# Introduction to Machine Learning

# Multiclass Classification Multiclass Classification and Losses

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#### Learning goals

- Know what multiclass means and which types of classifiers exist
- Know the MC 0-1-loss
- Know the MC brier score
- Know the MC logarithmic loss

# **MULTICLASS CLASSIFICATION**

**Scenario:** Multiclass classification with g > 2 classes

$$\mathcal{D} \subset (\mathcal{X} imes \mathcal{Y})^n, \mathcal{Y} = \{1, ..., g\}$$

#### **Example:** Iris dataset with g = 3





# **REVISION: RISK FOR CLASSIFICATION**

**Goal:** Find a model  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}^{g}$ , where *g* is the number of classes, that minimizes the expected loss over random variables  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathbb{P}_{xy}$ 

$$\mathcal{R}(f) = \mathbb{E}_{xy}[L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))] = \mathbb{E}_{x}\left[\sum_{k \in \mathcal{Y}} L(k, f(\mathbf{x}))\mathbb{P}(y = k | \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x})\right]$$

The optimal model for a loss function  $L(y, f(\mathbf{x}))$  is

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{Y}} L(k, f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbb{P}(y = k | \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}).$$

Because we usually do not know  $\mathbb{P}_{xy}$ , we minimize the **empirical risk** as an approximation to the **theoretical** risk

$$\hat{f} = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \mathcal{R}_{emp}(f) = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L\left(y^{(i)}, f\left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}\right)\right).$$

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#### **TYPES OF CLASSIFIERS**

- We already saw losses for binary classification tasks. Now we will consider losses for **multiclass classification** tasks.
- For multiclass classification, loss functions will be defined on
  - vectors of scores

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_1(\mathbf{x}), ..., f_g(\mathbf{x}))$$

vectors of probabilities

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}), ..., \pi_g(\mathbf{x}))$$

hard labels

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = k, k \in \{1, 2, ..., g\}$$

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# **ONE-HOT ENCODING**

• Multiclass outcomes *y* with classes 1,..., *g* are often transformed to *g* binary (1/0) outcomes using

with 
$$\mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• One-hot encoding does not lose any information contained in the outcome.

Example: Iris

Species	Species.setosa	Species.versicolor	Species.virginica
versicolor	0	1	0
virginica	0	0	1
versicolor	0	1	0
versicolor	0	1	0
setosa	1	0	0
setosa	1	0	0



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# 0-1-Loss

#### 0-1-LOSS

We have already seen that optimizer  $\hat{h}(\mathbf{x})$  of the theoretical risk using the 0-1-loss

$$L(y, h(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{1}_{\{y \neq h(\mathbf{x})\}}$$

is the Bayes optimal classifier, with

$$\hat{h}(\mathbf{x}) = rg\max_{l \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbb{P}(y = l \mid \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x})$$

and the optimal constant model (featureless predictor)

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = k, k \in \{1, 2, ..., g\}$$

is the classifier that predicts the most frequent class  $k \in \{1, 2, ..., g\}$  in the data

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{mode}\left\{y^{(i)}\right\}.$$

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#### **MC Brier Score**

### **MC BRIER SCORE**

The (binary) Brier score generalizes to the multiclass Brier score that is defined on a vector of class probabilities  $(\pi_1(\mathbf{x}), ..., \pi_g(\mathbf{x}))$ 

$$L(y,\pi(x)) = \sum_{k=1}^{g} \left( \mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} - \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2.$$

Optimal constant prob vector  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\theta_1, ..., \theta_g)$ :

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{g}, \sum \theta_{k} = 1} \mathcal{R}_{emp}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{R}_{emp}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{g} \left( \mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)} = k\}} - \theta_{k} \right)^{2} \right)$$

We solve this by setting the derivative w.r.t.  $\theta_k$  to 0

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_{emp}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_k} = -2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}} - \theta_k) = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\pi}_k(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\theta}_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}},$$

being the fraction of class-*k* observations.

**NB:** We naively ignored the constraints! But since  $\sum_{k=1}^{g} \hat{\theta}_k = 1$  holds for the minimizer of the unconstrained problem, we are fine. Could have also used Lagrange multipliers!

#### MC BRIER SCORE / 2

**Claim:** For g = 2 the MC Brier score is exactly twice as high as the binary Brier score, defined as  $(\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$ .

Proof:

$$L(y,\pi(x)) = \sum_{k=0}^{1} \left(\mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} - \pi_k(\mathbf{x})\right)^2$$

For y = 0:

$$L(y, \pi(x)) = (1 - \pi_0(\mathbf{x}))^2 + (0 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = (1 - (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x})))^2 + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2$$
  
=  $\pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 = 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2$ 

For y = 1:

$$L(y, \pi(x)) = (0 - \pi_0(\mathbf{x}))^2 + (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = (-(1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x})))^2 + (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2$$
  
=  $1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 + 1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2$   
=  $2 \cdot (1 - 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2) = 2 \cdot (1 - \pi_1(\mathbf{x}))^2 = 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - 1)^2$   
$$L(y, \pi(x)) = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot \pi_1(\mathbf{x})^2 & \text{for } y = 0\\ 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - 1)^2 & \text{for } y = 1 \end{cases} = 2 \cdot (\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$$

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# Logarithmic Loss

## LOGARITHMIC LOSS (LOG-LOSS)

The generalization of the Binomial loss (logarithmic loss) for two classes is the multiclass **logarithmic loss** / **cross-entropy loss**:

$$L(y,\pi(x)) = -\sum_{k=1}^{g} \mathbb{1}_{\{y=k\}} \log \left(\pi_k(\mathbf{x})\right),$$

with  $\pi_k(\mathbf{x})$  denoting the predicted probability for class *k*.

Optimal constant prob vector  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = (\theta_1, ..., \theta_g)$ :

$$\pi_k(\mathbf{x}) = \theta_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\{y^{(i)}=k\}},$$

being the fraction of class-*k* observations.

Proof: Exercise.

In the upcoming section we will see how this corresponds to the (multinomial) **softmax regression**.

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#### LOGARITHMIC LOSS (LOG-LOSS) / 2

**Claim:** For g = 2 the log-loss is equal to the Bernoulli loss, defined as

$$L_{0,1}(y,\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) = -y log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1-y) log(1-\pi_1(\mathbf{x}))$$

Proof:

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$$\begin{array}{lll} u_{0,1}(y,\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) &=& -y log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1-y) log(1-\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) \\ &=& -y log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - (1-y) log(\pi_0(\mathbf{x})) \\ &=& -\mathbbm{1}_{\{y=1\}} log(\pi_1(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbbm{1}_{\{y=0\}} log(\pi_0(\mathbf{x})) \\ &=& -\sum_{k=0}^1 \mathbbm{1}_{\{y=k\}} \log(\pi_k(\mathbf{x})) = L(y,\pi(x)) \end{array}$$

