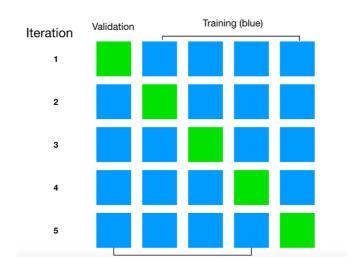


Blockkurs: Introduction to Machine Learning for Psychologists

Cross-Validation Function in R



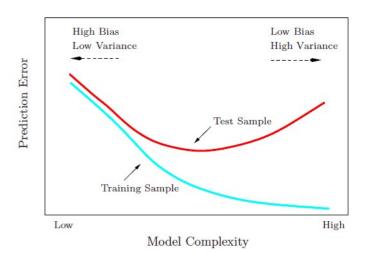
Yannick Rothacher

Zürich, FS2025



What is cross-validation?

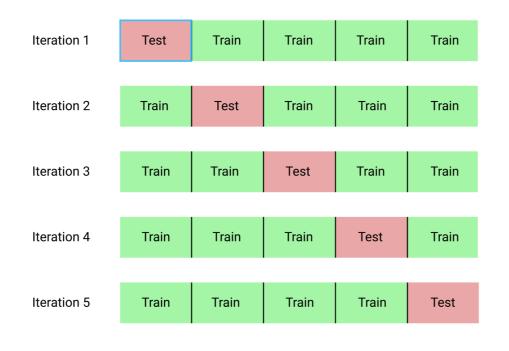
- Recap: To test how well a classifier is performing we wish to test its predictions on new "test" data
 - Often an additional test data set is not available
- We want a method to estimate the test-error using only one data set
 - Cross-validation is exactly doing this
- Cross-validation works by **splitting** the data into multiple test- and training-sets and calculates the test-error for each test-set





What is cross-validation?

K-fold cross-validation (e.g. 5-fold below)



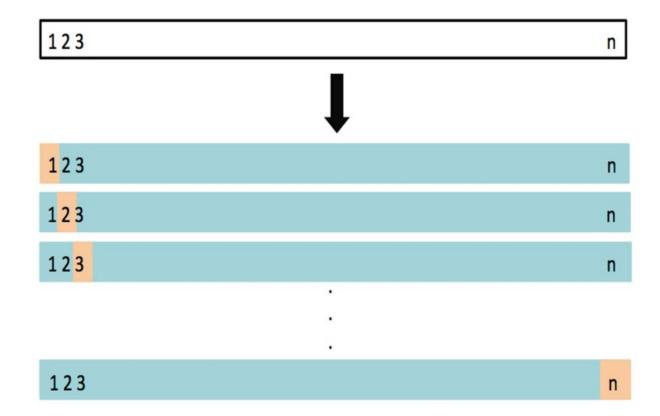
Also referred to as "validation sets"

- ► For each iteration use one kth of the data as a test-set (fitting the classifier to the remaining data)
 - In the end **each observation** has been part of a test-set once
- Calculate the final test error based on all iterations



Leave-One-Out Cross-validation

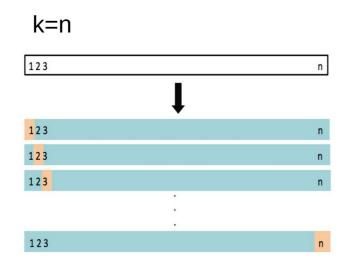
- Same as k-fold cross-validation but letting each observation be an independent test-set
- Each iteration: Use blue data as training-set to predict the orange observation.

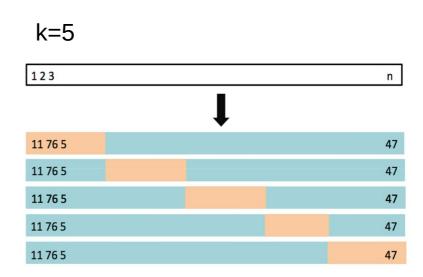




How to choose fold-size (k)?

- ► The fold size (k) can be chosen between 2 and n (k=n results in leave-one-out CV)
- What value is best for k?
 - Leave-one-out CV has lowest possible bias but higher variance. Can sometimes be slow.
 - K-fold CV is usually faster but is random.
- Standard today is to use k=10 fold CV







Goal of this lecture

Write your own k-fold cross-validation function in R for k-nearest neighbor classification

