

Module 4: Coping with Multiple Predictors

Regression Trees

STAT/BIOSTAT 527, University of Washington

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May 15th, 2014

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Recursive Binary Partitions

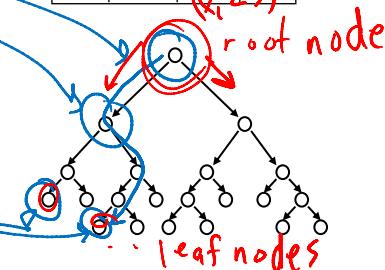
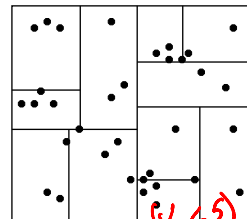
- To simplify the process and interpretability, consider recursive binary partitions

- Described via a rooted tree

- Every node of the tree corresponds to split decision
- Leaves contain a subset of the data that satisfy the conditions

- all conditions on path from root to leaf

- think of pinball falling to leaf

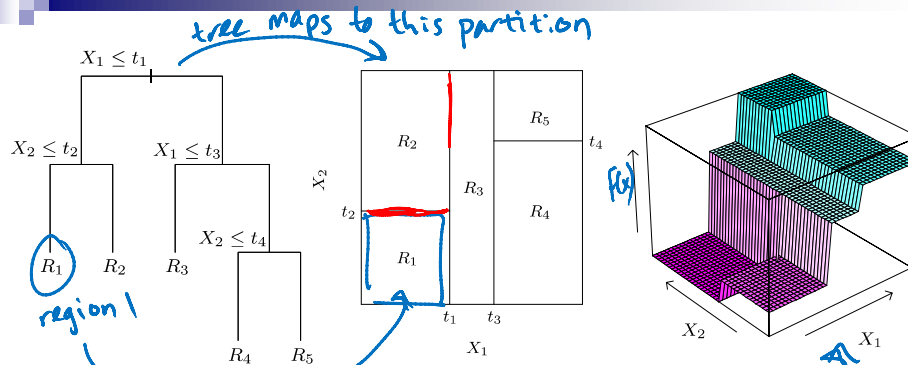


Figures from Andrew Moore kd-tree tutorial

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Resulting Model



- Model the response as constant within each region

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m I(x \in R_m)$$

Figures from Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman book

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Basis Expansion Interpretation

- Equivalent to a basis expansion

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m h_m(x)$$

- In this example:

$$h_1(x_1, x_2) = I(x_1 \leq t_1) I(x_2 \leq t_2)$$

$$h_2(x_1, x_2) = I(x_1 \leq t_1) I(x_2 > t_2)$$

$$h_3(x_1, x_2) = I(x_1 > t_1) I(x_1 \leq t_3)$$

$$h_4(x_1, x_2) = I(x_1 > t_1) I(x_1 > t_3) I(x_2 \leq t_4)$$

$$h_5(x_1, x_2) = I(x_1 > t_1) I(x_1 > t_3) I(x_2 > t_4)$$

reduced tensor product spline w/ step fun basis

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Choosing a Split Decision

- Starting with all of the data, consider splitting on variable j at point s

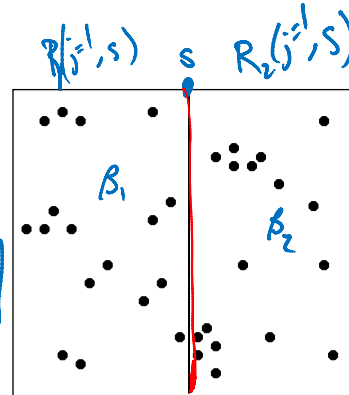
- Define

$$R_1(j, s) = \{x \mid x_j \leq s\}$$

$$R_2(j, s) = \{x \mid x_j > s\}$$

- Our objective is

$$\min_{j,s} \left[\min_{\beta_1} \sum_{x_i \in R_1(j,s)} (y_i - \beta_1)^2 + \min_{\beta_2} \sum_{x_i \in R_2(j,s)} (y_i - \beta_2)^2 \right]$$



- For any (j, s) , the inner minimization is solved by

$$\hat{\beta}_k = \text{avg}(y_i \mid x_i \in R_k(j, s)) \quad k=1,2$$

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Cost-Complexity Pruning

- Searching over all subtrees and selecting using AIC or CV is not possible since there is an exponentially large set of subtrees

