Predicting concrete quality



- How accurate the model is?
- Is it better than predicting with random guess?
- Is it possible that the model has overfitted?
- Is model B better than model A?

Outline

- What is cross-validation
 - Leave-one-out cross-validation (elpd_loo, p_loo)
 - Uncertainty in LOO (SE)
- Fast cross-validation
 - PSIS and diagnostics in loo package (Pareto k, n_eff, Monte Carlo SE)
- Model comparison and selection (elpd_diff, se)

Next week

- When is cross-validation applicable?
 - data generating mechanisms and prediction tasks
 - leave-many-out cross-validation
- *K*-fold cross-validation
- Related methods (WAIC, *IC, BF)
- Model averaging
- Hypothesis testing
- Potential overfitting in model selection

Chapter 7

- 7.1 Measures of predictive accuracy
- 7.2 Information criteria and cross-validation
 - Instead of 7.2, read: Vehtari, A., Gelman, A., Gabry, J. (2017). Practical Bayesian model evaluation using leave-one-out cross-validation and WAIC. Statistics and Computing. 27(5):1413–1432. preprint at arxiv.org/abs/1507.04544.
 - See also

https://users.aalto.fi/~ave/modelselection/CV-FAQ.html

Next week

- 7.3 Model comparison based on predictive performance
- 7.4 Model comparison using Bayes factors
- 7.5 Continuous model expansion / sensitivity analysis
- 7.5 Example (may be skipped)

- True predictive performance is found out by using it to make predictions and comparing predictions to true observations
 - external validation

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 - external validation
- Expected predictive performance
 - approximates the external validation

- We need to choose the utility/cost function
 - more about these in lecture 10
- Application specific utility/cost functions are important
 - eg. money, life years, quality adjusted life years, etc.

- We need to choose the utility/cost function
 - more about these in lecture 10
- Application specific utility/cost functions are important
 - eg. money, life years, quality adjusted life years, etc.
- If we are interested overall in the goodness of the predictive distribution, or we don't know (yet) the application specific utility, then good information theoretically justified choice is log-score

 $\log p(y^{\mathsf{rep}} \mid y, M),$

Stan and loo package

Model assessment:

Computed from 4000 by 20 log-likelihood matrix

```
Estimate SE

elpd_loo -29.5 3.3

p_loo 2.7 1.0

------

MCSE of elpd_loo is 0.1.

MCSE and ESS estimates assume MCMC draws (r_eff in [0.6, 1.2]).
```

All Pareto k estimates are good (k < 0.7). See help('pareto-k-diagnostic') for details.

Model comparison:

(negative 'elpd_diff' favors 1st model, positive favors 2nd)

elpd_diff se -0.2 0.1



















 $p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x, y) = \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, \theta) p(\theta \mid x, y) d\theta$











 $y_{18} - E[p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x_{-18}, y_{-18})]$



 $y_{18} - E[p(\tilde{y} | \tilde{x} = 18, x_{-18}, y_{-18})]$ Can be used to compute, e.g., RMSE, R^2 , 90% error



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See LOO-R² at avehtari.github.io/bayes_R2/bayes_R2.html





 $p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x_{-18}, y_{-18}) = \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, \theta) p(\theta \mid x_{-18}, y_{-18}) d\theta$





 $p(\tilde{y} = y_{18} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x, y) \approx 0.07$



 $p(\tilde{y} = y_{18} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x, y) \approx 0.07$ $p(\tilde{y} = y_{18} \mid \tilde{x} = 18, x_{-18}, y_{-18}) \approx 0.03$



 $p(y_i | x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}), \quad i = 1, \dots, 20$



 $\log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}), \quad i = 1, \dots, 20$



 $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$



elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$



elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i | x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$ an estimate of log posterior pred. density for new data



elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$ lpd = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x, y) \approx -26.8$



elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i | x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$ lpd = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i | x_i, x, y) \approx -26.8$ p loo = lpd - elpd loo ≈ 2.7


elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$ p_loo = lpd - elpd_loo ≈ 2.7

asymptotically approaches p in case of regular faithful model



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asymptotically approaches p in case of regular faithful model see Vehtari, Gelman & Gabry (2017a) and Vehtari & Ojanen (2012) for more



elpd_loo = $\sum_{i=1}^{20} \log p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) \approx -29.5$ SE = sd(log $p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i})) \cdot \sqrt{20} \approx 3.3$

see Vehtari, Gelman & Gabry (2017a) and Vehtari & Ojanen (2012) for more

loo package

Computed from 4000 by 20 log-likelihood matrix

Estimate SE elpd_loo -29.5 3.3 p_loo 2.7 1.0

MCSE of elpd_loo is 0.1. MCSE and ESS estimates assume MCMC draws (r_eff in [0.6, 1.0]).

All Pareto k estimates are good (k < 0.7). See help('pareto-k-diagnostic') for details.

Helicopter flight time – elpd

Computed from 4000 by 150 log-likelihood matrix.

Estimate SE elpd_loo -79.2 9.9 p_loo 8.3 1.4

MCSE of elpd_loo is 0.1. MCSE and ESS estimates assume MCMC draws (r_eff in [0.6, 1.2]).