... First we need to look at functions in R



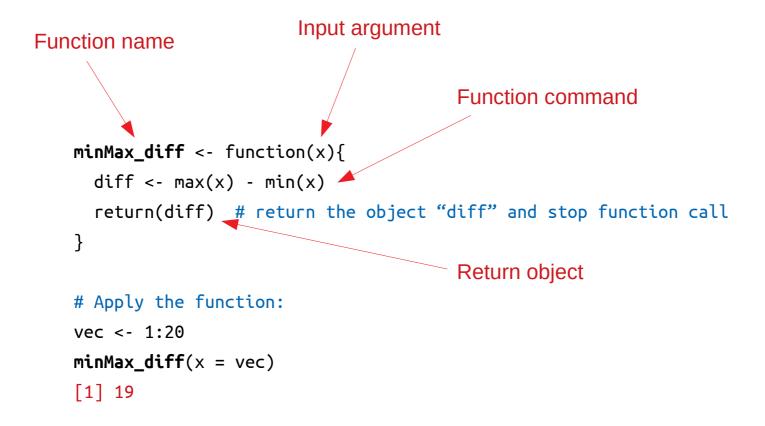
- A function is a set of commands normally applied to some input and producing some output
- R has many built-in functions
 - e.g. mean(), sd(), max(), ...
- Creating a function in R follows the syntax:

```
function_name <- function(arg_1, arg_2, ...) {
   Function body
   return(return_object)
}</pre>
```

- The function_name is the name under which the function is stored
- ➤ The arguments (arg_1, ...) are input-values which are later used for the commands
- The Function body are the commands that the function executes
- Usually a function contains a return object, which is the output of the function



- Simple example of a function:
 - Calculate the difference between the largest and the smallest element of a numeric vector





- A function can take **more than one** input argument
 - Same function calculating the difference between maximum element of vector A and minimum element of vector B:

```
minMax_diff <- function(X, Y){
    diff <- max(X) - min(Y)
    return(diff) # return the object "diff" and stop function call
}

# Apply the function:
vecA <- 1:20
vecB <- c(3,22,60,20)
minMax_diff(X=vecA, Y=vecB)
[1] 17</pre>
```

▶ If we do not specify the input, R will return an error:

```
minMax_diff(X=vecA) # input argument Y not specified
Error in minMax_diff(X = vecA) : argument "Y" is missing, with no default
```



- A function can take **more than one** input argument
 - Same function calculating the difference between maximum element of vector A and minimum element of vector B:

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# Apply the function:

vecA <- 1:20

vecB <- c(3,22,60,20)

minMax_diff(X=vecA, Y=vecB)

[1] 17</pre>

## Index of the function is e.g. minMax_diff(vecB, vecA)

→ vecB will be X
```

If we do not specify the input, R will return an error:

```
minMax_diff(X=vecA) # input argument Y not specified
Error in minMax_diff(X = vecA) : argument "Y" is missing, with no default
```



We can define default values for the input arguments (to use in case not specified)

```
minMax_diff <- function(X, Y=15:50){  # default value for Y defined
    diff <- max(X) - min(Y)
    return(diff)
}
# Apply the function:
vecA <- 1:20
minMax_diff(X=vecA)  # input argument Y not specified
[1] 5</pre>
```

- ► The return object can be **any R-object** (e.g. number like above, vector, character, data.frame, ...)
- What if we want to produce multiple objects as output (can only have one return call in function)?
 - e.g. calculate the difference as above but also include the input-vectors in output
 - In this case we need to use a **list** as a return-object



Lists in R

[1] "A little sentence"

- A list is like a vector, but each element can be an independent R-object
 - For example a list can store a **numeric vector** as a first element, a **data frame** as a second element and a **string** as a third element:

1.4

1.4

1.3

1.4

```
# Create a list:
                                                  # How to index in a list: use [[ ]]
                                                  L[[2]] # access second element
vec <- 1:5
dat <- iris[1:3,1:3]
                                                    Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length
string <- 'A little sentence'</pre>
                                                             5.1
                                                                          3.5
                                                  1
L <- list(A=vec, B=dat, C=string)</pre>
                                                  2
                                                             4.9
                                                                          3.0
                                                  3
                                                             4.7
                                                                          3.2
$A
                                                  L$C # possible if the elements are named
[1] 1 2 3 4 5
                                                  [1] "A little sentence"
ŚΒ
                                                                 # access the first row
  Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length
                                                  L[[2]][1,]
                                                                 # of second element
1
           5.1
                        3.5
                                     1.4
                        3.0
                                                    Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length
           4.9
                                     1.4
                        3.2
           4.7
                                     1.3
                                                             5.1
                                                                          3.5
                                                  1
$C
```



By using a list as the return object of a function, we can include multiple objects in our output:

```
minMax_diff <- function(X, Y){</pre>
 diff <- max(X) - min(Y)</pre>
 L <- list(diff=diff, InputV1=X, InputV2=Y)</pre>
  return(L) # return the list
}
Outp <- minMax_diff(X=1:20, Y=c(3,22,60,20))
Outp
$diff
[1] 17
$InputV1
 [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
$InputV2
    3 22 60 20
```



Variables assigned inside a function are not stored in the global environment:

```
minMax_diff <- function(X, Y){
    diff <- max(X) - min(Y)
    L <- list(diff=diff, InputV1=X, InputV2=Y)
    return(L) # return the list
}

Outp <- minMax_diff(X=1:20, Y=c(3,22,60,20))
L
Error: object 'L' not found</pre>
```



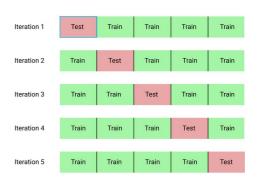
Custom CV function

➤ To write our own **k-fold cross-validation function** (for KNN) we want to create something like this:

```
KNN_crossVal <- function(X, y, k_fold=10, KNN_k=1) {
    ...Perform cross-validation...

