

Logistic Regression for Predicting Customer Behavior

Read the simmons.csv file in R which contains data about the Simmons stores. The

simmons.csv dataset contains the following information:

- UsesCoupon: Whether a customer uses a coupon provided by the
- stores.HasCard: Whether the customer has a store card or not.
- Spends: The total amount spent by the customer in the last year in the unit of \$1000.
- Customer: The id of the customer.

The aim of the following exercise is to predict the probability that customers will use the coupons provided to them by a store (predicting the coupon variable below based on the spending level and whether the customer has a store card or not.) **Hints:** In class, we provided solutions in R to a similar problem but for a different dataset.

(1) We will fit a logistic regression model with the UsesCoupon as the response and other variables Spends and HasCard as potential predictors using gradient descent. For this purpose, we will take the following steps:

- (a) Let N be the number of data points we have. We first form the data matrix A whose first column is the vector of ones; second column is the Spends and third column is the HasCard vector. The matrix A should have size $N \times 3$. Let y be the UsesCoupon variable, which is a vector of zero and ones.
- (b) The linear regression amounts to modelling the success probability as

$$\hat{y} = \sigma(Ax)$$

where $\sigma(z) = e^z / (1 + e^z)$ is the sigmoid function applied componentwise to the Ax vector so that

$$\hat{y}_i = \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^3 A(i, j) x_j \right) = \sigma (x_1 + x_2 [\text{Spends}]_i + x_3 [\text{HasCard}]_i)$$

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(0.1)

where $[\text{Spends}]_i$ and $[\text{HasCard}]_i$ are the i -th components of the vectors Spends and HasCard respectively. The aim is to choose $x = [x_1, x_2, x_3]^T$ (which are the coefficients of our model) so that the predicted probabilities \hat{y} are close to the actual probabilities y as we discussed in class. For this purpose, the cost function to minimize in logistic regression is

$$f(x) = -\frac{1}{N} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N y_i \log(\hat{y}_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - \hat{y}_i) \right].$$

It follows that the j -th component of the gradient of the cost function $f(x)$ is

$$[\nabla f(x)]_j = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - y_i) A(i, j), \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

where \hat{y}_i is given by (0.1), $A(i, j)$ is the entry of the A matrix at row i and column j . Implement the gradient descent method

$$x^{k+1} = x^k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x^k)$$

to compute a minimum of f where you will be tuning the stepsize α_k to the dataset. Note that x^* is a column vector of size 3.

- (2) Let $x^* = [x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*]^T$ be the minimum of f you computed from the previous question. The vector x^* is the coefficients you need for your predictive model. In

other words, you can predict the probability that a customer uses a coupon based on the formula

$$\hat{y} = \sigma(x_1^* + x_2^* \text{Spends} + x_3^* \text{HasCard})$$

if you know the spending level of a customer or whether the customer has a card. For example, if the customer is spending 1000 dollars (then the variable $\text{Spends} = 1$) and he has a store card; your prediction will be

$$\hat{y} = \sigma(x_1^* + x_2^* 1 + x_3^*).$$

Make a table that contains the estimated (fitted) probabilities of your model versus the predictors HasCard and Spends . Your table should look like the table below where you will be filling out the missing values. Does

having a store card increase the likelihood of the customers' using the coupons?

		Annual Spending						
		\$1000	\$2000	\$3000	\$4000	\$5000	\$6000	\$7000
Credit Card	Yes							
	No							