→ look at penalized RSS instead

- Define a subtree $T \subset T_0$ to be any tree obtained by pruning T_0

prune = collapse an internal node

and $|T| = \# \text{ of leaf nodes}$

$$n_m = |\{x_i \in R_m\}|$$

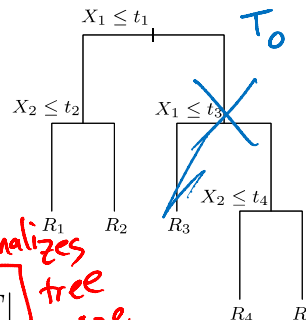
$$\hat{\beta}_m = \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{x_i \in R_m} y_i$$

$$Q_m(T) = \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{x_i \in R_m} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_m)^2$$

- We examine a complexity criterion

$$C_\lambda(T) = \sum_{m=1}^{|T|} n_m Q_m(T) + \lambda |T|$$

RSS penalizes tree size



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Cost-Complexity Pruning

compute for λ and all trees in sequence

$$C_\lambda(T) = \sum_{m=1}^{|T|} n_m Q_m(T) + \lambda |T|$$

■ Can find using weakest link pruning

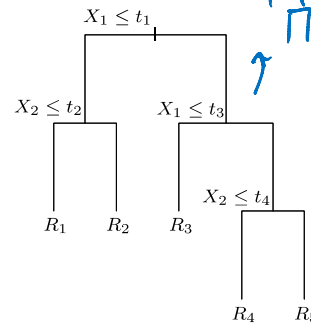
- Successively collapse the internal node that produces smallest increase in RSS

$$\sum_n n_m Q_m(t)$$

- Continue until at single-node (root) tree
- Produces a finite sequence of subtrees, which must contain T_λ
- See Breiman et al. (1984) or Ripley (1996)

■ Choose λ via 5- or 10-fold CV

■ Final tree: T_λ



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Issues

■ Unordered categorical predictors

- With unordered categorical predictors with q possible values, there are $2^{q-1}-1$ possible choices of partition points to consider for each variable
- Prohibitive for large q
- Can deal with this for binary y ...will come back to this in "classification"

■ Missing predictor values...how to cope?

- Can discard
- Can fill in, e.g., with mean of other variables
- With trees, there are better approaches
 - Categorical predictors: make new category "missing"
 - Split on observed data. For every split, create an ordered list of "surrogate" splits (predictor/value) that create similar divides of the data. When examining observation with a missing predictor, when splitting on that dimension, use top-most surrogate that is available instead

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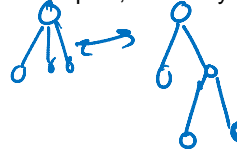
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Issues



■ Binary splits

- Could split into more regions at every node
- However, this more rapidly fragments the data leaving insufficient data and subsequent levels
- Multiway splits can be achieved via a sequence of binary splits, so binary splits are generally preferred



■ Instability

- Can exhibit high variance
- Small changes in the data → big changes in the tree
- Errors in the top split propagates all the way down
- **Bagging** averages many trees to reduce variance

■ Inference

- Hard...need to account for stepwise search algorithm

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Issues

■ Lack of smoothness

- Fits piecewise constant models...unlikely to believe this structure
- **MARS** address this issue (can view as modification to CART)

← later this lecture

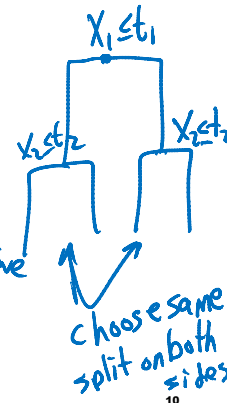
■ Difficulty in capturing additive structure

- Imagine true structure is

$$y = \beta_1 I(x_1 < t_1) + \beta_2 I(x_2 < t_2) + \epsilon$$

- No encouragement to find this structure

- hard w/o sufficient data
 - this is just w/ 2 additive effects. Harder to happen or notice w/ more.



