

# The NIR Corn Data Set

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The most readily available high-dimensional NIR spectroscopic data is called corn data. There are many algorithms for analysing corn data in many publications. These algorithms will often claim that their new algorithm has a better performs. So the purpose of this dissertation is to search for as many different papers as possible, and write a critical overall to find the most efficient measure that can evaluate whether the model performs well and quantify the improvements mentioned in the paper.

# 1 Introduction

## 2 Literature reviews

## 3 Datasets

## 4 Methodology

### 4.1 Model Evaluation

According to the corn data literature, there are several measures that can be used to evaluate the performance of the model.

- 1, Root Mean Square Error for Calibration samples (RMSEC) is proposed by Yun et al. (2014).
- 2, RMSECV is mentioned by many papers (Ji et al., 2015). And there are two cross-validation methods. One is leave one out cross-validation (LOOCV), mentioned by Zheng et al. (2015). The other is K-fold cross-validation, there are the 3-fold cross-validation (Galvão et al., 2007), 10-fold cross-validation (Ji et al., 2015) and so on. The calculation method of RMSECV is as follows:

$$RMSECV = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2} \quad (4.1)$$

where:  $n$  = the number of samples

$y_i$  = the experimental value of the i-th sample

$\hat{y}_i$  = the predicted value of the i-th sample by cross-validation which includes removing the set of i-th sample from the calibration set, building a model with the remaining samples, and applying the model to i-th sample

- 3, The Root Mean Square Error of Prediction (RMSEP) is mentioned by Su et al. (2006). This is a generally accepted method of evaluating models. This approach requires the determination of appropriate cross-validation sets and prediction sets before building PLS model. For example, 60 samples of corn data are used for a cross-validation and the remaining 20 samples are used as predictions (Su et al., 2006). Then the cross-validation data is used for modelling, determining the parameters for regression model, such as PLS. After that, the model is applied to the predictive data to calculate the Root Mean Square Error of Prediction (RMSEP). The RMSEP calculation formula is:

$$RMSEP = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2} \quad (4.2)$$

where:  $m$  = the number of prediction sets

$y_i$  = the experimental value of the  $i$ -th sample in the prediction set

$\hat{y}_i$  = the prediction value of model for the  $i$ -th sample

4, There are few papers mentioned that  $R^2$  is used to measure the model (Tatavarti et al., 2005). But this method is also flawed. In some situations, not enough calculation accuracy of the computer will cause the value of  $R^2$  to be equal to 1. For example, Deng et al. (2016) has this problem and the  $R^2$  in PLS model fitting moisture is equal to 0.9959, but for the CARS, GA-PLS and BOSS model,  $R^2$  are all equal to  $1.0000 \pm 0.0000$ . Hence we can see it hard to distinguish the different between models. So this will not be a good indicator of evaluation.

## 4.2 Pre-treatment

The papers use different pre-treatments of the data, and the results of the model will be very different. For example, Galvao et al. (2008) and Ji et al. (2015) both use M5 to predict the first constituent, and the results are very different. Through the different literatures, the common pretreatment of corn data has the following four types:

1. Nothing to deal with (Su et al., 2006).
2. Scale the data (Ergon, 2006).
3. SavitzkyGolay filter processing on the data (Galvão et al., 2007).
4. Delete the outliers (Ji et al., 2015).

## 4.3 Sample splitting

The number of samples selected and the method of sample selection will also have an impact on the results of models. The methods of selecting samples are as follows:

1. A completely random sample (Su et al., 2006).
2. Choosing the samples by SPXY method (Galvão et al., 2007).
3. Use the Kennard-Stone (K-S) algorithm (Zhao et al., 2015).
4. Directly divide the raw data into the first half and the second half, the first half is cross-validation sets, and the second half is prediction set (Ergon, 2006).

The second and third methods will result in the prediction level data being very close to the data of the cross-validation set, which may increase the accuracy of the prediction and reduce the prediction difficulty, so these two methods are not used here. Because in the actual problem, the performance of the algorithm looks better when the two sample sets are too similar, which is not what we want. The last method relies on the sorting of the original data, so the next step is to take a random sampling method to simulate the sample. The selection of samples refers

to Zheng et al. (2012) and Zheng et al. (2015), so the sample size of  $20 \sim 70$  will be selected as calibration to build the model, and the rest will be selected as prediction.

