# Classification & Regression Trees

Justin Post

#### Recap

- Determine if we are doing a prediction or classification problem
- Given a model, we **fit** the model using data via a loss function
- Must determine how well the model predicts on **new** data (or using CV) via a metric

#### Multiple Linear Regression

Commonly used model with a numeric response

#### Logistic Regression

Commonly used model with a binary response

## Regression/Classification Trees

#### Tree based method:

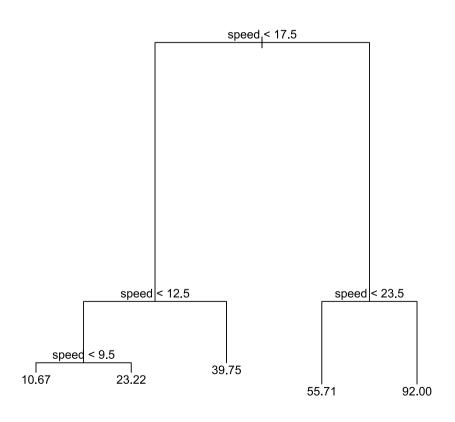
- Split up predictor space into regions, different predictions for each region
- Classification tree if goal is to classify (predict) group membership
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## Regression/Classification Trees

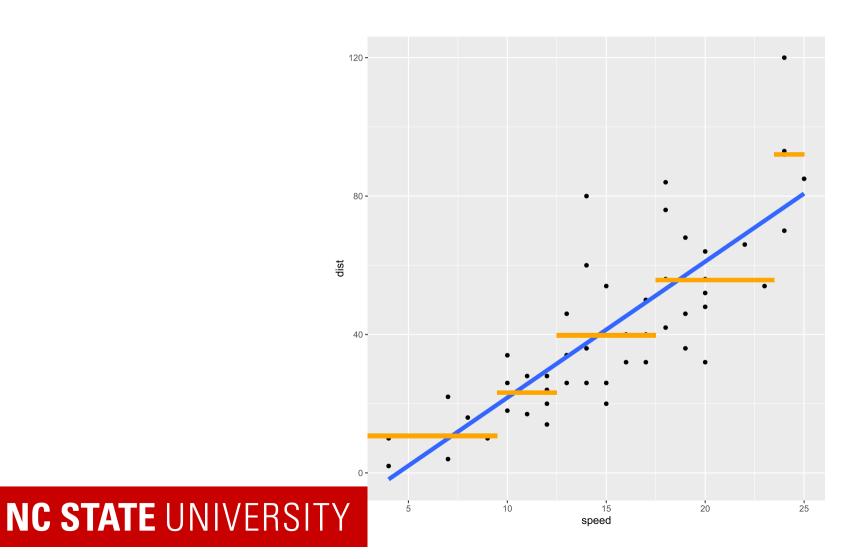
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  - Usually use **mean of observations** in region as prediction

# Easy Interpretation



# Predictor Space Split vs Linear Function



• Recall the Bike data and log\_selling\_price as our response

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
bike_data = pd.read_csv("data/bikeDetails.csv")
#create response and new predictor
bike_data['log_selling_price'] = np.log(bike_data['selling_price'])
bike_data['log_km_driven'] = np.log(bike_data['km_driven'])
```

- Code modified from the docs
- Depth represents how many levels of splits to do

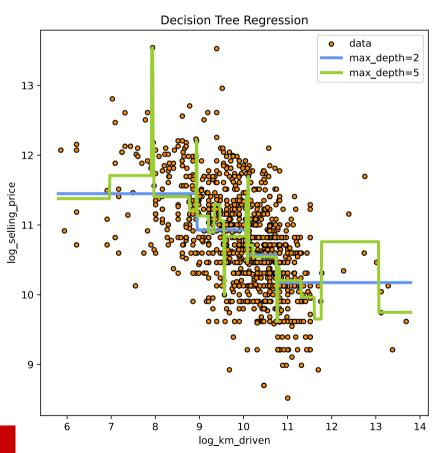
```
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeRegressor
regr1 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
regr2 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=5)
regr1.fit(bike_data['log_km_driven'].values.reshape(-1,1), bike_data['log_selling_price'].values)
regr2.fit(bike_data['log_km_driven'].values.reshape(-1,1), bike_data['log_selling_price'].values)
```

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```

• Can still predict with .predict() method

