Non-linearity and Interactions

#### **Predictive Analytics Lecture 4**

Adam Kapelner

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Non-linearity and Interactions

# Review: Generalizing the Classification Rule

Recall the classification rule  $\hat{y} = \mathbb{1}_{\hat{p} > 0.5}$ . Using 0.5 is a principled default but we can use any rule  $p_0 \in (0,1)$ :

$$\hat{y} = \mathbb{1}_{\hat{p} \geq p_0} := egin{cases} 1 & \text{if} & \hat{p} \geq p_0 \\ 0 & \text{if} & \hat{p} < p_0 \end{cases}$$

What happens when we change the  $p_0$  threshold? If  $p_0 \uparrow \Rightarrow \hat{P} \downarrow$ and  $\hat{N} \uparrow$ . If  $p_0 \downarrow \Rightarrow \hat{P} \uparrow$  and  $\hat{N} \downarrow$ . Changing  $p_0$  changes the column totals and obviously creates a whole new confusion matrix.

So now it's simple, vary  $p_0$  and pick the best model according to your cost / error / loss function (the ME at the moment). Let's just do every  $p_0$ !

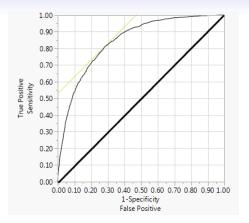
#### All Possible Confusion Matrices

ROC T	able						
			Sens-				
Prob	1-Specificity	Sensitivity	(1-Spec)	True Pos	True Neg	False Pos	False Neg
	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0	5163	0	1869
0.8117	0.0000	0.0005	0.0005	1	5163	0	186
0.8104	0.0000	0.0011	0.0011	2	5163	0	186
0.8093	0.0000	0.0016	0.0016	3	5163	0	186
0.8092	0.0000	0.0021	0.0021	4	5163	0	186
0.8090	0.0000	0.0027	0.0027	5	5163	0	186
0.8085	0.0000	0.0032	0.0032	6	5163	0	186
0.8083	0.0000	0.0037	0.0037	7	5163	0	186
0.8082	0.0000	0.0043	0.0043	8	5163	0	186
0.8079	0.0000	0.0048	0.0048	9	5163	0	186
0.8079	0.0000	0.0054	0.0054	10	5163	0	185
0.8077	0.0000	0.0059	0.0059	11	5163	0	185
0.8076	0.0002	0.0059	0.0057	11	5162	1	185
0.8072	0.0002	0.0064	0.0062	12	5162	1	185
0.8065	0.0002	0.0070	0.0068	13	5162	1	185
0.8064	0.0002	0.0075	0.0073	14	5162	1	185
0.8061	0.0002	0.0080	0.0078	15	5162	1	185

Here, Prob is what we denoted  $p_0$ .

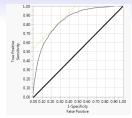
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### Receiver-Operator Characteristic Curve



The ROC Curve. Each dot represents the sensitivity-specificity tradeoff for each  $p_0$ . The starred row of maximum sensitivity + specificity is indicated here by a yellow tangent line.

## Area Under the Curve (AUC) Metric



If you built a model by chance the "area under the curve" (or to the right of the curve) on the graph would be ... 0.5 since the graph is a unit square. Under the ROC curve itself (or to its right) is an area ... greater than 0.5. Here, it's 0.844. This metric is called AUC and is widely used as a metric to assess performance of all possible classifiers in this set of models together, it is a composite metric unlike ME or anything derived from an individual confusion table.

AUC is nice to evaluate overall performance of all possible models... but at the end of the day... you ship **ONE** model! So we still need a means of evaluating our one model from one confusion table.