## 4.4 Cross-validation

The cross-validation is to divide the data into  $n$  groups. One of group is selected as the prediction set, and the remaining  $n-1$  groups are used as the training set, and testing  $n$  times. Finally, the average of results of all tests was taken as the cross-validation result. If the selected  $n$  is the same as the size of sample, then this method is called leave one out method (LOO), otherwise it is called the  $k$ -fold cross-validation. Cross-validation not only improves the reliability of models, but also allows the model to avoid falling into local optimal solutions. Figure 1 shows the flow of the cross-validation.

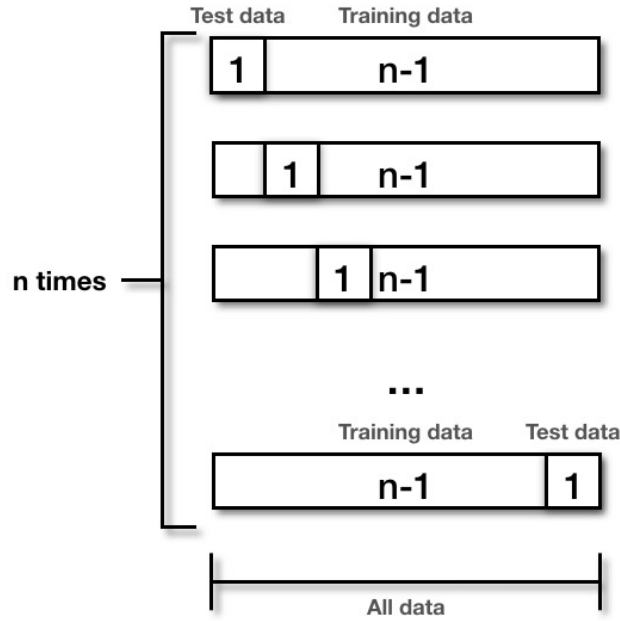


Figure 1: The flow of the cross-validation

The choice between LOO and  $k$ -fold cross-validation is determined according to the number of samples. When the sample size is small, the LOO is preferred. When the sample size is too large, the  $k$ -fold cross-test is preferred. There is an additional reminder here that the difference between LOO and the  $k$ -fold cross-validation is not just a difference in computing time. More, when the sample size is too large, LOO may cause over-fitting problems, and the  $k$ -fold cross-validation can not only save computational power, but also avoid the over-fitting problem in here. Chapter 5.5 will discuss the difference.

## 4.5 PLS algorithm

The partial least squares regression (PLS) is a multi-regression technique proposed by Wold et al. (1984), and it is also the most common statistical method in the research of near-infrared spectroscopy (NIR). Partial least squares regression is similar to principal components analysis (PCA) and is also a factor analysis method. In the modelling process, it is first necessary to decompose the matrix of spectrum and then extract a few principal components (these variables are called latent variables in PLS) to represent most of the information of original spectrum.

Because the spectral data is high-dimensional, the number of independent variables is more than the number of samples, thus it cannot meet the basic assumption of least squares method (OLS). Therefore, it is necessary to extracting the data to some components, and then make the regression. Compared with PCA, PLS not only considers the dimensionality reduction of the independent variables, but also maximizes the covariance between principal components and target variables. In this way, the covariance between the extracted components and the target vector will be the maximum. According to this point, PLS is the improvement and further development of PCA, and the results in many applications also prove that PLS has better performance than PCA.

The process of partial least squares regression is as follows:

The PLS model needs to perform principal component decomposition on the spectral data matrix and the target vector when it is established.

$$X = TP^T + E \quad (4.3)$$

$$Y = UQ^T + F \quad (4.4)$$

Where  $T$  and  $P$  are the scoring matrices and the loading matrices of the spectral matrix  $X$ , respectively.  $U$  and  $Q$  are the scoring matrices and the loading matrices of target vector  $Y$ .  $E$  and  $F$  are residual matrices of the spectral matrix  $X$  and target vector  $Y$ , respectively, and  $T$  and  $U$  can perform linear regression as follows:

$$u_i = t_i b_i \quad (4.5)$$

Here  $t_i$  and  $u_i$  are the first column data of  $T$  and  $U$ , respectively.

