

3. Suppose we estimate the regression coefficients in a linear regression model by minimizing

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left(y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j x_{ij} \right)^2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j| \leq s$$

for a particular value of s . For parts (a) through (e), indicate which of i. through v. is correct. Justify your answer.

- (a) For training RSS :

Answer: iv. Steadily decrease.

Explanation:

When $s=0$, all coefficients β_j are forced to be zero, so the model predicts only the intercept β_0 (model can't fit the data well without features), yielding high training RSS.

As s increases, more flexibility is allowed in the coefficients, reducing the training RSS because the model can fit the data better.

- (b) For test RSS :

Answer: ii. Decrease initially, and then eventually start increasing in a U shape.

Explanation:

With very low s , the model is too constrained, resulting in underfitting and high test RSS. As s increases, the model can fit the data better, reducing test RSS. However, after a certain point, further increasing s leads to overfitting, causing test RSS to rise again.

- (c) For variance :

Answer: iv. Steadily increase.

A model's variance is related to its sensitivity to dataset. When a model's variance is high, it means that the model is sensitive to dataset.

Explanation:

With a small s , the coefficients (β_j) are heavily constrained, leading to low variance. As s increases, the model has more flexibility, causing higher variance in the estimated coefficients (may lead to overfitting).

(d) For (squared) bias :

Answer: ii. Decrease initially, and then eventually start increasing in a U shape.

Explanation:

At very low s , the model is **overly simplistic** (highly biased). Increasing s reduces bias as the model becomes more flexible. However, too large s may cause the model to **capture noise**, which could indirectly affect the model's ability to generalize, potentially increasing bias slightly due to overfitting.

(e) For irreducible error :

Answer: v. Remain constant.

Explanation:

The irreducible error is due to **inherent noise in the data** and **cannot be affected by the model** or the choice of s . Therefore, it remains constant regardless of s .