```
X_test = np.arange(5.8, 13.8, 0.01)[:, np.newaxis]
pred1 = regr1.predict(X_test)
pred2 = regr2.predict(X_test)
```



### Regression Trees

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- Instead of fitting a plane or saddle in MLR, fit a series of flat planes (mean for a given region)

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```
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeRegressor
regr3 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
regr3.fit(bike_data[['log_km_driven', 'year']].values, bike_data['log_selling_price'].values)
```

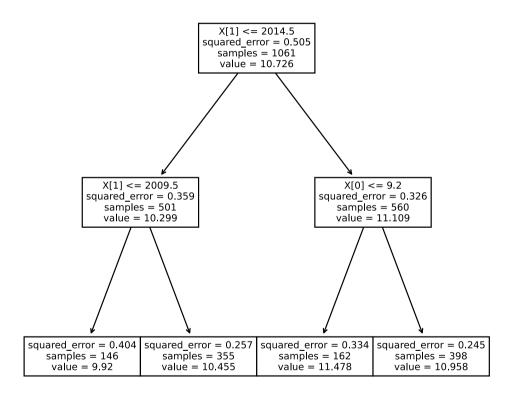
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regr3 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=2)
regr3.fit(bike_data[['log_km_driven', 'year']].values, bike_data['log_selling_price'].values)
```

• plot\_tree() function useful for visualization

```
from sklearn.tree import plot_tree
plot_tree(regr3)
```



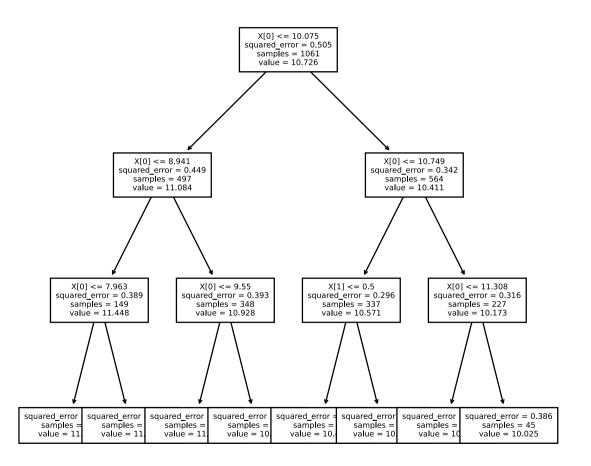
#### No Need for Interaction Terms

- Trees automatically account for interactions
- An interaction implies that the **effect** of one variable differs depending on the value of another
  - Splitting on more than one variable implies this is the case!

### Categorical Predictors

- Easy to include as well
- Must convert to dummy variables though

```
regr4 = DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=3)
pd.get_dummies(bike_data.owner).head()
bike_data["owners"] = pd.get_dummies(bike_data.owner)['1st owner']
regr4.fit(bike_data[['log_km_driven', 'owners']].values, bike_data['log_selling_price'].values)
```



## Regression/Classification Trees

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#### Classification Tree

• Recall the water potability data and Potability as our response

```
water = pd.read_csv("data/water_potability.csv")
 water.head()
##
                 Hardness
                                  Solids
                                               Trihalomethanes
                                                                Turbidity
                                                                           Potability
## 0
           NaN
                204.890455
                            20791.318981
                                                     86.990970
                                                                 2.963135
      3.716080
                129.422921
                                                                 4.500656
                            18630.057858
                                                     56.329076
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                224.236259
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                                                100.341674
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               214.373394
                            22018.417441
                                                                 4.628771
      9.092223
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                            17978.986339
                                                     31.997993
                                                                 4.075075
##
## [5 rows x 10 columns]
```

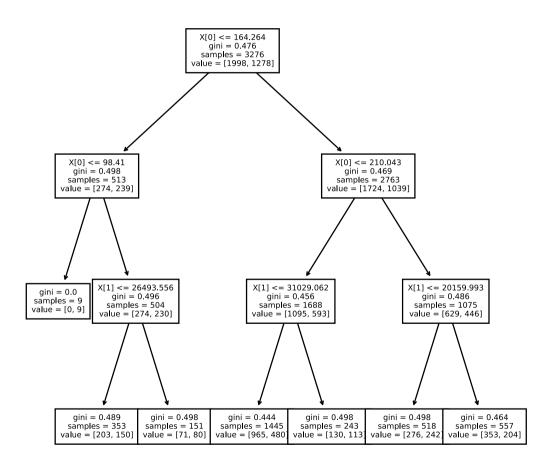
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##
## [5 rows x 10 columns]
```

