

Variable Selection in High Dimension

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1 Introduction

2 $p < n$ Case

- SCAD
- Adaptive LASSO

3 $p > n$ Case

- LASSO
- Dantzig Selector
- Sure Independent Screening

4 Numerical Simulation

- Consider the variable selection problem in linear model

$$y = X\beta + \epsilon \quad (1)$$

where X is a $n \times p$ matrix. We are interested in $p > n$ case.

- Suppose the true β is β_0 with support \mathcal{A}
- The aim of model selection is to identify \mathcal{A} as close as possible

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- **Sign Consistency:** $P(\text{sign}(\hat{\beta}) = \text{sign}(\beta_0)) \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$
- **Oracle Property:**
 - Selection consistency: $P(\{j : \hat{\beta}_j \neq 0\} = \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1$
 - Asymptotic normality: $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta}_{\mathcal{A}} - \beta_{\mathcal{A},0}) \rightarrow N(0, C_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{A}})$, where $\frac{1}{n}X'X \rightarrow C$

The oracle property says that our estimator has the same efficiency as estimator of $\beta_{\mathcal{A}}$ based on the submodel with $\beta_{\mathcal{A}^c} = 0$ known in advance

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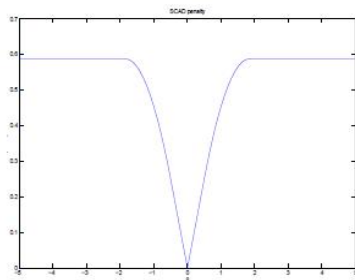
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- Bridge: $\min \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j|^\gamma$ where $0 < \gamma < 1$

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- SCAD: $\min \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p p_\lambda(|\beta_j|)$

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- SCAD: $\min \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p p_\lambda(|\beta_j|)$
- Adaptive Lasso: $\min \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \lambda_n \sum_{j=1}^p w_j |\beta_j|$



$$p'_\lambda(\theta) = \lambda \left\{ I(\theta \leq \lambda) + \frac{(a\lambda - \theta)_+}{(a-1)\lambda} I(\theta > \lambda) \right\} \quad (2)$$

for some $a > 2$ and $\theta > 0$. It is a quadratic spline function with two knots at λ and $a\lambda$.

Theorem

If $\lambda_n \rightarrow 0$, $\sqrt{n}\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ and $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{\theta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{p'_{\lambda_n}(\theta)}{\lambda_n} > 0$ then there exists a local minimizer such that

- Selection consistency: $P(\{j : \hat{\beta}_j \neq 0\} = \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1$
- Asymptotic normality: $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta}_{\mathcal{A}} - \beta_{\mathcal{A},0}) \rightarrow N(0, C_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{A}})$

One shortcoming of SCAD is that it is not convex.

$$\min \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \lambda_n \sum_{j=1}^p w_j |\beta_j|$$

The weights is chosen by $w = 1/|\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}|^\gamma$ where $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ is the OLS

Theorem

if $\sqrt{n}\lambda \rightarrow 0$ and $\lambda_n n^{(\gamma-1)/2} \rightarrow \infty$. Then the adaptive lasso estimates must satisfy the following:

- Selection consistency: $P(\{j : \hat{\beta}_j \neq 0\} = \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1$
- Asymptotic normality: $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\mathcal{A}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{A},0}) \rightarrow N(0, C_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{A}})$

Adaptive LASSO is convex. It can be efficiently solved by LAR algorithm

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- Dantzig selector: (Candes and Tao 2007)

$$\min \|\zeta\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|X'_{\mathcal{M}} r\|_{\infty} \leq \lambda_d \sigma$$

where $\lambda_d > 0$ and $r = y - X_{\mathcal{M}} \zeta$

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- Sure Independence Screen: Two step procedure, first reduce the dimension by screening than do model selection.

Definition

Irrepresentable Condition: There exists a positive constant vector ξ such that

$$|C_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^c} (C_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}})^{-1} \text{sign}(\beta_{\mathcal{A}, 0})| \leq 1 - \xi$$

Theorem

Under some technical regularity conditions, Irrepresentable Condition implies that LASSO sign consistency for $p_n = o(n^{ck})$. for any λ_n satisfies $\frac{\lambda_n}{\sqrt{n}} = o(n^{c/2})$ and $\frac{1}{p_n} \left(\frac{\lambda_n}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{2k} \rightarrow \infty$

Dantzig Selector

- In noiseless case, under RIP, one could recover β exactly by solving

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^p |\beta_j|, \quad \text{subject to } X\beta = y$$

- When the measurement device is subject to some small amount of noise. Candes and Tao (2007) proposed following convex program

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^p |\beta_j|, \quad \text{subject to } \|X * r\|_{\infty} \leq \lambda_p \sigma$$

for some $\lambda_p > 0$, where $r = y - X\beta$ is residual.

