

# Statistical NLP for the Web

Maximum Entropy Models

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Week 11, Nov 14, 2012

Topics for Today

#### Logistic Regression/Maximum Entropy Models

# Final Project

- Intermediate Report I Grades sent out
- Intermediate Report II Oral
- Final Project Presentation Day
  - December 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM to 2pm
  - Wednesday
  - Each team 12 min talk
  - 3 min for Q&A
  - CS Conference room

#### Final Project Grading

- Final Project Remaining Grade 85%
- Intermediate Report II
  - □ 20% of 55 = 11 points
- Final Project : Report+Presentation+Demo
  - □ 65% of 55 = 35.75 points
  - Final Project Report (30%)
  - Demo (15%)
  - Final Presentation (20%)

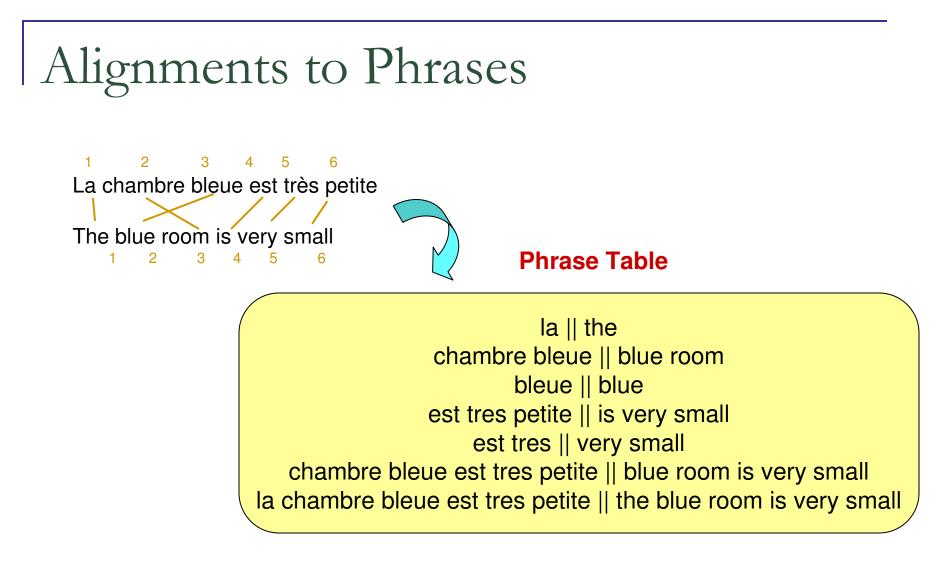
# Intermediate Report II

- Grading based on
  - Demo
    - Is it working?
  - Approach
    - Is your approach well thought through
  - Results
    - Is the model accuracy real low?
  - Discussion
    - Have you thought about ways to improve the model
  - Q&A
    - Theory behind algorithms you have used

#### HW3

#### HW3 is out

- Due Nov 30<sup>th</sup> (11:59pm)
- Q1 : implementing simple example from the class is ok as well
- Q2 : Look at previous slides, Python code is already in one of the slides
  - Modify to do n-gram counts
  - Compute bigram probabilities



- Once we get the alignments we can extract phrase pairs
- Phrase pairs are then used to compute relative frequencies that gives us P(e|f) and P(f|e)

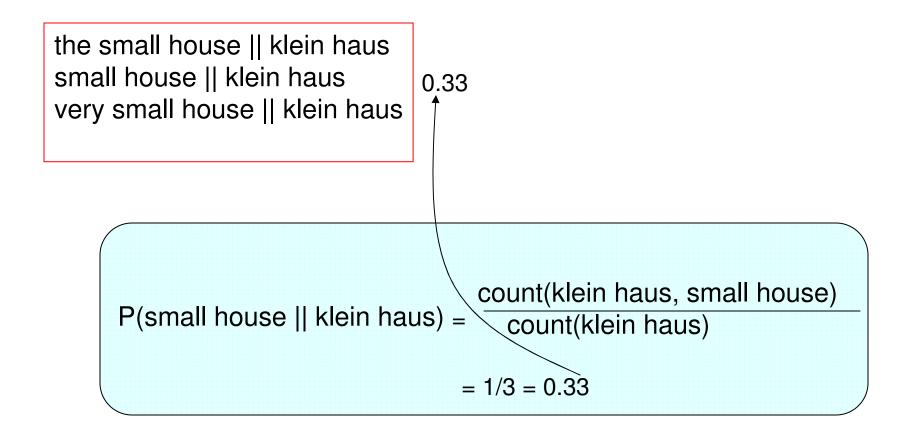
the small house || klein haus small house || klein haus very small house || klein haus

How do you compute phrase translation features?

 P(e|f) and P(f|e) can be estimated using Maximum Likelihood Estimate

P(e|f) = count(e,f)/count(e)

