

# Customer Analytics

Logistic regression,  
churn management

# Agenda

- Case: proactive churn management
- Logistic regression
- Deviance &  $R^2$
- Overfitting and cross-validation
- ROC/Lift curves
- Optimal targeting

# Churn management

[Blattberg, Kim and Neslin \(2008\) Ch. 24](#)

# from lecture 1: Customer lifecycle

Customer **development**: change in behavior over time: buying more (up-selling) or different things (cross-selling)



Customer **acquisition**:  
how customers are “born” or first contact with the firm.

Customer **retention**: preventing customer “death” or churn.

Marketing is about acquiring, developing and retaining customers

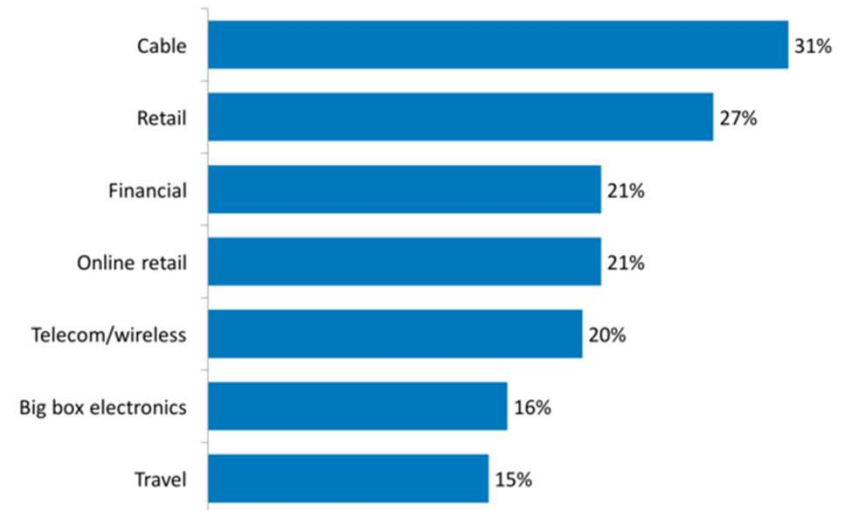
# Case: preventing churn

Customer churn (customer quitting)

**Typically, it is cheaper** to retain existing customers than to acquire new customers

**Customer Churn Rate By Industry**

US, 2017



Source: Aspect, n=1,000 consumers

BI INTELLIGENCE

# Case: proactive churn management

- Reactive churn management
  - Customer already almost out of the door
- **Proactive:** identify customers who have high probability of churning.
  - Need model to predict churn
- Contact customer ahead of churn (quit)
  - Offer incentive or service to prevent customer from churning

# How can companies predict who will churn?

- Use model to predict quit or stay based on all variables you have at your disposal
  - Past usage
  - Contract type
  - Marketing
  - Demographics
- Use the results of this model to predict likelihood of quitting for new/current customers.

# Logistic regression

Blattberg, Kim and Neslin (2008) Ch. 15: 377-85

Quantitative\_Models\_in\_Marketing\_Research: Chapter 4, a  
binomial dependent variable



# Modeling response

Dependent variable is binary

$$Y \in \{0, 1\}$$

- Mutually exclusive: can't be both
- Collectively exhaustive: can't be neither
- Arbitrary what we call "1" and "0"

examples

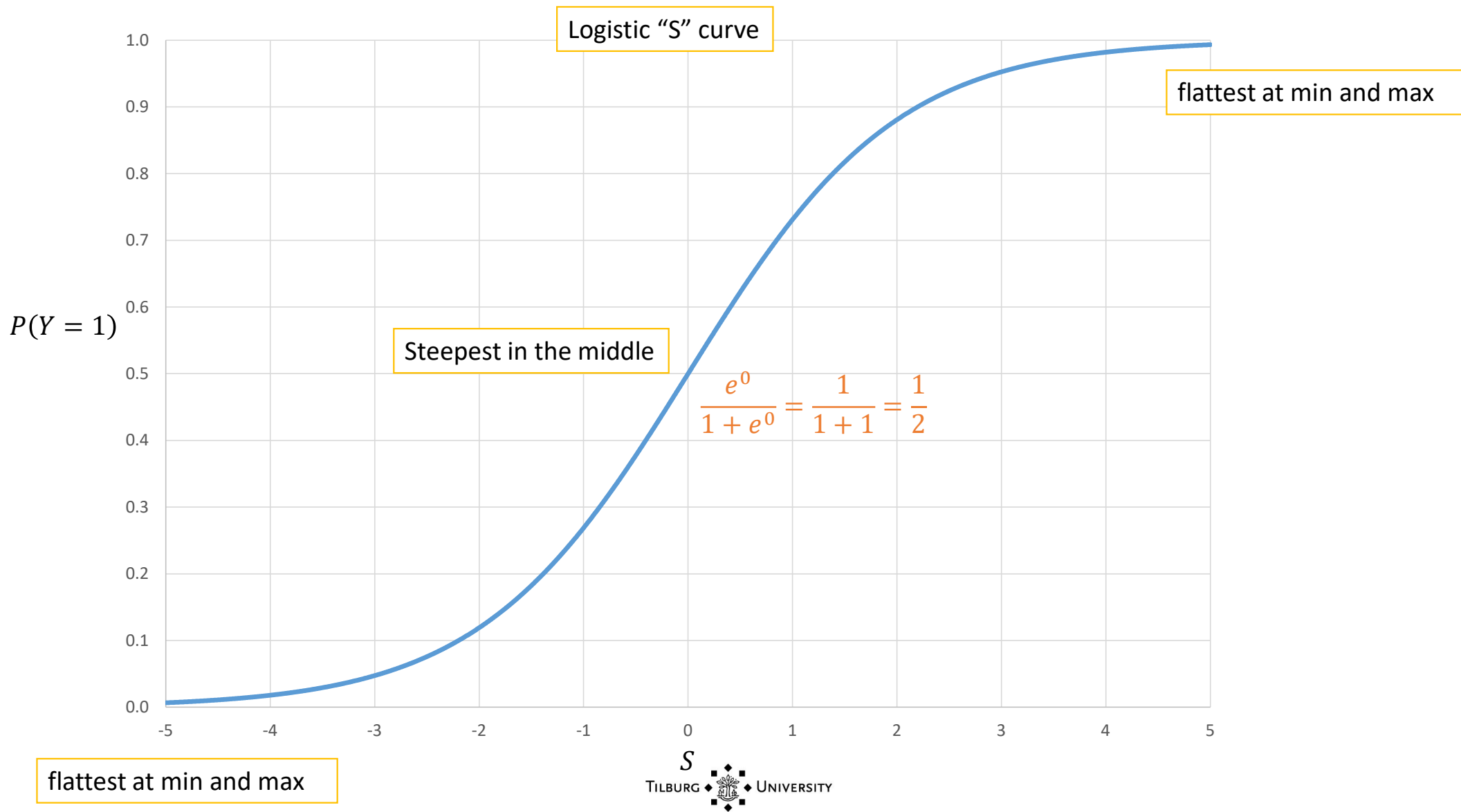
$y_i = 1$	$y_i = 0$
Churn/quit	Didn't churn/quit
Joined/subscribed	Didn't join/subscribe
Responded to marketing	Didn't respond
Bought	Didn't buy
Chose option A	Chose option B
Upgraded	Didn't upgrade
Changed service	Didn't change service