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	$p_0 = 0.5$	ز	ŷ		Model
		1	0	Totals	Errors
	1	TP = 1012	FN = 857	P = 1869	FNR = 45.9%
У	0	FP = 531	TN = 4632	N = 5163	FPR = 10.2%
	Totals	$\hat{P} = 1543$	$\hat{N} = 5489$	n = 7032	
	Use errors	FDR = 34.3%	FOR = 15.6%		ME = 19.7%

	$p_0 = 0.1$	ŷ			Model
		1	0	Totals	Errors
	1	TP = 1772	FN = 97	P = 1869	FNR = 5.1%
У	0	FP = 2669	TN = 2494	N = 5163	FPR = 51.6%
	Totals	$\hat{P} = 4441$	$\hat{N} = 2591$	n = 7032	
	Use errors	FDR = 60.1%	FOR = 3.7%		ME = 39.3%

Which numbers did not change? n, P and N. Why? These are fixed according to the dataframe. All other numbers changed! What happend to our first means of evaluation, the Misclassification Error? It increased from  $19.7\% \rightarrow 39.3\%$ . So isn't this a worse model??

Not necessarily... It depends on what your goal is!

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# Asymmetric Costs in a Classifier

These are always two types of errors but the costs are not always the same.

	$p_0 = 0.1$	ŷ			Model
		1	0	Totals	Errors
	1	TP = 1772	FN = 97	P = 1869	FNR = 5.1%
У	0	FP = 2669	TN = 2494	N = 5163	FPR = 51.6%
	Totals	$\hat{P} = 4441$	$\hat{N} = 2591$	n = 7032	
	Use errors	FDR = 60.1%	FOR = 3.7%		ME = 39.3%

Imagine we really are the Telecom business manager. It costs 5-10x more to acquire a new customer than to engage a customer who is likely to churn. So you give an incentive package to those who are predicted to churn. Which of the two types of errors specifically is very costly? The FN. Who are they? These are those who you said were not going to churn and they did! Cost? You need to acquire a new customer! The other type of error is less costly, the FP. Who are they? These are the people you thought were going to churn and did not. Cost? Whatever the incentive package is.

# Weighted Misclassification Error

We now define two costs: (1) the cost of the FP denoted  $c_{FP}$  and (2) the cost of the FN denoted  $c_{FN}$ . We then define the weighted misclassification error evaluation metric:

$$ME_w := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{FP} \mathbb{1}_{y_i = 0 \& \hat{y} = 1} + c_{FN} \mathbb{1}_{y_i = 1 \& \hat{y}_i = 0}$$

We now vary  $p_0$  to locate the model that optimizes this error to be minimum.

# Minimum Weighted Misclassification Error

Let's assume that  $c_{FN} = \$1000$  and  $c_{FP} = \$100$  just for the example's sake. Note: this is a **cost ratio** of 10:1.

	Prob	TP	TN	FP	FN	COST
1	0.8117	1	5163	0	1868	1868000
2	0.8104	2	5163	0	1867	1867000
3	0.8093	3	5163	0	1866	1866000
4	0.8092	4	5163	0	1865	1865000
5	0.8090	5	5163	0	1864	1864000
6	0.8085	6	5163	0	1863	1863000
7	0.8083	7	5163	0	1862	1862000
8	0.8082	8	5163	0	1861	1861000
9	0.8079	9	5163	0	1860	1860000

We now calculate the cost and find the minimum model (i.e. the  $p_0$  to ship). [JMP] Or alternatively, we can select the model with the closest  $FN/FP \approx 10:1$  to match the stakeholder preference of the desired cost ratio. Why would this be good?

### **Expected Value Calculation**

You can also imagine assignment of both costs and benefits:

	$p_0 = 0.1$	ز ا	Ŷ
		1	0
	1	bTP	CFN
У.	0	$c_{FP}$	$b_{TN}$

and then use the confusion matrix to estimate probabilities:

	$p_0 = 0.1$	j	$\hat{\prime}$
		1	0
	1	25.1%	1.3%
У	0	40.0%	35.5%

The expected value would be?

$$\mathbb{E}[T] = p_{TP} \times b_{TP} + p_{TN} \times b_{TN} + p_{FP} \times c_{FP} + p_{FN} \times c_{FN}$$

$$\approx \hat{p}_{TP} \times b_{TP} + \hat{p}_{TN} \times b_{TN} + \hat{p}_{FP} \times c_{FP} + \hat{p}_{FN} \times c_{FN}$$

Highest expected value model is shipped (ex. from Provost & Fawcett, 2013).

# New Type of Response Metric: TTL

What if your response was time? For example:

- Time for a patient to live (typical in clinical trials)?
- How long will a customer be a customer?
- How long will a car engine last?

