

- GLM + Mixed effects
- Goal: Add random effects or correlations among observations to a model where observations arise from a distribution in the exponential-scale family (other than the normal)
- Why:
 - More than one source of variation (e.g. farm and animal within farm)
 - Account for temporal correlation
 - Provides another way to deal with overdispersion
- Take home message: Can be done, but a **lot** harder than a linear mixed effect model
- Because: both computation and interpretation issues

- Another look at the canonical LME: $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u} + \epsilon$
- Consider each level of variation separately.
A hierarchical or multi-level model

$$\begin{aligned}\eta &= \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u} \\ &\sim N(\mathbf{X}\beta, \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{G}\mathbf{Z}') \\ \mathbf{Y}|\eta &= \eta + \epsilon \\ &\sim N(\eta, \mathbf{R}) \\ \mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u} + \epsilon \\ &\sim N(\mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{R})\end{aligned}$$

- Above specifies the conditional distribution of \mathbf{Y} given η or equivalently \mathbf{u}

- To write down a likelihood, need the marginal pdf of \mathbf{Y}

$$\begin{aligned}f(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{u}) &= f(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{u})f(\mathbf{u}) \\ f(\mathbf{Y}) &= \int_{\mathbf{u}} f(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{u})d\mathbf{u} \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{u}} f(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{u})f(\mathbf{u})d\mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$

- When $\mathbf{u} \sim N()$ and $\epsilon \sim N()$, that integral has a closed form solution

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim N(\mathbf{X}\beta, \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{G}\mathbf{Z}' + \mathbf{R})$$

- Extend to GLMs by changing conditional distribution of $\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{u}$
 - Logistic: $f(Y_i|\mathbf{u}) \sim \text{Binomial}(m_i, \pi_i(\mathbf{u}))$
 - Poisson: $f(Y_i|\mathbf{u}) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i(\mathbf{u}))$

- **Big problem:** Usually no analytic solutions to $f(\mathbf{Y})$
No closed form solution to the integral
- Some exceptions:
 - $\mathbf{Y}|\eta \sim \text{Binomial}(\mathbf{m}, \eta)$, $\eta \sim \beta(\alpha, \beta)$
 $\mathbf{Y} \sim \text{BetaBinomial}$
 - $\mathbf{Y}|\eta \sim \text{Poisson}(\eta)$, $\eta \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$
 $\mathbf{Y} \sim \text{NegativeBinomial}$
- Ok for one level of additional variability, but difficult (if not impossible) to extend to multiple random effects
- Normal distributions are very very nice:
 - Easy to model multiple random effects:
the sum of Normals is Normal
 - Easy to model correlations among observations
- Want a way to fit a model like:

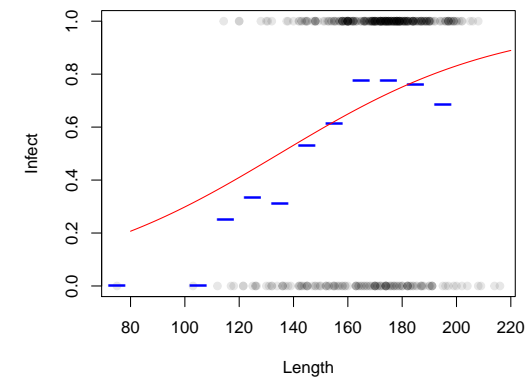
$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{u} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{G}) \\ \mathbf{Y}|\mu &= f(\mu)\end{aligned}$$

- Example: probability of red deer infection by the parasitic nematode *E. cervi*
- Expected to vary by deer size (length)
- Sampling scheme:
 - 1 24 farms in Spain. Consider only male deer. 2 farms excluded because no male deer.
 - 2 From 3 to 83 deer per farm. Total of 447 deer.
- Response is 1: deer infected with parasite, 0: not
- Goals:
 - 1 describe the relationship between length and $P[\text{infect}]$
 - 2 predict $P[\text{infect}]$ for a deer of a specified length
- Consider the model $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 447\}$ indexes deer

$$Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi_i)$$

$$\text{logit } \pi_i = \mu + \beta l_i,$$

where Y_i is infection status (0/1) and l_i is the length of the deer

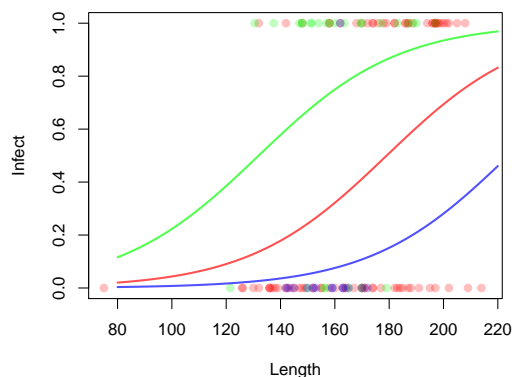


- Problem: deer not sampled randomly from one population
- Two stages: farms, then deer within farm.
- Farms are likely to differ.
- Consider the model, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 24\}$ indexes farms, $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_i\}$ indexes deer within farm:

$$Y_{ij} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi_{ij})$$

$$\text{logit } \pi_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + \beta l_{ij}$$

Term	Deviance	Δ Dev.	df	p value
NULL	549.2			
Farm	394.25	155.05	21	< 0.0001
Length	363.53	30.72	1	< 0.0001



- $\hat{\beta}$ for Length is 0.0391.
Each additional 10cm of length multiplies odds of infection by $e^{10 \times 0.0391} = 1.47$
when compared to other length deer on the same farm
- Model provides estimates of $P[\text{infect} | \text{length}]$ for these 24 farms
- You need to know the Farm effect to estimate $P[\text{infect}]$
- Can we say anything about Farms not in the data set?
- Yes, if we can assume that the 24 study Farms are a simple random sample from a population of farms (e.g. in all of Spain)
- Consider farm a random effect

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ij} &\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi_{ij}) \\ \text{logit } \pi_{ij} &= \mu + \alpha_i + \beta l_{ij} \\ \alpha_i &\sim N(0, \sigma_F^2) \end{aligned}$$

- where $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 24\}$ indexes farms, $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_i\}$ indexes deer within farm:

