

# **Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Models for High-dimensional Nonparametric Forecasting**

Nuwani Palihawadana

**Joint work with :** Rob Hyndman, Xiaoqian Wang

1 July 2024

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
- 3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model
- 4 Simulation Experiment
- 5 Empirical Applications
- 6 Conclusion

# Outline

1 Motivation

2 Background

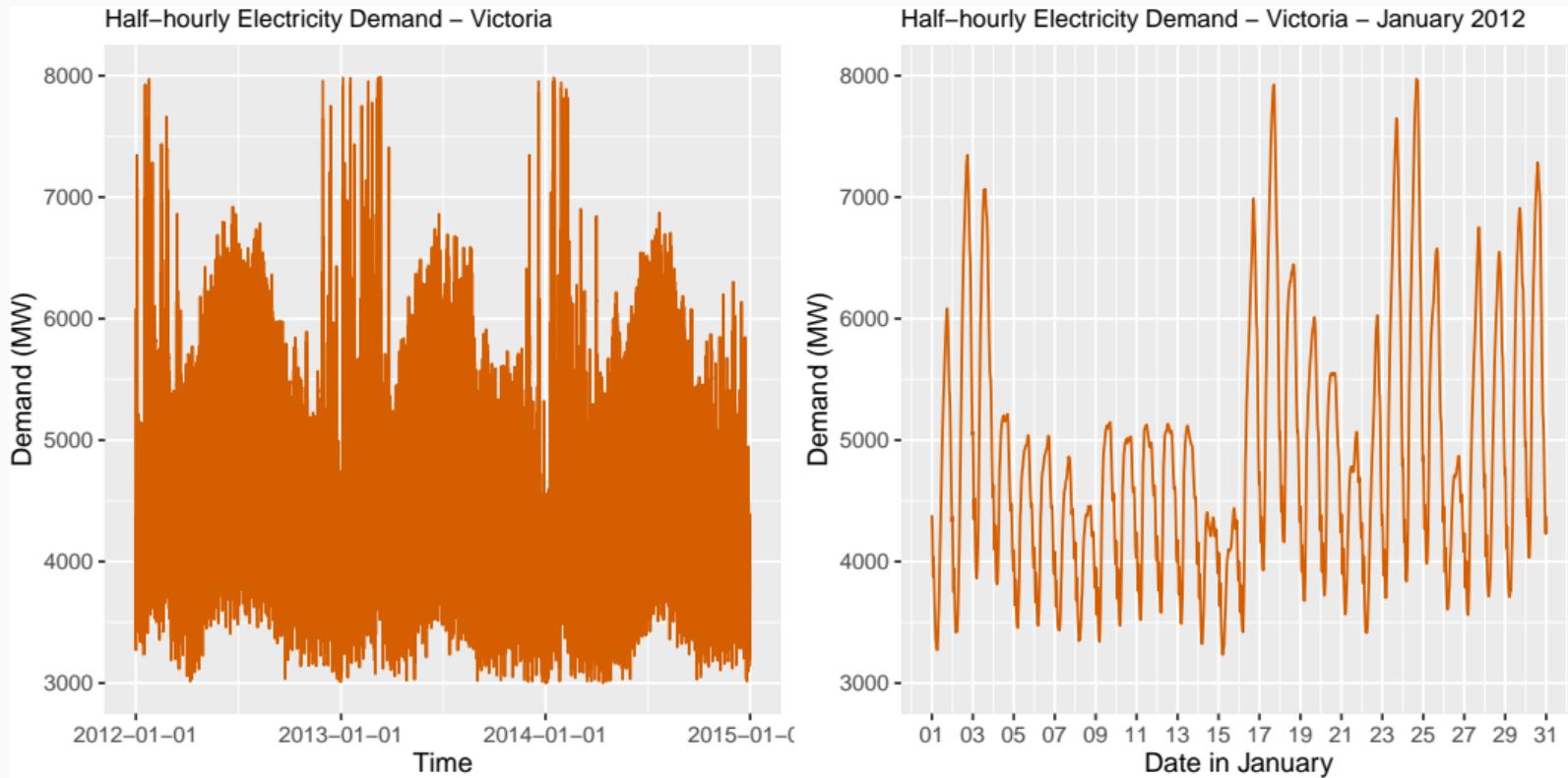
3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model

