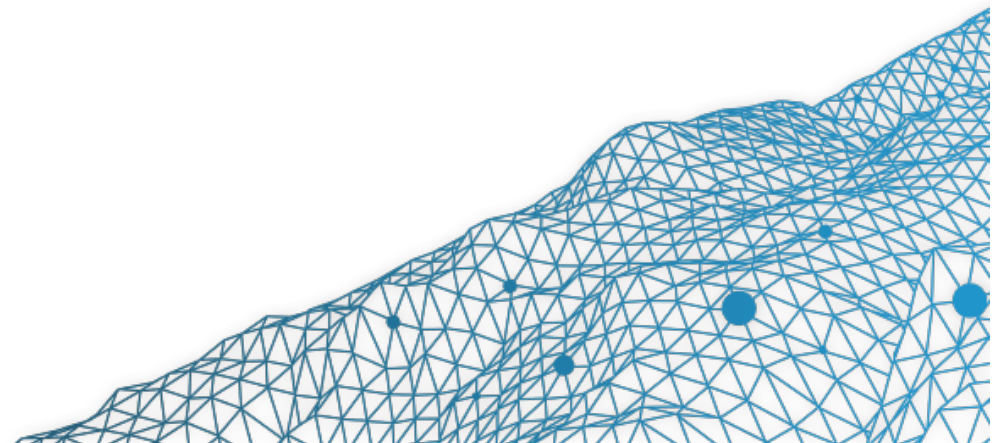


3 Regularization & Penalized Regression

Arthur Charpentier (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Machine Learning & Econometrics

SIDE Summer School - July 2019



Linear Model and Variable Selection

Let s denote a subset of $\{0, 1, \dots, p\}$, with cardinal $|s|$.

\mathbf{X}_s is the matrix with columns \mathbf{x}_j where $j \in s$.

Consider the model $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}_s \boldsymbol{\beta}_s + \boldsymbol{\eta}$, so that $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_s = (\mathbf{X}_s^\top \mathbf{X}_s)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_s^\top \mathbf{y}$

In general, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_s \neq (\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})_s$

R^2 is usually not a good measure since $R^2(s) \leq R^2(t)$ when $s \subset t$.

Some use the **adjusted R^2** , $\bar{R}^2(s) = 1 - \frac{n-1}{n-|s|} (1 - R^2(s))$

The mean square error is

$$\text{mse}(s) = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{X}_s \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_s)^2] = \mathbb{E}[RSS(s)] - n\sigma^2 + 2|s|\sigma^2$$

Define **Mallows' C_p** as $C_p(s) = \frac{RSS(s)}{\hat{\sigma}^2} - n + 2|s|$

Rule of thumb: model with variables s is valid if $C_p(s) \leq |s|$

Linear Model and Variable Selection

In a linear model,

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \log \sigma^2 - \frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2$$

and

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_s, \hat{\sigma}_s^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \log \frac{RSS(s)}{n} - \frac{n}{2} [1 + \log(2\pi)]$$

It is necessary to penalize too complex models

Akaike's *AIC* : $AIC(s) = \frac{n}{2} \log \frac{RSS(s)}{n} + \frac{n}{2} [1 + \log(2\pi)] + 2|s|$

Schwarz's *BIC* : $BIC(s) = \frac{n}{2} \log \frac{RSS(s)}{n} + \frac{n}{2} [1 + \log(2\pi)] + |s| \log n$

Exhaustive search of all models, 2^{p+1} ... too complicated.

Stepwise procedure, forward or backward... not very stable and satisfactory.

Penalized Inference and Shrinkage

Consider a parametric model, with true (unknown) parameter θ , then

$$\text{mse}(\hat{\theta}) = \mathbb{E} \left[(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2 \right] = \underbrace{\mathbb{E} \left[(\hat{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}])^2 \right]}_{\text{variance}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E} \left[(\mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}] - \theta)^2 \right]}_{\text{bias}^2}$$

One can think of a **shrinkage** of an unbiased estimator,

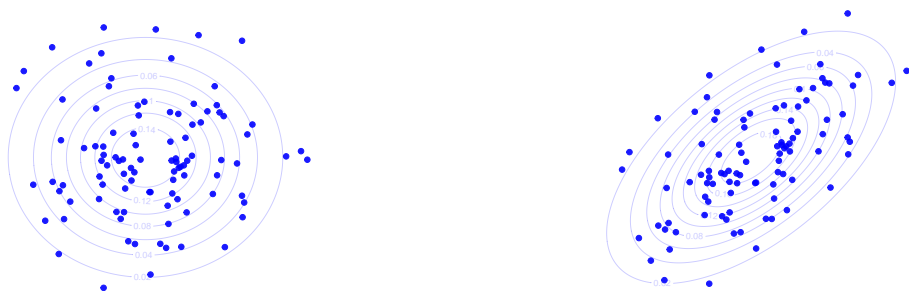
Let $\tilde{\theta}$ denote an unbiased estimator of θ . Then

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{\theta^2}{\theta^2 + \text{mse}(\tilde{\theta})} \cdot \tilde{\theta} = \tilde{\theta} - \underbrace{\frac{\text{mse}(\tilde{\theta})}{\theta^2 + \text{mse}(\tilde{\theta})}}_{\text{penalty}} \cdot \tilde{\theta}$$

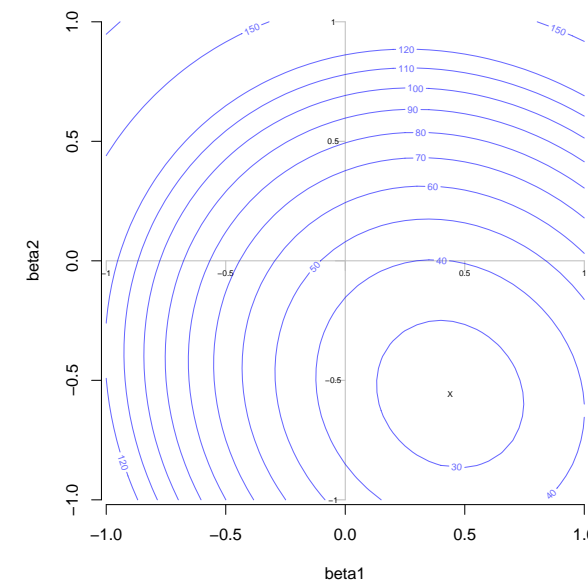
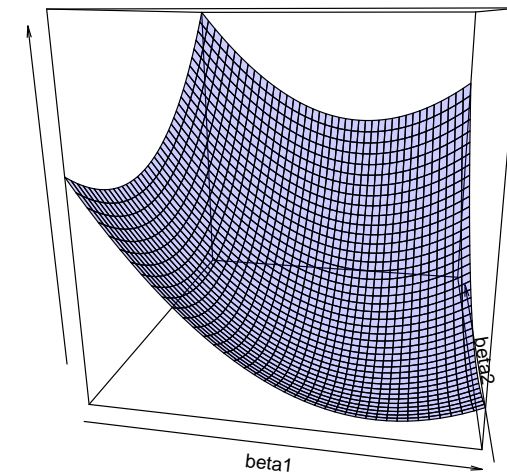
satisfies $\text{mse}(\hat{\theta}) \leq \text{mse}(\tilde{\theta})$.

Normalization : Euclidean ℓ_2 vs. Mahalonobis

We want to penalize complicated models :
if β_k is “too small”, we prefer to have $\beta_k = 0$.



Instead of $d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$
use $d_{\Sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})}$



Linear Regression Shortcoming

Least Squares Estimator $\hat{\beta} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$

Unbiased Estimator $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}] = \beta$

Variance $\text{Var}[\hat{\beta}] = \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1}$

which can be (extremely) large when $\det[(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})] \sim 0$.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{then } \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & -4 \\ 2 & -4 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{while } \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \mathbb{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 7 & -4 \\ 2 & -4 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvalues : $\{10, 6, 0\}$

$\{11, 7, 1\}$

Ad-hoc strategy: use $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I}$

Ridge Regression

... like the least square, but it shrinks estimated coefficients towards 0.

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2 \right\}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \underbrace{\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_2}^2}_{=\text{criteria}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_2}^2}_{=\text{penalty}} \right\}$$

$\lambda \geq 0$ is a tuning parameter.