- Three general approaches to fitting this model
 - 1 GLMM by maximum likelihood
 - 2 GLMM using Bayesian methods, particularly MCMC
 - 3 Generalized Estimating Equations
- The likelihood approach (regular ML, not REML)
 - Evaluate that untractable integral $\int_U f(Y|u)f(u)du$ by numerical approximation
 - 1 Gaussian quadrature: intelligent version of the trapezoid rule
 - 2 Laplace approximation: Gaussian quadrature with 1 point
 - Or avoid the integral by quasiliikelihood
 - 1 Penalized Quasi-likelihood: Taylor expansion of $g^{-1}(X\beta + Zu)$
 - 2 Pseudolikelihood: similar
 - Inference about b conditional on Σ

Bayesian methods

- Evaluate that integral by Markov-Chain Monte-Carlo methods
- Require specifying appropriate prior distributions for parameters
- Hierarchical structure to the model very appropriate for Bayesian methods
- Provides marginal inference about b
i.e., includes the uncertainty associated with estimation of Σ

Generalized Estimating Equations

- Avoid the integral by ignoring (temporarily) the random effects
- Assume a convenient “working correlation matrix”.
e.g. independence
- Estimate parameters using the working correl. matrix
 - Estimates are not as efficient as those from model with the correct variance structure
 - But loss of efficiency often not too large
 - And estimates can be computed **much** more easily if assume independence
 - Real problem is the $\text{Var}_W \hat{\beta}$ computed from the working correl. matrix: usually badly biased

- A better estimator of $\text{Var } \hat{\mathbf{b}}$:
- Remember $\text{Var } \hat{\beta}$ when Σ misspecified:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var } \hat{\mathbf{b}} &= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'\Sigma\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \\ &= \frac{\text{Var}_W \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}'\Sigma\mathbf{X} \frac{\text{Var}_W \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{\sigma^2}\end{aligned}$$

- Imagine there is an estimate of Σ , call it \mathbf{C} , usually computed from replicate data
- Use the mis-specified variance estimator to patch-up $\text{Var } \hat{\beta}$:

$$\text{Var } \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{\text{Var}_W \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{C}\mathbf{X} \frac{\text{Var}_W \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{\sigma^2}$$

- Sometimes called the Sandwich estimator (bread, filling, bread)
- Same idea, but many more details and different equations for GLMM

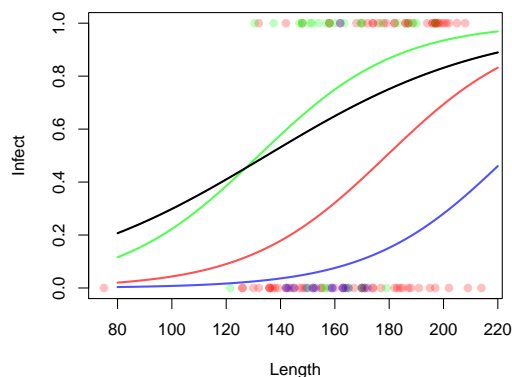
Marginal or conditional inference

- There is a major, important difference between the model fit by GEE and the model fit by GLMM

$$\text{GLMM } E\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{u} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u}) \quad (1)$$

$$\text{GEE } E\mathbf{Y} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}\beta) \quad (2)$$

- (1) models the conditional mean of \mathbf{Y} given the random effects
Influence of length deer randomly selected within a farm
- (2) models the marginal mean of \mathbf{Y}
Influence of length on deer randomly selected from the population
- These are the same for identity link, $g^{-1}(x) = x$, usually used with normal distributions
- Not the same for other link functions (logit, log)

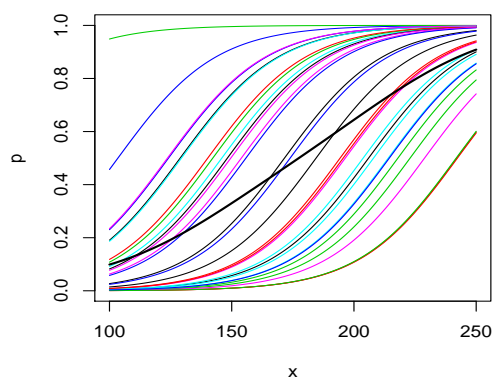


- Results from various estimation methods

Method	Intercept		Slope	
	estimate	se	estimate	se
Logistic Regr.	-3.30	0.946	0.0245	0.0056
GEE (naive)	-3.90	0.920	0.0288	0.0056
GEE (fixed)		1.132		0.0071
LR w/farm			0.0391	0.0076
GLMM (Laplace)	-5.03	1.273	0.0374	0.0072
GLMM (Gauss Q)	-5.03	1.273	0.0374	0.0072
GLMM (Resid PL)	-4.87	1.246	0.0357	0.0071

- Big difference is between marginal and conditional models

- So which is the right approach?
- My answer is that it depends on goal of study.
- Sometimes called population averaged and subject-specific models
- This helps identify most appropriate method for specific goal
- Example: influence of cholesterol on P[heart attack]
- Data are observations on individuals made every 3 months:
(Chl at start of period, Heart attack during period?)
- Two slightly different questions
 - 1 If I change my diet and reduce my cholesterol from 230 to 170, how much will I reduce **my** probability of a heart attack?
want conditional = subject specific estimate of log odds
 - 2 Public health official: If we implement a nationwide program to reduce cholesterol from 230 to 170, how much will we reduce the number of heart attacks?
heart attacks = $P[\text{heart attack}] \times \text{population size}$
want marginal = population averaged estimate of log odds



Computing for GLMM's

- Only code for fitting a GLMM is included here
- All the code to produce the plots in this section is in deer2.r on the class web site

```
deer <- read.csv('deer.csv', as.is=T)
deer$farm.f <- factor(deer$Farm)

library(lme4)
# use glmer() to fit GLMM.
# Farm is a unique identifier for a cluster;
# does not need to be a factor
deer.glmm <- glmer(infect~Length+(1|Farm),
  data=deer, family=binomial)

# default in glmer() is ML estimation.
```

