

M339G: January 29th, 2024.

Bias.

Def'n. Let $\hat{\theta}$ be a point estimator for the parameter θ .
The bias of the estimator is defined as

$$\text{bias}(\hat{\theta}) := \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[\hat{\theta}] - \theta.$$

Def'n. We say that an estimator is unbiased if

$$\text{bias}(\hat{\theta}) = 0$$

Def'n. The mean squared error of $\hat{\theta}$ is

$$\text{MSE}[\hat{\theta}] = \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2]$$

Assessing Model Accuracy.

Say, we have the "usual" model:

$$Y = f(X) + \epsilon$$

Say, we fit our model to some training data:

$$\text{Tr} = \{(x_i, y_i); i = 1, \dots, N\}$$

Let $\hat{f}(\cdot)$ be the fit of the model to our Tr

$$\text{MSE}_{\text{Tr}} := \text{Ave}_{i \in \text{Tr}} (y_i - \hat{f}(x_i))^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{f}(x_i))^2$$

We propose to look @ other data

$$\text{Te} = \{(x_i, y_i); i = 1, \dots, M\}$$

constituting our test data,

and then calculate:

$$\text{MSE}_{\text{Te}} := \text{Ave}_{i \in \text{Te}} (y_i - \hat{f}(x_i))^2$$