

# Linear Regression

## 1. The Linear Model

Assume  $Y_i = x_i^\top \beta + \epsilon_i$  or  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$  with  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ ; ( $n \geq p$ ) and  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon_i] = 0, \text{Var}(\epsilon_i) = \sigma^2$ .  $X$  is often augmented with  $(1 \ N \ 1)$  to use  $\beta_1$  as bias.

## 2. Least Squares Method

LS estimator is  $\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\beta} \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2 = (X^\top X)^{-1} X^\top Y$ . Estimate  $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n-p} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{\beta}^\top x_i)^2$  with  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\sigma}^2] = \sigma^2$ .

### Assumptions for Linear Model

- Linear regression equation is correct, i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon_i] = 0 \ \forall i$ .
- We measure  $x_i$ 's exactly. Else, need correction (?).
- Error is homoscedastic, i.e.  $\text{Var}(\epsilon_i) = \sigma^2 \ \forall i$ . Else, use "Weighted LS".
- Errors are uncorrelated, i.e.  $\text{Cov}(\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j) = 0 \ \forall i \neq j$ . Else "Generalized LS".
- Errors are jointly normally distributed. Else "Robust Methods".

### Moments of least squares estimates

Assume  $\mathbf{Y} = X\beta + \epsilon, \mathbb{E}[\epsilon] = \mathbf{0}, \text{Cov}(\epsilon\epsilon^\top) = \sigma^2 I$  (all assumptions satisfied). Then

- $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}] = \beta$  ( $\hat{\beta}$  is unbiased).
- $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}] = X\beta$  and  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{r}] = \mathbf{0}$ .
- $\text{Cov}(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2 (X^\top X)^{-1}$ .
- $\text{Cov}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}) = \sigma^2 P, \text{Cov}(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma^2 (I - P), P = X(X^\top X)^{-1} X^\top$ . If additionally  $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n$  i.i.d.  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ , then
  - $\hat{\beta} \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\beta, \sigma^2 (X^\top X)^{-1})$
  - $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} \sim \mathcal{N}_n(X\beta, \sigma^2), \mathbf{r} \sim \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 (I - P))$
- $\hat{\sigma}^2 \sim \frac{\sigma^2}{n-p} \chi_{n-p}^2$ .

Even when normality assumption doesn't hold, central limit theorem is a justification.

## 3. Tests and Confidence Regions

### T-test

Assume linear model with Gaussian errors (or "large enough" sample size), s.t.  $\hat{\beta} \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\beta, \sigma^2 (X^\top X)^{-1})$  is normally distributed. Then we can test the null-hypothesis  $H_{0,j} : \beta_j = 0$  against  $H_{A,j} : \beta_j \neq 0$ :

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 (X^\top X)^{-1}_{jj}}} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \Rightarrow T_j = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 (X^\top X)^{-1}_{jj}}} \sim t_{n-p}$$

under the null-hypothesis  $H_{0,j}$ . Unknown  $\sigma^2$  is replaced by  $\hat{\sigma}^2$ . Note that  $t_{n-p} \approx \mathcal{N}$ . An individual t-test for  $H_{0,j}$  gives the effect of  $\hat{\beta}_j$  after subtracting the linear effect of all  $\beta_{i \neq j}$ . Note that in `summary.lm`, the term *Std. Error* is

$$\sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 (X^\top X)^{-1}_{jj}} = \sqrt{\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_j)}. \text{ Finally, we can also build a}$$

confidence interval using  $\hat{\beta}_j \pm \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 (X^\top X)^{-1}_{jj}} \cdot t_{n-p; 1-\alpha/2}$ .

```
confint(fit, level=0.95)
```

### Global null hypothesis and ANOVA

We can also check the global null-hypothesis  $H_0 : \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_p = 0$  using an *analysis of variance*, which decomposes

$$\|\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}\|_2^2 = \|\hat{\mathbf{Y}} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_1\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}\|_2^2.$$

Under the global null-hypothesis  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{\mathbf{Y}}] = \text{const.}$  (no effect of predictor variables).  $\sigma^2/\hat{\sigma}^2$  yields F-statistic:

$$F = \frac{\|\hat{\mathbf{Y}} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_1\|_2^2 / (p-1)}{\|\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}\|_2^2 / (n-p)} \sim F_{p-1, n-p}$$

under the global null-hypothesis  $H_0$ . ANOVA also yields *goodness of fit*  $R^2 = \frac{\|\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_1\|_2^2}{\|\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}\|_2^2}$ , which should be close to 1.

```
anova(fit) # global F test
# partial F test - sig. of predictors in .full but not .part
anova(fit.part, fit.full)
```

