

SD-TSIA204: Lasso

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Syllabus

Reminders

Variable selection and sparsity

- The ℓ_0 penalty and its limits

- The ℓ_1 penalty

- Sub-gradient / sub-differential

Improvement and extensions for the Lasso

- LSLasso / Elastic-Net

- Non-convex penalties / Adaptive Lasso

- Support structure

- Stabilization

- Least squares / Lasso extensions

Reminding the model

$$\mathbf{y} = X\boldsymbol{\theta}^* + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$X = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p] = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,1} & \dots & x_{1,p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{n,1} & \dots & x_{n,p} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$$

Motivation

Estimators of $\hat{\theta}$ with many zero coefficient are useful:

- for interpretation
- for computational efficiency if p is huge

Underlying idea: **variable selection**

Rem: also useful if θ^* has few non-zero coefficients

Variable selection overview

- ▶ **Screening**: remove the \mathbf{x}_j 's whose correlation with \mathbf{y} is weak
 - pros: fast (+++), *i.e.*, one pass over data, intuitive (+++)
 - cons: neglect variables interactions \mathbf{x}_j , weak theory (- - -)
- ▶ **Greedy** methods aka stagewise / stepwise
 - pros: fast (++), intuitive (++)
 - cons: propagates wrong selection forward; weak theory (-)
- ▶ Sparsity enforcing **penalized** methods (e.g., Lasso)
 - pros: better theory for convex cases (++)
 - cons: can be still slow (-)

The ℓ_0 pseudo-norm

Definition

The **support** of $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is the set of indexes of non-zero coordinates:

$$\text{supp}(\theta) = \{j \in \llbracket 1, p \rrbracket, \theta_j \neq 0\}$$

The ℓ_0 **pseudo-norm** of a $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is the number of non-zero coordinates:

$$\|\theta\|_0 = \text{card}\{j \in \llbracket 1, p \rrbracket, \theta_j \neq 0\}$$

Rem: $\|\cdot\|_0$ is not a norm, $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}^*, \|t\theta\|_0 = \|\theta\|_0$

Rem: $\|\cdot\|_0$ it is not even convex, $\theta_1 = (1, 0, 1, \dots, 0)$
 $\theta_2 = (0, 1, 1, \dots, 0)$ and $3 = \|\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2}{2}\|_0 \geq \frac{\|\theta_1\|_0 + \|\theta_2\|_0}{2} = 2$

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The ℓ_0 penalty

First try to get a sparsity enforcing penalty: use ℓ_0 as a penalty (or regularization)

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_0}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

Combinatorial problem!!!

Exact solution: require considering all sub-models, *i.e.*, computing OLS for all possible support; meaning one might need 2^p least squares computation!

Example :

$p = 10$ possible: $\approx 10^3$ least squares

$p = 30$ impossible: $\approx 10^{10}$ least squares

Rem: problem “NP-hard”, can be solved for small problems by mixed integer programming.

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Le Lasso: penalty point of view

Lasso: *Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator* Tibshirani (1996)

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

où $\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^p |\theta_j|$ (sum of absolute values of the coefficients)

- We recover the limiting cases:

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{\text{MCO}}$$

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^p$$

Beware: the Lasso estimator is not always **unique** for a fixed λ (consider cases with two equals columns in X)

Constraint point of view

The following problem:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

shares the same solutions as the constrained formulation:

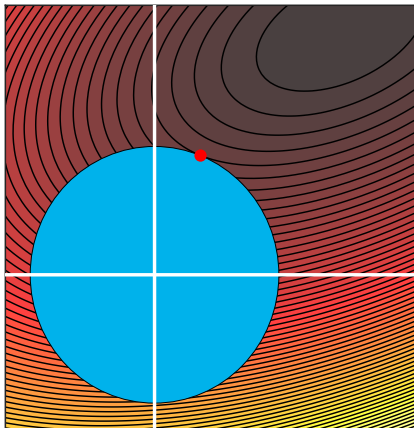
$$\begin{cases} \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 \\ \text{t.q. } \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 \leq T \end{cases}$$

for some $T > 0$.

Rem: unfortunately the link $T \leftrightarrow \lambda$ is not explicit

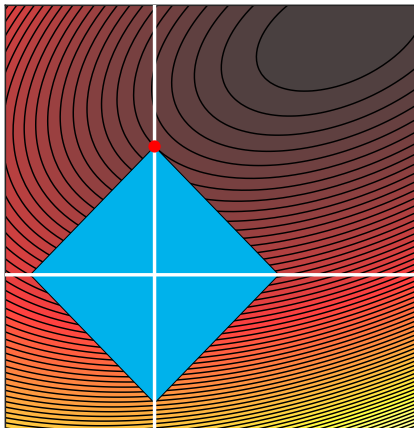
- ▶ If $T \rightarrow 0$ one recovers the null vector: $0 \in \mathbb{R}^p$
- ▶ If $T \rightarrow \infty$ one recovers $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{\text{MCO}}$ (unconstrained)

Zeroing coefficients



Optimization under ℓ_2 constraint : non sparse solution

Zeroing coefficients



Optimization under ℓ_1 constraint : sparse solution

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Sub-gradients / sub-differential

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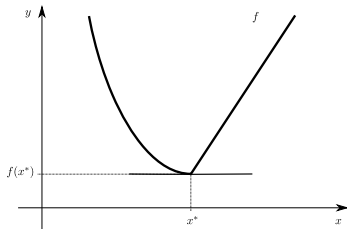
For a convex function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a **sub-gradient** of f at x^* , if for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$f(x) \geq f(x^*) + \langle u, x - x^* \rangle$$

The **sub-differential** is the set

$$\partial f(x^*) = \{u \in \mathbb{R}^n : \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, f(x) \geq f(x^*) + \langle u, x - x^* \rangle\}.$$

Rem: if the sub-gradient is unique, one recovers the standard gradient



Sub-gradients / sub-differential

Definitions

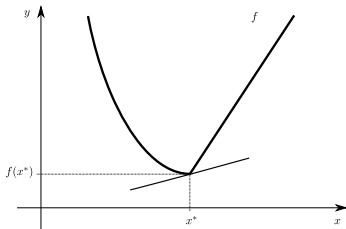
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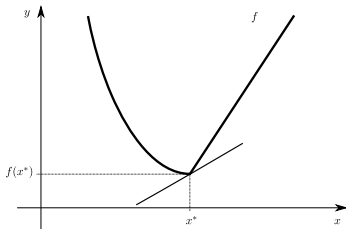
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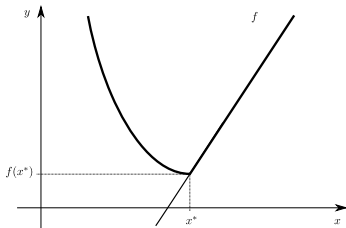
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Fermat's Rule

Theorem

A point x^* is a minimum of a convex function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if and only if $0 \in \partial f(x^*)$

Proof: use the sub-gradient definition:

- ▶ 0 is a sub-gradient of f at x^* if and only if
$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, f(x) \geq f(x^*) + \langle 0, x - x^* \rangle$$

Fermat's Rule

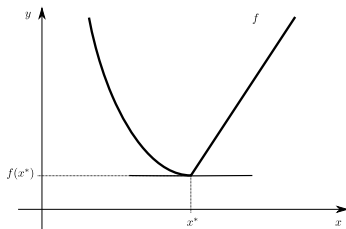
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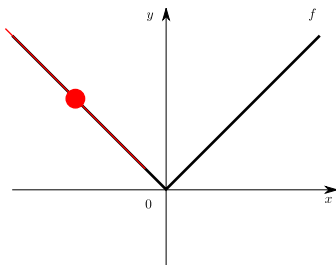
Rem: Visually, it corresponds to a horizontal tangent



