## Model Assessment and Selection

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## Which model is best ?

**Experience: Linear** models work fine

Sparse data: Expression data in high dimensions is sparse. The data does not contain information to identify non linear structures adequately, even if they exist.



# Which type of regularization is best?

- **Experience:** The are all the same, except for some stupid ideas
- **Theoretical consolidation:** The challenge is more to unravel the theoretical relationships between the methods
- The important question is not which regularization but how much of it

### Adaptive model selection Choose a family of models with varying regularization strength

- tune the number of genes
- use a parameter calibrating likelihood and penalty

Use cross validation on the training data to optimize regularization strength

This can be very data dependent!

## The bias variance trade



How much shrinkage is good in PAM ? Train TrainSelectTrain Train

**Train Train Train Select Train** 

Compute the CV-Performance for several values of  $\Delta$ 

Pick the  $\Delta$  that gives you the smallest number of CV-Misclassifications

**Adaptive Model Selection** 

**PAM does this routinely** 

## **Model Selection Output of**



Small ∆, many genes poor performance due to overfitting

**High**  $\Delta$ , few genes, poor performance due to lack of information – *underfitting* -

The optimal  $\Delta$  is somewhere in the middle

**Population mean:** 

### Genes have a certain mean expression and correlation in the population

population mean



## We observe average expression and empirical correlation



### **Fitted model:**



### Regularization



## Adaptive Model Selection of SVM

### **SVM optimize the margin of separation**

There are theoretical results connecting the margin to an upper bound of the test error (V. Vapnik)



- structural risk minimization -

## Validation

The accuracy of a signature on the data it was learned from is biased

Validation of a signature requires independent test data

This test data must not be used for gene selection or adaptive model selection, otherwise the observed accuracy is biased

Selection bias

Cross Validation
Train Train Eval Train Train

**Train Train Train Eval Train** 

You can not evaluate a fitted classification model ( = signature ) using cross validation

Cross validation only evaluates the algorithm with which the signature was build

Gene selection must be repeated for every relearning step in the cross validation

In the loop gene selection

### Leave one out Cross-Validation

Train Train Eval Train Train

Train Train Train Eval Train 1

### **Essentially the same**

But you only leave one sample out at a time and predict it using the others

**Good for small training sets** 

## Performance Estimation

85

Estimators of performance have a variance ...

... which can be high. The chances of a meaningless signature to produce 100% accuracy on test data is high if the test data includes only few patients

0 8 ross validation accuracy 22 2 65 **Nested 10-fold- CV** out-of-loop f Variance from 100 random partitions  $\rightarrow$  Reuse of the same data ... no sample variance

Out-of-loop feature selection is cheating!

#### **DOs AND DONTs :**

- 1. Decide on your diagnosis model (PAM,SVM,etc...) and don't change your mind later on
- 2. Split your profiles randomly into a training set and a test set
- **3.** Put the data in the test set away ... far away
- 4. Train your model only using the data in the training set
- (select genes, define centroids, calculate normal vectors for large margin separators, perform adaptive model selection ...)
- don't even think of touching the test data at this time
- 5. Apply the model to the test data ...
- don't even think of changing the model at this time
- C De stone 1 E only once and accept the result

## External Validation and Documentation

Documenting a signature is conceptually different from giving a list of genes, although is is what most publications give you

- In order to validate a signature on external data or apply it in practice:
- All model parameters need to be specified

- The scale of the normalized data to which the model refers needs to be specified

### Establishing a signature

Split Data into Training and Test Data Test data only: Internal validation Full quantitative specification

External Validations

Training data only: Machine Learning

- select genes
- find the optimal number of genes
- learn model parameters

# Thank you