- This can be solved by linear programming
- DS and LASSO are highly related. In many cases they provide the same solution path. (James, Radchenko and Lv 2009)

Theorem

Suppose β_0 is any S -sparse vector such that $\delta_{2S} + \theta_{S,2S} < 1$, choose $\lambda_p = \sqrt{2\log(p)}$, then with large probability,

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta_0\|^2 \leq C_1 \log(p) S \sigma^2$$

Some limitation of DS:

- RIP is too strong for statistics. Only random design can satisfy it. No fixed design can achieve this property at my knowledge.

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- RIP is too strong for statistics. Only random design can satisfy it. No fixed design can achieve this property at my knowledge.
- p still can not too large. if $p = o(e^n)$ then the above theorem is useless in some sense.

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- SIS selects $d = [\gamma n] < n$ parameters, and reduce the dimension less than n . SCAD, adaptive LASSO, Dantzig selector can applied to achieve good properties, if SIS satisfies sure screening property

$$P(\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{A}_\gamma) \rightarrow 1 \quad (5)$$

Relation to the Ridge Regression

Consider the ridge regression

$$w^\lambda = (X^T X + \lambda I_p)^{-1} X^T y \quad (6)$$

$$w^\lambda \rightarrow \hat{\beta}_{LS} \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 0$$

$$\lambda w^\lambda \rightarrow w \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

Theorem

Under some regularity conditions, if $2\kappa + \tau < 1$ then there is some $\theta < 1 - 2\kappa - \tau$ such that when $\gamma \sim cn^{-\theta}$ with $c > 0$, we have, for some $C > 0$

$$P(\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{A}_\gamma) = 1 - O(\exp\{-Cn^{1-2\kappa}/\log(n)\}) \quad (7)$$

Theorem

(SIS-DS) Assume that $\delta_{2s} + \theta_{s,2s} \leq t < 1$, and choose $\lambda_d = \sqrt{2\log(d)}$, then with large probability, we have

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta_0\|^2 \leq C\sqrt{\log(d)}s\sigma^2$$

The above theorem reduce the factor $\log(p)$ to $\log(d)$ with $d < n$

A Simulation Example

- Two models with $(n, p) = (200, 1000)$ and $(n, p) = (800, 20000)$. The sizes s of the true models are 8 and 18.
- The non-zero coefficients are randomly chosen as follows. Let $a = 4\log(n)/n^{1/2}$ and $5\log(n)/n^{1/2}$ for two different models, pick non-zero coefficients of the form $(-1)^u(a + |z|)$ for each model, where $u \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.4)$ and $z \sim N(0, 1)$
- The l_2 norms $\|\beta\|$ of the two simulated models are set 6.795 and 8.908
- These settings are not trivial since there is non-negligible sample correlation between the predictors

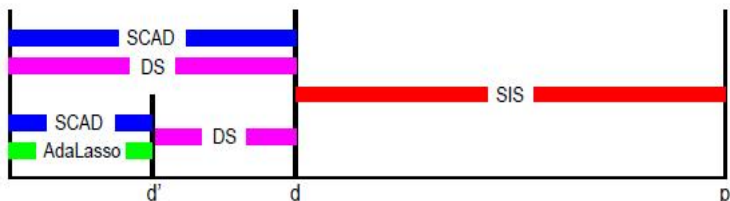


Figure 2: Methods of model selection with ultra high dimensionality.

Table 1: Results of simulation I

p	Medians of the selected model sizes (upper entry) and the estimation errors (lower entry)					
	DS	Lasso	SIS-SCAD	SIS-DS	SIS-DS-SCAD	SIS-DS-AdaLasso
1000	10^3	62.5	15	37	27	34
	1.381	0.895	0.374	0.795	0.614	1.269
20000	—	—	37	119	60.5	99
	—	—	0.288	0.732	0.372	1.014

Thank You!