Model comparison

Choose the best model!

Test if the model is correct!

(model checking)

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(model checking)

Existing methods can say:

“If the model is true it produces such data extremely rarely.”

Or

“If the model is true it produces such data extremely rarely.”

Model comparison

Choose the <u>best</u> model!

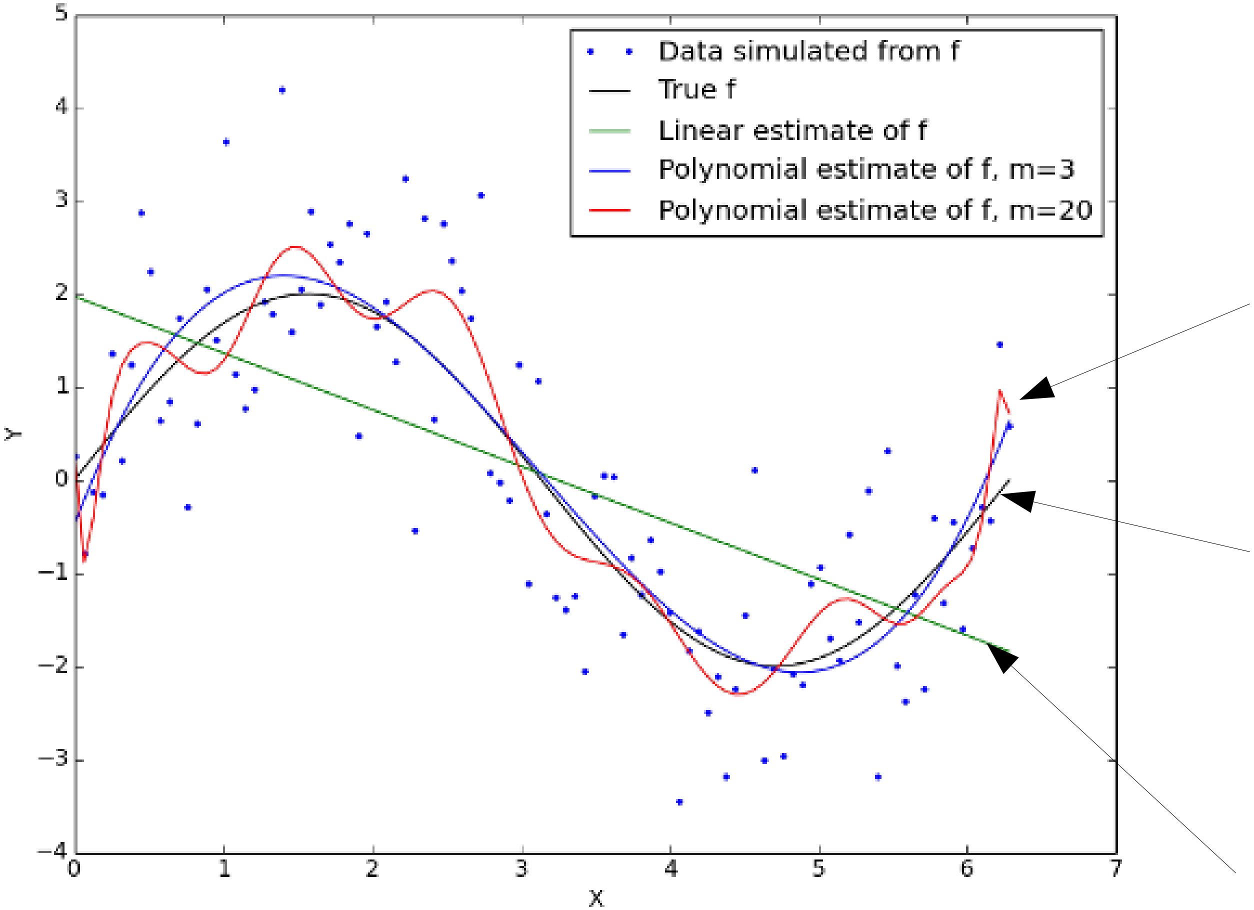
What is <u>best</u>?

- If it fits the data!

