CSE 417A: Homework 5

Due: October 29, 2015

Notes:

• Please keep in mind the collaboration policy as specified in the course syllabus. If you discuss questions with others you must write their names on your submission, and if you use any outside resources you must reference them. Do not look at each others’ writeups, including code.

• Instructions for how to get files from the SVN repository are available on the course website and on Piazza.

• Homework (in hardcopy) is due at the beginning of lecture. In addition, your code submission must be timestamped before lecture begins.

• Please comment your code properly.

• There is 1 problem on 2 pages in this homework.

Problems:

1. (50 points) For this problem, you will be doing LFD Problem 4.4 parts (a) through (d) with some changes / help / instructions / requirements. First, you can find headers for all the code you need to implement in your SVN repository for the class. There is also a matlab script called run_expts.m which you can use as an example for how to run your code to return the results we want. Second, read Problem 4.3 carefully. You can (and will need to) use the recurrence defined there as well as the formula in 4.3(e).

(a) In addition to answering the question about why we need to normalize $f$, also prove that the term to normalize by is $\sqrt{\sum_{q=0}^{Q} \frac{1}{2q+1}}$ (hint: use the formula in 4.3(e)).

(b) Answer the question. For your implementation, we suggest you use glmfit with the additional options 'normal','constant','off'.

(c) Answer the question (hint: use the formula in 4.3(e)).

(d) Implement the framework and answer the questions, with the modification that you only need to look at $Q_f \in \{5, 10, 15, 20\}, N \in \{40, 80, 120\}, \sigma^2 \in \{0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0\}$. Compute both the median and the mean of the overfit measure applied to many (at least 500) different datasets for each choice of parameters, and report how these measures vary as a function of the complexity of the true hypothesis, the number of training examples, and the level of stochastic noise (use line graphs). Explain your observations, and also comment on the differences you observe between the mean and median measures.
Here are some potentially useful notes and hints for this:

- There is no autograder for this homework. You will be graded on your writeup, but we may look at and examine your code manually if needed.

- You should use your judgment in selecting which graphs to show in support of your answers and explanations. There are different acceptable ways to do this. For example, you could include 3-6 graphs, selected to show what you think is most interesting/relevant. For each one, you could hold one variable constant, and plot different lines for a second variable, while putting the third one on the X axis. Alternatively you could explore heatmaps/colormaps/colorbars.

- We recommend not using the Matlab built-in functions related to Legendre polynomials – those compute something different from what we are looking for.

- You may use or modify run_expts.m as you see fit. It’s meant to provide an example of how you could do things, not to be the last word on the issue.