

# Project 1

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We investigate and compare three regression models<sup>a</sup>: Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), Ridge, and Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO). These were applied to a two-dimensional Franke function and later tested on real terrain data from [1]. The models' performances are evaluated using metric such as the Mean Squared Error (MSE) and the coefficient of determination  $R^2$ . We used resampling techniques such as bootstrapping and cross-validation to probe the quality of the evaluations. These methods help understand the predictive qualities of the models and give insights into their generalizability. The main results include: ... (TBD).

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this report we study and compare three different methods for performing linear regression on a data set. The methods used in this project are Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression, Ridge regression and Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO) regression. The different methods are compared using a two-dimensional Franke function and evaluating their Mean Squared Error (MSE) and coefficient of determination  $R^2$ .

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<sup>a</sup> GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/EdvardRornes/FYS-STK4155/tree/main/Project1>

## 2. THEORY

The general structure of all our models is that we have some data set  $\{x_i, y_i\}$  where  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  where  $x_i$  are independent variables whilst  $y_i$  are dependent variables. The data is assumed to be described by

$$\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

where  $f$  is some continuous function which takes  $\mathbf{x}$  as input and  $\varepsilon$  is a normal distributed error  $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ . The function  $f$  will then be approximated with a model  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  in which we will consider a polynomial expansion with coefficients  $\beta_i$ :

$$\tilde{y}_i = \sum_{j=0}^{p-1} \beta_j x_i^j \quad (2)$$

defining the  $n \times p$  design matrix  $(\mathbf{X})_{ij} = (x_i)^j$  we can rewrite this as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} \quad (3)$$

Further, each model will be defined with a different cost function  $C(\boldsymbol{\beta})$  which we minimize to find the coefficients for each respective model.

### 2.1. OLS

OLS is a primitive method used in linear regression to estimate coefficients of a linear model. The cost function in OLS is simply defined as the residual sum of squares (RSS)

$$C_{\text{OLS}}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \text{RSS}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = (\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})^2 = (y_i - X_{ij}\beta_j)^2$$

where we employ the summation notation where repeated indices are summed over. As mentioned prior, the coefficients  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  are found by minimizing the cost function, i.e. taking the derivative w.r.t.  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ . This results in

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\text{OLS}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

which yields the model

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{\text{OLS}} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\text{OLS}} \quad (4)$$

Assuming our data takes the form of (1) then the expectation value  $\mathbf{y}$  is

$$\mathbb{E}(y_i) = \mathbb{E}(f(x_i)) = \mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta}$$

since  $\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon_i) = 0$  follows from its definition. The variance of  $\mathbf{y}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(y_i) &= \mathbb{E}\{[y_i - \mathbb{E}(y_i)]^2\} = \mathbb{E}\{(\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \varepsilon_i)^2\} - (\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta})^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \mathbb{E}(\varepsilon_i^2) + 2\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon_i)\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta} - (\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta})^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(\varepsilon_i^2) = \sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{X}_{i,*}\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2)$ . The expectation value of the optimal parameters  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$  can be found to be

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\text{OLS}}) &= \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}] \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}] \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

with the variance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\text{OLS}}) &= \mathbb{E}\{[\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbb{E}(\boldsymbol{\beta})][\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbb{E}(\boldsymbol{\beta})]^T\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}\{[(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\beta}] \\ &\quad \times [(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\beta}]^T\} \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbb{E}\{\mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T\} \mathbf{X} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \\ &\quad - \boldsymbol{\beta} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T [\mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}] \mathbf{X} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \\ &\quad - \boldsymbol{\beta} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \\ &= \boldsymbol{\beta} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T + \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} - \boldsymbol{\beta} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \\ &= \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

## 2.2. Ridge

Ridge regression is an extension of OLS where define the cost function as a modified version of the OLS cost function with an added penalty term which is proportional to the coefficients  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_i^2$ :

$$C_{\text{Ridge}}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = C_{\text{OLS}}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \boldsymbol{\beta}^2 \quad (5)$$

