

Special tasks

Instructions

- Special tasks are optional and are recommended for students who manage to complete the main laboratory tasks in time and have some additional time and interest to learn some extra topics or get a deeper knowledge of the course topics. If you have problems in completing the main laboratory assignments, doing special tasks is not recommended.
- Given that a student obtains at least 14 points at the computer exam, 2 additional points will be given if two out of three special tasks are completed successfully. It means that completing special tasks will not help to change from a failing grade to a passing grade at the exam but only can improve a “good” grade.
- Special tasks are assumed to be done individually; you will not get any help from teachers with these tasks except of situations when you don’t understand what is requested in the assignment. In the latter case, contact Oleg Sysoev (assignments 1&2) or Jose Pena (assignment 3)
- **Run the codes on R version at least 3.6.1.** The report should be submitted as a pdf-document where the first pages contain short answers to each assignment, the following pages contain more detailed answers (if needed). All codes should be attached as R-files, one file per assignment.
- The special tasks will be handled in the following way:
 1. A student submits the report and one R file per assignment.
 2. Teachers set status correct/incorrect per assignment based on the answers given.
 3. Output information for all tasks is published and the students have an opportunity to compare their outputs with the published ones. If a student can show that a minor (i.e. not crucial) modification in his/her code leads to the correct output, the student may resubmit the updated codes as a PDF-document and highlight the lines of code that were changed in the new version.
 4. Teachers check the updated codes and possibly change the status of each assignment based on whether changes were of a minor character (i.e. mistakes are not serious and not many).

Assignment 1. Variable selection with randomized LASSO

LASSO classifiers are efficient in regression in classification but have some undesired properties. First, there is no good way of extracting importance of each feature. In addition, when there are highly correlated variables that have a relationship to the target,

only one of these variables may be picked up by LASSO. This has very negative consequences in many applications. For instance, when classifying between healthy and sick subjects based on gene expressions, only some influential genes are selected but many other important ones are missed.

Stability selection with Randomized LASSO is one of proposed solutions that eliminates some disadvantages of LASSO:

<https://rss.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1467-9868.2010.00740.x>

In this assignment, you will need to use **parkinsons** data from Lab 1 where *motor_UPDRS* is target and all other columns except of total_UPDRS are features. Before doing the assignment, scale all data columns to zero mean and unit variance.

1. Implement Stability selection with randomized LASSO for parkinsons data by using **glmnet** package functionality in such way that:
 - a. You use usual bootstrap with amount of iterations $B = 100$ and full sample size n instead of sampling without replacement of size $n/2$ (hint: when debugging your code, use a much smaller B).
 - b. Choose the following parameters of the randomized lasso and stability selection: $\pi_{thr} = 0.7, \alpha = 0.5, \lambda$ as a suitable sequence of values between zero and one

The report should contain a table showing probabilities $\hat{\Pi}_k^\lambda$ and the stable variable set \hat{S}^{stable}

Assignment 2. Model-Based decision trees

Traditional decision trees are sometimes criticized because they fit a constant term in each terminal node which makes the resulting trees to be piecewise constant functions in a regression setting. A remedy in this case are model-based trees that allow a user to fit any model within each terminal node:

<https://amstat.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1198/106186008X319331#.Xc6rFW5FxaQ>

1. Use R package for model-based trees **partykit** and function **mob()** in order to implement decision trees in which in each node you fit a Local regression (i.e. `loess()`) including all features
 - a. Hint: It can be useful to check `vignette("mob", package = "partykit")`
2. Fit the implemented model to Women.csv data in which Blood.Systolic is the target and Weight and Height are variables that are used as possible splitting variables in the decision tree and also as features in the embedded regressions. Set 5000 to be the smallest possible number of observations in a tree node.
3. Create a grid of values for Height and Weight that covers the data points and that has 100 levels in each dimension – Height and Weight. Compute predictions from

the model for each combination of Height and Weight from the grid and use the result in order to create a raster plot using **geom_raster()** in **ggplot2** (color intensity should correspond to the predicted Blood.Systolic).

a. Hint: check carefully “type” parameter of “predict” function.

4. Include the raster plot in your report.

Assignment 3. Neural networks

Implement the backpropagation algorithm for fitting the parameters of a NN for regression. The NN has one input unit, 10 hidden units, and one output unit. Use the sigmoid and tanh activation functions and compare the results. Recall that you have an example in Bishop's book as well as in the course slides. Use stochastic gradient descent. Use only basic R functions. Please, comment your code appropriately. Use the following template.

```
set.seed(1234567890)

Var <- runif(50, 0, 10)
trva <- data.frame(Var, Sin=sin(Var))
tr <- trva[1:25,] # Training
va <- trva[26:50,] # Validation

# plot(trva)
# plot(tr)
# plot(va)

w_j <- runif(10, -1, 1)
b_j <- runif(10, -1, 1)
w_k <- runif(10, -1, 1)
b_k <- runif(1, -1, 1)

l_rate <- 1/nrow(tr)^2
n_ite = 25000
error <- rep(0, n_ite)
error_va <- rep(0, n_ite)

for(i in 1:n_ite) {

# error computation: Your code here

cat("i: ", i, ", error: ", error[i]/2, ", error_va: ", error_va[i]/2, "\n")
flush.console()

for(n in 1:nrow(tr)) {

# forward propagation: Your code here

# backward propagation: Your code here
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

```
# print final weights and errors
```

```
w_j
```

```
b_j
```

```
w_k
```

```
b_k
```

```
plot(error/2, ylim=c(0, 5))
```

```
points(error_va/2, col = "red")
```

```
# plot prediction on training data
```

```
pred <- matrix(nrow=nrow(tr), ncol=2)
```

```
for(n in 1:nrow(tr)) {
```

```
  z_j <-
```

```
  y_k <-
```

```
  pred[n,] <- c(tr[n,]$Var, y_k)
```

```
}
```

```
plot(pred)
```

```
points(tr, col = "red")
```

```
# plot prediction on validation data
```

```
pred <- matrix(nrow=nrow(tr), ncol=2)
```

```
for(n in 1:nrow(va)) {
```

```
  z_j <-
```

```
  y_k <-
```

```
  pred[n,] <- c(va[n,]$Var, y_k)
```

```
}
```

```
plot(pred)
```

```
points(va, col = "red")
```