What kind of data type is the response? Continuous. For each object we will have features and response. But what does response look like at the time of sampling?

For example, revall the Telecom churn dataset. If the observation has ...

Tenure Time	Churn?	Total Time as a Customer
2	Yes	3
8	Yes	9
45	No	unknown

That third observation's response is **censored**. What are we supposed to do??

# Dealing with censoring

One option is to disregard all censored observations. Why is this a bad idea? Selection bias. Our results will only apply to people who have churned. Those people may be different that the general population. Another option is to use survival modeling.

This is a very well-studied field with many possible models!

### The Exponential Model

Assume Y now is time. Time must be positive!

$$Y = f(x_1, \ldots, x_p) + \mathcal{E}$$

We have to be careful to make f positive and  $\mathcal{E}$  negative but not too negative to make Y < 0. One such model is the exponential model with conditional mean  $f(x_1, \ldots, x_p)$ .

$$Y \sim Exp(f(x_1,\ldots,x_p))$$

Let's review the exponential r.v. If  $Y \sim Exp(\mu)$ , then its density function and cumulative density functions are

$$p(y) = \frac{1}{\mu} e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}y}$$
 and  $F(y) = 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}y}$ 

with mean  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mu$  where  $\mu > 0$ . So if  $Y \sim \textit{Exp}(17)$ , you expect the observation to be ... 17 on average.

## The Exponential Log-Linear Model (ELLM)

Let's say we want to use our linear model  $\beta_0+\beta_1x_1+\ldots+\beta_px_p$  for the conditional mean. Problem? Yes. The mean can only be a number greater than zero. Hence we need the  $\lambda$  link function again! How can we convert  $s_{\mathbb{R}}=\beta_0+\beta_1x_1+\ldots+\beta_px_p$  to something between 0 and  $+\infty$ ? Without going into many different link function, let's just use the natural log:

$$s = \lambda(s_{\mathbb{R}}) = \ln(s_{\mathbb{R}}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad s = e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + ... + \beta_p x_p}$$

And voila we have our survival model:

$$Y \sim \textit{Exp}(e^{eta_0 + eta_1 x_1 + \ldots + eta_p x_p})$$

Interpretation of a unit change in  $x_1$ ? With all other variables kept constant, a unit change in  $x_1$  will multiply the expected survival by  $e^{\beta_1}$  in a naturally observed new object.

### Assumptions of an ELLM

Next up in the recipe... we need to get estimates of the true parameters, we have been denoting these  $\left\{\hat{\beta}_0,\hat{\beta}_1,\ldots,\hat{\beta}_p\right\}$ . How to do so? Maximum Likelihood (just like linear regression and logistic regression). We will first need the "ELLM assumptions"

Independence among observations. Thus,

$$\mathbb{P}(Y_1 = y_1, Y_2 = y_2, \dots, Y_n = y_n \mid X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) \\
= \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(Y_i = y_i \mid X_1 = x_i)$$

Exponential Model. Thus,

$$=\prod_{i=1}^n\frac{1}{\mu}e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}y_i}$$

Log-Linear conditional expectation. Thus,

### Fitting an ELLM

$$=\prod_{i=1}^{n}\frac{1}{e^{\beta_{\mathbf{0}}+\beta_{\mathbf{1}}x_{i1}+\ldots+\beta_{p}x_{ip}}}e^{-\frac{1}{e^{\beta_{\mathbf{0}}+\beta_{\mathbf{1}}x_{i1}+\ldots+\beta_{p}x_{ip}}y_{i}}}$$

Can we just maximize the above over all values of the  $\beta$ 's like before? We are missing one thing. What if  $y_i$  is a censored value? All we know about that  $y_i$  is that it's greater than the last value recorded! Recall

$$\mathbb{P}(Y > y) = 1 - F(y) = e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}y}$$

Let  $c_i$  indicate censorship: 1 if censored and 0 if not. Our likelihood is now in two pieces:

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{1}{e^{\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_{p} x_{ip}}} e^{-\frac{1}{e^{\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_{p} x_{ip}} y_{i}}} \right)^{1 - c_{i}} \mathbb{P}(Y > y_{i})^{c_{i}}$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{1}{e^{\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_{p} x_{ip}}} e^{-\frac{1}{e^{\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_{p} x_{ip}} y_{i}}} \right)^{1 - c_{i}} \left( e^{-\frac{1}{\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_{p} x_{ip}} y} \right)^{c_{i}}$$

Now the computer crunches away (similar to a logistic regression fit) and we get values of  $\left\{\hat{\beta}_0,\hat{\beta}_1,\ldots,\hat{\beta}_p\right\}$  back in a split second. Now for inference...

