

Given: TS  $(x_1, y_1) \dots (x_n, y_n)$  iid obs of  $(X, Y)$

Goal: Generate prediction rule  $f(x)$  that predicts  $Y$  for query predictor  $x$ .

Optimal rule  $f(x) = E(Y|x)$

Assume single predictor

Approach 1: Kernel smoothing

Approach 2: Expansion based rules

- Choose dictionary of "basis functions"  $B_1(x) \dots B_K(x)$  for which (hopefully)

$$f(x) \approx \sum_{j=1}^K a_j B_j(x) \leftarrow$$

How to find  $a_1, \dots, a_K$ ?

obvious approach: Find  $\hat{\underline{a}}$  to minimize resubstitution error:

$$\hat{\underline{a}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\underline{a}} \| \underline{y} - X \underline{a} \|^2$$

where  $X_{ij} = B_j(x_i)$ .

Can we do better?

Look at extreme case:  $K=n$ ,  $B_1, \dots, B_K$   
linearly independent over the data

$$(\text{rank}(X) = n)$$

$$\hat{y} = Hy = X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

$$= \underbrace{X X^{-1} X^{-T} X^T}_I y$$

$$= y$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a} &= (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y \\ &= X^{-1} X^T X^T y \\ &= X^{-1} y \end{aligned}$$

What's the  $EEE = E(\frac{1}{n} \|f - Hy\|^2)$

$$y_i = f(x_i) + \varepsilon_i \quad E(\varepsilon_i) = 0 \quad V(\varepsilon_i) = \sigma^2 \quad \varepsilon_i \text{ inde}$$

$$EEE_{\text{est}} = \frac{1}{n} \left( \underbrace{\| (I - H) f \|^2}_{\text{squared bias}} + \sigma^2 \underbrace{\text{trace}(H)}_{\substack{\text{in HW01} \\ \text{trace}(W^T W)}} \right) \leftarrow$$

$\|$   
0

$n$

$$= EEE_{\text{est}} = 0 + \sigma^2 = \sigma^2$$

If we had  $K$  basis functions, then

$$EEE_{\text{est}} = \frac{1}{n} (\| (I - H) f \|^2 + \sigma^2 K)$$

Suppose  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i B_i(x)$  but some of the  $a_i$  are 0. Then it would be better to remove those basis functions from the dictionary, because this would reduce the variance component of  $EEE$  and would not increase the bias component.

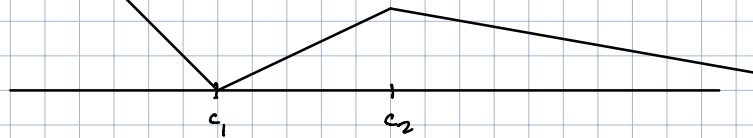
**Turbo<sup>(x)</sup>** Procedure to fit linear splines

Linear spline with knots  $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_k$

is

- Piecewise linear in  $(-\infty, c_1], (c_1, c_2], \dots, (c_k, \infty)$
- Continuous

\* Friedman &  
Silverman 1989



Any linear spline with knots  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  is a linear combination of basis functions

$$B_i(x) = (x - c_i)_+ \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

$$B_{k+1}(x) = 1$$

$$B_{k+2}(x) = x$$

Given training sample  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

Turbo finds

- # of knots
- knot positions
- slopes and intercepts of linear pieces

to minimize an estimate of the expected squared prediction error.

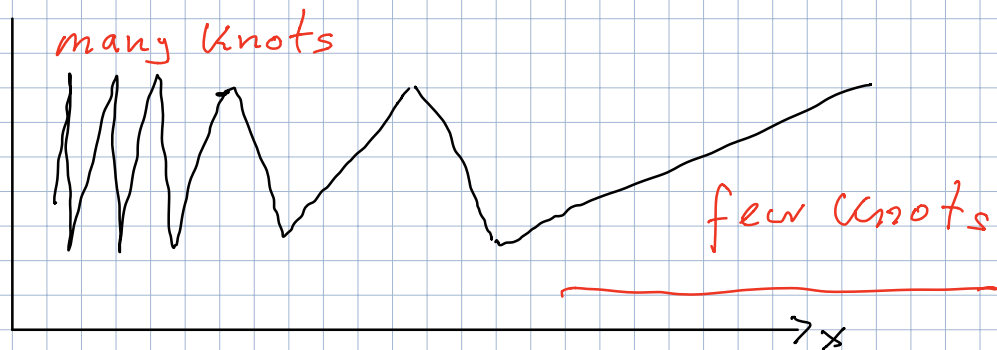
Hard problem.

Suppose  $k=1$

$$\min_{\underline{a}, c_1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - a_1 B_1(x_i) - a_2 - a_3 x_i)^2$$

$$B_1(x) = (x - c_1)_+$$

Finding  $c_1$  is a nonlinear optimization problem.  
No explicit solution.



Design choices made by FRS:

For given knot positions choose  $\underline{a}$  by least squares

Assume  $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n$

Dictionary  $B_i = (x - x_i)_+ \quad i=1 \dots n$

$$B_{n+1} = 1$$

Note:  $B_1$  is linear over the range of data

$\Rightarrow$  Don't need an extra linear basis function.

Fit model by stepwise forward selection

- Find best model with one basis function using exhaustive search.

$$j_1 = \operatorname{argmin}_i \operatorname{argmin}_{\underline{a}} \sum (y_i - a B_i(x_i))^2$$

- Find the best model with two basis functions, given we already have chosen the first one,

$$j_2 = \underset{j}{\operatorname{argmin}} \underset{\underline{a}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum (y_i - a_1 B_1(x_i) - a_2 B_j(x_i))^2$$

⋮ etc  
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