



Model Diagnostics – Prediction Uncertainty

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Model Validation Class, UNCC Master of Data Science, Fall 2023

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Model Diagnostics – Prediction Uncertainty

- **Machine Learning Model Uncertainty**
 - Sources of Uncertainty
 - Split Conformal Prediction
- Conformal Prediction for Regression Models
 - Naïve SCP Method
 - Conformal Residual Fitting
 - Conformalized Residual Quantile Regression
- Probability Calibration for Binary Classifiers
- Unreliable Region Detection
 - Feature Identification
 - Segmented Bandwidth/Uncertainty



An integrated Python toolbox for interpretable machine learning

```
pip install PiML
```

PiML Package: <https://github.com/SelfExplainML/PiML-Toolbox>

PiML User Guide: <https://selfexplainml.github.io/PiML-Toolbox>

Google Colab Notebooks:

- [CaliforniaHousing Case \(Regression\)](#)
- [SimuCredit Case \(Binary Classification\)](#)

Medium PiML Tutorials:

- [10/09/2023: Model Diagnostics – Error and Resilience](#)
- [10/21/2023: Model Diagnostics – Overfitting and Robustness](#)
- 10/31/2023: Model Diagnostics – Prediction Uncertainty (Todo)
- 11/xx/2023: Model Diagnostics – Bias and Fairness (Todo)

Machine Learning Model Uncertainty

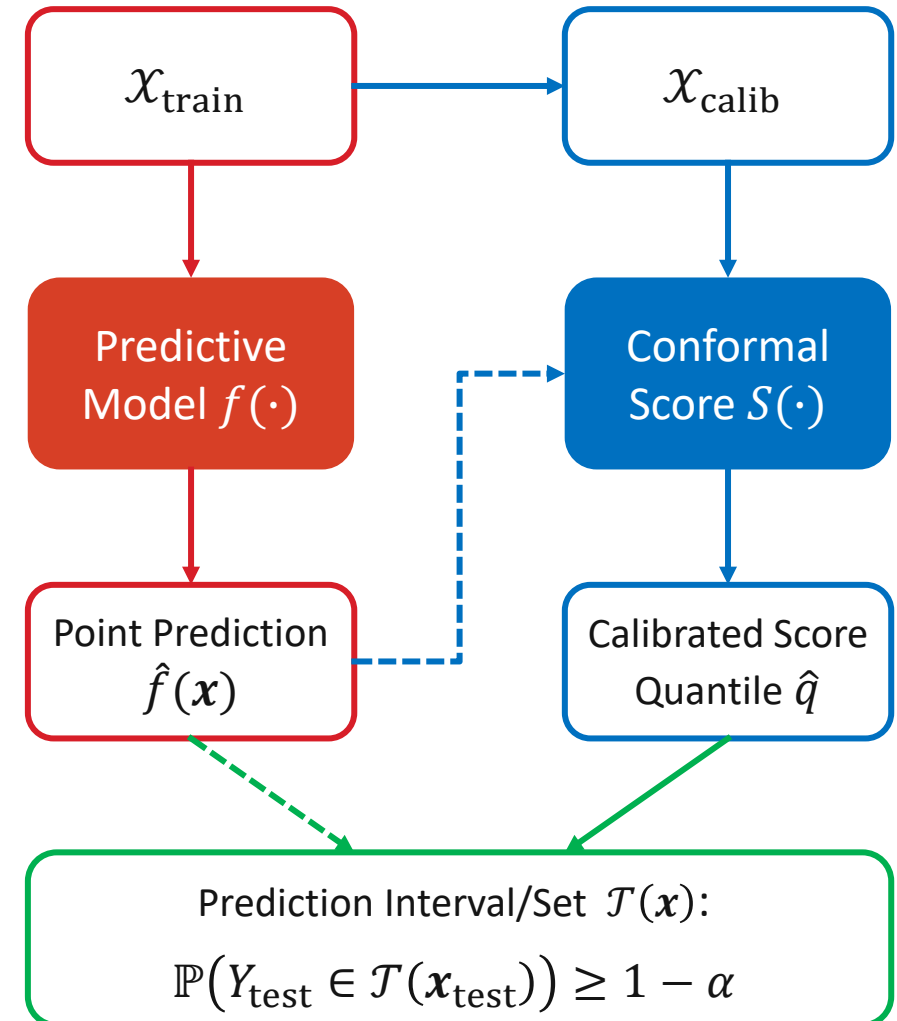
- Quantifying uncertainty in machine learning prediction is critical for real-world decision making.
 - Additional layer of model transparency, for increasing reliability and level and confidence;
 - Particularly important in high-risk applications where uncertainty leads to serious consequences.
- **SR11-7 Model Risk Management, regarding Outcome Analysis**
 - Establishing expected ranges for those actual outcomes in relation to the intended objectives and assessing the reasons for observed variation
 - Back-testing involves the comparison of actual outcomes with model forecasts not used in model development. The comparison is generally done using expected ranges or statistical confidence intervals around model forecasts.
- **NIST's AI Risk Management Framework (Initial Draft, 03/17/2022)**
 - Reliability indicates whether a model consistently generates the same results, within the bounds of acceptable statistical error. [It] can be a factor in determining thresholds for acceptable risk.