In the process of establishing partial least squares regression models, the spectral matrix  $X$  and the target vector  $Y$  are decomposed in an iterative manner. In each iteration, the principal components  $t_i$  and  $u_i$  of  $T$  and  $U$  can be obtained separately. Linear regression is performed on  $t$  and  $u$  by Equation (4.5), and then the information explained by  $t$  and  $u$  is subtracted from the spectral matrix and the target vector, respectively, to obtain a residual matrix of the spectral matrix and the target vector. Finally, the residual matrix is brought into the previous iterative process again, which is the spectral matrix and the target vector in the next iteration matrix. This iterative process is terminated by constant iteration until the pre-variable of the specified target is obtained. The specific operation flow, pseudo code is as follows 1, initialize the score vector  $u=y$  2, calculate the weight vector by formula:

3,

4. Calculate the spectral score vector.

5. Calculate the load vector of the spectral matrix.

6, calculate the detection target vector according to the spectral matrix score vector

7,

8. If the number of extracted money variables reaches the number required by the algorithm, the iteration is terminated, otherwise it returns to step 1 to continue the next iteration.

When the above is the end of the code iteration process, the regression coefficients of the partial least squares regression model are calculated according to the equation. Finally, the prediction model of its partial least squares regression model is as follows

## 4.6 Parallel computing

## 4.7 High performance computing system

# 5 Result and discussion

## 5.1 Loop times

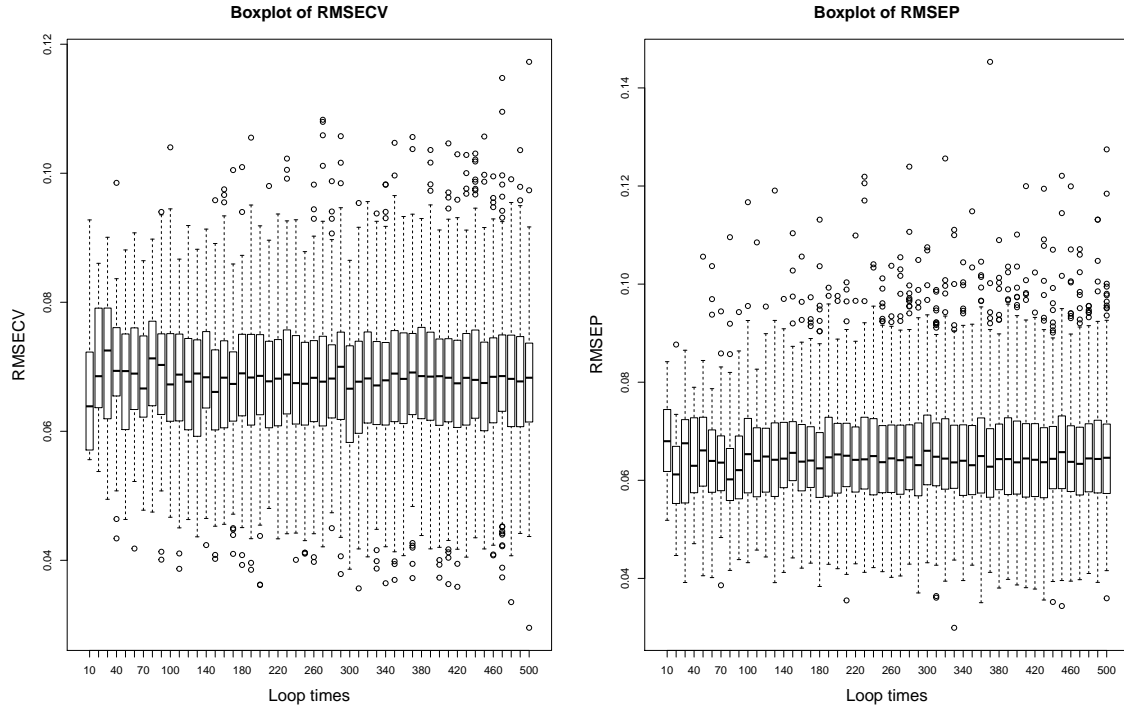


Figure 2: The boxplot of RMSECV and RMSEP from PLSR of oil on m5 under different loop times