# Modeling the probability

$$P(Y = 1) = \frac{\exp(S)}{1 + \exp(S)}$$

$$S = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j X_j = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + \cdots \beta_p x_p$$

$$\exp(1) = e \approx 2.72$$



# Linear model for log odds

$$\log\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + \cdots \beta_p x_p$$

where  $p = P(Y = 1)$ .

$$p = \frac{1}{4} \Leftrightarrow \frac{p}{1-p} = \frac{1}{3}$$

## Generalized linear models

$$g(\mu) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \cdots$$

where  $\mu$  is the mean and  $g(\mu)$  is the link function.

# Multiplicative effect on odds

Another way of writing previous equation

$$\left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right) = \exp(\beta_0) \exp(\beta_1 x_1) \exp(\beta_2 x_2) \exp(\beta_3 x_3) \dots \exp(\beta_p x_p)$$

Multiplicative effect for a unit increase in odds  $x_k$ :

$$\exp(\beta_k)$$

% change in odds,  $(\exp(\beta_k) - 1) * 100$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Likelihood = probability of the data given parameters.  $i = 1, \dots, I$  observations

$$L(\beta) = \prod_i p_i^{y_i} (1 - p_i)^{1-y_i}$$

$$LL(\beta) = \sum_i y_i \log(p_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - p_i)$$

As with frequentist and Empirical Bayes methods, we choose  $\beta$  to maximize log-likelihood:

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg \max_{\beta} LL(\beta)$$

# Telco churn (inspecting)

7000 obs., 20 variables

RStudio: Notebook Output

	gender <fctr>	SeniorCitizen <fctr>	Partner <fctr>	Dependents <fctr>	tenure <int>	PhoneService <fctr>	MultipleLines <fctr>	InternetService <fctr>	OnlineSecurity <fctr>	OnlineBackup <fctr>	DeviceProtection <fctr>
1	Female	0	Yes	No	1	No	No	DSL	No	Yes	No
2	Male	0	No	No	34	Yes	No	DSL	Yes	No	Yes
3	Male	0	No	No	2	Yes	No	DSL	Yes	Yes	No
4	Male	0	No	No	45	No	No	DSL	Yes	No	Yes
5	Female	0	No	No	2	Yes	No	Fiber optic	No	No	No
6	Female	0	No	No	8	Yes	Yes	Fiber optic	No	No	Yes

6 rows | 1-12 of 20 columns

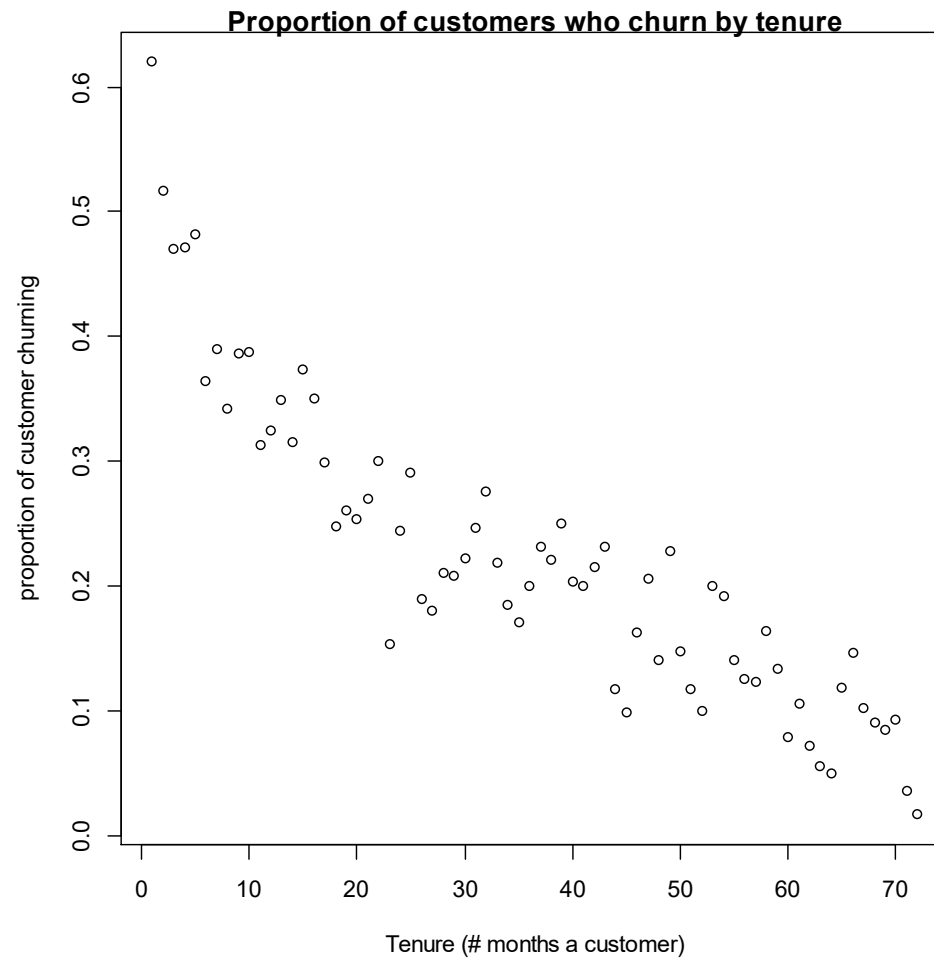
# Telco churn

RStudio: Notebook Output

TechSupport <fctr>	StreamingTV <fctr>	StreamingMovies <fctr>	Contract <fctr>	PaperlessBilling <fctr>	PaymentMethod <fctr>	MonthlyCharges <dbl>	TotalCharges <dbl>	Churn <fctr>
No	No	No	Month-to-month	Yes	Electronic check	29.9	0.0299	No
No	No	No	One year	No	Mailed check	57.0	1.8895	No
No	No	No	Month-to-month	Yes	Mailed check	53.9	0.1082	Yes
Yes	No	No	One year	No	Bank transfer (automatic)	42.3	1.8408	No
No	No	No	Month-to-month	Yes	Electronic check	70.7	0.1517	Yes
No	Yes	Yes	Month-to-month	Yes	Electronic check	99.7	0.8205	Yes

