



DS 3010

Spring 2026

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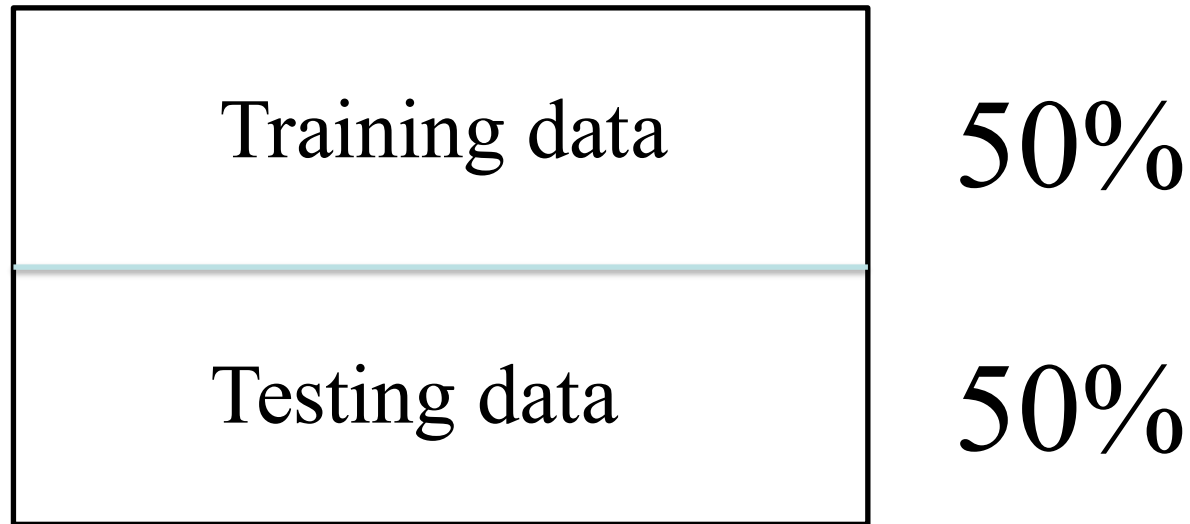
Module 2: Statistical Decision Theory

Part 2: Cross Validation

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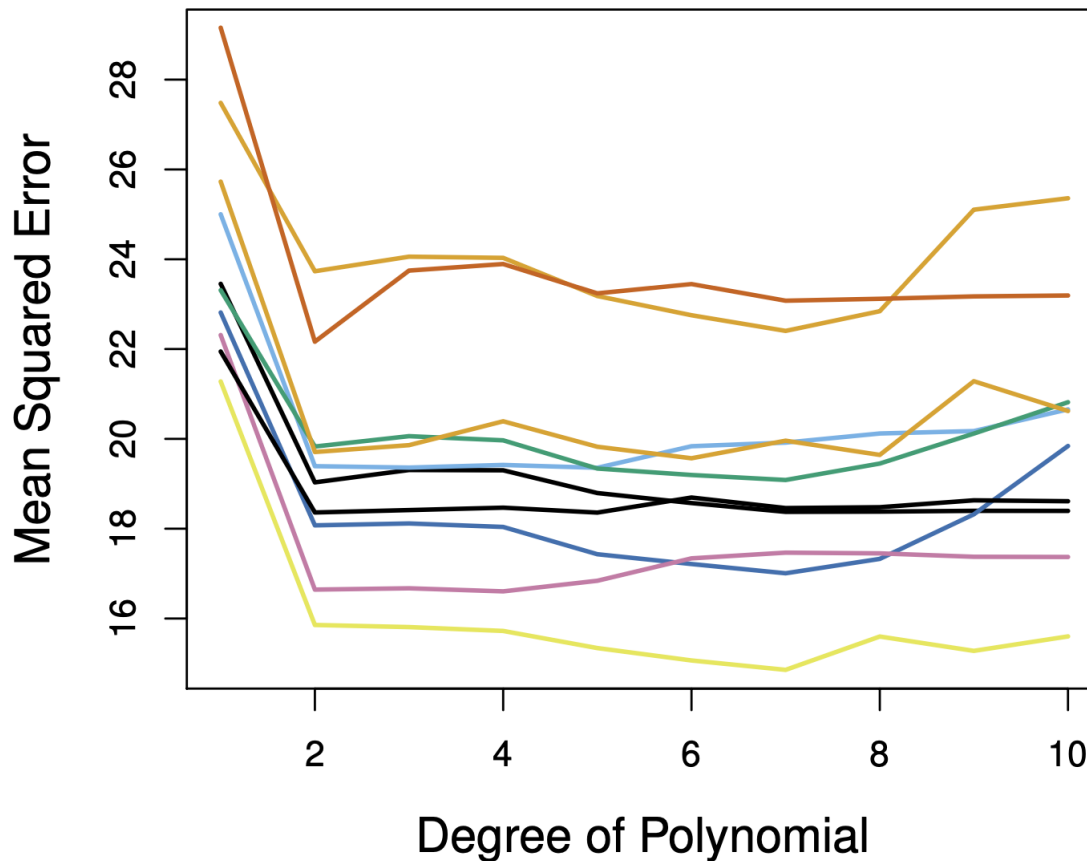
How have we estimated test MSE so far?



