

# Lecture 4

Kernel predictors

- ☐ HW1 
- ☐ Tutorial  
Some of the predictors
- ☐ HW1 due 10/12 or  
HW2 due 10/19
- ☐ Quiz 1 10/19
- ☐ LI

# Lecture Notes I – Examples of Predictors

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September 25, 2023

Prediction problems by the type of output ✓

The “learning” paradigm and vocabulary ✓

Some concepts in Classification ✓

The Nearest-Neighbor and kernel predictors ←

Linear predictors

Least squares regression

Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)

QDA (Quadratic Discriminant Analysis)

Logistic Regression

The PERCEPTRON algorithm

} Tutorial

Classification and regression tree(s) (CART)

The Naive Bayes classifier

**Reading** HTF Ch.: 2.3.1 Linear regression, 2.3.2 Nearest neighbor, 4.1–4 Linear classification, 6.1–3. Kernel regression, 6.6.2 kernel classifiers, 6.6.3 Naive Bayes, 9.2 CART, 11.3 Neural networks, Murphy Ch.: 1.4.2 nearest neighbors, 1.4.4 linear regression, 1.4.5 logistic regression, 3.5 and 10.2.1 Naive Bayes, 4.2.1–3 linear and quadratic discriminant, 14.7.3– kernel regression, locally weighted regression, 16.2.1–4 CART, (16.5 neural nets), Bach Ch.:

# Kernel regression and classification

- ▶ Like the  $K$ -nearest neighbor but with “smoothed” neighborhoods
- ▶ The predictor

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i b(x, x^i) y^i$$

(Handwritten annotations:   
 - A blue box around  $b(x, x^i)$  with an arrow pointing to the word "kernel".   
 - A red arrow pointing to  $x$  with the label "query point".   
 - A yellow arrow pointing to  $\beta_i$  with the label "coefficients".)

(6)

where  $\beta_i$  are coefficients

$$b: \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$$

kernel  $\approx$  similarity  $(x, x^i)$

Ex: Gaussian kernel

$$b(x, x') = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right)^d e^{-\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\|x - x'\|^2}_{\text{Euclidean distance}}}$$

# Kernel regression and classification

- ▶ Like the  $K$ -nearest neighbor but with “smoothed” neighborhoods
- ▶ The predictor

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i b(x, x^i) y^i \quad (6)$$

where  $\beta_i$  are coefficients

- ▶ Intuition: center a “bell-shaped” *kernel* function  $b$  on each data point, and obtain the prediction  $f(x)$  as a weighted sum of the values  $y^i$ , where the weights are  $\beta_i b(x, x^i)$
- ▶ Requirements for a kernel function  $b(x, x')$ 
  1. non-negativity
  2. symmetry in the arguments  $x, x'$
  3. optional: radial symmetry, bounded support, smoothness
- ▶ A typical kernel function is the **Gaussian kernel** (or **Radial Basis Function (RBF)**)

$$\boxed{b(z) \propto e^{-z^2/2}} \quad \text{standard} \quad (7)$$

$$b_h(x, x') \propto e^{-\frac{\|x-x'\|^2}{2h^2}} \quad \text{with } h = \text{red kernel width} \quad (8)$$

gaussian with stdev= $h$

## Regression example

A special case in wide use is the Nadaraya-Watson regressor

$$\sum_{i=1}^n w_i y^i = f(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n b\left(\frac{\|x - x^i\|}{h}\right) y^i}{\sum_{i=1}^n b\left(\frac{\|x - x^i\|}{h}\right)} \quad \text{independent of } i^i \quad (9)$$

In this regressor,  $f(x)$  is always a convex combination of the  $y^i$ 's, and the weights are proportional to  $b_h(x, x^i)$ .

The Nadaraya-Watson regressor is biased if the density of  $P_X$  varies around  $x$ .

$$w_i = \frac{b(x, x^i)}{\sum_{i'=1}^n b(x, x^{i'})} \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1 \quad \text{normalization}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{y} = f(x) \leq \max y^i \leq \frac{1}{\min y^i}$$

## Types of kernels

- Requirements for  $b(\cdot, \cdot)$

↓  
Requirements for  $b(z)$

1.  $b(z) \geq 0$  for all  $z$
2.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} b(z) dz = 1$

## Typical properties

3.  $b(z) = b(-z)$  symmetry

4.  $b(z) \searrow$  for  $z \geq 0$  decreasing  $\Rightarrow \max_z b(z) = b(0)$

Support of  $b$

$$\text{supp } b = \begin{cases} [-a, a] & a > 0 \text{ finite (compact)} \\ \mathbb{R} & \text{infinite supp} \end{cases}$$

Ex: Gaussian  $b$

Smoothness

$b', b''$  exist almost everywhere

- $b(x, x') = b(\|x - x'\|)$

$b(z)$

function of distance only

$$b: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$

$$\text{supp } g = \{x \mid g(x) \neq 0\}$$

$$g: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{if } g \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$

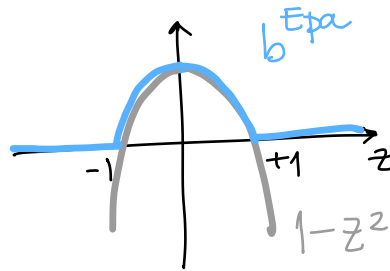
$$\text{supp } g = \{x \mid g(x) > 0\}$$

