

Multi-Label Learning under Feature Extraction Budgets

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Abstract

We consider the problem of learning sparse linear models for multi-label prediction tasks under a hard constraint on the number of features. Such budget constraints are important in domains where the acquisition of the feature values is costly. We propose a greedy multi-label regularized least-squares algorithm that solves this problem by combining greedy forward selection search with a cross-validation based selection criterion in order to choose, which features to include in the model. We present a highly efficient algorithm for implementing this procedure with linear time and space complexities. This is achieved through the use of matrix update formulas for speeding up feature addition and cross-validation computations. Experimentally, we demonstrate that the approach allows finding sparse accurate predictors on a wide range of benchmark problems, typically outperforming the multi-task lasso baseline method when the budget is small.

Keywords: Feature selection, Greedy forward selection, Multi-label learning, Regularized least-squares

1. Introduction

Multi-label learning (Tsoumakas et al., 2010) concerns the problem of learning to make predictions about the association between data points and a set of candidate labels. In multi-label classification, one aims to predict which of the available labels are relevant with respect to the data point of interest, and which are not. In label ranking (see e.g. Hüllermeier et al. (2008)) one rather predicts the

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7 ordering over the set of labels, where the labels best matching the data point ap-
8 pear at the top of the ordering. The applications of multi-label learning are varied,
9 since in almost any domain of interest there are usually several interesting proper-
10 ties that can be simultaneously used to describe an object. For example, an image
11 often has several objects appearing in it, a piece of music or a movie represents
12 multiple genres, or a newspaper article may belong to several topic categories.

13 Multi-label methods are often divided into two categories: problem trans-
14 formation methods and algorithm adaptation methods (Tsoumakas and Katakis,
15 2007). The former aim at dividing the original problem into one or more single-
16 label classification or regression problems whereas the latter are based on extend-
17 ing existing single-task approaches to multi-label learning. There are a rich family
18 of different approaches for both categories.

19 Two of the most common problem transformation methods are binary rele-
20 vance method (BR) and label power-set method (LP). While BR divides the multi-
21 label problem into binary single-task problems, one task per label, LP creates a bi-
22 nary single-label problem for every possible label combination. Compared to BR,
23 LP has the advantage of being able to model the correlation between the labels, but
24 this comes at a steep computational price as the number of possible label combina-
25 tions grows exponentially with respect to the size of the label set. More advanced
26 transformation methods such as RAKEL (Tsoumakas et al., 2011a) have been de-
27 veloped to overcome this problem. Examples of single-task classifiers adapted to
28 make use of label correlations include the ML-kNN (Zhang and Zhou, 2007) algo-
29 rithm, that extends the K-nearest neighbors algorithm to multi-label classification,
30 and the ML-C4.5 (Clare and King, 2001) multi-label decision tree method. For
31 a comprehensive overview and experimental comparison of multi-label methods,
32 we refer to Madjarov et al. (2012).

33 In this work we consider the BR type of setting, where for each label one con-
34 structs a linear predictor, that produces scorings from which the classifications or
35 rankings are derived. In many applications *sparsity*, meaning that for a significant
36 number of features the corresponding coefficients in the models are set to zero,
37 is a desirable property. The three most common motivations for learning sparse
38 models are the following. Enforcing sparsity has a regularizing effect which may
39 help to prevent overfitting, models depending only on a few variables are easier
40 to understand and explain by human experts, and sparse models are cheaper to
41 predict with than dense ones. The focus of this paper is especially on the third
42 point of view.

43 As pointed out by Xu et al. (2012), the prediction cost can, in turn, be divided
44 into the times required for evaluating the models and for extracting the feature

45 values. For linear models, the evaluation time is proportional to the number of
 46 nonzero model entries, totaled over all models multi-label learning. In contrast,
 47 the feature extraction time is proportional to the set of unique features used for
 48 prediction. The feature value is extracted only once for a single data point, while
 49 the value can be used to predict several labels. The difference between the two
 50 types of sparsity is illustrated in the following example, where two linear models
 51 have the same model evaluation cost, but different feature extraction cost. Let

$$\mathbf{W}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{W}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

52
 53 denote the matrices determining two sparse linear models. The rows and columns
 54 of both matrices correspond to features and tasks, respectively. Both matrices
 55 have the same number of non-zero coefficients, but \mathbf{W}_1 requires all the features
 56 for prediction, whereas \mathbf{W}_2 requires only two of them.

57 The feature extraction costs are dominant to the model evaluation costs in
 58 many real-world tasks, and hence the focus of this paper is the minimization of the
 59 extraction cost. Our problem definition is quite similar to that of *budgeted learn-*
 60 *ing* considered recently by Cesa-Bianchi et al. (2011); Hazan and Koren (2012),
 61 the difference being that our work considers multi-label instead of single-task
 62 learning, and we do not consider settings where different features may be selected
 63 for different data points.

64 As a motivating example, consider an image recognition system that simul-
 65 taneously predicts several properties of a given input image in real-time. Since
 66 each feature used for prediction is obtained from a possibly computationally ex-
 67 pensive feature extractor, one must minimize the number of required features to
 68 ensure real-time recognition. A similar setting is commonly encountered in med-
 69 ical testing, where we want to perform as few tests as possible, yet make reliable
 70 diagnoses for a patient. To summarize, we consider the setting in which the num-
 71 ber of features must be limited even if it decreases the prediction performance,
 72 because enforcing sparsity due to the high feature acquisition costs is necessary
 73 in numerous practical applications.

74 Two popular approaches for learning sparse models are the filter methods, that
75 perform feature selection independently of the learning algorithm trained on the
76 selected features, and wrapper or embedded methods where the selection process
77 is optimized for the learning algorithm. The most prominent of the latter type of
78 methods are the method known as lasso or basis pursuit, and the family of greedy
79 search algorithms. There is empirical evidence in the literature favoring lasso over
80 greedy methods (Chen et al., 1998) when the amount of selected features is large.
81 Moreover, it has been shown that if the model underlying the data is truly sparse
82 lasso converges to it (Zhao and Yu, 2006). However, in the setting considered
83 in this work one must select only a small number of features even if the model
84 is not truly sparse. Consequently, since the lasso methods are based on convex
85 regularization, the smaller is the set of selected features, the worse will be the bias
86 caused by the regularization on the learnt model (Zhang, 2011). This phenomenon
87 does not concern the greedy methods, as they are based on a different selection
88 principle.

89 In the recent years, techniques applicable to learning sparse models in the
90 single-label setting have been extended to the multi-label setting. As a typical ex-
91 ample of filter methods, Doquire and Verleysen (2011) proposed a greedy method
92 that combines a mutual information based selection criterion with a variant of the
93 LP transformation method. Zhang et al. (2009) proposed a naive Bayes multi-
94 label method that applies as a first stage principal component analysis in order to
95 reduce the feature set dimensionality followed by a genetic algorithm based fea-
96 ture selection phase. However, the reliance on PCA for dimensionality reduction
97 makes this and similar methods unsuitable for the setting considered in this work,
98 as they still need all the original features during prediction time.