Absolute value sub-differential

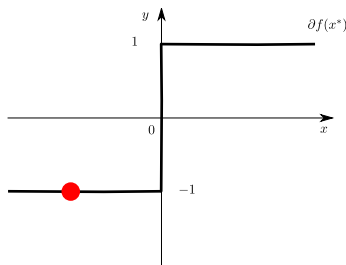
Function (abs):

$$f : \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x & \mapsto |x| \end{cases}$$



Sub-differential (sign)

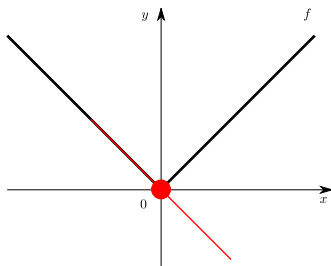
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Absolute value sub-differential

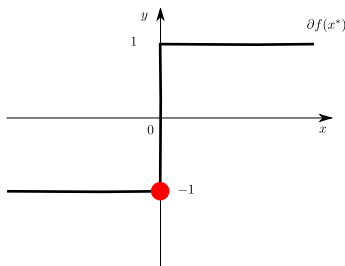
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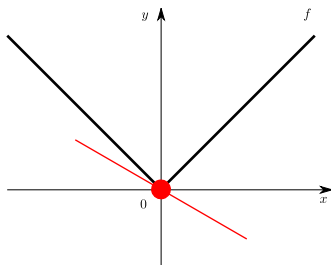
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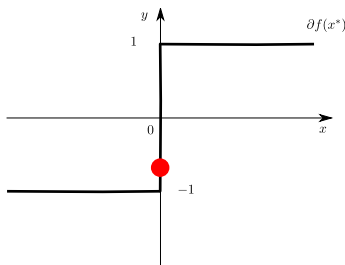
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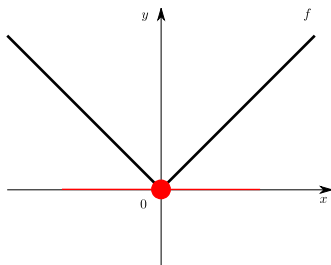
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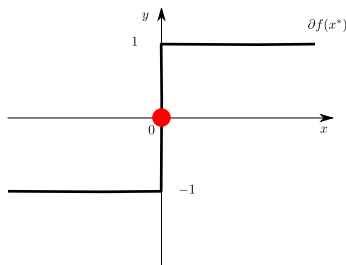
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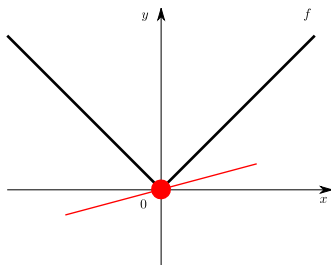
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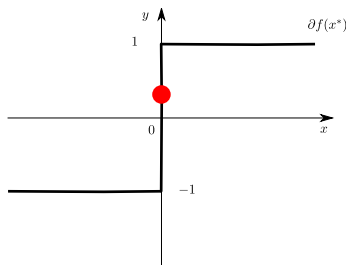
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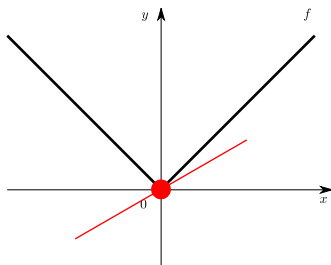
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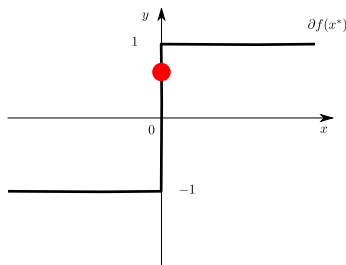
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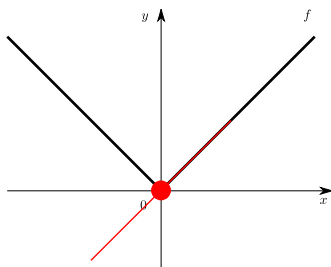
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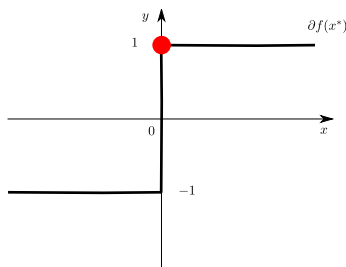
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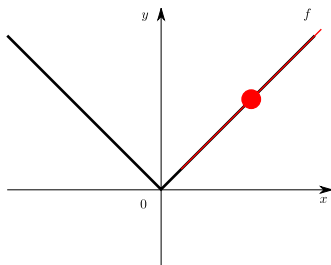
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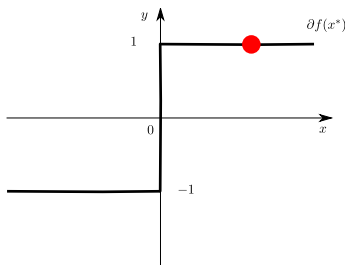
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Fermat's rule for the Lasso

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

Necessary and sufficient optimality (Fermat):

$$\forall j \in [p], \mathbf{x}_j^{\top} \left(\frac{y - X\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}}}{\lambda} \right) \in \begin{cases} \{\text{sign}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}})_j\} & \text{if } (\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}})_j \neq 0, \\ [-1, 1] & \text{if } (\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}})_j = 0. \end{cases}$$

Rem: si $\lambda > \lambda_{\max} := \max_{j \in \llbracket 1, p \rrbracket} |\langle \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{y} \rangle|$, then $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}} = 0$

Orthogonal case: soft thresholding

The simple case of orthogonal design: $X^\top X = \text{Id}_p$

$$\|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 = \|X^\top \mathbf{y} - X^\top X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 = \|X^\top \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2$$

cause X is an isometry in such a case, the Lasso objective become:

$$\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 + \lambda\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^p \left(\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{y} - \theta_j)^2 + \lambda|\theta_j| \right)$$

Separable problem: problem that can be reduced to minimizing coordinate by coordinate (independently)

One needs to minimize: $x \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(z - x)^2 + \lambda|x|$ for $z = \mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{y}$

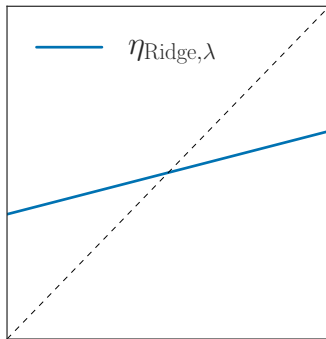
Rem: this function is called the **proximal operator** at z of the function $x \mapsto \lambda|x|$

cf. **Parikh and Boyd (2013)**, for more details on proximal methods

1D Regularization: Ridge

Solve: $\eta_\lambda(z) = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} x \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(z - x)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}x^2$

$$\eta_\lambda(z) = \frac{z}{1 + \lambda}$$

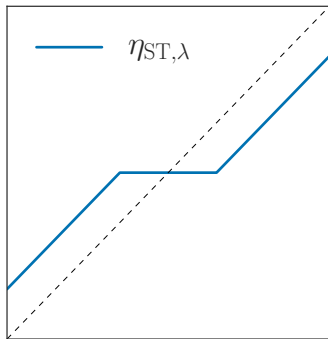


ℓ_2 shrinkage : Ridge

1D Regularization: Lasso

Solve: $\eta_\lambda(z) = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} x \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(z - x)^2 + \lambda|x|$

