

29.16 How to determine overfitting and underfitting?

Either by using Simple cross-validation (or) k'-fold cross-validation, we get the best value of 'K'(here hyperparameter in K-NN) for the model, which neither leads the model to overfit nor to underfit.

Accuracy = (Number of points correctly classified)/(Total number of points)

Error = 1 - Accuracy

Our main aim is always to maximize the accuracy and minimize the error. For now, we shall consider the case of simple cross-validation, for that we have to split the dataset ' D_n ' into ' D_{Train} ', ' D_{cv} ' and ' D_{Test} '.

In simple cross-validation, we use the ' D_{Train} ' to find the nearest neighbors, ' D_{cv} ' to find the optimal 'K' value and ' D_{Test} ' to find out the model performance at prediction on the unseen data.

Training Error

We have to fit the model on ' D_{Train} ' and make predictions on the same ' D_{Train} '. Here we come across a few misclassifications while predicting the class labels of ' D_{Train} '. This error obtained is called the **Training Error**.

Cross-Validation Error

We have to fit the model on ' D_{Train} ' and make predictions on ' D_{cv} '. Here we come across a few misclassifications while predicting the class labels of ' D_{cv} '. This error obtained is called the **Cross-Validation Error**.

Test Error

We have to fit the model on ' D_{Train} ' and make predictions on the same ' D_{Test} '. Here we come across a few misclassifications while predicting the class labels of ' D_{Test} '. This error obtained is called the **Test Error**.

Overfitting (vs) Underfitting



If the **Training Error** is high and the **Cross-Validation Error** is high, then we call it **Underfitting**.

If the **Training Error** is low, but the **Cross-Validation Error** is high, then we call it **Overfitting**.

If the **Training Error** is moderate and the **Cross-Validation Error** is moderate, then we call it the **Best Fit**. (Here both the errors are close enough)