Create a model that equals the data
→ fits perfectly

different styles of model comparison

Bias-variance trade-off



Overfitting:

Prediction of left out data is bad == high variance

Balance between variance and bias

Underfitting:

Prediction of fitted data is bad == high bias

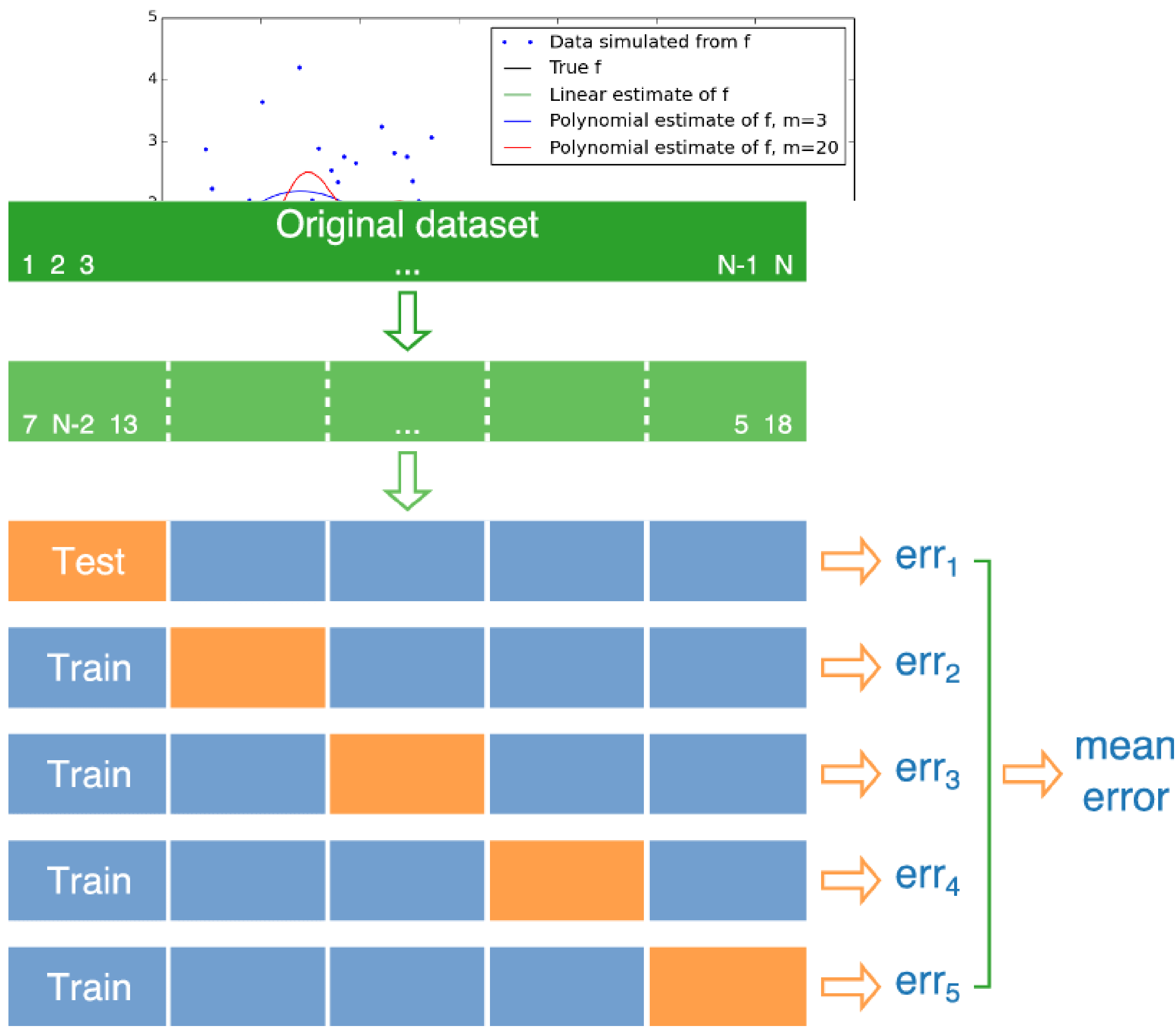
Empirical models

- Polynomials, splines, …
- Capture effective behaviour
- Prediction quality of left-out data

