# Mathematical techniques in data science 

Lecture 11: Subset selection and Shrinkage methods
March 13th, 2019

| Week | Chapter |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Chapter 2: Intro to statistical learning |
| 3 | Chapter 4: Classification |
| 4 | Chapter 9: Support vector machine and kernels |
| 5,6 | Chapter 3: Linear regression |
| 7 | Chapter 8: Tree-based methods + Random forest |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Neural network |
| 12 | PCA $\rightarrow$ Manifold learning |
| 11 | Clustering: K-means $\rightarrow$ Spectral Clustering |
| 10 | Bootstrap + Bayesian methods + UQ |
| 13 | Reinforcement learning/Online learning/Active learning |
| 14 | Project presentation |

## Chapter 3 \& 6: Topics on Linear regression

- Linear regression
- Subset selection
- Shrinkage methods
- Dimension reduction


## Moderns settings

Linear model

$$
Y=\beta^{(0)}+\beta^{(1)} X^{(1)}+\beta^{(2)} X^{(2)}+\ldots \beta^{(p)} X^{(p)}+\epsilon
$$

- it is often the case that $n \ll p$
- requires supplementary assumptions (e.g. sparsity)
- can still build good models with very few observations.


## Settings

- $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times(p+1)}$

$$
\mathbf{Y}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
y_{1} \\
y_{2} \\
\ldots \\
y_{n}
\end{array}\right] \quad \mathbf{X}=\left[\begin{array}{ccccc}
1 & \mid & \mid & \ldots & \mid \\
\ldots & x^{(1)} & x^{(2)} & \ldots & x^{(p)} \\
1 & \mid & \mid & \ldots & \mid
\end{array}\right]
$$

where $\left(x_{j}^{(i)}\right)_{j=1}^{n}$ are the observations of $X^{(i)}$.

- We want

$$
Y=\beta^{(0)}+\beta^{(1)} X^{(1)}+\beta^{(2)} X^{(2)}+\ldots \beta^{(p)} X^{(p)}
$$

## Settings

- We want

$$
Y=\beta^{(0)}+\beta^{(1)} X^{(1)}+\beta^{(2)} X^{(2)}+\ldots \beta^{(p)} X^{(p)}
$$

- Equivalent to

$$
\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{X} \beta, \quad \beta=\left[\begin{array}{c}
\beta^{(0)} \\
\beta^{(1)} \\
\ldots \\
\beta^{(n)}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Least squares



FIGURE 3.1. Linear least squares fitting with $X \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$. We seek the linear function of $X$ that minimizes the sum of squared residuals from $Y$.

## Least squares

- Minimize the residual sum of squares

$$
R S S(\beta)=\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-f\left(x_{i}\right)\right)^{2}
$$

- Or alternatively,

$$
\hat{\beta}=\min _{\beta}\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}
$$

## Least squares

- If $X^{T} X$ is invertible

$$
\hat{\beta}=\left(\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{Y}
$$

- Predicted values

$$
\hat{Y}=x_{\text {test }} \hat{\beta}=x_{\text {test }}\left(\mathbf{X}_{\text {train }}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\text {train }}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{\text {train }}^{\top} \mathbf{Y}_{\text {train }}
$$

- The coefficient of determination, called "R squared" and denoted by

$$
R^{2}=1-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-\hat{y}_{i}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-\bar{y}\right)^{2}}
$$

where $\bar{y}$ is the average of $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}$

- Often used to measure the quality of a linear model
- A model with a $R^{2}$ close to 1 fit the data well.


## The adjusted coefficient of multiple determination

- It is desirable to adjust $R^{2}$ to take account of the fact that its value may be quite high just because many predictors were used relative to the amount of data
- The adjusted coefficient of multiple determination

$$
R_{a}^{2}=1-\frac{\frac{1}{n-p-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-\hat{y}_{i}\right)^{2}}{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-\bar{y}\right)^{2}}
$$

where $\bar{y}$ is the average of $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}$

## Subset selection

## Trade-off: complexity vs. interpretability

Linear model

$$
Y=\beta^{(1)} X^{(1)}+\beta^{(2)} X^{(2)}+\ldots \beta^{(p)} X^{(p)}+\epsilon
$$

