

Dynamic Programming

15-750
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First Example: Finding a function that best fits data.

Data: $P_1 = (1, Y_1), \dots, P_n = (n, Y_n)$ for $Y_i \in \mathbb{R}$.

this is 1D data

More general data may be

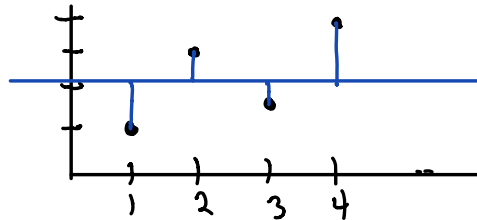
- 2D Images
- 3D Medical Images
- d-D bio ML

Lets fit data with constant fcn.

We need at cost, penalty, or fidelity.

Lets start with quadratic cost. $\min_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (a - Y_i)^2 = C(a)$

eg $Y = (1, 3, 2, 4)$



Claim $a = \text{aver}(Y) = (\sum Y_i) / n$

pf Take derivative & set to zero.

$$C' = \sum_{i=1}^n 2(a - Y_i) = 0$$

$$n \cdot a = \sum Y_i \Rightarrow a = \sum Y_i / n$$

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Suppose we want to have an online running average: $a_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^i y_j}{i}$

We use moments

Def k th moment $M_k = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^k \quad k = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

$$\text{eg } M_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^0 = n \quad \text{thus } \text{aver} = \frac{M_1}{M_0}$$

Our cost fun is just the standard deviation.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2(y_1, \dots, y_n) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{M_1}{M_0} - y_i \right)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{M_1}{M_0} \right)^2 - 2 \frac{M_1}{M_0} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 \\ &= M_0 \left(\frac{M_1}{M_0} \right)^2 - 2 \frac{M_1^2}{M_0} + M_2 = M_2 - \frac{M_1^2}{M_0} \end{aligned}$$

Thus if we maintain M_2, M_1, M_0 we can compute σ^2 in constant more work.

Fact: $\sigma^2 = M_2 - M_1^2 / M_0$

We will use this fact later!

Consider fitting with piecewise constant but with steps or breakpoints.

Suppose we charge $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ for each step.

Def: $S(a, b) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a=b \\ 1 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

Goal: Find $f = \langle f_1, \dots, f_n \rangle$ $f_i \in \mathbb{R}$
to $\min_f \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)^2 + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} S(f_i, f_{i+1})$

Such problems can be solved using
Dynamic Programming

We will think of DP as a 4-step process.

Step 1 (def set of subproblems)

$$C(j) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \min_{f_1, \dots, f_j} \text{Penalty}(f_1, \dots, f_n) \equiv \text{cost of opt for } (y_1, \dots, y_j)$$

Step 2 (def recurrence)

Base Case: $\bar{C}(1) = 0$

$$\bar{C}(j) = \min \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\sigma^2(y_1, \dots, y_j) && (*) \\ &\min_{1 \leq i < j} \{ \bar{C}(i) + \alpha + \sigma^2(y_{i+1}, \dots, y_j) \} && (**) \end{aligned} \right.$$

Intuition:

- (*) Try fitting $Y_1, \dots, Y_i$ with constant fn
 (**) Try last step at i

Step 3 (Show recurrence is correct) ($C = \bar{C}$)

Claim $C(i) = \bar{C}(i)$

Since Step 2 finds an f and correctly computes its we get $\forall i \ C(i) \leq \bar{C}(i)$
 to show $\bar{C}(i) \leq C(i)$

proof Use induction on i .

Base case $i=1$ is OK.

Assume $i > 1$ & $\forall i \ 1 \leq i < j \ \bar{C}(i) \leq C(i)$

Suppose opt solution is $f_1, \dots, f_i$

Case 1 f has no steps i.e. $f_1 = f_j$

$$\text{Penalty}(f_1, \dots, f_j) \geq \sigma^2(Y_1, \dots, Y_j) \geq \bar{C}(j)$$

Case 2 Last step of f is at i

i.e. $f_i \neq f_{i+1}$ & $f_{i+1} = f_{i+2} = \dots = f_j$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Penalty}(f) &\geq \text{Penalty}(f_1, \dots, f_i) + \alpha + \sigma^2(Y_{i+1}, \dots, Y_j) \\ &\geq \bar{C}(i) + \alpha + \sigma^2(Y_{i+1}, \dots, Y_j) \\ &\geq \bar{C}(j) \end{aligned}$$

Step 4 (determine runtime)

1) # subproblems is n

2) Cost per subproblem $= O(n^2)$

Total $O(n^3)$

Note: Main cost was computing variances.

$$V^2(Y_i, \dots, Y_j) \quad \forall i < j.$$

Goal: Compute the n^2 variances in $O(n^2)$ time

Idea: Make table of moments M_1, M_2

$$\text{eg DP} \equiv M_k(Y_i, \dots, Y_j) = \begin{cases} Y_i^k & \text{if } i=j \\ P_i^k + M_k(Y_i, \dots, Y_{j-1}) & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Use formula } V^2(\) = M_2 - M_1^2 / M_0$$

Total Cost $O(n^2)$

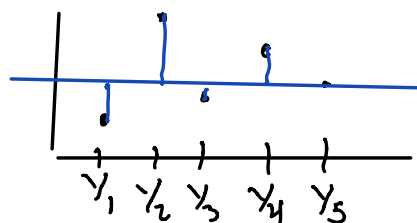
Open Question: Find $o(n^2)$ alg for piecewise constant.