6 rows | 13-21 of 20 columns

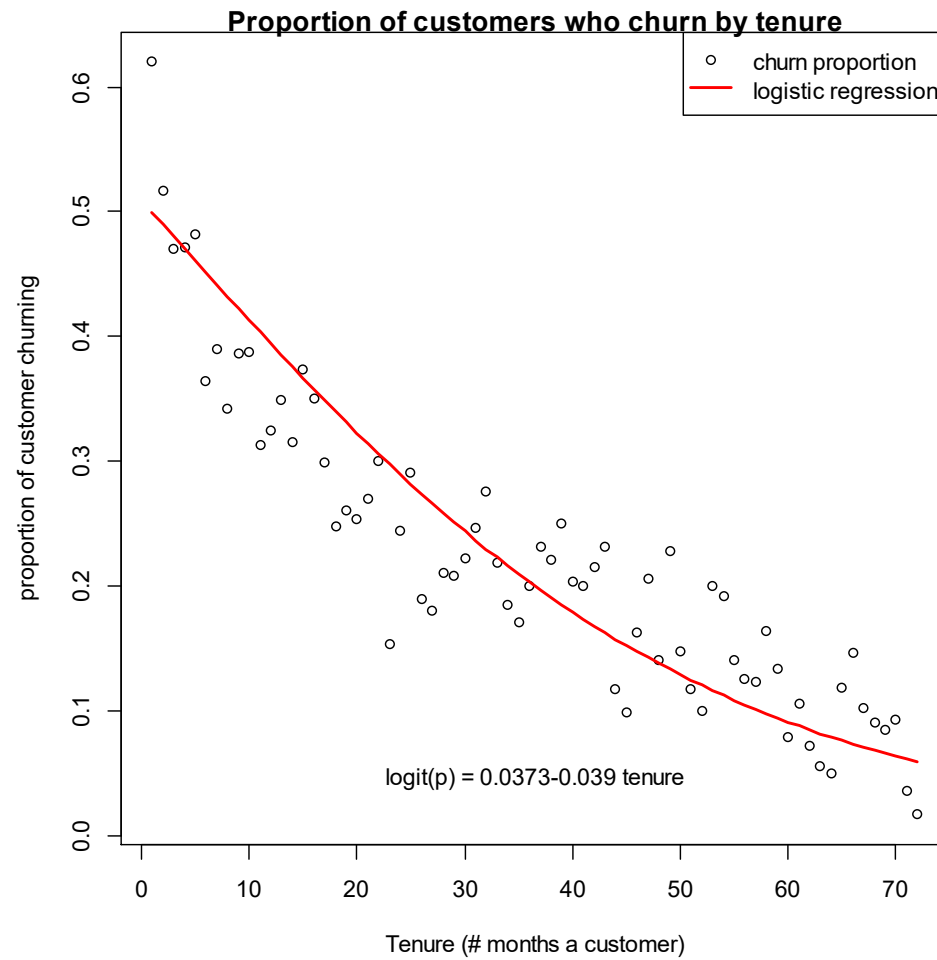


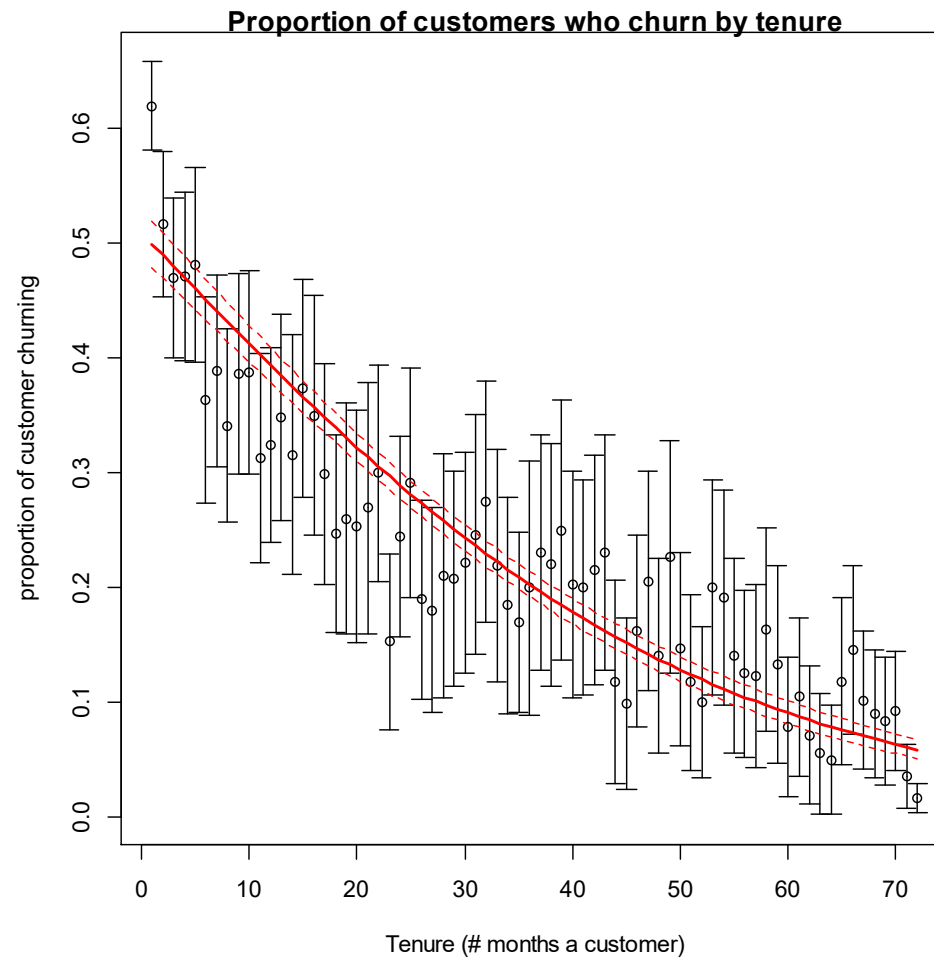


## Model 0:

$$y = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{Churn} = \text{"No "} \\ 1, & \text{Churn} = \text{"Yes"} \end{cases}$$

$$P(y = 1) = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Tenure})}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Tenure})}$$





# Model 1

$$P(\text{Churn} = 1) = \frac{\exp(x'\beta)}{1 + \exp(x'\beta)}$$

$$x'\beta = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Male} + \beta_2 \text{Senior} + \beta_3 \text{Partner} + \dots + \beta_{23} \text{Tenure}$$

In R,

```
model_1 <- glm(Churn ~ . , data=telco, family="binomial")
```

“everything else”

