

Political Methodology III: Model Based Inference

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Model Based Inference

- 1) Likelihood inference
- 2) Machine Learning
 - a) Model Selection
 - b) Unsupervised Latent Features
 - c) Classification/Prediction/Regression

Supervised Learning Methods

1) Task

- Classify objects into pre existing categories
- Predict some future outcome
- Learn a **response surface** for causal inference

2) Objective function

1) Penalized Regressions

- Ridge regression
- LASSO regression

3) Optimization

- 1) Ridge regression \rightsquigarrow Straightforward modification of OLS
- 2) LASSO regression \rightsquigarrow Coordinate Descent

4) Validation

- Obtain predicted fit for new data $f(\mathbf{X}_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$
- Examine prediction performance \rightsquigarrow compare prediction/classification to **gold standard**

Regression models

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Predictions will be **variable**

Mean Square Error

Suppose θ is some value of the true parameter

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To reduce MSE, we are willing to induce bias to decrease variance \rightsquigarrow
methods that **shrink** coefficients toward zero

Ridge Regression

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Ridge Regression

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$$f(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^J \beta_j x_{ij} \right)^2$$

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where:

- $\beta_0 \rightsquigarrow$ intercept

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where:

- $\beta_0 \rightsquigarrow$ intercept
- $\lambda \rightsquigarrow$ penalty parameter
- Standardized \mathbf{X} (coefficients on same scale)

Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Optimization

$$\beta^{\text{Ridge}} = \arg \min_{\beta} \{f(\beta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})\}$$

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Demmean the data and set $\beta_0 = \bar{y} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i}{N}$

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Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (2)

$$\beta_j \sim \text{Normal}(0, \tau^2)$$

$$y_i \sim \text{Normal}(\beta_0 + \mathbf{x}_i' \boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2)$$

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Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (2)

$$\log p(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = -\sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\beta_j^2}{2\tau^2} - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(y_i - \beta_0 - \mathbf{x}'\boldsymbol{\beta})^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

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where:

$$- \lambda = \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau^2}$$

Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (3)

Definition

Suppose \mathbf{X} is an $N \times J$ matrix. Then \mathbf{X} can be written as:

$$\mathbf{X} = \underbrace{\mathbf{U}}_{N \times N} \underbrace{\mathbf{S}}_{N \times J} \underbrace{\mathbf{V}'}_{J \times J}$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{U}'\mathbf{U} &= \mathbf{I}_N \\ \mathbf{V}'\mathbf{V} &= \mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}' = \mathbf{I}_J\end{aligned}$$

\mathbf{S} contains $\min(N, J)$ singular values, $\sqrt{\lambda_j} \geq 0$ down the diagonal and then 0's for the remaining entries

Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (3)

Recall: PCA:

$$\frac{1}{N} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{X} = \underbrace{\mathbf{W}}_{\text{eigenvectors}} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_J \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\mathbf{W}'}_{\text{eigenvectors}}$$

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Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (3)

We can write the predicted values for a regular regression as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Y} &= \mathbf{X}\hat{\beta} \\ &= \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{Y} \\ &= \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}'\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{j=1}^J u_j u_j' \mathbf{Y}\end{aligned}$$

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We can write $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\text{ridge}}$ as

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}}^{\text{ridge}} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} + \lambda\mathbf{I}_J)^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{Y}$$

Ridge Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition (3)

We can write the predicted values for a regular regression as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Y} &= \mathbf{X}\hat{\beta} \\ &= \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{Y} \\ &= \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}'\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{j=1}^J u_j u_j' \mathbf{Y}\end{aligned}$$

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Degrees of Freedom for Ridge

We will say that the degrees of freedom for Ridge regression with penalty λ is

$$\text{dof}(\lambda) = \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\lambda_j}{\lambda_j + \lambda}$$

Lasso Regression Objective Function

Different Penalty for Model Complexity

$$f(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^J \beta_j x_{ij} \right)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^J \underbrace{|\beta_j|}_{\text{Penalty}}$$

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Lasso Regression Optimization

Definition

Coordinate Descent Algorithms:

Consider $g : \mathbb{R}^J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Our goal is to find $\mathbf{x}^ \in \mathbb{R}^J$ such that $g(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq g(\mathbf{x})$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}$.*

