

## Topic4. Bias-Variance decomposition

Simply the note from <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2018fa/lectures/lecturenote12.html>

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(x_0) &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \mid X = x_0 \right] \\
 &= E \left[ f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} + \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right]^2 \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) + \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right) \right]^2 \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] + E \left[ \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right] + 2E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \times \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right) \right] \dots (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \times \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right) \right] \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \times E \left[ \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right) \right] \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \times \left( E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] - E \left[ \hat{f}(x_0) \right] \right) \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \times \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \times 0 = 0 \dots (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} + \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] \\
 &= E \left[ \left( \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) + \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right)^2 \right] \\
 &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] + E \left[ \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] + 2E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \times \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \dots (3)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \times \left( \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \right] \\
 &= E \left[ f(x_0) - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] \times E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] \\
 &= \left( E \left[ f(x_0) \right] - E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] \right) \times E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] \\
 &= \left( \overline{f(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right) \times E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] \\
 &= 0 \times E \left[ \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} - \overline{\hat{f}(x_0)} \right] = 0 \dots (4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3) & (4), we get

$$E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right] = E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{f(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] + E \left[ \left( \overline{f(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right] \dots (5)$$

Combining (1), (2) & (5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} E(x_0) &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \mid X = x_0 \right] \\ &= E \left[ \left( f(x_0) - \overline{f(x_0)} \right)^2 \right] + E \left[ \left( \overline{f(x_0)} - \hat{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right] + E \left[ \left( \hat{f}(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \text{Noise} + \text{Bias}^2 + \text{Variance} \end{aligned}$$