

Supplementary Material

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Here we discuss more accurate estimation given by MSplit LBI compared with L_1 and L_2 regularization fail in the linear model with general design matrix X , i.e.

$$y = X\beta^* + \varepsilon, \mathbf{S} = \{i : \beta_i^* \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{s \log p}{n}}\} \quad (1)$$

We first discuss the bias estimation of L_1 and L_2 model in Lemma 1 and 2.

Lemma 1. *Suppose the lasso estimator*

$$\beta^{\text{lasso}} = \arg \min_{\beta} \frac{1}{2N} \|y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_1 \quad (2)$$

Suppose the model selection consistency holds at λ_n , i.e. $\mathbf{S}_{\lambda_n} = \mathbf{S}$, then we have

$$\mathbb{E}(\beta_{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{lasso}}) = \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* + \lambda_n (X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}})^{-1} \rho_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n) \quad (3)$$

where $\rho(\lambda_n) \in \partial \|\beta^{\text{lasso}}(\lambda_n)\|_1$.

Proof. Take derivative of (3) w.r.t β and set it to 0, and combined with the fact that $\beta_{\mathbf{S}^c} = 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_n \rho_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n) &= -X_{\mathbf{S}}^* (y - X\beta^{\text{lasso}}(\lambda_n)) \\ &= -X_{\mathbf{S}}^* (X_{\mathbf{S}} \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* + \varepsilon - X_{\mathbf{S}} \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{lasso}}(\lambda_n)) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}} \beta_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n) - \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* = X_{\mathbf{S}}^* \varepsilon + \lambda_n \rho_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n)$$

Then

$$\beta_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n) = \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* + (X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}})^{-1} (X_{\mathbf{S}}^* \varepsilon + \rho_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n))$$

(3) holds after we take expectation on $\beta_{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda_n)$. □

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Lemma 2. *Denote*

$$\begin{aligned} A &= X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}} + \lambda I_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}} \\ B &= X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}^c} \\ C &= X_{\mathbf{S}^c}^* X_{\mathbf{S}^c} + \lambda I_{\mathbf{S}^c, \mathbf{S}^c} \end{aligned}$$

then the Ridge Regression estimator

$$\beta^{\text{ridge}} = \arg \min_{\beta} \frac{1}{2N} \|y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_2^2 \quad (4)$$

have that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\beta_{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{ridge}}) &= \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* + \lambda [A^{-1} B (C - B^T A^{-1} B)^{-1}] \beta_{\mathbf{S}^c}^* \\ &\quad - \lambda [A^{-1} + A^{-1} B (C - B A^{-1} B^T)^{-1} B^T A^{-1}] \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\beta_{\mathbf{S}^c}^{\text{ridge}}) &= \beta_{\mathbf{S}^c}^* + \lambda (C - B^T A^{-1} B)^{-1} B^T A^{-1} \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* \\ &\quad - \lambda (C - B^T A^{-1} B)^{-1} \beta_{\mathbf{S}^c}^* \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Proof. It's easy to verify after taking the derivative of $\frac{1}{2N} \|y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_2^2$ and set it to 0. □

Remark 1. *For the uniqueness of β^* , we assume the restricted convex condition, i.e. that $X_{\mathbf{S}}^* X_{\mathbf{S}} \succ \lambda_{\mathbf{S}}$, hence the $\lambda [A^{-1} + A^{-1} B (C - B A^{-1} B^T)^{-1} B^T A^{-1}] \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^*$ in 5 introduced in the estimation of $\beta_{\mathbf{S}}^*$ can not be ignored.*

Next, we discuss the estimation property of dense estimator of MSplit LBI. We will show that as $\nu \rightarrow \infty$, not only it can give no-bias estimation for strong signals, but also for weak signals.