4 Simulation Experiment

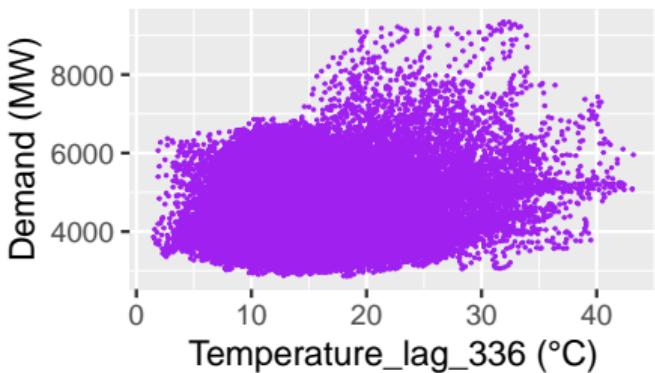
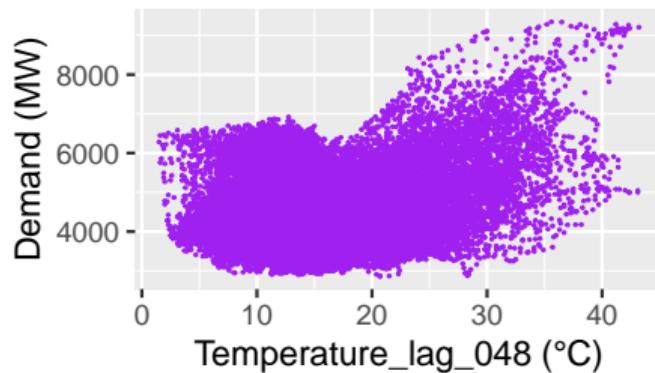
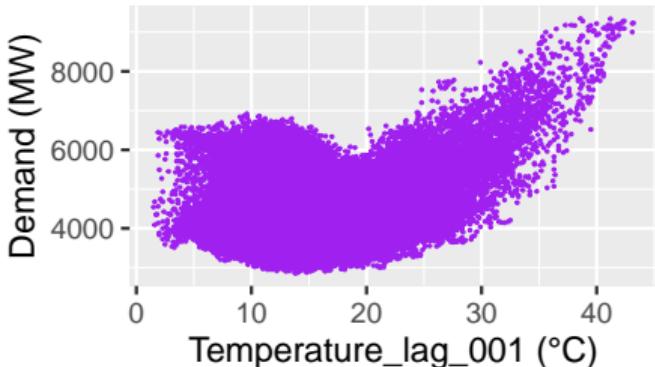
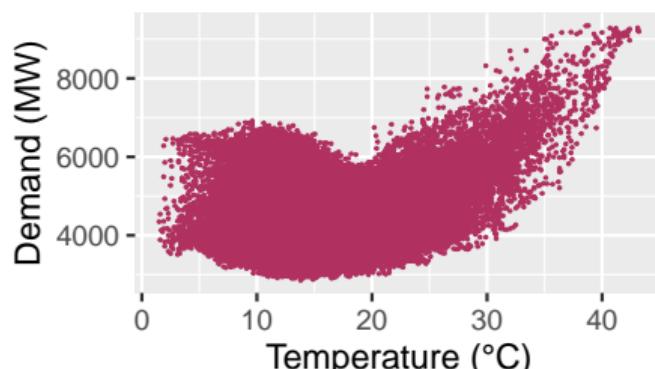
5 Empirical Applications

6 Conclusion

# Electricity Demand Data



# Electricity Demand Data



# Outline

1 Motivation

2 Background

3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model

4 Simulation Experiment

5 Empirical Applications

6 Conclusion

# Background

## ■ ***Nonlinear "Transfer Function" model***

$$y_t = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}, y_1, \dots, y_{t-k}) + \varepsilon_t$$

$y_t$  – variable to forecast

$\mathbf{x}_t$  – a vector of predictors

$\varepsilon_t$  – random error

# Background

- **Nonlinear "Transfer Function" model**

$$y_t = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}, y_1, \dots, y_{t-k}) + \varepsilon_t$$

$y_t$  – variable to forecast

$\mathbf{x}_t$  – a vector of predictors

$\varepsilon_t$  – random error

- Impossible to estimate  $f$  for large  $p$  – **curse of dimensionality**

# Background

## ■ Nonlinear "Transfer Function" model

$$y_t = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}, y_1, \dots, y_{t-k}) + \varepsilon_t$$