Ridge Regression

an Wieringen (2018 [Lecture notes on ridge regression](#))

Ridge Estimator (OLS)

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \beta)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2 \right\}$$

Ridge Estimator (GLM)

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ - \sum_{i=1}^n \log f(y_i | \mu_i = g^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \beta)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2 \right\}$$

Ridge Regression

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - (\beta_0 + \mathbf{X}\beta)\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 \right\}$$

can be seen as a constrained optimization problem

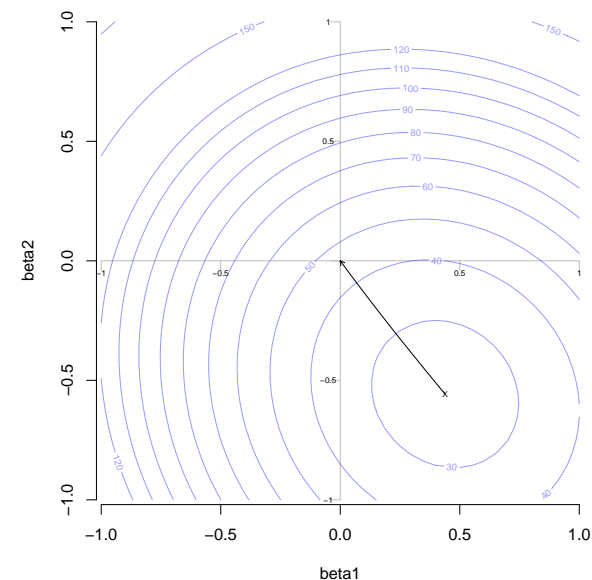
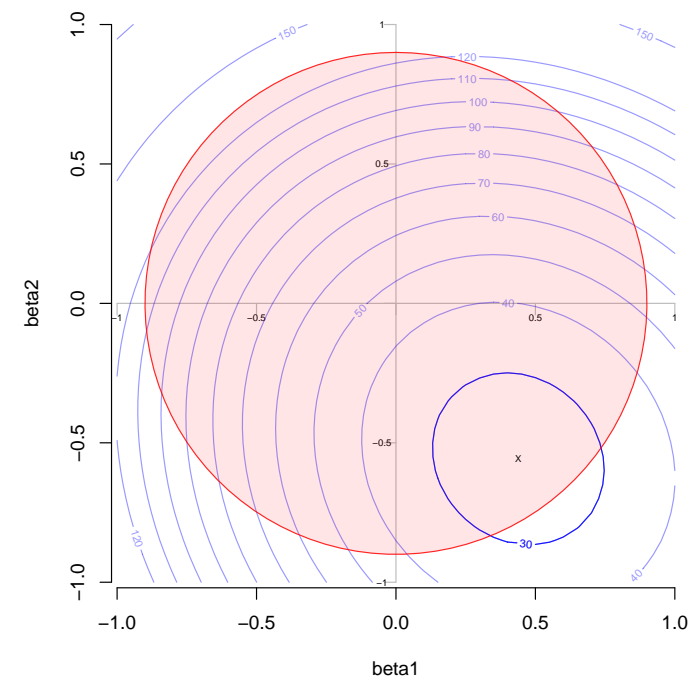
$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\|\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 \leq h_{\lambda}} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - (\beta_0 + \mathbf{X}\beta)\|_{\ell_2}^2 \right\}$$

Explicit solution

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda} = (\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{y}$$

If $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, $\hat{\beta}_0^{\text{ridge}} = \hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}}$

If $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, $\hat{\beta}_{\infty}^{\text{ridge}} = \mathbf{0}$.



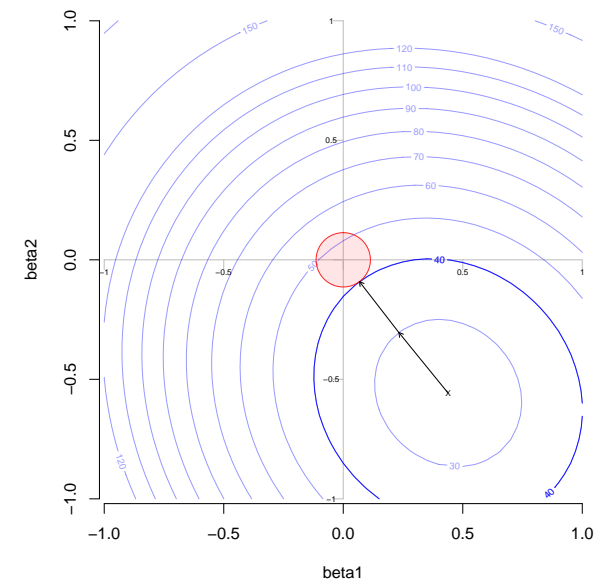
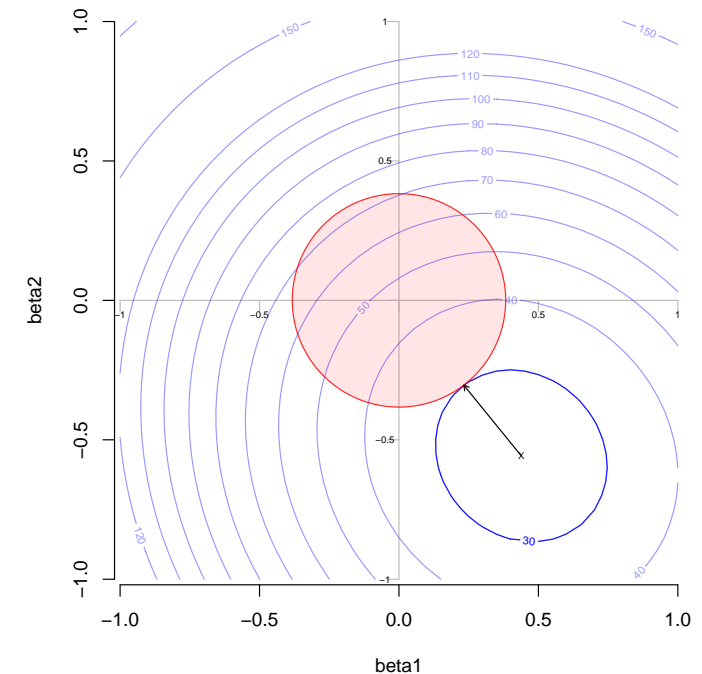
Ridge Regression

This penalty can be seen as rather unfair if components of \mathbf{x} are not expressed on the same scale

- center: $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j = 0$, then $\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{\mathbf{y}}$
- scale: $\mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{x}_j = 1$

Then compute

$$\hat{\beta}_\lambda^{\text{ridge}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \underbrace{\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2}_{=\text{loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2}_{=\text{penalty}} \right\}$$



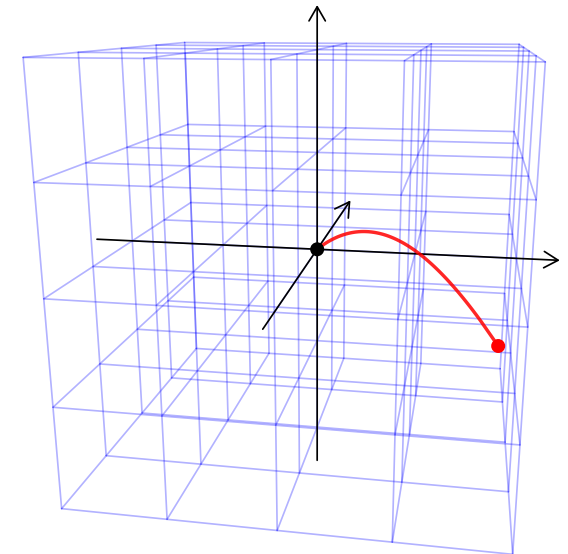
Ridge Regression

Observe that if $\mathbf{x}_{j_1} \perp \mathbf{x}_{j_2}$, then

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}} = [1 + \lambda]^{-1} \hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ols}}$$

which explain relationship with shrinkage.

But generally, it is not the case...



