Lab 3

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Methods for the recursive partitioning tree

- In this lab we will write methods for the tree, nodes and regions output by the `recpart()` function in the week 4 exercises. See the week 4 exercises document for the function definition and data structures.

1. Write a print method, `print.region()`, for a region data structure. Print whatever you find interesting or relevant about a region.

2. Write region-plotting methods `plot_regions.tree()` for trees and `plot_regions.node()` for nodes. These functions should plot the covariate data and regions obtained by recursive partitioning. You should assume that there are exactly 2 covariates.

   - `plot_regions.tree()` should take a tree as input, do a scatterplot of the covariate data in the tree (`tree$data$x`) and then call `plot_regions.node()` on each of the child nodes of the tree.
   - `plot_regions.node()` should take a node as input. If the node is NULL, the function should just return without doing anything. If node is not NULL, the function should (i) use `lines()` to draw a box on the scatterplot with vertices given by the coordinates matrix in the node's data and then (ii) call itself on the input node's two child nodes. Thus, `plot_regions.node()` recursively traverses the tree, plotting the regions of the partition.

Note: unlike `plot()` there is no generic `plot_regions()` so you will have to call `plot_regions.tree()` and `plot_regions.node()` explicitly. Later we will see how to "register" methods and define generics.

3. Test your functions on the following test dataset. The plot generated by `plot_regions.tree()` should look like the figure shown below, though you are free to choose your own colour for the lines.

```
# Test:
set.seed(123); n <- 10
x <- data.frame(x1=rnorm(n),x2=rnorm(n))
y <- rnorm(n)
# mytree <- recpart(x,y)
# plot_regions.tree(mytree)
```
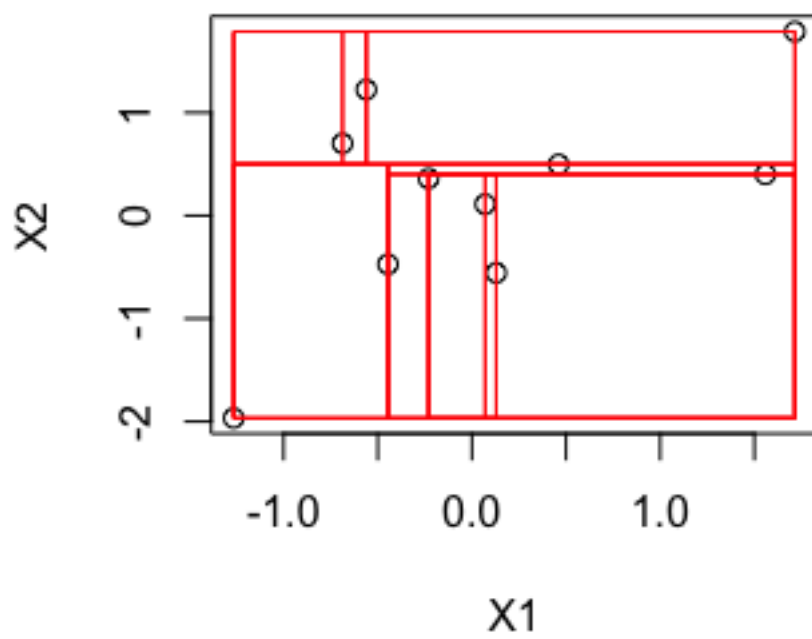
Figure 1: partitions plot