# LECTURE 03: LINEAR REGRESSION PT. 1 

September 18, 2017
SDS 293: Machine Learning
https://www.science.smith.edu/~jcrouser/SDS293/

## Residual standard error

- Idea: estimate standard deviation of $\epsilon$ using RSS to get residual standard error:

$$
R S E=\sqrt{\frac{R S S}{(n-2)}}
$$

- Now we can finally estimate SE, which can be used to compute confidence intervals
- In linear regression, the 95\% confidence intervals are:

$$
\hat{\beta}_{0} \pm 2 \times S E\left(\hat{\beta}_{0}\right) \text { and } \hat{\beta}_{1} \pm 2 \times S E\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}\right)
$$

## LECTURE 10: LINEAR MODEL SELECTION PT. 1

October 16, 2017
SDS 293: Machine Learning

## Outline

- Model selection: alternatives to least-squares
- Subset selection
- Best subset
- Stepwise selection (forward and backward)
- Estimating error
- Shrinkage methods
- Ridge regression and the Lasso
- Dimension reduction
- Labs for each part

Back to the safety of linear models...

$$
\mathrm{Y} \approx \beta_{0}+\beta_{1} \mathrm{X}_{1}+\ldots+\beta_{p} \mathrm{X}_{p}
$$



$$
8
$$

## Discussion

How could we reduce the variance?


## Subset selection

- Big idea: if having too many predictors is the problem maybe we can get rid of some
- Problem: how do we choose?


## Flashback: superhero example



## Best subset selection: try them all!



## Finding the "best" subset

Start with the null model $M_{0}$ (containing no predictors)

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all ( $p$ choose $k$ ) models that contain exactly $p$ predictors.
b. Keep only the one that has the smallest RSS (or equivalently the largest $R^{2}$ ). Call it $M_{k}$.
2. Select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$ using cross-validated prediction error or something similar.

## Discussion

Question 1: why not just use the one with the lowest RSS?

Answer: because you'll always wind up choosing the model with the highest number of predictors (why?)

## Discussion

Question 2: why not just calculate the cross-validated prediction error on all of them?

Answer: so... many... models...


## A sense of scale...

- We do a lot of work in groups in this class
- How many different possible groupings are there?
- Let's break it down:

47 individual people
1,081 different groups of two
16,215 different groups of three...


## Model overload

- Number of possible models on a set of $p$ predictors:

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{p}\binom{p}{k}=2^{p}
$$

- On 10 predictors: $\mathbf{1 , 0 2 4}$ models
- On 20 predictors: 1,048,576 models


## A bigger problem

Question: what happens to our estimated coefficients as we fit more and more models?

Answer: the larger the search space, the larger the variance. We're overfitting!


What if we could eliminate some?


## A slightly larger example $(p=5)$



## Best subset selection

Start with the null model $M_{0}$ (containing no predictors)

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all ( $p$ choose $k$ ) models that contain exactly $p$ predictors.
b. Keep only the one that has the smallest RSS (or equivalently the largest $R^{2}$ ). Call it $M_{k}$.
2. Select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$ using cross-validated prediction error or something similar.

## Forward selection

Start with the null model $M_{0}$ (containing no predictors)

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all $(p-k)$ models that augment $M_{k-1}$ with exactly 1 predictor.
b. Keep only the one that has the smallest RSS (or equivalently the largest $R^{2}$ ). Call it $M_{k}$.
2. Select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$ using cross-validated prediction error or something similar.

## Stepwise selection: way fewer models

- Number of models we have to consider:

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{p}\binom{p}{k}=2^{p} \rightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{p-1}(p-k)=1+\frac{p(p+1)}{2}
$$

- On 10 predictors: 1024 models $\rightarrow 51$ models
- On 20 predictors: over 1 million models $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow} \mathbf{2 1 1}$ models


## Forward selection

Question: what potential problems do you see?

