

Exercise: Elementary properties of ℓ_2 regularized logistic regression

(Source: Jaakkola.). Consider minimizing

$$J(\mathbf{w}) = -\ell(\mathbf{w}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{train}}) + \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \quad (1)$$

where

$$\ell(\mathbf{w}, \mathcal{D}) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{D}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \log \sigma(y_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}) \quad (2)$$

is the average log-likelihood on data set $\mathcal{D}$, for $y_i \in \{-1, +1\}$. Answer the following true/ false questions.

1. $J(\mathbf{w})$ has multiple locally optimal solutions: T/F?
2. Let $\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{w}} J(\mathbf{w})$ be a global optimum. $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ is sparse (has many zero entries): T/F?
3. If the training data is linearly separable, then some weights w_j might become infinite if $\lambda = 0$: T/F?
4. $\ell(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{train}})$ always increases as we increase λ : T/F?
5. $\ell(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{test}})$ always increases as we increase λ : T/F?