Smaller mse

There exists λ such that $\text{mse}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ridge}}] \leq \text{mse}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{ols}}]$

Ridge Regression

$$\mathcal{L}_\lambda(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \beta_0 - \mathbf{x}_i^\top \beta)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = -2\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} + 2(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})\beta$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{L}_\lambda(\beta)}{\partial \beta \partial \beta^\top} = 2(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})$$

where $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}$ is a semi-positive definite matrix, and $\lambda \mathbb{I}$ is a positive definite matrix, and

$$\hat{\beta}_\lambda = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

The Bayesian Interpretation

From a Bayesian perspective,

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{P}[\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}]}_{\text{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}]}_{\text{likelihood}} \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[\boldsymbol{\theta}]}_{\text{prior}} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \log \mathbb{P}[\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}] = \underbrace{\log \mathbb{P}[\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}]}_{\text{log likelihood}} + \underbrace{\log \mathbb{P}[\boldsymbol{\theta}]}_{\text{penalty}}$$

If β has a prior $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 \mathbb{I})$ distribution, then its posterior distribution has mean

$$\mathbb{E}[\beta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X}] = \left(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau^2} \mathbb{I} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

Properties of the Ridge Estimator

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda} = (\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}] = \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X} (\lambda \mathbb{I} + \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X})^{-1} \beta.$$

i.e. $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}] \neq \beta$.

Observe that $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}] \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$ as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

Ridge & Shrinkage

Assume that \mathbf{X} is an orthogonal design matrix, i.e. $\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X} = \mathbb{I}$, then

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda} = (1 + \lambda)^{-1} \hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}}.$$

Properties of the Ridge Estimator

Set $\mathbf{W}_\lambda = (\mathbb{I} + \lambda[\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}]^{-1})^{-1}$. One can prove that

$$\mathbf{W}_\lambda \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{\text{ols}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_\lambda.$$

Thus,

$$\text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_\lambda] = \mathbf{W}_\lambda \text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{\text{ols}}] \mathbf{W}_\lambda^\top$$

and

$$\text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_\lambda] = \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} [(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1}]^\top.$$

Observe that

$$\text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{\text{ols}}] - \text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_\lambda] = \sigma^2 \mathbf{W}_\lambda [2\lambda(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-2} + \lambda^2(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-3}] \mathbf{W}_\lambda^\top \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

Properties of the Ridge Estimator

Hence, the confidence ellipsoid of ridge estimator is indeed smaller than the OLS,

If \mathbf{X} is an orthogonal design matrix,

$$\text{Var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}] = \sigma^2(1 + \lambda)^{-2}\mathbb{I}.$$

$$\text{mse}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}] = \sigma^2 \text{trace}(\mathbf{W}_{\lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{\top}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{W}_{\lambda}^{\top}) + \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\top}(\mathbf{W}_{\lambda} - \mathbb{I})^{\top}(\mathbf{W}_{\lambda} - \mathbb{I})\boldsymbol{\beta}.$$

If \mathbf{X} is an orthogonal design matrix,

$$\text{mse}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}] = \frac{p\sigma^2}{(1 + \lambda)^2} + \frac{\lambda^2}{(1 + \lambda)^2}\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\top}\boldsymbol{\beta}$$

Properties of the Ridge Estimator

$$\text{mse}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}] = \frac{p\sigma^2}{(1+\lambda)^2} + \frac{\lambda^2}{(1+\lambda)^2} \beta^{\top} \beta$$

is minimal for

$$\lambda^* = \frac{p\sigma^2}{\beta^{\top} \beta}$$

Note that there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that $\text{mse}[\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}] < \text{mse}[\hat{\beta}_0] = \text{mse}[\hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}}]$.

SVD decomposition

For any matrix A , $m \times n$, there are orthogonal matrices U ($m \times m$), V ($n \times n$) and a "diagonal" matrix Σ ($m \times n$) such that $A = U\Sigma V^\top$, or $AV = U\Sigma$.

Hence, there exists a special orthonormal set of vectors (i.e. the columns of V), that is mapped by the matrix A into an orthonormal set of vectors (i.e. the columns of U).

Let $r = \text{rank}(A)$, then $A = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\top$ (called the **dyadic decomposition** of A).

Observe that it can be used to compute (e.g.) the Frobenius norm of A ,

$$\|A\| = \sum a_{i,j}^2 = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \cdots + \sigma_{\min\{m,n\}}^2}.$$

Further $A^\top A = V\Sigma^\top \Sigma V^\top$ while $AA^\top = U\Sigma \Sigma^\top U^\top$.

Hence, σ_i^2 's are related to eigenvalues of $A^\top A$ and AA^\top , and $\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{v}_i$ are associated eigenvectors.

Golub & Reinsh (1970, **Singular Value Decomposition and Least Squares Solutions**)

SVD decomposition

Consider the singular value decomposition of \mathbf{X} , $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^\top$.

Then

$$\hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}} = \mathbf{V} \underbrace{\mathbf{D}^{-2}\mathbf{D}} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_\lambda = \mathbf{V} \underbrace{(\mathbf{D}^2 + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1}\mathbf{D}} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

Observe that

$$D_{i,i}^{-1} \geq \frac{D_{i,i}}{D_{i,i}^2 + \lambda}$$

hence, the ridge penalty shrinks singular values.

Set now $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}$ ($n \times n$ matrix), so that $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{V}^\top$,

$$\hat{\beta}_\lambda = \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{R}^\top \mathbf{R} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{R}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

Hat matrix and Degrees of Freedom

Recall that $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{Y}$ with

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top$$

Similarly

$$\mathbf{H}_\lambda = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top$$

$$\text{trace}[\mathbf{H}_\lambda] = \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{d_{j,j}^2}{d_{j,j}^2 + \lambda} \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty.$$

Sparsity Issues

In several applications, k can be (very) large, but a lot of features are just noise: $\beta_j = 0$ for many j 's. Let s denote the number of relevant features, with $s \ll k$, cf Hastie, Tibshirani & Wainwright (2015, [Statistical Learning with Sparsity](#)),

$$s = \text{card}\{\mathcal{S}\} \text{ where } \mathcal{S} = \{j; \beta_j \neq 0\}$$

The model is now $y = \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{S}} + \varepsilon$, where $\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}$ is a full rank matrix.

Going further on sparsity issues

The Ridge regression problem was to solve

$$\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta \in \{\|\beta\|_{\ell_2} \leq s\}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}^\top \beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 \}$$

Define $\|\mathbf{a}\|_{\ell_0} = \sum \mathbf{1}(|a_i| > 0)$.

Here $\dim(\beta) = k$ but $\|\beta\|_{\ell_0} = s$.

We wish we could solve

$$\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta \in \{\|\beta\|_{\ell_0} = s\}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}^\top \beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 \}$$

Problem: it is usually not possible to describe all possible constraints, since $\binom{s}{k}$ coefficients should be chosen here (with k (very) large).

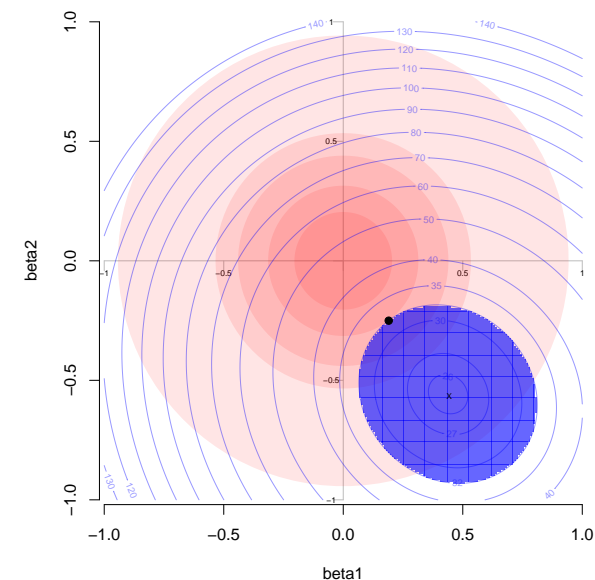
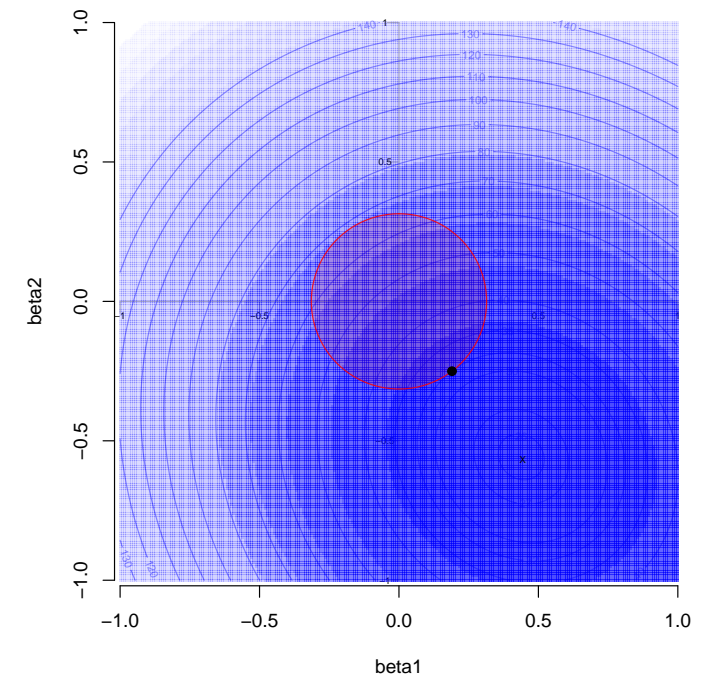
Going further on sparsity issues

