

STA 674

Regression Analysis And Design Of Experiments

Comparing and Selecting Models – Lecture 1



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Comparing and Selecting Models

- Where does it fit in?
- What is it?
- Where next?

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Variable Selection

- Parsimony: extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources; principle (or law) of parsimony is the scientific principle that things are usually connected or behave in the simplest or most economical way. – Oxford Online Dictionary (2019)
- “We are to admit no more causes of natural things than such as are both true and sufficient to explain their appearances.” – Sir Isaac Newton

Objective

- Identify the model that best describes the data with the least number of predictors.

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Variable Selection

1. All Possible Regressions

- Fit separate models with all possible combinations of predictors and choose the one that maximizes or minimizes some criteria.

• Variable Selection Criteria

1. Residual error variance, s_e^2 (minimize)
2. Proportion of variance explained, R^2 (maximize)
3. Adjusted R^2 (maximize) NOT proportion of variance explained...use for model selection only
4. Mallow's C_p (small or close to $p = K + 1$) measures total mean square error, including bias
5. PRESS (minimize) prediction error compared to predicted value with rest of data?

... and many more.

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Example – Effect of Smoking on Lung Capacity

- Response
 $y = \log(\text{Full Expiratory Volume})$
- Predictor Variables
 - $x_1 = \text{height}$
 - $x_2 = \text{smoking (0=no,1=yes)}$ indicator variable
 - $x_3 = \text{gender (0=female,1=male)}$ indicator variable
- all pairwise interactions:
 - height and smoking,
 - height and gender,
 - smoking and gender

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Example – Effect of Smoking on Lung Capacity

- All possible regressions with adjusted R^2 criterion:

```
/* 1. All possible regressions */;  
PROC REG DATA=FEV;  
    MODEL logfev=ht smoke gender ht_x_gender smoke_x_gender smoke_x_ht /SELECTION=ADJRSQ;  
RUN;
```

Number in Model	Adjusted R-Square	R-Square	Variables in Model
2	0.7958	0.7964	Ht Gender
2	0.7958	0.7964	Ht ht_x_gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Gender smoke_x_ht
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Smoke Gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Gender smoke_x_gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Gender ht_x_gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht ht_x_gender smoke_x_ht
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Smoke ht_x_gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht ht_x_gender smoke_x_gender
1	0.7953	0.7956	Ht
4	0.7953	0.7965	Ht Smoke Gender smoke_x_ht
4	0.7953	0.7965	Ht Smoke ht_x_gender smoke_x_ht
4	0.7952	0.7965	Ht Gender smoke_x_gender smoke_x_ht

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3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht Smoke ht_x_gender
3	0.7955	0.7964	Ht ht_x_gender smoke_x_gender
1	0.7953	0.7956	Ht
4	0.7953	0.7965	Ht Smoke Gender smoke_x_ht
4	0.7953	0.7965	Ht Smoke ht_x_gender smoke_x_ht
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Variable Selection

1. All Possible Regressions

- Advantages
 - Clear definition of “best” model.
 - Objective (once you have chosen a criterion).
 - All models considered.
- Disadvantages
 - Different criteria select different models.
 - Are small differences in criteria really meaningful?
 - The number of possible models grows exponentially.