## 5.2 Number of samples

## 5.3 Number of components

## 5.4 Pre-treatment

## 5.5 Cross-validation

## 5.6 Compare with papers

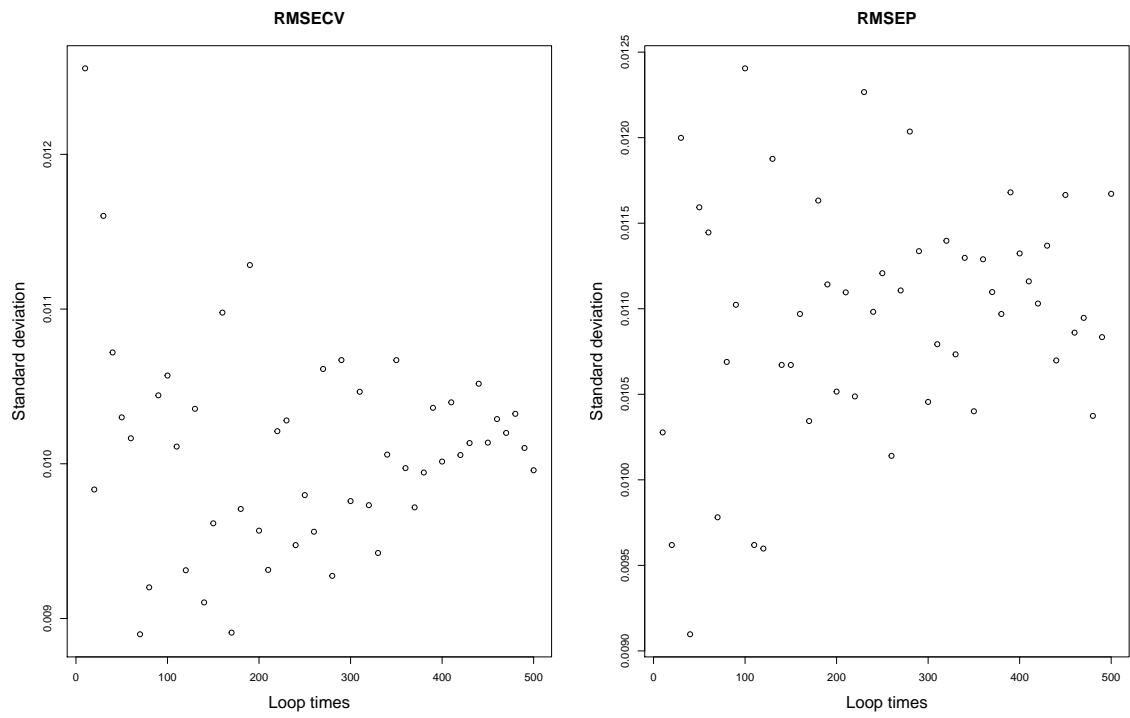


Figure 3: The standard deviation of RMSECV and RMSEP from PLSR of oil on m5 under different loop times



Number	Paper's title
1	A Partial Least Squares-Based Consensus Regression Method for the Analysis of Near-Infrared Complex Spectral Data of Plant Samples
2	A strategy that iteratively retains informative variables for selecting optimal variable subset in multivariate calibration
3	Reduced PCR/PLSR models by subspace projections
4	Stability competitive adaptive reweighted sampling (SCARS) and its applications to multivariate calibration of NIR spectra
5	Cross-validation for the selection of spectral variables using the successive projections algorithm
6	A variable elimination method to improve the parsimony of MLR models using the successive projections algorithm
7	Pretreating near infrared spectra with fractional order Savitzky–Golay differentiation (FOSGD)
8	Using consensus interval partial least square in near infrared spectra analysis

Paper	Data set	Pre-treatment	Calibration set	Number of Components	Moisture		PLS in papers		Developed method	
					RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP
1	mp6	None	60(LOO)	10		0.148(0.0213)		0.159		0.139
2	m5	None	64(5-fold)	10	0.0152(0.000739)	0.0202(0.00319)	0.0149	0.0201	0.00026	0.00035
3	m5	Scale	40(LOO)	12		0.0231(0.00443)		0.3506		0.3485
3	mp5	Scale	40(LOO)	12		0.159(0.0178)		0.3506		0.3485
4	mp5	Scale	40(LOO)	10		0.405(0.0467)		0.357		0.265
5	m5	SG(1,2,13)	60(3-fold)	5		0.0547(0.00942)		0.040		0.012
6	m5	SG(1,2,21)	60(LOO)	6		0.0396(0.00625)		0.045		0.019
8	m5	Delete 75 , 77	52(LOO)	10	0.0221(0.0018)	0.0194(0.00298)	0.0124	0.0157	0.0047	0.0056

Table 1: regression of moisture. The values in parentheses corresponds to the cross-validation type in calibration set and standard deviation in moisture.