Validation Set Approach:

Randomly split data into training data (50%) and testing data (50%)

How have we estimated test MSE so far ?



Problems:

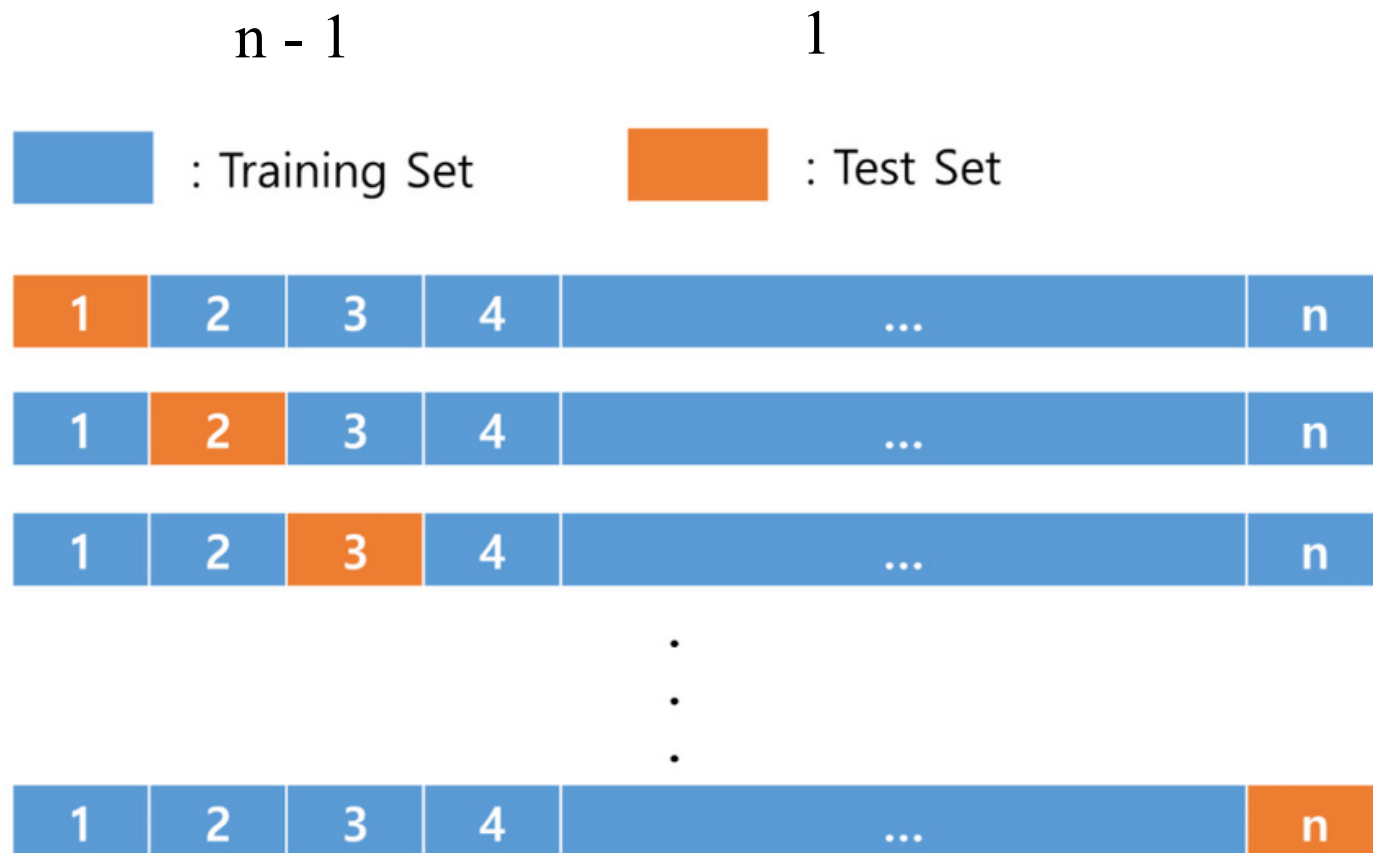
- **Highly variable:** depending on precisely which observations are included in the training set and which observations are included in the validation set.