99 Among the the selection methods optimized for the learning algorithm, spar-
100 sity enforcing matrix norm-based regularization approaches, that extend the com-
101 monly used l_1 -norm to the multi-task setting, have shown to be especially promis-
102 ing (Turlach et al., 2005; Liu et al., 2009; Obozinski et al., 2010; Zhang et al.,
103 2010). As a representative of the state-of-the art in this area, we consider the
104 coordinate descent training approach for the $l_{1,\infty}$ -regularization based multi-task
105 lasso (Liu et al., 2009). The optimization criterion for the method directly en-
106 forces such sparsity structure that leads to minimal number of features being used
107 in the model (see matrix \mathbf{W}_2). Thus, the method provides a natural baseline for
108 comparing our work.

109 We extend the greedy RLS approach (Pahikkala et al., 2010, 2012), a greedy
110 forward selection method for regularized least-squares proposed by some of the
111 present authors, to multi-label setting. The work continues the work of Naula et al.

112 (2011b,a), where a high-level description of the idea and some preliminary exper-
 113 imental results were presented. We prove that the resulting training algorithm has
 114 linear time and space complexities, making it computationally highly competitive
 115 for example with the most efficient known coordinate descent training algorithms
 116 proposed for the lasso-type of learning methods. In our experiments, we compare
 117 the predictive performance of the multi-label greedy RLS and multi-task lasso ap-
 118 proaches over several real-world data sets, in order to determine which approach,
 119 if any, leads to higher predictive performance. The results suggest that whenever
 120 one wants to strongly enforce sparsity, the greedy approach is preferable, as on
 121 small feature subsets multi-label greedy RLS consistently outperforms multi-task
 122 lasso.

123 2. Methods

124 Here, we present the basic concepts and notations relevant for the following
 125 considerations. By $[n]$ we denote the index set $\{1 \dots n\}$. We use bold lowercase
 126 and uppercase letters for denoting vectors and matrices, respectively. Given a
 127 matrix $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and index sets $\mathcal{R} \subseteq [m]$ and $\mathcal{S} \subseteq [n]$, we use $\mathbf{M}_{\mathcal{R},\mathcal{S}}$ for
 128 denoting the submatrix containing the rows and columns indexed by \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{S} ,
 129 respectively. Further, $\mathbf{M}_{\mathcal{R}}$, $\mathbf{M}_{:, \mathcal{S}}$, and $\mathbf{M}_{i,j}$ are shorthands for, $\mathbf{M}_{\mathcal{R},[n]}$, $\mathbf{M}_{[m],\mathcal{S}}$,
 130 and $\mathbf{M}_{\{i\},\{j\}}$, respectively. We use analogous notations also for vectors.

131 Let

$$132 \quad D = \{(\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{y}^1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}^n, \mathbf{y}^n)\}$$

133 be a training set of size n , where $\mathbf{x}^i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $\mathbf{y}^i \in \mathbb{R}^t$ are the feature and the label
 134 vectors of the i th instance, respectively, and d and t are the numbers of features
 135 and labels. The label vectors can be encoded so that $\mathbf{y}_j^i = 1$ if the i th instance is
 136 associated with the j th label and $\mathbf{y}_j^i = -1$ otherwise.

137 Our aim is to learn from D a real valued function

$$138 \quad f_l : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

139 for each label $1 \leq l \leq t$, that is expected to predict a positive value if \mathbf{x} is
 140 associated with the label and negative values otherwise.

141 2.1. Optimization Framework

142 In the following, we assume that the feature representations of the training
 143 instances are stored as row vectors in the data matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$. Thus the i, j th

144 entry of \mathbf{X} contains the value of the j th feature in the i th training example. More-
 145 over, the labels for the training data points are stored in the matrix $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times t}$,
 146 where the i, j th entry is 1 if the i th training example has the j th label, and -1
 147 otherwise. The predictor is a linear function that can be written as $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{W}$,
 148 where $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times t}$ is a matrix of parameters and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is a column vector con-
 149 taining the feature values of a data point.

150 Training of multi-label predictors with training data \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} can be expressed as
 151 finding a solution to the following problem:

$$152 \quad \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times t}} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F^2 \quad (1)$$

153 subject to $C(\mathbf{W})$

154 where $\|\cdot\|_F$ is the Frobenius matrix norm and C is a constraint function.

155 One of the most well-known constraint functions is the quadratic one

$$156 \quad C(\mathbf{W}) = \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 < r, \quad (2)$$

157 where $r \in \mathbb{R}^+$. The feature selection setting, in which the number of feature
 158 extractors must not exceed a given limit, can be expressed as the following con-
 159 straint:

$$160 \quad C(\mathbf{W}) = |\{i \mid \exists j, \mathbf{W}_{i,j} \neq 0\}| \leq k, \quad (3)$$

161 where $k \in \mathbb{N}$. The discrete and non-convex nature of the constraint makes its
 162 optimization challenging. In the literature, there are two widely used strategies
 163 for tackling this problem. The first is to approximate the constraint with con-
 164 tinuous and convex functions and the second to use combinatorial optimization
 165 techniques.

166 Multi-task lasso (Turlach et al., 2005) approximates (3) with the following:

$$167 \quad C(\mathbf{W}) = \sum_{i=1}^d \max_j |\mathbf{W}_{i,j}| \leq r.$$

168 Liu et al. (2009) have shown how the Multi-task lasso optimization problem can
 169 be efficiently solved for large data sets using the coordinate descent method. This
 170 approach is considered as a baseline method in our experiments. The computa-
 171 tional complexity of the training method of Liu et al. (2009) is $O(nd^2 + ndt +$
 172 $htd^2 + hdt \log(t))$, where n, d , and t denote the numbers of data points, features
 173 and labels, respectively, and h denotes the number of iterations performed. The

174 number of iterations h depends on the magnitude of the regularization parameter
 175 and desired accuracy of solution, in the experiments we noted that the method in
 176 practice usually converged within tens of iterations. The memory consumption of
 177 the method is $O(nd + nt + d^2)$. The method scales well with respect to the number
 178 of instances and labels, but has a quadratic dependency on the dimensionality of
 179 the data, limiting its scalability to very high dimensional problems.

180 Multi-label greedy RLS uses of both (2) and (3) simultaneously. In the next
 181 section, we present a novel algorithm for solving the induced optimization prob-
 182 lem efficiently by implementing greedy forward selection search using sophisti-
 183 cated matrix algebra shortcuts for speeding up computations.