Face validity:  
Do the signs of  
significant coefficients  
make sense?



```
Call:
glm(formula = Churn ~ ., family = "binomial", data = telco)

Deviance Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-1.918  -0.679  -0.286   0.728   3.430

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)    1.165287   0.815135    1.43    0.1528
genderMale     -0.021833   0.064804   -0.34    0.7362
SeniorCitizen  0.216775   0.084530    2.56    0.0103 *
PartnerYes    -0.000384   0.077830    0.00    0.9961
DependentsYes -0.148488   0.089731   -1.65    0.0980 .
tenure        -0.060588   0.006236  -9.72 < 0.0000000000000002 ***
PhoneServiceYes 0.171468   0.648692    0.26    0.7915
MultipleLinesYes 0.448395   0.177256    2.53    0.0114 *
InternetServiceFiber optic 1.747475   0.798080    2.19    0.0286 *
InternetServiceNo -1.786295   0.807268   -2.21    0.0269 *
OnlineSecurityYes -0.205420   0.178688   -1.15    0.2503
OnlineBackupYes 0.026042   0.175401    0.15    0.8820
DeviceProtectionYes 0.147375   0.176374    0.84    0.4034
TechSupportYes -0.180497   0.180602   -1.00    0.3176
StreamingTVYes 0.590507   0.326309    1.81    0.0703 .
StreamingMoviesYes 0.599296   0.326684    1.83    0.0666 .
ContractOne year -0.660795   0.107585   -6.14    0.000000000814591 ***
ContractTwo year -1.357106   0.176445   -7.69    0.000000000000015 ***
PaperlessBillingYes 0.342354   0.074495    4.60    0.000004314313182 ***
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PaymentMethodMailed check -0.057587   0.114911   -0.50    0.6163
MonthlyCharges -0.040344   0.031755   -1.27    0.2039
TotalCharges   0.328940   0.070628    4.66    0.000003202625160 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

    Null deviance: 8143.4  on 7031  degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 5826.3  on 7008  degrees of freedom
AIC: 5874

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 6
```

## Interpreting coefficients

What is the effect of these variables on the odds of churn?

remember  $\exp(\beta)$  is the multiplicative effect of unit change of x on odds of y.

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# Deviance

- Measures the distance between data and fit

$$\text{Dev}(\beta) = -2 \text{LL}(\hat{\beta}) + C$$

- Residual deviance,  $D = \text{Dev}(\hat{\beta})$
- Null deviance,  $D_0 = \text{Dev}(\beta_{1:p} = 0)$  (only estimate the intercept,  $\beta_0$ )
- Proportion of deviance explained by all variables (except intercept):

$$R^2 = \frac{D_0 - D}{D_0} = 1 - \frac{D}{D_0}$$

$$D = 5826$$

$$D_0 = 8143$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{5826}{8143} = .28$$

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# In-sample vs. out-of-sample

- So far we've calculated deviance and  $R^2$  using the same data we used to fit the model: **in-sample**
- But, all that matters is how well the model predicts new data, **out-of-sample**.
- Why is “new data” so important here?
  - Generalizeability (external validity) = the ability of the results from one data set to carry over to other data sets?

# Overfitting

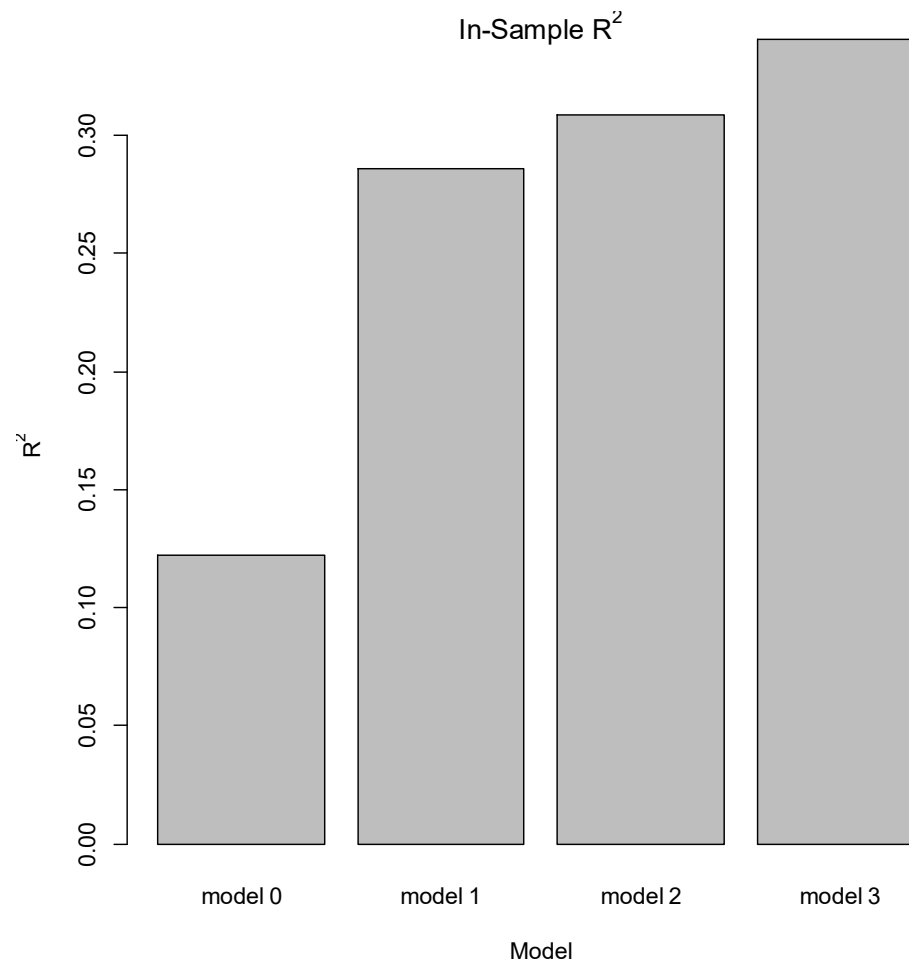
- when a model estimated on a particular data set predicts well for only that data set, not others.

$$\text{Dev}(\hat{\beta} \mid \text{data}_{\text{IS}}) < \text{Dev}(\hat{\beta} \mid \text{data}_{\text{OOS}})$$

Overfitting is a failure of generalizeability

# Example

- **Model 0:** already seen (1 coefficients, always excluding intercept)
- **Model 1:** already seen (24 coefficients)
- **Model 2:** Start with model 1, but instead of one coefficient for tenure, we have dummy variables for all but one of 72 levels (94 coefficients)  
$$= \beta_0 + \cdots \beta_{23}1\{\text{Tenure} = 2\} + \beta_{24}1\{\text{Tenure} = 3\} + \cdots \beta_{93}1\{\text{Tenure} = 72\}$$
- **Model 3:** Start with model 2, but add all interactions between tenure and payment type (307 coefficients):  
$$= \beta_0 + \cdots \beta_{94}1\{\text{Tenure} = 2\}1\{\text{Payment} = \text{credit}\} + \beta_{95}1\{\text{Tenure} = 2\}1\{\text{Payment} = \text{echeck}\} + \beta_{96}1\{\text{Tenure} = 2\}1\{\text{Payment} = \text{check}\} + \cdots$$



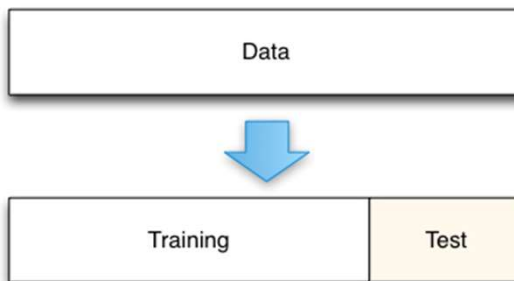
# Out-of-sample

We mimic “new data” by holding out a part of the data.