K-folding
Boot-strapping

leave-one-out, LOO
Jackknife

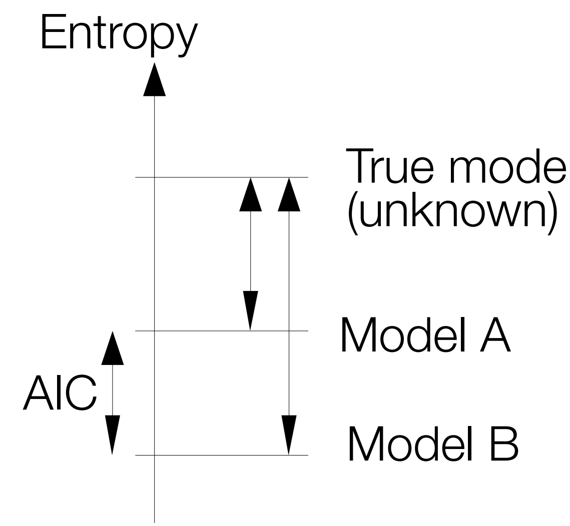
Problem-dependent
how to split



Common in machine learning!

<u>Best</u> = predicts unseen data from the same pool of data

Information theory



- Store data into the fitted model
- Measure entropy, loss of information
- KL divergence between model result and true model
- Akaike information criterion:

$$AIC = -2 * \underbrace{\log(L)}_{\text{maximum likelihood}} + 2 * \underbrace{p}_{\text{number of parameters}}$$

Beware: derived in the limit of high-data

Best = retains information in the data

Variations

DIC: Deviance information criterion "effective" number of parameters

AICc: correction for few data

WAIC: uses the likelihood contribution from each data point

Effect size

- Model B = Model A + some effect

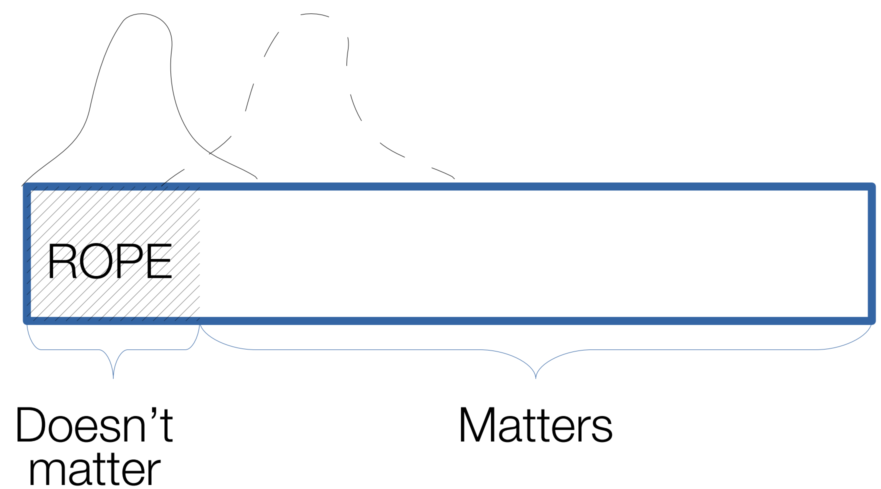
  (e.g., a line, process)

- Does the effect matter?

  Define

  Region of practical equivalence (ROPE)