## 4. Checking Model Assumptions

### Tukey-Anscombe Plot

Error should fluctuate randomly. If error increases linearly, do log-transform  $\mathbf{Y} \mapsto \log \mathbf{Y}$ . If error increases with  $\sqrt{Y}$ , do a square-root-transform  $\mathbf{Y} \mapsto \sqrt{\mathbf{Y}}$ .

```
plot(fit, which=1) # Tukey-Anscombe plot
```

### QQ-Plot/Normal-Plot

Plot empirical quantiles of residuals on y versus the theoretical quantiles of  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  on x. If assumption holds, get straight line with intercept  $\mu$  and slope  $\sigma$ . Z-shape: long-tailed distr.; Curved: skewed distr.

```
plot(fit, which=2) # QQ-plot
```

## 5. Model Selection

Assume again  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon_i] = 0, \text{Var}(\epsilon_i = \sigma^2)$ . We need to address *bias-variance trade-off*. Bias is defined as  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{f}(x)] - f(x)$ , variance as  $q/n \cdot \sigma^2$  with  $q \leq p$ .

### Mallows $C_p$ statistic

Let  $SSE(d)$  be the residual sum of squares. Then  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[(f(x) - \hat{f}(x))^2] \approx n^{-1} SSE(d) - \hat{\sigma}^2 + 2\hat{\sigma}^2 d/n$ . Thus, we search for the model that minimizes  $C_p(\mathcal{M}) = \frac{SSE(d)}{\hat{\sigma}^2} - n + 2d$ . Alternatively, use  $AIC = 2d - 2 \log \hat{L}$ , where  $\hat{L}$  = maximal value of likelihood, or BIC. AIC is equivalent to  $C_p$  for linear Gaussian models.

```
# All subsets regression
require(leaps)
fit.all = regsubsets(y~., data=data)
p.regsubsets(fit.all)
```

### Forwards and backwards selection

**Forward selection:** (i) Start with empty model. (ii) (Greedy!) Keep adding variable that reduces the residual sum of squares the most. (iii) When done, pick submodel which minimizes  $C_p$ .

**Backward selection:** (i) Start with full model. (ii) (Greedy!) Keep excluding predictor that increases the residual sum of squares the least. (iii) When done, pick submodel which minimizes  $C_p$ . Backwards selection typically better but more expensive. When  $p \geq n$ , use forward selection. Both methods prone to overfitting — p-values (and similar values) are *not* valid anymore and effects look too significant.

```
# Backward / forward selection
fit.empty = lm(y~1, data=data)
fit.full = lm(y~., data=data)
fit.bw = step(fit.full, direction="backward")
fit.fw = step(fit.empty, direction="forward",
  <- scope=list(upper=fit.full, lower=fit.empty))
```

## Density Estimation

### Kernel estimator

Estimate density  $\hat{f}(x) = \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n w((x - X_i)/h)$ . Kernels include (i) rectangular ( $w(x) = 0.5 \cdot 1_{|x|<1}$ ), (ii) triangular, or (iii) Gaussian. We require  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x) dx = 1$ . The bandwidth parameter  $h$  is crucial and determines the "smoothness" of the density estimate.

### Choosing a bandwidth $h$

A simple approach is using  $k$ -nearest neighbors, i.e.  $h(x) = \max_{x_i \in KNN_k(x)} \|x - x_i\|_2$  with tuning parameter  $k$ . Note that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x) dx = 1$  might be violated. Naturally, the bandwidth also induces a *bias-variance trade-off*. Note that  $MSE(x) = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{f}(x) - f(x))^2] = (\mathbb{E}[\hat{f}(x)] - f(x))^2 + \text{Var}(\hat{f}(x))$ , so we can try to minimize the integrated  $MSE$  over all points to find the best bandwidth.

## Density estimation in higher dimensions

Basically use  $\hat{f}(x) = \frac{1}{nh^d} \sum_{i=1}^n K((x - \mathbf{X}_i)/h)$  with a Kernel that supports vectors. The Gaussian kernel is the only one that is radially symmetric. Note that in higher dimensions, density estimation becomes very hard, due to data points becoming very sparse.

## Nonparametric Regression

Nonparametric regression with *one* predictor variable, i.e.  $Y_i = m(x_i) + \epsilon_i$  with  $\epsilon_{1:n}$  i.i.d and  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon_i] = 0$ . We want  $m(x) = \mathbb{E}[Y|x]$  and "some" smoothness.