Computing for GLMM's

```
# have all the lmer() helper functions
# coef(), fixef(), vcov()
# summary(), print()
# anova()
# full list found in ?lmer (look for Methods)

# default is Laplace approximation
# shift to Gaussian quadrature by specifying
# nAGQ = # quadrature points

deer.glmm2 <- glmer(infect~Length+(1|Farm),
  data=deer, family=binomial, nAGQ = 5)
```

Computing for GEE's

```
# GEE is in the gee library
# arguments are formula, data, and family as in glm()
# id=variable has a unique value for each cluster
# DATA must be sorted by this variable
# help file implies any type of variable will work,
# but my experience is that this needs to be a
# number or a factor
```

```
deer <- deer[order(deer$Farm),]
```

```
deer.gee <- gee(infect~Length, id=farm.f, data=deer,
  family=binomial, corstr='exchangeable')
# then the working correlation matrix, as corstr =
# I used exchangeable = Compound symmetry to get the
# results shown in lecture
```

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Computing for GEE's

```
# even though the lecture material focused on
# independence. Results are not quite the same
# General advice about GEE is to use a working
# correlation close to the suspected true
# correlation model, that's exchangeable here

# summary() produces a lot of output here because
# it prints the working correl matrix for the
# largest cluster. That's 83x83 for the deer data.
# just get the coefficients part
summary(deer.gee)$coeff
```

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Nonlinear Models

- So far the models we have studied this semester have been linear in the sense that our model for the mean has been a linear function of the parameters.
- We have assumed $E(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{X}\beta$
- $f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta) = \mathbf{X}_i' \beta$ is said to be linear in the parameters of β because $\mathbf{X}_i' \beta = X_{i1}\beta_1 + X_{i2}\beta_2 + \dots + X_{ip}\beta_p$ is a linear combination of $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p$.
- $f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta) = \mathbf{X}_i' \beta$ is linear in β even if the predictor variables, the \mathbf{X} 's are nonlinear functions of other variables.

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- For example, if
$$\begin{aligned} X_{i1} &= 1 \\ X_{i2} &= \text{Amount of fertilizer applied to plot } i \\ X_{i3} &= (\text{Amount of fertilizer applied to plot } i)^2 \\ X_{i4} &= \log(\text{Concentration of fungicide on plot } i) \end{aligned}$$
- $f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta) = \mathbf{X}_i' \beta = X_{i1}\beta_1 + X_{i2}\beta_2 + X_{i3}\beta_3 + X_{i4}\beta_4$
 $= \beta_1 + \text{fert}_i\beta_2 + \text{fert}_i^2\beta_3 + \log((\text{fung})_i)\beta_4$ is still linear in the parameters $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$.
- Now, we consider nonlinear models for the mean $E(y_i)$.
- These are models where $f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta)$ cannot be written as a linear combination of $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p$
- Small digression: What about models that can be transformed to be linear in the parameters?

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linearizing a non-linear model

- Example: Michaelis-Menton enzyme kinetics model

$$v_s = \frac{v_m S}{S + K_m}$$

- S is concentration of substrate, v_s is reaction rate at S
 v_m is maximum reaction rate,
 K_m is enzyme affinity= S at which $v_s = v_m/2$
- Function is mathematically equivalent to:

- Lineweaver-Burke:

$$\frac{1}{v_s} = \frac{1}{v_m} + \frac{K_m}{v_m} \frac{1}{S}$$

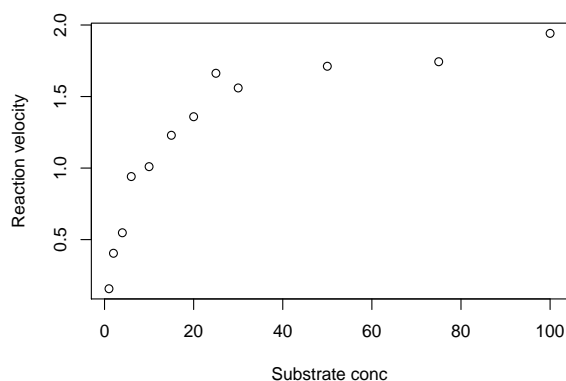
Linear regression of $Y = 1/v_s$ on $X = 1/S$

- Hanes-Woolf:

$$\frac{S}{v_s} = \frac{K_m}{v_m} + \frac{1}{v_m} S$$

Linear regression of $Y = S/v_s$ on $X = S$

- Both are linear regressions



- However, the estimators of v_m and K_m derived from each model are not the same
- Illustrate numerically: LS estimates from each model

Model	$\hat{\beta}_0$	$\hat{\beta}_1$	v_m	\hat{v}_m	K_m	\hat{K}_m
nonlin				2.05		9.12
L-B	0.377	5.64	$1/\beta_0$	2.65	β_1/β_0	14.96
H-W	4.74	0.482	$1/\beta_1$	2.07	β_0/β_1	9.83

- Why?
- Because the statistical model adds a specification of variability to the mathematical model, e.g.

$$v_i = \frac{v_m S_i}{S_i + K_m} + \varepsilon_i, \quad \varepsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma^2)$$

- And

$$v_i = \frac{v_m S_i}{S_i + K_m} + \varepsilon_i, \quad \varepsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma_1^2) \quad (3)$$

- is not the same as

$$\frac{1}{v_i} = \frac{1}{v_m} + \frac{K_m}{v_m} \frac{1}{S_i} + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma_2^2) \quad (4)$$

- If you work out all the details, (2) is equivalent to (1) with unequal variances
- The **statistical** models for MM, L-B, and H-W are different
- Estimates differ because
 - Different variance models
 - Leverage of specific observations is not the same

linearizing a non-linear model: 2nd example

- Exponential growth model

$$Y_i = \beta_0 e^{\beta_1 T_i}$$

- Nonlinear form, constant variance:

$$Y_i = \beta_0 e^{\beta_1 T_i} + \varepsilon_i, \quad \varepsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma_1^2)$$

- Linearized form, constant variance, normal dist.:

$$Y_i^* = \log Y_i = \log \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_i + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma_2^2)$$

- Statistically equivalent to

$$Y_i = \beta_0 e^{\beta_1 T_i} \times e^{\epsilon_i}, \quad \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma_2^2)$$

- i.e., errors are multiplicative log normal with constant lognormal variance

- Three classes of models:

- 1 Linear
- 2 Transformable to linear, e.g. MM or exp. growth
- 3 Intrinsically nonlinear, e.g. $Y(t) = N_1 e^{-r_1 T} + N_2 e^{-r_2 T}$

- Why would we want to consider a nonlinear model?