Sources of Uncertainty

- **Data uncertainty**
 - Data with noise: low or high, constant or heterogenous, outliers, distribution shift, etc.
 - Data sparsity in regions, with limited representation or learning capacity
 - Randomness in data partitioning (e.g., train-test-split)
- **Model uncertainty**
 - Hyperparameter tuning and feature selection leads to uncertain model prediction;
 - Stochastic optimization: random state, initialization, early stopping, non-guaranteed optimum.
- **This tutorial:** prediction uncertainty of a pre-trained model, where the uncertainty may come from data noise and sparsity and lack of model fit.
- **Future tutorial:** model retraining uncertainty due to a) random data splitting, b) hyperparameter tuning, and c) stochastic optimization.

Split Conformal Prediction

- **Conformal prediction** is a distribution-free uncertainty quantification (UQ) framework in machine learning:
 - Pioneered by Vladimir Vovk since 1990s; see *Vovk, Gammernan and Shafer (2005; 2022)* or alrw.net
 - A gentle introduction by Angelopoulos and Bates (2023) in *Foundations and Trends in Machine Learning* or [arXiv](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.01069)
- **Split conformal prediction** (as illustrated):
 - **Simple and easy** to implement
 - **Model-agnostic**, applicable to arbitrary ML models
 - **Prediction interval/set** can be effectively generated for regression and multi-class problems, but less informative for binary classification;
 - **Guaranteed coverage** of true response in the unconditional or marginal sense, but impossible in the conditional sense.



PiML Tools for Quantifying Prediction Uncertainty

- PiML toolbox provides a diagnostic suite including the reliability test:
 - **exp.model_diagnose [reliability]**: a novel approach of split conformal prediction for regression models, a conventional approach of probability calibration for binary classification models, both including segmented bandwidth/uncertainty analysis;
 - **exp.model_compare[reliability]**: prediction uncertainty benchmarking analysis.
- PiML reliability test also supports unreliable region detection:
 - Slicing technique based on the quantified bandwidth/uncertainty
 - Distribution shift analysis between unreliable and reliable samples
 - Surrogate modeling for feature identification w.r.t. prediction uncertainty
- Larger bandwidth → Wider prediction interval → Less reliable prediction

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Math Behind Conformal Prediction

- Suppose W_1, \dots, W_n, W_{n+1} are exchangeable (i.e., permutation invariant, weaker than i.i.d.)
 - a) The rank of W_{n+1} is uniformly distributed over $1, 2, \dots, n+1$.
 - b) For $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, the probability that W_{n+1} is among the $\lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil$ smallest of W_1, \dots, W_{n+1} is given by

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{rank}(W_{n+1}) \leq \lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil) = \frac{\lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil}{n+1}$$

- c) Let $\hat{q} = \text{Quantile}\left(\{W_1, \dots, W_n\}; \frac{\lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil}{n+1}\right)$
- d) We can derive that $\mathbb{P}(W_{n+1} \leq \hat{q}) = \frac{\lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil}{n+1} \in [1-\alpha, 1-\alpha + \frac{1}{n+1})$.

Split Conformal Prediction: Procedure

- Given a pre-trained regression model $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})$, a hold-out calibration data $\mathcal{X}_{\text{calib}}$, a test sample \mathbf{x}_{test} , and an error rate α (say 0.1). Define a conformal score measuring the prediction uncertainty, $S(\mathbf{x}, y, \hat{f}) \in \mathbb{R}$, which is assumed exchangeable among calibration and testing samples.

- 1) Calculate the score $S_i = S(\mathbf{x}, y, \hat{f})$ for each sample in $\mathcal{X}_{\text{calib}}$;
- 2) Compute the calibrated score quantile $\hat{q} = \text{Quantile}\left(\{S_1, \dots, S_n\}; \frac{\lceil (n+1)(1-\alpha) \rceil}{n+1}\right)$;
- 3) Construct the prediction set for the test sample \mathbf{x}_{test} by $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) = \left\{y: S\left(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}, y, \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}})\right) \leq \hat{q}\right\}$.

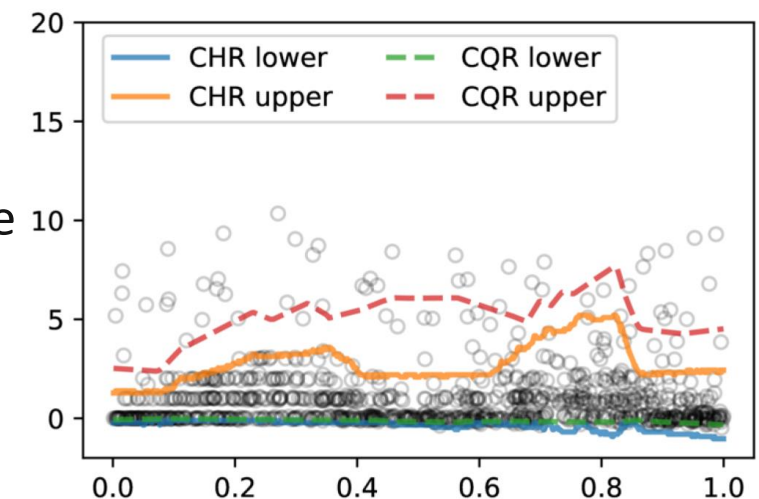
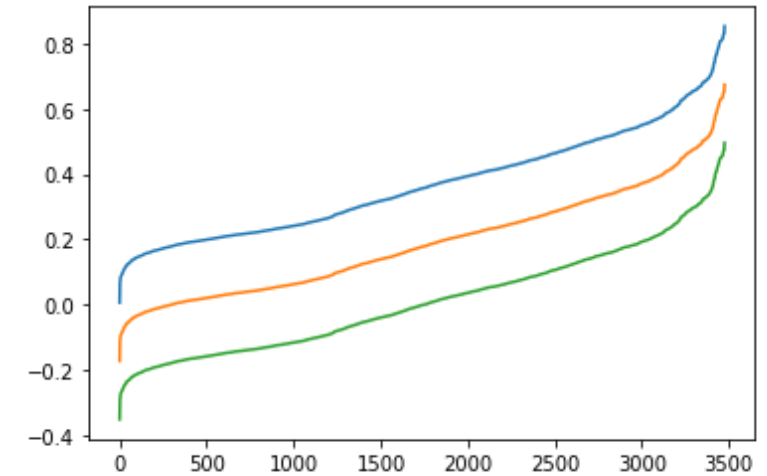
- Under the exchangeability condition of conformal scores, we have the coverage guarantee