184 2.2. Multi-label greedy RLS

Algorithm 1 High-level pseudocode of Multi-label greedy RLS.

```

1:  $\mathcal{S} \leftarrow \emptyset$  ▷ The current set of selected features common for all tasks.
2: while  $|\mathcal{S}| < k$  do ▷ Select  $k$  common features.
3:    $e \leftarrow \infty$ 
4:    $b \leftarrow 0$ 
5:   for  $i \in \{1, \dots, d\} \setminus \mathcal{S}$  do ▷ Test all features before selecting.
6:      $e_{avg} \leftarrow 0$ 
7:     for  $j \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  do
8:        $e_{i,j} \leftarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{X}_{:,S \cup \{i\}}, \mathbf{Y}_{:,j})$  ▷ Compute LOO performance for task  $j$ .
9:        $e_{avg} \leftarrow e_{avg} + e_{i,j}/t$ 
10:    if  $e_{avg} < e$  then
11:       $e \leftarrow e_{avg}$ 
12:       $b \leftarrow i$ 
13:     $\mathcal{S} \leftarrow \mathcal{S} \cup \{b\}$  ▷ Select the feature whose addition leads to lowest  
LOO-error.
14:  $\mathbf{W} \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{Y})$  ▷ Train final models using the selected features.
15: return  $\mathbf{W}, \mathcal{S}$ 

```

185 Let us next consider solving (1) using only the quadratic constraint (2). With
 186 the Lagrange multipliers technique, one can determine such a real-valued multi-
 187 plier $\lambda > 0$ for which the following unconstrained objective function provides an
 188 equivalent solution:

$$189 \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times t}} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2.$$

190 This multiplier is in the literature often called the regularization parameter, and the
 191 above modification of the optimization problem leads to the well-known regular-
 192 ized least-squares (RLS) learning method, also commonly known in the literature
 193 as ridge regression (Hoerl and Kennard, 1970), or least-squares support vector
 194 machine (Suykens et al., 2002). The RLS induces a convex optimization problem,
 195 with a closed-form solution expressible as a solution to a system of linear equa-
 196 tions. While the quadratic constraint has a regularizing effect guarding against
 197 overfitting, it does not enforce sparsity of the learned model. Hence, we use the
 198 additional constraint (3). However, due to the exponential number of different
 199 feature combinations, there is no longer a polynomial time algorithm for finding
 200 the global optimum for (1) when using both the constraints (2) and (3). Thus,
 201 we resort to a greedy search algorithm for traversing through the power set of
 202 features.

203 We apply the greedy forward selection heuristic. By greedy, we indicate that
 204 the algorithm starts from an empty set of features and adds one feature at a time
 205 to the set but never removes any selected features from the set. At each search
 206 step, each non-selected feature is tested by temporarily adding it to the feature set,
 207 and computing the mean squared error obtained via leave-one-out (LOO) cross-
 208 validation for the resulting feature set (for a description of LOO performance, we
 209 refer to e.g. Lachenbruch (1967); Elisseff and Pontil (2003)). The feature whose
 210 addition leads to lowest error is selected, after which the search proceeds to the
 211 next step. Once the allocated number of features has been chosen, the search stops
 212 resulting in the final model.

213 In Algorithm 1 we describe the high-level pseudocode of the resulting feature
 214 selection algorithm. The outermost loop adds one feature at a time into the set of
 215 selected features \mathcal{S} until the size of the set has reached the sparsity budget k . The
 216 middle loop goes through every feature that has not yet been added into the set of
 217 selected features. By $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S} \cup \{i\}}, \mathbf{Y}_{:, j})$ we represent the mean-squared LOO error,
 218 computed for a predictor trained for the j th task, using the features indexed by the
 219 set $\mathcal{S} \cup \{i\}$. Thus for the i th feature available for addition, the inner loop computes
 220 the average LOO performance over the t tasks for RLS predictors trained using
 221 the features $\mathcal{S} \cup \{i\}$. After going through all feature candidates, the algorithm then
 222 adds the feature with the best average LOO performance into the set of selected
 223 features. By $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{Y})$, we denote a routine that trains the final predictor, by
 224 solving the problem (1) subject to the quadratic constraint (2), using only the
 225 features in the set \mathcal{S} .

226 Algorithm 1 can in principle be straightforwardly implemented as a wrap-
 227 per algorithm (Kohavi and John, 1997), meaning that a computational wrapper

Table 1: Datasets.

Data sets	domain	labels	features	instances	cardinality	density
Scene	image	6	294	2407	1.074	0.179
Yeast	biology	14	103	2417	4.237	0.303
Emotions	music	6	72	593	1.868	0.311
CAL500*	music	87	68	502	23.010	0.264
Mediamill*	text	9	120	41583	3.059	0.340
Delicious	text	983	500	16105	19.020	0.019
Tmc2007	text	22	49060	28596	2.158	0.098

228 uses a black-box RLS solver, re-training it for each round of selection process,
 229 tested feature, task and round of cross-validation. While the resulting algorithm
 230 does have polynomial runtime, it is still highly impractical even for modest sized
 231 data sets. In our previous work we have shown that for single-task learning prob-
 232 lem, greedy RLS search can be implemented with linear time and memory com-
 233 plexities via matrix algebraic optimization (Pahikkala et al., 2010, 2012). Next,
 234 we generalize these results to the multi-label learning setting.

235 **Theorem 1.** *On a data set with n data points, d features and t labels, multi-label*
 236 *greedy RLS can select k features in $O(kndt)$ time and with $O(nd + nt)$ memory*
 237 *consumption.*

238 *Proof.* For detailed implementation description, computational complexity anal-
 239 ysis and proof of correctness, see Appendix B. \square

240 For high-dimensional data multi-label greedy RLS can be expected to be faster
 241 than multi-task lasso, due to latters quadratic dependency on the dimensionality
 242 of the data. On the other hand, if the dimensionality is not too large, the methods
 243 can expected to perform similarly with respect to running times on small budget
 244 problems.

245 3. Experiments

246 In this section we present an experimental evaluation of the proposed multi-
 247 label greedy RLS (ML-gRLS) method, with a comparison to the multi-task lasso
 248 (MT-Lasso) baseline. We also show results for a popular multi-label method, ML-
 249 kNN (Zhang and Zhou, 2007), in order to provide a baseline on how well a widely
 250 applied multi-label method can perform on these problems when not subject to
 251 budget constraints. First, we describe the considered data sets. Next, we consider
 252 the problem of parameter selection for the methods, proposing suitable selection
 253 strategies based on experimental evidence. Finally, we evaluate the methods on

254 varying feature budget sizes on seven real-world data sets representing a variety
255 of different types of application domains.

256 All the test runs for the ML-gRLS method are carried out using the imple-
257 mentation in RLScore¹, a publicly available open source machine learning library
258 developed by some of the present authors. The software is implemented using the
259 Python programming language, and the NumPy and SciPy libraries. MT-lasso is
260 also implemented in Python according to algorithm presented in (Liu et al., 2009).
261 The experiments for the ML-kNN² method are performed using the implementa-
262 tion of the Mulan Java library (Tsoumakas et al., 2011b).

263 3.1. Datasets

264 We carry out our experiments using seven publicly available data sets (Scene,
265 Yeast, Emotions, CAL500, Mediamill, Delicious and Tmc2007) that can be found
266 from the web site of the Mulan library. The data sets represent different appli-
267 cation domains such as biology, text or music. The properties of the data sets
268 are summarized in Table 1. Two of the data sets are pre-processed by remov-
269 ing some labels from the original ones (denoted by * in the table) to carry out
270 10-fold cross-validation properly. For CAL500 we select only those labels that
271 include more than 40 instances and for Mediamill only those labels that include
272 more than 5000 instances. The table presents the number of labels, features and
273 instances, and two often used characteristics in multi-label research, *cardinality*
274 and *density* (Tsoumakas et al., 2010).

275 3.2. Parameter selection

276 Both the ML-gRLS and MT-Lasso optimization problems incorporate a regu-
277 larization parameter λ , whose correct selection is crucial for achieving good pre-
278 dictive performance, and in the case of MT-Lasso, the parameter also directly
279 controls the number of selected features. Selecting suitable parameter value is
280 not straightforward, in this section we explore this issue experimentally and pro-
281 pose solutions. All the results presented in this section are based on 10-fold
282 cross-validation (excluding large datasets Delicious and Tmc2007 for which 5-
283 fold cross-validation is implemented), where the feature selection and model con-
284 struction is performed on nine training folds, test performance computed on the
285 tenth test fold, and final performances computed as averages over the ten cross-
286 validation rounds.