Can you think of a better way to create a training and testing dataset ?

What is Cross-Validation ?

Cross validation is a technique used in machine learning to evaluate the performance of a model on unseen data. It involves dividing the available data into **multiple folds or subsets**, using **one of these folds** as a validation set, and training the model on the remaining folds.

Leave-one-out cross-validation (LOOCV)



Leave-one-out cross-validation (LOOCV)

Testing data: a single observation (x_1, y_1)

Training data: observations $\{(x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ make up the training set.

$$MSE_1 = (y_1 - \hat{y}_1)^2$$

Repeat the procedure by selecting (x_2, y_2) , for the validation data

$$MSE_2 = (y_2 - \hat{y}_2)^2$$

.....

Repeating this approach **n** times produces n squared errors, MSE_1 , MSE_2 , MSE_n

Leave-one-out cross-validation (LOOCV)

The LOOCV estimate for the test MSE:

$$CV_{(n)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{MSE}_i.$$

Leave-one-out cross-validation (LOOCV)

$$CV_{(n)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{MSE}_i.$$

Lower Bias: LOOCV trains the model on **n - 1 observations** (almost the entire dataset), it provides a more accurate estimate of the test error compared to the validation set approach, which typically uses **half size** of the data set.

Consistency: LOOCV is **deterministic**—it always gives the same result when repeated, unlike the validation set approach, which can vary depending on how the data is randomly split.

Leave-one-out cross-validation (LOOCV)

This process can be **computationally expensive**

- when: **n is large.**
- **Fitting the model is slow** (e.g., complex models)

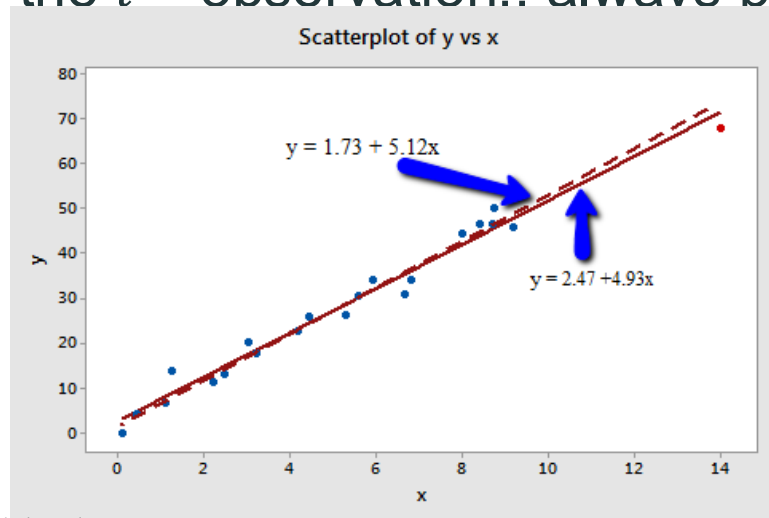
PRESS (Predicted Residual Sum of Squares)