  between the models

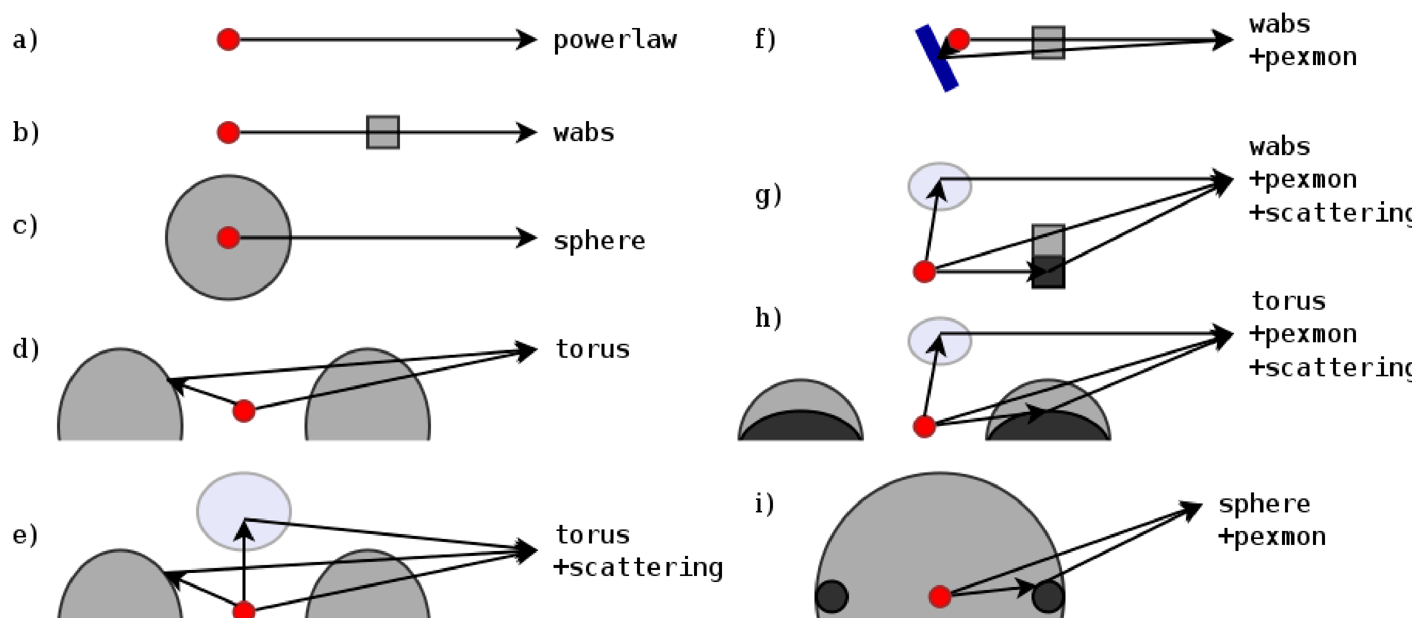


- Is parameter posterior contained in ROPE? (parameter estimation)

