

# ORF525 - Class Notes

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## Class 1

**Definition 1** (Ordinary Least Squares Regression).  $f_i = \{f(x) = \beta^T X\}$   
 $\hat{\beta}^{OLS} = \arg \min_{\beta} \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2$   $F(\beta) = Y^T Y + \beta^T X^T X \beta - 2\beta^T X^T Y$   $\frac{\partial F(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = 2X^T X \beta - 2X^T Y = 0 \implies \hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$

**Definition 2** (Model-based Interpretation of OLS). *Statistical Model*  $Y = \beta^T X + \varepsilon, \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  *Joint-Loglikelihood*

$$l_n(\beta, \sigma^2) = f \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\beta, \sigma^2}(Y_i, X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\beta, \sigma^2}(Y_i | X_i) + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \log p(X_i)}_{\text{does not depend on } \beta \text{ or } \sigma^2}$$

$\implies$

$$\begin{aligned} \arg \max_{\beta, \sigma^2} l_n(\beta, \sigma^2) &= \arg \max_{\beta, \sigma^2} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\beta, \sigma^2}(Y_i | X_i)}_{\text{Conditional log-likelihood}} \\ &= \arg \max_{\beta, \sigma^2} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum (Y_i - \beta^T X_i)^2 + n \log\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \hat{\beta}^{MLE} = \arg \min \sum (Y_i - \beta^T X_i)^2 = \hat{\beta}^{OLS}$$

## 1 Linear Regression with Basis Expansion

From linear to non linear

- Input variables can be transformation of original features: Handcraft features, Box-Cox transformation (find the best transformation)
- Input can have interactions, eg  $X_1 X_2 \dots$
- Inputs can have basis expansions. Instead of  $f(x) = \beta^T x$  we can have  $f(x) = \sum_j \beta_j \underbrace{h_j}_{\text{Adaptative learning}}(x)$ .

**Definition 3** (Categorical Variable). *A variable that can take on only one of a limited values. **Dummy coding***

## 2 High Dimensional Regression

**Definition 4** (High Dimensional Regression). *Data when dimension  $d$  is bigger than the sample size  $n$ .*

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11} & \dots & X_{1n} \\ & \ddots & \\ X_{n1} & \dots & X_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

Question:  $\hat{\beta}^{OLS} = (\underbrace{X^T X}_{\text{not invertible}})^{-1} X^T Y$ , what should we do?

- Ridge Estimation  $\hat{\beta}^\lambda = (\underbrace{X^T X + \lambda I}_{\text{Tuning Parameters}})^{-1} X^T Y$

$$\iff \hat{\beta}^\lambda = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_2^2$$

$$\iff \hat{\beta}^t = \arg \min_{\|\beta\|_2^2 < t} \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2$$

- Computation of Ridge:
  - Convex Optimization (QP)
  - Never naively use a *general-purpose* solver. (CVX, AMPL)
- Question: How to choose the tuning parameter  $\lambda$ ? Model selection:  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$  Basic Method:  $D = D_1 \cup D_2$ , let  $\hat{\beta}^{\lambda_1}, \dots, \hat{\beta}^{\lambda_k}$  be ridge estimators on  $D_1$ . We define the data split score  $DS(k) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{D_2} (Y_i - X_i^T \hat{\beta}^{\lambda_k})^2$  We then pick the model with the smallest DS score. Intuition: Conditioning on  $D_1$ ,  $DS(k)$  is an unbiased estimator of  $R(\hat{\beta}^{\lambda_1})$ . Pro: Theoretically and conceptually simple. Con: Waste of the training sample.  $\implies$  Cross validation.