### Kernel regression estimator

A "locally weighted" approach yields the NW kernel estimator

$$\hat{m}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i Y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i} = \arg \min_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i (Y_i - m_x)^2 \quad (3.1)$$

with  $\omega_i = K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$  a kernel centered at  $x_i$  and bandwidth  $h$ . As  $h$  small  $\rightarrow$  large then (high variance)  $\rightarrow$  (high bias). For  $x_i$  equidistant there exists  $h_{opt} = f(\sigma_\epsilon^2, m''(x))$  which can be iteratively found.

```
ksmooth(x, y, kernel="normal", bandwidth=0.2, x.points=x)$y

# automatic bandwidth
fit.lo<-lokerns(X, Y, x.out=X, hetero=TRUE, is.rand=TRUE)
fit.gl<-glkerns(X, Y, x.out=X, hetero=TRUE, is.rand=TRUE)
```

### Local polynomial regression estimator

Instead of finding a local constant  $m_x$  we can also find a *local polynomial*, i.e. we replace  $m_x$  with  $\beta_1 + \sum_{i=2}^p \beta_i (x_i - x)^{i-1}$  (usually  $p = 2$  or  $p = 4$ ). Often better at edges and yields first derivative.

```
fit.loess <- loess(y ~ x, data=data.frame(x=x, y=y pert),
  <- span=0.2971339, surface='direct')
fit.loess.prd <- predict(fit.loess, newdata=x)
```

### The hat matrix $S$

We want to construct  $S$  with  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = S\mathbf{Y}$ , i.e. the linear operator mapping the labels to the predictions. Given the regression (smoothing) function  $s$ , we compute  $S_{.j} = s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{e}_j, h)$  with  $\mathbf{e}_j$  the  $j$ -th unit vector. Then  $\text{Cov}(\hat{m}(\mathbf{x})) = \text{Cov}(S\mathbf{Y}) = S \text{Cov}(\mathbf{Y}) S^\top = \sigma_\epsilon^2 S S^\top$ . Set  $df = \text{tr} S$  and estimate  $\hat{\sigma}_\epsilon^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{m}(x_i))^2 / (n - df)$ . Then

- $\widehat{s.e.}(\hat{m}(x_i)) = \sqrt{\widehat{\text{Var}}(\hat{m}(x_i))} = \hat{\sigma}_\epsilon \sqrt{(SS^\top)_{ii}}$
- $\hat{m}(x_i) \approx \mathcal{N}(\mathbb{E}[\hat{m}(x_i)], \text{Var}(\hat{m}(x_i)))$
- $I = \hat{m}(x_i) \pm 1.96 \cdot \widehat{s.e.}(\hat{m}(x_i)) \rightarrow$  (pointwise) CI

```
# Construct S matrix
N <- length(x); Eye <- diag(N)
S.nw <- matrix(0, nrow=N, ncol=N)
for (j in 1:N) {
  y_ <- Eye[, j]
  S.nw[, j] <- ksmooth(x, y_, kernel="normal",
    <- bandwidth=0.2, x.points=x)$y
}

# Compute standard error
est.nw <- ksmooth(x=x, y=y, kernel="normal", bandwidth=0.2,
  <- x.points=x)$y
sig_sq.nw <- sum((y - est.nw)^2) / (N - sum(diag(S.nw)))
se.nw <- sqrt(sig_sq.nw * diag(S.nw %*% t(S.nw)))
```

## Smoothing splines and penalized regression

High-order polynomials do not work, so splines are used. We discuss splines *without* having to specify the knots. Find  $\arg \min_{m \in C^0(\mathbb{R})} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - m(x_i))^2 + \lambda \int_{\mathbb{R}} m''(z)^2 dz$ . Note that the minimizer is *finite dimensional* — it is a cubic spline that can be computed using a set of basis functions  $m_\lambda(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j B_j(x)$  or  $\|\mathbf{Y} - B\beta\|^2 + \lambda \beta^\top \Omega \beta \Rightarrow \hat{\beta} = (B^\top B + \lambda \Omega)^{-1} B^\top \mathbf{Y}$ . Choose  $\lambda$  on the scale of  $df = \text{tr}(S_\lambda)$ . Note that this is Ridge-type regression, which saves us from being overparametrized ( $n$  points,  $n$  parameters). In the exam, this is *not* considered "standard" least squares.

```
fit.ss = smooth.spline(x, y, df=df)
ss.preds = predict(fit.ss, newdata=x)$y
```

## Cross Validation

Let  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  i.i.d  $\sim P$ . We would like to compute  $\mathbb{E}(X_{new}, Y_{new})[\rho(\mathbf{Y}_{new}, \hat{m}_{train}(X_{new}))]$ .