All Pareto k estimates are good (k < 0.7). See help('pareto-k-diagnostic') for details.

Helicopter flight time – R^2

 R^2 is the proportion of variance explained by the model

> bayes_R2(fit) |> round(digits=2)
 Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5
R2 0.51 0.04 0.42 0.58

> loo_R2(fit) |> round(digits=2)
Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5
R2 0.47 0.06 0.35 0.57

Student retention – R^2

 R^2 is the proportion of variance explained by the model

R2 0.98 0 0.97 0.98

> loo_R2(fit6) |> round(digits=2)
Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5
R2 0.97 0.01 0.95 0.98

Student retention









Student retention – R^2

Latent hierarchical linear vs. latent hierarchical linear + spline

> loo_R2(fit4) |> round(digits=2)
Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5

R2 0.92 0.02 0.88 0.95

> loo_R2(fit6) |> round(digits=2)
Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5
R2 0.97 0.01 0.95 0.98

Student retention – elpd (log score)

Latent hierarchical linear vs. latent hierarchical linear + spline

```
> loo_compare(fit4, fit6)
        elpd_diff se_diff
fit6     0.0        0.0
fit4 -43.2     14.4
```

More about this soon

LOO-PIT predictive checking



LOO probability integral transform (LOO-PIT)

$$p_i = p(y_i^{\text{rep}} \le y_i | y_{-i})$$

 If p(ỹ_i|y_{-i}) is well calibrated, distribution of p_i's would be uniform between 0 and 1

Student retention - LOO-PIT checking

pp_check(fit, type = "loo_pit_qq", ndraws=4000)

Latent hierarchical linear - LOO predictive intervals



Student retention – LOO-PIT checking

pp_check(fit, type = "loo_pit_qq", ndraws=4000)

Latent hierarchical linear + spline - LOO predictive intervals/



Brute-force LOO

- Re-run MCMC *n* times to sample from $p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i})$
 - can take a lot of time

Brute-force LOO

- Re-run MCMC *n* times to sample from $p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i})$
 - can take a lot of time
 - or high parallelization Cooper, Vehtari, Forbes, Kennedy, and Simpson (2023). Bayesian cross-validation by parallel Markov chain Monte Carlo. *Statistics and Computing*, **34**:119. doi:10.1007/s11222-024-10404-w.

Fast cross-validation

- Pareto smoothed importance sampling LOO (PSIS-LOO)
- K-fold cross-validation

see Vehtari, Gelman & Gabry (2017a) and mc-stan.org/loo/

• We want to compute

 $p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) = \int p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta) p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i}) d\theta$

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- Proposal distribution is full posterior $\theta^{(s)} \sim p(\theta \mid x, y)$
- Target distribution is LOO-posterior $p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i})$

We want to compute

 $p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) = \int p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta) p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i}) d\theta$

- Proposal distribution is full posterior $\theta^{(s)} \sim p(\theta \mid x, y)$
- Target distribution is LOO-posterior $p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i})$
- Importance ratio

$$w_i^{(s)} = \frac{p(\theta^{(s)} \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i})}{p(\theta^{(s)} \mid x, y)} \propto \frac{1}{p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta^{(s)})}$$

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$$\tilde{w}_i^{(s)} = \frac{w_i^{(s)}}{\sum_{s'=1}^{s} w_i^{(s')}}$$





 $\theta^{(s)} \sim p(\theta \mid x, y)$



 $\theta^{(s)} \sim p(\theta \mid x, y), \quad p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x}, x, y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} p(\tilde{y} \mid \tilde{x}, \theta^{(s)})$



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 $\begin{aligned} \theta^{(s)} &\sim p(\theta \mid x, y), \quad w_i^{(s)} = p(\theta^{(s)} \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i}) / p(\theta^{(s)} \mid x, y) \\ p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) &\approx \sum_{s=1}^{S} [\tilde{w}_i^{(s)} p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta^{(s)})] \end{aligned}$

- $p(y_i \mid x_i, x_{-i}, y_{-i}) = \int p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta) p(\theta \mid x_{-i}, y_{-i}) d\theta$
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$$\approx \frac{1}{\frac{1}{5} \sum_{s'=1}^{S} w_i^{(s')}}$$

- · The variability of importance weights matter
 - Pareto-k diagnostic
 - Pareto smoothed importance sampling LOO (PSIS-LOO)



4000 importance weights for leave-18th-out



4000 importance weights for leave-18th-out



see Vehtari et al. (2024)

4000 importance weights for leave-18th-out



Pareto $\hat{k} \approx 0.52$

- Pareto \hat{k} estimates the tail shape which determines the convergence rate of PSIS. Less than 0.7 is ok.

see Vehtari et al. (2024)

Pareto- \hat{k} diagnostic

Pickands (1975): many distributions have tail (x > u) that is well approximated with Generalized Pareto distribution (GPD)


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Pareto- \hat{k} diagnostic

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• Pareto- \hat{k} for each leave-one-out fold indicates reliability of the PSIS-LOO approximation