- Higher values of $p$ lead to more complex model $\rightarrow$ increases prediction power/accuracy
- Higher values of $p$ make it more difficult to interpret the model
- Ideally, we would like to try out a lot of different models, each containing a different subset of the predictors, then select the best model
- Problem: there are $2^{p}$ models that contain subsets of $p$ variables


## Best subset selection

Algorithm 6.1 Best subset selection

1. Let $\mathcal{M}_{0}$ denote the null model, which contains no predictors. This model simply predicts the sample mean for each observation.
2. For $k=1,2, \ldots p$ :
(a) Fit all $\binom{p}{k}$ models that contain exactly $k$ predictors.
(b) Pick the best among these $\binom{p}{k}$ models, and call it $\mathcal{M}_{k}$. Here best is defined as having the smallest RSS, or equivalently largest $R^{2}$.
3. Select a single best model from among $\mathcal{M}_{0}, \ldots, \mathcal{M}_{p}$ using crossvalidated prediction error, $C_{p}$ (AIC), BIC, or adjusted $R^{2}$.

## Best subset selection



## Forward stepwise selection

Algorithm 6.2 Forward stepwise selection

1. Let $\mathcal{M}_{0}$ denote the null model, which contains no predictors.
2. For $k=0, \ldots, p-1$ :
(a) Consider all $p-k$ models that augment the predictors in $\mathcal{M}_{k}$ with one additional predictor.
(b) Choose the best among these $p-k$ models, and call it $\mathcal{M}_{k+1}$. Here best is defined as having smallest RSS or highest $R^{2}$.
3. Select a single best model from among $\mathcal{M}_{0}, \ldots, \mathcal{M}_{p}$ using crossvalidated prediction error, $C_{p}$ (AIC), BIC, or adjusted $R^{2}$.

## Backward stepwise selection

## Algorithm 6.3 Backward stepwise selection

1. Let $\mathcal{M}_{p}$ denote the full model, which contains all $p$ predictors.
2. For $k=p, p-1, \ldots, 1$ :
(a) Consider all $k$ models that contain all but one of the predictors in $\mathcal{M}_{k}$, for a total of $k-1$ predictors.
(b) Choose the best among these $k$ models, and call it $\mathcal{M}_{k-1}$. Here best is defined as having smallest RSS or highest $R^{2}$.
3. Select a single best model from among $\mathcal{M}_{0}, \ldots, \mathcal{M}_{p}$ using crossvalidated prediction error, $C_{p}$ (AIC), BIC, or adjusted $R^{2}$.

## Hybrid approach

- Hybrid versions of forward and backward stepwise selection are available
- variables are added to the model sequentially
- after adding each new variable, the method may also remove any variables that no longer provide an improvement in the model fit


## Choosing the optimal model

- in order to implement these methods, we need a way to determine which of these models is best
- we wish to choose a model with a low test error
- indirectly estimate test error by making an adjustment to the training error to account for the bias due to overfitting
- indirectly estimate the test error, using either a validation set approach or a cross-validation approach


## Adjusted training errors

- Adjusted $R^{2}$
- Mallow's $C_{p}$

$$
C_{p}=\frac{1}{n}\left(R S S+2 d \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right)
$$

where $\hat{\sigma}^{2}$ is an estimate of the variance of the error, $d$ is the number of predictors

- AIC (Akaike information criterion)

$$
A I C=\frac{1}{n \hat{\sigma}^{2}}\left(R S S+2 d \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right)
$$

- BIC (Bayesian information criterion)

$$
A I C=\frac{1}{n \hat{\sigma}^{2}}\left(R S S+\log (n) \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right)
$$

## Choosing the optimal model





## sklearn.feature_selection.RFE

class sklearn.feature_selection. RFE (estimator, $n$ _features_to_select=None, step $=1$, verbose=0) [source]

Feature ranking with recursive feature elimination.
Given an external estimator that assigns weights to features (e.g., the coefficients of a linear model), the goal of recursive feature elimination (RFE) is to select features by recursively considering smaller and smaller sets of features. First, the estimator is trained on the initial set of features and the importance of each feature is obtained either through a coef_ attribute or through a feature_importances_ attribute. Then, the least important features are pruned from current set of features. That procedure is recursively repeated on the pruned set until the desired number of features to select is eventually reached.