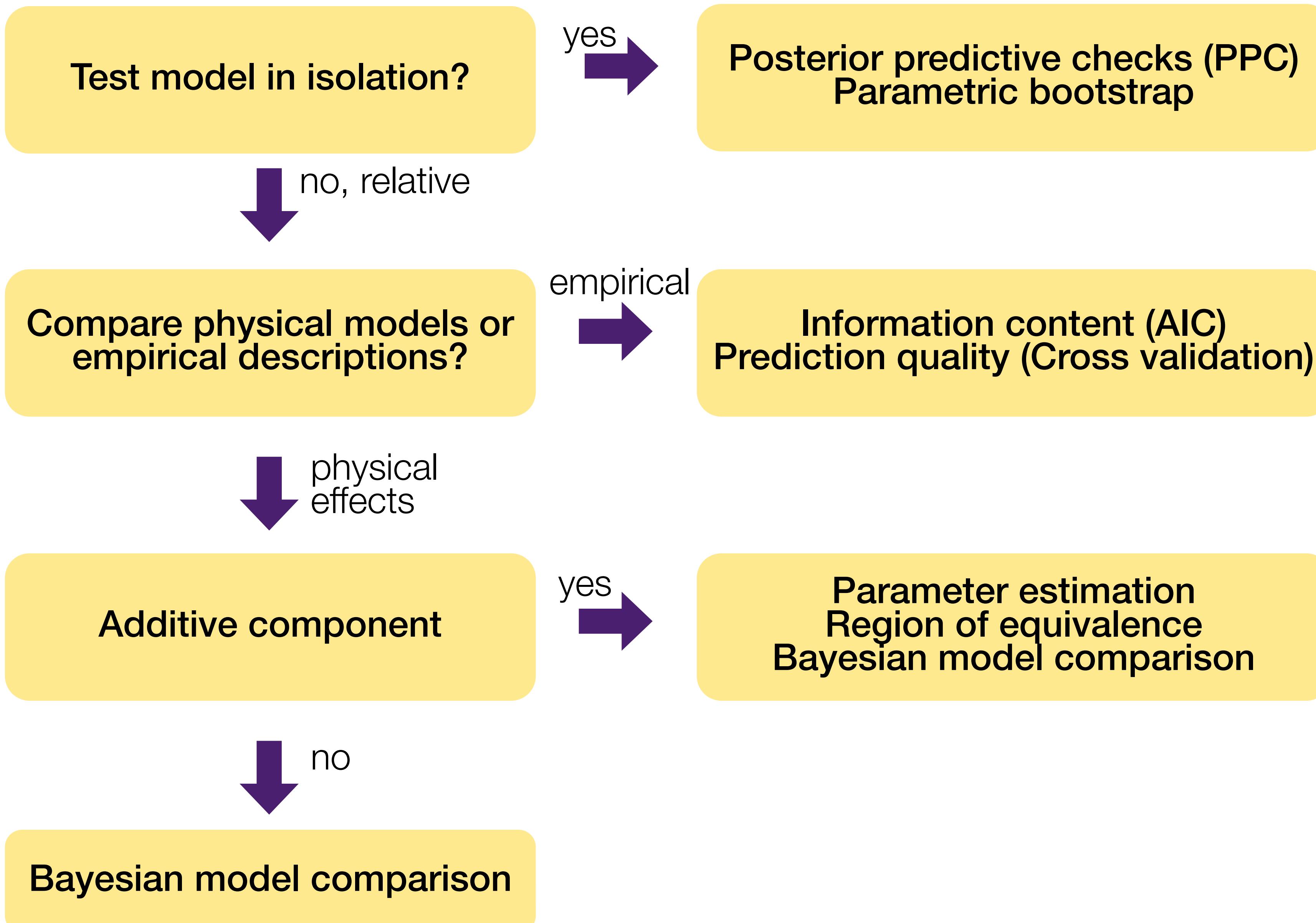
Model comparison

- Empirical models
  - Information content
  - Prediction quality
- Physical effects
  - Priors often well-justified
  - Bayesian model comparison