¹available at <https://github.com/aatapa/RLScore>

²available at <http://mulan.sourceforge.net>

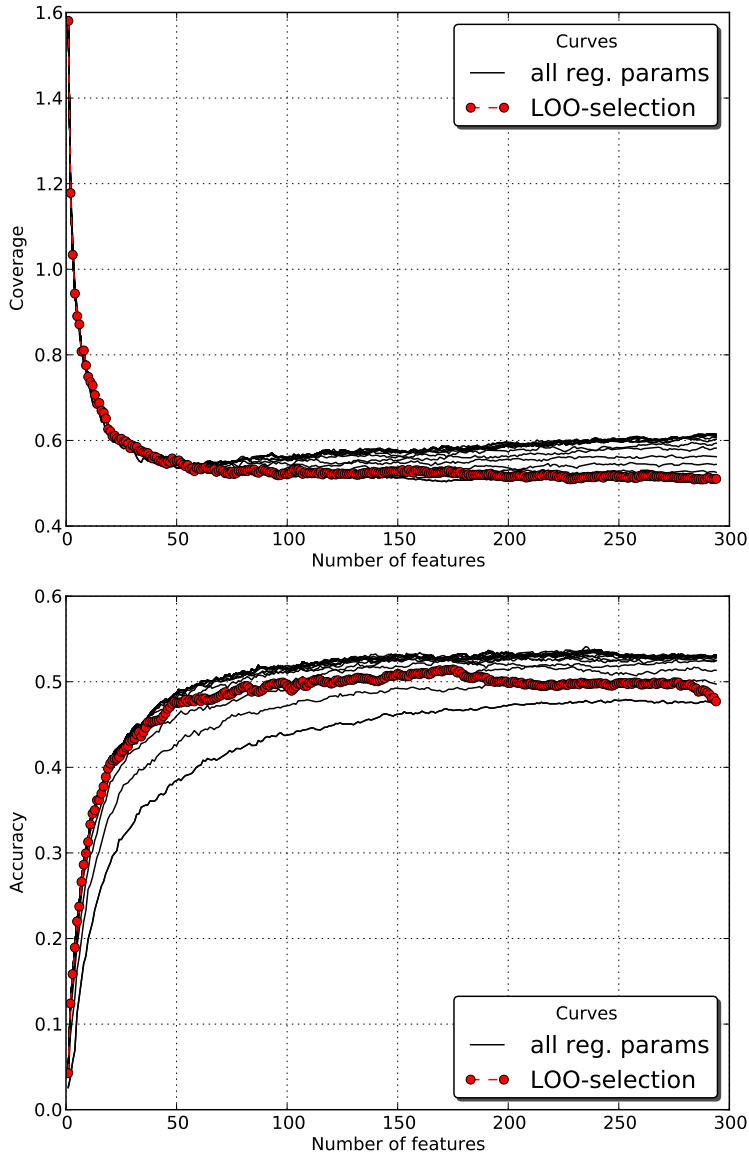


Figure 1: The performance curves of the ML-gRLS method with respect to coverage and accuracy criteria on the Scene data. All reg.params -curves represent prediction performances over different regularization parameter values and LOO-selection -curve represents the prediction performance based on LOO-error for a given budget. Only the curves on the grid $[2^{-15}, 2^{-14}, \dots, 2^5]$ are shown in the figure.

287 First, we consider the selection of λ for ML-gRLS. In Figure 1 we present the
 288 effects of using different regularization parameter values on the Scene dataset. We
 289 test each of the parameters in range $[2^{-15}, 2^{-14}, \dots, 2^{15}]$. Figure 1 plots for differ-
 290 ent regularization parameters the coverage (top) and accuracy (bottom) against the
 291 number of selected features. The curves demonstrate that the correct choice of the
 292 regularization parameter is essential for finding a good model. Since ML-gRLS
 293 computes for each selected feature the leave-one-out squared error, a natural ap-
 294 proach is to use this directly as the selection criterion. In Figure 1 we have plotted
 295 the test errors achieved by choosing for each number of selected features from the
 296 grid the regularization parameter with lowest leave-one-out error. The approach
 297 proves to be reasonable, finding for the coverage measure the near optimal pa-
 298 rameters, and works also well for small budget values for the accuracy criterion.
 299 However, the suboptimal parameter selection in terms of accuracy for large fea-
 300 ture budgets suggests that the selection heuristic may not always perform well,
 301 possibly due to overfitting.

302 For MT-Lasso algorithm, the first practical challenge is how to select λ in or-
 303 der to get a certain number of features with non-zero coefficients. As discussed by
 304 Friedman et al. (2010), the coordinate descent optimization based techniques for
 305 lasso training do not allow one to directly control the number of selected features,
 306 but rather it is necessary to test different regularization parameters and observe the
 307 number of selected features. Large enough value a for λ sets all the coefficients
 308 exactly equal to zero, whereas small enough value b sets all the coefficients to
 309 non-zero, that is, in the former case the model includes zero features and in the
 310 latter case it includes all the candidate features. Let $rng = [a, b]$ be a range of
 311 the regularization parameters that generates all the possible sizes of the models
 312 in terms of the number of the features, where a and b have been selected experi-
 313 mentally. The approach used for example by Friedman et al. (2010) is to simply
 314 generate many candidate values for λ on the range rng , then build the models and
 315 find out how many features are selected for each value. In Figure 2 we present an
 316 experiment on Emotions dataset, where we plot the performance curve (Macro-
 317 averaged AUC) and the number of selected features curve over a regularization
 318 parameter λ . The scale for performance curve is set on the left vertical axis and
 319 the scale for the number of features curve is set on the right vertical axis. The
 320 range for the regularization parameter is $rng = [40, 0]$ and a new model is cre-
 321 ated in every point on equally distributed grid $[a, a - 0.1, a - 0.2, \dots, b]$. The
 322 results demonstrate that the approach allows recovering models for a wide range
 323 of feature budgets, though at a quite steep computational price, and it cannot be
 324 guaranteed that all feature budget sizes are represented.

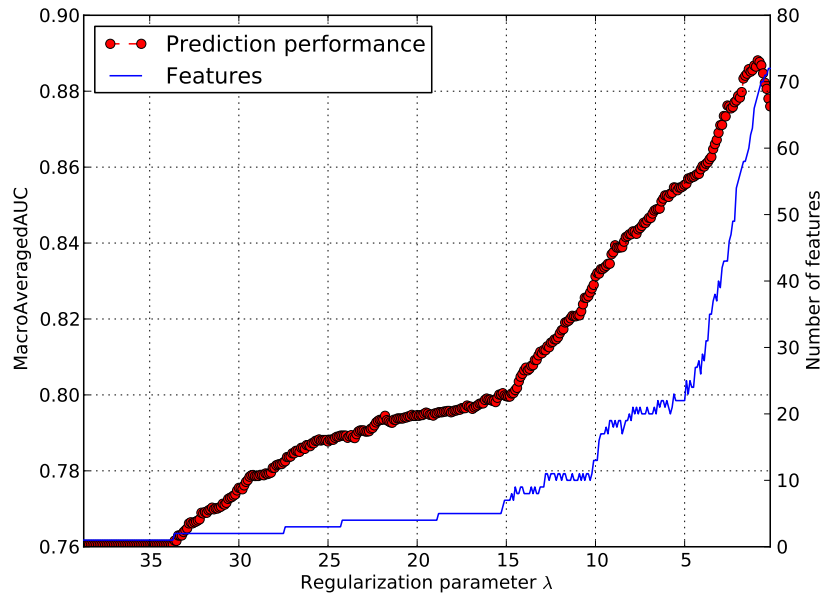


Figure 2: The prediction performance curve and the number of features curve of the MT-Lasso method with respect to different regularization parameters on Emotion data.