• Use a similar function to fit classification trees

```
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
cltree1 = DecisionTreeClassifier(max_depth=3)
cltree1.fit(water[['Hardness', 'Solids']].values, water['Potability'].values)
```



#### **Predictions**

• Model fit can be used for the same types of predictions as logistic regression

- Tree fit can depend on max depth and how many splits on each branch
- Often a large tree is fit and **pruned** back
  - We can also control the minimum number of samples a leaf can have via min\_samples\_leaf
  - Many other things we could consider, but let's focus on those two!

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- Best combination of these two can be determined using cross-validation!
  - Set up values to consider
  - Use GridSearchCV() to return the best values

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• Import the grid search function

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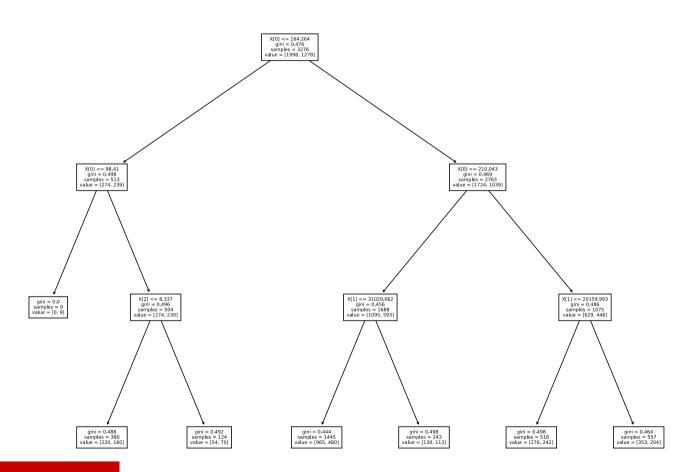
• Inspect the best tuning parameters

```
print(tuning_model.best_estimator_)

## DecisionTreeClassifier(max_depth=3, min_samples_leaf=3)

print(tuning_model.best_score_, tuning_model.best_params_)

## 0.6098896853472352 {'max_depth': 3, 'min_samples_leaf': 3}
```

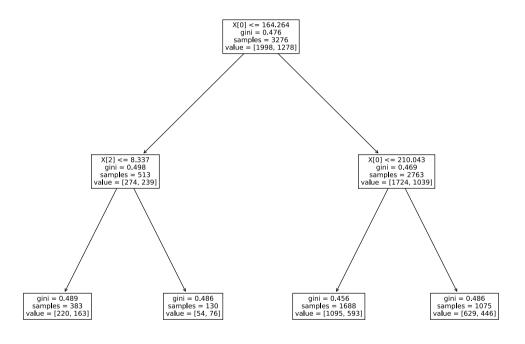


#### Different Metric

• Instead of misclassification, consider <a href="neg\_log\_loss">neg\_log\_loss</a>

```
tuning_model2.predict_proba(np.array([[150, 0, 8.5, 0, 0]]))
```

## array([[0.41538462, 0.58461538]])



#### Recap

• Trees are a nonlinear model

#### Pros:

- Simple to understand and easy to interpret output
- Predictors don't need to be scaled
- No statistical assumptions necessary
- Built in variable selection

#### Cons:

- Small changes in data can vastly change tree
- No optimal algorithm for choosing splits
- Need to prune

Bagging Trees, Random Forests, and Boosted Trees are three methods that average across trees. Lose interpretability but gain in prediction!