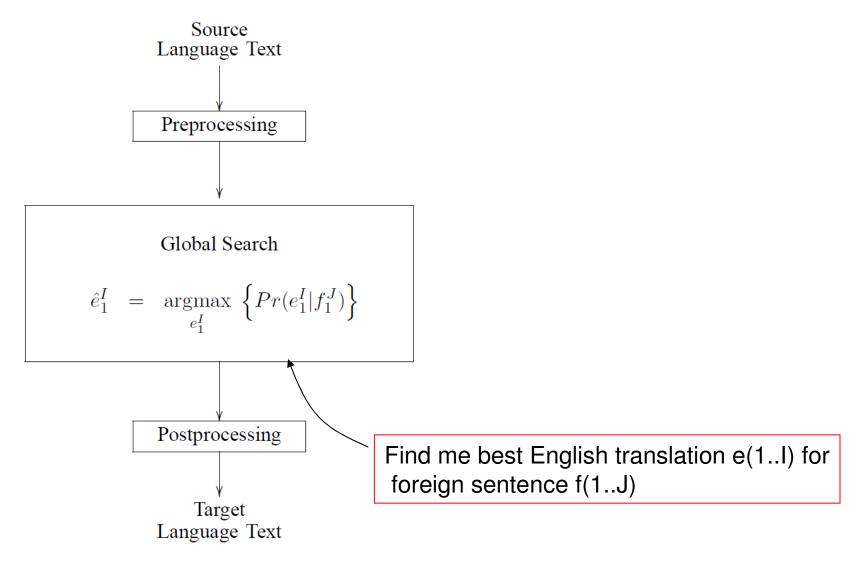
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P(f|e) = count(f,e)/count(e)
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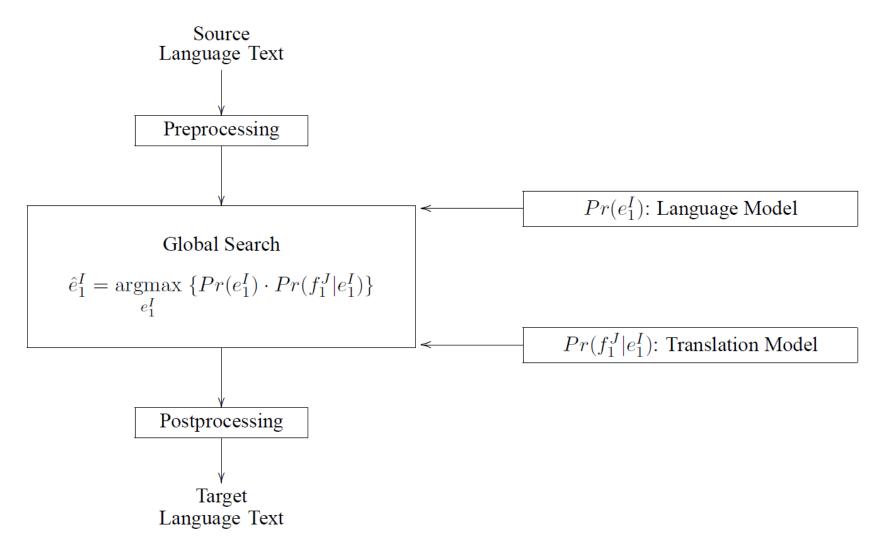
Besides P(e|f) and P(f|e) we can add many different features in similar framework

the small house || klein haus small house || klein haus very small house || klein haus the small house || haus

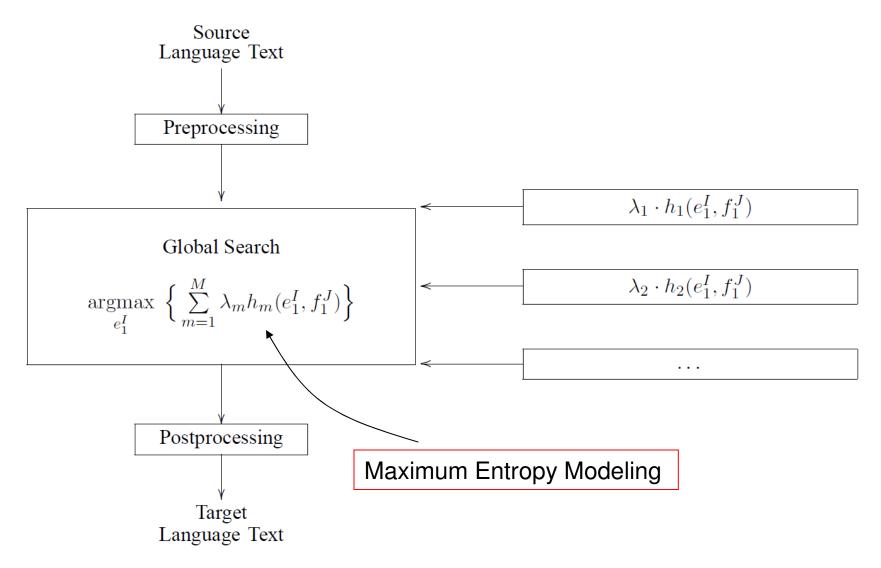
#### Features and Machine Translation



#### Source Channel Approach



#### Maximum Entropy Based Machine



### Maximum Entropy Method for Translation

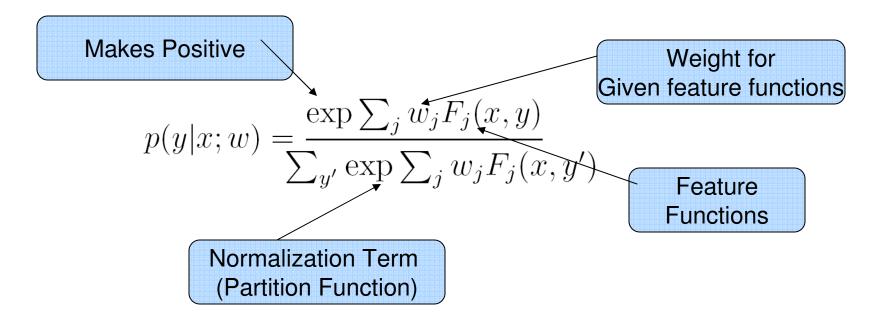
Translation probability for foreign word sequence f1 to fj is given by above equation

$$Pr(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J}) = p_{\lambda_{1}^{M}}(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J}) \\ = \frac{\exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M}\lambda_{m}h_{m}(e_{1}^{I},f_{1}^{J})]}{\sum_{e'_{1}^{I}}\exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M}\lambda_{m}h_{m}(e'_{1}^{I},f_{1}^{J})]}$$