$$CV_{(n)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{y_i - \hat{y}_i}{1 - h_i} \right)^2 ,$$

\hat{y}_i is the i^{th} fitted value

y_i is the true value

h_i : the leverage measures how much an observation influences its own fitted value or the i^{th} observation.. always between $1/n$ and 1 .

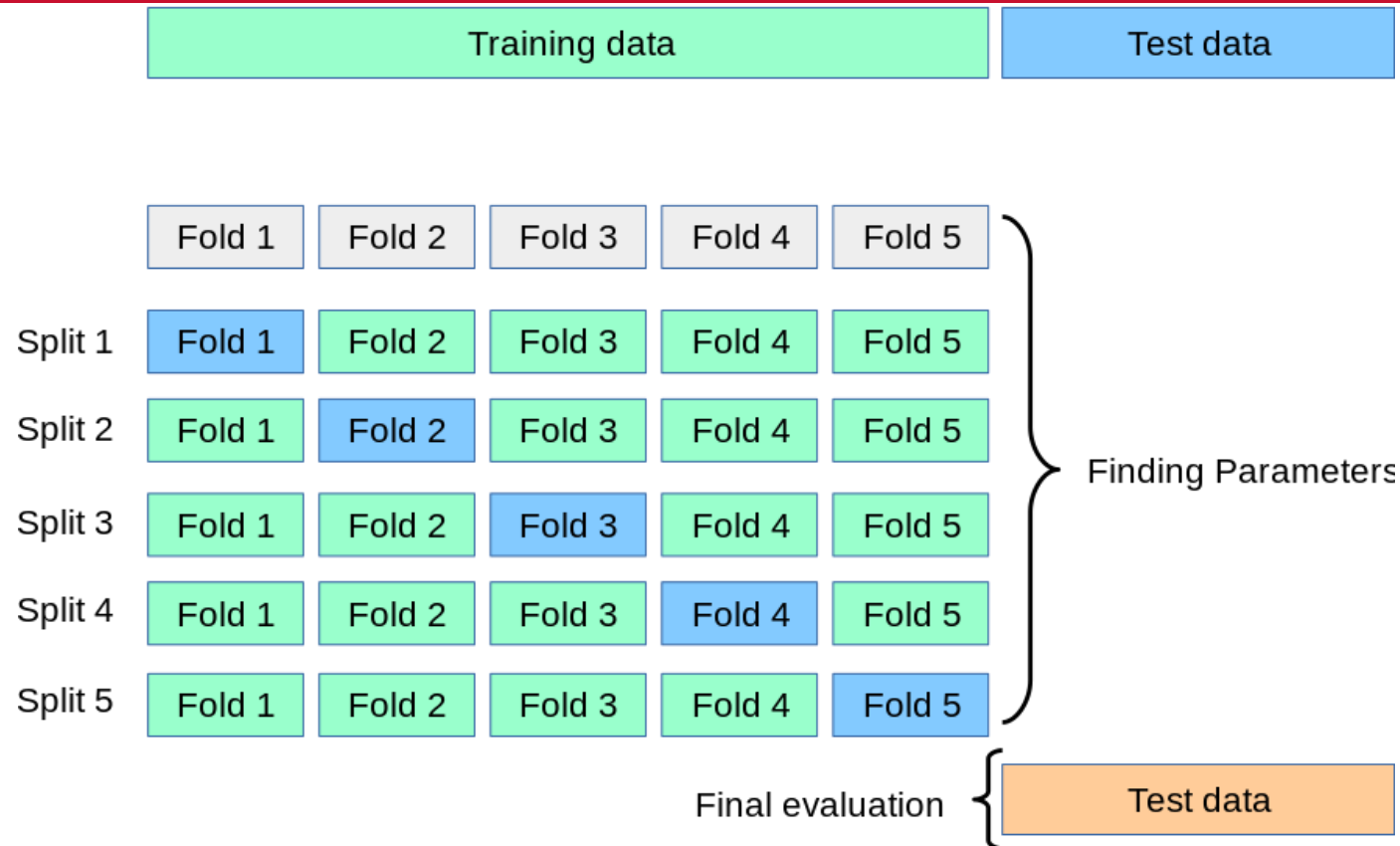


[1] <https://online.stat.psu.edu/stat462/node/170/>

Faster Computation: **PRESS** uses a shortcut formula involving leverage values, making it as fast as fitting the model **once**, while **LOOCV** requires fitting the model **n times**.