$y_t$  – variable to forecast

$\mathbf{x}_t$  – a vector of predictors

$\varepsilon_t$  – random error

- Impossible to estimate  $f$  for large  $p$  – **curse of dimensionality**
- Reasonable to impose additivity constraints

$$f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}) = \sum_{i=0}^p f_i(\mathbf{x}_{t-i})$$

# Background

## ■ Nonlinear "Transfer Function" model

$$y_t = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}, y_1, \dots, y_{t-k}) + \varepsilon_t$$

$y_t$  – variable to forecast

$\mathbf{x}_t$  – a vector of predictors

$\varepsilon_t$  – random error

- Impossible to estimate  $f$  for large  $p$  – **curse of dimensionality**
- Reasonable to impose additivity constraints

$$f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-p}) = \sum_{i=0}^p f_i(\mathbf{x}_{t-i}) \leftarrow \text{Nonparametric Additive Model}$$

# Background

## Issues

- 1 Challenging to estimate in a high-dimensional setting
- 2 Subjectivity in predictor selection, and predictor grouping to model interactions

# Background

## Issues

- 1 Challenging to estimate in a high-dimensional setting
- 2 Subjectivity in predictor selection, and predictor grouping to model interactions

## Index Models

- Mitigate difficulty of estimating a nonparametric component for each predictor
- Improve flexibility

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
- 3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model
- 4 Simulation Experiment
- 5 Empirical Applications
- 6 Conclusion

## Semi-parametric model

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_{ij}) + \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

- $y_i$ : univariate response
- $\mathbf{x}_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell_j}, j = 1, \dots, p$ :  $p$  subsets of predictors entering indices
- $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j$ :  $\ell_j$ -dimensional vectors of index coefficients

## Semi-parametric model

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_{ij}) + \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

- $y_i$ : univariate response
- $\mathbf{x}_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell_j}, j = 1, \dots, p$ :  $p$  subsets of predictors entering indices
- $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j$ :  $\ell_j$ -dimensional vectors of index coefficients
- Additional predictors :
  - ▶  $w_{ik}$  – nonlinear
  - ▶  $\mathbf{u}_i$  – linear
- $g_j, f_k$ : smooth nonlinear functions

# Optimisation Problem

Let  $q$  be the *total number of predictors* entering indices.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall m \end{aligned}$$

# Optimisation Problem

Let  $q$  be the *total number of predictors* entering indices.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall m \end{aligned}$$

- $\lambda_0 > 0$  – controls the number of selected predictors

# Optimisation Problem

Let  $q$  be the *total number of predictors* entering indices.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall m \end{aligned}$$

- $\lambda_0 > 0$  – controls the number of selected predictors
- $\lambda_2 \geq 0$  – controls the strength of the additional shrinkage

# MIQP Formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q z_{jm} + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \alpha_{jm}^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & |\alpha_{jm}| \leq M z_{jm} \quad \forall j, \forall m, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^p z_{jm} \leq 1 \quad \forall m, \\ & z_{jm} \in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

# MIQP Formulation

$$\min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q z_{jm} + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \alpha_{jm}^2$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad |\alpha_{jm}| \leq M z_{jm} \quad \forall j, \forall m,$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^p z_{jm} \leq 1 \quad \forall m,$$

$$z_{jm} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \leftarrow \quad z_{jm} = \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0)$$

# MIQP Formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_0, p, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i) - \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i \right]^2 \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q z_{jm} + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q \alpha_{jm}^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & |\alpha_{jm}| \leq M z_{jm} \quad \forall j, \forall m, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^p z_{jm} \leq 1 \quad \forall m, \\ & z_{jm} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \leftarrow \quad z_{jm} = \mathbb{1}(\alpha_{jm} \neq 0) \end{aligned}$$

- $M < \infty$ : If  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^*$  is an optimal solution, then  $\max(\{|\alpha_{jm}^*|\}_{j \in [p], m \in [q]}) \leq M$

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialise Index Structure and Index Coefficients

- Obtain a feasible initialisation :

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialise Index Structure and Index Coefficients

- Obtain a feasible initialisation :

- 1 **PPR:** Projection Pursuit Regression Based Initialisation

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialise Index Structure and Index Coefficients

- Obtain a feasible initialisation :
  - 1 **PPR:** Projection Pursuit Regression Based Initialisation
  - 2 **Additive:** Nonparametric Additive Model Based Initialisation

