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Homework assignments Week 14 (Students should submit their homework before 21 p.m. on January 1, 2022.)

6. The proximal operator of the l_0 -norm (2%):

Let $\mathbb{I}\{\mathcal{A}\}$ be an indicator function such that $\mathbb{I}\{\mathcal{A}\} = 1$ if \mathcal{A} is true, and $\mathbb{I}\{\mathcal{A}\} = 0$ otherwise. The l_0 -norm of a p -dimensional vector $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p)$ is defined by

$$\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_0 = \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbb{I}\{\beta_j \neq 0\},$$

i.e. the number of non-zero valued elements in $\boldsymbol{\beta}$. The proximal operator of l_0 -norm on vector $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p)$ is defined by

$$\text{HT}_\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \left\{ \alpha \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_0 + \frac{1}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \right\}.$$

Here the proximal operator $\text{HT}_\alpha(\mathbf{x})$ is a p -dimensional vector, and its j th element is denoted by $[\text{HT}_\alpha(\mathbf{x})]_j$.

Which of the following statements are *true*?

ANS: (a)

- a.** The proximal operator of l_0 -norm is also called the **hard-thresholding** operator since it can be expressed as

$$[\text{HT}_\alpha(\mathbf{x})]_j = x_j \mathbb{I}\{|x_j| \geq \sqrt{2\alpha}\}.$$

n	n^{test}	α^*	MSE	Err^{train}	Err^{test}
200	2000	0.005	0.043	1.465	1.632

<u>Black</u> Line: Generic	X-axis: Number of iterations
<u>Gray</u> Line: Accelerated	Y-axis: Iteration Error