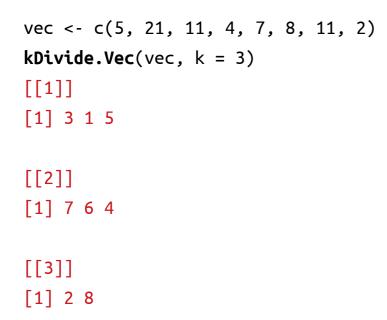
return(List including error-rate and confusion-matrix)
}</pre>
```

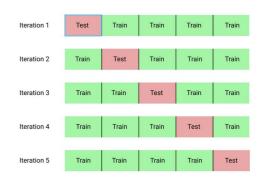
- We will split the cross-validation into two steps
 - ▶ 1) Divide a data frame into k test- and training-sets
 - 2) Fit the KNN classifier to the k training-sets and make predictions for k test sets



Exercise 1

- ▶ **Step 1**: Write a function, which ...
 - takes a Vector and a k-parameter as input
 - Takes the indices of the vector, mixes them up and divides them evenly into k parts
 - saves these k parts for later use (stored in a list)

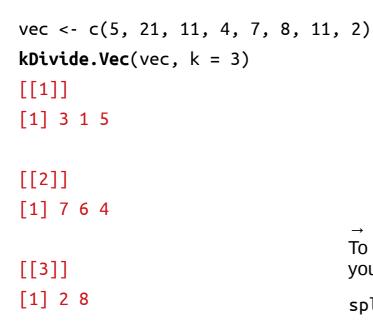


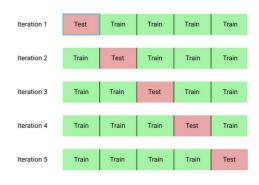


```
vec
[1] 5 21 11 4 7 8 11 2
1:length(vec) # indices
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
sample(1:length(vec)) # mixed up indices
[1] 3 1 5 7 6 4 2 8
```

Exercise 1

- ➤ **Step 1**: Write a function, which ...
 - takes a Vector and a k-parameter as input
 - Takes the indices of the vector, mixes them up and divides them evenly into k parts
 - saves these k parts for later use (stored in a list)





```
vec
[1] 5 21 11 4 7 8 11 2
1:length(vec) # indices
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
sample(1:length(vec)) # mixed up indices
[1] 3 1 5 7 6 4 2 8
```

→ In above example the length of the vector is not divisible by k. To split a vector into k parts that are as equal in size as possible, you can use the following function:

```
split(vec, f=1:k)
```



Solution 1

```
kDivide.Vec <- function(vec, k){</pre>
  n <- length(vec)</pre>
  ind_s <- sample(1:n)</pre>
  L <- split(ind_s, f=1:k) # Can use suppressWarnings(split(ind_s, f = 1:k))
  return(L)
# Apply function:
set.seed(48484)
vec <- rnorm(n = 8)
kDivide.Vec(vec, k = 3)
                                                               Iteration 1
                                                                           Test
                                                                                  Train
                                                                                          Train
                                                                                                  Train
                                                                                                          Train
$`1`
[1] 1 6 8
                                                                                          Train
                                                                                                  Train
                                                                                                          Train
                                                               Iteration 2
                                                                          Train
                                                                                  Test
$`2`
                                                               Iteration 3
                                                                           Train
                                                                                  Train
                                                                                          Test
                                                                                                  Train
                                                                                                          Train
[1] 3 2 4
                                                               Iteration 4
                                                                           Train
                                                                                  Train
                                                                                          Train
                                                                                                  Test
                                                                                                          Train
$`3`
                                                                                          Train
                                                                                                  Train
                                                               Iteration 5
                                                                           Train
                                                                                  Train
                                                                                                          Test
[1] 7 5
```



Exercise 2

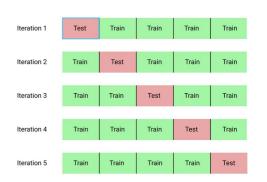
```
KNN_crossVal <- function(X, y, k_fold=10, KNN_k=1) {
    ...Perform cross-validation...

return(List including error-rate and confusion-matrix)
}</pre>
```

- Step 2: Write a function, which ...
 - ► takes a data frame containing the predictor variables (X), a vector containing the target variable categories of the observations (y), the "k-fold" parameter k and a "KNN" parameter k (how many neighbors are used) as input
 - Divides the row-indices of the data frame into k subsets
 - Applies the KNN classifier to each test- / train-set (and collect predictions to build confusion matrix)
 - Creates a list as output with the elements:
 - 1) The final confusion matrix
 - 2) The final test-error

Step 3:

Apply the function to the iris data set to estimate the test-error of the KNN classifier with 10-fold cross validation and a KNN_k = 5





Solution 2

- ▶ Check the **CVFunction** R script in Exercise folder
- Try to understand and recreate each step!