Here  $\lambda \geq 0$  is a regularization parameter which controls the strength of this additional penalty. This regulator essentially drives the magnitude of these coefficients allowing for more tweaking in the parameter space. This parametrization of course includes the constraint that  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^2 \leq t$  for some  $t < \infty$  such that we can choose our arbitrary parameter  $\lambda \geq 0$  to be sufficiently small s.t. the cost function (5) does not diverge. The optimal parameters for Ridge regressions can again be found by the

same process as for OLS:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial C_{\text{Ridge}}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}} = -\frac{2}{n}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})^T \mathbf{X} + 2\lambda \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \\ &= \frac{2}{n}(\boldsymbol{\beta}^T \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{X}) + 2\lambda \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \\ 0 &= \boldsymbol{\beta}^T (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \tilde{\lambda} \mathbf{I}) - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{X} \\ \boldsymbol{\beta}^T &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{X} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \tilde{\lambda} \mathbf{I})^{-1} \\ \boldsymbol{\beta} &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

where we defined  $\tilde{\lambda} \equiv n\lambda$ , renamed  $\tilde{\lambda} \rightarrow \lambda$  and used that the matrix in the parenthesis is a symmetric matrix and thus its inverse must also be symmetric. Here we can see that the effect of adding this penalty term is essentially taking  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \rightarrow (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1}$  when compared to the OLS case. In the past this was generally the starting point for Ridge regression in the cases where the matrix  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$  was not invertible. (If we want to keep this next part we need to mention SVD) A direct way of seeing the effect of the regulator is by considering

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{\text{Ridge}} &= \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\text{Ridge}} = \mathbf{X} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T ((\mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T)^T \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T)^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T (\mathbf{V} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \mathbf{V}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{V} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T (\mathbf{V} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{V} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{p-1} \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{u}_j^T \frac{\sigma_j^2}{\sigma_j^2 + \lambda} \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

where the last step is valid due to the orthogonality of  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\sigma_j$  are the elements on the diagonal of  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ . Since  $\lambda \geq 0$  then this added factor compared to OLS is  $\leq 1$ . The larger  $\lambda$  is the smaller this factor becomes and is the so-called a "shrinkage" factor.

## 2.3. LASSO

Similarly to Ridge, LASSO also includes a penalty factor. The cost function in this case is instead defined to be

$$C_{\text{LASSO}}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = C_{\text{OLS}}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_1 \quad (6)$$

where

$$\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_k \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |\beta_i|^k$$

is the  $L^k$  norm of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ . Taking the derivative of (6) w.r.t.  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  and requiring that this becomes zero we have

$$0 = \frac{\partial C_{\text{LASSO}}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}} = -2\mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \quad (7)$$

This has the added benefit of being able to set certain parameters to be 0 instead of suppressing them, at the cost of losing analytical expressions for  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  in non-trivial cases.

## 2.4. Resampling

## 2.5. Bias-Variance

A key part of... is the so-called Bias-Variance Tradeoff. For ease of notation we write  $f(\mathbf{x}) = f$  and simply ignore vector notation since everything is a scalar in the end. Then we have

$$\mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})^2] = \text{Bias}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \text{Var}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \sigma^2 \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})^2] &= \mathbb{E}[(f + \varepsilon - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(f - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})^2] + 2 \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[(f - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})\varepsilon]}_{=0} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[\varepsilon^2]}_{=\sigma^2} \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}]) - (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])]^2 + \sigma^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])^2] + \mathbb{E}[(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])^2] \\ &\quad - 2 \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])] + \sigma^2 \\ &= \text{Bias}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \text{Var}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \sigma^2 \\ &\quad - 2 \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])] \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{E}[(f - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})\varepsilon] = 0$  is justified by  $\varepsilon$  being independent and we note that the wrong definition of the Bias is given in the problem text (with that definition  $\sigma^2$  gets put into the ‘Bias’). All that remains is to show that the last term is 0. Since  $\mathbb{E}[f] = f$  and  $\mathbb{E}[f \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}]] = f \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}]] = f \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}]$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}])] &= \mathbb{E}[f\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - f\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] - \tilde{\mathbf{y}}\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \mathbb{E}^2[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}]] \\ &= f\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] - f\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] - \mathbb{E}^2[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] + \mathbb{E}^2[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the claim.

The LHS of (8) is the expected value of the MSE which tells us how well the model’s predictions match the true data on average. The equation shows that we can decompose this expected MSE into 3 different components.

- **Bias:** This quantity measures how much the model’s average prediction differs from its true value. A high bias implies that the model is underfitting the data or is simply too simplistic.
- **Var:** The variance measures how much the model’s predictions vary when trained on different datasets. It captures the sensitivity of the model to small changes in the training data. A high variance suggests overfitting, meaning it performs well on the training data but may be capturing noise or false patterns.
- $\sigma^2$ : This is the irreducible error or noise in the data itself which cannot be explained by the model.

