

Breakpoint model

1 No covariate, no plateau

Consider:

- a response variable Y
- a explanatory variable X taking values in the interval $[x_{\min}; x_{\max}]$.

Solving $a + bx_{\min} = -1$ and $a + bx_{\max} = -1$ leads to $b = \frac{2}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}}$ and $a = -\frac{x_{\max} + x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}}$. Therefore the transformation $f(.) := \tanh^{-1}(a + b.)$ moves from the constrained to the unconstrained scaled. We will thus consider the following broken line model for the mean:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[Y] &= \alpha + \beta_1 X + \beta_2 (X - \psi)_+ \\ &= \alpha + \beta_1 X + \beta_2 (X - \tanh^{-1}(a + b\phi))_+\end{aligned}$$

We have that at the true breakpoint value ψ_0 and for $X \neq \psi_0$

$$(X - \psi)_+ = f(\psi) = f(\psi_0) + (\psi - \psi_0)f'(\psi_0) = (X - \psi_0)_+ - (\psi - \psi_0)\mathbf{1}_{X > \psi_0}$$

Now with transformation:

$$(X - \tanh^{-1}(a + b\phi))_+ = f(\phi) = f(\phi_0) + (\phi - \phi_0)f'(\phi_0) = (X - \psi_0)_+ - (\phi - \phi_0)\frac{b\mathbf{1}_{X > \psi_0}}{1 - \psi_0^2}$$