

# Splines and basis expansion (week 3?)

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## Table of contents

linear basis expansion . . . . .	1
polynomial basis . . . . .	2
piecewise polynomial bases . . . . .	3
splines . . . . .	3
spline terminology . . . . .	3
truncated power basis . . . . .	3
truncated power basis . . . . .	3
B-spline basis . . . . .	5
natural cubic splines . . . . .	5
sparsity patterns . . . . .	6
smoothing splines . . . . .	7
examples: South African heart disease . . . . .	7
phoneme example . . . . .	7
degrees of freedom and smoother matrix . . . . .	8
reduced-rank splines . . . . .	8
generalized cross-validation . . . . .	8
multidimensional splines . . . . .	9
tensor product . . . . .	9
thin-plate splines . . . . .	9
null space . . . . .	9

## linear basis expansion

- transformations of various kinds

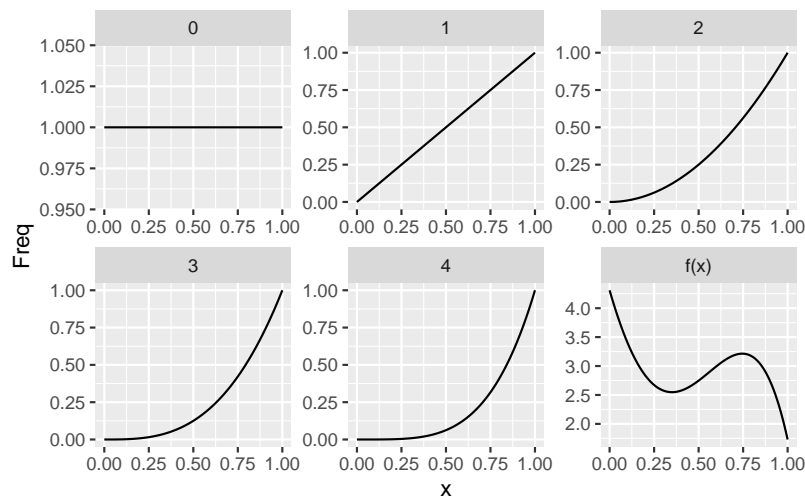
- quadratic expansion
- nonlinear transformations
- indicator variables

Select or regularize from the expanded set.

## polynomial basis

- polynomial basis:  $y_i = \sum_{j=0}^n \beta_j x_i^j$

```
## replicate figure 3.2 from Wood
library(ggplot2)
x <- seq(0, 1, length = 101)
n <- 4
y <- sapply(0:n, \(j) x^j)
beta <- c(4.31, -10.72, 16.8, 2.22, -10.88)
y <- cbind(y, fx = y %*% beta)
dimnames(y) <- list(x = x, j = c(0:n, "f(x)"))
yy <- as.data.frame(as.table(y))
yy$x <- as.numeric(as.character(yy$x))
ggplot(yy, aes(x, Freq)) + geom_line() + facet_wrap(~j, scale = "free")
```



## piecewise polynomial bases

- constant, linear, continuous
- basis functions
- translate from  $x_i$  to columns of  $\mathbf{X}$

## splines

- **piecewise** polynomials with continuity/smoothness constraints
- very useful for function approximation
- convert a single numeric predictor into a flexible basis
- efficient
- with multiple predictors, consider **additive models**
- handle interactions (multidim smooth surfaces) *if reasonably low-dimensional*: tensor products etc.

## spline terminology

- **knots**: breakpoints (boundary, interior)
- order- $M$  (ESL): continuous derivatives up to order  $M - 2$  (cubic,  $M = 4$ )
- typically  $M = 1, 2, 4$
- number of knots = df (degrees of freedom) -1 -intercept

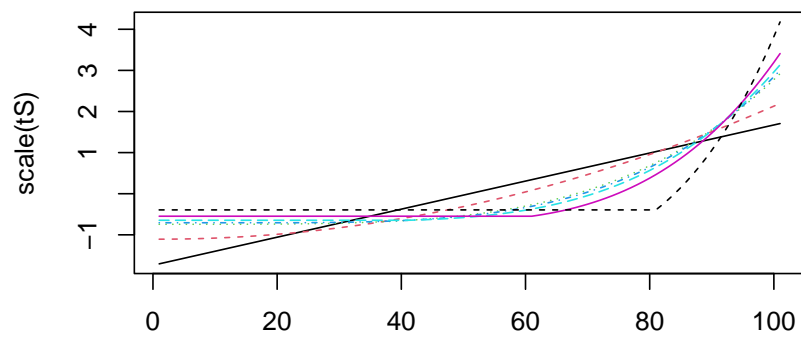
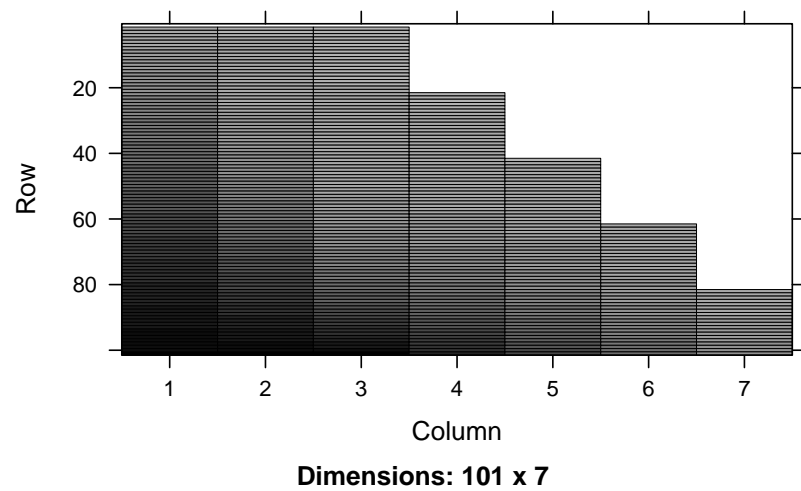
## truncated power basis