Same Result: For linear regression, **PRESS** gives the **same result** as **LOOCV**, but is computationally efficient.

k-fold cross-validation



- Randomly dividing the set of observations into **k groups**, or *folds*, of approximately equal size.
- The **k-th fold** is treated as a validation set, and the method is fit on the remaining **k – 1 folds**.

k-fold cross-validation

$$\text{CV}_{(k)} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \text{MSE}_i.$$

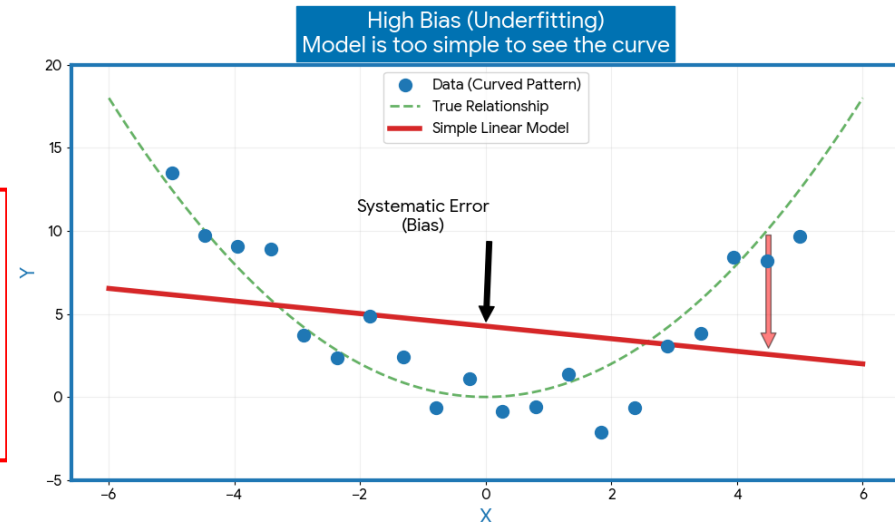
Bias and Variance of the Model (True Prediction Performance)