$$\eta_\lambda(z) = \text{sign}(z)(|z| - \lambda)_+ \quad (\text{Exercise})$$

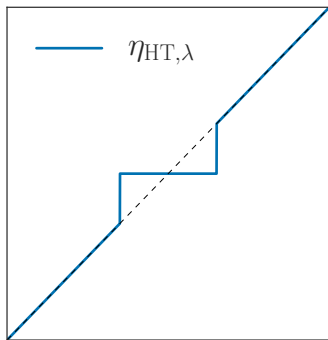


ℓ_1 shrinkage: soft thresholding

1D Regularization: ℓ_0

Solve: $\eta_\lambda(z) = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} x \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(z - x)^2 + \lambda \mathbb{1}_{x \neq 0}$

$$\eta_\lambda(z) = z \mathbb{1}_{|z| \geq \sqrt{2\lambda}}$$

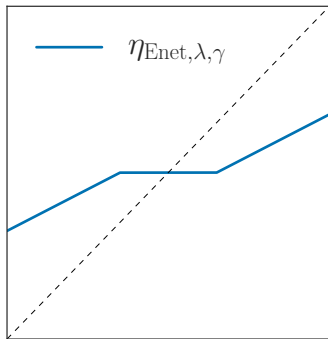


ℓ_0 shrinkage: hard thresholding

1D Regularization: enet

Solve: $\eta_\lambda(z) = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} x \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(z - x)^2 + \lambda(\gamma|x| + (1 - \gamma)\frac{x^2}{2})$

$\eta_\lambda(z)$ = Exercise



ℓ_1/ℓ_2

Soft thresholding: closed form solution

$$\eta_{\text{Lasso},\lambda}(z) = \begin{cases} z + \lambda & \text{if } z \leq -\lambda \\ 0 & \text{if } |z| \leq \lambda \\ z - \lambda & \text{if } z \geq \lambda \end{cases}$$

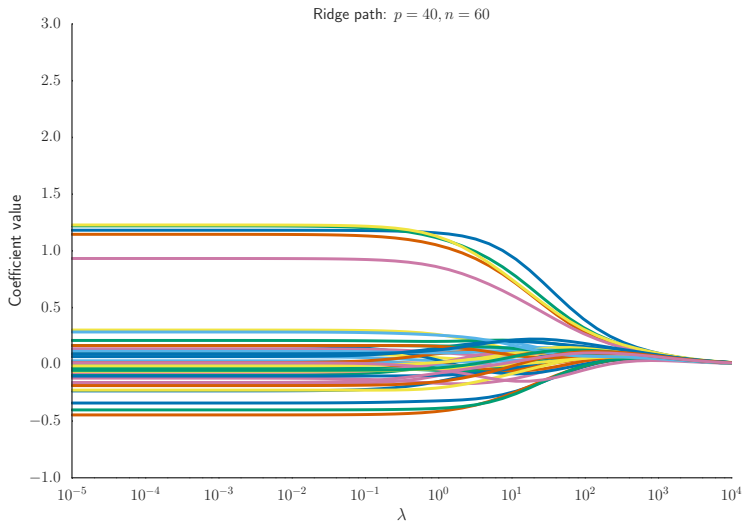
Exo: Use sub-gradients to prove the previous result

Numerical example on simulated data

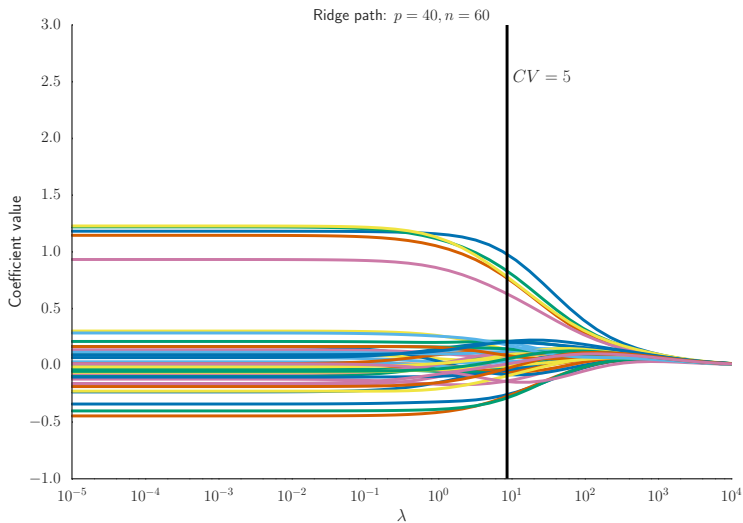
- ▶ $\theta^* = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ (5 non-zero coefficients)
- ▶ $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ has columns drawn according to a Gaussian distribution
- ▶ $y = X\theta^* + \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 \text{Id}_n)$
- ▶ We use a grid of 50 λ values

For this example : $n = 60, p = 40, \sigma = 1$

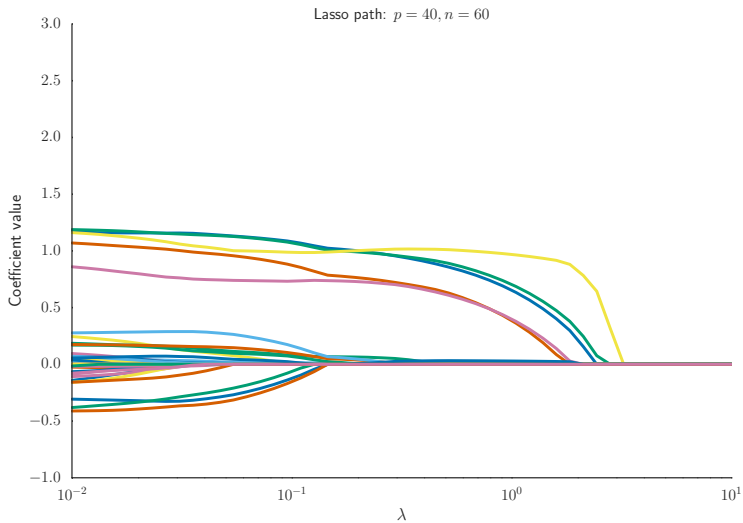
Lasso vs Ridge



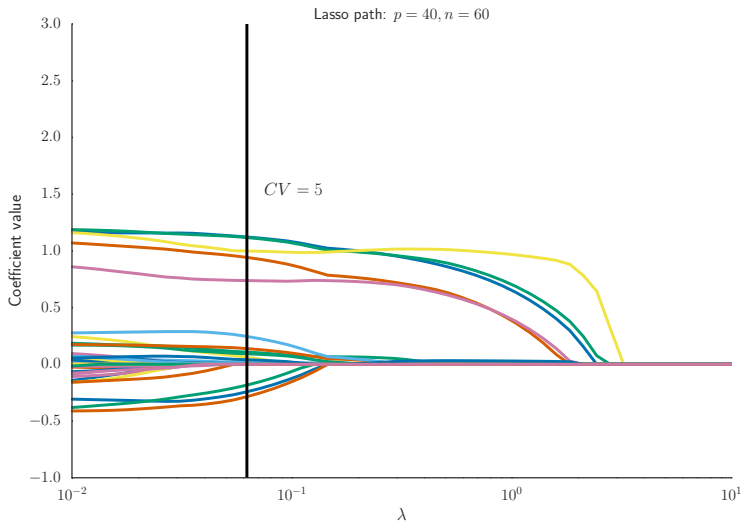
Lasso vs Ridge



Lasso vs Ridge



Lasso vs Ridge



Lasso properties

- ▶ Numerical aspect: the Lasso is a **convex** problem
- ▶ Variable selection / sparse solutions: $\hat{\theta}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}}$ has potentially many zeroed coefficients. The λ parameter controls the sparsity level: if λ is large, solutions are very sparse.

