



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT  
GÖTTINGEN

## **bamlss.vis**

An R Package to Interactively Analyze and Visualize  
Bayesian Additive Models for Location, Scale and Shape  
(bamlss) Using the Shiny Framework

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1. Introduction

2. Motivating BAMLSS

# Introduction

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## **Distributional Regression**

- An emerging field in regression methods
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## Distributional Regression

- An emerging field in regression methods
- Each parameter of a response distribution beyond the mean can be modeled using a set of predictors
- Notable frameworks:
  1. Generalized Additive Models for Location, Scale and Shape, coined by Rigby and Stasinopoulos (2001)
  2. Bayesian Additive Models for Location, Scale and Shape, coined by Umlauf, Klein, and Zeileis (2017)
- Differences: Estimation techniques

## Response

Let  $y \sim D(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_K)$

## Problem

- Often, distribution parameters  $h(\eta_l) = \theta_l$  do not directly equate to  $E(y)$ ,  $\text{Var}(y)$

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- Often, distribution parameters  $h(\eta_l) = \theta_l$  do not directly equate to  $E(y)$ ,  $Var(y)$
- Therefore hard to interpret effects on distribution moments because:
  1. Link function  $h_l(\cdot)$  transforms effects
  2. Transformed effects are for parameters  $\theta_l$  which often do not directly equate moments

## Problem

- Thus: Package needed which
  1. Makes it easy to graphically display and compare predicted distributions
  2. Displays the influence of a covariate on the distributional moments
- $\Rightarrow$  `bamlss.vis` was born, solving these problems in R with a Shiny App.



# Motivating BAMLSS

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## Model specification

$$y_i = f_1(z_{i1}) + f_2(z_{i2}) + \dots + f_k(z_{ik}) + \epsilon_i \quad (\text{only nonparametric effects})$$

$$y_i = \sum_{j=1}^K f_j(z_{ij}) + \sum_{l=1}^Q \beta_l x_{il} + \epsilon_i \quad (\text{with parametric effects})$$

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## Why additive?

- Curse of dimensionality
- Easier to separate covariate effects

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  2. Spatial effects of location index  $s$
  3. Interactions between a continuous covariate and a categorical variable
  4. Nonlinear interactions between two continuous covariates
  5. Random Effects with intercept  $\nu_0$  and slope  $\nu_j$  deviations from main effects

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## Model specification

$$y_i = \underbrace{\kappa_i^{add}}_{\text{AM components}} + f_{struc}(\mathbf{v}_{i1}) + \epsilon_i$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_1$  can be a one- or multidimensional variable.

## Motivation

- AM and STAR assume normality and directly model  $E(y)$
- Generalized STAR models use link function  $g(\cdot)$  of Generalized Linear Models
- Adds ability to model  $E(y)$  of all exponential families, e.g. binomial or poisson distribution

## Model specification

$$g(\mu_i) = \eta_i$$

$$\eta_i = f_1(z_{i1}) + \dots + f_K(z_{iK}) + \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_Q x_{iQ}$$



# Structured Additive Distributional Regression

## Motivation

- Often, more than just the location of a distribution is of interest
- Scale/Shape (Variance, Kurtosis) might also be dependent on covariates
- Structured Additive Distributional Regression allows modeling of all distributional parameters  $\theta_l$

## Model specification

Let  $y \sim D(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_K)$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} g_l(\theta_l) &= \eta_l \\ &= f_{1l}(\mathbf{X}; \beta_{1l}) + \dots + f_{Q_{ll}}(\mathbf{X}; \beta_{Q_{ll}}) \end{aligned}$$

where every  $\theta_l$  can be modeled with effect types of different subsets of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

overview...

# Thanks!

Thanks for your attention!

## Literatur

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