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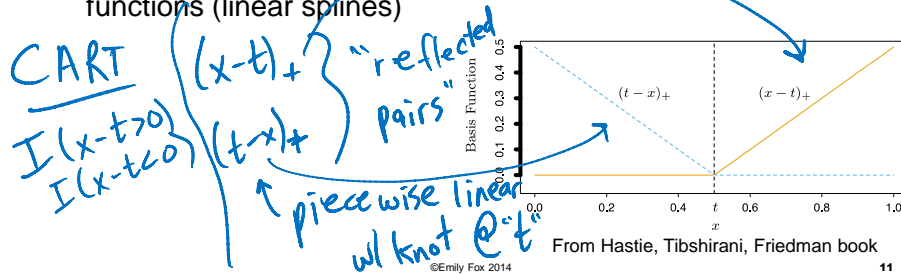
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Multiple Adaptive Regression Splines

- MARS is an adaptive procedure for regression
 - Well-suited to high-dimensional covariate spaces

- Can be viewed as:
 - Generalization of step-wise linear regression
 - Modification of CART

- Consider a basis expansion in terms of piecewise linear basis functions (linear splines)



Multiple Adaptive Regression Splines

- Take knots at all observed x_j

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(x_j - t)_+, (t - x_j)_+\}, \quad t \in \{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_d}\}, \quad j=1, \dots, d$$

- If all locations are unique, then $2nd$ basis functions
- Treat each basis function as a function on x , just varying with x_j

$$h_m(x) = (x_j - t)_+$$

- The resulting model has the form

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m h_m(x)$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$t \in \{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_d}\}, j=1, \dots, d$

$h_m \in \mathcal{C}$ or products of f_n 's in \mathcal{C}

LBE

- Built in a forward stepwise manner in terms of this basis

MARS Forward Stepwise

- Given a set of h_m estimation of β_m proceeds as with any linear basis expansion (i.e., minimizing the RSS)
- How do we choose the set of h_m ?

1. Start with $h_0(x) = 1$ and $M=0$
2. Consider product of all h_m in current model with reflected pairs in C
 - Add terms of the form
$$\hat{\beta}_{M+1} h_\ell(x)(x_j - t)_+ + \hat{\beta}_{M+2} h_\ell(x)(t - x_j)_+$$

$\hat{\beta}_{M+1}, \hat{\beta}_{M+2}$ are est. using LS + all other terms in Model
 - Select the one that decreases the training error most
3. Increment M and repeat $M = M + 2$
4. Stop when preset M is hit
5. Typically end with a large (overfit) model, so backward delete
 - Remove term with smallest increase in RSS
 - Choose model based on generalized CV

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MARS Forward Stepwise Example

- general terms*
- $$\hat{\beta}_{M+1} h_\ell(x)(x_j - t)_+ + \hat{\beta}_{M+2} h_\ell(x)(t - x_j)_+$$
- At the first stage, add term of form
$$\beta_1(x_j - t)_+ + \beta_2(t - x_j)_+$$

with the optimal pair being

$$\hat{\beta}_1(x_2 - x_{72})_+ + \hat{\beta}_2(x_{72} - x_2)_+$$

$h_0(x) = 1$
 $h_1(x) = (x_2 - x_{72})_+$
 $h_2(x) = (x_{72} - x_2)_+$
 - Add pair to the model and then consider including a pair like
$$\beta_3 h_m(x)(x_j - t)_+ + \beta_4 h_m(x)(t - x_j)_+$$

with choices for h_m being:

the term $(x_1 - x_{51})_+ (x_{72} - x_2)_+$ is considered

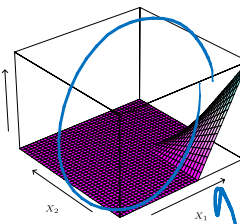


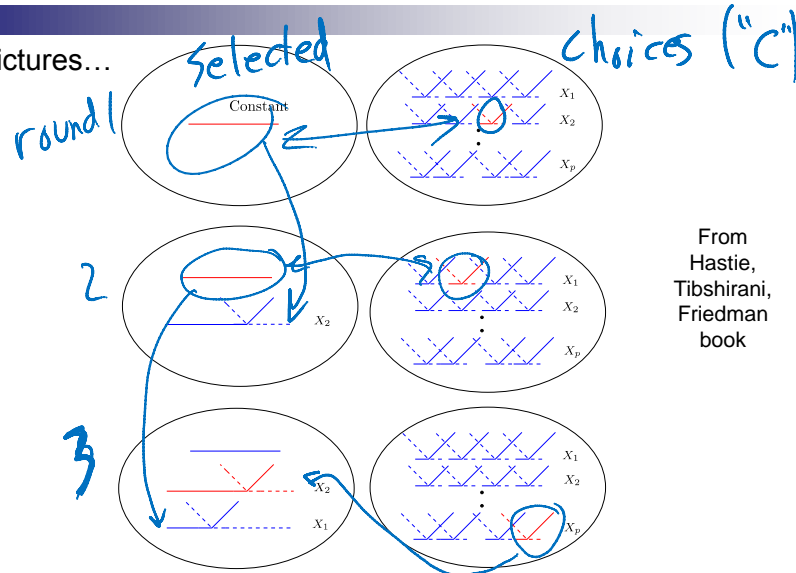
Figure from Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman book

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MARS Forward Stepwise

- In pictures...