In a convex problem, solve the **dual problem**,
e.g. in the Ridge regression : primal problem

$$\min_{\beta \in \{\|\beta\|_{\ell_2} \leq s\}} \{\|Y - X^T \beta\|_{\ell_2}^2\}$$

and the dual problem

$$\min_{\beta \in \{\|Y - X^T \beta\|_{\ell_2} \leq t\}} \{\|\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2\}$$

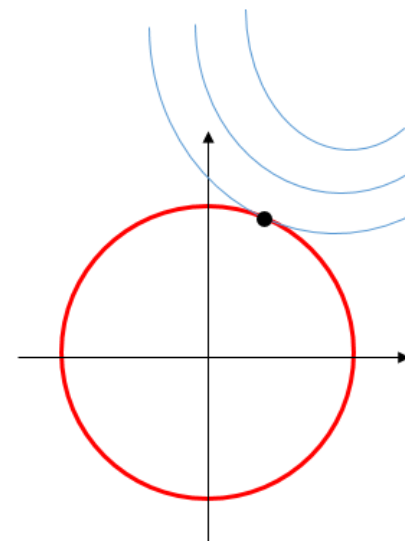
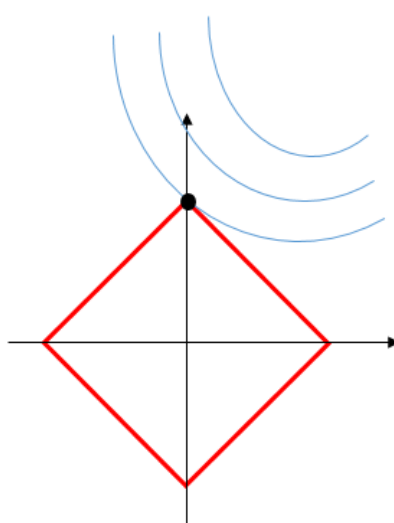
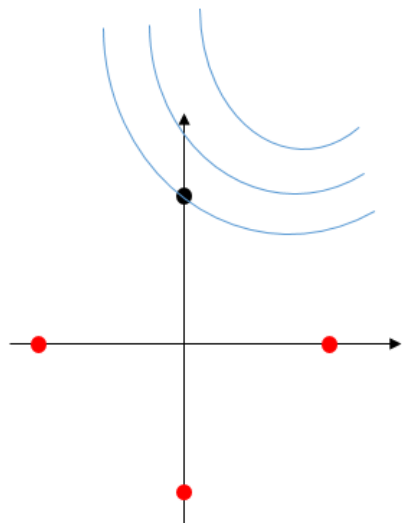


Going further on sparsity issues

Idea: solve the dual problem

$$\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta \in \{\|Y - X^T \beta\|_{\ell_2} \leq h\}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \|\beta\|_{\ell_0} \}$$

where we might **convexify the ℓ_0 norm**, $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_0}$.



Going further on sparsity issues

On $[-1, +1]^k$, the convex hull of $\|\beta\|_{\ell_0}$ is $\|\beta\|_{\ell_1}$

On $[-a, +a]^k$, the convex hull of $\|\beta\|_{\ell_0}$ is $a^{-1}\|\beta\|_{\ell_1}$

Hence, why not solve

$$\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta; \|\beta\|_{\ell_1} \leq \tilde{s}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}^\top \beta\|_{\ell_2} \}$$

which is equivalent (Kuhn-Tucker theorem) to the Lagrangian optimization problem

$$\hat{\beta} = \operatorname{argmin} \{ \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}^\top \beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_{\ell_1} \}$$

LASSO *Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator*

LASSO Estimator (OLS)

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{lasso}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \beta)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j| \right\}$$

LASSO Estimator (GLM)

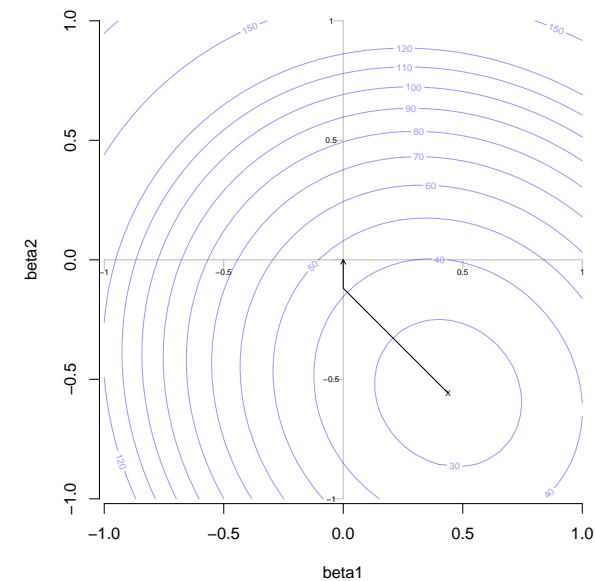
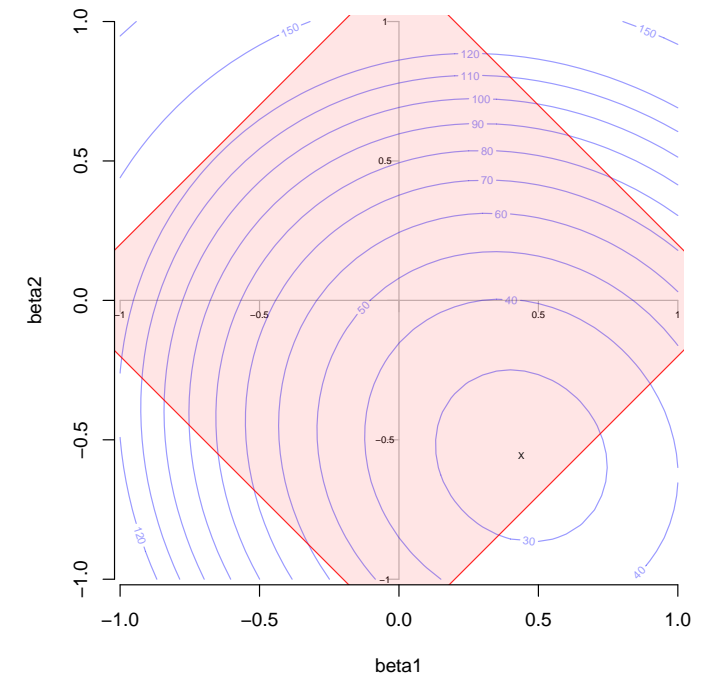
$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{lasso}} = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ - \sum_{i=1}^n \log f(y_i | \mu_i = g^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \beta)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j| \right\}$$

LASSO Regression

No explicit solution...