Fit the model on one part, see how well it does on another part.

# Cross-validation

- Simplest method: randomly split data into two parts:
  - “Training” (in-sample, calibration) = use this to fit model (typically 70-80%)
  - “Testing” (out-of-sample validation) = use this to make predictions



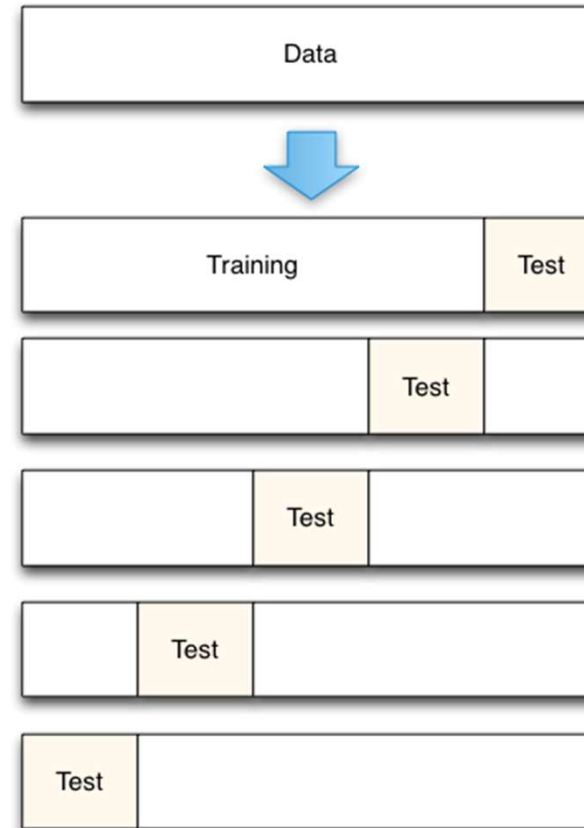


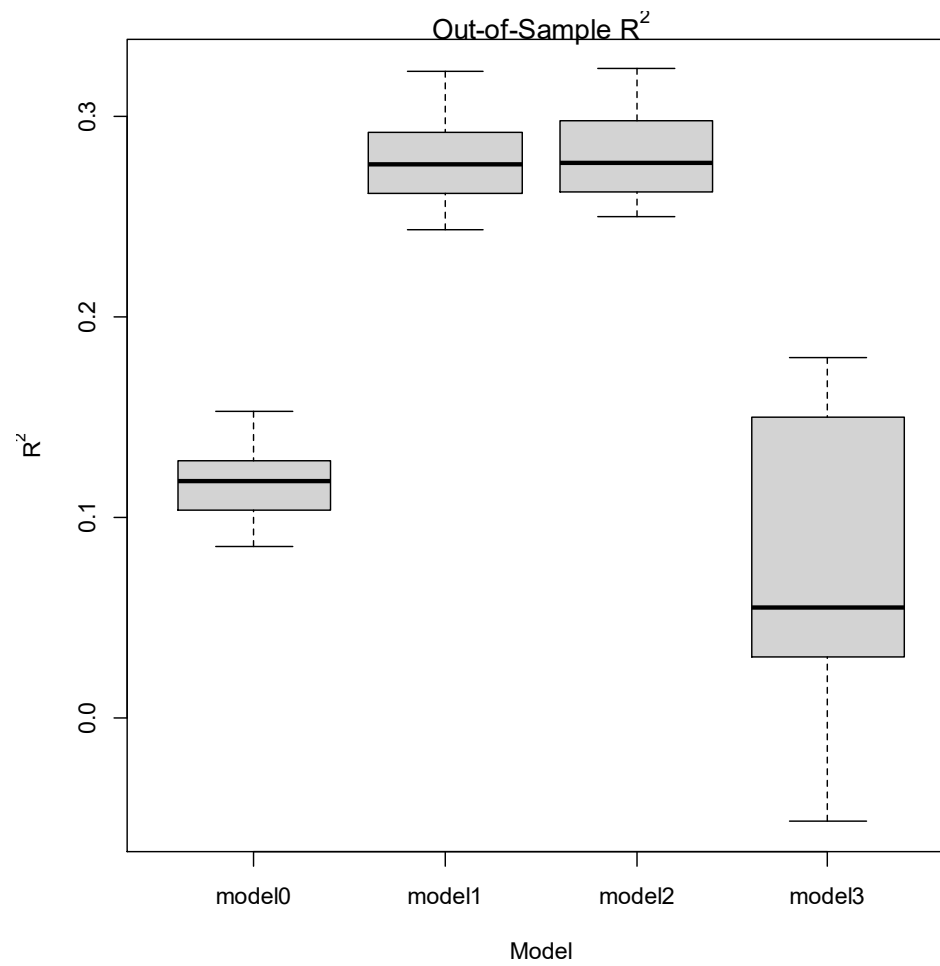
# Problems

- Efficiency: some of the data is not used in model fitting, and maybe can be thought of as wasted
- Stability: what if, by chance, the validation sample is full of outliers?

# K-fold cross validation

- Here  $K = 5$ .
- Data randomly split into 5 equally sized groups of 20% each.
- 4 groups used to fit, one group to validate.
- Repeat so that all data is used.
- We now have a sample of  $K$  OOS  $R^2$

