

Q. Find the best value of “a” that minimize

$$\text{MSE}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\} = \text{E}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a) - \boldsymbol{\beta}\}^T \{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a) - \boldsymbol{\beta}\}$$

under $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$, $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1 \cdots \mathbf{x}_p]$ (without intercept), $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1 \cdots \beta_p)^T$,

$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \sim N_n(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$ and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a) = a \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{\text{OLS}}$.

Solution:

$$\text{MSE}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\}$$

$$= \text{tr}[\text{Var}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\}] + \|\text{bias}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\}\|^2$$

$$= \text{tr}[\text{Var}\{a(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\}] + \|\text{E}\{a(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\beta}\}\|^2$$

$$= a^2 \text{tr}\{(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \text{Var}(\mathbf{y}) \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}\} + \|a\boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2$$

$$= a^2 \sigma^2 \text{tr}\{(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}\} + (a-1)^2 \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2$$

$$= a^2 \sigma^2 \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-1}) + (a-1)^2 \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \quad \text{where } \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \text{ is the diagonal matrix with all diagonal}$$

$$= a^2 \sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + (a-1)^2 \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \quad \text{elements be the eigenvalue s of } \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p.$$

Taking derivative with respect to a to find the extreme value of MSE.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{da} \text{MSE}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\} = 2a\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + 2(a-1)\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \stackrel{\text{let}}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + (a-1)\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \left(\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \right) - \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2}{\left(\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \right)}$$

Check the 2nd derivative,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2}{d^2 a} \text{MSE}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\} = 2\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + 2\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{MSE}\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(a)\} \text{ is minimized when } a = \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2}{\left(\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_i} + \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 \right)}.$$