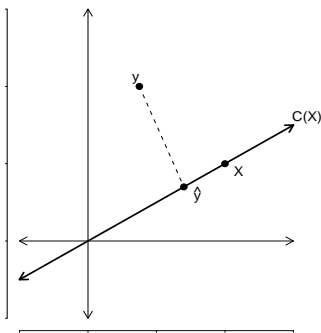
- Pinheiro and Bates (2000) give some reasons:

- 1 mechanistic - based on theoretical considerations about the mechanism producing the response.
- 2 often interpretable and parsimonious
- 3 can be valid beyond the range of the observed data.

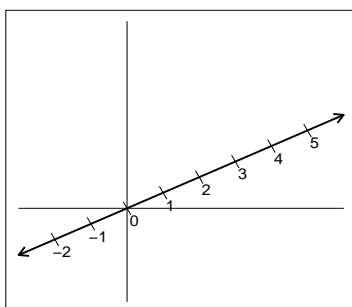
- I add: because the implied variance model (usually constant variance for untransformed observations) may be more appropriate for the data

Geometry of nonlinear least squares

- Remember the geometry of LS for a linear model



- Add β values to $C(X)$



- Example 3: A 1 parameter nonlinear model
- Classic data set, "Rumford" data: how quickly does a cannon cool?
- 15'th - 19'th century cannons made by forging a big piece of metal, then boring out the tube in the middle.
- Boring generates a **lot** of heat. Doesn't work if the cannon gets too hot. Have to stop and wait for cannon to cool
- Count Rumford: how long does this take? Developed the physics leading to:

$$Y_i = T_{env} + (T_{init} - T_{env})e^{-rX_i}$$

- T_{env} and T_{init} are temp in the environment and cannon's initial temperature, Y_i is temp at time X_i
- Collected data to see if this model was appropriate. Cannon heated to 130 F. Environment is 60 F. Measured temp at set times.

$$Y_i = 60 + 70e^{-rX_i}$$

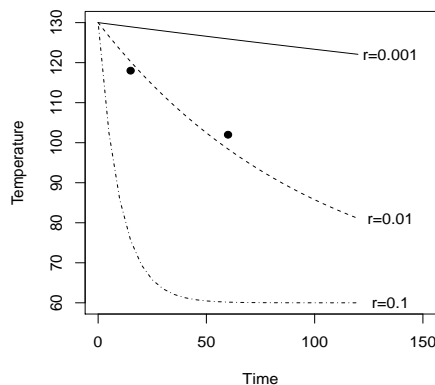
- Assume errors in temperature measurement have constant variance

$$Y_i = 60 + 70e^{-rX_i} + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma^2)$$

- Equation is non-linear in the parameter, r
- But, least squares is still a reasonable way to define an estimator
- Estimate r by finding the r that minimizes

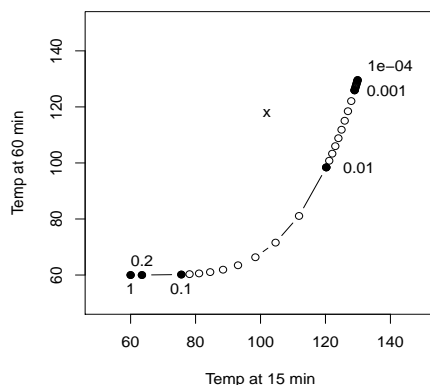
$$L(r) = (Y_i - \hat{Y}(r)_i)^2 = (Y_i - (60 + 70e^{-rX_i}))^2$$

- Consider fitting this model to two data points: (15,118), (60, 102)



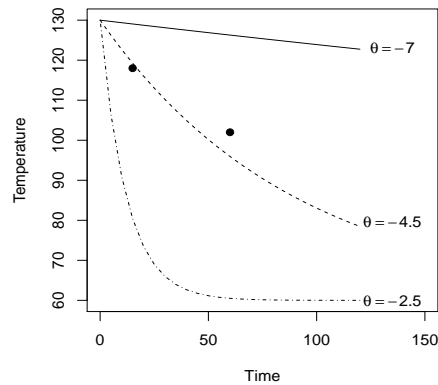
The expectation surface, $(\hat{Y}(r)_{X=15}, \hat{Y}(r)_{X=60})$,

- Expectation surface is curved
- Points not equally spaced (considered as function of r)



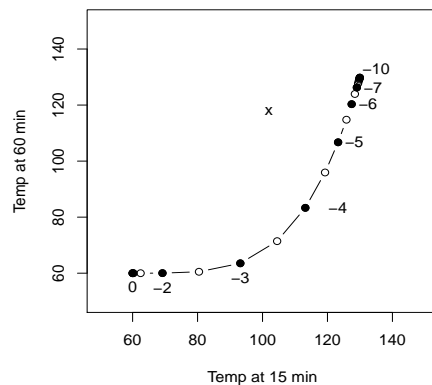
- Can write the same nonlinear model using different parameters.

$$Y_i = 60 + 70e^{-\theta X_i} + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim (0, \sigma^2), \quad \theta = \log r$$



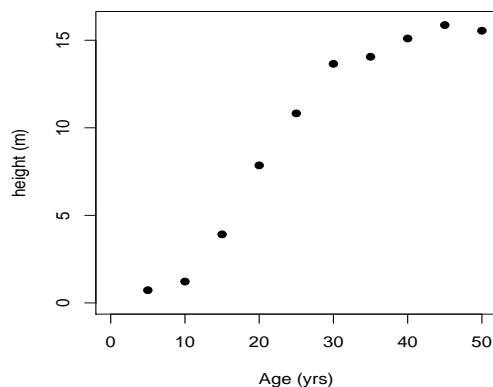
The expectation surface, $(\hat{Y}(\theta)_{X=15}, \hat{Y}(\theta)_{X=60})$,

- Expectation surface is same manifold
- But spacing of points not the same (more evenly spaced for θ)