We are still find argmax of e(1..I) but not using source channel approach

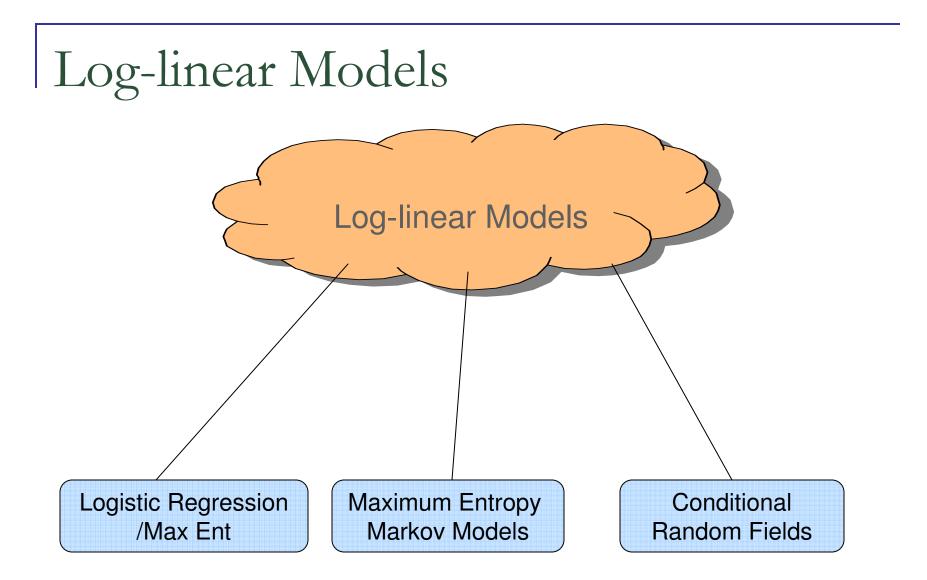
# Log-Linear Model

If x is any data point and y is the label, general loglinear linear model can be described as follows



#### Understanding the Equation Form

- Linear combination of features and weights
  - Can be any real value
- Numerator always positive (exponential of any number is +ve)
- Denominator normalizes the output making it valid probability between 0 and 1
- Ranking of output same as ranking of linear values
  - i.e. exponentials magnify the ranking difference but ranking still stay the same



All of these models are a type of log-linear models, there are more of them

#### Direct Translation Probability

Translation probability for foreign word sequence f1 to fj is given by above equation

$$Pr(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J}) = p_{\lambda_{1}^{M}}(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J})$$

$$= \frac{\exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M} \lambda_{m}h_{m}(e_{1}^{I}, f_{1}^{J})]}{\sum_{e'_{1}^{I}} \exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M} \lambda_{m}h_{m}(e'_{1}^{I}, f_{1}^{J})]}$$
Look similar?

The above equation is same as a general equation that defines a type of classifiers generally known as log linear models

$$p(y|x;w) = \frac{\exp\sum_{j} w_{j}F_{j}(x,y)}{\exp\sum_{j} w_{j}F_{j}(x,y')}$$
  
Log Linear Model

# Training Weights for Features

- How do we know the values of those lambdas in previous equation
- We train them in Maximum Entropy Framework

# Maximum Entropy Model

- Maximum Entropy Models are a type of log-linear models
- Maximum Entropy Model has shown to perform well in many NLP tasks
  - POS tagging [Ratnaparkhi, A., 1996]
  - Text Categorization [Nigam, K., et. al, 1999]
  - Named Entity Detection [Borthwick, A, 1999]
  - Parser [Charniak, E., 2000]
- Discriminative classifier
  - Conditional model P(c|d)
  - Maximize conditional likelihood
  - Can handle variety of features

#### Naïve Bayes vs. Maximum Entropy Models

#### Naïve Bayes Model

- Trained by maximizing likelihood of data and class
- Features are assumed independent
- Feature weights set independently

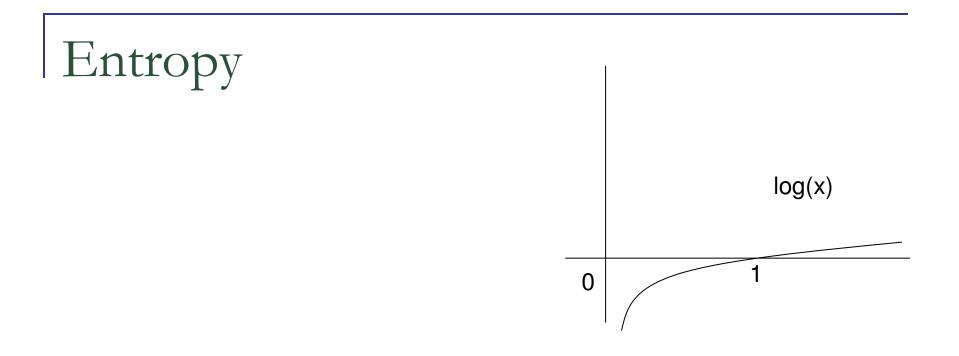
#### Maximum Entropy Model

- Trained by maximizing conditional likelihood of classes
- Dependency on features taken account by feature weights
- Feature weights are set mutually

Entropy  

$$Event x$$
  
Probability  $p_x$   
 $Surprise$   $log(1/p_x)$   
 $H(p) = -\sum_x p(x)log_2 p(x)$ 

- Measure of uncertainty of a distribution
- Higher uncertainty equals higher entropy
- Degree of surprise of an event
- If I see something that is highly unlikely (very low p(x) e.g. event that doesn't happen a lot) then that carries lot more information so lower entropy



