Generative vs. Maximum Entropy Models

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Joint vs. Conditional Models

- We have some data {(*d*, *c*)} of paired observations *d* and hidden classes *c*.
- Joint (generative) models place probabilities over both observed data and the hidden stuff (generate the observed data from hidden stuff):
 - All the classic Stat-NLP models:
 - *n*-gram models, Naive Bayes classifiers, hidden Markov models, probabilistic context-free grammars, IBM machine translation alignment models

Joint vs. Conditional Models

- Discriminative (conditional) models take the data as given, and put a probability over hidden structure given the data:
 - Logistic regression, conditional loglinear or maximum entropy models, conditional random fields
 - Also, SVMs, (averaged) perceptron, etc. are discriminative classifiers (but not directly probabilistic)

Bayes Net/Graphical Models

- Bayes net diagrams draw circles for random variables, and lines for direct dependencies
- Some variables are observed; some are hidden
- Each node is a little classifier (conditional probability table) based on incoming arcs





Logistic Regression

Discriminative

Conditional vs. Joint Likelihood

- A *joint* model gives probabilities P(*d,c*) and tries to maximize this joint likelihood.
 - It turns out to be trivial to choose weights: just relative frequencies.
- A conditional model gives probabilities P(c | d). It takes the data as given and models only the conditional probability of the class.
 - We seek to maximize conditional likelihood.
 - Harder to do (as we'll see...)
 - More closely related to classification error.













Both equations are the same: ha+ka=hka; he+ke=hke... will have same optima

Naive Bayes vs. Maxent Models

Naive Bayes models multi-count correlated evidence

- Each feature is multiplied in, even when you have multiple features telling you the same thing
- Maximum Entropy models (pretty much) solve this problem
 - weight features so that model expectations match the observed (empirical) expectations
 - by dividing the weights into all features

Principle of Maximum Entropy

- Lots of distributions out there, most of them very spiked, specific, overfit.
- We want a distribution which is uniform except in specific ways we require.
- Uniformity means high entropy we can search for distributions which have properties we desire, but also have high entropy.

Ignorance is preferable to error and he is less remote from the truth who believes nothing than he who believes what is wrong – Thomas Jefferson (1781)

(Maximum) Entropy

- Entropy: the uncertainty of a distribution.
- Quantifying uncertainty ("surprise"):
 - Event x
 - Probability p_x
 - "Surprise" $log(1/p_x)$
- Entropy: expected surprise (over *p*):

$$H(p) = E_p \overset{\acute{e}}{\underset{e}{\theta}} \log_2 \frac{1}{p_x} \overset{\acute{u}}{\underset{u}{\psi}} = - \overset{\acute{e}}{\underset{x}{\theta}} p_x \log_2 p_x$$



A coin-flip is most uncertain for a fair coin.

Maxent Examples I

What do we want from a distribution?

- Minimize commitment = maximize entropy.
- Resemble some reference distribution (data).
- Solution: maximize entropy *H*, subject to feature-based constraints:

$$E_p[f_i] = E_{\hat{p}}[f_i] \iff \overset{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{x \downarrow f_i} p_x = C_i$$

Adding constraints (features):

- Lowers maximum entropy
- Raises maximum likelihood of data
- Brings the distribution further from uniform
- Brings the distribution closer to data





Maxent Examples III

Let's say we have the following event space:

... and the following empirical data:

3 5 11 13 3 1	
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Maximize H:

want probabilities: E[Plan, Agt, ML, NLP, Alg, CoTh] = 1

1/6 1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6
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Maxent Examples IV

Too uniform!

Al is more common than Theory, so we add the feature f_{Al} = {Plan, Agt, ML, NLP}, with E[f_{Al}] =32/36

Plan	Agt	ML	NLP	Alg	CoTh	
8/36	8/36	8/36	8/36	2/36	2/36	

• ... and empirical AI is more frequent than theoretical AI, so we add $f_E = \{ML, NLP\}$, with $E[f_E] = 24/36$

	4/36	4/36	12/36	12/36	2/36	2/36
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 ... we could keep refining the models, e.g., by adding a feature to distinguish single vs. multi-agent AI or theory types.

Feature Overlap

- Maxent models handle overlapping features well.
- Unlike a NB model, there is no double counting!