Answer: there's a risk we might prune an important predictor too early. While this method usually does well in practice, it is not guaranteed to give the optimal solution.

## Forward selection

Start with the null model $M_{0}$ (containing no predictors)

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all $(p-k)$ models that augment $M_{k-1}$ with exactly 1 predictor.
b. Keep only the one that has the smallest RSS (or equivalently the largest $R^{2}$ ). Call it $M_{k}$.
2. Select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$ using cross-validated prediction error or something similar.

## Backward selection

## Start with the full model $M_{p}$ (containing all predictors)

1. For $k=p,(p-1), \ldots, 1$ :
a. Fit all $k$ models that reduce $M_{k+1}$ by exactly 1 predictor.
b. Keep only the one that has the smallest RSS (or equivalently the largest $R^{2}$ ). Call it $M_{k}$.
2. Select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$ using cross-validated prediction error or something similar.

## Forward selection

Question: what potential problems do you see?

Answer: if we have more predictors than we have observations, this method won't work (why?)

## Choosing the optimal model

- Flashback: measures of training error (RSS and $R^{2}$ ) aren't good predictors of test error (what we care about)
- Two options:

1. We can directly estimate the test error, using either a validation set approach or cross-validation
2. We can indirectly estimate test error by making an adjustment to the training error to account for the bias

## Adjusted $R^{2}$

- Intuition: once all of the useful variables have been included in the model, adding additional junk variables will lead to only a small decrease in RSS

$$
R^{2}=1-\frac{R S S}{T S S} \rightarrow R_{A d j}^{2}=1-\frac{R S S /(n-d-1)}{T S S} /(n-1) \quad
$$

- Adjusted $R^{2}$ pays a penalty for unnecessary variables in the model by dividing RSS by ( $n-d-1$ ) in the numerator


## AIC, BIC, and $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{p}}$

- Some other ways of penalizing RSS

Estimate of the variance

$$
\begin{gathered}
C_{p}=\frac{1}{n}\left(R S S+2 d \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right) \overbrace{\text { of the error terms }}^{\text {Proportional for }} \begin{array}{c}
\text { Prest } \\
A I C \\
=\frac{1}{n \hat{\sigma}^{2}}\left(R S S+2 d \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right) \\
B I C
\end{array}=\frac{1}{n}(R S S+\underbrace{\left.\log (n) d \hat{\sigma}^{2}\right)}_{\text {More severe penalty }} \\
\text { for large models }
\end{gathered}
$$

## Adjust or validate?

Question: what are the benefits and drawbacks of each?

| Adjusted measures |  | Validation |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Pros | Relatively inexpensive to <br> compute | More direct estimate (makes <br> fewer assumptions) |
| Cons | Makes more assumptions <br> about the model - more <br> opportunities to be wrong | More expensive: requires <br> either cross validation or a <br> test set |
|  |  |  |



## Lab: subset selection

- To do today's lab in R: leaps
- To do today's lab in python: itertools, time
- Instructions and code:
[course website]/labs/lab8-r.html
[course website]/labs/lab8-py.html
- Full version can be found beginning on p. 244 of ISLR


## LECTURE 11: LINEAR MODEL SELECTION PT. 2

October 18, 2017
SDS 293: Machine Learning

## Flashback: subset selection

- Big idea: if having too many predictors is the problem maybe we can get rid of some
- Three methods:
- Best subset: try all possible combinations of predictors
- Forward: start with no predictors, greedily add one at a time
- Backward: start with all predictors, greedily remove one at a time
"greedy" $=\begin{gathered}\text { Add/remove whichever predictor } \\ \text { improves your model right now }\end{gathered}$


## Flashback: comparing methods

|  | Best Subset <br> Selection | Forward Selection | Backward <br> Selection |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| How many <br> models get <br> compared? | $2^{p}$ | $1+\frac{p(p+1)}{2}$ | $1+\frac{p(p+1)}{2}$ |
| Benefits? | Provably optimal | Inexpensive | Inexpensive; <br> doesn't ignore <br> interaction |
| Drawbacks? | Exhaustive <br> search is <br> expensive | Not guaranteed to <br> ignores interaction | Not guaranteed <br> to be optimal; <br> breaks when $p>n$ |