If $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, $\hat{\beta}_0^{\text{lasso}} = \hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}}$

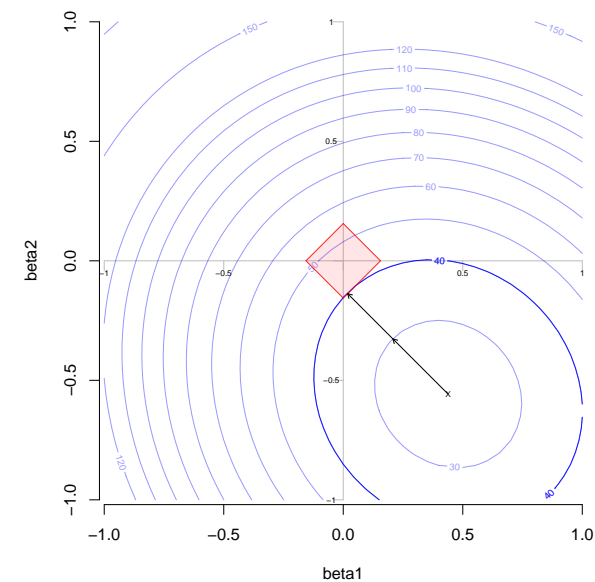
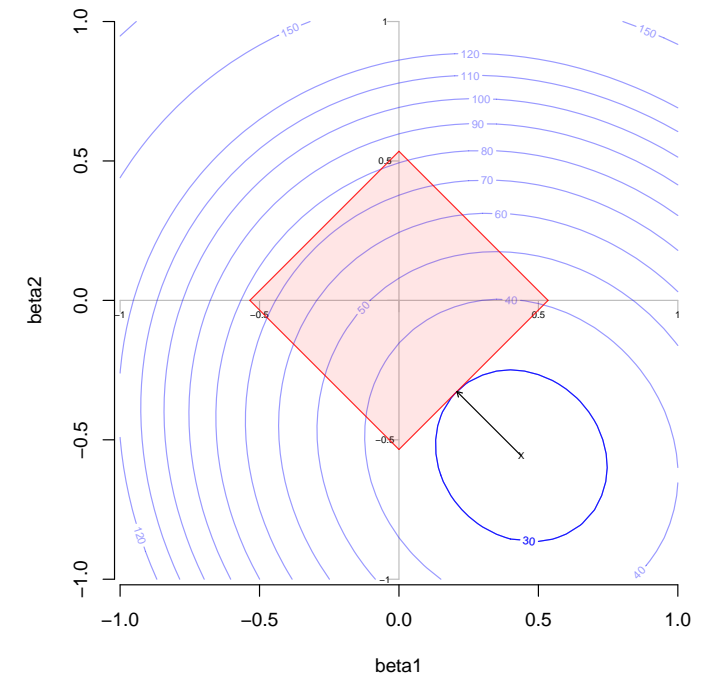
If $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, $\hat{\beta}_\infty^{\text{lasso}} = \mathbf{0}$.



LASSO Regression

For some λ , there are k 's such that $\hat{\beta}_{k,\lambda}^{\text{lasso}} = 0$.

Further, $\lambda \mapsto \hat{\beta}_{k,\lambda}^{\text{lasso}}$ is **piecewise linear**

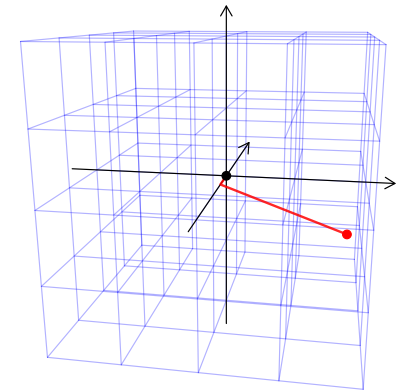


LASSO Regression

In the orthogonal case, $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} = \mathbb{I}$,

$$\hat{\beta}_{k,\lambda}^{\text{lasso}} = \text{sign}(\hat{\beta}_k^{\text{ols}}) \left(|\hat{\beta}_k^{\text{ols}}| - \frac{\lambda}{2} \right)$$

i.e. the LASSO estimate is related to the soft threshold function...



Optimal LASSO Penalty

Use cross validation, e.g. K -fold,

$$\hat{\beta}_{(-k)}(\lambda) = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}_k} [y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^\top \beta]^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_{\ell_1} \right\}$$

then compute the sum of the squared errors,

$$Q_k(\lambda) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_k} [y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^\top \hat{\beta}_{(-k)}(\lambda)]^2$$

and finally solve

$$\lambda^* = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \bar{Q}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_k Q_k(\lambda) \right\}$$

Optimal LASSO Penalty

Note that this might overfit, so Hastie, Tibshiriani & Friedman (2009, [Elements of Statistical Learning](#)) suggest the largest λ such that

$$\overline{Q}(\lambda) \leq \overline{Q}(\lambda^*) + \text{se}[\lambda^*] \text{ with } \text{se}[\lambda]^2 = \frac{1}{K^2} \sum_{k=1}^K [Q_k(\lambda) - \overline{Q}(\lambda)]^2$$

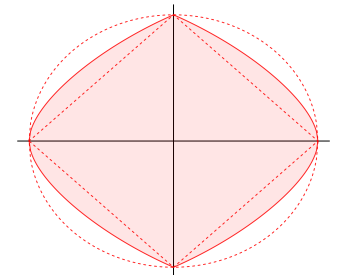
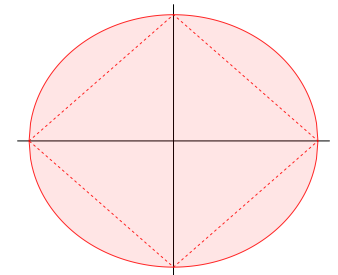
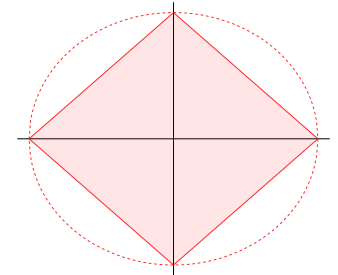
LASSO and Ridge, with R

```

1 > library(glmnet)
2 > chicago=read.table("http://freakonometrics.free.fr/
    chicago.txt",header=TRUE,sep=";")
3 > standardize <- function(x) {(x-mean(x))/sd(x)}
4 > z0 <- standardize(chicago[, 1])
5 > z1 <- standardize(chicago[, 3])
6 > z2 <- standardize(chicago[, 4])
7 > ridge <-glmnet(cbind(z1, z2), z0, alpha=0, intercept=
    FALSE, lambda=1)
8 > lasso <-glmnet(cbind(z1, z2), z0, alpha=1, intercept=
    FALSE, lambda=1)
9 > elastic <-glmnet(cbind(z1, z2), z0, alpha=.5,
    intercept=FALSE, lambda=1)

```

Elastic net, $\lambda_1 \|\beta\|_{\ell_1} + \lambda_2 \|\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2$



Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

Define

$$\|\mathbf{a}\|_{\ell_0} = \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbf{1}(a_i \neq 0), \quad \|\mathbf{a}\|_{\ell_1} = \sum_{i=1}^d |a_i| \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{a}\|_{\ell_2} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^d a_i^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad \text{for } \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

constrained
optimization

penalized
optimization

$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}; \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_0} \leq s} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right\}$	$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}, \lambda} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_0} \right\} \quad (\ell_0)$
$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}; \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_1} \leq s} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right\}$	$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}, \lambda} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_1} \right\} \quad (\ell_1)$
$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}; \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_2} \leq s} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right\}$	$\operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}, \lambda} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \ \boldsymbol{\beta}\ _{\ell_2} \right\} \quad (\ell_2)$

Assume that ℓ is the quadratic norm.

Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

The two problems (ℓ_2) are equivalent : $\forall(\beta^*, s^*)$ solution of the left problem, $\exists\lambda^*$ such that (β^*, λ^*) is solution of the right problem. And conversely.

The two problems (ℓ_1) are equivalent : $\forall(\beta^*, s^*)$ solution of the left problem, $\exists\lambda^*$ such that (β^*, λ^*) is solution of the right problem. And conversely. Nevertheless, if there is a theoretical equivalence, there might be numerical issues since there is not necessarily unicity of the solution.

The two problems (ℓ_0) are **not** equivalent : if (β^*, λ^*) is solution of the right problem, $\exists s^*$ such that β^* is a solution of the left problem. But the converse is not true.

More generally, consider a ℓ_p norm,

- **sparsity** is obtained when $p \leq 1$
- **convexity** is obtained when $p \geq 1$

Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

Foster & George (1994) **the risk inflation criterion for multiple regression** tried to solve directly the penalized problem of (ℓ_0).