$$1 - \alpha \leq \mathbb{P}(Y_{\text{test}} \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}})) \leq 1 - \alpha + \frac{1}{n+1}$$

which provides the prediction bounds with α -level acceptable error.

Split Conformal Prediction: Scores

- **Naïve SCP** based on $S(\mathbf{x}, y, \hat{f}) = |y - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x})|$, generates prediction intervals with constant bandwidth $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}) = \{y: |y - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}})| \leq \hat{q}\}$
- **Conformal residual fitting (CRF)** with locally adaptive conformal score $S(\mathbf{x}, y, \hat{f}) = \frac{|y - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x})|}{\sigma(\mathbf{x})}$, where $\sigma(\mathbf{x})$ is trained with an auxiliary model on hold-out sample $\{(\mathbf{x}, |y - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x})|), \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}_{\text{res}}\}$.
- Both naïve SCP and CRF can be implemented by [MAPIE](#).
- **CQR** (conformalized quantile regression, by Romano, et al. 2019) and **CHR** (conditional histogram regression, by Sesia and Romano, 2021) are not directly suitable for pre-trained model diagnostics.
- PiML-reliability test: **residual-based CQR** for pre-trained models.



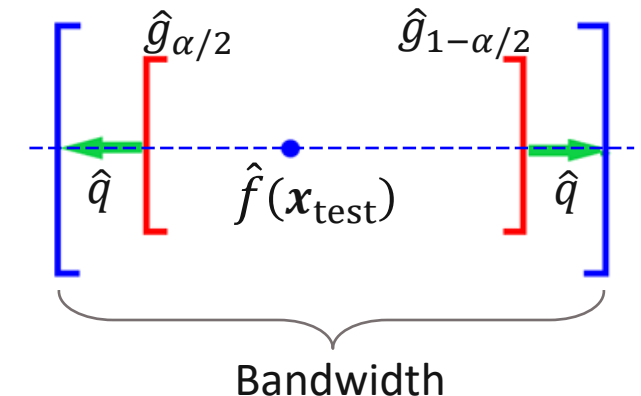
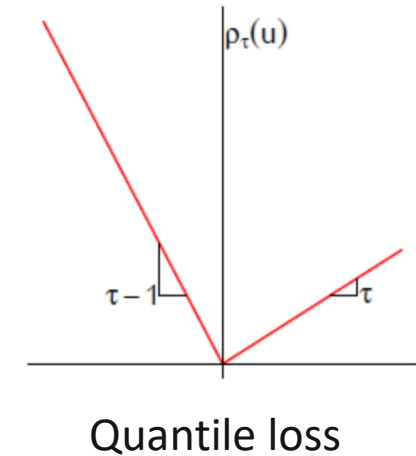
CRQR (Conformalized Residual Quantile Regression)

1. Fit a GBM with quantile loss on $\{x_i, y_i - \hat{f}(x_i), i \in \mathcal{X}_{\text{res}}\}$ (holdout sample) to predict the residual quantiles $[\hat{g}_{\alpha/2}(x), \hat{g}_{1-\alpha/2}(x)]$;
2. Define score $S(x, y, \hat{f}) = \max\{\hat{g}_{\alpha/2}(x) - y + \hat{f}(x), y - \hat{f}(x) - \hat{g}_{1-\alpha/2}(x)\}$
3. Calculate $\hat{q} = \text{Quantile}\left(\{S_1, \dots, S_n\}; \frac{[(n+1)(1-\alpha)]}{n+1}\right)$, using $S(x, y, \hat{f})$ on $\mathcal{X}_{\text{calib}}$
4. Construct the prediction interval for the test sample x_{test} by

$$\mathcal{T}(x_{\text{test}}) = [\hat{f}(x_{\text{test}}) + \hat{g}_{\alpha/2}(x_{\text{test}}) - \hat{q}, \hat{f}(x_{\text{test}}) + \hat{g}_{1-\alpha/2}(x_{\text{test}}) + \hat{q}]$$

Interpretation of $\mathcal{T}(x_{\text{test}})$:

the final prediction interval is composed of three terms, namely the original prediction, the fitted residual quantiles, and the calibrated adjustment.