## Flashback: choosing the optimal model

- We know measures of training error (RSS and $R^{2}$ ) aren't good predictors of test error (what we actually care about)
- Two options:
- We can indirectly estimate test error by making an adjustment to the training error to account for the bias:

$$
R_{a d j}^{2} \quad C_{p} \quad A I C \quad B I C
$$

Pros: inexpensive to compute
Cons: makes additional assumptions about the model

- We can directly estimate the test error, using either a validation set approach or a cross-validation approach


## Discussion: potential problems?

Only training on a subset of the data means our model is less accurate


From the kitchen of: Grandma SDS
Recipe for: Best Subset Selection
First divide the data into training and test sets
Preheat the null model Mo with no predictors*. on the training set

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all the models that contain exactly $k$ predictors.
b. Keep only the model with the smallest training error. call it $M_{k}$.
2. Estimute the error, and select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$

Calculate the error rate on the test set

Kids these days, wastin' data all willy-nilly like it grows on trees!

## Cross-validation: how would this work?

## From the kitchen of: Grandma SDS

Recipe for: Best Subset Selection

Preheat the null model $M_{0}$ with no predictors.

1. For $k=1,2, \ldots, p$ :
a. Fit all the models that contain exactly $k$ predictors.
b. Keep only the model with the smallest training error. call it $M_{k}$.
2. Estimate the error, and select a single "best" model from among $M_{0} \ldots M_{p}$

Use k-fold cross-validation to calculate the CV error

Good grief, child! I'm never going to make it to bingo!

## Lab: subset selection using validation

- To do today's lab in R: <nothing new>
- To do today's lab in python: <nothing new>
- Instructions and code for part 1:
http://www.science.smith.edu/~jcrouser/SDS293/labs/lab9.html
- Full version can be found beginning on p. 248 of ISLR
- For part 2:
- Apply these techniques to a dataset of your choice
- You're welcome (encouraged?) to work in teams!


## LECTURE 12: LINEAR MODEL SELECTION PT. 3

October 23, 2017
SDS 293: Machine Learning

## Outline

- Model selection: alternatives to least-squares
$\checkmark$ Subset selection
$\checkmark$ Best subset
$\checkmark$ Stepwise selection (forward and backward)
$\checkmark$ Estimating error using cross-validation
- Shrinkage methods
- Ridge regression and the Lasso
- Dimension reduction
- Labs for each part


## Flashback: subset selection

- Big idea: if having too many predictors is the problem maybe we can get rid of some
- Three methods:
- Best subset: try all possible combinations of predictors
- Forward: start with no predictors, greedily add one at a time
- Backward: start with all predictors, greedily remove one at a time

Common theme of subset selection:
ultimately, individual predictors are either IN or OUT

## Discussion

- Question: what potential problems do you see?
- Answer: we're exploring the space of possible models as if there were only finitely many of them, but there are actually infinitely many (why?)



## New approach: "regularization"



Another way to phrase it:
reward models that shrink the coefficient estimates toward zero
(and still perform well, of course)


## Approach 1: ridge regression

- Big idea: minimize RSS plus an additional penalty that rewards small (sum of) coefficient values


[^0]
## Approach 1: ridge regression

- For each value of $\lambda$, we only have to fit one model

- Substantial computational savings over best subset!


## Approach 1: ridge regression

- Question: what happens when the tuning parameter is small?

- Answer: just minimizing RSS; simple least-squares


## Approach 1: ridge regression

- Question: what happens when the tuning parameter is large?

- Answer: all coefficients go to zero; turns into null model


## Ridge regression: caveat

- RSS is scale-invariant*
- Question: is this true of the shrinkage penalty?