But it is a complex combinatorial problem in high dimension (Natarajan (1995) **sparse approximate solutions to linear systems** proved that it was a NP-hard problem)

One can prove that if $\lambda \sim \sigma^2 \log(p)$, alors

$$\mathbb{E}([x^\top \hat{\beta} - x^\top \beta_0]^2) \leq \underbrace{\mathbb{E}([x_S^\top \hat{\beta}_S - x^\top \beta_0]^2)}_{=\sigma^2 \#S} \cdot (4 \log p + 2 + o(1)).$$

In that case

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\text{sub}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{si } j \notin \mathcal{S}_\lambda(\beta) \\ \hat{\beta}_j^{\text{ols}} & \text{si } j \in \mathcal{S}_\lambda(\beta), \end{cases}$$

where $\mathcal{S}_\lambda(\beta)$ is the set of non-null values in solutions of (ℓ_0).

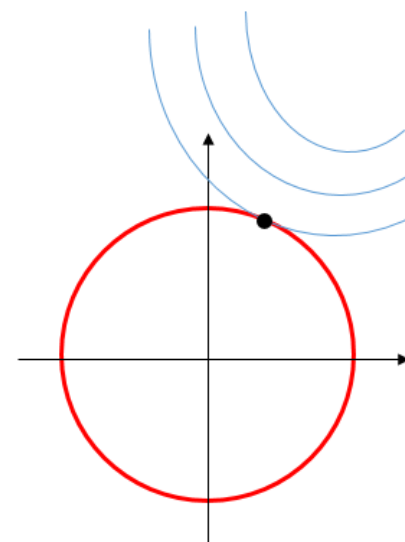
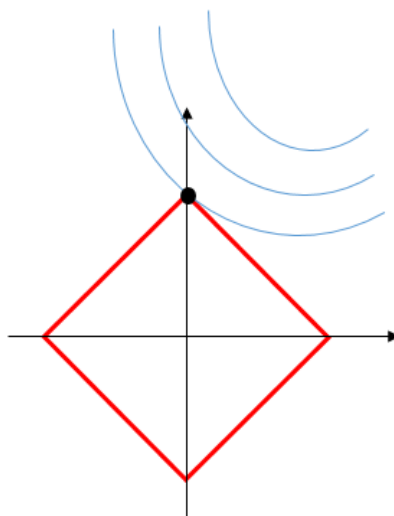
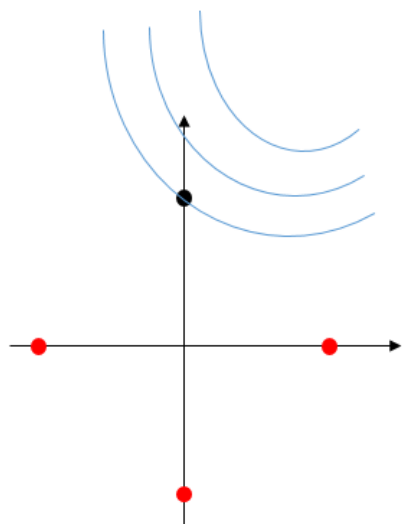
Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

If ℓ is no longer the quadratic norm but ℓ_1 , problem (ℓ_1) is not always strictly convex, and optimum is not always unique (e.g. if $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}$ is singular).

But in the quadratic case, ℓ is strictly convex, and at least $\mathbf{X}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ is unique.

Further, note that solutions are necessarily coherent (signs of coefficients) : it is not possible to have $\hat{\beta}_j < 0$ for one solution and $\hat{\beta}_j > 0$ for another one.

In many cases, problem (ℓ_1) yields a corner-type solution, which can be seen as a "best subset" solution - like in (ℓ_0) .



Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

Consider a simple regression $y_i = x_i\beta + \varepsilon$, with ℓ_1 -penalty and a ℓ_2 -loss function. (ℓ_1) becomes

$$\min \{ \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x}\beta + \beta \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}\beta + 2\lambda |\beta| \}$$

First order condition can be written

$$-2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}\hat{\beta} \pm 2\lambda = 0.$$

(the sign in \pm being the sign of $\hat{\beta}$). Assume that least-square estimate ($\lambda = 0$) is (strictly) positive, i.e. $\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} > 0$. If λ is not too large $\hat{\beta}$ and $\hat{\beta}^{\text{ols}}$ have the same sign, and

$$-2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}\hat{\beta} + 2\lambda = 0.$$

with solution $\hat{\beta}_\lambda^{\text{lasso}} = \frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} - \lambda}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$.

Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

Increase λ so that $\hat{\beta}_\lambda = 0$.

Increase slightly more, $\hat{\beta}_\lambda$ cannot become negative, because the sign of the first order condition will change, and we should solve

$$-2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} \hat{\beta} - 2\lambda = 0.$$

and solution would be $\hat{\beta}_\lambda^{\text{lasso}} = \frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} + \lambda}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$. But that solution is positive (we assumed that $\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} > 0$), so we should have $\hat{\beta}_\lambda < 0$.

Thus, at some point $\hat{\beta}_\lambda = 0$, which is a corner solution.

In higher dimension, see Tibshirani & Wasserman (2016, [a closer look at sparse regression](#)) or Candès & Plan (2009, [Near-ideal model selection by \$\ell_1\$ minimization.](#))

With some additional technical assumption, that LASSO estimator is "sparsistent" in the sense that the support of $\hat{\beta}_\lambda^{\text{lasso}}$ is the same as β ,

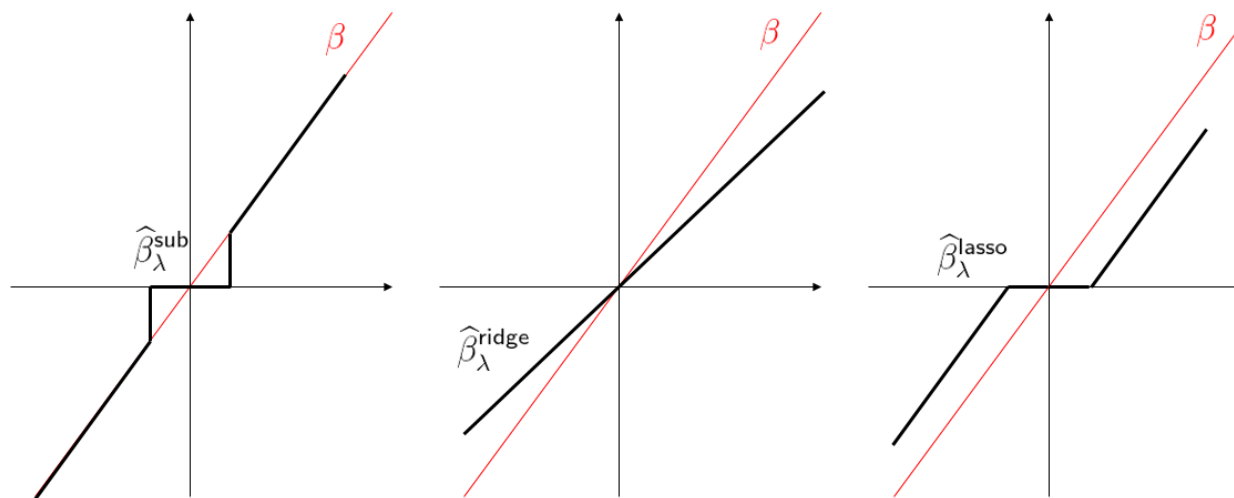
Going further, ℓ_0 , ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 penalty

Thus, LASSO can be used for variable selection - see Hastie *et al.* (2001, [The Elements of Statistical Learning](#)).

Generally, $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{lasso}}$ is a biased estimator but its variance can be small enough to have a smaller least squared error than the OLS estimate.

With orthonormal covariates, one can prove that

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\text{sub}} = \hat{\beta}_j^{\text{ols}} \mathbf{1}_{|\hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\text{sub}}| > b}, \quad \hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\text{ridge}} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j^{\text{ols}}}{1 + \lambda} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\text{lasso}} = \text{signe}[\hat{\beta}_j^{\text{ols}}] \cdot (|\hat{\beta}_j^{\text{ols}}| - \lambda)_+.$$



LASSO for Autoregressive Time Series

Consider some $\text{AR}(p)$ autoregressive time series,

$$X_t = \phi_1 X_{t-1} + \phi_2 X_{t-2} + \cdots + \phi_{p-1} X_{t-p+1} + \phi_p X_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t,$$

for some white noise (ε_t) , with a causal type representation. Write $y = \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\phi} + \varepsilon$.

The LASSO estimator $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ is a minimizer of

$$\frac{1}{2T} \|y - \mathbf{x}^\top \boldsymbol{\phi}\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i |\phi_i|,$$

for some tuning parameters $(\lambda, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p)$.