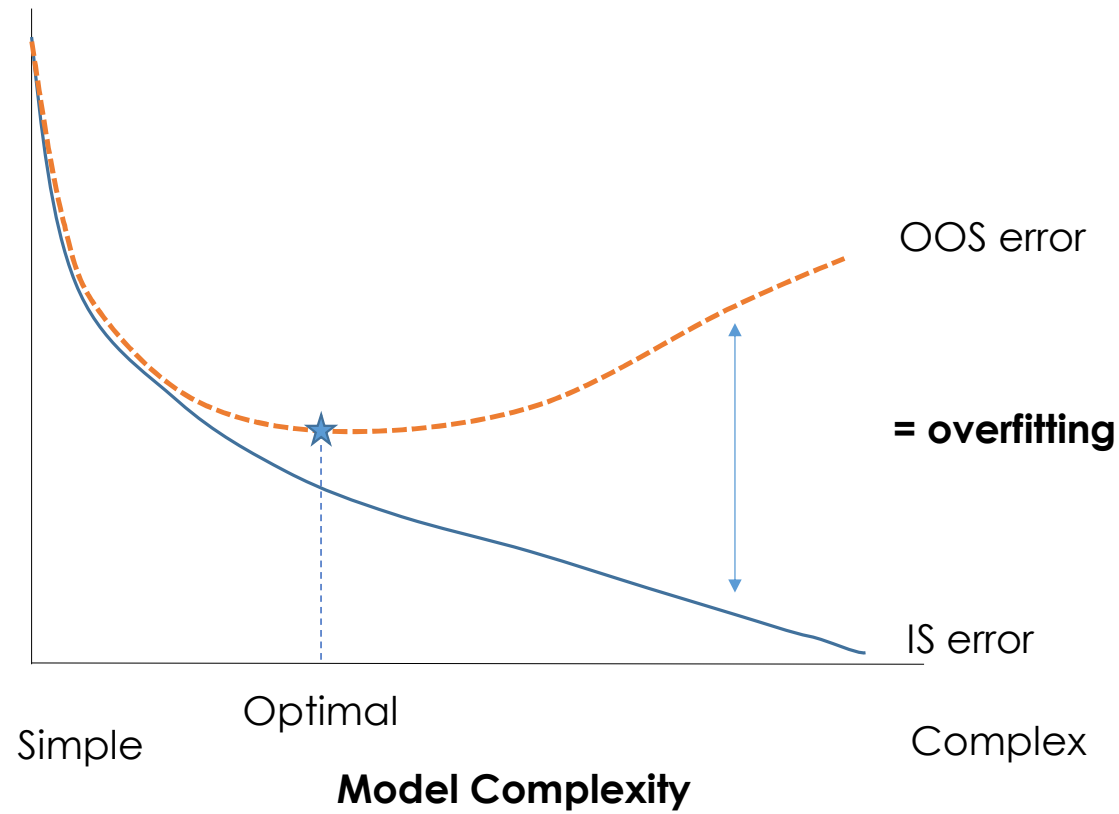




Bad  
predictions

**Deviance**

Good  
predictions



# Other diagnostics

# Classification (aka “confusion”) matrix

		Predicted*		% correct
		0	1	
Observed	0	<i>True Negative (TN)</i>	<i>False Positive (FP)</i>	TN / (TN + FP)
	1	<i>False Negative (FN)</i>	<i>True Positive (TP)</i>	TP / (TP + FN)

Predicted = 1 if  $p_i > \bar{p}$  usually ( $\bar{p} = 0.5$ )

Accuracy = (TP + TN) / Total

“Hit Rate” = “Sensitivity” = True positive rate = TP / (TP + FN)

“Specificity” = True negative rate = TN / (TN + FP)

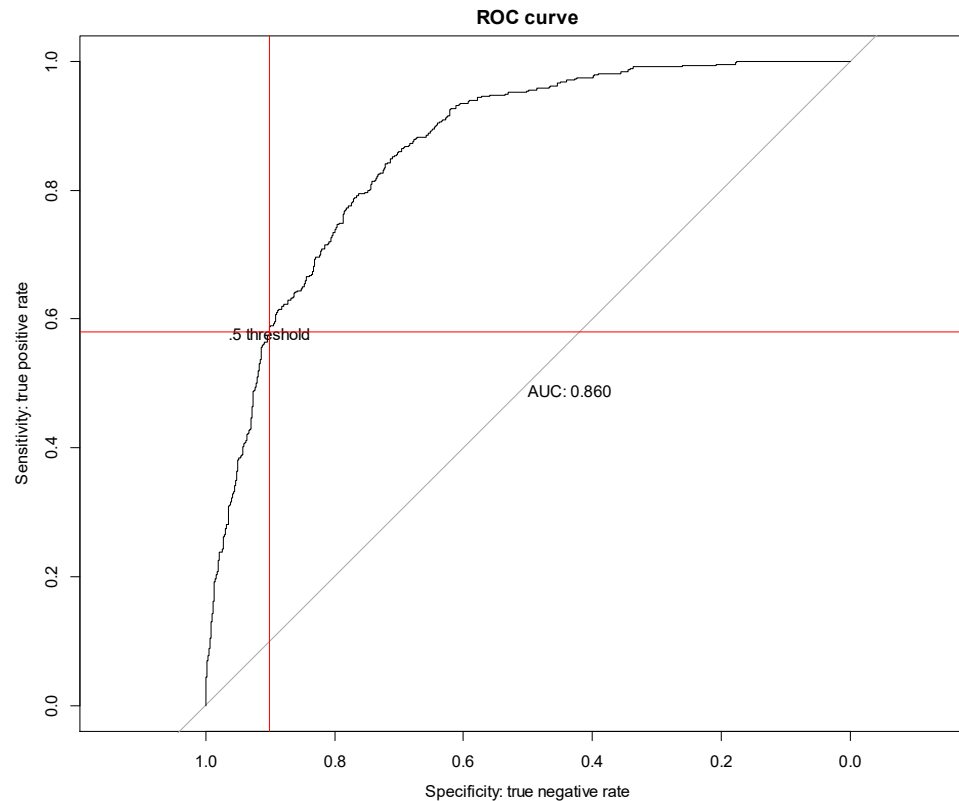
# Classification matrix

		Predicted*	
		0	1
Observed	0	1167	119
	1	208	270

% Correct  
90.7  
56.5

Accuracy = 81.5%

# ROC curve generalizes all cutoffs



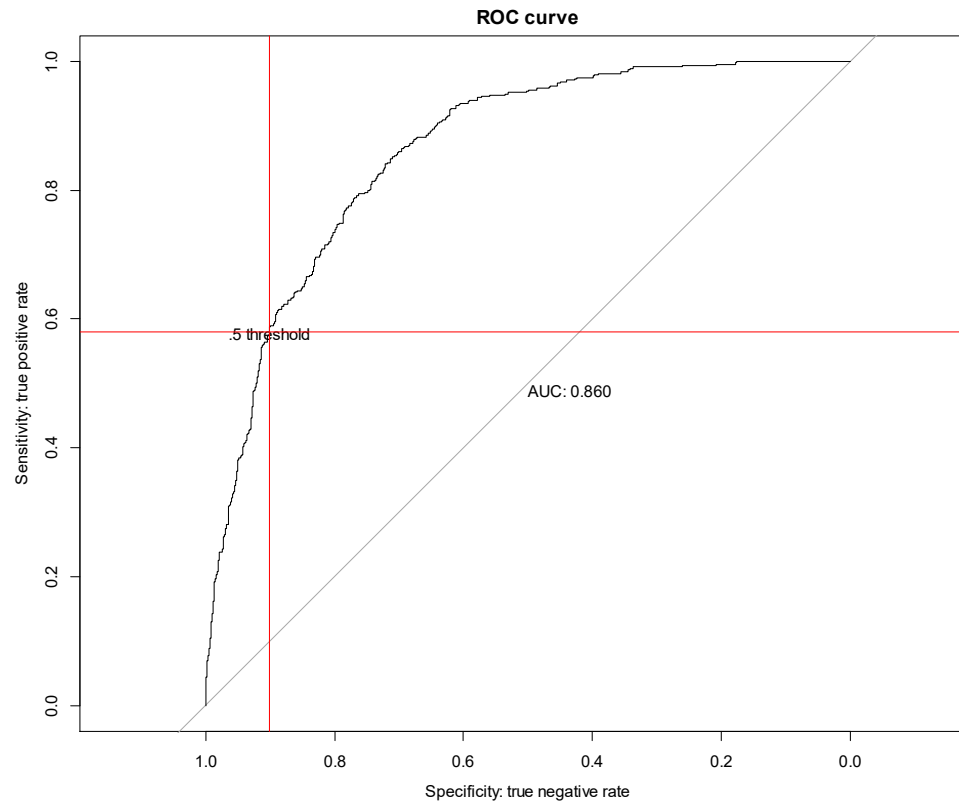
An ideal model will have a perfect true positive rate with no false positive rate

ROC curve will hug the top left corner

A bad model will make the same predictions for everyone, giving the diagonal line



# Area under the curve (AUC)



AUC is a measure of how well the model distinguishes between two classes

One way of interpreting AUC is as the probability that the model ranks a random positive example more highly than a random negative example

# Lift

To get the “biggest bang for the buck”, the marketer who can afford to target  $n$  persons picks the  $n$  highest-probability customers as targets.