- Answer: no! This means having predictors at different scales would influence our estimate... need to first standardize the predictors by dividing by the standard deviation


## Discussion

- Question: why would ridge regression improve the fit over least-squares regression?
- Answer: as usual, comes down to bias-variance tradeoff
- As $\lambda$ increases, flexibility decreases: $\downarrow$ variance, $\uparrow$ bias
- As $\lambda$ decreases, flexibility increases: $\uparrow$ variance, $\downarrow$ bias
- Takeaway: ridge regression works best in situations where least squares estimates have high variance: trades a small increase in bias for a large reduction in variance


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## So what's the catch?

- Ridge regression doesn't actually perform variable selection
- Final model will include all predictors
- If all we care about is prediction accuracy, this isn't a problem
- It does, however, pose a challenge for model interpretation
- If we want a technique that actually performs variable selection, what needs to change?



## Approach 2: the lasso

- (same) Big idea: minimize RSS plus an additional penalty that rewards small (sum of) coefficient values



## Discussion

- Question: why does that enable us to get coefficients exactly equal to zero?



## Answer: let's reformulate a bit

- For each value of $\lambda$, there exists a value for $s$ such that:
- Ridge regression:

$$
\min _{\beta}(R S S) \text { subject to } \sum_{j=1}^{p} \beta_{j}^{2} \leq s
$$

- Lasso:

$$
\min _{\beta}(R S S) \text { subject to } \sum_{j=1}^{p}\left|\beta_{j}\right| \leq s
$$

## Comparting constraint functions



Ridge regression


Lasso

## Comparting constraint functions



## Comparing ridge regression and the lasso

- Efficient implementations for both (in R and python!)
- Both significantly reduce variance at the expense of a small increase in bias
- Question: when would one outperform the other?
- Answer:
- When there are relatively many equally-important predictors, ridge regression will dominate
- When there are small number of important predictors and many others that are not useful, the lasso will win


## Lingering concern...

- Question: how do we choose the right value of $\lambda$ ?
- Answer: sweep and cross validate!
- Because we are only fitting a single model for each $\lambda$, we can afford to try lots of possible values to find the best ("sweeping")
- For each $\lambda$ we test, we'll want to calculate the cross-validation error to make sure the performance is consistent



## Lab: ridge regression \& the lasso

- To do today's lab in R: glmnet
- To do today's lab in python: <nothing new>
- Instructions and code:
[course website]/labs/lab10-r.html
[course website]/labs/lab10-py.html
- Full version can be found beginning on p. 251 of ISLR


## LECTURE 13: DIMENSIONALITY REDUCTION

October 25, 2017
SDS 293: Machine Learning

## Recap: Ridge Regression and the Lasso

- Both are "shrinkage" methods
- Estimates for the coefficients are biased toward the origin
- Biased = "prefers some estimates to others"
- Does not yield the true value in expectation
- Question: why would we want a biased estimate?



## What's wrong with bias?

-What if your unbiased estimator gives you this?


May want to bias our estimate to reduce variance

## Flashback: superheroes



## Estimating Guardians' Height



|  |  | "10 ${ }^{\text {c/ }}$ |  | \% |  | $\infty$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 232.03 |  | 63.9 |  | 54.0 |  | 59.1 |  | $\varepsilon_{1}$ |
| 156.29 |  | 28.9 |  | 45.1 |  | 36.9 |  | $\varepsilon_{2}$ |
| 113.82 | $=1$ | 54.3 | +2 | 13.3 | +1 | 33.7 | $+$ | $\varepsilon_{3}$ |
| 229.07 |  | 69.8 |  | 49.5 |  | 59.7 |  | $\varepsilon_{4}$ |
| 287.72 |  | 50.4 |  | 85.4 |  | 67.9 |  | $\varepsilon_{5}$ |

## Estimate for $\beta$

- When we try to estimate using OLS, we get the following:

