

# On learning k-parities and disjunctions

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# Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Learning Model
- 3 Learning Algorithms for k-parities
  - Algorithm 1 (halving algorithm)
  - Algorithm 2
  - Algorithm 3
- 4 Learning Algorithm for disjunctions
  - Algorithm 1 (halving algorithm)
  - Algorithm 2 (WINNOWER)
- 5 Goal

# Introduction

## On-line learning setup:

hidden vector  $f \in \{0, 1\}^n$  with  $|f| = k$

learning examples  $x_1, x_2, \dots \in \{0, 1\}^n$

true labels  $y_1, y_2, \dots \in \{0, 1\}$

predicted labels  $\hat{y}_1, \hat{y}_2, \dots \in \{0, 1\}$

## Parity label

$$y_i = \sum_j x_j f_j \pmod{2}$$

## Disjunction label

$$y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_j x_j f_j \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \sum_j x_j f_j = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Introduction

**Concept:** A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$

where,  $X = \{0, 1\}^n$  instance space

$Y = \{0, 1\}$  label set

**Concept class:** Set of concepts  $\mathcal{C}$

Examples:

- Concept class of k-parities:  $x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} \dots \otimes x_{i_k}$
- Concept class of disjunctions:  $x_{i_1} \vee x_{i_2} \dots \vee x_{i_k}$

# Learning Model

- **Mistake Bound Model:**

Given a fixed concept class  $\mathcal{C}$ , come up with an algorithm  $A$  such that,  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}, \forall$  sequence of examples  $(x_1, x_2, \dots)$ ,  $A$  makes at most  $m$  mistakes.

- **PAC Learning Model:**

A learning algorithm is said to be PAC-learn  $\mathcal{C}$  with *approximation parameter*  $\epsilon$  and *confidence parameter*  $\delta$  if  $\forall$  distributions  $\mathcal{D}$  and all target functions  $f \in \mathcal{C}$ , the algorithm draws at most  $s$  samples, runs for time at most  $t$  and outputs a function  $f^*$  such that, w.p.  $1 - \delta$

$$\Pr_{x \leftarrow \mathcal{D}}[f(x) \neq f^*(x)] < \epsilon$$

# Transformation from mistake bound model to PAC learning

- **Mistake bound model:** Mistake bound  $m$ ,  
Running time per round  $t$
- **PAC learning model:** Sample complexity  $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon}m + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\log\frac{1}{\delta})$ ,  
Running time  $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon}mt + \frac{t}{\epsilon}\log\frac{1}{\delta})$

# Learning Algorithms for k-parities

## Algorithm 1 (halving algorithm)

Given a target class  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $N_{CONSIST} = \mathcal{C}$

$$\hat{y} = 1 \quad \text{if} \quad |N_{CONSIST}(x, 1)| > |N_{CONSIST}(x, 0)|$$

where,  $N_{\mathcal{C}}(x, 0)$  : set of those functions that are **0 at x in  $\mathcal{C}$**

$N_{\mathcal{C}}(x, 1)$  : set of those functions that are **1 at x in  $\mathcal{C}$**

Update:

$$N_{CONSIST} := N_{CONSIST}(x, y)$$

Mistake occurs if  $\hat{y} \neq y$

$$M_{HALVING}(\mathcal{C}) \leq \log_2 |\mathcal{C}|$$

## Algorithm 2

"Learning Parities in the Mistake-Bound Model"

Authors: H.Buhrman, David, A.matsliah

Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  standard basis for  $\{0, 1\}^n$

$$\pi = C_1, \dots, C_t$$

Define  $\mathcal{S} = \{s \subseteq [t] : |s| = k\}$ , hence  $|\mathcal{S}| = \binom{t}{k}$

subspace  $M_s = \text{span}(U_s)$  where,  $U_s \triangleq \bigcup_{i \in s} C_i$

$$|M_s| < 2^{k \lceil n/t \rceil}$$

- Every  $f \in \{0, 1\}^n$  with  $|f| \leq k$  is in some  $M_s$
- $|\bigcup_{s \in \mathcal{S}} M_s| \leq \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} |M_s| \leq \binom{t}{k} 2^{k \lceil n/t \rceil}$