## Shrinkage methods

## Least squares

- Least squares regression

$$
\hat{\beta}^{L S}=\min _{\beta}\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}
$$

- Penalizing the coefficients:
- restrict the number of the regression coefficients
- stabilize the estimator to prevent overfitting
- add a penalty for including a non-zero coefficient


## $\ell_{0}$ regularization

- $\ell_{0}$ regularization

$$
\hat{\beta}^{0}=\min _{\beta}\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda \sum_{i=1}^{p} \mathbf{1}_{\beta^{(i)} \neq 0}
$$

where $\lambda>0$ is a parameter

- pay a fixed price $\lambda$ for including a given variable into the model
- variables that do not significantly contribute to reducing the error are excluded from the model (i.e., $\beta_{i}=0$ )
- problem: difficult to solve (combinatorial optimization). Cannot be solved efficiently for a large number of variables.


## $\ell_{2}$ (Tikhonov) regularization

- Ridge regression/ Tikhonov regularization

$$
\hat{\beta}^{R I D G E}=\min _{\beta}\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda \sum_{j=1}^{p}\left[\beta^{(j)}\right]^{2}
$$

where $\lambda>0$ is a parameter

- shrinks the coefficients by imposing a penalty on their size
- penalty is a smooth function.
- easy to solve (solution can be written in closed form)
- can be used to regularize a rank deficient problem ( $n<p$ )


## $\ell_{2}$ (Tikhonov) regularization

$$
\frac{\partial\left(\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda\|\beta\|^{2}\right)}{\partial \beta}=2 \mathbf{X}^{T}(\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta)+2 \lambda \beta
$$

- The critical point satisfies

$$
\left(\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X}+\lambda \mathbf{I}\right) \beta=\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{Y}
$$

- Note: $\left(\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X}+\lambda \mathbf{I}\right)$ is positive definite, and thus invertible
- Thus

$$
\hat{\beta}^{R I D G E}=\left(\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X}+\lambda \mathbf{I}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{Y}
$$

## Compare to classical inverse problem

- Typical inverse problem

$$
\min _{u}\|F(u)-G\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda\|u\|_{2}^{2}
$$

At some point we need to let $\lambda \rightarrow 0$.

- Ridge regression

$$
\min _{\beta}\|\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{X} \beta\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda\|\beta\|_{2}^{2}
$$

What we really want to maximize is

$$
\mathbb{E}_{(X, Y) \sim P}\left[\|Y-X \beta\|^{2}\right]
$$

We may keep $\lambda$ away from 0 .

## Bias-variance decomposition

Low bias
High bias


## Stein's phenomenon

- Given i.i.d. $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ samples from $\mathcal{N}_{p}\left(\mu, I_{p}\right)(p \geq 3)$, we wish to estimate $\mu$
- The accuracy of an estimator is measured by the risk function

$$
\operatorname{MSE}(\hat{\mu})=E\left[\|\hat{\mu}-\mu\|^{2}\right]
$$

- The standard estimate is

$$
\bar{X}=\frac{X_{1}+\ldots+X_{n}}{n}
$$

which minimizes

$$
\min _{c} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left\|X_{i}-c\right\|^{2}
$$

## Stein's phenomenon

- The standard estimate is

$$
\bar{X}=\frac{X_{1}+\ldots+X_{n}}{n}
$$

which minimizes

$$
\min _{c} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left\|X_{i}-c\right\|^{2}
$$

- James-Stein's estimator

$$
\mu^{J S}=\left(1-\frac{p-2}{n\|\bar{X}\|^{2}}\right) \bar{X}
$$

is a strictly better estimator than the sample mean $\bar{X}$

## $\ell_{2}$ (Tikhonov) regularization

$$
\hat{\beta}^{R I D G E}=\left(\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X}+\lambda \mathbf{I}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{Y}
$$

- When $\lambda>0$, the estimator is defined even when $n<p$
- When $\lambda=0$ and $n>p$, we recover the usual least squares solution


## $\ell_{2}$ (Tikhonov) regularization



FIGURE 6.5. Squared bias (black), variance (green), and test mean squared error (purple) for the ridge regression predictions on a simulated data set, as a function of $\lambda$ and $\left\|\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{R}\right\|_{2} /\|\hat{\beta}\|_{2}$. The horizontal dashed lines indicate the minimum possible MSE. The purple crosses indicate the ridge regression models for which the MSE is smallest.