PiML Demo: Regression Case

- Consider the CaliforniaHousing case with existing data and model pipelines (Google Colab Notebook)

```
from xgboost import XGBRegressor
XGB = XGBRegressor(max_depth=5, n_estimators=500)
exp.model_train(model=XGB, name='XGB5')
```

```
exp.model_diagnose(model="XGB5", show="reliability_table", alpha=0.1)
```

	Empirical Coverage	Average Bandwidth
--	--------------------	-------------------

0	0.890975	0.27162
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```
from sklearn.neural_network import MLPRegressor
DNN = MLPRegressor(hidden_layer_sizes=[40]*4,
                    activation="relu", random_state=0)
exp.model_train(model=DNN, name='ReLU DNN')
```

```
exp.model_diagnose(model="ReLU DNN", show="reliability_table", alpha=0.1)
```

	Empirical Coverage	Average Bandwidth
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0	0.896426	0.307637
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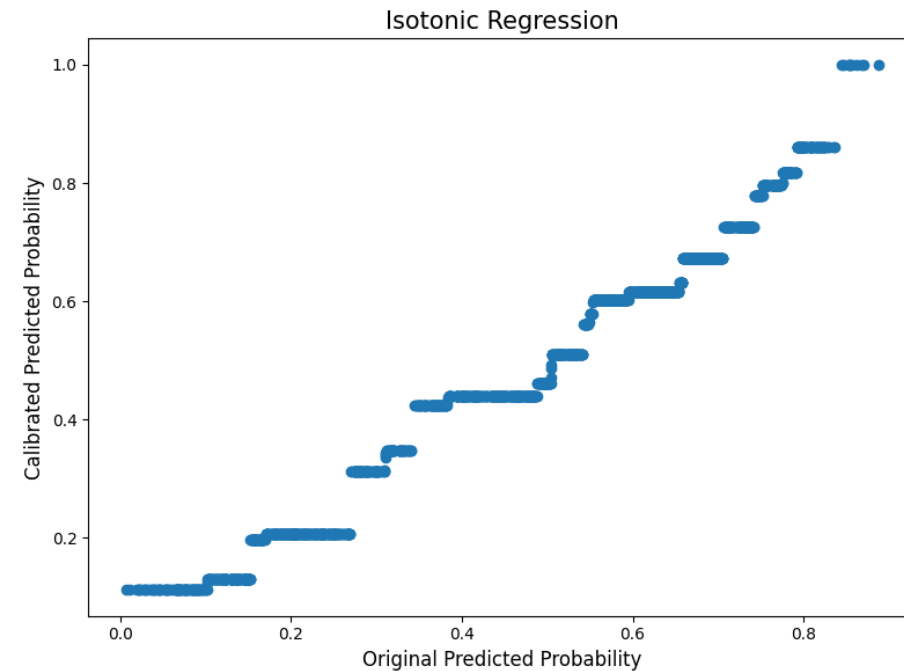
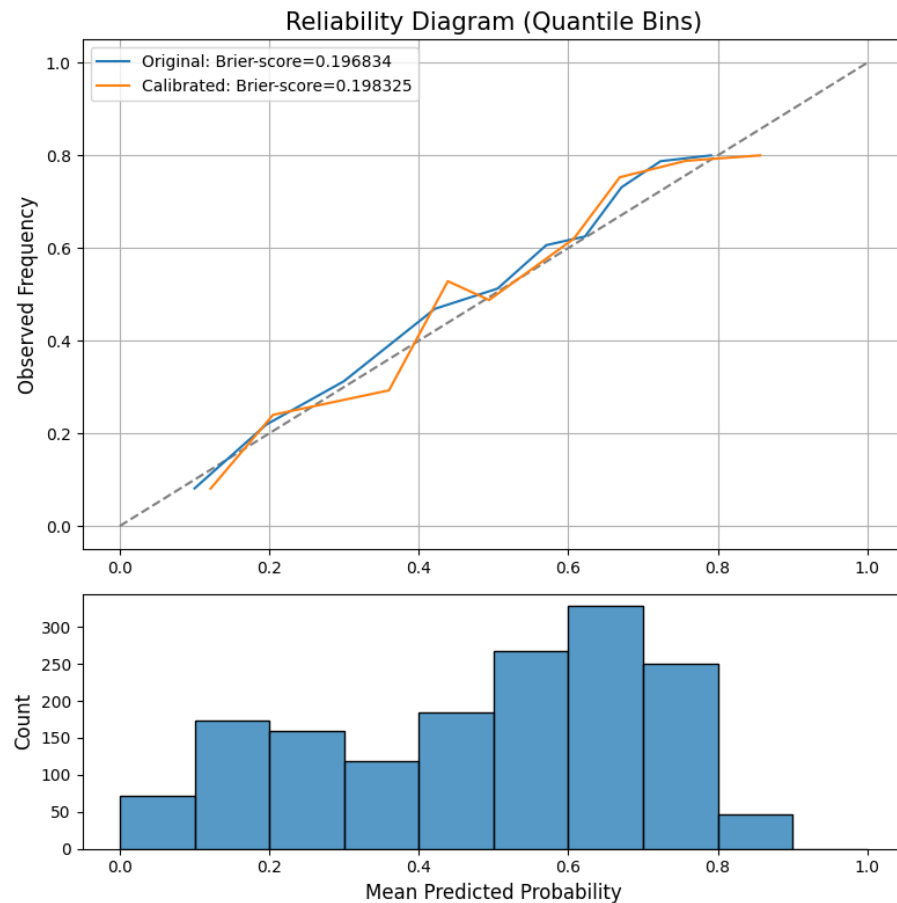
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Probability Calibration for Binary Classifiers

- The simple and easy conformal prediction does not work as effectively for the binary classification case.
- We take a conventional approach of using **predict_proba** $\hat{p} = \mathbb{P}(Y = 1|\mathbf{x})$ and measure the uncertainty by the quantity $\sqrt{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}$ for each point prediction.
- **Caveat:** there is no statistical guarantee of correct coverage of the true class.