- \hat{Y} is still the closest point on the expectation surface.
- LS estimate of r is the parameter corresponding to that point
- But the geometry is (or can be) very different
 - May be more than one closest point.
 - Residual vector may not be perpendicular to (the tangent line) to the expectation surface, e.g., (15,135), (60,132)
- Advanced discussions on nonlinear regression consider consequences of two types of curvature
 - Parameter effect curvature: deviation from equal spacing along expectation surface
Can reduce by reparameterizing model
 - Intrinsic curvature: curvature of expectation surface
Characteristic of model

- Example 4: Logistic Growth Model
- y_i is the height of a tree at age $X_i (i = 1, \dots, n)$

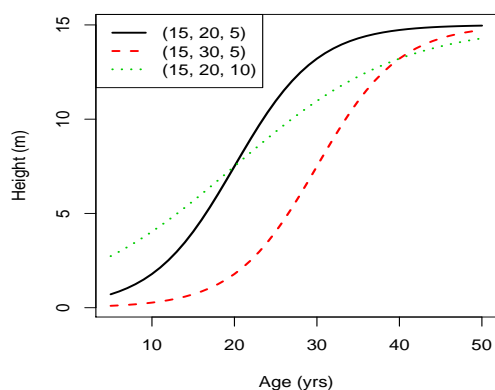


- Want a model in which:
 - trees grow slowly, then quickly, then slowly
 - trees have constant final height
 - the final height needs to be estimated
- One (of many) asymptotic growth models is the 3 parameter logistic

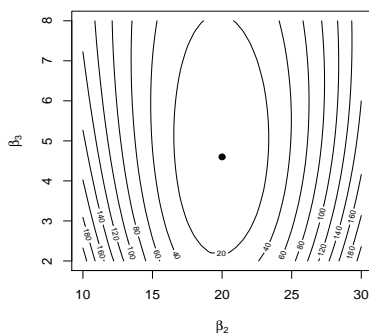
$$E(y_i) = f(X_i, \beta) = \frac{\beta_1}{1 + e^{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3}}$$

- Interpretation of parameters:
 - β_1 is final height
 - β_2 is age at which height is $\beta_1/2$
 - β_3 is the growth rate,
years to grow from $0.5\beta_1$ to $\beta_1/(1 + e^{-1}) \approx 0.73\beta_1$
- Statistical model:

$$y_i = f(X_i, \beta) + \epsilon_i, \quad E(\epsilon_i) = 0, \quad \text{Var}(\epsilon_i) = \sigma^2, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$



- Least Squares Estimation $y_i = f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta) + \epsilon_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n$
- Find $\hat{\beta}$ that minimizes $g(\mathbf{b}) = \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - f(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{b})]^2$



- Candidate $\hat{\beta}$ is the solution to the estimating equations:

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{0}$$

- These are:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial b_1} &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - f(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{b})] \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_1} \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial b_p} &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - f(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{b})] \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_p} \end{aligned}$$

- Can write as a matrix equation

- Define $f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b}) = \begin{bmatrix} f(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{b}) \\ \vdots \\ f(\mathbf{X}_n, \mathbf{b}) \end{bmatrix}$

- And

$$D' = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_n, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_p} & \dots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_n, \mathbf{b})}{\partial b_p} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then $\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{0}$ is equivalent to $D'[\mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b})] = \mathbf{0}$

- In the linear case, $D' = X'$ and $D'[\mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b})] = \mathbf{0}$ becomes $X'[\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}] = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow X'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} = X'\mathbf{y}$

- In the nonlinear case, D' depends on β so that the equation $D'[\mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b})] = \mathbf{0}$ has (usually) no analytic solution for \mathbf{b}
- For example, for the logistic model,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta)}{\partial \beta_1} &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp\{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3\}} \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta)}{\partial \beta_2} &= \frac{-\beta_1 \exp\{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3\}}{[1 + \exp\{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3\}]^2 \beta_3} \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta)}{\partial \beta_3} &= \frac{-\beta_1 \exp\{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3\} (X_i - \beta_2)}{[1 + \exp\{-(X_i - \beta_2)/\beta_3\}]^2 \beta_3^2} \end{aligned}$$

- Various algorithms to find minimum analytically
- Very common one for nonlinear regression is the Gauss-Newton algorithm
- Taylor's theorem:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{b}) \approx f(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{b}^*) + \left[\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \Big|_{\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{b}^*} \right] (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}^*)$$

- So $E \mathbf{Y} = f(\mathbf{X}, \beta)$ can be approximated by

$$f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b}) \approx f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b}^*) + \hat{D}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}^*),$$

where \hat{D} is D evaluated at $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}^*$.

- Notice this is a linear regression where \mathbf{X} is \hat{D}

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b}) &\approx f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{b}^*) - \hat{D}\mathbf{b}^* + \hat{D}\mathbf{b} \\ &\approx \text{constant} + \hat{D}\mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

- Gauss-Newton algorithm
 - 1 Choose a starting value, \mathbf{b}_0
 - 2 Calculate D for $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}_0$
 - 3 Estimate $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$ using approximating linear model
 - 4 Call this \mathbf{b}_1
 - 5 Calculate D for $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}_1$
 - 6 Repeat steps 3-5 until convergence
- Various ways to define convergence
 - 1 Little to no change in \mathbf{b} after an iteration
"not making progress" convergence
 - 2 Little to no change in SSE, $g(\mathbf{b})$, after an iteration
"not making progress" convergence
 - 3 $\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$ evaluated at \mathbf{b}_i is sufficiently close to 0
"close to goal" convergence

- Choice of starting value can really matter
- Nice to have a starting value close to the overall minimizer
 - Taylor expansion is a close approximation to the nonlinear function, so convergence will be quick
 - less likely to get stuck at some local minimum.
- Good idea to try multiple starting values.
- Would like to get to same solution from each starting value
- Often implementations of the G-N algorithm impose a maximum number of iterations. Often 50 or 100.
- If doesn't converge, try different starting value or increase the number of iterations
- Relaxing the convergence criterion is something to be used only if really desperate.
Reported "solution" may be close, but probably not.