### Constructing cross-validation datasets

Approaches include

**Validation set:** —

**Leave-one-out CV:**  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \rho(Y_i, \hat{m}_{n-1}^{(-i)}(X_i))$  ca. unbiased.

**k-fold CV:**  $K^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^K |\mathcal{B}_k|^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_k} \rho(Y_i, \hat{m}_{n-|\mathcal{B}_k|}^{(-\mathcal{B}_k)}(X_i))$ .

Smaller variance than LOOCV.

**Random division:** Like k-fold, but build  $\mathcal{B}_k$  by sampling without replacement ( $\approx 10\%$ ). Usually fastest.

### Tricks using hat matrix

For linear fitting operators and the loss  $\rho(y, x) = (y - x)^2$  we can exploit the hat matrix and get the full LOOCV result in a single step using

$$n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Y_i - \hat{m}_{n-1}^{(-i)}(X_i) \right)^2 = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{Y_i - \hat{m}(X_i)}{1 - S_{ii}} \right)^2.$$

It can be cheaper to just compute  $\text{tr}(S)$  (instead of all  $S_{ii}$ ), which leads to the *generalized cross-validation*

$$GCV = \frac{n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{m}(X_i))^2}{(1 - n^{-1} \text{tr}(S))^2}.$$

The two equations coincide if  $S_{ii} = c \ \forall i$ .

## Bootstrap

Efron's *parametric* and *nonparametric bootstrap* can be described as "simulating from an estimated model" and can be used for *statistical inference (confidence intervals and testing)* and *estimating the predictive power of a model or algorithm*.

### Nonparametric Bootstrap

Let  $Z_{1:n}$  i.i.d  $\sim P$  with  $Z_i = (X_i, Y_i), X_i \in \mathbb{R}^p, Y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $\theta_n = g(Z_{1:n})$  be an estimator. We would like to know the *distribution of  $\theta_n$* . We approximate  $\mathbf{P}$  by the *empirical distribution  $P_n$* . Then we can repeatedly sample  $Z_{1:n}^* \sim \hat{P}_n$

independently and compute  $\hat{\theta}_n^* = g(Z_{1:n}^*)$ . The histogram (or any density estimator) then describes the distribution of  $\hat{\theta}_n^*$ . The algorithm reads

- Sample (with replacement)  $Z_{1:n}^*$  i.i.d  $\sim \hat{P}_n$ .
- Compute the bootstrapped estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n^* = g(Z_{1:n}^*)$ .
- Repeat  $B$  times to obtain  $\hat{\theta}_n^{*1:B}$ .
- Approximate  $\mathbb{E}^*[\hat{\theta}_n^*] \approx B^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^B \hat{\theta}_n^{*i}$  and  $\text{Var}^*(\hat{\theta}_n^*) \approx (B-1)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^B (\hat{\theta}_n^{*i} - B^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^B \hat{\theta}_n^{*j})^2$ . Then  $\alpha$ -quantile of  $\hat{\theta}_n^* \approx$  empirical  $\alpha$ -quantile of  $\hat{\theta}_n^{*1:B}$ .

### Central limit theorem

Let  $X_i$  be a random variable with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu$  and  $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma^2$ . Then  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2/n)$ .

**Bootstrap consistence**

Consistency of the bootstrap typically holds if the limiting distribution of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is Normal and if  $Z_{1:n}$  are i.i.d. Mathematically, for an increasing sequence  $a_n$  and  $\forall x, \mathbb{P}[a_n(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) \leq x] - \mathbb{P}^*[a_n(\hat{\theta}_n^* - \hat{\theta}_n) \leq x] \xrightarrow{P} 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Then  $Op^*(\hat{\theta}_n^*)/Op(\hat{\theta}_n) \xrightarrow{P} 1$  with  $Op \in \{Var, \mathbb{E}\}$ .

