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structured prediction basics & setup

Learning problem:

given a training dataset $D = (x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})_{i=1}^n$
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\in X \quad \in Y$

goal: learn a prediction mapping $h_{\omega}: X \rightarrow Y$
 $\hookrightarrow$ parameter

"test distribution"

that has low generalization error $L(\omega; \mathcal{P}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}} [l(y, h_{\omega}(x))]$

↑ structured error & c.

→ evaluates how bad different mistakes are

"risk" in ML (Vapnik risk) / statistical decision loss

[See lecture 4 & 5 of my PLM → review of statistical decision theory]

regularized ERM
empirical risk minimization

$$\hat{L}(w) \triangleq \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y^{(i)}, h_w(x^{(i)}))}_{\text{usually}} + \underbrace{R(w)}_{\text{regularizer}}$$

→ not cts. in w ; messy... non-convex NP hard to minimize in general

⇒ replace it with surrogate loss / contrast fct.
ML statistics

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}(w) \triangleq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)}, w)}_{\text{surrogate loss}} + R(w)$$

"M-estimator" in statistics e.g. convex in w

examples: • structured hinge loss → structured SVM
• log-loss → CRF

generative vs. discriminative learning continuum

generative modelling of (x, y)

$p_w(x, y)$

"more discriminative"

conditional: $p_w(y|x) \rightsquigarrow h_w(x) = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p_w(y|x)$

1 ~ 0 /

' yes 1 ~ 0 /

"more discriminative"



$$p(w|x, y)$$

learn $\hat{w}$
by ML

$$p(w|y|x)$$

learn $\hat{w}$
by MCL

$$h_w: X \rightarrow Y$$

learn $\hat{h}_w$ by using
surrogate loss minimization
e.g. structured SVM

← more assumptions
you make / less robust for classification task