## Algorithm 2

Initialize:  $N_s = M_s$  for all  $s \in \mathcal{S}$

Compute:

$$n_0 = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} |N_s(x, 0)|$$

$$n_1 = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} |N_s(x, 1)|$$

$\hat{y} = 1$  if  $n_1 > n_0$

Update:  $N_s := N_s(x, y)$  for each  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ ,

**Mistake Bound:**

$$M_{\text{Algo2}} \leq \log \left( \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} |M_s| \right) \leq k \lceil n/t \rceil + \lceil \log \binom{t}{k} \rceil$$

**Running time:**  $O\left(\binom{t}{k} (kn/t)^2\right)$

## Algorithm 3

"On learning  $k$ -parities with and without noise"

Authors: A.Bhattacharyya, A.Gaddekar, N.Rajgopal

$$\pi = C_1, \dots, C_T, \quad T = \alpha t$$

$\mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_m \subset [T]$ , Random subsets with  $|\mathcal{S}_i| = \alpha k$

$$M_i = \text{span}(U_{j \in \mathcal{S}_i} C_j)$$

$$|M_i| \leq 2^{\alpha k \lceil n/T \rceil} \leq 2^{kn/t + \alpha k} = 2^{(1+o(1))kn/t}$$

Initialise:  $N_i = M_i$  for all  $i \in [m]$

$$\hat{y} = 1 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{i \in [m]} |N_i(x, 1)| \geq \sum_{i \in [m]} |N_i(x, 0)|$$

Update:  $N_i := N_i(x, y)$  for each  $i \in [m]$

## Algorithm 3

Choose  $m$  such that for every set  $A \subset [T]$  of size  $k$ ,  
 $A \subset S_i$  for some  $i \in [m]$  with nonzero probability.

$$\Pr(A \subset S_i) = \binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k} / \binom{T}{\alpha k}$$

$$\Pr[\forall i \in [m], A \not\subset S_i] = \left(1 - \binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k} / \binom{T}{\alpha k}\right)^m \leq e^{-m \binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k} / \binom{T}{\alpha k}}$$

$$m = 2 \frac{\binom{T}{\alpha k}}{\binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k}} \underbrace{\log \binom{T}{k}} = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{\binom{T}{\alpha k}}{\binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k}}\right)$$

Due to Union bound

## Algorithm 3

If  $\alpha$  is a large enough constant,

$$\frac{\binom{T}{\alpha k}}{\binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k}} \leq e^{-k/4.01} \binom{t}{k}$$

**Mistake bound:**

$$\begin{aligned} \log\left(\sum_i |N_i|\right) &\leq \log\left[\tilde{O}\left(\frac{\binom{T}{\alpha k}}{\binom{T-k}{\alpha k - k}}\right) 2^{(1+o(1))kn/t}\right] \\ &\leq (1+o(1))kn/t + \log\binom{t}{k} - \Omega(k) + \log O(\log\binom{t}{k}) \end{aligned}$$

**Running time:**

$$O(mt^2) \leq e^{-k/4.01} \cdot \binom{t}{k} \cdot \tilde{O}((kn/t)^2)$$

# Learning Algorithm for disjunctions

Algorithm 1 (halving algorithm): Same as of k-parities

## Algorithm 2 (WINNOWER)

$w_i$  is non-negative real-valued weight and  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in X$

$$\text{If } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i > \theta \text{ then } \hat{y} = 1$$

$$\text{If } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i \leq \theta \text{ then } \hat{y} = 0$$

<i>learner's prediction</i>	<i>correct response</i>	<i>update action</i>	<i>update name</i>
1	0	$w_i := 0$ if $x_i = 1$ $w_i$ unchanged if $x_i = 0$	elimination step
0	1	$w_i := \alpha \cdot w_i$ if $x_i = 1$ $w_i$ unchanged if $x_i = 0$	promotion step

**Mistake bound:**  $\alpha k (\log_{\alpha} \theta + 1) + \frac{n}{\theta}$ ,  $\alpha > 1$  and  $\theta \geq 1$

# Goal

- To come up with the connection between Group Testing algorithms and learning algorithms.
- Comment on the performances.