# Global Test in Survival ELLM Regression

Just like in logistic regression, we can make use of the  $\dots$  likelihood ratio test. Recall:

$$LR := \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}\left(\theta; x\right) / \max_{\theta \in \Theta_R} \mathcal{L}\left(\theta; x\right)$$

Let's now do a "whole model" / "global" / "omnibus" test:

$$H_0: eta_1=0, eta_2=0, \ldots, eta_p=0, \quad H_a:$$
 at least one is non-zero

So  $\Theta$  would be the space of all  $\beta_0, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_p$  and  $\Theta_R$  will restrict the space to only  $\beta_0$  with zeroes for all other "slope" parameters.

$$LR = \frac{\underset{\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p}{\text{max}} \mathcal{L}\left(\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p; y_1, \dots, y_n, c_1, \dots, c_n, x_1, \dots, x_n\right)}{\underset{\beta_0}{\text{max}} \mathcal{L}\left(\beta_0, \beta_1 = 0, \dots, \beta_p = 0; y_1, \dots, y_n, y_n, c_1, \dots, c_n, x_1, \dots, x_n\right)}$$

So on top the computer iterates to find  $\left\{\hat{\beta}_0,\hat{\beta}_1,\ldots,\hat{\beta}_p\right\}$ , plugs it in and computes the likelihood and on the bottom the computer independently iterates to find  $\left\{\hat{\beta}_0\right\}$ , plugs it in and computes the likelihood, then together, the LR.

# Partial Tests in Survival Regression

We then look at  $Q=2\ln{(LR)}$  and compare it to the appropriate  $\chi^2$  distribution. Here, since we've dropped p parameters / degrees of freedom, we look at the critical  $\chi^2_{p,\alpha}$  value.

Let's say we want to test something like:

$$H_0: \beta_1=0 \& \beta_2=0, \quad H_a:$$
 at least one is non-zero

We can again use the likelihood ratio test:

$$\textit{LR} = \frac{\underset{\beta_{\mathbf{0}},\beta_{\mathbf{3}},\dots,\beta_{p}}{\text{max}} \mathcal{L}\left(\beta_{\mathbf{0}},\beta_{\mathbf{1}},\dots,\beta_{p};y_{1},\dots,y_{n},c_{1},\dots,c_{n},x_{1},\dots,x_{n}\right)}{\underset{\beta_{\mathbf{0}},\beta_{\mathbf{3}},\dots,\beta_{p}}{\text{max}} \mathcal{L}\left(\beta_{\mathbf{0}},\beta_{\mathbf{1}}=0,\beta_{\mathbf{2}}=0,\beta_{\mathbf{3}},\dots,\beta_{p}=0;y_{1},\dots,y_{n},c_{1},\dots,c_{n},x_{1},\dots,x_{n}\right)}$$

We then look at  $Q=2\ln{(LR)}$  and compare it to the appropriate  $\chi^2$  distribution. Here, since we've dropped 2 parameters / degrees of freedom, we look at the critical  $\chi^2_{2,\alpha}$  value.

# Individual Tests in Survival Regression

(Survival Models)

Let's say we want to test an individual slope coefficient:

$$H_0: \beta_j = 0, \quad H_a: \beta_j \neq 0$$

(a la the "partial-F test"). We can again use the likelihood ratio test:

$$\textit{LR} = \frac{\underset{\beta_{\boldsymbol{0}}, \beta_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, \beta_{p} = \boldsymbol{y}_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \beta_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, \beta_{p}; y_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, y_{n}, c_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, c_{n}, x_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, x_{n})}{\underset{\beta_{\boldsymbol{0}}, \beta_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, \beta_{j-1}, \beta_{j+1}, \dots, \beta_{p}}{\text{max}} \mathcal{L}\left(\beta_{\boldsymbol{0}}, \beta_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, \beta_{j-1}, \beta_{j} = \boldsymbol{0}, \beta_{j+1}, \dots, \beta_{p}; y_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, y_{n}, c_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, c_{n}, x_{\boldsymbol{1}}, \dots, x_{n}\right)}$$

We then look at  $Q=2\ln{(LR)}$  and compare it to the appropriate  $\chi^2$ distribution. Here, since we've dropped 1 parameter / degrees of freedom; thus we look at the critical  $\chi^2_{1,\alpha}$  value.