Empirical

а

1

1

Α

2

2

В

b

			А	a	_		А	a			А	a	
		В				В				В]
_		b			Γ	b				b]
	_		All = 1		-		A = 2/	3			A = 2/	3	-
			Α	a			Α	a			A	a	7
		В	1/4	1/4		В	1/3	1/6]	В	1/3	1/6	7
		b	1/4	1/4		b	1/3	1/6]	b	1/3	1/6	7
					_			-	_				
			A	a			A	a			А		а
		В				В	W _A			В	w' _A +	w'' _A	
		b				b	W _A			b	w' _A +	w'' _A	

Example: Named Entity Feature Overlap

Gra	ace is co	rrelated	with		Fea	ture We	ights	
PF	RSON I	hut does	not		Feature Type	Feature	PERS	LOC
⊐ ⊺ ado	d much e	widence			Previous word	at	-0.73	0.94
ton	of alrea	dy know	ina		Current word	Grace	• 0.03	0.00
nre	fix footu	ros	ing		Beginning bigram	<0.	0.45	-0.04
prenx reatures.					Current POS tag	NNP	0.47	0.45
					Prev and cur tags	IN NNP	-0.10	0.14
Local Context					Previous state	Other	-0.70	-0.92
	Prev	Cur	Next	7	Current signature	Xx	0.80	0.46
State	Other	???	???	1	Prev state, cur sig	O-Xx	0.68	0.37
Word	at	Grace	Road	1	Prev-cur-next sig	x-Xx-Xx	-0.69	0.37
Tag	IN	NNP	NNP	1	P. state - p-cur sig	O-x-Xx	-0.20	0.82
Sia	x	Xx	Xx	1				
					Total:		-0.58	2.68

Feature Interaction

 Maxent models handle overlapping features well, but do not automatically model feature interactions.

Empirical

а

1

0

Α

1

1

В

b

			A	a	_		A	a	_		A	a	
		В				В				В			
_		b				b				b			
-	_		All =	1	_		A = 2	/3	_		B = 2,	/3	
			Α	a]		A	a]		A	a	
		В	1/4	1/4]	В	1/3	1/6]	В	4/9	2/9	
		b	1/4	1/4]	b	1/3	1/6]	b	2/9	1/9]
					-			-	-				_
			A	a			A	a			A	a	
		В	0	0		В	W _A			В	w _A +w _B	WB	
		b	0	0		b	W _A			b	W _A		

Feature Interaction

If you want interaction terms, you have to add them:

				А	a			А	a	_		А	a
			В				В				В		
	Empiri	cal	b				b				b		
	A	a		A = 2,	/3	-		B = 2,	/3	-		AB = 1	/3
В	1	1		Α	a]		A	a]		A	a
b	1	0	В	1/3	1/6		В	4/9	2/9		В	1/3	1/3
			b	1/3	1/6		b	2/9	1/9]	b	1/3	0

• A disjunctive feature would also have done it (alone):





Feature Interaction

- For loglinear/logistic regression models in statistics, it is standard to do a greedy stepwise search over the space of all possible interaction terms.
- This combinatorial space is exponential in size, but that's okay as most statistics models only have 4–8 features.
- In NLP, our models commonly use hundreds of thousands of features, so that's not okay.
- Commonly, interaction terms are added by hand based on linguistic intuitions.

Example: NER Interaction

Previous-state and current-signature have interactions, e.g. P=PERS-C=Xx indicates C=PERS much more strongly than C=Xx and P=PERS independently.

This feature type allows the model to capture this interaction.

	Local Context										
	Prev	Cur	Next								
state	Other	???	???								
Vord	at	Grace	Road								
ag	IN	NNP	NNP								
Sia	x	Xx	Xx								

Feature Weights **Feature Type** Feature PERS LOC 0.94 Previous word -0.73at 0.03 0.00 Current word Grace Beginning bigram $\langle G \rangle$ 0.45 -0.04 Current POS tag 0.47 0.45 NNP Prev and cur tags IN NNP -0.10 0.14 Previous state Other -0.70 -0.92 Current signature Xx 0.80 0.46 Prev state, cur sig O-Xx 0.68 0.37 0.37 Prev-cur-next sig x-Xx-Xx -0.69 P. state - p-cur sig -0.20 0.82 O-x-Xx Total: -0.58 2.68