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loo package

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Estimate SE elpd_loo -29.5 3.3 p_loo 2.7 1.0

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All Pareto k estimates are good (k < 0.7). See help('pareto-k-diagnostic') for details.

see more by Vehtari et al. (2024)

Student retention - loo computation

> fit4 <- add_criterion(fit4, 'loo')
Pareto k diagnostic values:</pre>

		Count	Pct.	Min. E	SS
(-Inf, 0.7]	(good)	32	80.0%	114	
(0.7, 1]	(bad)	7	17.5%	<na></na>	
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Pareto smoothed importance sampling (PSIS)

- Replace the largest weights with ordered statistics of the fitted Pareto distribution
 - equivalent to using model to filter the noise out of the weights

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Pareto smoothed importance sampling (PSIS)

- Replace the largest weights with ordered statistics of the fitted Pareto distribution
 - equivalent to using model to filter the noise out of the weights
- Works well if $\hat{k} < 0.7$
- Reduced variability compared to the plain IS
- Reduced bias compared to the truncated IS
- Asymptotically consistent under some mild conditions

Pareto- \hat{k} and convergence rate of PSIS

• CLT says that to half the MCSE, need 4 times bigger S

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Pareto- \hat{k} and convergence rate of PSIS

- CLT says that to half the MCSE, need 4 times bigger S
- If Pareto- $\hat{k} \approx 0.7$, to half the MCSE, need 10 times bigger S
- If Pareto- $\hat{k} > 1$, to half the MCSE, nothing helps

Stan code

$$\log(w_i^{(s)}) = \log(1/p(y_i \mid x_i, \theta^{(s)})) = \log_{\text{lik}[i]}$$

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```
model {
    alpha ~ normal(pmualpha, psalpha);
    beta ~ normal(pmubeta, psbeta);
    y ~ normal(mu, sigma);
    generated quantities {
    vector[N] log_lik;
    for (i in 1:N)
        log_lik[i] = normal_lpdf(y[i] | mu[i], sigma);
    }
```

Stan code

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```
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```

RStanARM and brms compute log_lik by default

• RStan (log_lik in gen. quantities) loo(fit)

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- CmdStanR (log_lik in gen. quantities) fit\$loo()

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- RStanARM, brms loo(fit)
- brms alternative

fit <- add_criterion(fit, "loo")</pre>

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- This can be caused by
 - well specified, but very flexible model
 - e.g. hierarchical model with one parameter per observation
 - indicated by large p and p_loo (e.g. N/5 < p, p_loo < p)
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- See more in CV-FAQ

rstan::loo(..., moment_match = TRUE)
 brms::loo(..., moment_match = TRUE)
 support implicitly adaptive importance sampling with moment
 matching algorithm by Paananen et al. (2021). See
 http://mc-stan.org/loo/articles/loo2-moment-matching.html

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- Integrated LOO (for some models) See https://users.aalto.fi/~ave/modelselection/roaches.html
- Use K-fold-CV (more about this later) rstanarm::kfold(..., K=10) brms::kfold(..., K=10) RStan/CmdStanR vignette http://mc-stan.org/loo/articles/loo2-elpd.html

Student retention - loo computation

PSIS-LOO

```
> fit4 <- add_criterion(fit4, 'loo')
Pareto k diagnostic values:
```

		Count	Pct.	Min.	ESS
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Student retention - loo computation

PSIS-LOO

PSIS-LOO + moment matching + reloo

> ...(fit4, 'loo', moment_match=TRUE, reloo=TRUE, overwrite=TRUE)
All Pareto k estimates are good (k < 0.7).</pre>

Paananen, Piironen, Bürkner, and Vehtari (2021). Implicitly adaptive importance sampling. *Statistics and Computing*, 31, 16.

Cross-validation for model assessment

- CV is good for model assessment when application specific utility/cost functions are used
 - e.g. in concrete quality prediction reported that the absolute error is smaller than X with 90% probability

Cross-validation for model assessment

- CV is good for model assessment when application specific utility/cost functions are used
 - e.g. in concrete quality prediction reported that the absolute error is smaller than X with 90% probability
- Also useful in model checking in similar way as posterior predictive checking (PPC)
 - checking calibration of leave-one-out predictive posteriors (ppc_loo_pit in bayesplot)
 - model misspecification diagnostics (e.g. Pareto-k and p_loo)

see demos https://users.aalto.fi/~ave/casestudies.html

Sometimes cross-validation is not needed

Posterior predictive checking is often sufficient



Predicting the yields of mesquite bushes.

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- BDA3, Chapter 6

- Gabry, Simpson, Vehtari, Betancourt, Gelman (2019). Visualization in Bayesian workflow. JRSS A, https://doi.org/10.1111/rssa.12378
- mc-stan.org/bayesplot/articles/graphical-ppcs.html

Next week

- Model comparison with LOO-CV
- When is cross-validation applicable?
 - data generating mechanisms and prediction tasks
 - leave-many-out cross-validation
- *K*-fold cross-validation
- Related methods (WAIC, *IC, BF)
- Model averaging
- Hypothesis testing
- Potential overfitting in model selection