325 The second challenge while using MT-Lasso is finding an optimal value λ for
 326 some given budget. This is due to the fact that an infinite number of regularization
 327 parameter values on range *rng* return equal number of features (=same budget)
 328 but possibly different prediction performance. Figure 2 presents clearly this phe-
 329 nomenon by showing that in areas where the number of selected features curve
 330 levels constant, the predictive performance curve still keeps changing. From the
 331 Figure 2 one can be derive visually an observation we made also on other data
 332 sets, that the optimal λ value for a given feature budget tends to be the smallest
 333 parameter value resulting in the same number of features being selected.

334 3.3. Experimental comparison

335 We carry out standard ten-fold cross-validation for all the methods on the five
 336 small data sets and five-fold cross-validation on the two large data sets. We cal-
 337 culate the classification performance for seven widely used measures. For a de-
 338 scription of measures see Appendix A. We compare ML-gRLS and MT-Lasso
 339 methods over different sizes of feature budgets. For each data set, budget size and
 340 performance measure we perform the Wilcoxon signed-rank test over the cross-
 341 validation results at 0.05 significance level in order to determine, whether the

342 performance differences between the two methods are statistically significant.

343 We search the grid in range $[2^{-15}, 2^{-14}, \dots, 2^{15}]$ for selecting the regularization
344 parameters λ for ML-gRLS, choosing for each feature set size the parameter based
345 on leave-one-out cross-validation error. We train the method starting from zero
346 features, up until all the features have been selected. For MT-Lasso, we first
347 determine the range for regularization parameters that generates the minimum and
348 maximum number of candidate features, and then define a parameter grid between
349 these with a step size of 0.1 (a step size of 5.0 is selected for the large datasets).
350 In cases where the grid does not generate all the possible feature subset sizes,
351 missing performance values are linearly interpolated.

352 Figure 3 shows the prediction performance curves for MT-Lasso and ML-
353 gRLS methods on all seven datasets. The figure plots the average of the cross-
354 validation results over the number of features in terms of macro-averaged AUC,
355 (left) and Hamming Loss (right). The results for rest of the performance criteria
356 show very similar behavior and are therefore left out from the figures, though
357 some of the selected results are presented in the following tables.

358 It can be noted, visually, that ML-gRLS outperforms MT-Lasso over a low
359 budgets on all data sets but CAL500 and TMC2007 with respect to macro aver-
360 aged AUC and Hamming-Loss. The performance differences between these two
361 methods on CAL500 dataset are quite small which might be due the weak learn-
362 ing results, shown in Figure 3, that does not show any improvement over entire
363 budget range. It is also notable that ML-gRLS outperforms MT-Lasso over all
364 budgets on the bigger data sets, such as Mediamill, Delicious and Tmc2007, with
365 the exception that MT-lasso outperforms ML-gRLS over very small budget sizes
366 on Tmc2007 (see Figure 3).

367 Table 2 summarizes results in terms of all seven performance measures for
368 some selected budgets marked as *low*, *med* and *high*, where budget size is 10, 45
369 and 80 percents of all the candidate features, respectively. Moreover Table 3 sum-
370 marizes results for large datasets Delicious and Tmc2007 over small budgets 100
371 and 50 features, respectively. Each element in the table in this comparison con-
372 tains mean and standard deviation values denoted by (mean \pm std.dev). The sta-
373 tistically significant differences between the results of ML-gRLS and MT-Lasso
374 according to Wilcoxon test are marked in bold. The " \uparrow " indicates that the larger
375 the value is, the better is the result and " \downarrow " indicates the lower the better. Tables 2
376 and 3 present also the results of ML-kNN method with respect to seven perfor-
377 mance measures on the seven datasets. ML-kNN derives a model that includes all
378 the available features ignoring feature selection process.

379 The tables reveal the same findings that could be observed from the figures,

380 the ML-gRLS method is always comparable to MT-Lasso in terms of all eval-
381 uation criteria and budget sizes used in this study on all data sets but CAL500
382 and Tcm2007, and significantly outperforms baseline method on small budgets.
383 The results of ML-kNN are not directly comparable with ML-gRLS and MT-
384 Lasso due to different budget sizes. However, it can be seen that overall perfor-
385 mances of feature selection methods in terms of all seven performance measures
386 are slightly worse on small data sets to that of ML-kNN. On the other hand, on the
387 two largest data sets, ML-gRLS clearly outperforms ML-kNN according to most
388 performance measures, which might be due the large number of irrelevant features
389 in the datasets. This may cause a worse prediction performance and results in an
390 expensive dense model. To conclude, while MT-Lasso is competitive with ML-
391 gRLS for unrestricted feature budgets, when the number of features is restricted
392 ML-gRLS clearly outperforms MT-Lasso, making it the preferable method for
393 such settings.

394 4. Conclusions

395 In this paper, we considered the problem of multi-label learning under re-
396 stricted feature extraction budgets. That is, we concentrate on minimizing the
397 number of features required for simultaneous prediction of several labels for a
398 given data point. We proposed a novel greedy multi-label learning algorithm, that
399 achieves high computational efficiency through matrix algebraic optimizations.
400 As a baseline method we tested multi-task lasso based on $l_{1,\infty}$ -regularization.

401 Since the lasso controls the number of features only implicitly, enforcing
402 strict budget constraints requires careful and time-consuming tuning of regular-
403 ization parameter. In contrast, explicit control is possible with greedy methods.
404 Moreover, small budgets are not the strongest area of lasso methods, because l_1 -
405 regularization shrinks also the relevant features in addition to the non-relevant
406 ones. This can be observed in our experimental results in which ML-gRLS was
407 competitive on all considered real-world data sets and significantly outperformed
408 MT-Lasso on small budgets.

409 In this work we have made the assumption of each feature having equal ex-
410 traction cost and each being independently produced. However, there are many
411 applications for which this is not the case. For example, in visual recognition
412 systems and their applications, features are often extracted in groups rather than
413 individually, that is, the feature extraction cost is common for a whole group of
414 features and it pays to simultaneously select all features belonging to such group
415 instead of single feature at a time. Recently, many of the popular feature selec-

Table 2: Performance on the Scene, Yeast, Emotions, CAL500, and Mediamill.