(Relatively) huge difference between actual and estimated coefficients


## What's going on here?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& {\left[\begin{array}{c}
\text { "TBy" } \\
232.03 \\
156.29 \\
113.82 \\
229.07 \\
287.72
\end{array}\right]=1\left[\begin{array}{c}
\text { 里 } \\
63.9 \\
28.9 \\
54.3 \\
69.8 \\
50.4
\end{array}\right]+2\left[\begin{array}{c}
54.0 \\
45.1 \\
13.3 \\
49.5 \\
85.4
\end{array}\right]+1\left[\begin{array}{c}
\infty \\
59.1 \\
36.9 \\
33.7 \\
59.7 \\
67.9
\end{array}\right]+\left[\begin{array}{c}
\varepsilon_{1} \\
\varepsilon_{2} \\
\varepsilon_{3} \\
\varepsilon_{4} \\
\varepsilon_{5}
\end{array}\right]} \\
& \approx \operatorname{avg}(\text { " }
\end{aligned}
$$

- Some dimensions are redundant
- Little information in $3^{\text {rd }}$ dimension not captured by the first two
- In linear regression, redundancy causes noise to be amplified


## Dimension reduction

- Current situation: our data live in $p$-dimensional space, but not all $p$ dimensions are equally useful
- Subset selection: throw some out
- Pro: pretty easy to do
- Con: lose some information
- Alternate approach: create new features that are combinations of the old ones

Project the data into a new feature space to reduce variance in the estimate

## Projection



## Projection



$$
1 / 3
$$

## Dimension reduction via projection

- Big idea: transform the data before performing regression

$$
\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
X_{1} & X_{2} & X_{3} & X_{4} & X_{5}
\end{array}\right] \mapsto\left[\begin{array}{ll}
Z_{1} & Z_{2}
\end{array}\right]
$$

- Then instead of:

$$
Y=\beta_{0}+\sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_{i} X_{i}+\varepsilon
$$

we solve:

$$
Y=\theta_{0}+\sum_{i=1}^{m} \theta_{i} Z_{i}+\varepsilon
$$

## Linear projection

- New features are linear combinations of original data:

$$
Z_{j}=\sum_{i}^{m} \theta_{i j} X_{i}
$$

- MTH211: multiplying the data matrix by a projection matrix

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ll}
Z_{1} & Z_{2}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
X_{1} & X_{2} & X_{3} & X_{4} & X_{5}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{lll}
\varphi_{1,1} & \varphi_{1,2} \\
\varphi_{2,1} & \varphi_{2,2} \\
\varphi_{3,1} & \varphi_{3,2} \\
\varphi_{4,1} & \varphi_{4,2} \\
\varphi_{5,1} & \varphi_{5,2}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## What's the deal with projection?

- Data can be rotated, scaled, and translated without changing the underlying relationships
- This means you're allowed to look at the data from whatever angle makes your life easier...



## Flashback: why did we pick this line?



## Explains the most variance in the data



## Imagine this line as a new dimension...



## "Principal component"

Most variance


## Mathematically

- The $1^{\text {st }}$ principal component is the normalized ${ }^{*}$ linear combination of features:

$$
Z_{1}=\phi_{11} X_{1}+\phi_{21} X_{2}+\cdots+\phi_{p 1} X_{p}
$$

that has the largest variance

- $\phi_{11}, \ldots, \phi_{p 1}$ : the loadings of the $1^{\text {st }}$ principal component


## Using loadings to project

Multiply by loading vector to project ("smoosh") each observation onto the line:
$z_{i 1}=\phi_{11} x_{i 1}+\phi_{21} x_{i 2}+\cdots+\phi_{p 1} x_{i p}$


These values are called the scores of the $1^{\text {st }}$ principal component

## Additional principal components

- $2^{\text {nd }}$ principal component is the normalized linear combination of the features

$$
Z_{2}=\phi_{12} X_{1}+\phi_{22} X_{2}+\cdots+\phi_{p 2} X_{p}
$$

that has maximal variance out of all linear combinations that are uncorrelated with $Z_{l}$ (why does that matter?)