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Why MARS?

- Why these piecewise linear basis functions?

- Ability to operate locally

- When multiplied, non-zero only over small part of the input space
- Resulting regression surface has local components and only where needed (spend parameters carefully in high dims)

- Computations with linear basis are very efficient

- Naively, we consider fitting n reflected pairs for each input x_j
→ $O(n^2)$ operations
- Can exploit simple form of piecewise linear function *(just like CART)*
- Fit function with rightmost knot. As knot moves, basis functions differ by 0 over the left and by a constant over the right
→ Can try every knot in $O(n)$

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Why MARS?

■ Why forward stagewise?

- Hierarchical in that multiway products are built from terms already in model (e.g., 4-way product exists only if 3-way already existed)
- Higher order interactions tend to only exist if some of the lower order interactions exist as well
- Avoids search over exponentially large space

■ Notes:

- Each input can appear at most once in a product... Prevents formation of higher-order powers of an input
- Can place limit on order of interaction. That is, one can allow pairwise products, but not 3-way or higher.
- Limit of 1 → additive model

Handwritten notes:
 $(x_1 - x_7)_+$ $(x_2 - x_1)_+$ *(i.e. all subsets)*
 NON_0
R package: "earth"

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Connecting MARS and CART

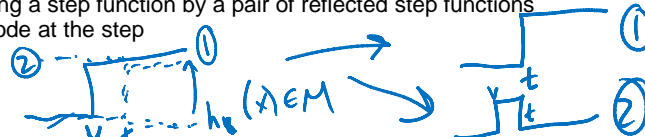
■ MARS and CART have lots of similarities

■ Take MARS procedure and make following modifications:

- Replace piecewise linear with step functions $I(x-t>0), I(x-t\leq 0)$
- When a model term h_m is involved in a multiplication by a candidate term in "C" replace it by the interaction and is not available for further interaction

■ Then, MARS forward procedure = CART tree-growing algorithm

- Multiplying a step function by a pair of reflected step functions = split node at the step



- 2nd restriction → node may not be split more than once (binary tree)

■ MARS doesn't force tree structure → can capture additive effects

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What you need to know

- Regression trees provide an adaptive regression method
- Fit constants (or simple models) to each region of a partition
- Relies on estimating a binary tree partition
 - Sequence of decisions of variables to split on and where
 - Grown in a greedy, forward-wise manner
 - Pruned subsequently
- Implicitly performs variable selection
- MARS is a modification to CART allowing linear fits

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Readings

- Wakefield – 12.7
- Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman – 9.2.1-9.2.2, 9.2.4, 9.4
- Wasserman – 5.12

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Module 4: Coping with Multiple Predictors

A Short Case Study

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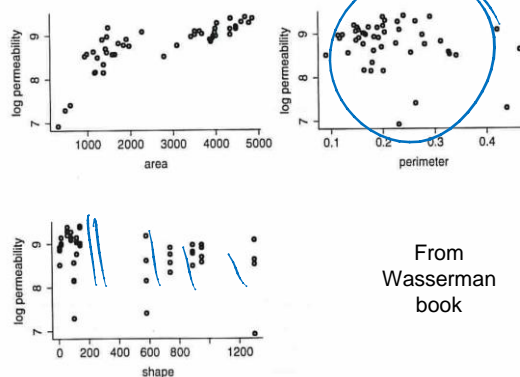
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Rock Data

- 48 rock samples from a petroleum reservoir
- Response = permeability
- Covariates = area of pores, perimeter, and shape



