



Question: How shall we select the tuning parameter λ ?

Model Selection (Each λ index a model).

Basic Method: (Data Splitting)

We split the data $\mathcal{D} = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ into two subsets \mathcal{D}_1 and \mathcal{D}_2 , such that $\mathcal{D}_1 \cup \mathcal{D}_2 = \mathcal{D}$ with sizes $n_1 + n_2 = n$.

(For example, $n_1 = n_2 = \frac{n}{2}$).

Consider a pool of tuning parameters.

$$\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_K\},$$

Let $\hat{\beta}^{\lambda_1}, \dots, \hat{\beta}^{\lambda_k}$ be the ridge regression estimators on the subset \mathcal{D}_1 . We define the data splitting score corresponding to λ_k as

$$DS(k) = \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_2} (Y_i - \tilde{X}_i^T \hat{\beta}^{\lambda_k})^2.$$

We then pick the model with the smallest DS score.

Theory: Conditioning on \mathcal{D}_1 , it is easy to see that $DS(k)$ is an unbiased estimator of $R(\hat{\beta}^{\lambda_k})$. \square

Pro and Cons of data splitting:

Pro: Theoretically and Computationally simple.

Con: "Waste" of training data.



Solution: Cross-validation. (CV)

Def. (J-fold Cross-Validation): We split the data \mathcal{D} into J equal sized parts $\mathcal{D}_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}_J$. This forms J binary splits.

(DS1) \mathcal{D}_1 vs. $\mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{D}_1$

$(DS_2): D_2 \text{ vs. } D \setminus D_2$

\vdots

$(DS_J): D_J \text{ vs. } D \setminus D_J.$

For each $\lambda_k \in \Lambda$, we calculate the data splitting scores using DS_1, \dots, DS_J . Denote the results

as. $DS_1(k), \dots, DS_J(k)$ the cross-validation

score is $CV(k) := \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J DS_j(k).$

We then pick the model with the smallest CV score.

Note: After picking λ , we use the chosen λ to fit on the entire dataset.

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Extension from the ridge regression to bridge regression.

Let $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\|\underline{x}\|_p = (|x_1|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$

For $1 \leq p < \infty$, $\|\underline{x}\|_p$ is a norm.

For $0 < p < 1$, $\|\underline{x}\|_p$ is not a norm.