The idea is to minimize the LHS of (8), so clearly we want to minimize both the bias and the variance at the same time. However these are correlated to one another, so lowering the e.g. the bias will in general increase the

variance. So Bias-Variance Tradeoff is essentially trying to optimize the complexity of the model such that we neither overfit nor underfit the model such that it can be generalized to other cases. These quantities can then be used as means to fine tune a model.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION

For this project the surface we will consider is given by the Franke function

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \frac{3}{4} \exp\left(-\frac{(9x-2)^2}{4} - \frac{(9y-2)^2}{4}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{3}{4} \exp\left(-\frac{(9x+1)^2}{49} - \frac{(9y+1)^2}{10}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{(9x-7)^2}{4} - \frac{(9y-3)^2}{4}\right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{5} \exp(-(9x-4)^2 - (9y-7)^2) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

This function maps a surface defined on the interval  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . To perform an analysis on this function we consider a polynomial fit up to degree  $n$  where

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{z} &= \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^n \left( \beta_{00} \right. \\ &\quad + \beta_{10}x_i + \beta_{11}y_i \\ &\quad + \beta_{20}x_i^2 + \beta_{21}x_iy_i + \beta_{22}y_i^2 \\ &\quad + \dots \\ &\quad \left. + \beta_{n0}x_i^n + \beta_{n1}x_i^{n-1}y + \dots + \beta_{n(n-1)}x_iy_i^{n-1} + \beta_{nn}y_i^n \right) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i,j=0}^n \sum_{k=0}^i \beta_{jk} x_i^{j-k} y_i^k \equiv \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

where the components  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are entries in the input vectors  $\mathbf{x}^T = [x_0 \dots x_n]$  and  $\mathbf{y}^T = [y_0 \dots y_n]$  respectively which are our independent variables. Each  $\beta_{ij}$  is a  $\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$  component vector with a single non-zero entry with magnitude  $\beta_{ij}$  and the design matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  is then an  $(n+1) \times \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$  matrix of the form:

$$\mathbf{X} = \frac{1}{n+1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_0 & y_0 & x_0^2 & x_0y_0 & y_0^2 & \dots & x_0^n & \dots & y_0^n \\ 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1^2 & x_1y_1 & y_1^2 & \dots & x_1^n & \dots & y_1^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & y_n & x_n^2 & x_ny_n & y_n^2 & \dots & x_n^n & \dots & y_n^n \end{bmatrix}$$

and the  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  vector contains the  $\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$  components

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}^T = [\beta_{00} \ \beta_{10} \ \beta_{11} \ \beta_{20} \ \beta_{21} \ \beta_{22} \ \dots \ \beta_{n(n-1)} \ \beta_{nn}]$$

It should now be clear which unit vectors correspond to each term in (10).

We then generated data with the Franke function and used an  $x-(x-1)$  train-test split. This was chosen because... Next we