Exemple : We got 17 non-zero coefficients for LassoCV in the previous simulated example

Rem: RidgeCV has no zero coefficients

Lasso analysis

Theory : more involved for the Lasso than for least squares / Ridge
Recent reference : Bühlmann and van de Geer (2011)

In a nutshell: add bias to the standard least squares to perform variance reduction

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The Lasso bias

The Lasso is biased: it shrinks large coefficients towards 0

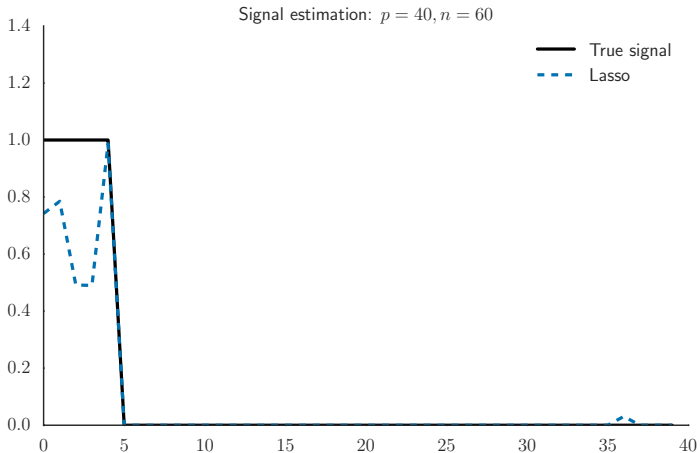


Illustration over the previous example

The Lasso bias

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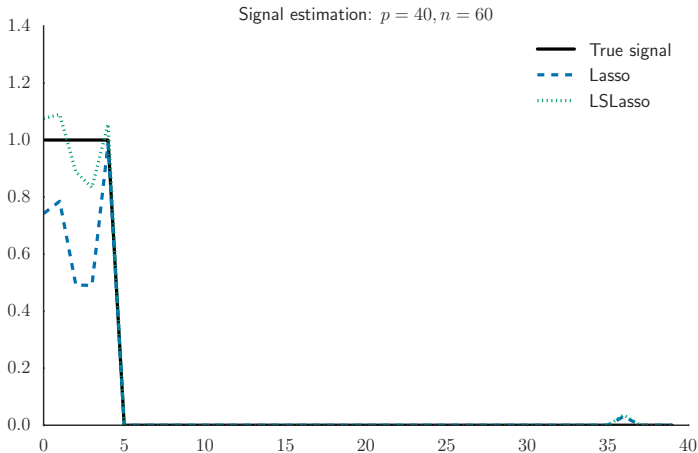


Illustration over the previous example

The Lasso bias: a simple remedy

As large coefficients are often shrunk towards zero, it is possible to use a simple two-stage procedure

LSLasso (Least Square Lasso)

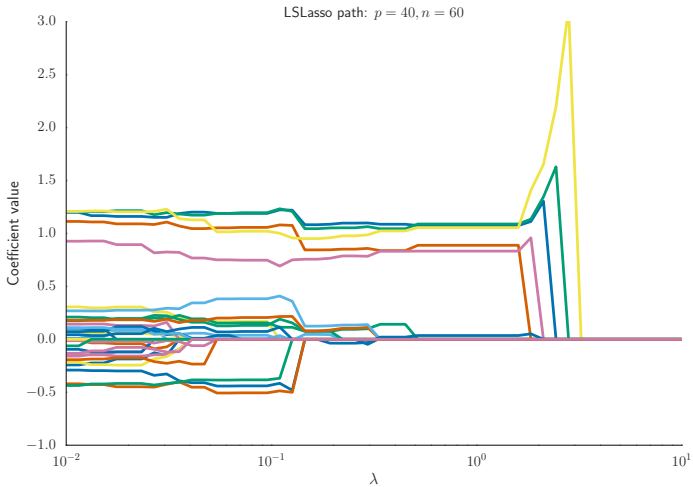
1. Lasso : get $\hat{\theta}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}}$
2. Perform least squares over selected variables: $\text{supp}(\hat{\theta}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}})$

$$\hat{\theta}_{\lambda}^{\text{LSLasso}} = \arg \min_{\substack{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p \\ \text{supp}(\theta) = \text{supp}(\hat{\theta}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso}})}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\theta\|_2^2$$

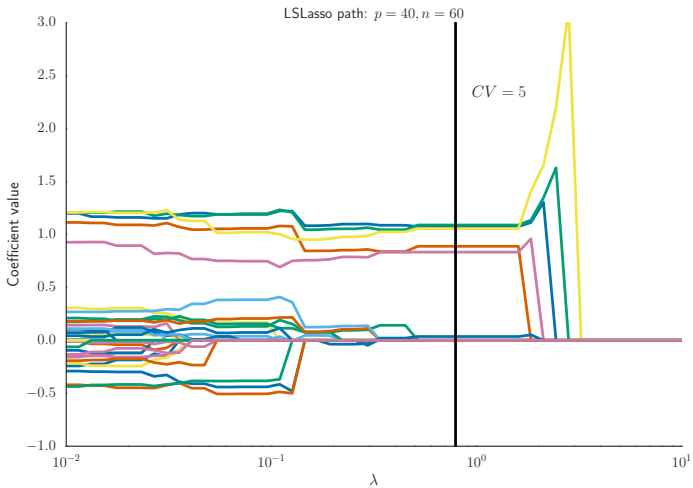
Rem: CV needs to be done over the whole procedure; choosing the Lasso λ by CV and then performing least squares keeps too many variables

Rem: LSLasso is not necessarily coded in standard packages...

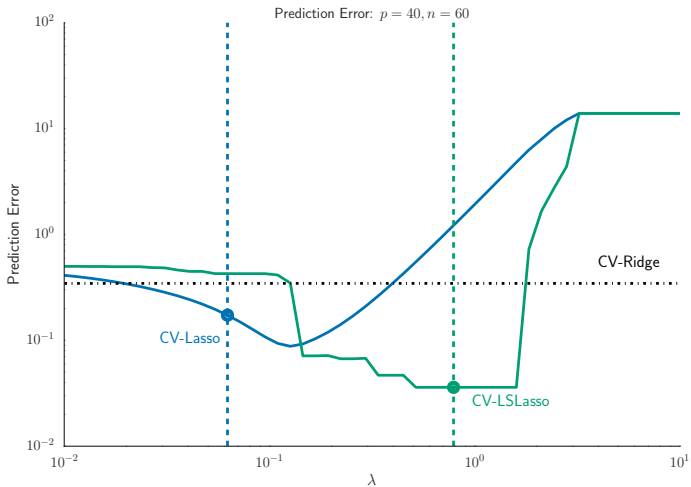
De-biasing



De-biasing



Prediction: Lasso vs. LSLasso



LSLasso evaluation

Pros

- ▶ the “true” large coefficients are less shrunk
- ▶ using CV we recover less “parasite” variables (improve interpretability)
e.g., in the previous example the LSLassoCV recovers exactly the 5 “true” non zero variables, up to a single false positive.

