# Probabilistic Prediction Calibration using Brier Score

Zhenfeng Lin 11/30/2016 Texas A&M University

# Outline

- Motivation
- Notation
- Brier Score Decomposition
- Reliability Diagram
- Decision Rule (threshold)
- Multi-thresholds
- Transformation

#### **Motivation**



feature 1

Use Naïve Bayes Classifier:



4/27

### Notation

Using the notation from [1]

- Feature/sample X
- Response/Label/Class  $C \in \{0, 1\}$
- Probabilistic prediction p(C | X)
- Brier score

$$BS = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (p(C \mid x_i) - c_i)^2$$

• Note: Brier's (1950) [2] original definition

$$BS = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{c_i=1}^{C} (p(C \mid x_i) - c_i)^2$$

Brier score's two-component decomposition

Given a predicted probability t

• Set of samples yield t

$$R_t = \{x_i : p(C = 1 \mid x_i) = t\}$$

• Frequency at t

$$\pi_t = \#R_t / n$$

• Observed probability at t

$$p(c \mid t) := p(C = 1 \mid t) = \frac{1}{\# R_t} \sum_{x_i \in R_t} I(c_i = 1)$$

Then Brier score can be rewritten as [3,4]

$$BS = \int_{0}^{1} \pi_{t} \Big[ p(c \mid t)(t-1)^{2} + (1 - p(c \mid t))t^{2} \Big] dt$$
  
=  $\underbrace{\int_{0}^{1} \pi_{t} (t - p(c \mid t))^{2} dt}_{\text{Calibration}} + \underbrace{\int_{0}^{1} \pi_{t} p(c \mid t) (1 - p(c \mid t)) dt}_{\text{Refinement}}$ 

- "Calibration" (a.k.a. "Reliability") term indicates how close is the assessment to the frequency in reality.
- "Refinement" term scores the usefulness of each forecast.
- Note: MSE = Bias<sup>2</sup> + Var

Discrete version

$$BS = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{K} n_k (t_k - o_k)^2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{K} n_k o_k (1 - o_k)$$

where we partition [0,1] into K bins, and within k-th bin,  $n_k$  is the number of predictions,  $t_k$  is usually midpoint of the bin,  $o_k$  is the observed relative frequency.

# **Reliability Diagram**



0

More diagonal, the better





Forecast probability

10/27

# **Decision Rule (threshold)**

• Simply take threshold  $\alpha$ 

$$\hat{c} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } t \leq \alpha; \\ 1, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

and usually take  $\alpha = 0.5$ 

Classification error

$$P_{error}(\alpha) = \int_{0}^{\alpha} p(c \mid t) \pi(t) dt + \int_{\alpha}^{1} (1 - p(c \mid t)) \pi(t) dt$$
  
then optimal threshold  $\alpha^{*} = \arg \min_{\alpha} P_{error}(\alpha)$  s.t.  
 $p(c \mid \alpha^{*}) = 0.5$ 



12/27

### Multi-thresholds



feature 1



Forecast probability



feature 1

15**/27** 

Un-calibrated boundary:					
	actual				
predicted	0	1			
0	1895	207			
1	105	1993			

Classification rate  $\approx 0.93$ 

Post-calibrated boundaries:

	act	ual			
predicted	0	1			
0	1939	31			
1	61	2169			

Classification rate  $\approx 0.98$ 

# Transformation



Forecast probability

- Platt scaling:
  - a method Platt (1999) [5] used to transform SVM outputs from  $[-\infty, +\infty]$  to posterior probabilities.
  - It's particularly effective for max-margin methods.
- Isotonic regression:
  - a method Zadrozny and Elkan (2001, 2002) [7,8] used to calibrate predictions from Naïve Bayes, SVM and decision tree models.
  - Niculescu-Mizil etc (2005) [6] showed that it works better than Platt scaling.

Platt scaling, essentially, is a sigmoid transformation

$$g(p \mid a, b) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(ap + b)}$$

- It can be implemented via logistic regression
- To avoid over-fitting, some of training data are reserved to learn parameters of  $g(p \mid a, b)$

Isotonic regression solves problem: given a sequence of data points  $y_1, ..., y_n$ , how to best summarize this by a monotone sequence  $\beta_1, ..., \beta_n$ Formally,

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \beta_i)^2$$
 subject to  $\beta_1 \le \dots \le \beta_n$ 

- Unique solution exists, which can be obtained by pool adjacent violators algorithm (PAVA)
- If skillfully programmed, PAVA is O(n)



feature 2



Observed relative frequency

22**/27** 

#### A data from Faraway's paper (2016) [9]:

	Source	Blazar	CV
Training	CRTS	124	458
Testing	CSS	32	86

• Linear discriminant analysis (lda) is used



Forecast probability

# **Additional topics**

- Multi-class case [2,8,10]
- More scoring rules [11,12]
- Bayesian binning [13]: a new transformation
- Brier curve [14]

#### Reference

[1] Ira Cohen and Moises Goldszmidt. (2004) Properties and benefits of calibrated classifiers. Springer. 3202 125–136.

[2] Brier, G. W. (1950). Verification of forecasts expressed in terms of probability. Monthly Weather Review, 78, 1–3.

[3] DeGroot, M., Fienberg, S. (1983) The comparison and evaluation of forecasters. The statistician 32 12-22.

[4] Murphy, A. H. (1973). A new vector partition of the probability score. Journal of Applied Meteorology. 12 (4): 595–600.

[5] Platt, J. (1999). Probabilistic outputs for support vector machines and comparison to regularized likelihood methods. Advances in Large Margin Classifiers. 61–74.

[6] Niculescu-Mizil, A., and Caruana, R. (2005). Predicting good probabilities with supervised learning. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning , 625–632.

[7] Zadrozny, B., & Elkan, C. (2001). Obtaining calibrated probability estimates from decision trees and naïve bayesian classifiers. ICML. 609–616.

[8] Zadrozny, B., & Elkan, C. (2002). Transforming classifier scores into accurate multiclass probability estimates. KDD. 694–699.

[9] Faraway J. etc. (2016) Modeling lightcurves for improved classification. JSADM. 9 1-11.

[10] Hamill, T.M., 1997: Reliability Diagrams for Multicategory Probabilistic Forecasts. Wea. Forecasting, 12, 736-741.

[11] Gneiting, T. and Raftery, A. E. (2007). Strictly proper scoring rules, prediction, and estimation. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 102, 359–378.

[12] Richmond V. etc. (2008) Scoring Rules, Generalized Entropy, and Utility Maximization. OR. 56 1146-1157.

[13] Naeini, M.P. etc (2015) Obtaining Well Calibrated Probabilities Using Bayesian Binning. Proc Conf AAAI Artif Intell. 2901–2907.

[14] Hernandez-Orallo, J. etc (2011). "Brier curves: a new cost-based visualisation of classifier performance" (PDF). Proceedings of the 28th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML-11). 585–592.

감사합니다 Natick Danke Ευχαριστίες Dalu