**Bootstrap confidence intervals**

Given bootstrap consistence, we can compute confidence intervals:

- i quantile:  $[q_{\hat{\alpha}^*}(\alpha/2), q_{\hat{\alpha}^*}(1 - \alpha/2)]$
- ii rev. quantile:  $[\hat{\Theta} - q_{\hat{\alpha}^*} \_ \hat{\Theta}(1 - \alpha/2), \hat{\Theta} - q_{\hat{\alpha}^*} \_ \hat{\Theta}(\alpha/2)]$
- iii normal:  $2\hat{\Theta} - \bar{\Theta}^* \pm q_X(1 - \alpha/2) \cdot \hat{sd}(\hat{\Theta})$  ( $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ ; corrects for bias  $\hat{\Theta} - \Theta^*$ )

Note  $\hat{q}_\alpha = q_{\hat{\alpha}^*}^* - \hat{\theta}_n$  with  $q_\alpha^* = \alpha$ -bootstrap quantile of  $\hat{\theta}_n^*$ . Thus  $[\hat{\theta}_n - \hat{q}_{1-\alpha/2}^*, \hat{\theta}_n - \hat{q}_{\alpha/2}^*] = [2\hat{\theta}_n - q_{1-\alpha/2}^*, 2\hat{\theta}_n - q_{\alpha/2}^*]$ .

```
require("boot")
tm = function(x, ind) {mean(x[ind], trim = 0.1)}
res.boot = boot(data=sample, statistic=tm, R=1000)
boot.ci(res.boot, conf=0.95, type=c("basic", "norm", "perc"))
# "basic"=reverse quantile, "norm"=normal, "perc"=quantile
```

```
# CIs by hand
require(MASS); mle = fitdistr(boogg, "gamma")$estimate
boot.est = matrix(NA, nrow=R, ncol=1)
for (i in 1:R) {
  boogg.s = rgamma(N, shape=mle[1], rate=mle[2])
  # boogg.s = sample(boogg, N, replace=T) # NP
  boot.est[i] = quantile(boogg.s, probs=0.75)
}; a = 0.05
# Quantile
quantile(boot.est, probs=c(a/2, 1-a/2))
# Normal
mean.est = mean(boot.est)
sd.hat = sqrt(1/(R-1)*sum((boot.est - mean.est)^2))
2*est.mean.est + c(-1, 1)*qnorm(1-a/2)*sd.hat
# Reverse quantile
est - quantile(boot.est-est, probs=c(1-a/2, a/2))
```

**Double bootstrap**

Idea: Find  $\alpha'$  s.t. actual coverage of bootstrap CI  $I^*(1 - \alpha')$  is equal to  $\alpha$ .

- i Draw BS sample  $Z^*$ . Sample from  $Z^*$  to obtain  $Z^{**}$ . Compute CI  $I^{**}(1 - \alpha)$  for  $\hat{\Theta}^*$  based on  $B$  draws  $Z^{**}$ . Compute coverage of  $\hat{\Theta}$  by  $I^{**}$  (1 or 0).
- ii Repeat i)  $M$  times to obtain  $M$  coverage values. Compute mean to obtain actual coverage of  $I^{**}$ .
- iii Vary  $\alpha'$  and repeat previous steps to find  $\alpha'$  with coverage  $(I^{**}(1 - \alpha')) = 1 - \alpha$ . Use CI  $I^*(1 - \alpha')$ .

**Parametric Bootstrap**

Assume  $Z = (Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$  i.i.d.  $\sim P_\Theta$ . Fit  $\hat{\Theta}$  = MLE and generate samples  $Z^* \text{ i.i.d. } \sim P_{\hat{\Theta}}$ . Usually better than non-parametric version when  $P_{\hat{\Theta}}$  is a good fit (e.g. known model structure  $P$ ) and few data points available.

```
require(MASS); fit.gamma = fitdistr(boogg, "gamma")
fun.theta = function(x) {quantile(x, probs=0.75)}
fun.gen = function(x, mle) {rgamma(length(x), shape=mle[1],
  ↪ rate=mle[2])}
res.boot = boot(data, fun.theta, R=1000, sim="parametric",
  ↪ ran.gen=fun.gen, mle=fit.gamma$estimate);
```

**Bootstrap error estimate**

Generalization error (loss  $\rho(y, m(x))$ ) of model  $m$  (fitted to full data set) can be estimated by fitting models  $m^{*,i}$  to bootstrap samples and computing

- errors on full data set  $e^{*,i} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \rho(y, m^{*,i}(x_i))$
- OOB errors  $e_{ob,i}^{*,i} = n_{ob,i}^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{ob,i}} \rho(y_{ob,i}, m^{*,i}(x_{ob,i}))$

The error of  $m$  is then approximated by  $R^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^R e^{*,i}$ .

**Classification**

Given  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  i.i.d. with  $Y_i \in \{0, \dots, J - 1\}$ , determine  $\pi_j(x) = \mathbb{P}[Y = j \mid X = x] \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, J - 1$ . The optimal classifier is  $C_{\text{Bayes}}(x) = \arg \max_{0 \leq j \leq J-1} \pi_j(x)$ . Then Bayes risk for the 0-1-loss is  $\mathbb{P}[C_{\text{Bayes}}(X_{\text{new}}) \neq Y_{\text{new}}]$ .