- Continue iterating until some convergence criterion is met.
- Possible convergence criteria:
 - $\sum |\beta^r - \beta^{r-1}| < \text{small constant}$
 - $\max_{j=1, \dots, p} \frac{|b_j^{(r)} - b_j^{(r-1)}|}{|b_j^{(r-1)}| + \epsilon} < \text{small constant.}$
 - $g(\mathbf{b}^{(r-1)}) - g(\mathbf{b}^{(r)}) < \text{small constant}$
 - $\sum \text{abs} \left(\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right)_{\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{b}^{(r)}} < \text{small constant}$

Normal Theory Inference

- Add assumption of normal distribution to our error model
- The model is now:

$$y_i = f(\mathbf{x}, \beta) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Let $\hat{\beta}$ be the least squares estimate of β
- If n sufficiently large,

$$\hat{\beta} \sim N(\beta, \sigma^2 (\hat{D}' \hat{D})^{-1}),$$

where \hat{D} is D evaluated at $\hat{\beta}$

- because if n large, $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b}) \approx \text{constant} + \hat{D}\mathbf{b}$
where \hat{D} is D evaluated at \mathbf{b}
- $\sigma^2 (\hat{D}' \hat{D})^{-1}$ can be estimated by $\text{MSE}(\hat{D}' \hat{D})^{-1}$, where \hat{D} is D evaluated at $\hat{\beta}$

- MSE is estimated in the obvious way
 - Define p = number of parameters
 - $\text{MSE} = \frac{\text{SSE}}{n-p}$.
 - $\text{SSE} = g(\hat{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\beta})]^2$.
- For n sufficiently large, $\frac{(n-p)\text{MSE}}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2_{(n-p)}$
- All the linear model inference follows, using \hat{D} as the " \mathbf{X} " matrix
- An approximate F-test $H_0: \mathbf{C}\beta = \mathbf{0}$ rejects H_0 at level α if and only if $F = \frac{\hat{\beta}' \mathbf{C}' [\mathbf{C}(\hat{D}' \hat{D})^{-1} \mathbf{C}]^{-1} \mathbf{C} \hat{\beta} / q}{\text{MSE}} \geq F_{q, n-p}^{(\alpha)}$ where $q = \text{rank}(\mathbf{C}) =$ number of rows of \mathbf{C} .
- An approximate $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence interval for $\mathbf{C}'\beta$ is

$$\mathbf{C}'\hat{\beta} \pm t_{n-p}^{\alpha} \sqrt{\text{MSE } \mathbf{C}'(\hat{D}' \hat{D})^{-1} \mathbf{C}}$$

- We also have approximate F tests for reduced vs. full model comparisons:

$$F = \frac{(SSE_{\text{reduced}} - SSE_{\text{full}}) / (df_{\text{reduced}} - df_{\text{full}})}{SSE_{\text{full}} / df_{\text{full}}} \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F_{df_{\text{reduced}} - df_{\text{full}}, df_{\text{full}}}$$

- For example, consider a test of $H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_{10}$ vs. $H_A : \beta_1 \neq \beta_{10}$

for some fixed β_{10} . Let $\beta_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix}$. Let

$$f_0(\mathbf{X}, \beta_2) = f(\mathbf{X}, \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{10} \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix})$$

- Then the reduced model is

$$y_i = f_0(\mathbf{X}_i, \beta_2) + \epsilon_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \quad \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Then $F(\beta_{10}) \equiv \frac{SSE_{\text{reduced}} - SSE_{\text{full}}}{MSE_{\text{full}}} \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F_{1, n-p}$

Confidence intervals

- Two ways to get a confidence interval for β_1

- 1 Wald interval:

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \pm t_{n-p}^\alpha \sqrt{\text{MSE}(\hat{D}'\hat{D})^{-1}}$$

- 2 “profile” interval:

- Consider all β_{10} . Include in $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval all those β_{10} for which the F test accepts $H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_{10}$ at level α .
- The set $\{\beta_{10} : F_{(\beta_{10})} \leq F_{1, n-p}^{(\alpha)}\}$ is an approximate $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence set for β_1 .

- Same interval for linear models

- **Not the same for a nonlinear model**

- Reparameterization of β , e.g. $\exp \beta$, changes Wald interval.

No effect on profile interval.

- Wald interval assumes SSE surface quadratic around estimate

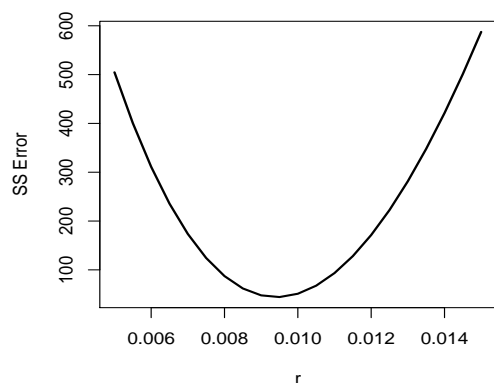
- Wald intervals commonly used because they're easier to compute.

For careful work, use profile intervals.

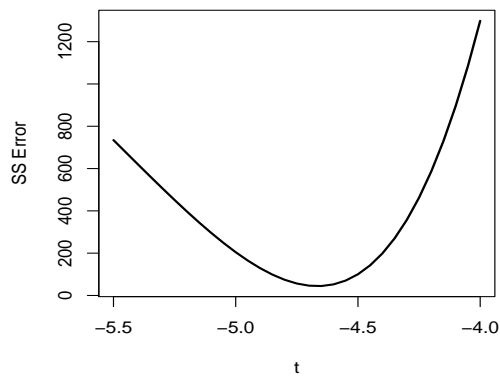
- Example: Confidence interval for Rumford temperature change
- Model 1: $\text{temp}_i = 60 + 70 \times \exp(-r * \text{time}_i) + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- Fit to Rumford data: $\hat{r} = 0.0094$, $\text{se } \hat{r} = 0.00042$, $\text{rMSE} = 1.918$
- Model 2:
 $\text{temp}_i = 60 + 70 \times \exp(-\exp(t) * \text{time}_i) + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- Fit to Rumford data: $\hat{t} = -4.665$, $\text{se } \hat{t} = 0.044$, $\text{rMSE} = 1.918$,
 $\exp(-4.665) = 0.0094$