Obscurer geometry of AGN in the CDF-S
Buchner+14

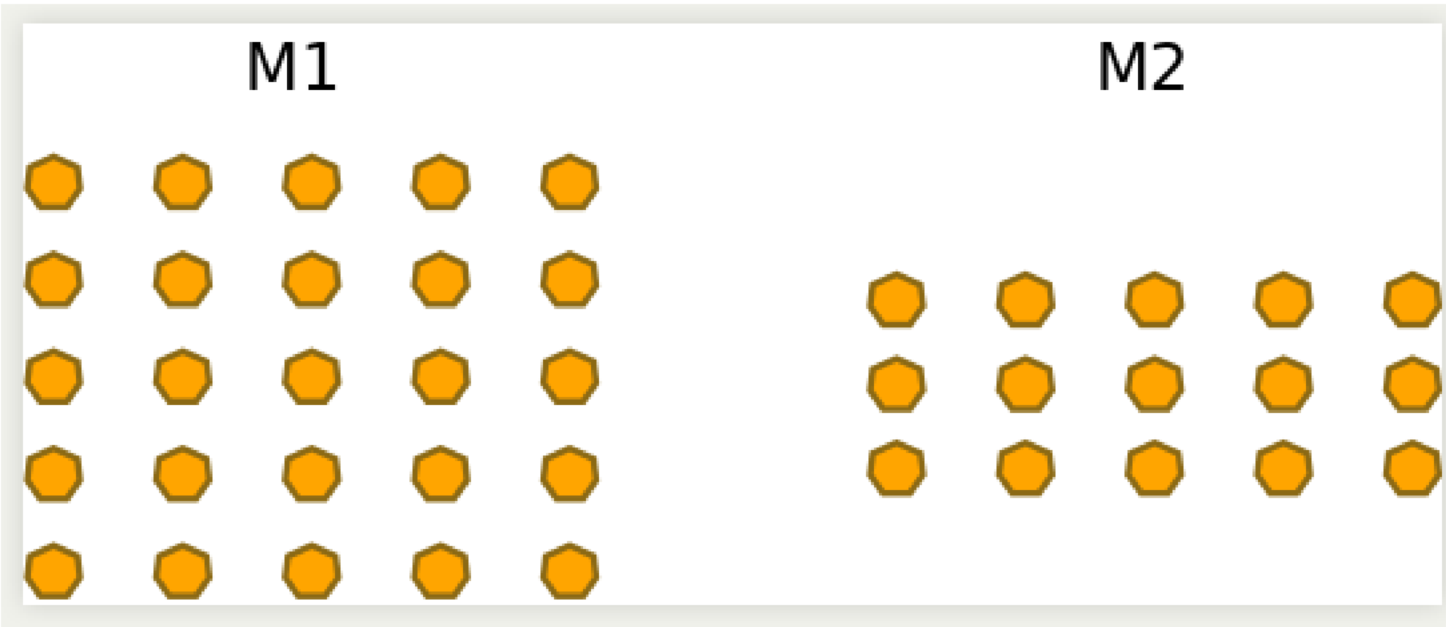


Model comparison

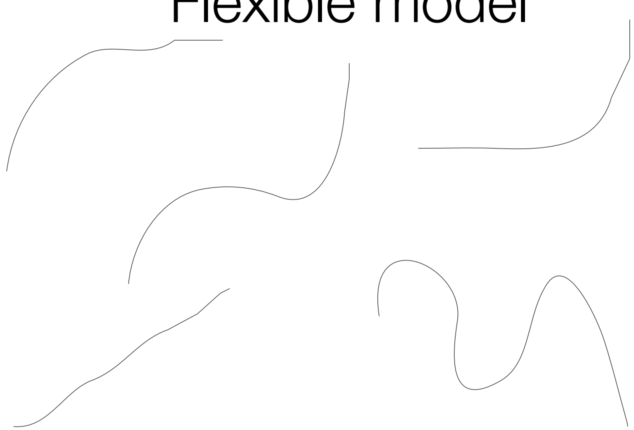


Punishing prediction diversity

(not number of parameters)



Flexible model

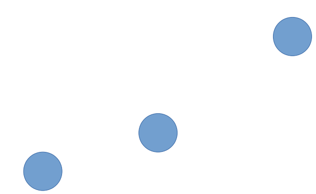


L high, V tiny

Inflexible model

L medium, V medium

Data



What to do with Z

- Z1, Z2

$$\underbrace{\frac{p(M1|D)}{p(M2|D)}}_{\text{Posterior odds ratio}} = \underbrace{\frac{Z1}{Z2}}_{\text{Bayes factor}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{p(M1)}{p(M2)}}_{\text{Prior odds ratio}}$$

What to do with Z

- Z1, Z2

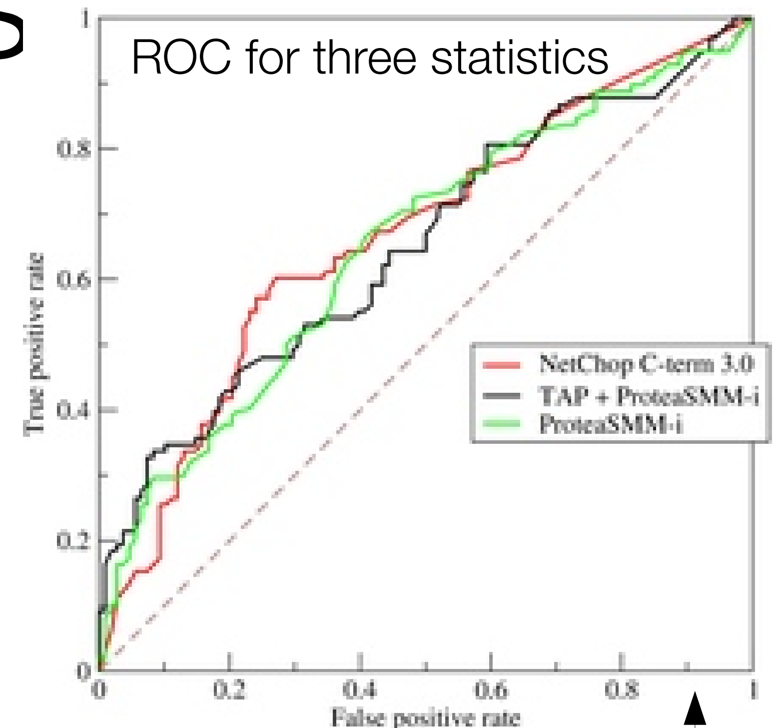
$$\frac{p(M1|D)}{p(M2|D)} = \frac{Z1 \cdot p(M1)}{Z2 \cdot p(M2)}$$