And again: a  $\chi^2$  r.v. with one degree of freedom has the following cool property:  $Q \sim \chi_1^2 \Rightarrow \sqrt{Q} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  i.e. a "z-score". This is how JMP produces standard errors for survival regression coefficients.

## Simple Survival Regression and Predictions

How do we predict?

$$\hat{y} = \hat{y}(x^*) = \exp\left(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_1^* + \ldots + \hat{\beta}_{\rho} x_{\rho}^*\right)$$

What are we predicting? Average time to survive.

Let's return to the Telecom example and look at just "SeniorCitizen" on customer lifetime. [JMP] Is this variable significant? Yes. Now let's predict the time for a new non-senior citizen:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{y}(\mathbf{x}^*) = e^{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1(0)} = e^{4.922} = 137.28$$

Now let's predict the time for a new senior citizen:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{y}(x^*) = e^{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1(1)} = e^{4.922 + -0.430} = 80.80$$

(1) Is the reduction of 5yr expected? (2) Why are these numbers so large? Likely the exponential model is not a great fit here. The tail is too long and the memorylessness property is not realistic.

# Multivariable Survival Regression

#### [JMP]

- Do these coefficients make sense?
- What's wrong with this dataset?? The max survival is 72mo and there's thousands of cases that are censored.
- Evaluating survival models is complicated... not covered.

## Simple Test of Linearity

Non-linearity and Interactions

Here's the "Medicorp" dataset. The response is sales (in \$1000's) and the features are advertising (in \$1000's), American region and bonus for the sales team (in \$1000's).

Let's look at a simple regression of sales on bonus. Are we sure this is linear? Or are there diminishing returns? How to test diminishing returns? Quadratic fit is one way. We should see what kind of sign on the squared term? Negative. And we do. And it's pretty significant... could you make a case of dredging here? Probably not. Are we sure it's quadratic diminishing returns? Nope... that's much harder to test... beyond scope of course... and probably not all that interesting. What's the takeaway message here? You should give bonuses but don't make them "too" big.

Interpretation of unit change in x: bonus? Depends on the value where you start from (we are moving away from simple interpretations).

# **Polynomial Regression**

Let's try to fit a better curve to bonus — a 4-degree polynomial. Seems to fit better than a quadratic [see LRT in R]. What's the interpretation of a 4-degree polynomial model?? Not so intuitive unfortunately. Rarely do we see models with more than a second degree.

## **Continuous: Categorical Interactions**

It's possible that bonuses may have different effects in different regions. The way to test this is to allow for a differential slope. [JMP]

Parameter Estimates				
Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob> t
Intercept	1154.5111	116.733	9.89	<.0001*
BONUS	0.6557937	0.408992	1.60	0.1124
REGION[Midwest]	212.82646	16.25271	13.09	<.0001*
REGION[North]	180.20263	19.96834	9.02	<.0001*
REGION[South]	-250.9858	16.3109	-15.39	<.0001*
(BONUS-279.521)*REGION[Midwest]	-3.171339	0.639193	-4.96	<.0001*
(BONUS-279.521)*REGION[North]	-0.765767	0.81714	-0.94	0.3513
(BONUS-279.521)*REGION[South]	1.8218915	0.574401	3.17	0.0021*

How can we interpret this? Could we also interact two continuous features? Two categorical features? Could we interact features with others' polynomials? Yes, yes, yes...

#### Theories versus Prediction

Non-linearity and Interactions

Above we tested the predictive power of non-linearities in two ways (1) creating polynomial extensions to given features and finding curvilinear patterns and (2) creating differential slopes based of one variable when isolating based on the value of another variable.