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialise Index Structure and Index Coefficients

■ Obtain a feasible initialisation :

- 1 **PPR:** Projection Pursuit Regression Based Initialisation
- 2 **Additive:** Nonparametric Additive Model Based Initialisation
- 3 **Linear:** Linear Regression Based Initialisation

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialise Index Structure and Index Coefficients

- Obtain a feasible initialisation :
  - 1 **PPR:** Projection Pursuit Regression Based Initialisation
  - 2 **Additive:** Nonparametric Additive Model Based Initialisation
  - 3 **Linear:** Linear Regression Based Initialisation
  - 4 **Multiple:** Picking One From Multiple Initialisations
- Scale each  $\hat{\alpha}_j$  to have unit norm

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 2: Estimate Nonlinear Functions

### ■ Estimate a GAM :

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\hat{h}_{ij}) + \sum_{k=1}^d f_k(w_{ik}) + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{u}_i + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

where

- ▶  $y_i$  – response
- ▶  $\hat{h}_{ij} = \hat{\alpha}_j^T \mathbf{x}_i, j = 1, \dots, p$  – estimated indices

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 3: Update Index Coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\alpha^{\text{new}}, z^{\text{new}}} & (\alpha^{\text{new}} - \alpha^{\text{old}})^T V^T V (\alpha^{\text{new}} - \alpha^{\text{old}}) - 2(\alpha^{\text{new}} - \alpha^{\text{old}})^T V^T r \\ & + \lambda_0 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q z_{jm}^{\text{new}} + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^q (\alpha_{jm}^{\text{new}})^2 \end{aligned}$$

s.t.  $|\alpha_{jm}^{\text{new}}| \leq M z_{jm}^{\text{new}} \quad \forall j, \forall m,$

$z_{jm}^{\text{new}} \in \{0, 1\},$

$$\sum_{j=1}^p z_{jm}^{\text{new}} \leq 1 \quad \forall m,$$

$V$  – matrix of partial derivatives of RHS of SMI model equation, with respect to  $\alpha_j$

$r$  – current residual vector

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 4: Iterate steps 2 and 3

Until:

- convergence
- loss increases for three consecutive iterations or
- reaching maximum iterations

# Estimation Algorithm

## Step 4: Iterate steps 2 and 3

Until:

- convergence
- loss increases for three consecutive iterations or
- reaching maximum iterations

## Step 5: Stop or repeat step 4

- No dropped predictors – **Stop**
- Otherwise, include a new index consisting of dropped predictors –  
**Repeat step 4**

## Step 6: Increase $p$ by 1 in each iteration of step 5

Until:

- number of indices reaches  $q$  – **output = final fitted model**
- loss increases after the increment – **output = previous iteration model or**
- solution maintains same number of indices as previous iteration, and absolute difference of index coefficients between two successive iterations is not larger than a pre-specified tolerance – **output = model with a smaller loss**

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
- 3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model
- 4 Simulation Experiment
- 5 Empirical Applications
- 6 Conclusion

# Data Generation

## Predictor variables

- $x_0$  – Uniform [0,1]
- $z_0$  – Normal (5, 4)
- Construct lagged series of both  $x_0$  and  $z_0$  up-to lag 5

# Data Generation

## Predictor variables

- $x_0$  – Uniform [0,1]
- $z_0$  – Normal (5, 4)
- Construct lagged series of both  $x_0$  and  $z_0$  up-to lag 5

## Response variables

- Low noise level –  $N(\mu = 0, \sigma^2 = 0.01)$ :
  - ▶  $y_1 = (0.9 * x_0 + 0.6 * x_1 + 0.45 * x_3)^3 + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.01)$
  - ▶  $y_2 = (0.9*x_0+0.6*x_1+0.45*x_3)^3+(0.35*x_2+0.7*x_5)^2+\epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.01)$
- High noise level –  $N(\mu = 0, \sigma^2 = 0.25)$ :
  - ▶  $y_1 = (0.9 * x_0 + 0.6 * x_1 + 0.45 * x_3)^3 + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.25)$
  - ▶  $y_2 = (0.9*x_0+0.6*x_1+0.45*x_3)^3+(0.35*x_2+0.7*x_5)^2+\epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.25)$

# Experiment Setup

- Three different sets of predictors:

