# **Shapley Performance Attribution for Least Squares**

Logan Bell Nikhil Devanathan Stephen Boyd

Stanford University

October 27, 2023

#### **Disclaimer**

Shapley performance attribution (SPA) is very different from Shapley additive explanations (SHAP).

- ▶ SPA attributes the performance of a model across its features.
- SHAP attributes a specific output of a model across its features for model explainability.
- Both methods share several keywords, but they are only superficially related.
- ▶ We will only discuss SPA, and we will not discuss SHAP in this talk.

### Toy example

- ▶ We have a data set  $X \in \mathbf{R}^{100 \times 3}$  and labels  $y \in \mathbf{R}^{100}$ .
- ▶ We split the dataset into 50 training and 50 testing points.
- ▶ We fit a linear, least-squares model to the data.
  - It attains an out-of-sample  $R^2$  of 0.92.
  - We now know how good our model is, but how useful are our features?
  - Which one is most important?

### Model performance

The out-of-sample  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is computed as

$$R^{2} = \frac{\|y^{\text{tst}}\|_{2}^{2} - \|X^{\text{tst}}\theta^{*} - y^{\text{tst}}\|_{2}^{2}}{\|y^{\text{tst}}\|_{2}^{2}}.$$

where  $X^{\rm tst}$  and  $y^{\rm tst}$  are our training dataset, and  $\theta^{\star}$  is the vector of feature coefficients that we fit using the training data.

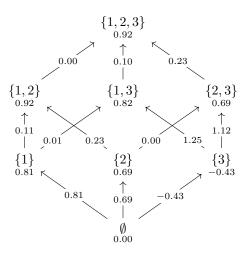
 $ightharpoonup R^2$  is not separable!

## **Shapley attribution**

If we view the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  as a reward granted to a coalition of features, then we can use Shapley attribution to determine the importance of our features.

- ▶ In 1952, Lloyd Shapley introduced **Shapley attribution**, a method for splitting a reward granted to a coalition of cooperative players.
- ► The value that Shapley attribution assigns to each player is the player's **Shapley value**.

### Shapley attribution lattice representation



# **Shapley attribution scaling**

Suppose we have p features.

▶ The lattice has  $2^p$  vertices and p! paths from  $\emptyset$  to  $\{1,\ldots,p\}$ .

While the Shapley attribution can be directly computed in our case with p=3, it becomes computationally infeasible after  $p\approx 15$ .

# **Least-squares Shapley performance attribution**

Least-squares Shapley performance attribution (LS-SPA) is a tool we developed for efficiently and accurately estimating Shapley attributions for least-squares problems.

# **Using LS-SPA**

Install from

https://github.com/cvxgrp/ls-spa.

Computing a Shapley attribution is as simple as

from ls\_spa import ls\_spa

attrs = ls\_spa(X\_train, X\_test, y\_train, y\_test)

#### **LS-SPA** Performance

- ▶ We sample feature chains using a quasi-Monte Carlo method.
  - We get better coverage of the space of feature chains in fewer samples than Monte Carlo.
- ▶ We exploit the QR factorization of our observation matrices to reduce the dimension of the least squares problem.
- ightharpoonup We also use the QR factorization to efficiently compute the  $R^2$  along a feature chain.

#### **LS-SPA** Performance

▶ With p=100 features and  $10^5$  training and test observations, we estimate a Shapley attribution in < 3.2 seconds with < 1% error (2-norm difference to the "true" attribution).

We compute the "true" Shapley attribution by running LS-SPA for  $2^{28}$  sampled permutations.

#### **LS-SPA** Performance

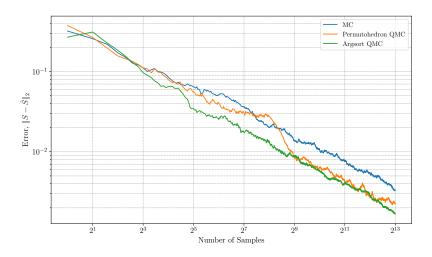


Figure: Number of sampled feature chains vs. error for three different sampling schemes.

## **Acknowledgements**

We thank Ron Kahn for suggesting the topic, Kunal Menda for recommending the use of quasi-Monte Carlo, and Trevor Hastie and Thomas Schmelzer for helpful feedback on an early draft.

Acknowledgements 13