- $X^0 \dots X^n$
- remaining columns are  $(x - \xi_\ell)^{M-1}$  where  $\ell$  are the *interior knots*

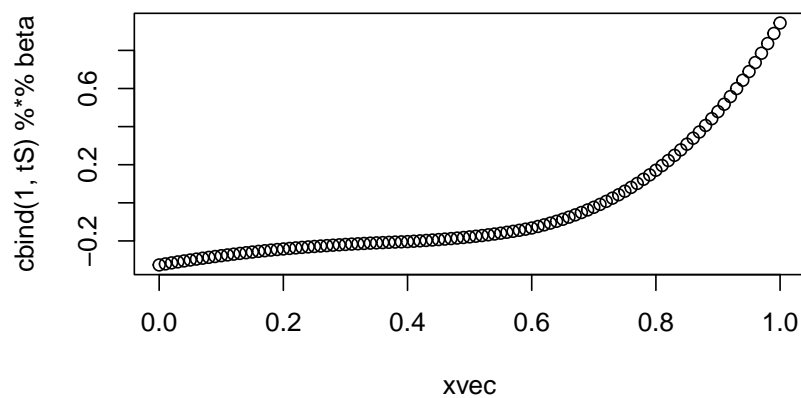
## truncated power basis

- **Kronecker product**: blockwise multiplication ( $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$  multiplies  $\mathbf{B}$  by each  $a_{ij}$ )
- **Khatri-Rao product**: columnwise Kronecker product
  - super-handy for combining indicator variables with

Loading required package: Matrix



```
set.seed(101)
beta <- rnorm(8)
plot(xvec, cbind(1, tS) %*% beta)
```



## B-spline basis

- splines of a given order with *minimal support* (i.e., local)
- basis functions defined by recursion (not pretty)
- convenient for regression splines (see below)

## natural cubic splines

- linear constraints beyond boundary knots (so 2d and 3d derivatives are 0 at the boundaries)

```
library(splines)
bb <- bs(1:20, df = 5)
attributes(bb)[c("degree", "knots", "Boundary.knots")]
```

```
$degree
```

```
[1] 3
```

```
$knots
```

```
33.33333% 66.66667%
 7.333333 13.666667
```

```
$Boundary.knots
```

```
[1] 1 20
```

```
nn <- ns(1:20, df = 7)
attributes(nn)[c("degree", "knots", "Boundary.knots")]
```

```
$degree
```

```
[1] 3
```

```
$knots
```

```
14.28571% 28.57143% 42.85714% 57.14286% 71.42857% 85.71429%
 3.714286  6.428571  9.142857 11.857143 14.571429 17.285714
```

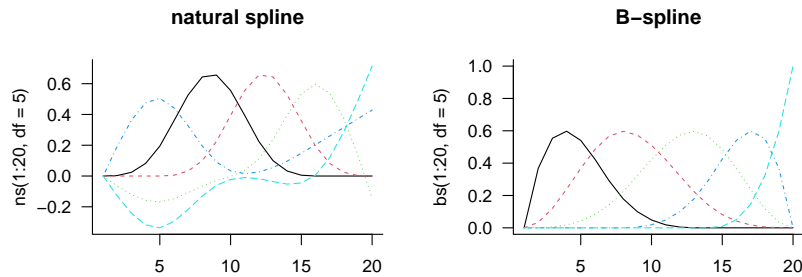
```
$Boundary.knots
```

```
[1] 1 20
```

```

par(mfrow = c(1,2), las = 1, bty = "l")
matplot(ns(1:20, df = 5), type = "l", main = "natural spline")
matplot(bs(1:20, df = 5), type = "l", main = "B-spline")