To find \mathbf{x}^ :*

Until convergence: for each iteration t and each coordinate j

$$x_j^{t+1} = \arg \min_{x_j \in \mathbb{R}} g(x_1^{t+1}, x_2^{t+1}, \dots, x_{j-1}^{t+1}, x_j, x_{j+1}^t, \dots, x_J^t)$$

Lasso Regression Optimization: Coordinate Descent

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Lasso Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition 1, Soft Thresholding

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Lasso Regression \rightsquigarrow Intuition 1, Soft Thresholding

Compare soft assignment

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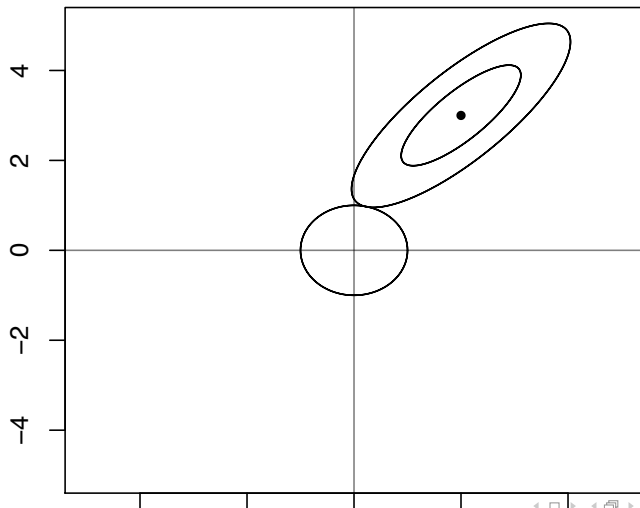
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Why does LASSO induce sparsity?

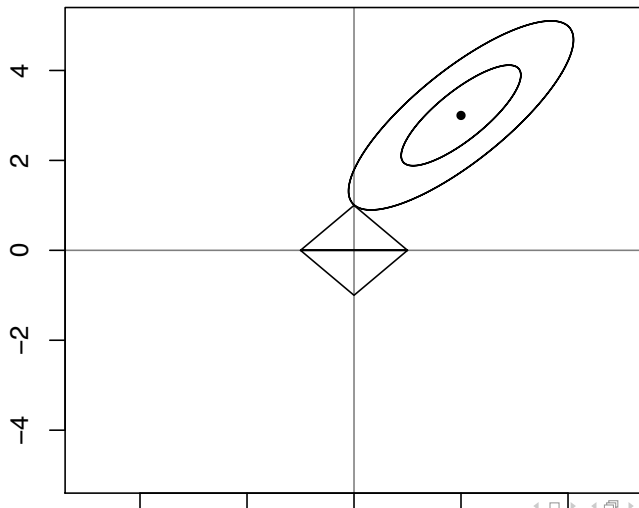
Comparing Ridge and LASSO

Ridge Regression



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Ridge and LASSO: The Elastic-Net

Combining the two criteria \rightsquigarrow Elastic-Net

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Credit Claiming (Grimmer, Westwood, and Messing 2014)

```
library(glmnet)
set.seed(8675309) ##setting seed
folds<- sample(1:10, nrow(dtm), replace=T) ##assigning to fold
out_of_samp<- c() ##collecting the predictions
```

Credit Claiming (Grimmer, Westwood, and Messing 2014)

```
for(z in 1:10){
train<- which(folds!=z) ##the observations we will use to train the model

test<- which(folds==z) ##the observations we will use to test the model
part1<- cv.glmnet(x = dtm[train,], y = credit[train], alpha = 1, family =
binomial) ##fitting the LASSO model on the data.
## alpha = 1 -> LASSO
## alpha = 0 -> RIDGE
## 0<alpha<1 -> Elastic-Net
out_of_samp[test]<- predict(part1, newx= dtm[test,], s = part1$lambda.min,
type = "class") ##predicting the labels
print(z) ##printing the labels
}

conf_table<- table(out_of_samp, credit) ##calculating the confusion table
> round(sum(diag(conf_table))/len(credit), 3)
[1] 0.844
```

Generalized Cross Validation and Ridge Regression

In some special cases there are analytic solutions:

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