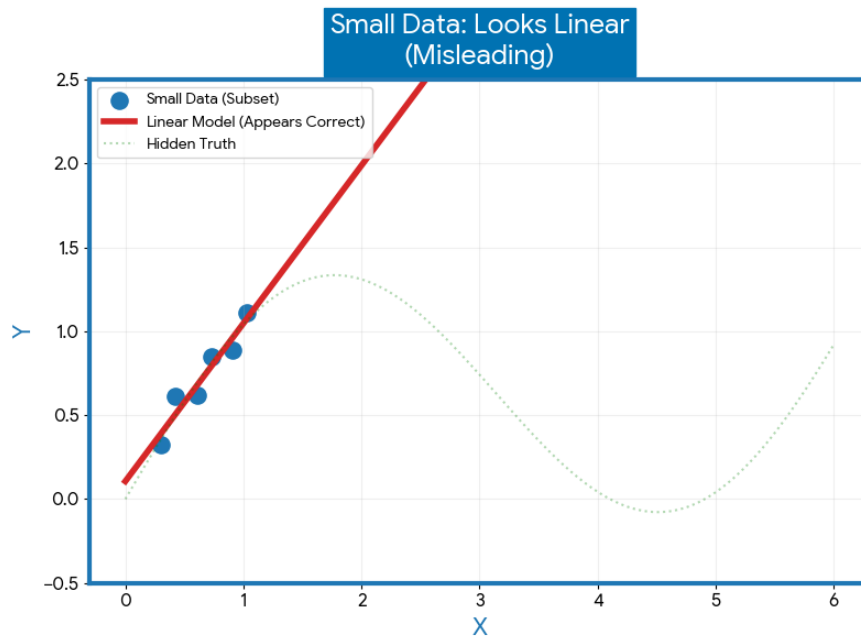
Bias : Measures how far off the model's predictions are on average from the true relationship.

High bias → The model is too simple, underfits the data, and makes systematic errors.

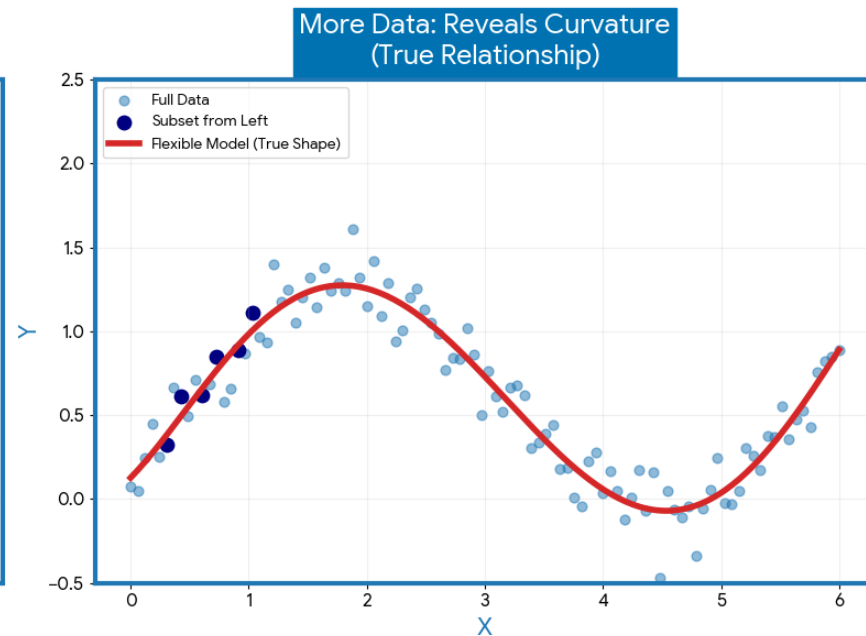
Variance : Measures how much the model's predictions would vary if we trained it on different datasets.

High variance → The model is too sensitive to the training data, and small changes in the data lead to large changes in predictions.





High bias



Low bias

Bias-variance trade-off k-fold CV

Validation Set Approach (50%):

High bias because the training set is smaller, leading to underfitting.

LOOCV ($n-1$):

Low bias because each training set uses almost the entire dataset ($n - 1$ observations).

k-Fold Cross-Validation ($(k-1)/k$):

Intermediate bias (lower than the validation set approach but higher than LOOCV).

Method	Training data	Bias
Validation Set Approach	50%	High
LOOCV	$n-1$	Low
k-Fold CV	$(k-1)/k$	Medium

Bias-variance trade-off k-fold CV

Therefore, from the perspective of bias reduction it is clear that Loocv is to be preferred to k-fold.