Table 1 is the regression for moisture.

Paper	Data set	Pre-treatment	Calibration set	Number of Components	Oil		PLS in papers		Developed method	
					RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP
1	mp6	None	60(LOO)	10		0.0991(0.0161)		0.107		0.0948
3	m5	Scale	40(LOO)	14		0.396(0.0665)		0.6912		0.6902
3	mp5	Scale	40(LOO)	14		0.694(0.095)		0.6912		0.6902
5	m5	SG(1,2,13)	60(3-fold)	12		0.0329(0.00672)		0.029		0.022
6	m5	SG(1,2,21)	60(LOO)	10		0.0505(0.0103)		0.028		0.030
7	m5	SG(0,2,13)	64(5-fold)	7	0.0827(0.00419)	0.0716(0.0116)	0.0729	0.0855		0.0400
7	m5	SG(1,2,13)	64(5-fold)	7	0.0639(0.00357)	0.0548(0.012)	0.0577	0.0682	0.0363	0.0400
7	m5	SG(2,2,13)	64(5-fold)	7	0.0480(0.00312)	0.0368 (0.0088)	0.0370	0.0397	0.0363	0.0400
8	m5	Delete 75 , 77	52(LOO)	10	0.0651(0.00662)	0.0604(0.00876)	0.0613	0.0673	0.0483	0.0546

Table 2: regression of oil. The values in parentheses corresponds to the cross-validation type in calibration set and standard deviation in moisture.

Table 2 is the regression for Oil.

Paper	Data set	Pre-treatment	Calibration set	Number of Components	Protein		PLS in papers		Developed method	
					RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP
1	mp6	None	60(LOO)	10		0.141(0.0203)		0.150		0.145
3	m5	Scale	40(LOO)	8		0.349(0.051)		0.4466		0.4349
3	mp5	Scale	40(LOO)	8		0.37(0.0485)		0.4466		0.4349
5	m5	SG(1,2,13)	60(3-fold)	6		0.107(0.0195)		0.119		0.040
6	m5	SG(1,2,21)	60(LOO)	7		0.102(0.0186)		0.110		0.033
8	m5	Delete 75 , 77	52(LOO)	13	0.119 ( 0.0155 )	0.11(0.0169)	0.1080	0.1353	0.0429	0.0846

Table 3: regression of protein. The values in parentheses corresponds to the cross-validation type in calibration set and standard deviation in moisture.

Table 3 is the regression for protein.

Paper	Data set	Pre-treatment	Calibration set	Number of Components	Starch		PLS in papers		Developed method	
					RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP	RMSECV	RMSEP
1	mp6	None	60(LOO)	10		0.35(0.056)		0.370		0.358
3	m5	Scale	40(LOO)	9		0.393(0.0736)		0.5010		0.4443
3	mp5	Scale	40(LOO)	9		0.513(0.0779)		0.5010		0.4443
5	m5	SG(1,2,13)	60(3-fold)	6		0.239(0.0449)		0.196		0.100
6	m5	SG(1,2,21)	60(LOO)	5		0.258(0.0453)		0.228		0.101
7	m5	SG(0,2,13)	64(5-fold)	8	0.333(0.0226)	0.283(0.0624)	0.312	0.214	0.240	0.219
7	m5	SG(1,2,13)	64(5-fold)	8	0.2412(0.0171)	0.221(0.049)	0.248	0.221	0.240	0.219
7	m5	SG(2,2,13)	64(5-fold)	8	0.318(0.0252)	0.302(0.061)	0.347	0.228	0.240	0.219
8	m5	Delete 75 , 77	52(LOO)	10	0.292(0.0312)	0.282(0.043)	0.2579	0.2356	0.1137	0.1188

Table 4: regression of starch. The values in parentheses corresponds to the cross-validation type in calibration set and standard deviation in moisture.

Table 4 is the regression for starch.

## 5.7 Developed method significant test

# 6 Conclusions

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