- Fun fact:


## Principal components are orthogonal



## Generating additional principal components

- We can think of this recursively
- To find the $M^{\text {th }}$ principal component . . .
- Find the first $(M-1)$ principal components
- Subtract the projection into that space
- Maximize the variance in the remaining complementary space


## Regression in the principal components

- Original objective: solve for $\beta$ in

$$
Y=\beta_{0}+\sum_{\text {(that's still our goal) }}^{p} \beta_{i} X_{i}+\varepsilon
$$

- Now we're going to work in the new feature space:

$$
Y=\theta_{0}+\sum_{i}^{M} \theta_{i} Z_{i}+\varepsilon
$$

## Regression in the principal components

- Remember: the new features are related to the old ones:

$$
Z_{j}=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \phi_{i j} X_{i}
$$

- So we're computing:

$$
\begin{aligned}
Y & =\theta_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} Z_{j}+\varepsilon \\
& =\theta_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} \sum_{i=1}^{p} \phi_{i j} X_{i}+\varepsilon \\
\mapsto \beta_{i} & =\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} \phi_{i j}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Back to the Guardians



## Back to the Guardians

-What happens if we use 2 components instead of 3 ?


Using only the principal components significantly improves our estimate!

## Comparison with ridge regression and the lasso

-What similarities do you see?

- Reduces dimensionality of the solution space (like Lasso)
- Finds a solution in the space of all features (like RR)
- Results can be difficult to interpret (like RR)



## Problems with PCR

- We selected principal components based on predictors (not what we're trying to predict!)
- This could be problematic (why?)
- What if the values you're trying to predict aren't correlated with the first few components?
- You lose all predictive power!



## Partial least squares (PLS)

- A supervised form of PCR
- Feature derivation algorithm is similar:
- Find the ( $M-1$ ) principal most correlated components
- Subtract the projection into that space
- Maximize the variance correlation with the response in the remaining complementary space
- As before, we perform least squares on the new features
- We still use the formulation

$$
Z_{j}=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \phi_{i j} X_{i}
$$

- But now $\phi$ is computed by applying linear regression to each predictor


## Wrapping up: PCR/PLS comparison

- Both derive a small number of orthogonal predictors for linear regression
- PCR is more biased
- Emphasizes stability at the expense of versatility
- PLS estimates have higher variance
- May build new features that aren't as stable
- But high variance is better than infinite variance


## Lab: PCR and PLS

- To do today's lab in R: pls
- To do today’s lab in python: <nothing new>
- Instructions and code:
[course website]/labs/lab11-r.html
[course website]/labs/lab11-py.html
- Full version can be found beginning on p. 256 of ISLR


## Flashback: superheroes



## Estimating Guardians' Height



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\varepsilon_{3} \\
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## Projection



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## Linear projection

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\begin{aligned}
Y & =\theta_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} Z_{j}+\varepsilon \\
& =\theta_{0}+\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} \sum_{i=1}^{p} \phi_{i j} X_{i}+\varepsilon \\
\mapsto \beta_{i} & =\sum_{j=1}^{M} \theta_{j} \phi_{i j}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Back to the Guardians



## Back to the Guardians

-What happens if we use 2 components instead of 3 ?


Using only the principal components significantly improves our estimate!

## Comparison with ridge regression and the lasso

-What similarities do you see?

- Reduces dimensionality of the solution space (like Lasso)
- Finds a solution in the space of all features (like RR)
- Results can be difficult to interpret (like RR)



## Problems with PCR

- We selected principal components based on predictors (not what we're trying to predict!)
- This could be problematic (why?)
- What if the values you're trying to predict aren't correlated with the first few components?
- You lose all predictive power!



[^0]:    * In statistical / linear algebraic parlance, this is an $\ell_{2}$ penalty