- However, probability calibration is needed for raw predict_proba by some ML models, so the predicted probabilities align with the observed class frequencies, as shown by the reliability diagram or measured through the Brier score.
- There are lots of tutorials online, so we don't repeat here.
- In PiML, we adopt the isotonic regression to calibrate the predicted probabilities as a monotonic step function; while Platt scaling is a parametric sigmoid curve.

PiML Demo: Binary Classification Case

- Consider the SimuCredit case with existing data and model pipeline (Google Colab Notebook)



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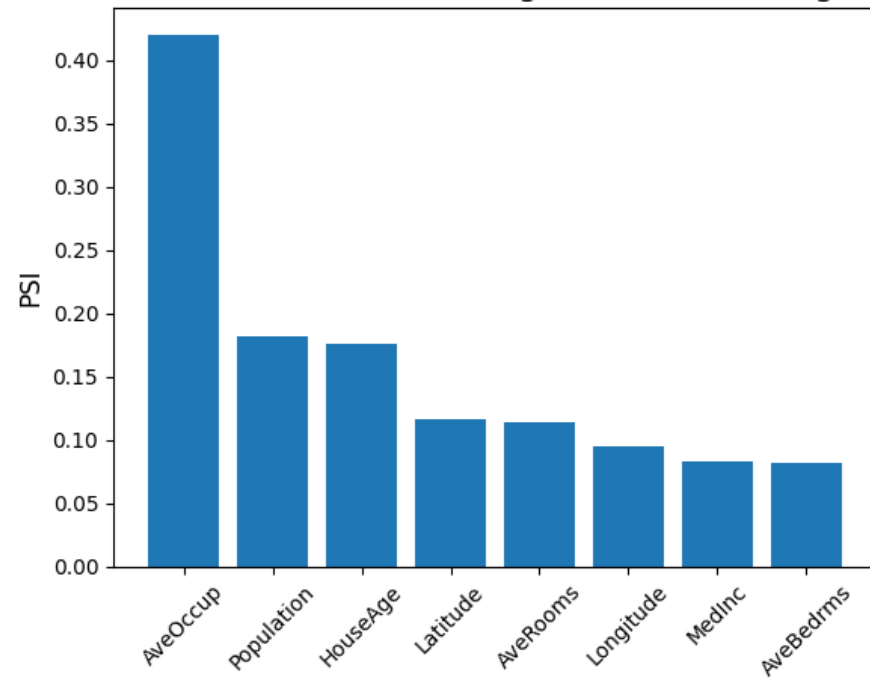
Unreliable Region Detection

- PiML reliability test supports unreliable region detection, by utilizing the slicing technique on the test sample-wise bandwidth/uncertainty quantification.
- **A Practical User Guide:**
 - 1) Identify the features sensitive to prediction uncertainty
 - Distribution shift analysis between unreliable and reliable samples (thresholding), or
 - Feature importance of a surrogate model fitted on $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \text{Bandwidth}(\mathbf{x}_i)), i \in \mathcal{X}_{\text{test}}\}$
 - 2) Perform segmented bandwidth analysis (i.e., slicing) according to identified features.
 - 3) Verify the diagnostic result jointly with weak spot and other tests.

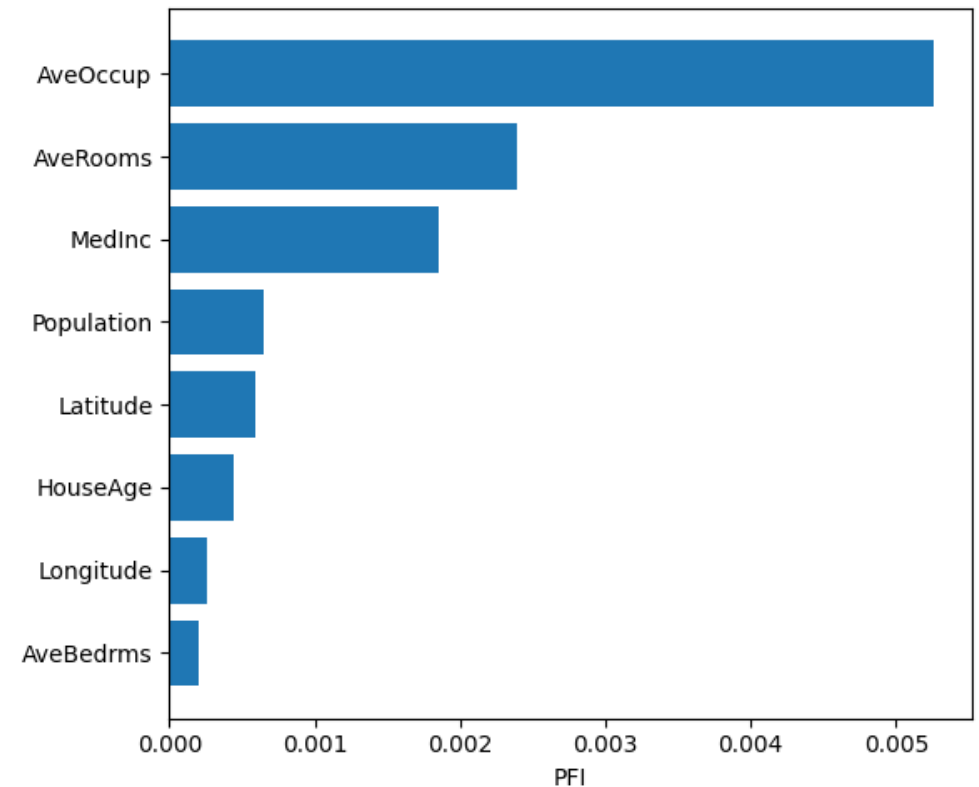
Feature Identification w.r.t. Prediction Uncertainty