LSLasso: especially useful for estimation

Cons

- ▶ the difference in term of prediction is not always obvious
- ▶ requires more computation: needs to compute as many least squares than λ parameters (though with smaller dimension, neglecting useless variables)

Elastic-net : ℓ_1/ℓ_2 regularization

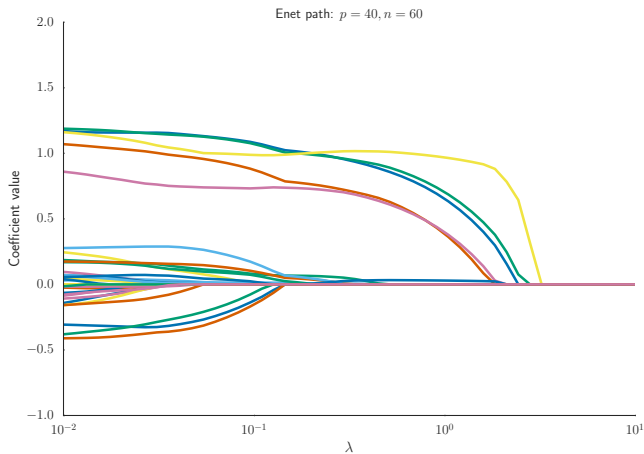
The Elastic-Net, introduced by Zou and Hastie (2005) is the (unique) solution of

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \left(\gamma \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma) \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}{2} \right) \right]$$

Rem: it has two parameters one for the global regularization level, one trading-off Ridge vs. Lasso

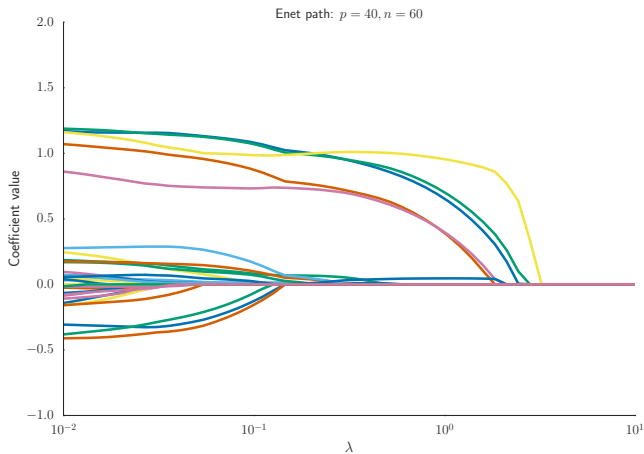
Rem: the solution is unique the size of the Elastic-Net support is smaller than $\min(n, p)$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



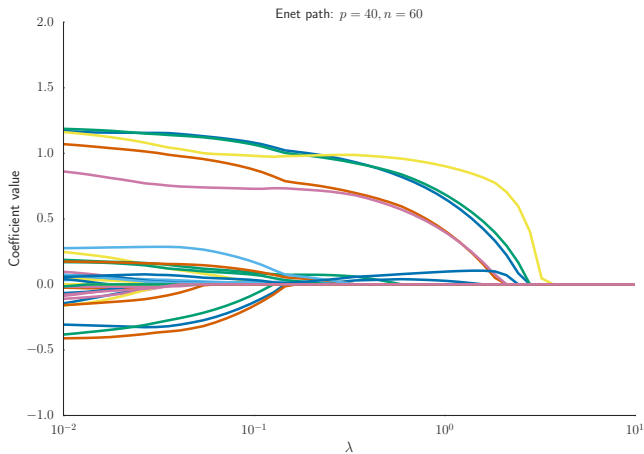
$$\gamma = 1.00$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



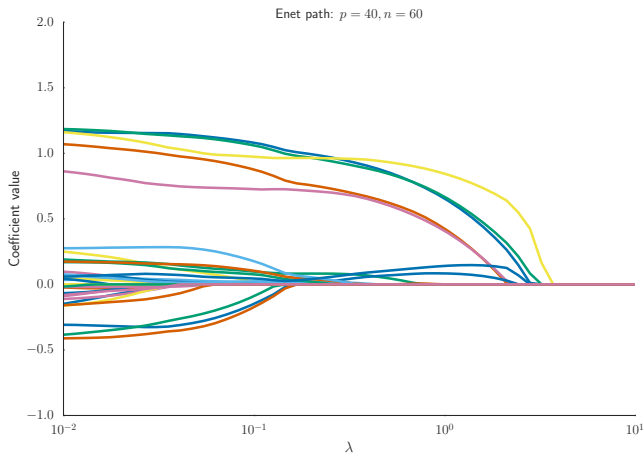
$$\gamma = 0.99$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



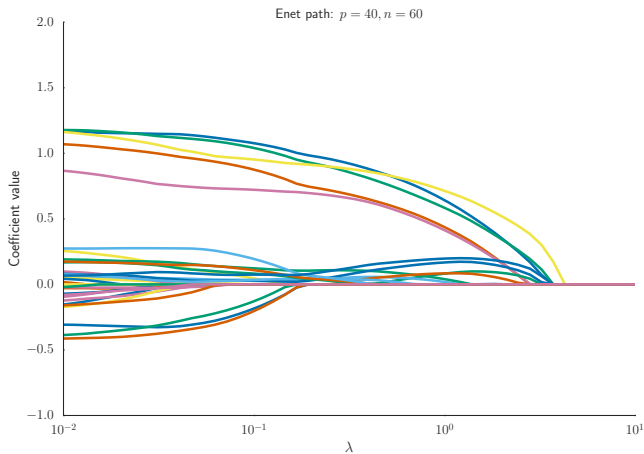
$$\gamma = 0.95$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



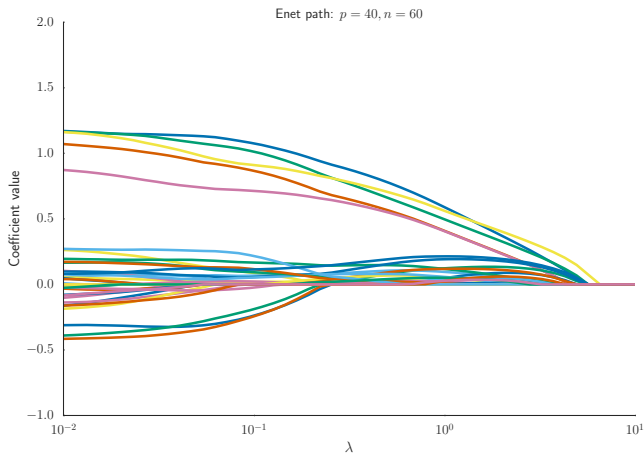
$$\gamma = 0.90$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



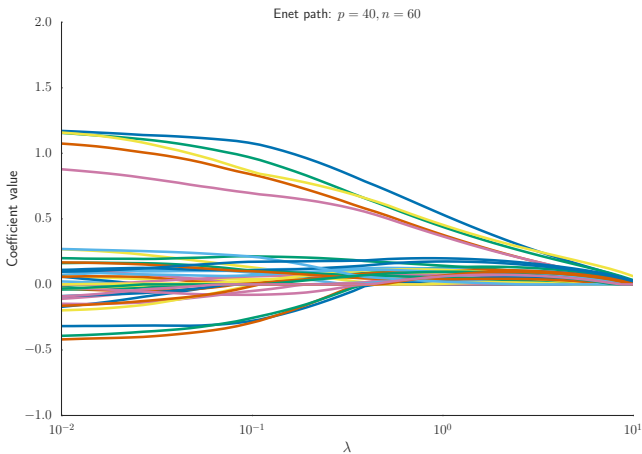
$$\gamma = 0.75$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