From
Wasserman
book

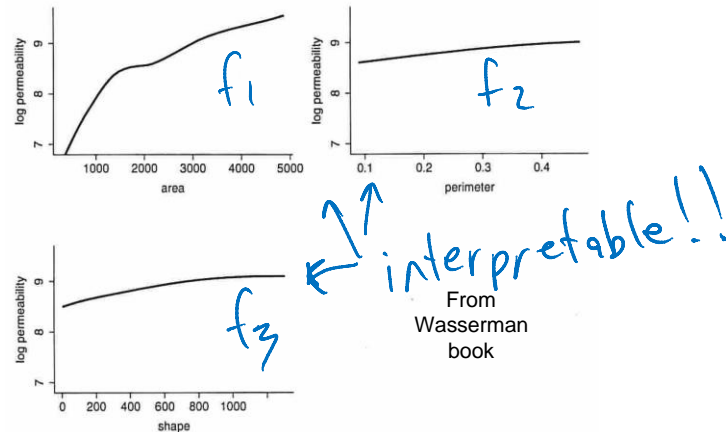
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Generalized Additive Model

- Fit a GAM:

$$\text{permeability} = f_1(\text{area}) + f_2(\text{perimeter}) + f_3(\text{shape}) + \epsilon$$

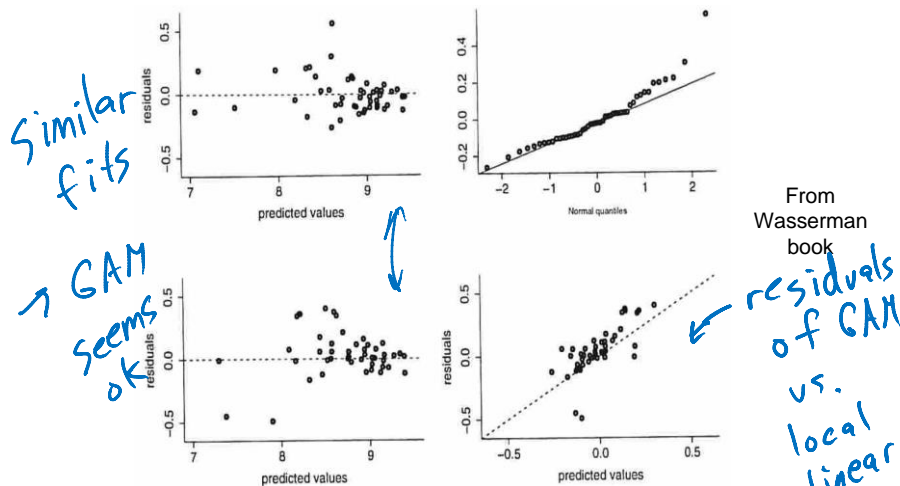


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GAM vs. Local Linear Fits

- Comparison to a 3-dimensional local linear fit



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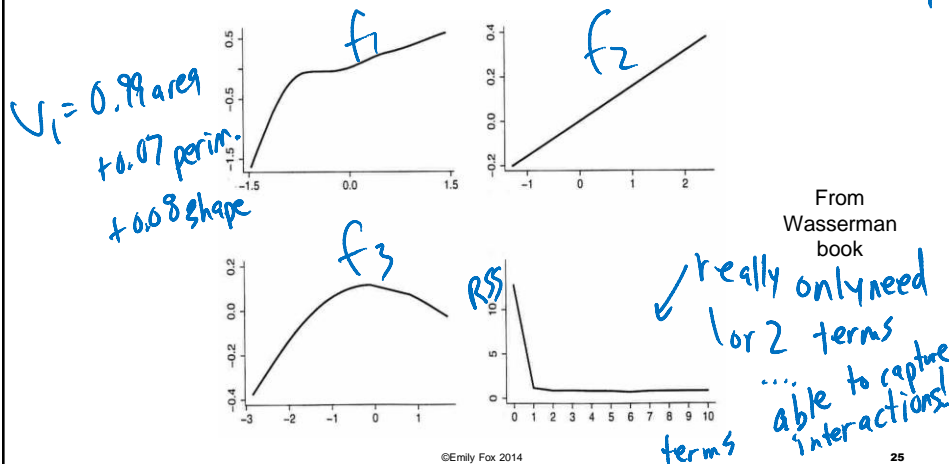
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Projection Pursuit

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \alpha + \sum_{m=1}^M f_m(w_m^T x)$$