**Discriminant analysis**

**LDA:** Assume  $X \mid Y = j \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_j, \Sigma)$ ,  $\mathbb{P}[Y = j] = p_j$ . Then by Bayes formula

$$\pi_j(x) = \frac{f_{X|Y=j}(x) \cdot p_j}{\sum_{k=0}^{J-1} f_{X|Y=k}(x) \cdot p_k}$$

with each  $f_{X|Y=j}$  a Gaussian  $\mathcal{N}(\mu_j, \Sigma)$ . We can estimate  $\mu_j$  and  $\Sigma$  by the (closed-form) MLEs, and we also need a prior for  $Y$ , which often is fixed as  $\hat{p}_j = n_j/n$ . This results in  $\hat{\delta}_j(x) = (x - \hat{\mu}_j/2)^\top \Sigma^{-1} \hat{\mu}_j + \log(\hat{p}_j)$  with linear (in  $x$ ) decision boundaries  $\hat{\delta}_j(x) = \hat{\delta}_{j'}(x)$  and  $\mathcal{C}(x) = \arg \max_j \hat{\delta}_j(x)$ .

**QDA:** Now we assume different  $\Sigma_j$  for each class and obtain quadratic decision boundaries  $\hat{\delta}_j(x) = -\log(\det(\hat{\Sigma}_j))/2 - (x - \hat{\mu}_j)^\top \hat{\Sigma}_j^{-1} (x - \hat{\mu}_j)/2 + \log(\hat{p}_j)$ . The price:  $J \cdot p(p+1)/2$  parameters (for all  $\Sigma_j$ ) vs.  $p(p+1)/2$  for a single  $\Sigma$ .

```
require(MASS)
class_lda = lda(x=df[, c("x1", "x2")], grouping=df[, "y"])
```

**Logistic regression for binary classification**

Given some model  $g: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (e.g. a linear model) we can use the logistic transform  $\pi \mapsto \log(\pi/(1 - \pi))$  to get probabilities:  $\log(\pi(x)/(1 - \pi(x))) = g(x)$  and  $\pi(x) = 1/(1 + \exp(-g(x)))$ . This implies  $Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi(x_i))$  (e.g. weighted coin flip). The likelihood is thus  $\prod_{i=1}^n \pi(x_i)^{Y_i} (1 - \pi(x_i))^{1 - Y_i}$ . We typically estimate  $\beta$  using gradient descent. As  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we can asymptotically compute the standard errors  $\widehat{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_j)$  and t-test statistics  $\hat{\beta}_j/\widehat{s.e.}(\hat{\beta}_j) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  (under  $H_{0,j}: \beta_j = 0$ ).

```
fit = glm(Y~., data=data, family="binomial")
mean((predict(fit, type="response") > 0.5) == data$Y)
```

**Linear predictors**

Note that both *LDA* and *Logistic regression* are linear in the prediction variables. For LDA that comes from the Gaussian assumption (i.e. “linearization” of the true distribution), for Logistic regression it comes from the linear log-odds function.

**Multiclass case ( $J > 2$ )**

- a)  $J$  classes  $\rightarrow J$  binary variables:  $\tilde{\pi}_j(x) = \frac{\hat{p}_{i,j}(x)}{\sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \hat{\pi}_j(x)}$
- b) Using *multinomial distribution* (parametric linear logistic) (see multinom)
- c) “Reference class”  $\log(\pi_j(x)/\pi_0(x)) = g_j(x)$
- d) Pairwise 1-vs-1, fitting  $\binom{J}{2} \cdot p$  parameters
- e) Exploiting “ordered” classes with proportional odds

**Flexible regression and classification methods**

We fight the *curse of dimensionality* by making some structural assumptions (although staying with methods  $g(\cdot): \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of nonparametric nature).

**1. Additive models**

Decompose multivariate function as  $g_{\text{add}}: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto \mu + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(x_j)$  with  $g_j(\cdot): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{E}[g_j(X_j)] = 0$ . The zero-mean requirement for each  $g_j(\cdot)$  makes the problem well posed. This approach is a generalization of linear models, and similarly can not model interaction terms  $g_{j,k}(x_j, x_k)$ . Due to the way they are constructed, additive linear models *avoid the curse of dimensionality*.