- model priors: leave to reader or motivated by theory

- Does $\frac{p(M1|D)}{p(M2|D)} = 3/1$ mean M2 is correct in a quarter of the cases?

Comparing selection methods

- You have a statistic (a indicator) – (signal strength, likelihood ratio, Bayes factor, classifier probability)
- If you apply threshold:
  - if above → select model A
  - if below → select model B
- There will be
  - cases where you will be right
  - cases where you will be wrong
- determine the rates with simulations from model A and model B.
- Plot the rates as a function of threshold: ROC curve



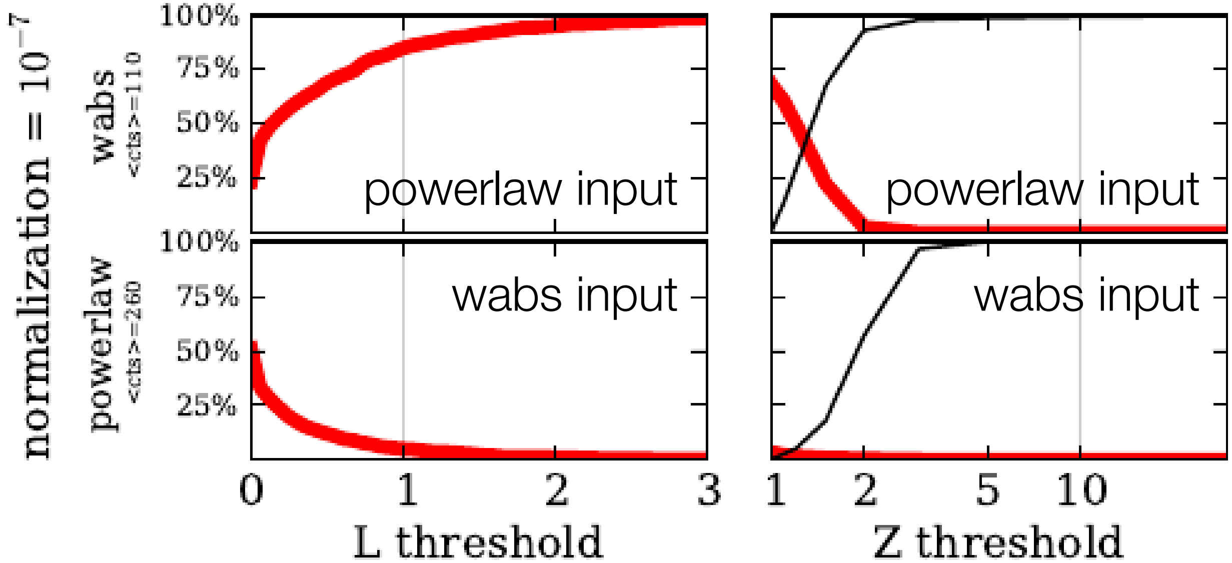
Predicted class / Actual class	Cat	Dog
Cat	6	2
Dog	1	3

Calibrating model decisions

- Model probabilities → decisions
- False decision rate (false positives/negatives)
  - Monte Carlo simulations (parametric bootstrap)

Calibrating model decisions

Buchner+14



False negatives
Non-decisions

Advantages:

- Get rid of parameter prior dependences
- Have frequentist properties of Bayesian method
- Completely Bayesian treatment + decisions

Disadvantages:

- Can be computationally expensive

Exercise

- Create a Bayes factor distribution

  P(model A|D) / P(model B|D)

- from simulations from the simpler model

→ example-sine-modelcomparison.ipynb