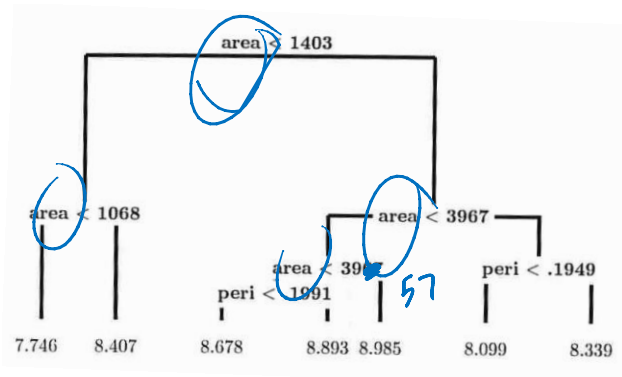
- Applying projection pursuit with $M = 3$ yields

$$w_1 = (.99, .07, .08)^T, w_2 = (.43, .35, .83)^T, w_3 = (.74, -.28, -.61)^T$$



Regression Trees

- Fit a regression tree to the rock data
- Note that the variable “shape” does not appear in the tree



From Wasserman book

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Module 5: Classification

A First Look at Classification: CART

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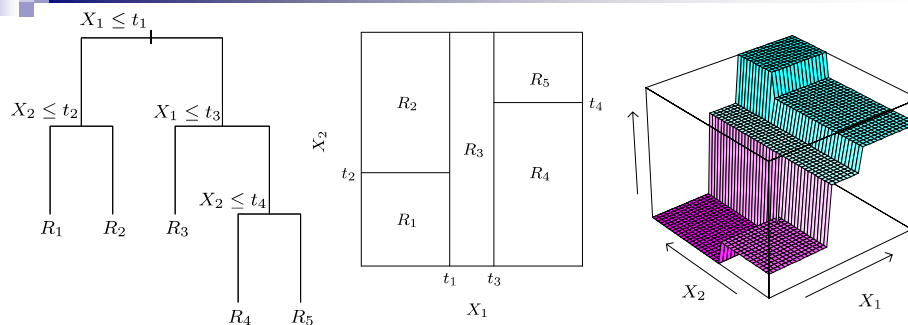
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Regression Trees



- So far, we have assumed continuous responses y and looked at regression tree models:

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m I(x \in R_m)$$

Figures from Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman book

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Classification Trees

- What if our response y is **categorical** and our goal is classification?

$y \in \{\text{'email', 'spam'}\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

$y \in \{0, 1, \dots, K-1\}$

- Can we still use these tree structures?

- Recall our **node impurity** measure

$$Q_m(T) = \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{x_i \in R_m} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_m)^2 \quad (\text{RSS})$$

- Used this for growing the tree

$$\min_{j,s} \left[\sum_{x_i \in R_1(j,s)} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_1)^2 + \sum_{x_i \in R_2(j,s)} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_2)^2 \right]$$

- As well as pruning

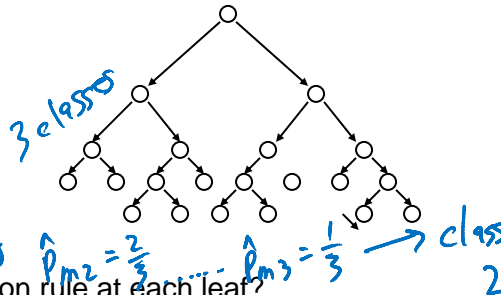
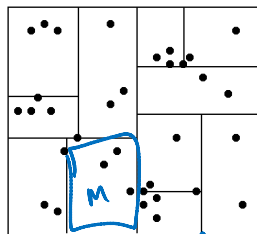
$$C_\lambda(T) = \sum_{m=1}^{|T|} n_m Q_m(T) + \lambda |T|$$

- Clearly, squared-error is not the right metric for classification

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Classification Trees



- First, what is our decision rule at each leaf?

- Estimate probability of each class given data at leaf node:

$$\hat{p}_{mk} = \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{x_i \in R_m} \mathbb{I}(y_i = k)$$

- Majority vote:

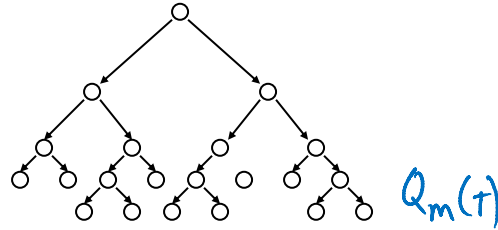
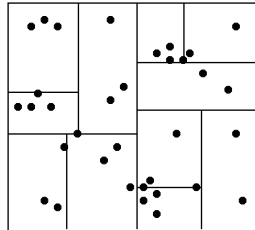
$$k(m) = \underset{k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \hat{p}_{mk}$$

Figures from Andrew Moore kd-tree tutorial

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Classification Trees



- How do we measure **node impurity** for this fit/decision rule?

