

# ERROR ANALYSIS

# Error Metrics

- actual  $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$
- predicted  $P = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$
- *max absolute error*

$$\max(|a_1 - p_1|, \dots, |a_n - p_n|)$$

- *median absolute error*

$$\text{median}(|a_1 - p_1|, \dots, |a_n - p_n|)$$

# Error Metrics (cont'd)

- *mean absolute error* (MAE)

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i - p_i|$$

- *root mean squared error* (RMSE)

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - p_i)^2}$$

# Error Computation

$i$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_i$	6	8	7	8	6
$p_i$	4	7	4	4	3
$ a_i - p_i $	2	1	3	4	3
$(a_i - p_i)^2$	4	1	9	16	9

- max absolute error: 4
- median absolute error: 3

# Error Computation (cont'd)

- mean absolute error

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i - p_i| = \frac{13}{5} = 2.6$$

- root mean squared error

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - p_i)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{39}{5}} \approx 2.8$$

# Evenly Distributed Errors

$i$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_i$	6	8	7	8	6
$p_i$	5	9	6	7	5
$ a_i - p_i $	1	1	1	1	1
$(a_i - p_i)^2$	1	1	1	1	1

$$\text{MAE} = \text{RMSE} = 1$$

# Small Error Variance

$i$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_i$	6	8	7	8	6
$p_i$	5	9	6	6	4
$ a_i - p_i $	1	1	1	2	2
$(a_i - p_i)^2$	1	1	1	4	4

$$\text{MAE} = \frac{7}{5} = 1.40$$

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{11}{5}} \approx 1.48$$

# Large Error Outlier

$i$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_i$	6	8	7	8	6
$p_i$	5	9	27	6	4
$ a_i - p_i $	1	1	20	2	2
$(a_i - p_i)^2$	1	1	400	4	4

$$\text{MAE} = \frac{26}{5} = 5.2$$

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{410}{5}} \approx 9.06$$



# MAE vs. RMSE

- $\text{MAE} \leq \text{RMSE}$
- $\text{RMSE} \leq \text{MAE} \cdot \sqrt{n}$
- $(\text{RMSE} - \text{MAE}) \uparrow$  as  $n \uparrow$
- MAE: easy to interpret
- RMSE: no absolute values