See Nardi & Rinaldo (2011, [Autoregressive process modeling via the Lasso procedure](#)).

LASSO and Non-Linearities

Consider knots k_1, \dots, k_m , we want a function m which is a **cubic polynomial** between every pair of knots, continuous at each knot, and with continuous first and second derivatives at each knot.

We can write m as

$$m(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2 + \beta_3 x^3 + \beta_4 (x - k_1)_+^3 + \dots + \beta_{m+3} (x - k_m)_+^3$$

One strategy is the following

- fix the number of knots m ($m < n$)
- find the natural cubic spline \hat{m} which minimizes $\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - m(x_i))^2$
- then choose m by cross validation

and alternative is to use a penalty based approach (Ridge type) to avoid overfit (since with $m = n$, the residual sum of square is null).

GAM, splines and Ridge regression

Consider a univariate nonlinear regression problem, so that $\mathbb{E}[Y|X = x] = m(x)$.

Given a sample $\{(y_1, x_1), \dots, (y_n, x_n)\}$, consider the following penalized problem

$$m^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathcal{C}^2} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - m(x_i))^2 + \lambda \int_{\mathbb{R}} m''(x) dx \right\}$$

with the Residual sum of squares on the left, and a penalty for the roughness of the function.

The solution is a natural cubic spline with knots at unique values of x (see Eubanks (1999, [Nonparametric Regression and Spline Smoothing](#)))

Consider some spline basis $\{h_1, \dots, h_n\}$, and let $m(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i h_i(x)$.

Let \mathbf{H} and $\mathbf{\Omega}$ be the $n \times n$ matrices $H_{i,j} = h_j(x_i)$, and $\Omega_{i,j} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} h_i''(x) h_j''(x) dx$.

GAM, splines and Ridge regression

Then the objective function can be written

$$(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\beta})^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\beta}) + \lambda \boldsymbol{\beta}^\top \boldsymbol{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

Recognize here a [generalized Ridge regression](#), with solution

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_\lambda = (\mathbf{H}^\top \mathbf{H} + \lambda \boldsymbol{\Omega})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

Note that predicted values are linear functions of the observed value since

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^\top \mathbf{H} + \lambda \boldsymbol{\Omega})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{S}_\lambda \mathbf{y},$$

with degrees of freedom $\text{trace}(\mathbf{S}_\lambda)$.

One can obtain the so-called [Reinsch form](#) by considering the singular value decomposition of $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^\top$.

GAM, splines and Ridge regression

Here \mathbf{U} is orthogonal since \mathbf{H} is square ($n \times n$), and \mathbf{D} is here invertible. Then

$$\mathbf{S}_\lambda = (\mathbb{I} + \lambda \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{\Omega} \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{U})^{-1} = (\mathbb{I} + \lambda \mathbf{K})^{-1}$$

where \mathbf{K} is a positive semidefinite matrix, $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{B} \mathbf{\Delta} \mathbf{B}^\top$, where columns of \mathbf{B} are known as the **Demmler-Reinsch basis**.

In that (orthonormal) basis, \mathbf{S}_λ is a diagonal matrix,

$$\mathbf{S}_\lambda = \mathbf{B} (\mathbb{I} + \lambda \mathbf{\Delta})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top$$

Observe that $\mathbf{S}_\lambda \mathbf{B}_k = \frac{1}{1 + \lambda \Delta_{k,k}} \mathbf{B}_k$.

Here again, eigenvalues are shrinkage coefficients of basis vectors.

With more covariates, consider an **additive** problem

$$(h_1, \dots, h_p)^\star = \underset{h_1, \dots, h_p \in \mathcal{C}^2}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \left(y_i - \sum_{j=1}^p m(x_{i,j}) \right)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \int_{\mathbb{R}} m_j''(x) dx \right\}$$

GAM, splines and Ridge regression

which can be written

$$\min \left\{ (\mathbf{y} - \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{H}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)^\top (\mathbf{y} - \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{H}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) + \lambda (\boldsymbol{\beta}_1^\top \sum_{j=1}^p \boldsymbol{\Omega}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \right\}$$

where each matrix \mathbf{H}_j is a Demmler-Reinsch basis for variable x_j .

Chouldechova & Hastie (2015, [Generalized Additive Model Selection](#))

Assume that the mean function for the j th variable is $m_j(x) = \alpha_j x + \mathbf{m}_j(x)^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_j$.

One can write

$$\begin{aligned} \min \left\{ (\mathbf{y} - \alpha_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p \alpha_j x_j - \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{H}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)^\top (\mathbf{y} - \alpha_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p \alpha_j x_j - \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{H}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \right. \\ \left. + \lambda (\gamma |\alpha_1| + (1 - \gamma) \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_j\|_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_j}) + (\psi_1 \boldsymbol{\beta}_1^\top \boldsymbol{\Omega}_1 \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + \cdots + \psi_p \boldsymbol{\beta}_p^\top \boldsymbol{\Omega}_p \boldsymbol{\beta}_p) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where $\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_j\|_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_j} = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top \boldsymbol{\Omega}_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_j}$.

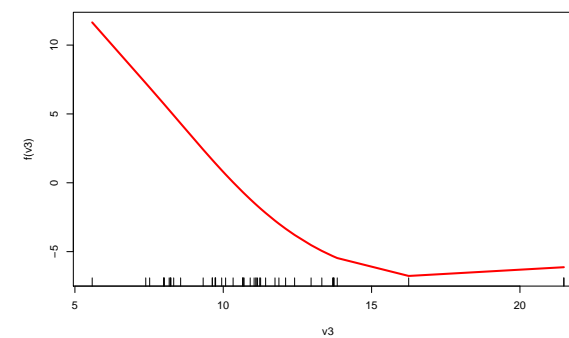
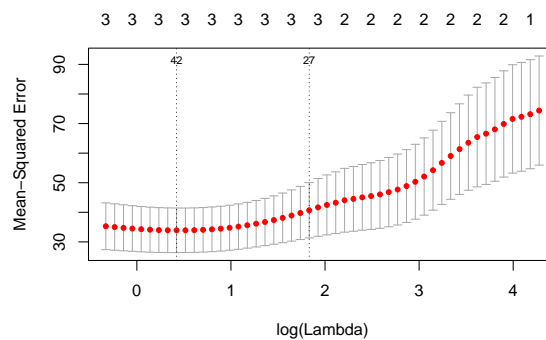
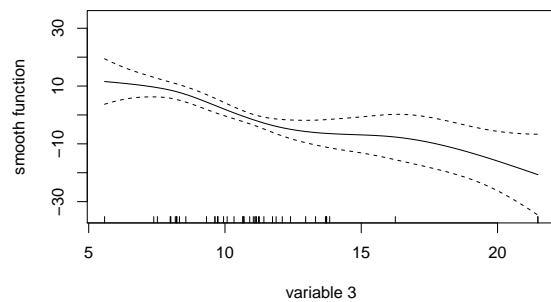
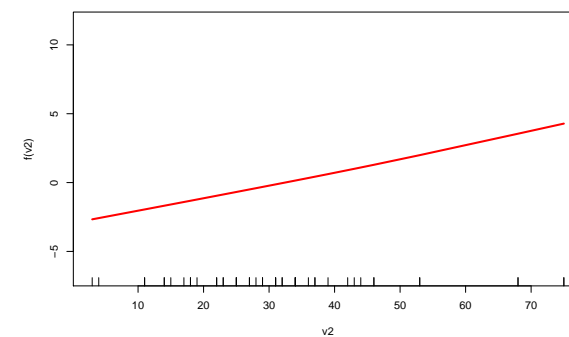
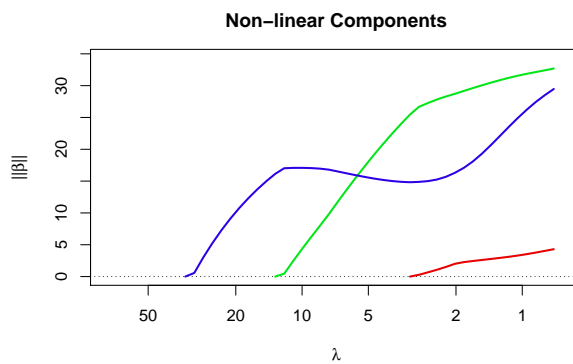
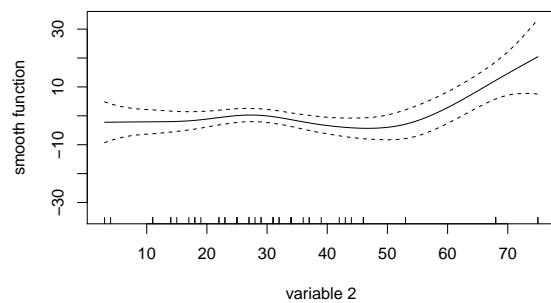
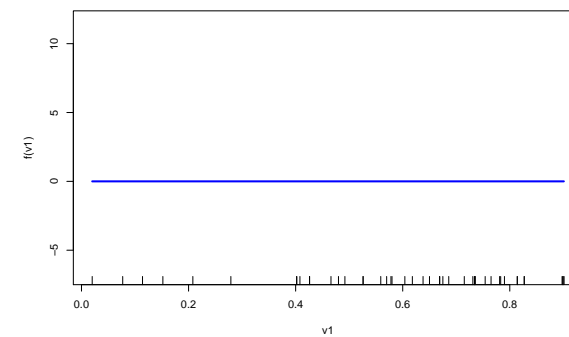
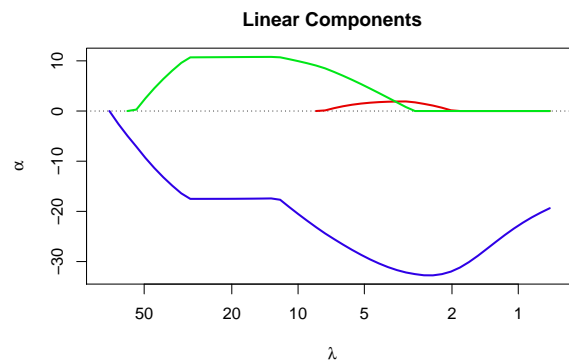
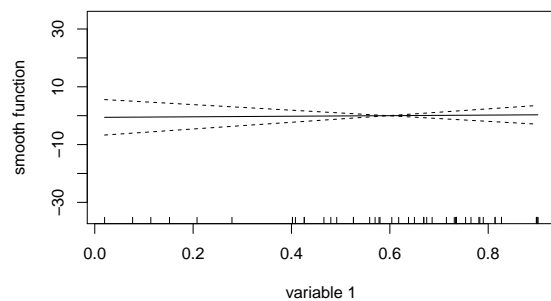
GAM, splines and Ridge regression