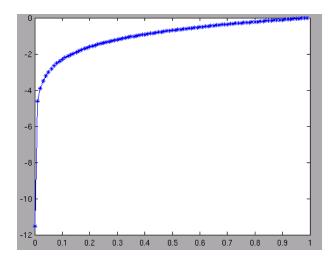
#### ■ p(x) log p(x) $\rightarrow$ 0 as p(x) $\rightarrow$ 0

#### ■ p(x) log p(x) $\rightarrow$ 0 as p(x) $\rightarrow$ 1

# Exploring Entropy Formulation

- How much information received when observing a random variable 'x' ?
- Highly improbable event = received more information
- Highly probable event = received less information
- Need h(x) that express information content of p(x); we want
  - 1. Monotonic function of p(x)
  - If p(x,y) = p(x). p(y) when x and y are unrelated, i.e. statistically independent then we want h(x,y) = h(x) + h(y) such that information gain by observing two <u>unrelated</u> events is their sum





Remember logarithm function

 What kind of h(x) satisfies two conditions mentioned previously

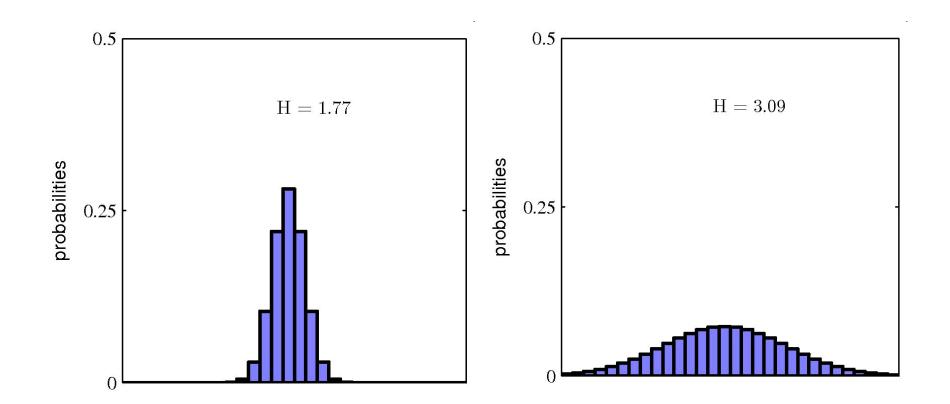
$$h(x) = -\log_2 p(x)$$

Entropy Example

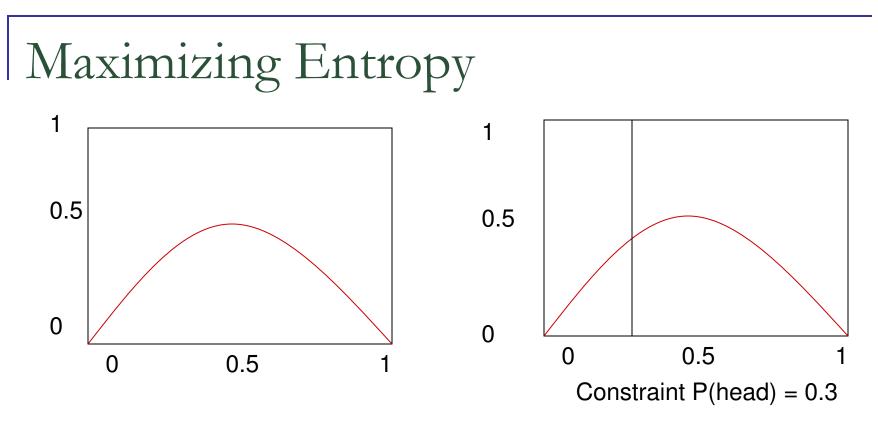
• If X ={1, 2, 3} and p =  $(1/2, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ 

$$\begin{split} H(p) &= -\sum_{x} p(x) \log_2 p(x) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{1}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} 1 + \frac{1}{4} 2 + \frac{1}{4} 2 \\ &= 3/2 \end{split}$$

Comparing Entropy Across Distributions



[1] Uniform distribution has higher entropy



- Maximizing Entropy subject to constraints
  - Lowers maximum entropy of the distribution
  - Raises maximum likelihood
  - Brings distribution is further away from uniform distribution
  - Brings distribution is closer to the data

# Maximizing Entropy

- How can we find a distribution with maximum entropy?
- What about maximizing entropy of a distribution with a set of constraints?
- What does maximizing entropy has to do with classification task anyway?
- Let us first look at logistic regression to understand this

#### Remember Linear Regression

$$y_j = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_j$$

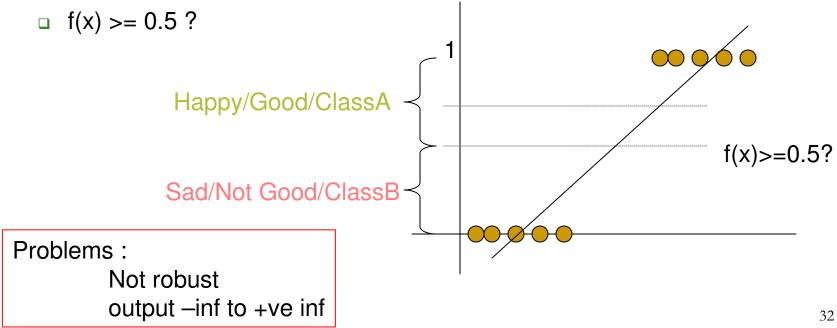
$$y_j = \sum_{i=0}^N \theta_i x_{ij}$$

N is the number of dimensions where each input lives in

 We estimated theta by setting square loss function's derivative to zero

#### Regression to Classification

- We also looked at why linear regression may not work well if 'y' are binary
  - Output (-infinity to +infinity) is not limited to class labels (0 and 1)
  - Assumption of noise (errors) normally distributed
- Train Regression and threshold the output
  - If  $f(x) \ge 0.7$  CLASS1
  - □ If f(x) < 0.7 CLASS2