# Epanechnikov kernel

$$b(z) = c(1 - z^2)_+$$

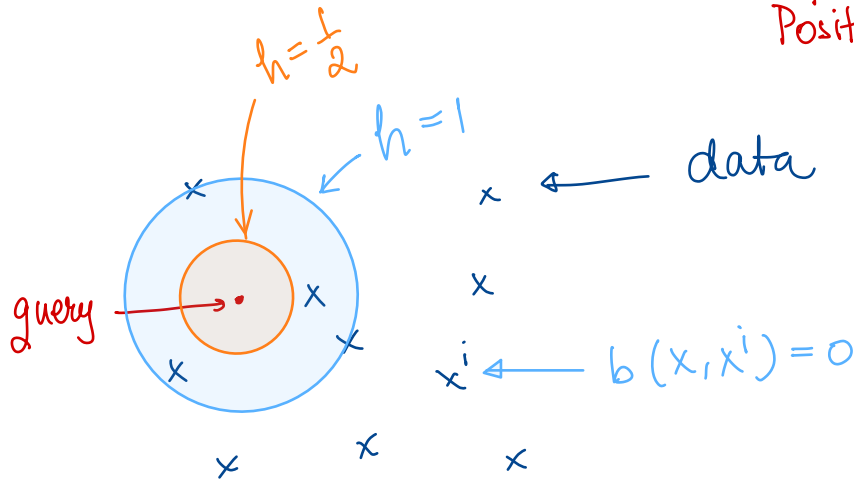
↑

quadratic  
finite support



$$g_+(x) = \begin{cases} g(x) & g(x) \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Positive part of  $g$



$$h = \frac{1}{2}$$



Kernel width (Bandwidth)  $h$

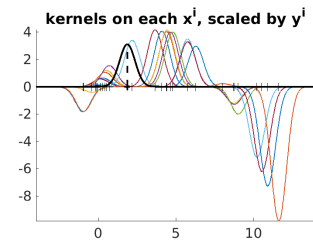
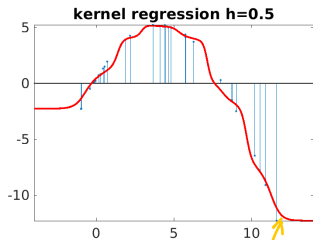
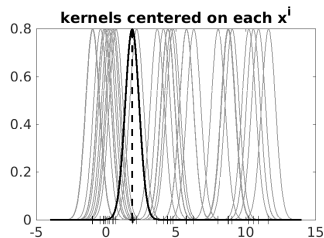
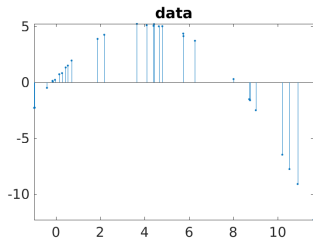
For any  $b(z)$  kernel

$$b_h(z) = \frac{1}{h} b\left(\frac{z}{h}\right) \leftarrow \text{check this!}$$

- $h$  is a smoothing parameter

$h \uparrow \Rightarrow f$  smoother

# An example: noisy data from a parabola



bias!  
Removed by local Linear Regression

# Local Linear Regression

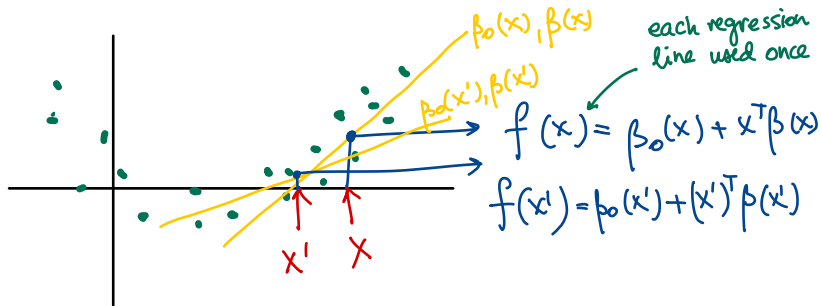
To correct for the bias (to first order) one can estimate a regression line around  $x$ .

1. Given **query point**  $x$
  2. Compute kernel  $b_h(x, x^i) = w_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, N$
  3. Solve **weighted regression**  $\min_{\beta, \beta_0} \sum_{i=1}^N w_i (y^i - \beta^T x^i - \beta_0)^2$  to obtain  $\beta, \beta_0$   
( $\beta, \beta_0$  depend on  $x$  through  $w_i$ )
  4. Calculate  $f(x) = \beta^T x + \beta_0$
- local  $y^i$ 's on local  $x^i$ 's

**Exercise** Show that Nadaraya-Watson solves a local linear regression with fixed  $\beta = 0$

$$b_h(x) \rightarrow w_i(x) \propto b_h(x, x^i)$$

weight of  $x^i$  in predicting  $x$



## Kernel binary classifiers

- ▶ Obtained from Nadaraya-Watson by setting  $y^i$  to  $\pm 1$ .
- ▶ Note that the classifier can be written as the difference of two non-negative functions

$$f(x) \propto \sum_{i: y^i=1} b\left(\frac{\|x - x^i\|}{h}\right) - \sum_{i: y^i=-1} b\left(\frac{\|x - x^i\|}{h}\right). \quad (10)$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{i: y^i=1} w_i(x) + (-1) \sum_{i: y^i=-1} w_i(x)$$

$$\hat{y}(x) = \text{sgn } f(x)$$



$$f(x) \in [-1, 1]$$

$$f(x) \propto g(x) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$f(x) = c g(x) \text{ for } c \in \mathbb{R} \text{ constant}$$