Basic idea:

Based on predictions: pick top 10%, top 20%, ... all 100%...  
what % of churners will I get?

rank according to model, from most likely to least likely.

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{r_1}{\bar{r}}$$

Churn rate in top decile

Churn rate in entire sample (.27)

# Lift

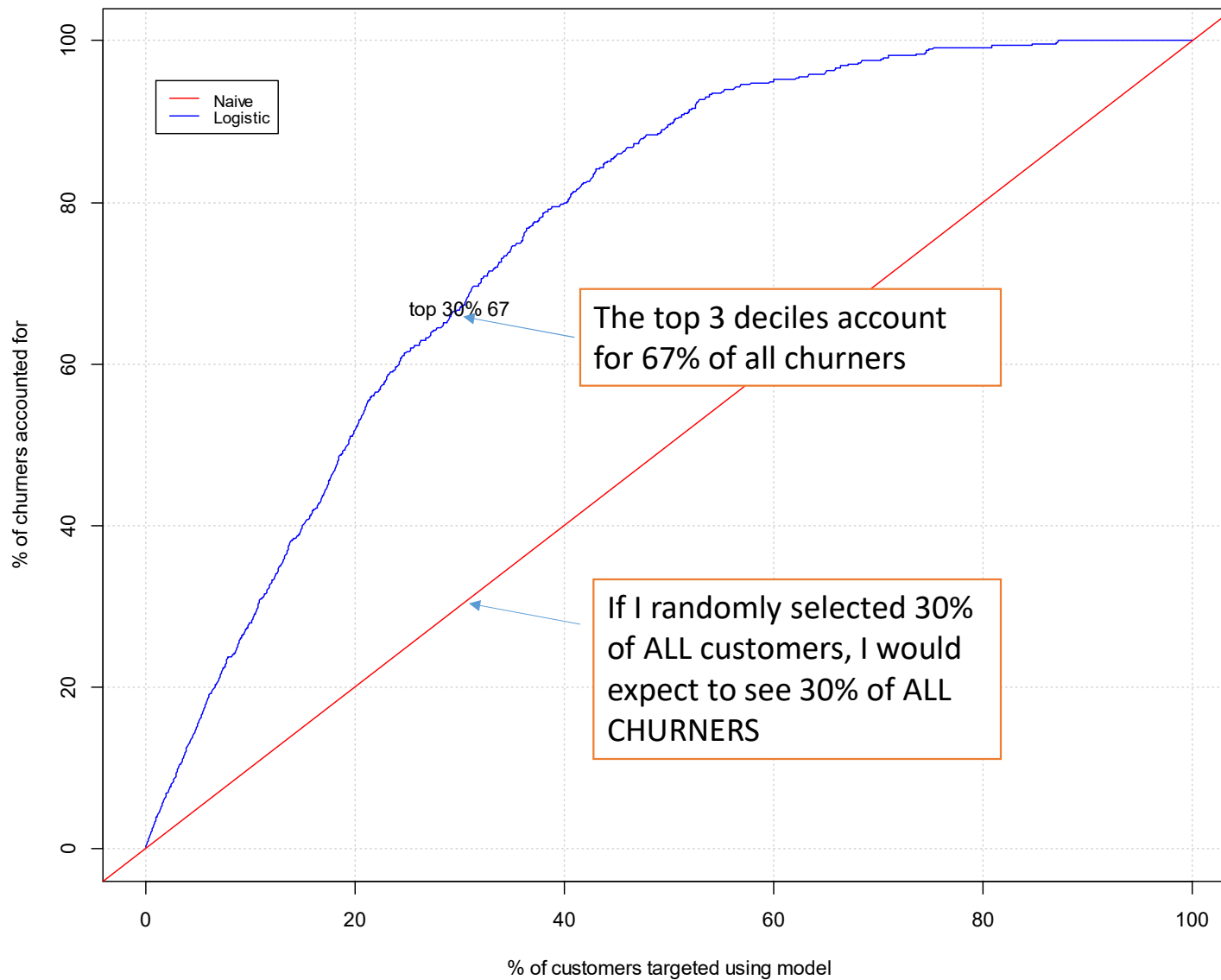
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what % of churners will I get?

rank according to model, from most likely to least likely.

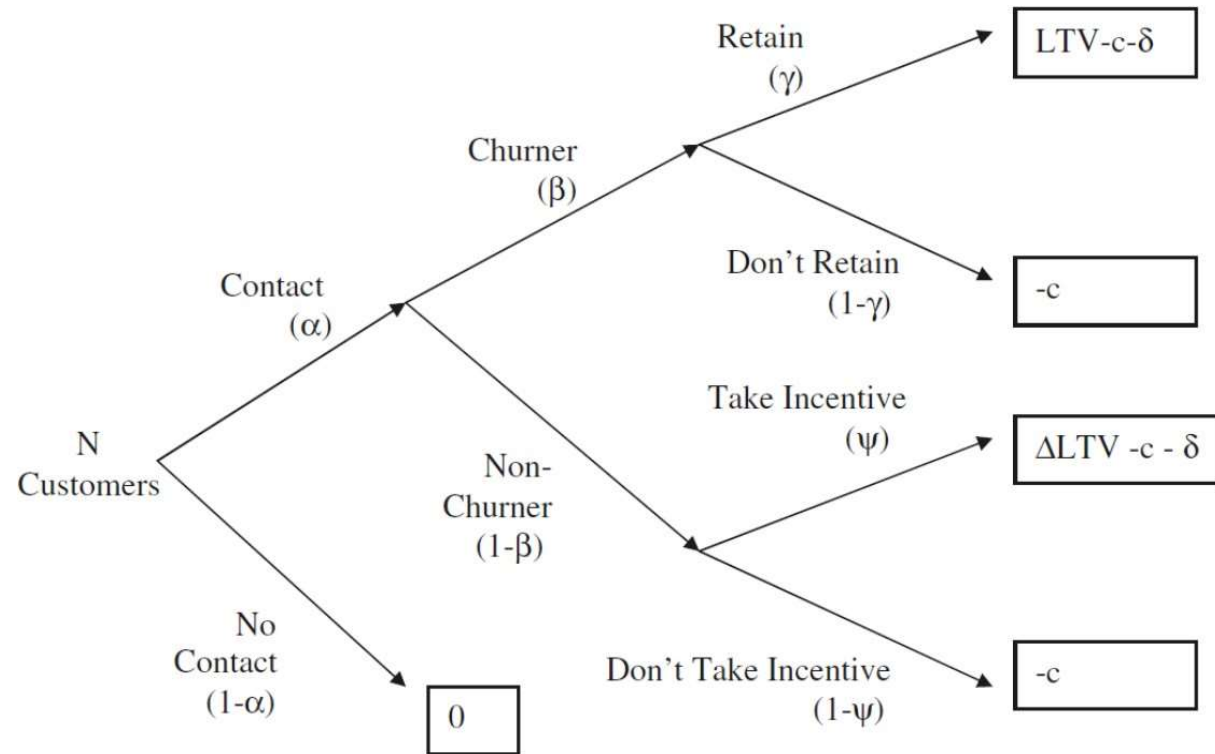
	decile	actual churn rate	lift	cumulative lift
Highest p	10	0.7684	2.8355	28.4
	9	0.6250	2.3065	51.5
	8	0.4350	1.6054	67.5
	7	0.3466	1.2791	80.3
	6	0.2500	0.9226	89.5
	5	0.1412	0.5212	94.8
	4	0.0795	0.2936	97.7
Lowest p	3	0.0395	0.1459	99.2
	2	0.0227	0.0839	100.0
	1	0.0000	0.0000	100.0