However, we had specific theories to test in mind (1) diminishing returns and (2) effects of incentivizing bonuses in different parts of the country.

What if we had no theories to test, but we wanted to fit the data as best as possible? Try everything... all polynomial terms up to 5, all interactions with up to the squared terms. [JMP medicorp exp] We got  $R^2 = 98\%$  which rocks!! But none of our variables are significant... why? Massive collinearity all over the place! Is the  $R^2 = 98\%$  real? NO...



#### The First Clue...

was that F-test demo from Lecture 2 where

**Evaluating Binary Classification Models** 

$$\begin{array}{lcl} x & = & \{0, 0.1, 0.2, \dots, 10.0\} \\ Y & \sim & x + \mathcal{E} \\ \mathcal{E} & \sim & \mathcal{N}\left(0, 5^2\right) \end{array}$$

[repeat in R]. Here, the  $R^2$  goes from 22% up to

- 99.5% all on completely random data.
- 99.9% on splines (polynomials on steroids)

You know that this amount of variance explained is fake. But why?



# Recall the Modeling Basics

In lecture 1 we spoke about how

**Evaluating Binary Classification Models** 

$$Y = f(x_1, \ldots, x_p) + \mathcal{E}$$

where  $x_1, \ldots, x_p$  denotes predictors available (including all polynomials and interactions and whatnot!) and  $\mathcal E$  denotes irreducible error due to predictors not available (and independent of  $x_1, \ldots, x_p$ ), the inaccessible information.

Note: recall that we fit s which generally speaking fails to estimate s correctly (model error) and s generally speaking fails to represent f correctly since its a parametric model which lacks flexibility.

By including all sorts of polynomials and interactions, we become more nonparametric thereby losing the benefits of the parametric worldview of s (i.e. interpretability and inference) but gaining a closer fit of the true f. But what could go wrong if we take this liberty?

# Going Too Far

$$Y = f(x_1, \ldots, x_p) + \mathcal{E}$$

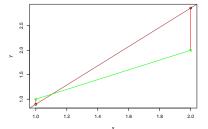
It's possible our  $\hat{f}$  can estimate f and more... it can encroach on and start fitting and optimizing the  $\mathcal{E}$ . Why is this bad? Since  $\mathcal{E}$  is independent of  $x_1, \ldots, x_p$ , it is creating a random fit. Random fits are akin to "making up a model" and it is the opposite of the "data-driven approach".

Any value different from f is not generalizable as the conditional mean minimizes squared error.

But the BIG problem is: we don't know what the form of f is and we don't know the individual values of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Thus, we have NO WAY to know if we've overfit!

### When Does This Happen?

Essentially, when p is close to n. Here's the linear model case with n=2and there's one slope so p = 1 (+1 for the intercept) so really, the number of predictors is 2 since there is two degrees of freedom. [R demo]



The green is the true conditional expectation function f(x) and the brown is the fitted model and the red are the true  $\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  values. Where are  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ ? They are zero (and thus not pictured). The fitted model has  $R^2 = 100\%$ . Recall from middle school... when they asked you to draw a line between two points — the line perfectly goes through two points. Why are the SE  $|\hat{eta}_j|$ 's NA? Division by zero. Can you imagine two predictors and three points and a plane?

# Assessing Overfitting and its Cost to You

Overfitting comes from over-optimizing a sample (fitting  $\mathcal{E}$ ) and thus having poor generalizability and thus poor predictive performance in the future!

Let's return to the [R demo] to witness the cost of overfitting. How did we demonstrate overfittedness? We used "new data" generated from the same realization process as the historical dataframe (our sample). Hence this new data is called out of sample (oos) data. And then we calculated familiar metrics such as SSE, RMSE,  $R^2$  but since these are done oos, we call them oosSSE, oosRMSE, oos $R^2$  and they are our out of sample statistics. Everything we spoke about previously we will now call in-sample statistics.

	In Sample	Out of Sample
RMSE	2.0	84.7
$R^2$	99.9%	9.5%

Overfitting can get arbitrarily bad and this is an extreme example.



#### Assessments in the Real World

It is easy to assess if you have access to the data-generating process. But in the real world, you only have a limited set of historical data from the data-generating process. What to do?