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## Class 2

[Data splitting]

### 2.0.1 Pros and cons of data splitting

**Pro:** Theoretically and computationally simple. **Con:** Waste if training data  $\implies$  cross validation.

- training / test split: conditional (on the training) prediction error.

$$\mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[|Y - \hat{f}_{D_{train}}(X)|^2 | D_{train}]$$

- cross validation: converges to expected training data.

$$\mathbb{E}_D[\mathbb{E}[|Y - \hat{f}_{D_{train}}(X)|^2 | D_{train}]]$$

**Definition 5** (*J-Fold Cross validation*). We split the data  $\mathcal{D}$  into  $J$ -equally sized parts  $\mathcal{D}_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}_J$ . This forms:

$$\begin{aligned} (DS1) : \mathcal{D}_1 \text{ vs } \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{D}_1 \\ \dots \\ (DSJ) : \mathcal{D}_J \text{ vs } \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{D}_J \end{aligned}$$

For  $\lambda_k \in \Lambda$  we calculate the data splitting scores Using  $DS1, \dots, DSJ$ . Denote the result as  $DS_1(k), \dots, DS_J(k)$ . The cross validation is

$$CV(k) := \frac{1}{J} \sum_j^J DS_j(k)$$

We then pick  $\arg \min CV(k)$ . In practice, pick the most parsimonious model whose error is no more than one standard deviation above the smallest CV score.

Question: After CVm we pick  $\hat{\lambda}_k$ . Then what shall we do?

- Use  $\lambda_k$  to fit the entire data, then deliver
- Take the average of the estimators.

### 2.0.2 Model assessment vs selection

**Definition 6** (Lasso). Bridge estimator with  $\beta = 1$  Least absolute shrinkage and selection operator Sparsity: Intersection of ellipsoid ( $\|Y - X\beta\|_2^2 = cte$ ) and a polytope ( $\|\beta\|_1 = cte$ )

Sparsity: many elements of  $\beta$  are 0  $\implies$  model selection. (select variable with coefficient  $\neq 0$ )

## Class 3

[Persistence]

Ridge	Lasso
Not Sparse	Sparse
Handles collinearity	Doesn't handle collinearity

**Definition 7** (Collinearity). *A phenomenon in which two or more predictor variables are highly correlated.*

Question : Combine Ridge and Lasso? Answer: **Elastic-Net**

$$\hat{\beta}^{\text{Elastic}} = \arg \min \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda(\alpha\|\beta\|_1 + (1 - \alpha)\|\beta\|_2^2)$$

- $\alpha = 1 \implies$  Lasso.
- $\alpha = 0 \implies$  Ridge.

Question: two tuning parameters, how to choose then? Answer: Use a two stage approach:

- Use  $\alpha = 1$ , fit a full Lasso path, visualize the regularization path.
- Use  $\alpha = 0.6$ , fit the regularization path again. Then we examine whether there is significant change of the final path:
  - If not  $\implies \alpha = 1$  (Lasso)
  - o/w  $\implies \alpha = 0.6$  (Elastic)

### Insight of the Lasso Estimator

**Definition 8** (SQRT-Lasso). *An equivalent representation of the lasso is called SQRT-Lasso:*

$$\hat{\beta}^{\text{Elastic}} = \arg \min \|Y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1 \quad (1)$$

*Symptotically  $\lambda^{\text{optimally}} \sim 2.1\sqrt{\frac{t}{\log d}n}$ ,  $n > 10k$  + The model has to be linear*

**Theorem 1** (Robust Optimization Representation of Lasso). *The SQRT-Lasso problem in (1) is equivalent to the following robust linear regression problem:*

$$\min_{\beta} \max_{U \in \Omega_{\lambda}} \|Y - (X + U)\beta\|_2$$

Where  $\Omega_{\lambda} := \{U = (U_1, \dots, U_d) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}, \max_j \|U_j\|_2 \leq \lambda\}$

*Proof.* We only need to prove  $\max_{U \in \Omega_{\lambda}} \|Y - (X + U)\beta\|_2 = \|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1$

- $\max_{U \in \Omega_{\lambda}} \|Y - (X + U)\beta\|_2 \leq \|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1$   $\|Y - (X + U)\beta\|_2 \leq \|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \sum_j |\beta_j| \|U_j\|_2 \leq \|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1$