□ Misclassification error:

$$\frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{i \in R_m} \mathbb{I}(y_i \neq k(m)) = 1 - \hat{p}_{mk(m)}$$

□ Gini index:

$$\sum_{k \neq k'} \hat{p}_{mk} \hat{p}_{mk'} = \sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk} (1 - \hat{p}_{mk})$$

□ Cross-entropy or deviance:

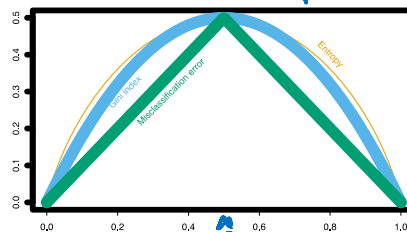
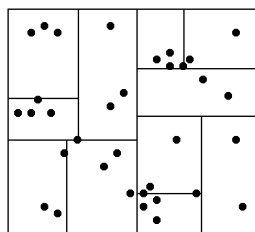
$$-\sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk} \log \hat{p}_{mk}$$

Figures from Andrew Moore kd-tree tutorial

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Classification Trees



From
Hastie,
Tibshirani,
Friedman
book

- How do we measure **node impurity** for this fit/decision rule?

□ Misclassification error (K=2):

$$1 - \max(\hat{p}, 1 - \hat{p}), \quad \hat{p} = \text{prop. in class}$$

□ Gini index (K=2):

$$2\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})$$

□ Cross-entropy or deviance (K=2):

$$-\hat{p} \log \hat{p} - (1-\hat{p}) \log (1-\hat{p})$$

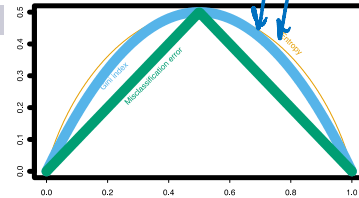
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Notes on Impurity Measures

■ Impurity measures

- Misclassification error: $1 - \hat{p}_{mk(m)}$
- Gini index: $\sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk}(1 - \hat{p}_{mk})$
- Cross-entropy or deviance: $-\sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk} \log \hat{p}_{mk}$



From Hastie, Tibshirani,
Friedman book

■ Comments:

- Differentiability
- Sensitivity to changes in node probabilities

Gini < cross-entropy

$(400, 400) \rightarrow (100, 300) + (300, 100) \rightarrow \text{mis class. rate} = 0.25$

$\rightarrow (200, 400) + (200, 0) \leftarrow \text{pure node, want this}$

(Gini + entropy are lower)

- Often use Gini or cross-entropy for growing tree, and misclass. for pruning

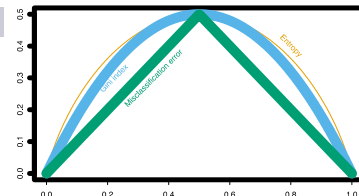
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Notes on Impurity Measures

■ Impurity measures

- Misclassification error: $1 - \hat{p}_{mk(m)}$
- Gini index: $\sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk}(1 - \hat{p}_{mk})$
- Cross-entropy or deviance: $-\sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{mk} \log \hat{p}_{mk}$



From Hastie, Tibshirani,
Friedman book

■ Other interpretations of Gini index:

- Instead of majority vote, classify observations to class k with prob. \hat{p}_{mk}

Error = $\sum_{k \neq k'} \hat{p}_{mk} \hat{p}_{mk'}$ (classify to k')

prop. of class k'

- Code each observation as 1 for class k and 0 otherwise

■ Variance: *1 against all* $\hat{p}_{mk}(1 - \hat{p}_{mk})$

- Summing over k gives the Gini index

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Classification Tree Issues

■ Unordered categorical predictors

- With unordered categorical predictors with q possible values, there are $2^{q-1}-1$ possible choices of partition points to consider for each variable
- For binary (0-1) outcomes, can order predictor classes according to proportion falling in outcome class 1 and then treat as ordered predictor
 - Gives optimal split in terms of cross-entropy or Gini index
- Also holds for quantitative outcomes and square-error loss...order predictors by increasing mean of the outcome
- No results for multi-category outcomes

■ Loss matrix

- In some cases, certain misclassifications are worse than others
- Introduce **loss matrix** ...more on this soon
- See Tibshirani, Hastie and Friedman for how to incorporate into CART