To fit a model, let  $S_j$  be a smoothing technique (e.g. *Nadaraya-Watson kernel estimators*). Then, the **backfitting** algorithm works as follows:

- Compute  $\hat{\mu} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$  and initialize  $\hat{g}_j(\cdot) := 0$ .
- Cycle through the indices  $j = 1, 2, \dots, p, 1, 2, \dots$  and update  $\hat{g}_j = S_j(Y - \hat{\mu}1 - \sum_{k \neq j} \hat{g}_k)$ . Stop each function at convergence.
- Normalize the functions:  $\tilde{g}_j(\cdot) = \hat{g}_j(\cdot) - n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{g}_j(X_{ij})$ . This basically makes the algorithm repeatedly solve the 1-dimensional fitting problem. The algorithm may be slow but often works and can use any 1-dimensional fitting technique.

When fitting Additive models in R with the function `gam`, the smoothers  $S_j$  are penalized regression splines, and the degrees of freedom for each spline (i.e. each variable) will be determined through cross-validation.

```
fit <- gam(Y ~ s(x1) + s(x2) + ..., data=data)
plot(fit, pages=1, shade=TRUE)
sfsmisc::TA.plot(fit, labels="o")
```

**2. Multivariate adaptive regression splines**

$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mu + \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m h_m(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{m=0}^M \beta_m h_m(\mathbf{x})$  Find  $h \in \mathcal{M}$  functions by forward selection and pruning:

- i Initialize  $\mathcal{M} = \{h_0 = 1\}, \beta_0 = \bar{Y}$
- ii For  $r = 1, 2, \dots$ : Find best pair (most reduction of RSS)  $h_{2r-1} = h_1(\cdot)(x_j - x_{i,j})_+, h_{2r} = h_1(\cdot)(x_{i,j} - x_j)_+$ , where  $h_l \in \mathcal{M}$  does not already depend on  $x_j$ . Estimate  $\beta_{2r-1}, \beta_{2r}$  by LS. Add  $h_{2r-1}, h_{2r}$  to  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- iii Repeat until  $\mathcal{M}$  large enough. Prune by repeatedly removing one function from pairs  $h_{2r-1}, h_{2r}$  (least increase in RSS). Stop when GCV score is optimized.

```
require("earth");
fit <- earth(formula=y~.,data=data, degree=2)
plotmo(fit, degree2=FALSE, caption="main effects")
```

**3. Neural Networks**

$g(\mathbf{x})_k = f_0(\alpha_k + \sum_{h=1}^q w_{hk} \sigma(\tilde{\alpha}_h + \sum_{j=1}^p \tilde{w}_{hj} x_j)) \forall k = 1..J$ ,  $q$  hidden nodes,  $J$  output dim. Activation  $\sigma(t) = \frac{\exp t}{1 + \exp t}$ . For regression,  $f_0$  identity, for classification  $f_0 = \sigma$  and  $C_{NN} = \arg \max_j g_j(\mathbf{x})$ . Many other architectures possible, e.g. including a component directly connecting input to output by linear regression.

```
library(nnet); ?nnet ?ppr
```

**4. Trees**

**Classification and Regression Trees**

Let  $g_{\text{tree}}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{r=1}^M \beta_r 1[\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r]$ , where  $\{\mathcal{R}_1, \dots, \mathcal{R}_M\}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{R}^p$ . The function is piecewise constant. When a partition is given, we can estimate  $\beta_r = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i 1[\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r] / \sum_{i=1}^n 1[\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r]$ . For multiclass classification  $\hat{\pi}_j(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n 1[Y_i = j] 1[\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r] / \sum_{i=1}^n 1[\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r]$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_r$ . Greddy algorithm to find axes parallel partition:

- i Initialize  $\mathcal{M} = 1$  subset  $\mathcal{P} = \{\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{R}^p\}$
- ii Split  $\mathcal{R}$  at  $d$  in dimension  $j$ , where  $d$  is from the set of midpoints of observed values. Select  $j, d$  s.t. neg. log-likelihood decrease is maximized by refinement.
- iii Apply ii) to one cell of the current partition (select like above). Add the resulting two cells and remove the refined one.
- iv Iterate iii) until until specified max. partition size is achieved.
- v Prune tree by removing leaves resulting in smallest increase in some (CV) metric.