- $\|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1 \leq \max_{U \in \Omega_\lambda} \|Y - (X + U)\beta\|_2$

$$u = \begin{cases} \frac{Y - X\beta}{\|Y - X\beta\|_2} & \text{if } Y \neq X\beta \\ \text{arbitrary unit vector} & \text{o.w} \end{cases}$$

And define:

$$U_j^* = -\lambda \text{sign}(\beta_j)u$$

$$(\text{sign}(0) = 1)$$

We can verify that  $\|U_j\|_2 \leq \lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} \|(Y - (X + U^*)\beta)\|_2 &\geq \|(Y - X\beta - \sum_j \beta_j U_j^*)\|_2 \\ &\geq \|(Y - X\beta - \sum_j |\beta_j| \frac{Y - X\beta}{\|Y - X\beta\|_2})\|_2 \\ &= \|(|Y - X\beta|_2 + \lambda|\beta|_1) \frac{Y - X\beta}{\|Y - X\beta\|_2}\|_2 \\ &= \|Y - X\beta\|_2 + \lambda\|\beta\|_1 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 9** (Theory of Lasso (Greenshtein and Ritov '2006)). *We define*

$$R(\beta) = E_{Y,X}(Y - \beta^T X)^2, \hat{R}(\beta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_j (Y_j - \beta^T X_j)^2$$

$\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\|\beta\|_1 \leq L} \hat{R}(\beta)$ : *Lasso estimator*  $\beta^* = \arg \min_{\|\beta\|_1 \leq L} R(\beta)$ : *Lasso estimator*

**Definition 10** (Persistence). *An estimator  $\hat{\beta}$  is persistent within a class  $\mathcal{B}_n$  if  $R(\hat{\beta}) - \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_n} R(\beta) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$*

**Theorem 2** (Lasso). *Assume  $|Y_i| \leq B$  and  $|X|_\infty \leq B$ . Then*

$$P \left( R(\hat{\beta}) - R(\beta^*) \leq 2(1 + L^2) \sqrt{\frac{2B^4 \log(\frac{2d^2}{\delta})}{n}} \right) \geq 1 - \delta$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} R(\hat{\beta}) - R(\beta^*) &= R(\hat{\beta}) - \hat{R}(\hat{\beta}) + \hat{R}(\hat{\beta}) - R(\beta^*) \\ &\leq R(\hat{\beta}) - \hat{R}(\hat{\beta}) + \hat{R}(\beta^*) - R(\beta^*) \\ &\leq 2 \sup_{\|\beta\|_{L_1} \leq L} |R(\beta) - \hat{R}(\beta)| \end{aligned}$$

Let  $Z = (Y, X^T)^T$ ,  $r = (-1, \beta^T)^T$

$$\begin{aligned} R(\beta) &= \mathbb{E}(Y - \beta^T X)^2 = \mathbb{E}(r^T Z Z^T r) = r^T \mathbb{E}(Z Z^T) r = r^T \Sigma r \\ \hat{R}(\beta) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum (Y_i - \beta^T X_i)^2 = r^T \frac{1}{n} \sum Z_i Z_i^T r = r^T \hat{\Sigma} r \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{\|\beta\|_{L_1} \leq L} |R(\beta) - R(\hat{\beta})| &= \sup |r^T (\hat{\Sigma} - \Sigma) r| \\ &\leq \|r(\beta)\|_1^2 \|\hat{\Sigma} - \Sigma\|_\infty \end{aligned}$$

By Hoeding

$$\mathbb{P}(\|\hat{\Sigma} - \Sigma\|_\infty > t) \leq \sum \mathbb{P}(\hat{\Sigma}_{ij} - \Sigma_{ij} > t) \leq 2d^2 \exp(-\frac{nt^2}{2B^4})$$

□

**Theorem 3** (Persistency of the Lasso).  $\forall k > 0, d = O(n^k)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_n = \{\beta, |\beta|_1 \leq L_n, L_n = o(\frac{n}{\log n})^{\frac{1}{4}}\}$  Then:  $R(\hat{\beta}) - \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_n} R(\beta) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

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