# Logistic regression for proactive targeting

How many deciles should we target?

# BKN 24.4.2



$\alpha$  proportion contacted  
 $\beta$  proportion churners contacted  
 $\gamma$  proportion rescued if a churner  
 $c$  cost of contacting  
 $\delta$  cost of incentive to stay  
 LTV lifetime value of customer

$\psi$  proportion non-churner takes incentive = 1  
 $\Delta$  percent increase in LTV of non-churners = 0

# proportion

- If we contact the top K deciles, what is the proportion of actual churners contacted?

$$\beta_K = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K r_k n_k}{\sum_{k=1}^K n_k}$$

where  $r_k$  actual churn rate in decile k and  $n_k$  is the number of customers in decile k. These can be found in the [lift table](#).

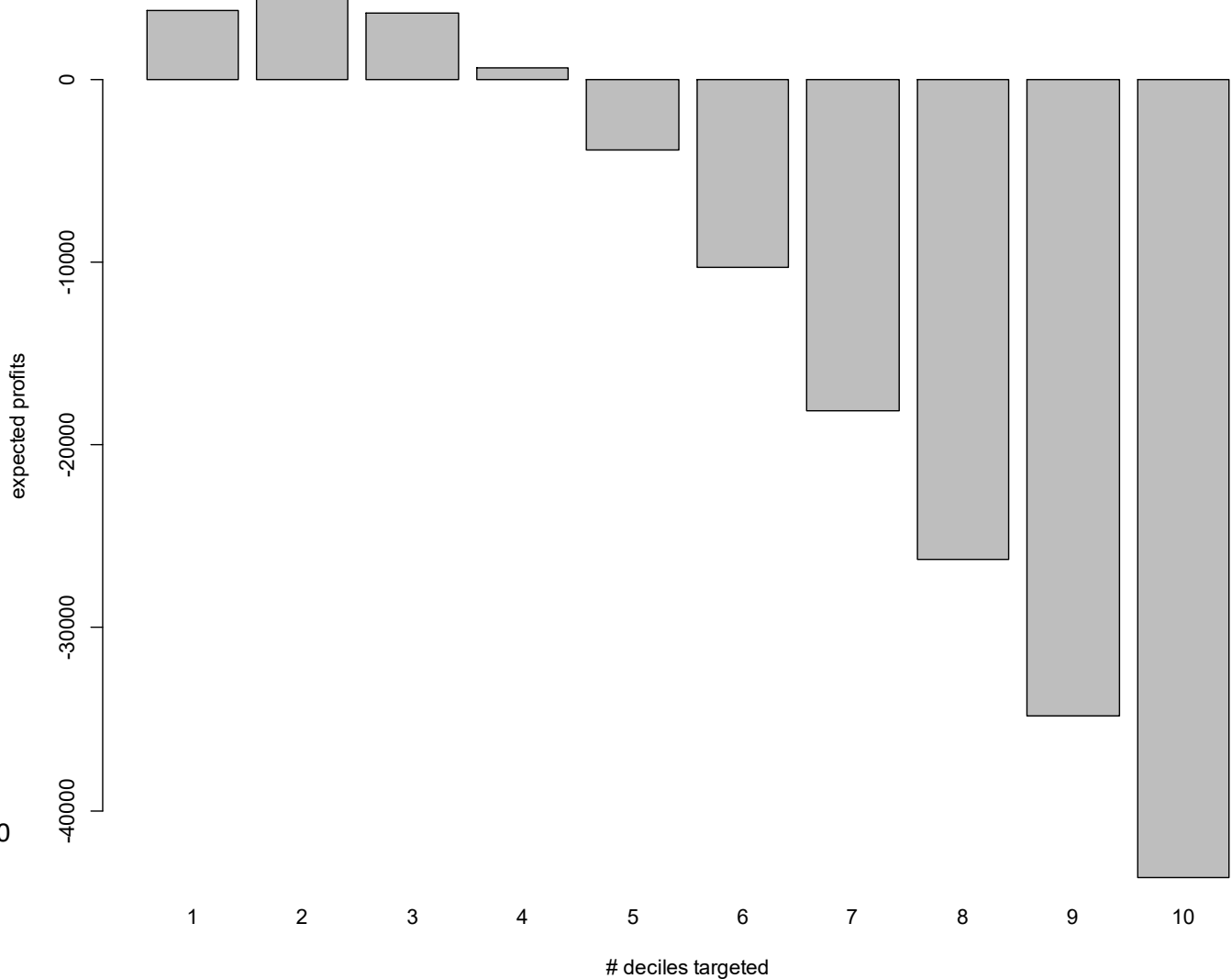
profits

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi &= N \alpha \left( \beta \gamma (LTV - \delta - c) - \beta(1 - \gamma)(c) - (1 - \beta)(\delta + c) \right) \\ &= N \alpha \left( \beta \left( \gamma LTV + \delta (1 - \gamma) \right) - \delta - c \right)\end{aligned}$$

choose  $\alpha \in \{.1, .2, \dots 1\}$  to maximize  $\Pi$



Optimal # of deciles to target



$\gamma$  proportion rescued if a churner = 0.10  
 $c$  cost of contacting = 0.50  
 $\delta$  cost of incentive to stay = 50  
LTV lifetime value of customer = 500