### Ratio

- Instead of thresholding the output we can take the ratio of two predicted output
- Ratio is odds of predicting y=1 or y=0
  - □ E.g. for given 'x' if p(y=1) = 0.8 and p(y=0) = 0.2
  - □ Odds = 0.8/0.2 = 4

Not predicted y, predicting odds of y

- Better?
  - We can make the linear model predict odds of y=1 instead of 'y' itself

$$\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{p(y=false|\mathbf{x})} = \sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i \ x_i$$

# Log Ratio

$$\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{p(y=false|\mathbf{x})} = \sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i x_i$$

LHS Range?

- LHS is between 0 and infinity, we want to be able to handle infinity to +infinity which RHS can produce
- If we take log of LHS, it can also range between –infinity and +ve infinity  $log(\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{p(y=false|\mathbf{x})})$

$$log(\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{(1-p(y=true|\mathbf{x})})$$

$$logit(p(x)) = log \frac{p(x)}{1 - p(x)}$$

Logistic Regression

$$log(\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{(1-p(y=true|\mathbf{x}))}) = \sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i \times x_i$$

 Logistic Regression: A Linear Model in which we predict logit of probability instead of probability

$$\log(\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{(1-p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}) = w \cdot f$$

Logistic Regression Derivation

$$log(\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{(1-p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}) = w \cdot f$$

$$\frac{p(y=true|\mathbf{x})}{(1-p(y=true|\mathbf{x}))} = exp(w \cdot f)$$

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = (1 - p(y = true | \mathbf{x})exp(w \cdot f))$$

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = exp(w \cdot f) - p(y = true | \mathbf{x})exp(w \cdot f)$$

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) + p(y = true | \mathbf{x})exp(w \cdot f) = exp(w \cdot f)$$

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(w \cdot f)}{1 + exp(w \cdot f)}$$

## Logistic Regression

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i x_i)}{1 + exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i x_i)}$$
$$p(y = false | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \theta_i x_i)}$$

For notation convenience for later part of the lecture replace theta with lambda and x with f where f is an indicator function

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}{1 + exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}$$
$$p(y = false | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}$$

## Logistic Regression

Dividing Numerators and denominator by

$$exp(-\sum_{i=0}^N \lambda_i f_i)$$

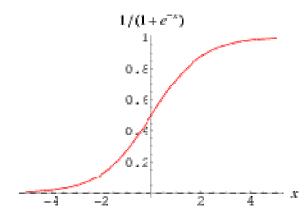
$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + exp(-\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}$$

$$p(y = false|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(-\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}{1 + exp(-\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}$$

## Logistic Regression

Let's call  $h_{\lambda}(x)$  represent p(y=true|x)

$$p(y = true | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + exp(-\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_i f_i)}$$



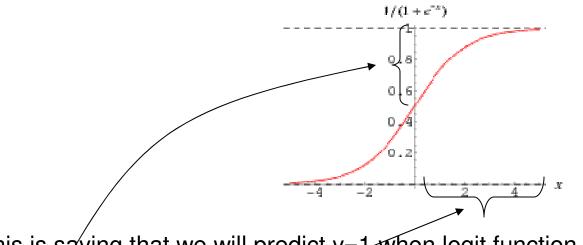
We have seen this before, remember?

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\beta x}}$$

Sigmoid functions we used for our Neural Networks! Also known as logistic function, thus the name logistic regression Decision Boundary of Logistic Regression

If we predict y = 1 when  $h_{\lambda}(x) \ge 0.5$ 

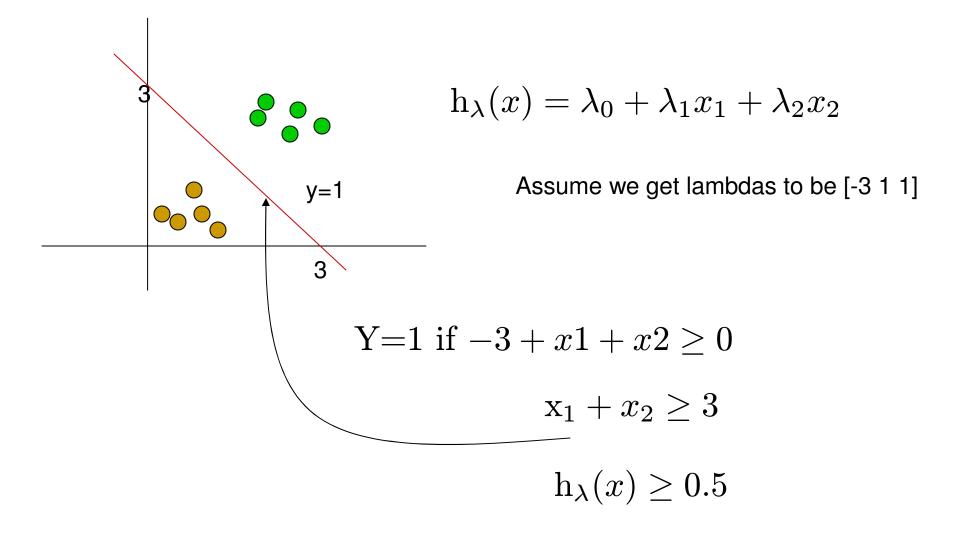
i.e. when  $\lambda^T f \ge 0$ 



This is saying that we will predict y=1 when logit function outputs more than 0.5

which happens when the linear combination of weights and features is greater than zero

#### Example of Decision Boundary



#### Logistic Regression Based Classification

- If we estimate the weights (Lambdas) we can classify between 2 classes
- How to estimate weights (Lambdas)
- We can estimate weights by maximizing (conditional) likelihood of data according to the model

So why did we talk all about logistic regression when we were trying to learn Maximum Entropy Models?