	<i>ML-gRLS</i>			<i>MT-lasso</i>			<i>ML-kNN</i>
	<i>Low</i>	<i>Med</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Med</i>	<i>High</i>	
SCENE							
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	0.600±0.029	0.529±0.023	0.535±0.031	0.990±0.007	0.724±0.013	0.537±0.024	0.367±0.032
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.118±0.005	0.106±0.006	0.106±0.007	0.178±0.002	0.133±0.003	0.106±0.006	0.085±0.008
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.431±0.027	0.505±0.022	0.498±0.029	0.010±0.007	0.292±0.015	0.492±0.022	0.674±0.030
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.285±0.017	0.246±0.026	0.246±0.025	0.369±0.033	0.257±0.020	0.239±0.024	0.229±0.028
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	0.582±0.054	0.520±0.063	0.515±0.060	0.717±0.046	0.528±0.045	0.502±0.050	0.470±0.051
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.100±0.010	0.087±0.011	0.086±0.010	0.126±0.010	0.089±0.007	0.083±0.008	0.077±0.008
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.910±0.009	0.923±0.011	0.924±0.011	0.864±0.007	0.916±0.009	0.926±0.010	0.933±0.007
YEAST							
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	0.881±0.017	0.851±0.019	0.853±0.022	0.987±0.007	0.931±0.014	0.872±0.019	0.812±0.025
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.210±0.009	0.200±0.009	0.200±0.009	0.232±0.009	0.214±0.008	0.203±0.009	0.194±0.013
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.466±0.016	0.494±0.016	0.496±0.018	0.339±0.012	0.420±0.016	0.477±0.017	0.519±0.020
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.237±0.023	0.221±0.020	0.225±0.019	0.249±0.023	0.248±0.022	0.238±0.017	0.230±0.020
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	6.574±0.244	6.386±0.226	6.374±0.235	6.551±0.206	6.387±0.210	6.349±0.219	6.232±0.278
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.182±0.016	0.170±0.015	0.171±0.015	0.195±0.015	0.181±0.016	0.172±0.015	0.166±0.017
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.654±0.022	0.693±0.016	0.699±0.015	0.630±0.014	0.670±0.012	0.691±0.014	0.688±0.018
EMOTIONS							
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	0.752±0.069	0.730±0.054	0.740±0.065	0.891±0.060	0.731±0.074	0.732±0.057	0.719±0.045
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.213±0.027	0.202±0.018	0.203±0.026	0.255±0.027	0.202±0.030	0.192±0.021	0.194±0.018
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.459±0.067	0.512±0.046	0.493±0.065	0.238±0.062	0.459±0.071	0.499±0.049	0.533±0.043
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.323±0.067	0.282±0.070	0.268±0.059	0.375±0.067	0.270±0.078	0.256±0.056	0.276±0.068
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	1.915±0.182	1.839±0.214	1.819±0.189	2.064±0.230	1.829±0.207	1.791±0.185	1.826±0.145
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.189±0.032	0.173±0.038	0.167±0.030	0.218±0.036	0.168±0.031	0.161±0.031	0.168±0.025
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.815±0.026	0.833±0.024	0.832±0.023	0.788±0.023	0.828±0.025	0.839±0.022	0.835±0.028
CAL500							
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.240±0.010	0.239±0.010	0.239±0.010	0.239±0.012	0.238±0.011	0.238±0.009	0.243±0.011
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.226±0.008	0.228±0.010	0.226±0.012	0.210±0.013	0.219±0.010	0.227±0.008	0.215±0.011
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.121±0.043	0.118±0.037	0.121±0.035	0.118±0.039	0.121±0.036	0.118±0.037	0.118±0.039
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	75.40±0.974	75.50±1.241	75.88±1.273	76.35±0.732	75.48±1.003	75.18±1.181	77.58±0.880
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.275±0.014	0.274±0.014	0.274±0.012	0.277±0.008	0.269±0.009	0.269±0.011	0.288±0.010
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.575±0.034	0.576±0.027	0.568±0.020	0.572±0.016	0.594±0.019	0.590±0.019	0.520±0.008
MEDIAMILL							
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	0.847±0.010	0.812±0.006	0.806±0.006	0.890±0.004	0.854±0.005	0.831±0.006	0.731±0.009
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.190±0.004	0.177±0.002	0.174±0.002	0.220±0.003	0.192±0.003	0.184±0.003	0.164±0.003
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.552±0.007	0.580±0.004	0.587±0.004	0.477±0.005	0.548±0.004	0.565±0.004	0.616±0.005
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.128±0.008	0.111±0.003	0.109±0.004	0.175±0.005	0.125±0.004	0.115±0.005	0.111±0.006
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	3.619±0.042	3.467±0.039	3.432±0.037	3.992±0.034	3.606±0.040	3.528±0.042	3.316±0.040
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.129±0.002	0.116±0.002	0.113±0.001	0.163±0.002	0.128±0.002	0.121±0.002	0.107±0.002
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.779±0.004	0.809±0.003	0.815±0.003	0.722±0.004	0.787±0.003	0.799±0.003	0.823±0.004

