

Tree-based Methode (regression)

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1 Tree

Definition 1. $\mathcal{F} := \{f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M \beta_j 1_{x \in R_j}\}$ Where R_1, \dots, R_M for a tree partition

Definition 2. A parititon of the input space X that can be formed by recursively applying the following 2 rules

- Choose a cell of the current partition
- Split the chosen cell into two daughters by binary splitting along one dimension (one variable)

Definition 3. $\hat{R}(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^M (Y_i - f(X_i))^2$ minimizing this quantity leads to overfitting, so we need to regularize. For example we can restrict the search space to $\mathcal{F}_{K_{min}} = \{f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M \beta_j 1_{x \in R_j}\}$ and R_j contains at least K_{min} data points (e.g $K_{min} = 5$)

Computation: Combinatoric! (NP-Hard) In practice we use a Greedy Algorithm.

Definition 4. Grow a tree recursively by repeating the following steps: for each terminal node of the tree, until the minimal node size K_{\min} is achieved

1. Pick a variable / split point which decreases $\hat{R}(f)$ the most
2. Split the node into two daughters

Still overfits.

1.1 Prune The tree

1. Given a full grown tree T_0 , find an internal node which after collapsing the subtree into itself, will increase $\hat{R}(f)$ the least.
2. Collapse the subtree into this internal node. We get a new tree T , repeat this process we get a sequence of new trees T_0, T_1, \dots
3. Pick one tree by minimizing $\hat{R}(\hat{f}_T) + \lambda|T|$, where λ is obtained by CV tuning, $|T|$ the number of nodes in T .

1.2 Pros and Cons of Tree

- Pro: Simple and interpretable
- Con: Fitted functions are non smooth: theoretically extremely challenging (no persistency result)

2 Bagging (Bootstrap Aggregation)

For $b = 1, \dots, B$ a. Draw a bootstrap $Z_{1:n}^{*(b)}$ of size n from $Z_{1:n}$ b. Fit a regression tree on the bootstrapped data (with minimum node size K_{\min} , no pruning) Output: $\hat{f}^{\text{bagging}} = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B \hat{f}^b(x)$

2.1 Bagging vs Tree

1. \hat{f}^{bagging} has the same bias as $\hat{f}^b(x)$, but potentially smaller variance.
2. The larger B is, the better (but diminishing return)
3. Works well only if $\hat{f}^1(X), \dots, \hat{f}^B(x)$ are decorrelated.

3 Random Forest

For $b = 1, \dots, B$

1. a. Draw a bootstrap $Z_{1:n}^{* (b)}$ of size n from $Z_{1:n}$
 - b. Fit a regression tree on the bootstrapped data by recursively repeating the following steps for each terminal node of the tree until the minimum node of size K_{min} is achieved
 - i) Select m variables at random
 - ii) Pick the best variable / split point among these m variables
 - iii) Split the node into 2 daughters

1. Output: \$ Output the ensemble of fitted tree functions $\hat{f}^1, \dots, \hat{f}^B$.

$$\hat{f}^{RT} = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B \hat{f}^b(x)$$