
```

▶ Now train the second estimator on the residual errors made by the first estimator.

```
y2 = y - tree_reg1.predict(X)
tree_reg2 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
tree_reg2.fit(X, y2)
```



# Gradient Boosting (3/3)

• Then we train the third estimator on the residual errors made by the second estimator.

```
y3 = y2 - tree_reg2.predict(X)
tree_reg3 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
tree_reg3.fit(X, y3)
```

- ▶ Now we have an ensemble containing three trees.
- It can make predictions on a new instance simply by adding up the predictions of all the trees.

y\_pred = sum(tree.predict(X\_new) for tree in (tree\_reg1, tree\_reg2, tree\_reg3))



- Decision tree
  - Top-down training algorithm
  - Termination condition
- Ensemble models
  - Bagging: random forest
  - Boosting: AdaBoost, Gradient Boosting



- ▶ Ian Goodfellow et al., Deep Learning (Ch. 4, 5)
- ► Aurélien Géron, Hands-On Machine Learning (Ch. 2, 3, 4)



# Questions?