#### 4. RESULTS

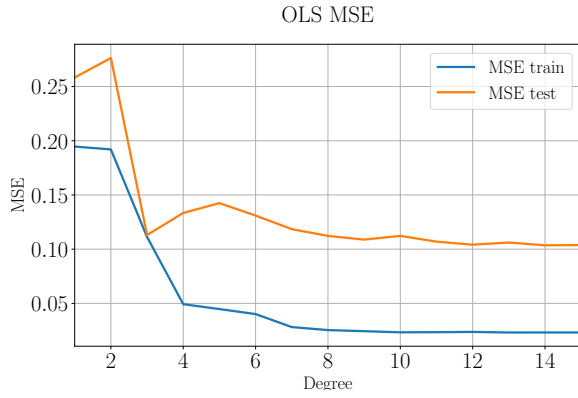


Fig. 1. Caption for your figure

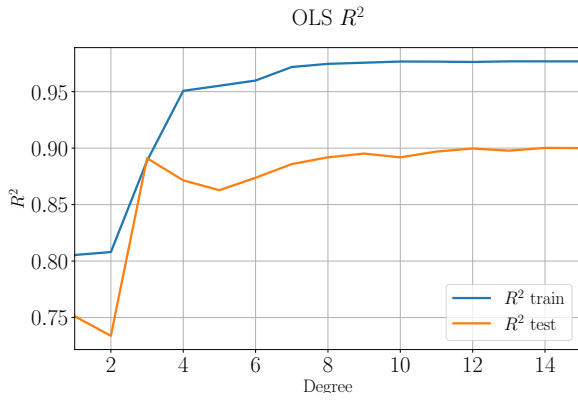


Fig. 2. Caption for your figure

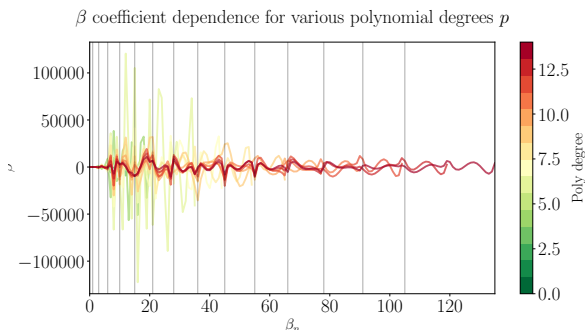


Fig. 3. Caption for your figure

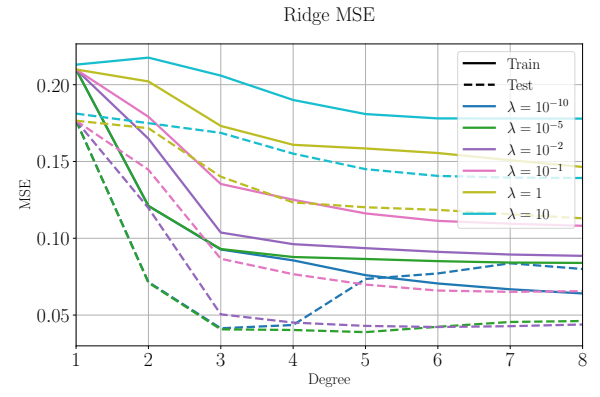


Fig. 4. Caption for your figure

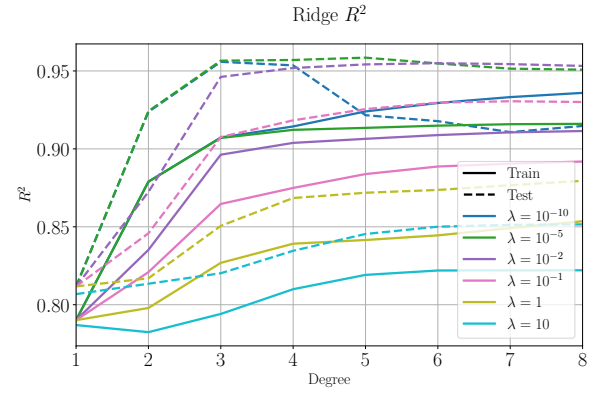


Fig. 5. Caption for your figure

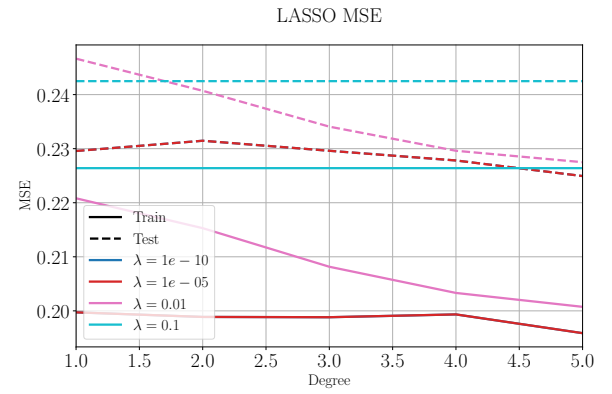


Fig. 6. Caption for your figure

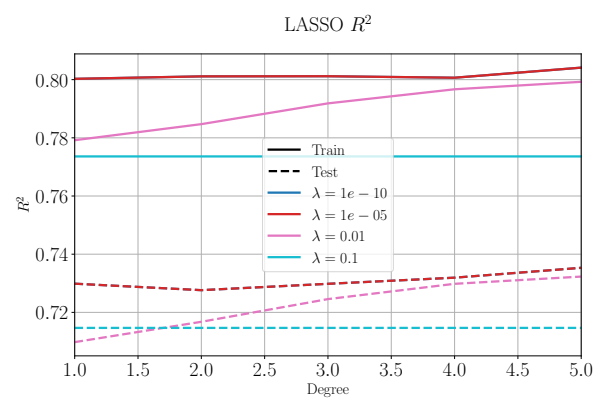


Fig. 7. Caption for your figure

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4.1. OLS

4.2. Ridge

4.3. LASSO

5. DISCUSSION

6. CONCLUSION

[1] U.S. Geological Survey, “EarthExplorer: Terrain Elevation Data.” <https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov>, 2024. Accessed: 20/09/2024. Extracted terrain elevation data.

[2] Planck: N. Aghanim *et. al.*, *Planck 2018 results. VI. Cosmological parameters*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **641** (2020) A6, [[arXiv:1807.06209](https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.06209)]. [Erratum: *Astron.Astrophys.* 652, C4 (2021)].