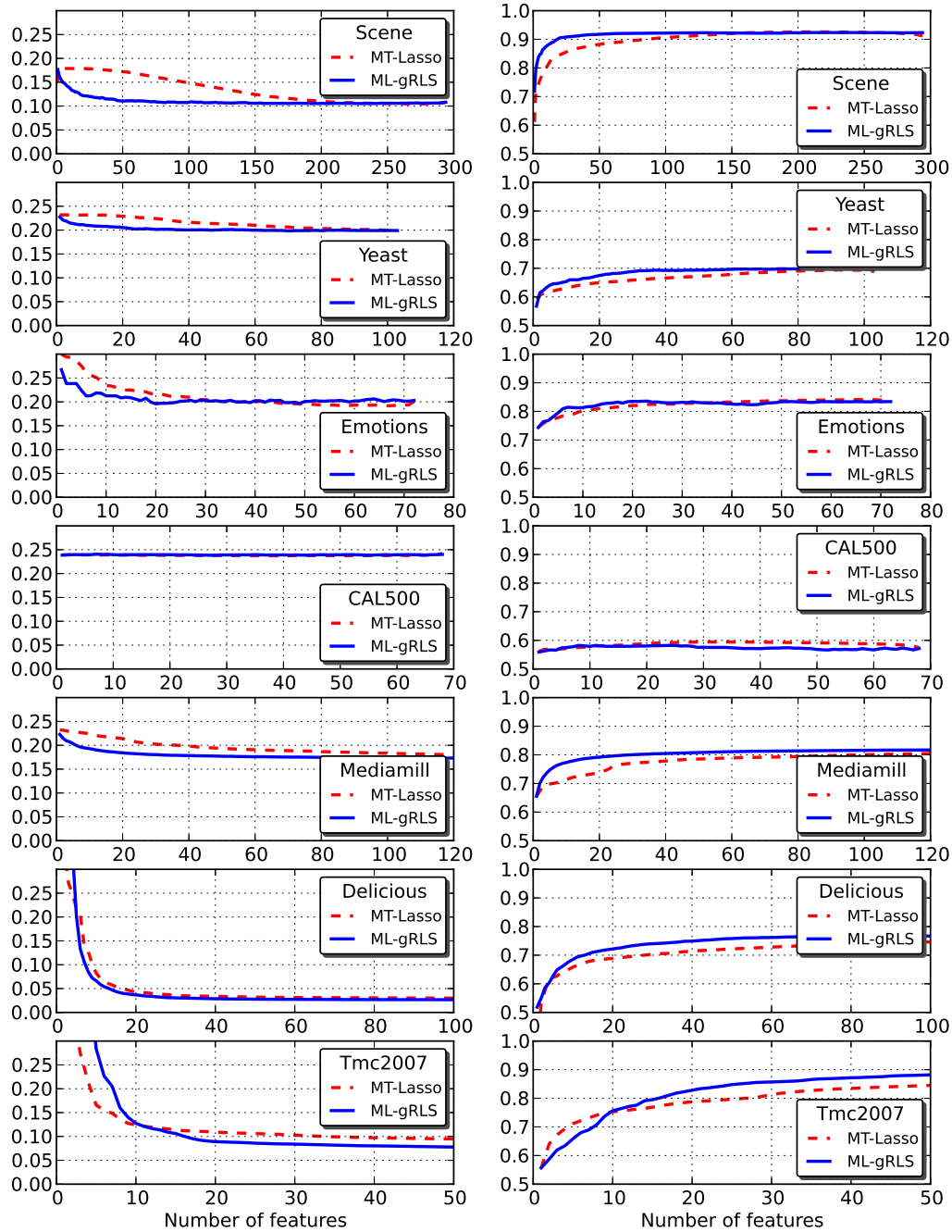


Figure 3: Performance curves (Hamming loss on the left and macro-averaged AUC on the right) on seven data sets.

Table 3: Performance on the two large data sets

	<i>Delicious</i>			<i>Tmc2007</i>		
	<i>ML-gRLS</i>	<i>MT-lasso</i>	<i>ML-kNN</i>	<i>ML-gRLS</i>	<i>MT-lasso</i>	<i>ML-kNN</i>
<i>Z.-O.Loss</i> ↓	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	0.998±0.001	0.793±0.005	0.869±0.004	0.820±0.005
<i>Ham.Loss</i> ↓	0.027±0.000	0.030±0.000	0.018±0.000	0.078±0.001	0.095±0.001	0.076±0.001
<i>Accuracy</i> ↑	0.174±0.002	0.114±0.001	0.105±0.002	0.486±0.003	0.389±0.003	0.430±0.007
<i>One-error</i> ↓	0.355±0.005	0.596±0.005	0.391±0.009	0.288±0.004	0.422±0.003	0.326±0.007
<i>Coverage</i> ↓	533.3±5.144	540.8±1.736	591.7±3.246	3.526±0.048	4.637±0.057	4.285±0.046
<i>Rank.Loss</i> ↓	0.109±0.001	0.130±0.001	0.128±0.002	0.074±0.002	0.115±0.002	0.098±0.001
<i>M.avg.AUC</i> ↑	0.770±0.003	0.747±0.002	0.641±0.003	0.882±0.003	0.845±0.002	0.778±0.004

416 tion approaches for single label learning problems have been extended to take
417 account of the group structure, including the group lasso developed by Yuan and
418 Lin (2006) and the grouped orthogonal matching pursuit Lozano et al. (2009),
419 representing the lasso and greedy approaches, respectively. Extending our con-
420 sideration of multi-label problems towards these concepts is a natural direction
421 for future work.

422 Appendix A. Evaluation measures

423 Below, we use the notation $\mathcal{Y}^i = \{l \mid \mathbf{y}_l^i = 1\}$ and $\widehat{\mathcal{Y}}^i = \{l \mid f_l(\mathbf{x}^i) > 0\}$
424 to denote the sets of labels associated with and predicted for the i th instance,
425 respectively. We also define a function

$$426 \quad r_f(\mathbf{x}^i, l) = \left| \{j \mid f_j(\mathbf{x}^i) \geq f_l(\mathbf{x}^i), 1 \leq j \leq t\} \right|$$

427 that ranks the labels according to their relevance to \mathbf{x} .

428 Given a test set $T = \{(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathcal{Y}^i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq v\}$, the evaluation metrics are defined
429 as follows:

430 1. The *O/I loss* measure

$$431 \quad 1 - \frac{1}{v} \sum_{i=1}^v \gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{Y}}^i, \mathcal{Y}^i),$$

432 where

$$433 \quad \gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{Y}}^i, \mathcal{Y}^i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \widehat{\mathcal{Y}}^i = \mathcal{Y}^i \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

434 indicates the exact match of the predicted set of labels and actual set of
435 labels.

436 2. The *Hamming loss* measure

$$437 \quad \frac{1}{vt} \sum_{i=1}^v |\hat{\mathcal{Y}}^i \Delta \mathcal{Y}^i|$$

438 evaluates the prediction error and missing error at the same time where the
439 prediction error corresponds to a prediction of an incorrect label and the
440 missing error corresponds to a missed prediction of an actual label. Let
441 a notation $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}^i \Delta \mathcal{Y}^i$ denote the symmetrical difference (the logical XOR) be-
442 tween the predicted set of labels $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}^i$ and the actual set of labels \mathcal{Y}^i associated
443 with an instance \mathbf{x}^i .

444 3. The *multi-label accuracy* measure

$$445 \quad \frac{1}{v} \sum_{i=1}^v \frac{|\mathcal{Y}^i \cap \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^i|}{|\mathcal{Y}^i \cup \hat{\mathcal{Y}}^i|}$$

446 is the mean ratio of the intersection and union of the actual and predicted
447 label sets.

448 4. The *one-error* measure

$$449 \quad \frac{1}{v} \sum_{i=1}^v \delta(\operatorname{argmin}_{1 \leq l \leq t} r_f(\mathbf{x}^i, l)),$$

450 where

$$451 \quad \delta(l) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } l \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^i \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

452 indicates the frequency of the highest ranked label not being an actual label.

453 5. The *coverage* measure

$$454 \quad \frac{1}{v} \sum_{i=1}^v \max_{l \in \mathcal{Y}^i} r_f(\mathbf{x}^i, l) - 1$$

455 indicates the distance, on the average, in the ranked list one has to go in

456 order to cover all the actual labels \mathcal{Y}^i assigned to an instance \mathbf{x}^i . Thus, the
 457 *coverage* extends top-ranked label evaluation used in the *one-error* to all the
 458 actual labels.

459 6. The *ranking loss* measure

$$460 \quad \frac{1}{v} \sum_{i=1}^v \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}^i| |\bar{\mathcal{Y}}^i|} |\{(l_1, l_2) \mid r_f(\mathbf{x}^i, l_1) \geq r_f(\mathbf{x}^i, l_2), (l_1, l_2) \in \mathcal{Y}^i \times \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^i\}|,$$

461 where $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}^i = \{1, \dots, t\} \setminus \mathcal{Y}^i$ indicates how often the actual label $l_1 \in \mathcal{Y}^i$
 462 receives lower or equal rank than the label $l_2 \notin \mathcal{Y}^i$.

463 7. The *macro-averaged AUC* measure

$$464 \quad \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t AUC_i$$

465 is defined as an averaged area under ROC curve (AUC) (Hanley and Mc-
 466 Neil, 1982; Huang and Ling, 2005) over all the labels, where AUC is first
 467 calculated separately for each label. In the following, we denote by AUC_i
 468 the AUC computed for the i th label.