- 1 All  $x$  variables

- 2 All  $x$  variables and all  $z$  variables

- 3 First three  $x$  variables (i.e.  $x_0, x_1$  and  $x_2$ ) and all  $z$  variables

- under each initialisation option
- for each response and noise level combinations

# Results

True Model	Predictors	PPR	Additive	Linear	Multiple
<b>Low noise level</b>					
$y_1$	all $x$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$
$y_1$	all $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$
$y_1$	some $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, z_2, z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1)(z_4)(z_1)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_2, z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_2, z_4)$
$y_2$	all $x$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$
$y_2$	all $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$
$y_2$	some $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1)(x_2)(z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_4)(x_2)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, z_2)$	$(x_0, x_1)(x_2, z_2, z_3)$
<b>High noise level</b>					
$y_1$	all $x$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_4, x_5)$	$(x_0, x_1)(x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$
$y_1$	all $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(z_0)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(z_0)$
$y_1$	some $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1)(z_1)(z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1)(z_1)(z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_2, z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1)(z_0, z_4)(z_1)$
$y_2$	all $x$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)(x_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)(x_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5)(x_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)(x_4)$
$y_2$	all $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_5, z_1)(x_2, z_0)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5, z_1)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5, z_0)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_3)(x_2, x_5)$
$y_2$	some $x + \text{all } z$	$(x_0, x_1, z_0, z_3, z_4)(x_2)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_0, z_1, z_3, z_4)(x_2)$	$(x_0, x_1, x_2, z_0, z_3, z_4)$	$(x_0, x_1, z_0, z_1, z_3, z_4)(x_2)$

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
- 3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model
- 4 Simulation Experiment
- 5 Empirical Applications
- 6 Conclusion

# Forecasting Heat Exposure Related Mortality

## Variables

- **Response:** Daily deaths – 1990 to 2014 – Montreal, Canada
- **Index Variables:**
  - ▶ Death lags
  - ▶ Max temperature lags
  - ▶ Min temperature lags
  - ▶ Vapor pressure lags
- **Nonlinear:** DOS, Year

## Data Split

- **Training Set:** 1990 to 2012
- **Validation Set:** 2013
- **Test Set:** 2014

$$\text{Deaths} = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j) + f_1(\mathbf{DOS}) + f_2(\mathbf{Year}) + \varepsilon,$$

# Results

Model	Predictors	Indices	Test Set 1		Test Set 2	
			MSE	MAE	MSE	MAE
SMI Model (5, 12) - PPR	61	7	<b>85.233</b>	<b>7.140</b>	<b>97.353</b>	<b>7.772</b>
SMI Model (1, 0) - Additive	61	59	96.398	7.481	112.199	8.156
SMI Model (6, 11) - Linear	61	2	100.231	7.719	120.542	8.598
Backward Elimination	40	NA	136.204	9.319	140.867	9.385
GAIM	61	4	90.763	7.247	106.251	7.928
PPR	61	4	90.698	7.343	110.497	8.057

- **Test Set 1:** Three months (June, July and August 2014)
- **Test Set 2:** One month (June 2014)

# Forecasting Solar Intensity

## Variables

- **Response:** Daily solar intensity – February 2006 to February 2013 – Amherst, Massachusetts
- **Index Variables:**
  - ▶ Solar intensity lags
  - ▶ Temperature, dew point, wind speed, rain and humidity lags
- **Linear:** DOY fourier terms

## Data Split

- **Training Set:** February 2006 to October 2012
- **Validation Set:** November and December 2012
- **Test Set:** January and February 2013

$$\textbf{Solar} = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p g_j(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_j) + \sum_{k=1}^8 (\theta_k \textbf{DOY\_S}_k + \delta_k \textbf{DOY\_C}_k) + \epsilon,$$

## Results

Model	Predictors	Indices	Test Set	
			MSE	MAE
SMI Model (1, 0) - PPR	39	4	764.087	21.916
SMI Model (6, 0) - Additive	39	23	981.033	24.617
SMI Model (1, 0) - Linear	16	0	2065.762	34.105
Backward Elimination	36	NA	819.429	22.998
GAIM	39	6	1972.777	37.130
PPR	23	6	<b>723.067</b>	<b>21.731</b>

# Outline

1 Motivation

2 Background

3 Sparse Multiple Index (SMI) Model

4 Simulation Experiment

5 Empirical Applications

6 Conclusion