```
# Measuring distribution shift between unreliable and reliable samples
exp.model_diagnose(model="ReLUDNN",
                  show="reliability_distance", alpha=0.1,
                  threshold=1.1, distance_metric="PSI",
                  figsize=(6,5))
```

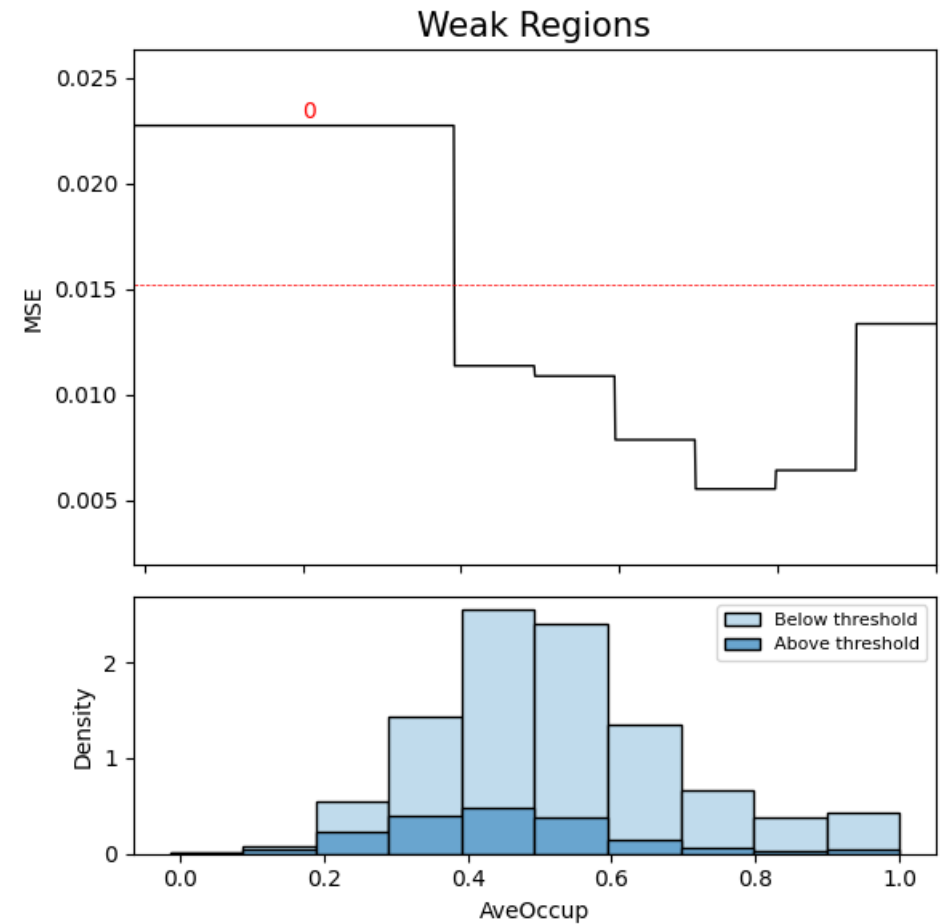
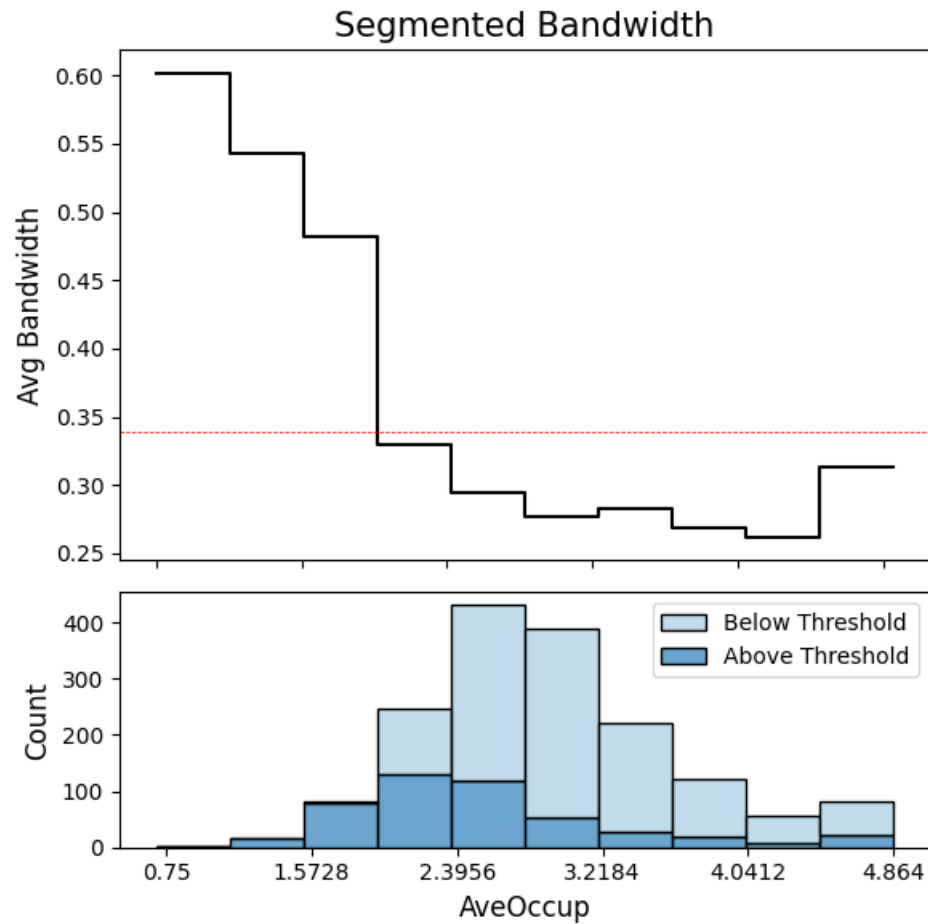
Distribution Shift: Unreliable Regions vs. Remaining Reg