```

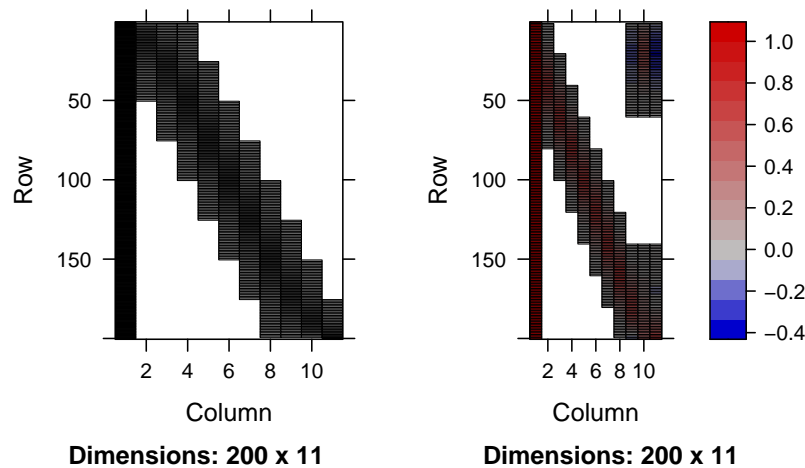


## sparsity patterns

```

library(Matrix)
dd <- data.frame(x=1:200)
Xb <- model.matrix(~splines::bs(x, df = 10), data = dd)
Xn <- model.matrix(~splines::ns(x, df = 10), data = dd)
gridExtra::grid.arrange(
  ncol = 2,
  image(Matrix(Xb), aspect = "fill"),
  image(Matrix(Xn), aspect = "fill")
)

```



## smoothing splines

- as many knots as data points
- plus squared-second-derivative (“wiggleness”) penalty

$$\text{RSS} + \lambda \int (f''(t))^2 dt$$

\* defined on an infinite-dimensional space \* minimizer is a natural cubic spline with knots at  $x_i$

$$(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{N}\theta)^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{N}\theta) + \lambda \theta^\top \Omega_N \theta$$

with  $\{\Omega_N\}_{jk} = \int N_j''(t) N_k''(t) dt$  \$\$ **generalized** ridge regression: penalize by  $\lambda \Omega_N$  rather than  $\lambda I$  \* same data augmentation methods as before except that now we use  $\sqrt{\lambda} C$  where  $C$  is a matrix square root of  $\Omega_N$

See Wood (2017), Perperoglou et al. (2019)

## examples: South African heart disease

- use splines in a GLM with no additional effort
- fit splines to all continuous variables
- ESL says “use four natural spline bases” (... elements??)
- i.e. `df = 4` (no intercept)
- stepwise deletion via AIC
- why??
- showing p-values (why???)
- `stepAIC(..., direction = "backward")`

## phoneme example

- combination of feature transformation (time to Fourier domain) and regularization
- smooth first, regress afterwards

Wood, Simon N. 2017. *Generalized Additive Models: An Introduction with R*. CRC Texts in Statistical Science. Chapman & Hall. [https://www.amazon.com/Generalized-Additive-Models-Introduction-Statistical-ebook/dp/B071Z9L5D5/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1511887995&sr=8-1&keywords=wood+additive+models](https://www.amazon.com/Generalized-Additive-Models-Introduction-Statistical-ebook/dp/B071Z9L5D5/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1511887995&sr=8-1&keywords=wood+additive+models).

Perperoglou, Aris, Willi Sauerbrei, Michal Abrahamowicz, and Matthias Schmid. 2019. “A Review of Spline Function Procedures in R.” *BMC Medical Research Methodology* 19 (1): 46. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-019-0666-3>.

## degrees of freedom and smoother matrix

- The equivalent of the hat matrix is

$$\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{N}^\top \mathbf{N} + \lambda \Omega_N)^{-1} \mathbf{N}^\top$$

- “Smoother matrix”
- hat matrix is *idempotent* (why?), smoother matrix is *shrinking*
- smoother matrix has lower rank
- effective degrees of freedom = trace of hat matrix (again)

## reduced-rank splines

- We *can* use as many knots as observations, but do we really need to?
- From `?mgcv::s`:

... exact choice of ‘k’ is not generally critical: it should be chosen to be large enough that you are reasonably sure of having enough degrees of freedom to represent the underlying truth reasonably well, but small enough to maintain reasonable computational efficiency. Clearly large’ and ‘small’ are dependent on the particular problem being addressed.

The default basis dimension, ‘k’, is the larger of 10 and ‘m[1]’ (spline order)

## generalized cross-validation

Larsen (2015), Golub, Heath, and Wahba (1979)

- minimize  $\text{RSS}/(\text{Tr}(\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{S}}(\lambda)))^2$
- “a rotation-invariant version of PRESS”  $(\sum (e_i/(1 - h_i))^2)$

Larsen, Kim. 2015. “GAM: The Predictive Modeling Silver Bullet | Stitch Fix Technology – Multithreaded.” *MultiThreaded* (StitchFix). <https://multithreaded.stitchfix.com/blog/2015/07/30/>

Golub, Gene H., Michael Heath, and Grace Wahba. 1979. “Generalized Cross-Validation as a Method for Choosing a Good Ridge Parameter.” *Technometrics* 21 (2): 215–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00401706.1979.10489751>.



**multidimensional splines**

**tensor product**

**thin-plate splines**

**null space**