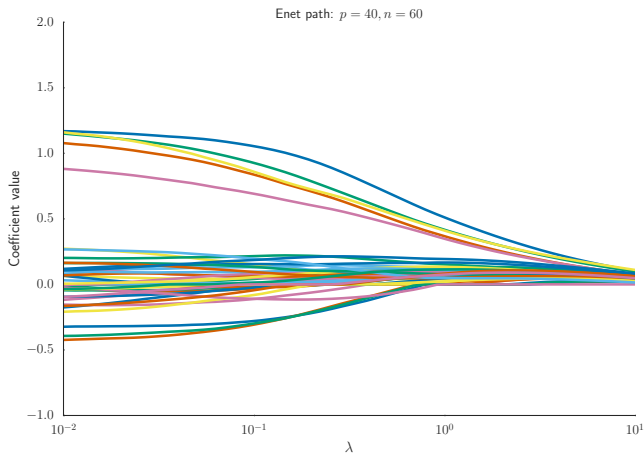
$$\gamma = 0.50$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



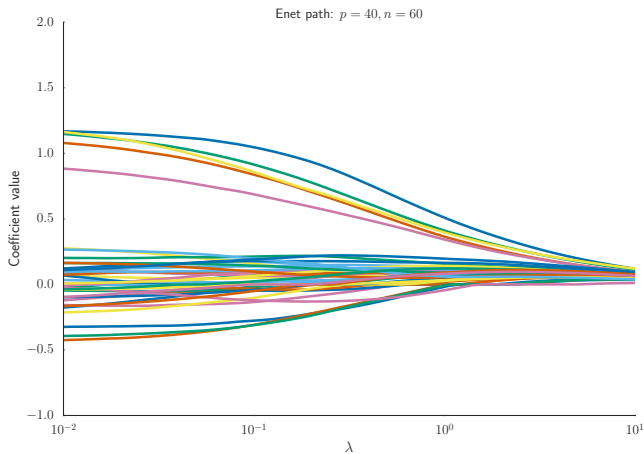
$$\gamma = 0.25$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



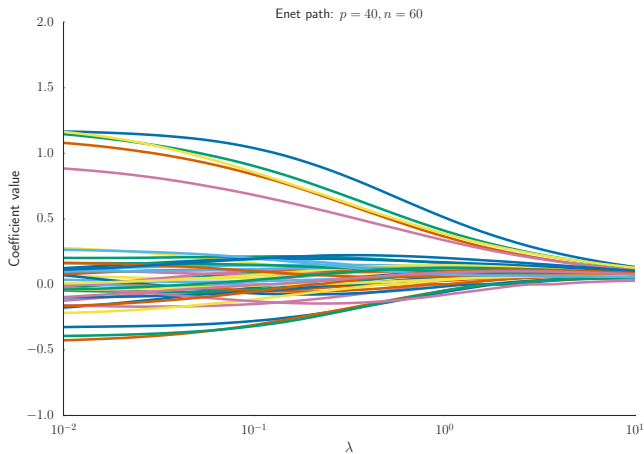
$$\gamma = 0.1$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



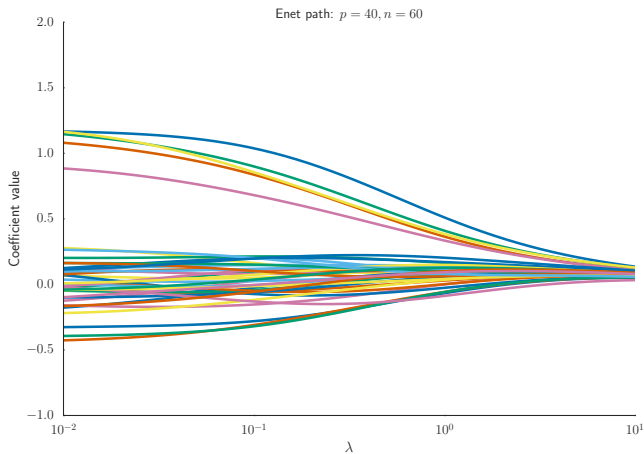
$$\gamma = 0.05$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



$$\gamma = 0.01$$

Elastic-Net: $\gamma\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 + (1 - \gamma)\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2/2$



$\gamma = 0.00$

Syllabus

Reminders

Variable selection and sparsity

- The ℓ_0 penalty and its limits

- The ℓ_1 penalty

- Sub-gradient / sub-differential

Improvement and extensions for the Lasso

- LSLasso / Elastic-Net

- Non-convex penalties / Adaptive Lasso

- Support structure

- Stabilization

- Least squares / Lasso extensions

Non-convex penalties

Use a (smooth) penalty approximating better $\|\cdot\|_0$, choosing a non-convex $t \rightarrow \text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t)$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda,\gamma}^{\text{pen}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^p \text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(|\theta_j|)}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

Rem: algorithmic difficulties (local minima), less theory

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Rem: algorithmic difficulties (local minima), less theory

- ▶ Adaptive-Lasso Zou (2006) / re-weighted ℓ_1 Candès et al. (2008)

$$\text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t) = \lambda|t|^q \text{ with } 0 < q < 1$$

Non-convex penalties

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- re-weighted ℓ_1 Candès *et al.* (2008)

$$\text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t) = \lambda \log(1 + |t|/\gamma)$$

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Rem: algorithmic difficulties (local minima), less theory

- ▶ MCP (*minimax concave penalty*) Zhang (2010) for $\lambda > 0$ and $\gamma > 1$

$$\text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t) = \begin{cases} \lambda|t| - \frac{t^2}{2\gamma}, & \text{if } |t| \leq \gamma\lambda \\ \frac{1}{2}\gamma\lambda^2, & \text{if } |t| > \gamma\lambda \end{cases}$$

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Use a (smooth) penalty approximating better $\|\cdot\|_0$, choosing a non-convex $\rightarrow \text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t)$

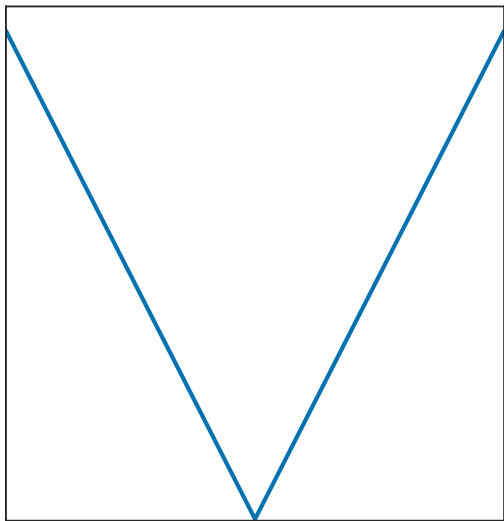
$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda,\gamma}^{\text{pen}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^p \text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(|\theta_j|)}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

Rem: algorithmic difficulties (local minima), less theory

- ▶ SCAD (*Smoothly Clipped Absolute Deviation*) Fan and Li (2001) for $\lambda > 0$ and $\gamma > 2$