Let's find out

#### Logistic Regression for Multiple Classes

- We can also have logistic regression for multiple classes
- Normalization has to take account of all classes

$$p(c|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_{ci} f_i)}{\sum_{c' \in C} exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_{c'i} f_i)}$$

#### Logistic Regression for Multiple Classes

- We can also have logistic regression for multiple classes
- Normalization has to take account of all classes

$$p(c|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_{ci} f_i)}{\sum_{c' \in C} exp(\sum_{i=0}^{N} \lambda_{c'i} f_i)}$$

This equation looks familiar?

$$Pr(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J}) = p_{\lambda_{1}^{M}}(e_{1}^{I}|f_{1}^{J})$$
$$= \frac{\exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M} \lambda_{m}h_{m}(e_{1}^{I}, f_{1}^{J})]}{\sum_{e'_{1}^{I}} \exp[\sum_{m=1}^{M} \lambda_{m}h_{m}(e'_{1}^{I}, f_{1}^{J})]}$$

#### Maximum Entropy and Logistic Regression

"Exponential Model for Multinomial Logistic Regression, when trained according to the maximum likelihood criterion, also finds the Maximum Entropy Distribution subject to the constraints from the feature function" [2]

Turns out logistic regression models also finds maximum entropy distribution!

Multinomial Logistic Regression is also known as Maximum Entropy Model in NLP and Speech

### Why Maximum Entropy for NLP?

- Maximum Entropy Modeling technique is particularly very useful for NLP problems where we want to extract all sorts of features
- Distribution can be spiked for certain features for which we have more information
- Assume nothing for features we have not seen
- What kind of features?

#### Maximum Entropy Features for NLP Problems

- We have seen many different types of features
   Count of words, length of docs, etc
- We can think of features as indicator functions that represent co-occurrence relation between input phenomenon and the class we are trying to predict

$$f_i(c_d) = \phi(d) \wedge c_d = c_i$$

Example: Features for POS Tagging

## Maximum Entropy Example

Given Event space

NN JJ NNS VB

Maximum Entropy Distribution

1/4 1/4	1/4	1/4
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Add a constraint P(NN) + P(JJ) + P(NNS) = 1

|--|

Add another constraint P(NN) + P(NNS) = 8/10

4/10	2/10	4/10	0	

### Another Example

$$f_1(c,x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } word_i = \text{``race'' \& } c = \text{NN} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_2(c,x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t_{i-1} = \text{TO \& } c = \text{VB} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

		f1	f2	f3	f4	f5	f6
VB	f	0	1	0	1	1	0
VB	W		.8		.01	.1	
NN	f	1	0	0	0	0	1
NN	W	.8					-1.3

$$P(NN|x) = \frac{e^{\cdot 8}e^{-1.3}}{e^{\cdot 8}e^{-1.3} + e^{\cdot 8}e^{\cdot 01}e^{\cdot 1}} = .20$$
  
$$P(VB|x) = \frac{e^{\cdot 8}e^{\cdot 01}e^{\cdot 1}}{e^{\cdot 8}e^{-1.3} + e^{\cdot 8}e^{\cdot 01}e^{\cdot 1}} = .80$$

Example from [2]

## Training MaxEnt

- We saw that given the features and weights we just need to plug them in our equation and we get classification probability
- Previous example:
  - Given "to race" our model correctly predicted race is Verb with 0.8 probability
- But how do we train these weights?

## Training Weights for MaxEnt Model

#### Joint Generative Models

- P(c,d) Naïve Bayes
- Maximize joint likelihood
- Maximum Likelihood Estimation Relative Frequencies

#### Discriminative Models

- P(c|d) MaxEnt
- Maximize conditional likelihood
- Conditional Maximum Likelihood Estimation not as simple as relative frequencies

Conditional Likelihood

$$P(C|D,\lambda) = \prod_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} p(c|d,\lambda)$$

$$logP(C|D,\lambda) = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} logp(c|d,\lambda)$$

$$log P(C|D,\lambda) = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} log \frac{exp\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(c,d)}{\sum_{c'} exp\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(c',d)}$$

Maximizing Conditional Log Likelihood

$$log P(C|D, \lambda) = \sum_{(c,d) \in (C,D)} log exp \sum_{i} \lambda_i f_i(c,d)$$

$$-\sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)}\log\sum_{c'}\exp\sum_{i}\lambda_{i}f_{i}(c',d)$$

Write the log likelihood in 2 separate terms Derivative of log likelihood is sum of derivative of each term Maximizing Conditional Log Likelihood

$$logP(C|D, \lambda) = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} logexp\sum_{i} \lambda_i f_i(c,d)$$

$$-\sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)}\log\sum_{c'}\exp\sum_{i}\lambda_{i}f_{i}(c',d)$$

Derivative of the above term is given by

$$\frac{\partial log(P|C,\lambda)}{\partial \lambda_i} = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} f_i(c,d) - \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} \sum_{c'} P(c'|d,\lambda) f_i(c',d)$$

Maximizing Conditional Log Likelihood

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial log(P|C,\lambda)}{\partial \lambda_{i}} = & \sum_{(c,d) \in (C,D)} f_{i}(c,d) - \sum_{(c,d) \in (C,D)} \sum_{c'} P(c'|d,\lambda) f_{i}(c',d) \\ \end{split}$$
Empirical count (f<sub>i</sub>, c)
Predicted count (f<sub>i</sub>, \lambda)