It's shown in (Huang et al., 2016) that when $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$, $\alpha \rightarrow 0$, the Split LBI algorithm converges to

$$0 = -\nabla_{\beta} X^* (X\beta_t - y) - \frac{D^T (D\beta_t - \gamma_t)}{\nu} \quad (7a)$$

$$\rho_t = -\frac{D^T (\gamma_t - D)}{\nu} \quad (7b)$$

$$\rho_t \in \partial \|\gamma_t\|_1, \quad (7c)$$

Then it can be shown in the following lemma that the MSplit LBI can give more accurate estimation:

Lemma 3. Denote

$$G = (I - X_S(X_S^*X_S)^{-1}X_S^*)X_{S^c}$$

Then under linear model, If there exists \bar{t} in 7 satisfies that $\tilde{\mathbf{S}}_{\bar{t}} = \mathbf{S}$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(\beta_{\mathbf{S}, \bar{t}}) = \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^* + (X_{\mathbf{S}}^*X_{\mathbf{S}})^{-1}X_{\mathbf{S}}^*X_{S^c} [I + \nu X_{S^c}^*G]^{-1} \beta_{S^c}^* \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\beta_{S^c, \bar{t}}) = \beta_{S^c}^* - [I + \nu X_{S^c}^*G]^{-1} \beta_{S^c}^* \quad (9)$$

Furthermore, we have that

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbb{E}(\beta_{\mathbf{S}, \bar{t}}) - \beta_{\mathbf{S}}^*\|_2^2 = 0 \quad (10)$$

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbb{E}(\beta_{S^c, \bar{t}}) - \beta_{S^c}^*\|_2^2 = 0 \quad (11)$$

Proof. It's easy to obtain (8) and (9). To prove 10 and 11, note that

$$G\beta_{S^c}^* = X_{S^c}\beta_{S^c}^* - P_{X_S}X_{S^c}\beta_{S^c}^*$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} G\beta_{S^c}^* = 0 &\iff \min_z \|X_{S^c}\beta_{S^c}^* - X_S z\|_2^2 = 0 \\ &\iff \exists z, \text{ s.t. } X_S z = X_{S^c}\beta_{S^c}^* \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for the identifiable of $\beta_{S^c}^*$, we have that $G\beta_{S^c}^* \neq 0$, i.e. $\|G\beta_{S^c}^*\|_2^2 \neq 0$, hence $\beta_{S^c}^* \in \text{Im}(G^T G)$. Denote the eigenvalue-decomposition of G as $G = U\Lambda U^T$ and $\lambda_G := \Lambda_{\min}(G^T G)$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} [I + \nu X_{S^c}^*G]^{-1} \beta_{S^c}^* &= (I + \nu G^T G)^{-1} \beta_{S^c}^* \\ &= U(I + \nu \Lambda)^{-1} U^T \beta_{S^c}^* \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Hence we have

$$\|U(I + \nu \Lambda)^{-1} U^T \beta_{S^c}^*\|_2 \leq \frac{1}{1 + \nu \lambda_G} \|\beta_{S^c}^*\|_2$$

If we denote

$$\begin{aligned} A &= X_S^*X_S, \quad B = X_S^*X_{S^c} \\ \Lambda_X &:= \sqrt{\Lambda_{\max}(X^*X)}, \end{aligned}$$

then we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\| A^{-1} B (I + \nu G^T G)^{-1} \beta_{S^c}^* \right\|_2 \\ &\leq \|A^{-1}\|_2 \|B\|_2 \frac{1}{1 + \nu \lambda_G} \|\beta_{S^c}^*\|_2 \\ &\leq \frac{\Lambda_X^2}{\lambda_S(1 + \nu \lambda_G)} \|\beta_{S^c}^*\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

Then 10 and 11 hold. \square

References

Chendi Huang, Xinwei Sun, Jiechao Xiong, and Yuan Yao. Split lbi: An iterative regularization path with structural sparsity. advances in neural information processing systems. *Advances In Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 3369–3377, 2016. (document)