The L_1 case

Prob: Input $Y = \{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\}$

Goal: $\min_f \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i - y_i| + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} S(f_i, f_{i+1})$

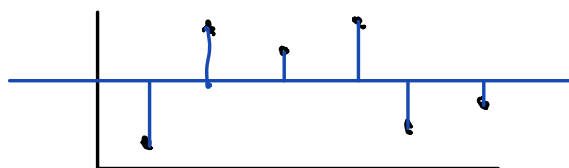
Consider no step solution:



If n is odd

$$f \equiv \text{median}\{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\}$$

Suppose n is even



All f between
2 medians work.
Same fidelity

Def: $\text{Median}\{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\} = \{a \mid |\{Y_i < a\}| = |\{Y_i > a\}|\}$

(Penalty)

$$P(Y_i, \dots, Y_j) = \sum_{t=i}^j |Y_t - a| \quad \text{where } a \in \text{median}\{Y_i, \dots, Y_j\}$$

Step 1 $C(i) = \text{min cost for } \{Y_1, \dots, Y_i\}$

Step 2 $\bar{C}(1) = 0$

$$\bar{C}(j) = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p(y_1, \dots, y_j) \\ \min_{i < j} \{ \bar{C}(i) + \alpha + p(y_{i+1}, \dots, y_j) \} \end{array} \right.$$

Step 3 Correctness ($C(j) = \bar{C}(j)$)

Same as last time

Step 4 Timing

subprobs $\approx O(n)$

Given table of values $p(i, j) = p(y_i, \dots, y_j)$.

As last time

each $\bar{C}(j)$ is $O(j) = O(n)$ time.

Total time is $O(n^2)$ plus cost of $p(i, j)$ table.

Prob: Input $\langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$

Compute table $p(i, j) \forall i \leq j$.

Step 1 $p(i, j) \forall i \leq j$

Step 2 Recurrence

$$\bar{\rho}(i, j) = 0 \text{ if } i = j$$

$$\text{Set } \gamma_m = \begin{cases} \text{median}\{y_i, \dots, y_j\} & \text{if } j-i+1 \text{ is odd} \\ \text{median}\{y_i, \dots, y_{j-1}\} & \text{o.w} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Set } \bar{\rho}(i, j) = \rho(i, j-1) + |y_j - \gamma_m|$$

Correctness Base case OK

Assume true for $\rho(i, j) = \bar{\rho}(i, j)$ for $j-i < k$

Let $j-i = k$

Case 1 $j-i+1$ odd then $\gamma_m = \text{med}(i, j)$

note $\gamma_m \in \text{med}(i, j-1)$ thus

$$\rho(i, j) = \sum_{t=i}^j |x_m - y_t| = \sum_{t=i}^{j-1} |x_m - y_t| + |y_j - x_m|$$

$$= \rho(i, j-1) + |y_j - \gamma_m| \geq \bar{\rho}(i, j-1) + |y_j - \gamma_m|$$

$$\geq \bar{\rho}(i, j)$$

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Case 2 $j-i+1$ even then $y_m = \text{med}(i, j-1)$

note $y_m \in \text{med}(i, j)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(i, j) &= \sum_{t=i}^j |y_m - y_t| = \sum_{t=i}^{j-1} |y_m - y_t| + |y_j - y_m| \\ &= P(i, j-1) + |y_j - y_m| \geq \bar{P}(i, j-1) + |y_j - y_m| \\ &\geq \bar{P}(i, j) \end{aligned}$$

HW Table of medians can be computed in
 $O(n^3 \log n)$

Important other Objective functions

Total Variation L_2-L_1

$$\min_f \left\{ \sum (f_i - y_i)^2 + \alpha \sum |f_i - f_{i+1}| \right\}$$

4 possible types

$$L_2^2 - L_2^2, L_2^2 - L_1, L_1 - L_2, L_1 - L_1$$

$\nwarrow$ most used $\nearrow$

TV used in image denoising

Kleinberg-Tardos does case of
Piecewise linear.

Total Variation over graphs

$$G=(V,E) \quad f:V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\min_f \left\{ \sum_{v \in V} (f(v) - g(v))^2 + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} |f(u) - f(v)| \right\}$$