 Optimum parameters when empirical expectation equals predicted expectation

## Expectation of a Feature

 We can count the features from the labeled set of data

$$Empirical(f_i) = \sum_{(c,d) \in observed(C,D)} f_i(c,d)$$

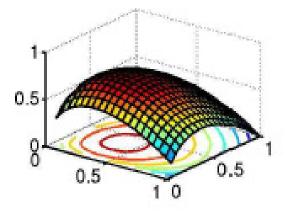
Expectation of a feature given the trained model

$$E(f_i) = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} p(c,d) f_i(c,d)$$

- Chose parameters  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_n$  to maximize conditional log likelihood

$$logP(C|D,\lambda) = \sum_{(c,d)\in(C,D)} logp(c|d,\lambda)$$

- We showed how to compute partial derivatives with respect to different features
- For MaxEnt model this conditional log likelihood surface is convex
- Find maxima by doing gradient descent



## Finding Optimal Parameters

- Commonly numerical optimization packages
- Gradient descent
- Stochastic gradient descent
- Quasi Newton Methods
- L-BFGS
- Generalized Iterative Scaling

# Generalized Iterative Scaling

Empirical Expectation

$$E_{\tilde{p}}(f_j) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_j(d_i, c_i)$$

- Initialize m+1 lambdas to 0
- Loop Until Converged  $E_{p^t}(f_j) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K P(c_k | d_i) f_j(d_i, c_k)$

$$\lambda_j^{t+1} = \lambda_j^t + \frac{1}{M} \log(\frac{E_{\tilde{p}}(f_j)}{E_{p^t}(f_j)})$$

End loop

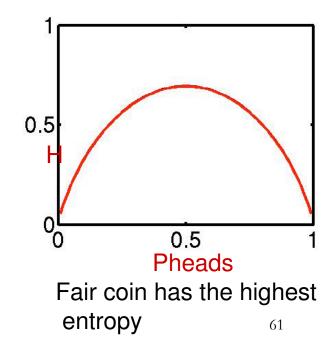
Other numerical methods are more common

## Maximum Entropy

We saw what entropy is

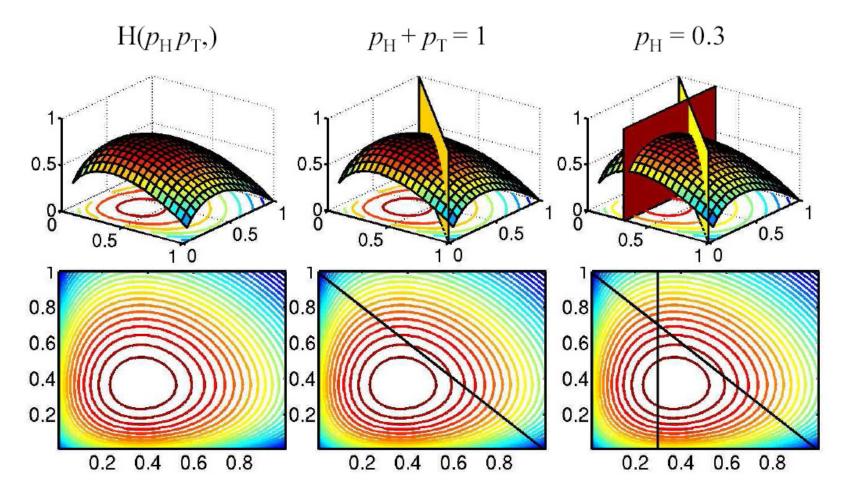
$$H(p) = -\sum_{x} p(x) \log_2 p(x)$$

- We want to maximize entropy
  - Maximize subject to feature-based constraints
  - Feature based constraints help us bring the model distribution close to empirical distribution (data)
  - In other words it increases maximum likelihood of data given the model but makes the distribution less uniform



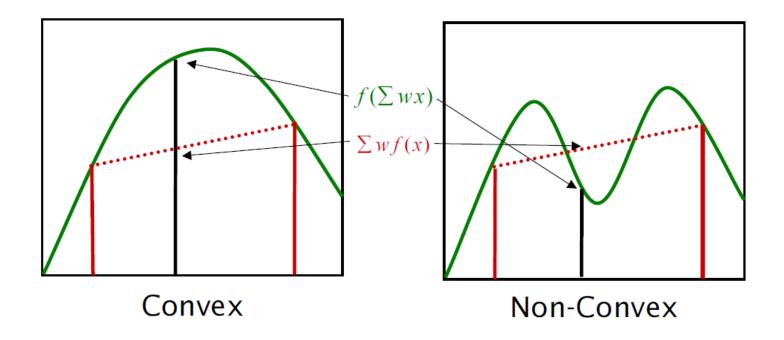
#### Constraints on a Entropy Function

Figure below is from Klein, D. and Manning, C., Tutorial [1]



#### Convexity

 $f(\sum_{i} w_i x_i) \ge \sum_{i} w_i f(x_i), \sum_{i} w_i = 1$ 



#### picture[1]

#### Maximization with Constraints

$$max_{p(x)}H(p) = -\sum_{x} p(x)logp(x)$$

$$s.t. \sum_{x} p(x) f_i(x) = \sum_{x} \tilde{p(x)} f_i(x), i = 1...N$$
$$\sum_{x} p(x) = 1$$

## Solving MaxEnt

- MaxEnt is a convex optimization problem with concave objective function and linear constraints
  - Solved with Lagrange multipliers

## Constraints and Langrange Multiplers Minimize $Q = \frac{1}{2}(x_1^2 + x_2^2)$ Qmin = 5/2With constraint of $2 x_1 - x_2 = 5$ Y=(2, -1)

