

## **Exhaustive Tuning**

Use exhaustive grid search techniques for hyperparameter tuning.

## **Chapter Goals:**

• Learn how to use grid search cross-validation for exhaustive hyperparameter tuning

## A. Grid-search cross-validation

If our application requires us to absolutely obtain the best hyperparameters of a model, and if the dataset is small enough, we can apply an exhaustive grid search for tuning hyperparameters. For the grid search cross-validation, we specify possible values for each hyperparameter, and then the search will go through each possible combination of the hyperparameters and return the model with the best combination.

We implement grid search cross-validation with the GridSearchCV (https://scikit-

learn.org/stable/modules/generated/sklearn.model\_selection.GridSearchCV
.html#sklearn.model\_selection.GridSearchCV) object (part of the
model selection module).

```
1  reg = linear_model.BayesianRidge()
2  params = {
3    'alpha_1':[0.1,0.2,0.3],
4    'alpha_2':[0.1,0.2,0.3]
5  }
6  reg_cv = GridSearchCV(reg, params, cv=5, iid=False)
7  # predefined train and test sets
8  reg_cv.fit(train_data, train_labels)
9  print(reg_cv.best_params_)
```



In the code example above, we searched through each possible pair of  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  values based on the two lists in the params dictionary. The search resulted in an  $\alpha_1$  value of 0.3 and an  $\alpha_2$  value of 0.1. For each of the models we've covered, you can take a look at their respective scikit-learn code documentation pages to determine the model's hyperparameters that can be used as the params argument for GridSearchCV .

The cv keyword argument represents the number of folds used in the K-Fold cross-validation for grid search. The iid keyword argument relates to how the cross-validation score is calculated. We use False to match the standard definition of cross-validation. Note that in later updates of scikit-learn, the iid argument will be removed from GridSearchCV.

Since exhaustive grid search performs cross-validation on each possible hyperparameter value combination, it can be incredibly slow for larger datasets. It should only be used if the dataset is reasonably small and it is important to choose the best hyperparameter combination.