The size of a tree  $\mathcal{T}$  is the number of leaves ( $= 1 + \text{cuts}$ ). For some goodness-of-fit measure  $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{T})$  (e.g. SSE, NLL), the cost-complexity measure is  $\mathcal{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{T}) + \alpha \cdot \text{size}(\mathcal{T})$ . For some  $\alpha$ , we thus choose  $\mathcal{T}(\alpha) = \arg \min_{\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{T}_M} \mathcal{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{T})$ . The parameter  $\alpha$  is chosen by CV. The 1 s.e. rule says: Choose smallest tree such that its performance is at most one standard error larger than the minimal one.

```
library(rpart); require(rpart.plot);
# cp =  $\alpha/\mathcal{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{T}_{\hat{\mathcal{Q}}})$ 
tree = rpart(y~., data=data, control=rpart.control(cp=0.0,
  ↪ minsplit=1)) # unregularized tree
plotcp(tree); cps = tree$cptable
idx.min = which.min(cps[, "xerror"])
std.min = cps[idx.min, "xstd"]
cp.1se =
  ↪ cps[abs(cps[, "xerror"] - cps[idx.min, "xerror"])] < std.min,]
pruned.tree = prune.rpart(tree, cp=cp.1se[1, "CP"])
```

```
rf <- randomForest(Boston.train, y.train, xtest=Boston.test,
  ↪ ytest=y.test, ntree=ntree, mtry=ncol(Boston.train))
rf$mse[ntree] # OOB error
rf$test$mse[ntree]
```

**5. Ridge and Lasso**

Trade-off between  $\|\beta\|_1$  and  $\|\beta\|_2$  regularization, i.e.  $L(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \beta) = \|\mathbf{Y} - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda_2 \|\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\beta\|_1$  with  $\alpha = \lambda_2/(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$ .  $\alpha = 1 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_2 = 1$  means full  $L_2$ -regularization, i.e. *Lasso*, otherwise *Ridge*.

```
ridge <- glmnet(x.train, y.train, lambda=100, alpha=1)
ridge$beta
ridge.cv <- cv.glmnet(x.train, y.train, lambda=grid.lambda,
  ↪ alpha=0, type.measure="mse")
mean((predict(ridge.cv, newx=x.test, s="lambda.min") -
  ↪ y.test)^2)
lasso.cv <- cv.glmnet(x.train, y.train, lambda=grid.lambda,
  ↪ alpha=1, type.measure="mse")
mean((predict(lasso.cv, newx=x.test, s="lambda.min") -
  ↪ y.test)^2)
```

**Bagging and Boosting**

**Bagging and Subbagging**

Bootstrap **aggregating** (bagging) (mostly on trees), uses  $\hat{g}(\cdot): \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and ensembles them (which comes at the loss of interpretability).

- i Generate bootstrap sample  $(X_1^*, Y_1^*), \dots, (X_n^*, Y_n^*)$  and compute  $\hat{g}_{*1}^*(\cdot)$ . Repeat  $B$  times.
- ii Aggregate bootstrap estimates with  $\hat{g}_{\text{Bag}}(\cdot) = B^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^B \hat{g}_i^*(\cdot) \approx \mathbb{E}^*[g^*(\cdot)]$ .

Note that  $\hat{g}_{\text{Bag}}(\cdot) \approx \hat{g}(\cdot) + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}^*[g^*(\cdot)] - \hat{g}(\cdot)}_{\text{bootstrap bias estimate}}$ . We can reduce variance at price of higher bias (at least for trees). In fact, for many  $x$ ,  $\text{Var}(\hat{g}_{\text{Bag}}(x)) < \text{Var}(\hat{g}(x))$ . We can use larger trees (higher variance) to balance the bias-variance trade-off.

For **Subsample aggregating** (Subbagging), we draw  $(X_1^*, Y_1^*), \dots, (X_m^*, Y_m^*)$  without replacement (e.g. with  $m = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ ), which can be cheaper overall and is equivalent to Bagging in some simple settings.

**L2Boosting**

Similar to Bagging, iterates on a “base-learner” by continually adding a fit on the residuals.

- i Get first fit  $\hat{g}_1(\cdot)$  by fitting on the full data. Compute residuals  $U_i = Y_i - \hat{g}_1(X_i)$  and let  $\hat{f}_1(\cdot) = \nu \hat{g}_1(\cdot)$  with  $0 < \nu \leq 1$  (typically  $\nu = 0.1$ ).
- ii For  $m = 2, 3, \dots, M$  fit  $\hat{g}_m(\cdot)$  on residuals  $U_i$  and set  $\hat{f}_m(\cdot) = \hat{f}_{m-1}(\cdot) + \nu \hat{g}_m(\cdot)$  (and update residuals using  $\hat{f}_m(\cdot)$ ).

The main tuning parameter is the stopping point  $M$ . Boosting *increases* the bias and can be used to ensemble trees to fit more complex data. See e.g.

```
?mboost; ?xgboost; ?gbm;
```