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Lagrange Multiplers
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- One way to handle constraints is to use Lagrange Multiplers
- Each of n constraints is multiplied by new variable q

$$L(x,q) = \frac{1}{2}(x_1^2 + x_2^2) + q_1(2x_1 - 2x_2 - 5)$$

3 unknowns are then identified by setting 3 partial derivatives to zero

## Lagrange Multipliers

 $\sim -$ 

~ \_

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_1} = 2x_1 - x_2 - 5 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_1} = x_1 + 2q_1 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_2} = x_2 - q_1 = 0$$

Taking partial derivatives of 3 variables and setting them to zero gives us 3 simultaneous equation. We can solve these to get the values of x1 and x2

## Lagrange Multipliers

Substitute  $x_1 = -2q_1$  and  $x_2 = q_1$  in the constraints

gives us 
$$-4q_1 - q_1 - 5 = 0$$
 or  $-5q_1 = 5$ 

hence  $q_1 = -1$ 

Which gives us  $x_1 = 2$  and  $x_2 = -1$ 

Plugging in  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in Q

We get  $Q(x) = \frac{1}{2}(2^2 + (-1)^2) = \frac{5}{2}$ 

Lagrange Equation for Maximum Entropy Model

$$L(p,\lambda) = -\sum_{x} p(x) logp(x) + \lambda_0 [\sum_{x} p(x) - 1] + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \lambda_i [\sum_{x} p(x) f_i(x) - \sum_{x} p(x) f_i(x)]$$

Lagrangian gives us unconstrained optimization as constraints are built into the equation. We can now solve it by setting derivatives to zero Maximum Entropy and Logistic Regression

 This unconstrained optimization problem is a dual problem equivalent to estimating maximum likelihood of logistic regression model we saw before

Maximizing entropy subject to our constraints Is equivalent to Maximum likelihood estimation over exponential family of  $p_\lambda(x)$ 

## Language Modeling

- Isolated digits: implicit language model  $p("one") = \frac{1}{11}, p("two") = \frac{1}{11}, ..., p("zero") = \frac{1}{11}, p("oh") = \frac{1}{11}$
- All other word sequences have probability zero
- Language models describe what word sequences the domain allows
- The better you can model acceptable/likely word sequences, or the fewer acceptable/likely word sequences in a domain, the better a bad acoustic model will look
- e.g. isolated digit recognition, yes/no recognition

## N-gram Models

- It's hard to compute p("and nothing but the truth")
- Decomposition using conditional probabilities can help

p("and nothing but the truth") = p("and") x
p("nothing"|"and") x p("but"|"and nothing") x
p("the"|"and nothing but") x
p("truth"|"and nothing but the")

## The N-gram Approximation

- Q: What's a trigram? What's an n-gram?
   A: Sequence of 3 words. Sequence of n words.
- Assume that each word depends only on the previous two words (or n-1 words for n-grams)

- Trigram assumption is clearly false
   p(w | of the) vs. p(w | lord of the)
- Should we just make n larger?

can run into data sparseness problem

- N-grams have been the workhorse of language modeling for ASR over the last 30 years
- Uses almost no linguistic knowledge

Bigram Model Example

training data:

testing data / what's the probability of:

TOTIN

JOHN READ MOBY DICK MARY READ A DIFFERENT BOOK SHE READ A BOOK BY CHER

JOHN READ A BOOK

$$p(JOHN \Vdash) = \frac{count(\bowtie JOHN)}{count(\bowtie)} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$p(READ \mid JOHN) = \frac{count(JOHN \cdot READ)}{count(JOHN)} = 1$$

$$p(A \mid READ) = \frac{count(READ \cdot A)}{count(READ)} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$p(BOOK \mid A) = \frac{count(A \cdot BOOK)}{count(A)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$p(\triangleleft BOOK) = \frac{1}{2}$$

 $p(w) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{36}$ 

Trigrams, cont'd

Q: How do we estimate the probabilities? A: Get real text, and start counting...

Maximum likelihood estimate would say: p("the"|"nothing but") = C("nothing but the") / C("nothing but")

where C is the count of that sequence in the data

#### Data Sparseness

- Let's say we estimate our language model from yesterday's court proceedings
- Then, to estimate p("to"|"I swear") we use count ("I swear to") / count ("I swear")
- What about p("to"|"I swerve") ?
   If no traffic incidents in yesterday's hearing, count("I swerve to") / count("I swerve")
  - = 0 if the denominator > 0, or else is undefined
- Very bad if today's case deals with a traffic incident!

Language Model Smoothing

- How can we adjust the ML estimates to account to account for the effects of the prior distribution when data is sparse?
- Generally, we don't actually come up with explicit priors, but we use it as justification for *ad hoc* methods

Smoothing: Simple Attempts

Add one: (V is vocabulary size)

$$p(z \mid xy) \approx \frac{C(xyz) + 1}{C(xy) + V}$$

Advantage: Simple Disadvantage: Works very badly

• What about delta smoothing:

$$p(z \mid xy) \approx \frac{C(xyz) + \delta}{C(xy) + V\delta}$$

A: Still bad.....

## Summary

- Logistic Regression
  - Maximize conditional log-likelihood to estimate parameters
- Maximum Entropy Model
  - Maximize entropy with feature constraints
  - Constrained maximization
- Solving for H(p) with maximum entropy is equivalent to maximizing conditional log-likelihood for our exponential model

## References

- [1] Klein, D., Manning C., "Maximum Models, Conditional Estimation and Optimization" ACL 2003
- [2] Jurafsky, D. and Martin, J., J&M Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- [3] http://webdocs.cs.ualberta.ca/~swang/me.html