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predicting no disease when disease

Classification Tree Spam Example

■ Example: *predicting spam*

■ Data from UCI repository

■ Response variable: *email* or *spam*

■ 57 predictors:

- 48 quantitative – percentage of words in email that match a give word such as “business”, “address”, “internet”,...
- 6 quantitative – percentage of characters in the email that match a given character (; , [! \$ #)
- The average length of uninterrupted capital letters: CAPAVE
- The length of the longest uninterrupted sequence of capital letters: CAPMAX
- The sum of the length of uninterrupted sequences of capital letters: CAPTOT

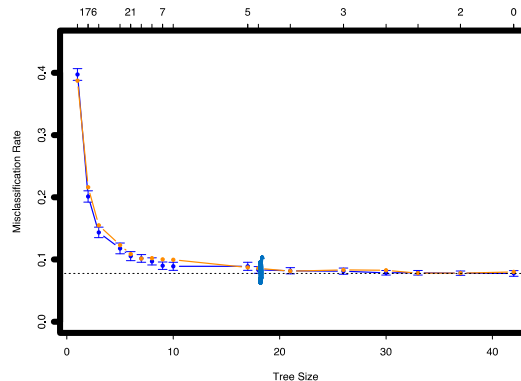
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(GAMS)

Classification Tree Spam Example

- Used cross-entropy to grow tree and misclassification to prune
- 10-fold CV to choose tree size
 - CV indexed by λ
 - Sizes refer to $|T_\lambda|$
 - Error rate flattens out around a tree of size 17



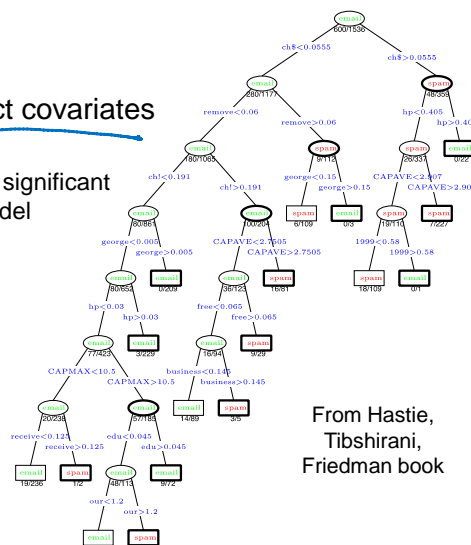
From Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman book

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Classification Tree Spam Example

- Resulting tree of size 17
- Note that there are 13 distinct covariates split on by the tree
 - 11 of these overlap with the 16 significant predictors from the additive model previously explored



From Hastie,
Tibshirani,
Friedman book

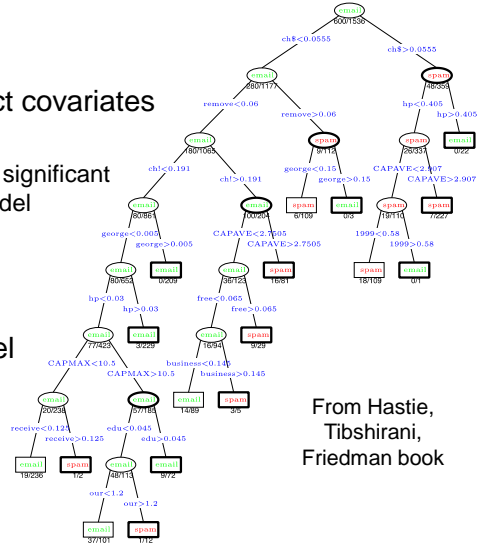
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Classification Tree Spam Example

- Resulting tree of size 17
- Note that there are 13 distinct covariates split on by the tree
 - 11 of these overlap with the 16 significant predictors from the additive model previously explored
- Overall error rate (9.3%) is higher than for additive model

True \ Predicted		
	email	spam
email	57.3%	4.0%
spam	5.3%	33.4%



From Hastie,
Tibshirani,
Friedman book

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What you need to know

- Classification trees are a straightforward modification to the regression tree setup
- Just need new definition of node impurity for growing and pruning tree
- Decision at the leaves is a simple majority-vote rule

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Readings

- Wakefield – 10.3.2, 10.4.2, 12.8.4
- Hastie, Tibshirani, Friedman – 9.2.3, 9.2.5, 2.4