469 **Appendix B. Pseudocode**

470 Detailed pseudocode for multi-label greedy RLS is presented in Algorithm 2.

Proof of Theorem 1. We start by finding a solution for the multi-label problem with the quadratic regularizer for a fixed set of features \mathcal{S} :

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times t}} \{ \|\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}} \mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 \}$$

Using standard linear algebra and matrix inversion identities (see e.g. Henderson and Searle (1981)), a solution to the above problem can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{W} = (\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}})^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{Y},$$

where

$$\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}} (\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}})^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1}$$

471 and \mathbf{I} is the identity matrix of size $n \times n$.

472 In order to perform feature selection computationally efficiently, the algorithm
 473 maintains, in addition to the set \mathcal{S} of selected features, the following data struc-
 474 tures in memory:

$$\begin{aligned}
 475 \quad \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{G}\mathbf{Y}, \\
 476 \quad \mathbf{g} &= \text{diag}(\mathbf{G}), \\
 477 \quad \mathbf{C} &= \mathbf{G}\mathbf{X},
 \end{aligned}$$

478 where $\text{diag}(\mathbf{G})$ denotes a vector that consists of the diagonal entries of \mathbf{G} . The
 479 greedy RLS algorithm starts from an empty set of selected features, and hence
 480 the values of \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{g} , and \mathbf{C} are initialized to $\lambda^{-1}\mathbf{Y}$, $\lambda^{-1}\mathbf{1}$, and $\lambda^{-1}\mathbf{X}$, respectively,
 481 where $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a vector having every entry equal to 1. This initialization requires
 482 $O(nt + nd)$ time and memory.

The greedy RLS algorithm uses LOO-CV as a selection criterion, and we next
 recollect how this can be computed efficiently for RLS models. This computa-
 tional short-cut is a multi-label modification of a classical result for RLS (see e.g.
 Elisseeff and Pontil (2003) and references therein). Provided that we have the
 matrix \mathbf{A} and the vector \mathbf{g} available, the squared LOO error for the j th training
 example and the h th task is

$$(\mathbf{g}_j)^{-2}(\mathbf{A}_{j,h})^2.$$

483 This involves only a constant number of standard floating point operations, and
 484 hence the average squared LOO error over the whole data set and all tasks can be
 485 computed in $O(nt)$ time.

486 Assume that we have computed the matrix \mathbf{A} and the vector \mathbf{g} corresponding
 487 to the current set of selected features \mathcal{S} . Then, to find out how much the LOO
 488 error would change if we would also select the i th feature, we have to update \mathbf{A}
 489 and \mathbf{g} so that they corresponding to the updated set $\mathcal{S} \cup \{i\}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 490 \quad \tilde{\mathbf{A}} &= (\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}})^T + \mathbf{X}_{:, i}(\mathbf{X}_{:, i})^T + \lambda\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{Y}, \\
 491 &= (\mathbf{G}^{-1} + \mathbf{X}_{:, i}(\mathbf{X}_{:, i})^T)^{-1}\mathbf{Y}, \\
 492 &= (\mathbf{G} - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}_{:, i})^T\mathbf{G})\mathbf{Y} \\
 493 &= \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}_{:, i})^T\mathbf{G}\mathbf{Y},
 \end{aligned}$$

where the second last equation follows from the Woodbury matrix inversion for-

mula (see e.g. Henderson and Searle (1981)) and

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{C}_{:,i}(1 + (\mathbf{X}_{:,i})^T \mathbf{C}_{:,i})^{-1}.$$

494 The vector \mathbf{g} can be updated in an analogous way, that is, the j th entry of $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}$ is
 495 obtained from

$$\begin{aligned} 496 \quad \tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j &= (\mathbf{G} - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}_{:,i})^T \mathbf{G})_{j,j} \\ 497 &= (\mathbf{G} - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{C}_{:,i})^T)_{j,j} \\ 498 &= \mathbf{g}_j - \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{C}_{j,i}, \end{aligned}$$

499 From these, we observe that the matrix \mathbf{A} can be updated in $O(nt)$ time, the same
 500 which is spent for computing the LOO error for all tasks, and the vector \mathbf{g} in
 501 $O(n)$ time. Thus, given that we have the above mentioned cache memories, the
 502 computation of LOO error for the updated feature sets is not more expensive than
 503 computing it for the current set. If the LOO computation is performed for every
 504 feature that has not yet been selected, the complexity of a single selection step is
 505 $O(ndt)$.

506 After the feature that decreases the LOO error the most is found, its index is
 507 added to the set of selected features and the cache memories have to be updated
 508 accordingly. The matrix \mathbf{A} and the vector \mathbf{g} can be updated similarly as in the
 509 LOO computation. The matrix \mathbf{C} is updated again in an analogous way

$$510 \quad \tilde{\mathbf{C}} = \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{u}((\mathbf{X}_{:,i})^T \mathbf{C}).$$

511 This update operation requires $O(nd)$ time but this is dominated by the time spent
 512 for searching the best feature.

513 The algorithm selects altogether k features and every time it performs the
 514 search for the best feature to be added. Thus, the overall time complexity of
 515 the whole selection process is $O(kndt)$. As a final step, the algorithm returns
 516 $\mathbf{W} = (\mathbf{X}_{:,S})^T \mathbf{A}$, whose computation requires $O(knt)$ time. The space complexity
 517 of the algorithm is dominated by the matrices \mathbf{C} and \mathbf{A} that require $O(nd)$ and
 518 $O(nt)$ space, respectively. \square

Algorithm 2 Multi-label greedy RLS

```
1:  $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow \lambda^{-1} \mathbf{Y}$ 
2:  $\mathbf{g} \leftarrow \lambda^{-1} \mathbf{1}$ 
3:  $\mathbf{C} \leftarrow \lambda^{-1} \mathbf{X}$ 
4:  $\mathcal{S} \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
5: while  $|\mathcal{S}| < k$  do
6:    $e \leftarrow \infty$ 
7:    $b \leftarrow 0$ 
8:   for  $i \in \{1, \dots, d\} \setminus \mathcal{S}$  do
9:      $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbf{C}_{:,i} (1 + (\mathbf{X}_{:,i})^T \mathbf{C}_{:,i})^{-1}$ 
10:     $e_i \leftarrow 0$ 
11:     $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \leftarrow \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{u} ((\mathbf{X}_{:,i})^T \mathbf{A})$ 
12:    for  $h \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  do
13:      for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  do
14:         $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j \leftarrow \mathbf{g}_j - \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{C}_{j,i}$ 
15:         $e_i \leftarrow e_i + (\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j)^{-2} (\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{j,h})^2$ 
16:      if  $e_i < e$  then
17:         $e \leftarrow e_i$ 
18:         $b \leftarrow i$ 
19:     $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbf{C}_{:,b} (1 + (\mathbf{X}_{:,b})^T \mathbf{C}_{:,b})^{-1}$ 
20:     $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{u} ((\mathbf{X}_{:,b})^T \mathbf{A})$ 
21:    for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  do
22:       $\mathbf{g}_j \leftarrow \mathbf{g}_j - \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{C}_{j,b}$ 
23:     $\mathbf{C} \leftarrow \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{u} ((\mathbf{X}_{:,b})^T \mathbf{C})$ 
24:     $\mathcal{S} \leftarrow \mathcal{S} \cup \{b\}$ 
25:  $\mathbf{W} \leftarrow (\mathbf{X}_{:, \mathcal{S}})^T \mathbf{A}$ 
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