The **second term** is the selection penalty, with a mixture of ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 (type) norm-based penalty

The **third term** is the end-to-path penalty (GAM type when $\lambda = 0$).

For each predictor x_j , there are three possibilities

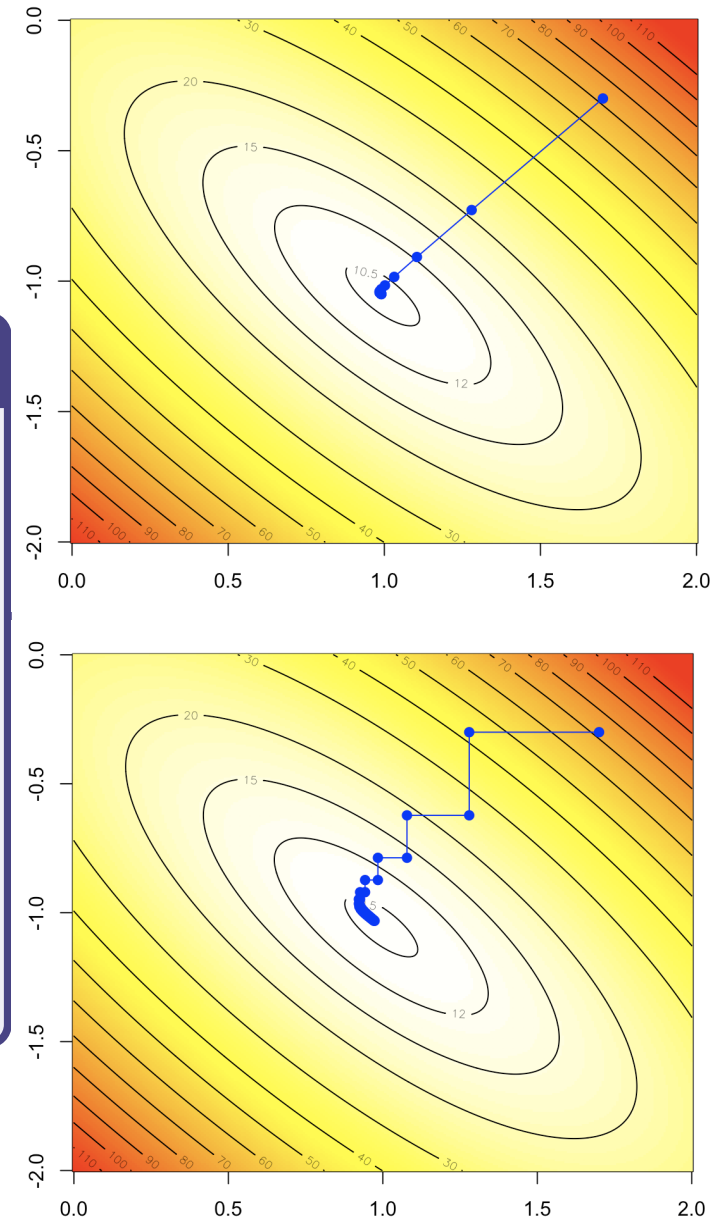
- **zero**, $\alpha_j = 0$ and $\beta_j = 0$
- **linear**, $\alpha_j \neq 0$ and $\beta_j = 0$
- **nonlinear**, $\beta_j \neq 0$



Coordinate Descent

LASSO Coordinate Descent Algorithm

1. Set $\beta_0 = \hat{\beta}$
- 2 . For $k = 1, \dots$
 for $j = 1, \dots, p$
 (i) compute $R_j = \mathbf{x}_j^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}_{-j} \beta_{k-1(-j)})$
 (ii) set $\beta_{k,j} = R_j \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{2|R_j|}\right)_+$
3. The final estimate β_κ is $\hat{\beta}_\lambda$



ELASTIC NET : when covariates are highly correlated

See `glmnet::elasticnet()`

From LASSO to Dantzig Selection

Candès & Tao (2007, [The Dantzig selector: Statistical estimation when \$p\$ is much larger than \$n\$](#)) defined

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{dantzig}} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \{ \|\beta\|_{\ell_1} \} \text{ s.t. } \|\mathbf{X}^{\top}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta)\|_{\ell_{\infty}} \leq \lambda$$

From LASSO to Adaptive Lasso

Zou (2006, [The Adaptive Lasso](#))

$$\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{a-lasso}} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{|\beta_j|}{|\hat{\beta}_{\lambda,j}^{\gamma\text{-lasso}}|} \right\}$$

where $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\gamma\text{-lasso}} = \Pi_{\mathbf{X}_{s(\lambda)}} \mathbf{y}$ where $s(\lambda)$ is the set of non null components $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}^{\text{lasso}}$

See library `lqa` or `lassogrp`

From LASSO to Group Lasso

Assume that variables $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ can be grouped in L subgroups, $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1 \cdots, \mathbf{x}_L)$, where $\dim[\mathbf{x}_l] = p_l$.

Yuan & Lin (2007, [Model selection and estimation in the Gaussian graphical model](#)) defined, for some K_l matrices $n_l \times n_l$ definite positives

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{g-lasso}} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L \sqrt{\boldsymbol{\beta}_l^\top K_l \boldsymbol{\beta}_l} \right\}$$

or, if $K_l = p_l \mathbb{I}$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{g-lasso}} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L p_l \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_l\|_{\ell_2} \right\}$$

See library `gglasso`

From LASSO to Sparse-Group Lasso

Assume that variables $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ can be grouped in L subgroups, $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1 \cdots, \mathbf{x}_L)$, where $\dim[\mathbf{x}_l] = p_l$.

Simon *et al.* (2013, [A Sparse-Group LASSO](#)) defined, for some K_l matrices $n_l \times n_l$ definite positives

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda, \mu}^{\text{sg-lasso}} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_2}^2 + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L \sqrt{\boldsymbol{\beta}_l^\top K_l \boldsymbol{\beta}_l} + \mu \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{\ell_1} \right\}$$

See library `SGL`