Data	Model	Wald interval	Profile interval
Rumford	1	(0.0085, 0.0103)	(0.0085, 0.0103)
	2	(-4.762, -4.568)	(-4.767, -4.571)
Noisy	1	(0.0085, 0.0104)	(0.0085, 0.0103)
	2	(0.0084, 0.0168)	(0.0087, 0.0171)
		(-4.702, -4.044)	(-4.746, -4.071)
		(0.0091, 0.0175)	(0.0087, 0.0171)

Profile SS Error for r parameterization



Profile SS Error for $t = \exp(r)$ parameterization



A useful property of nonlinear models

- Consider a model: $E \mathbf{Y} = f(\mathbf{X}, \beta)$
- $\hat{\beta}$ satisfies the normal equations: $D' [Y - f(\mathbf{X}, \beta)] = 0$
where D' is the matrix of partial derivatives with respect to β
- And $\text{Var } \beta = \text{MSE}(D'D)^{-1}$
- The real interest is in a new set of parameters computed from β :
Call these α , where $\alpha_i = g_i(\beta)$
- Using invariance of MLE's: $\hat{\alpha}_i = g_i(\hat{\beta})$
- How to obtain variance-covariance matrix of $\hat{\alpha}$?
- Define G as the matrix of partial derivatives of α with respect to β .

$$G_{ij} = \frac{\partial \alpha_i}{\partial \beta_j}$$

- Two ways:
 - Delta method: $\text{Var } \alpha = G \text{Var } \beta G'$
 - Fit a model using the α parameterization, i.e.
 $\mathbf{y} = f^*(\mathbf{X}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{X}, g(\beta))$
- The variances are exactly the same. Can prove using chain rule.
- One of the models may be linear, but usually at least one model is nonlinear.
- Remember that inference either using the delta method or using nonlinear regression is only asymptotic.

- Example: location of minimum/maximum of a quadratic function
- $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \beta_2^2 X_i^2 + \varepsilon_i$
- Estimated location of min/max is $X_m = -\beta_1 / (2\beta_2)$
- Can estimate X_m = location of min/max and its asymptotic variance directly by fitting the nonlinear model

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_2 (X_i - X_m)^2 + \varepsilon_i$$

- Wald confidence interval matches Delta method ci from linear regression
- Profile confidence interval performs better

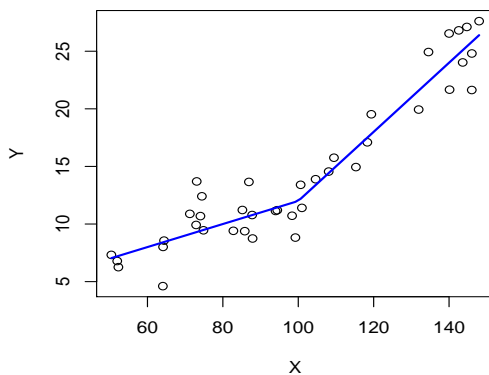
Change-point models

- Short detour through regression models with dummy variables
- We've seen indicator (0/1) variables used to represent group-specific means, group-specific intercepts, and groups-specific slopes
- They are also used in "change-point" problems.
- Suppose we are relating Y and x and expect a change in slope at $x = 100$. A possible model is

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \beta_2 (x_i - 100) z_i + \epsilon_i$$

where $z_i = 1$ if $x_i > 100$ and 0 otherwise

- $E(Y|x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$ (for $x \leq 100$)
 $E(Y|x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 (x - 100)$ (for $x > 100$)
slope changes from β_1 to $\beta_1 + \beta_2$ at $x = 100$



- if change point is unknown then can replace 100 by parameter τ

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \beta_2 (x_i - \tau) I(x_i > \tau) + \epsilon_i \quad (5)$$

- $E Y_i | x_i$ is a non-linear function of τ ; need non-linear regression to estimate $\hat{\tau}$.
- A common variation is "segmented" regression: second part is flat

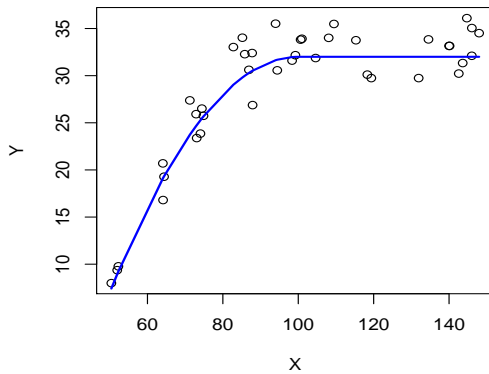
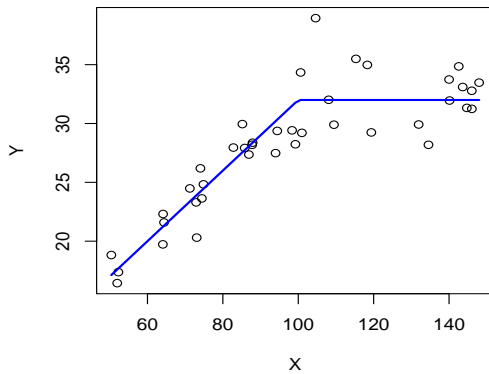
$$E Y_i = \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i & x_i \leq \tau \\ \beta_0 + \beta_1 \tau & x_i > \tau \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

$$E Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i (1 - z_i) + \beta_1 \tau z_i$$

- If τ unknown, need one of these two forms and NL regression
- If τ known, replace all $x_i > \tau$ with τ and use OLS
- Both (5) and (6) are continuous, but 1st derivative is not.