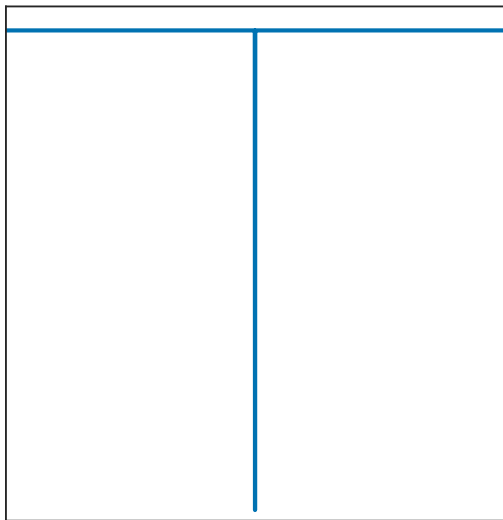
$$\text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t) = \begin{cases} \lambda|t|, & \text{if } |t| \leq \lambda \\ \frac{\gamma\lambda|t| - (t^2 + \lambda^2)/2}{\gamma - 1}, & \text{if } \lambda < |t| \leq \gamma\lambda \\ \frac{\lambda^2(\gamma^2 - 1)}{2(\gamma - 1)}, & \text{if } |t| > \gamma\lambda \end{cases}$$

Standard non-convex penalties



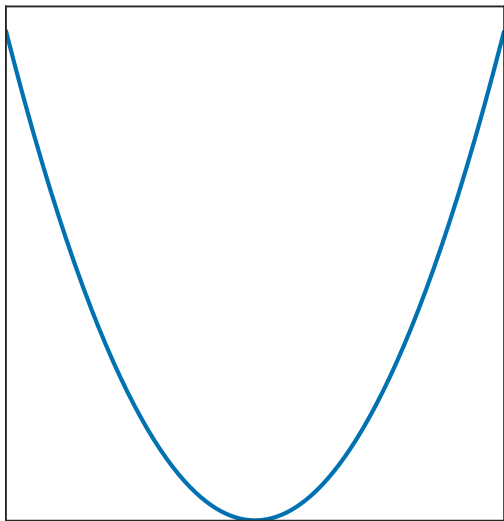
l_1

Standard non-convex penalties



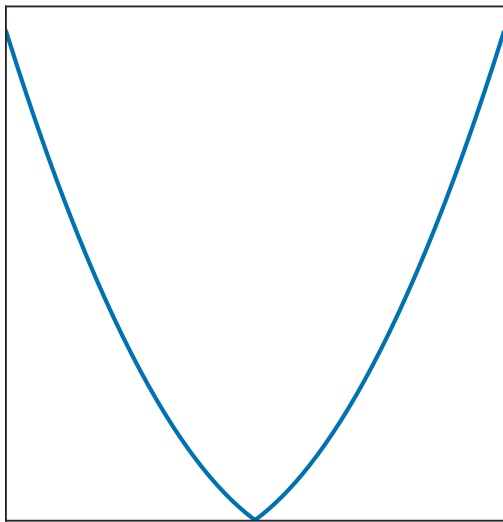
10

Standard non-convex penalties



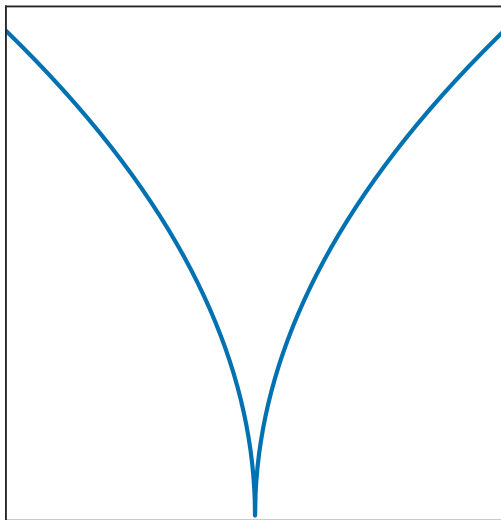
l22

Standard non-convex penalties



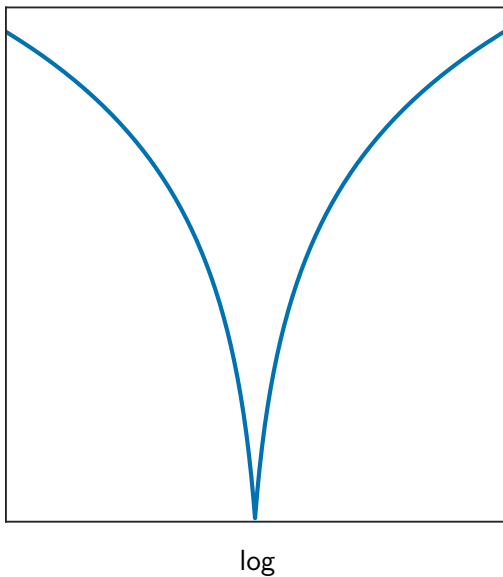
enet

Standard non-convex penalties

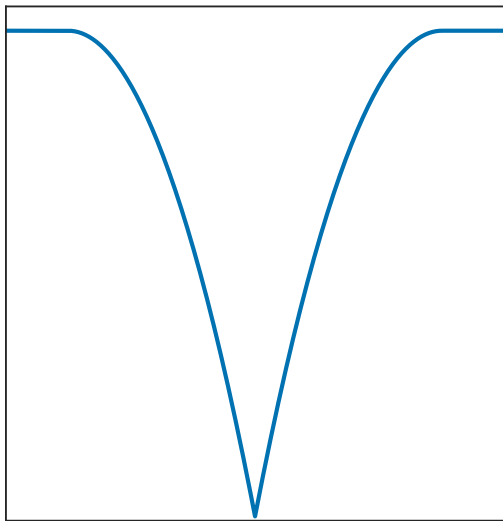


sqrt

Standard non-convex penalties

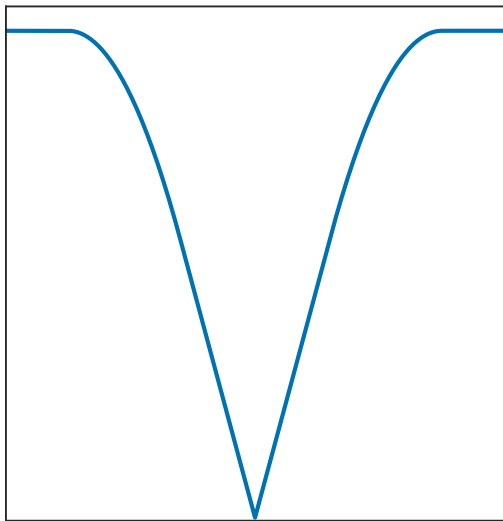


Standard non-convex penalties



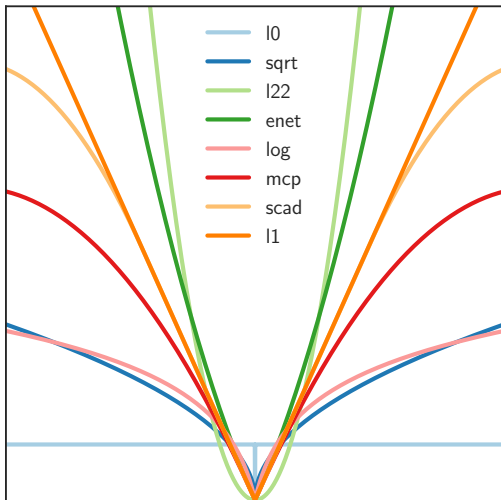
mcp

Standard non-convex penalties



scad

Standard non-convex penalties



Adaptive-Lasso

Several names for the same idea:

- ▶ Adaptive-Lasso Zou (2006)
- ▶ re-weighted ℓ_1 Candès *et al.* (2008)
- ▶ DC-programming approach (for *Difference of Convex Programming*) Gasso *et al.* (2008)

Underlying idea: Majorization-Minimization (MM) method in optimization:

- ▶ find an upper bound of the target function to optimize
- ▶ optimize this proxy
- ▶ repeat