```
PredUQ_SurrogatePFI(model_name="ReLUDNN", alpha=0.1,
                    max_depth=1, max_trees=200)
```



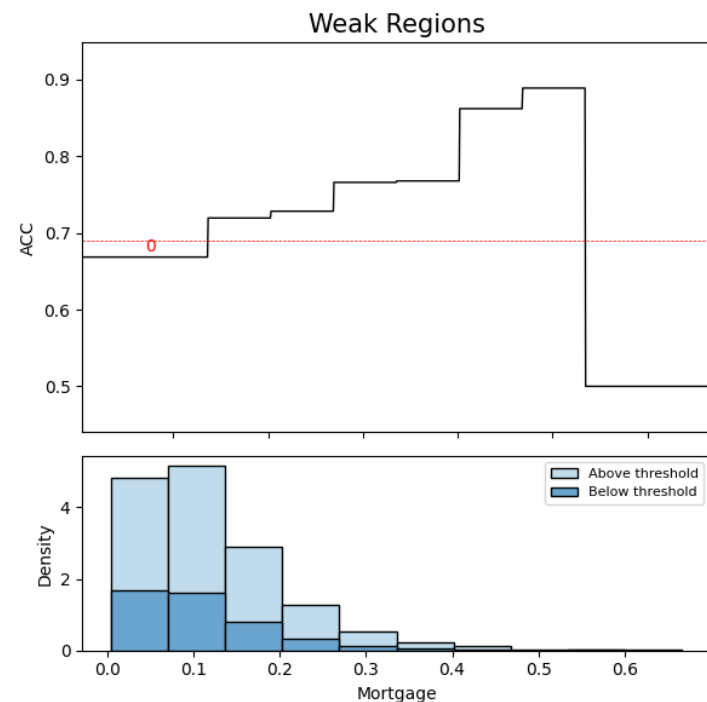
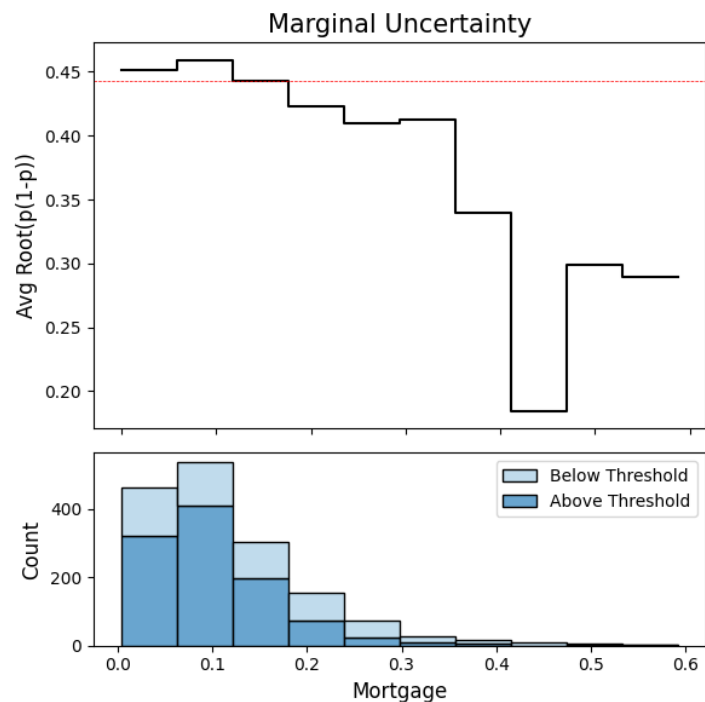
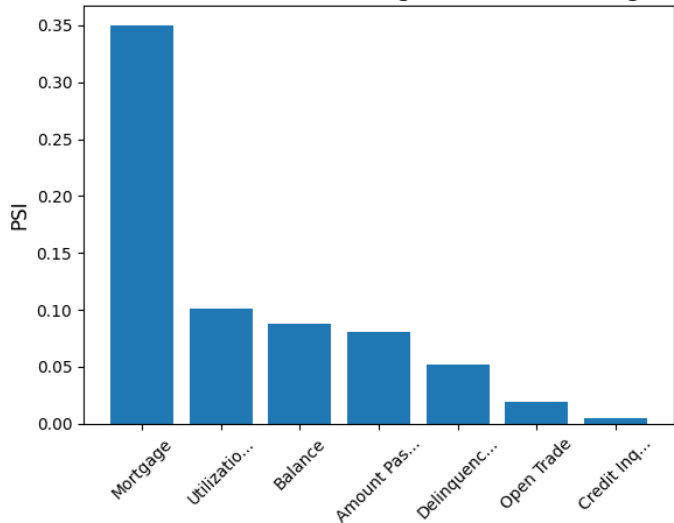
PiML Demo: CaliforniaHousing Regression Case



PiML Demo: SimuCredit Binary Classification Case

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Thank you

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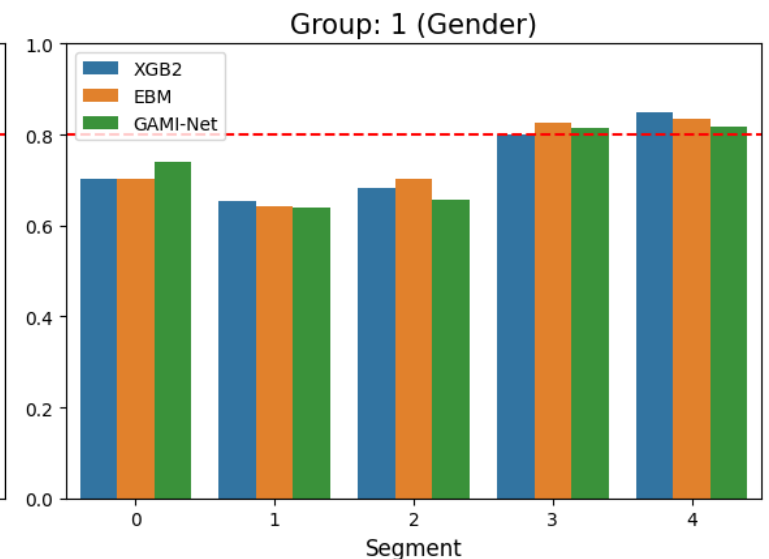
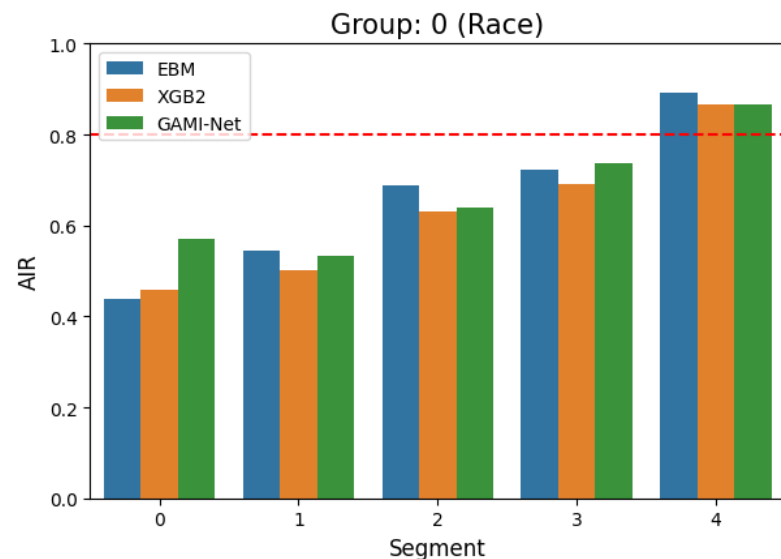
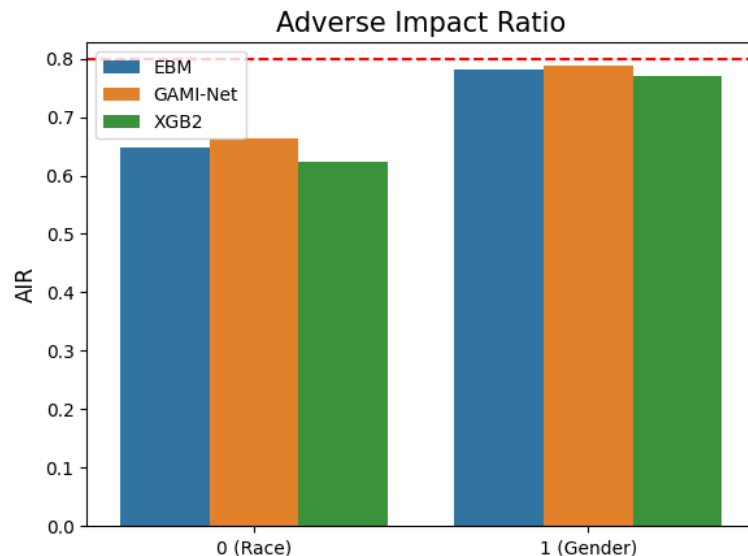
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Bias and Fairness

- For each demographic feature (Race, Gender), consider AIR between protected group vs reference group.

$$AIR = \frac{(TP_p + FN_p)/n_r}{(TP_r + FN_r)/n_p}$$

- AIR below 0.8 is a sign of bias and unfairness.
- PiML provides segmented metrics conditional on a modeling variable (e.g., Balance below). It also provides methods to debias through feature binning and decision thresholding.



PiML Demo: Bias and Fairness

exp.model_fairness()

XGB5

☒ Original Scale

Setting

Metrics

Segmented

Binning

Thresholding

Response Setting:

Favorable Response: 1

Favorable Threshold: 0.5

Group Setting:

Add Category: Gender

Reference: 1.0

Protected: 0.0

ADD

Delete Group: 0

DEL

Group Index	Group Category	Reference Group	Protected Group
0	Race	1.0	0.0
1	Gender	1.0	0.0

