Consider the joint optimization problem on a training/validation split to find the best regularization parameter λ in Λ :

$$\hat{\lambda} = \arg\min_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \hat{g}_{\lambda}\|_{V}^{2}$$

$$\hat{g}(\lambda) = \arg\min_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \frac{1}{2} \|y - g\|_T^2 + \lambda \left(P(g) + \frac{w}{2} \|g\|_T^2 \right)$$

Let the range of Λ be from $[\lambda_{min}, \lambda_{max}]$. Both limits can grow and shrink at any polynomial rate, e.g. $\lambda_{max} = O_P(n^{\tau_{max}})$ and $\lambda_{min} = O_P(n^{-\tau_{min}})$.

Assumptions

- Suppose that there is some constants K, k s.t. $||g||_V \leq Kn^k P(g)$.
- Suppose that $P(\cdot)$ is a semi/psuedo-norm (satisfies the triangle inequality) and a continuous function.
- Suppose that \mathcal{G} is a cone (potentially bounded). Let g be some fixed function in \mathcal{G} . Suppose for any fixed function g, we can write $\mathcal{G} = \{g + mh : m \in \mathbb{R}, h \in \mathcal{G}, P(h) = 1\}$.
- Suppose that $\frac{\partial}{\partial m}P(g+mh)$ and $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2}P(g+mh)$ exist everywhere. Suppose that $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2}P(g+mh) \geq 0$ (some functional version of convex).

Proof

Step 1: Find the entropy of the model class \mathcal{G}_{λ}

We show that the entropy $H(u, \mathcal{G}_{\lambda}, \|\cdot\|_{V})$ of the class

$$\mathcal{G}_{\lambda} = \left\{ g_{\hat{\theta}(\lambda)} : \lambda \in \Lambda \right\}$$

is bounded at a near-parametric rate:

$$H\left(u, \mathcal{G}_{\lambda}, \|\cdot\|_{V}\right) \leq \log\left(\frac{(1+w^{1/2}KR)M}{uwK}\right) + (\tau_{max} + \tau_{min})\log n$$

We are interested in bounding

$$\|\hat{g}_{\lambda} - \hat{g}_{\lambda+\delta}\|_{V}$$

For a fixed g and h, consider the problem

$$m_{\lambda} = \arg\min_{m} \frac{1}{2} \|y - (g + mh)\|_{T}^{2} + \lambda \left(P(g + mh) + \frac{w}{2} \|g + mh\|_{T}^{2}\right)$$

Taking the derivative wrt m, we have

$$-\langle h, y - (g + m_{\lambda}h) \rangle_T + \lambda \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial m} P(g + m_{\lambda}h) + w \langle h, g + m_{\lambda}h \rangle_T \right) = 0$$

Now take the implicit derivative wrt λ .

$$\frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} \|h\|_{T}^{2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial m} P(g + m_{\lambda}h) + w\langle h, g + m_{\lambda}h \rangle_{T} + \lambda \left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial m^{2}} P(g + m_{\lambda}h) + w \|h\|_{T}^{2} \right) \frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} = 0$$

Rearranging, we get

$$\frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} = -\left(\|h\|_{T}^{2} + \lambda \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial m^{2}} P(g + m_{\lambda}h) + \lambda w\|h\|_{T}^{2}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial m} P(g + m_{\lambda}h) + w\langle h, g + m_{\lambda}h\rangle_{T}\right)$$

Hence

$$\left\| \frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} \right\| \leq K^{-2} n^{-2k} (\lambda w)^{-1} \left(\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial m} P(g + m_{\lambda} h) \right| + w K n^{k} \|g + m_{\lambda} h\|_{T} \right)$$

Let's bound the two terms on the RHS.

To bound the derivative, note that by the triangle inequality

$$|P(g+mh) - P(g)| \le mP(h)$$

As $m \to 0$, assuming the derivative exists, we have

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial m} P(g + mh) \right| \le P(h)$$

To bound $||g + m_{\lambda}h||_T$, note that by definition,

$$\frac{\lambda w}{2} \|g + m_{\lambda} h\|_{T}^{2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|y - g^{*}\|_{T}^{2} + \lambda P(g^{*}) + \frac{\lambda w}{2} \|g^{*}\|^{2}$$

so with high probability

$$||g + m_{\lambda}h||_{T} \le \sqrt{(\lambda w)^{-1} 4\sigma^{2} + w^{-1} P(g^{*}) + ||g^{*}||^{2}}$$

Hence

$$\left\| \frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} \right\| \le K^{-2} n^{-2k} (\lambda w)^{-1} \left(1 + w K n^{k} \sqrt{(\lambda w)^{-1} 4\sigma^{2} + w^{-1} P(g^{*}) + \|g^{*}\|^{2}} \right)$$

Let's now bound $\|\hat{g}_{\lambda} - \hat{g}_{\lambda+\delta}\|_{V}$. For some h s.t. P(h) = 1, we can write

$$\hat{g}_{\lambda+\delta} = \hat{g}_{\lambda} + m_{\lambda+\delta}h$$

By the mean value theorem, there is some $\alpha \in [0,1]$ and constant R that only depends on g^* , σ s.t.

$$\begin{split} \|\hat{g}_{\lambda} - \hat{g}_{\lambda + \delta}\|_{V} &= m_{\lambda + \delta} \|h\|_{V} \\ &\leq O_{p}(K^{-2}n^{-2k})m_{\lambda + \delta} \\ &\leq O_{p}(K^{-2}n^{-2k})\delta \left| \frac{\partial m_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda} \right|_{\lambda = \lambda + \alpha\delta} \\ &\leq O_{p}(K^{-2}n^{-2k})\delta(\lambda w)^{-1} \left(1 + wKn^{k}\sqrt{(\lambda w)^{-1}4\sigma^{2} + w^{-1}P(g^{*}) + \|g^{*}\|^{2}} \right) \\ &\leq O_{p}(K^{-1}n^{-k})\delta\lambda_{\min}^{-2}w^{-1/2}R \\ &\leq \delta O_{p}(n^{2\tau_{\min} - k})K^{-1}w^{-1/2}R \end{split}$$

Then the covering number is, for constants κ that depend linearly on $\tau_{min}, \tau_{max}, k$,

$$N\left(u, \mathcal{G}_{\lambda}, \|\cdot\|_{V}\right) \leq \frac{R}{uK\sqrt{w}} O_{p}(n^{\kappa})$$

so the entropy is

$$H(u, \mathcal{G}_{\lambda}, \|\cdot\|_{V}) \le \log\left(\frac{R}{uK\sqrt{w}}\right) + \kappa \log n$$

Step 2,3,4 should all carry through nicely