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Adaptive-Lasso

Exemple : take $\text{pen}_{\lambda,\gamma}(t) = \lambda|t|^q$ with $q = 1/2$

Algorithm: Adaptive Lasso ($q = 1/2$ case)

Input : X, y , maximum number of iterations K , λ
(regularization)

Initialization: $\hat{w} \leftarrow (1, \dots, 1)^\top$

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &\leftarrow \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2}{2} + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \hat{w}_j |\theta_j| \right) \\ \hat{w}_j &\leftarrow \frac{1}{|\hat{\theta}_j|^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \forall j \in \llbracket 1, p \rrbracket \end{aligned}$$

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Rem: in practice few iterations needed (about 5/10)

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Rem: in practice few iterations needed (about 5/10)

Rem: use a Lasso solver to update $\hat{\theta}$, by rescaling the design matrix

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Support structure

Suppose a known group structure on the variables (prior the experiment) : $\llbracket 1, p \rrbracket = \bigcup_{g \in \mathcal{G}} g$

Active coordinates (in orange):



Sparse support: any

Possible penalties: Lasso

$$\|\theta\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^p |\theta_j|$$

Support structure

Suppose a known group structure on the variables (prior the experiment) : $\llbracket 1, p \rrbracket = \bigcup_{g \in \mathcal{G}} g$

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Sparse support: group

Possible penalties: Group-Lasso

$$\|\theta\|_{2,1} = \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \|\theta_g\|_2$$

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Suppose a known group structure on the variables (prior the experiment) : $\llbracket 1, p \rrbracket = \bigcup_{g \in \mathcal{G}} g$

Active coordinates (in orange):



Sparse support: group + sub-groups

Possible penalties: Sparse-Group-Lasso

$$\alpha \|\theta\|_1 + (1 - \alpha) \|\theta\|_{2,1} = \alpha \sum_{j=1}^p |\theta_j| + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \|\theta_g\|_2$$

Group-Lasso

ℓ_1 penalty : ensure few active coefficients, but other structures could be enforced similarly

One can aim at:

- ▶ group/block wise sparsity: Group-Lasso Yuan and Lin (2006)
- ▶ individual and group wise : Sparse Group-Lasso Simon, Friedman, Hastie and Tibshirani (2012)

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- ▶ graph structures, gradient structures (aka Total Variation)

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Lasso stability

The Lasso can be **instable**: when non-unique solutions (e.g., when $p > n$) depending on the numerical solver and the required precision, there might be errors in the variable selection process.

Re-sampling techniques : designed to limit such drawbacks

- ▶ Bolasso [Bach \(2008\)](#)
- ▶ Stability Selection [Meinshausen and Bühlmann \(2010\)](#)

Bolasso Bach (2008)

Algorithm: Bootstrap Lasso

Input : X, y , replications number B , λ regularization

Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using sklearn

Bolasso Bach (2008)

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Input : X, \mathbf{y} , replications number B , λ regularization

for $k = 1, \dots, B$ **do**

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Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using `sklearn`

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 Draw a *bootstrap* sample: $X^{(k)}, y^{(k)}$

Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using `sklearn`

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Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using `sklearn`

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Compute: $S := \bigcap_{k=1}^B S_k$

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Compute: $S := \bigcap_{k=1}^B S_k$

Compute: $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Bolasso}} \in \arg \min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p \\ \text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = S}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2$

Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using sklearn

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Algorithm: Bootstrap Lasso

Input : X, \mathbf{y} , replications number B , λ regularization

for $k = 1, \dots, B$ **do**

 Draw a *bootstrap* sample: $X^{(k)}, y^{(k)}$

 Compute the Lasso for this sample: $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso},(k)}$

 Compute the associated support: $S_k = \text{supp} \left(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Lasso},(k)} \right)$

Compute: $S := \bigcap_{k=1}^B S_k$

Compute: $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Bolasso}} \in \arg \min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p \\ \text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = S}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - X\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2$

Output : support S , and a vector $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\lambda}^{\text{Bolasso}}$

Exo: code the Bolasso in Python using `sklearn`

Syllabus

Reminders

Variable selection and sparsity

- The ℓ_0 penalty and its limits

- The ℓ_1 penalty

- Sub-gradient / sub-differential

Improvement and extensions for the Lasso

- LSLasso / Elastic-Net

- Non-convex penalties / Adaptive Lasso

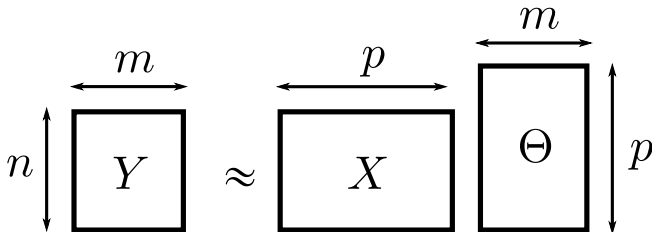
- Support structure

- Stabilization

- Least squares / Lasso extensions

Multi-task regression

One aims at jointly solving m linear regression: $Y \approx X\Theta$



with

- ▶ $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$: observation matrix
- ▶ $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$: design matrix (known)
- ▶ $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}$: coefficient matrix (unknown)

Example : several observed signals through time (e.g., several captors for the same phenomenon)

Rem: cf. MultiTaskLasso in sklearn for a solver

Multi-task and regularization

In multi-task settings penalties can also be helpful:

$$\hat{\Theta}_\lambda = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|Y - X\Theta\|_F^2}_{\text{data fitting}} + \underbrace{\lambda \Omega(\Theta)}_{\text{regularization}} \right)$$

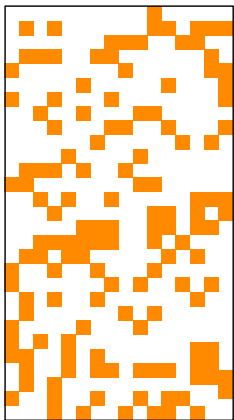
where Ω is a penalty / regularization

Rem: the Frobenius norm $\|\cdot\|_F$ is defined for any matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$ by

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{j_1=1}^{n_1} \sum_{j_2=1}^{n_2} A_{j_1, j_2}^2$$

Multi-tasks penalties

Vectorial penalties need to be adapted:



Parameter $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}$

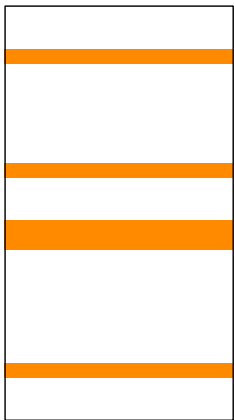
Sparse support:
any

Penalty: Lasso

$$\|\Theta\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^m |\Theta_{j,k}|$$

Multi-tasks penalties

Vectorial penalties need to be adapted:



Parameter $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}$

Sparse support:
group

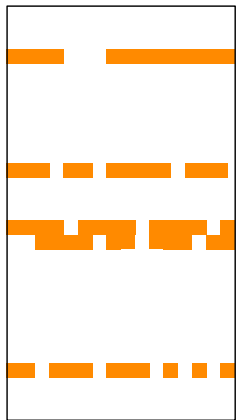
Penalty: Group-Lasso

$$\|\Theta\|_{2,1} = \sum_{j=1}^p \|\Theta_{j,:}\|_2$$

where $\Theta_{j,:}$: the j -th line of Θ

Multi-tasks penalties

Vectorial penalties need to be adapted:



Parameter $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}$

Sparse support:
group + sub-groups

Penalty: Sparse-Group-Lasso

$$\alpha \|\Theta\|_1 + (1 - \alpha) \|\Theta\|_{2,1}$$

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