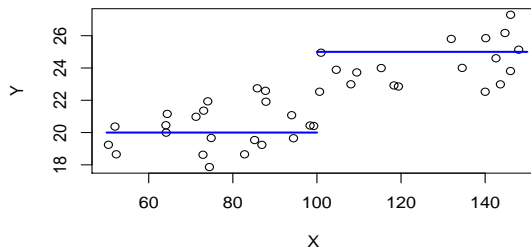
- Quadratic variation has continuous first derivative:
- Quadratic increase to maximum, then flat.
- Easiest to write in non-linear form

$$E Y_i = \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 (\tau - x_i)^2 & x_i \leq \tau \\ \beta_0 & x_i > \tau \end{cases}$$



- “Change-point” model: $E Y_i | x_i$ “jumps” at τ .
- Trivial to estimate (2 means) if τ known. Use NL regression if need to estimate it.

$$E Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I(x_i < \tau)$$



Computing for nonlinear models

```
rumf <- read.table('rumford.txt',header=T)

# fit non-linear model
# the formula gives the model
# start is a list of name=constants
# the names are the parameter names in the model
# (here only one, r)
# the constants are the starting values
# can also specify a vector of possible starting
# values for each parameter
# every variable in the model needs to either be
# a parameter, i.e. in the start list
# or a variable, i.e. in the data frame

rumf.nls <- nls(temp~60 + 70*exp(-r*time),data=rumf,
  start=list(r=0.01))
```

Computing for nonlinear models

```
# many helper functions, including:
# summary()
# coef(), vcov()
# logLik(), deviance(), df.residual()
# predict(), residuals()
# anova()
# each does the same thing as corresponding lm
#   helper function except for anova:
#   you need to provide the sequence of models
#   e.g: evaluate exponential quadratic in time

rumf.nls2 <- nls(temp~60 + 70*exp(-r*time-r2*time^2),
  data=rumpf, start=list(r=0.01,r2=-0.0001))

anova(rumpf.nls,rumpf.nls2)
```

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Computing for nonlinear models

```
# estimated coefficients
coef(rumpf.nls)

# profile ci's on parameters
confint(rumpf.nls)

# residual vs predicted values plot
plot(predict(rumpf.nls),resid(rumpf.nls))
plot(predict(rumpf.nls2),resid(rumpf.nls2))

rumf.nls3 <- nls(temp~init + delta*exp(-r*time),
  data=rumpf, start=list(r=0.01, init=60, delta=70))
```

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Nonlinear mixed models

- Can add additional random variation to Nonlinear models
- Easy version: use additive random effects to model correlated observations

$$Y_{ij} = f(X_i, \beta) + u_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

- More flexible: values of β depend on subject
- First order compartment model with absorption
e.g. swallow a pill with dose D , absorbed into blood, removed by kidneys
- Two compartments: stomach, blood
 A_s : amount in stomach, A_b : amount in blood

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dA_s}{dt} &= -k_a A_s \\ \frac{dA_b}{dt} &= k_a A_s - k_e A_b\end{aligned}$$

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- Solution gives blood concentration, $C(t)$, at time t :

$$C(t) = \frac{k_a k_e D}{V_c} \frac{(e^{-k_a t} - e^{-k_e t})}{k_e - k_a}$$

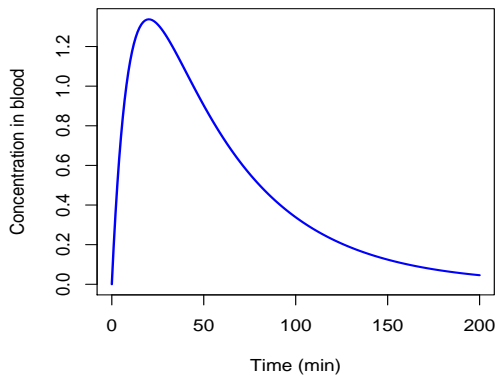
- Picture on next slide: $D = 100$, $k_a = 0.1$, $k_e = 0.02$, $V_c = 1$

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Nonlinear mixed models

- Such models fit to data collected on one or more individuals over time
- Allow the parameters to vary among individuals
- Permits inference to unobserved individuals

$$E C(t) | [k_{ai}, k_{ei}, k_{vi}]' = \frac{k_{ai} k_{ei} D (e^{-k_{ai} t} - e^{-k_{ei} t})}{V_{ci} (k_{ei} - k_{ai})}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_{ai} \\ k_{ei} \\ V_{ci} \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{bmatrix} k_a \\ k_e \\ V_c \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_a^2 & \sigma_{ae} & \sigma_{aV} \\ \sigma_{ae} & \sigma_e^2 & \sigma_{eV} \\ \sigma_{aV} & \sigma_{eV} & \sigma_V^2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

- Often, parameters “better behaved” if modeled on log scale

- Same computational issues as with GLMM's
- No analytic marginal distribution for observations
- Same sorts of computational solutions:
 - Linearize the model (Pseudolikelihood approaches)
 - Approximate the likelihood (Laplace approx. or Gaussian quadrature)
 - Bayesian MCMC
- ASA webinar on these models and their use in Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic modeling

<http://www.amstat.org/sections/sbiop/webinars/WebinarSlidesBW11-08-12.pdf>

Computing for NLME's

```
# Fit NLME to Theophylline data
# The Theoph object preloaded in R has all sorts of
# additional data associated with it. Here, I show
# you how to set up things from a raw data file
```

```
theoph <- read.csv('Theoph.csv', as.is=T)
```

```
# There are a variety of "Self-starting" pre-defined
# nonlinear functions.
# they simplify fitting non-linear models
# SSfol() is the one-compartment with clearance model
# uses log scale parameterization of all parameters
# the advantages of a self-start, is that
# 1) you do not need to provide starting values
# when you use nls(), but you do with nlme()
# 2) they calculate the gradient analytically
```

Computing for NLME's

```
ls('package:stats', patt='SS')
# will list all the R self-start functions
# nlme requires the data frame to be a 'groupedData'
# object. This indicates the groups of
# independent observations
theoph.grp <- groupedData(conc ~ time | Subject,
  data=theoph)
# you need to indicate Y and the 'primary' X variable
# and most importantly the grouping variable as
# | Subject
# estimate parameters for one subject to
# get an approx. of starting values for the pop.
theoph.1 <- subset(theoph, Subject==1)
subj.1 <- nls(conc~SSfol(Dose, Time, lKe, lKa, lCl),
  data = theoph.1)
```

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Computing for NLME's

```
theoph.ml <- nlme(
  conc ~ SSfol(Dose, Time, lKe, lKa, lCl),
  data=theoph.grp,
  fixed = lKe + lKa + lCl ~ 1,
  random = lKe + lKa + lCl ~ 1,
  start=coef(subj.1) )
# If the parameters differed by (e.g.) sex, you
# would change to fixed = lKe + lKa + lCl ~ sex,
# If the variance/covariance matrix varied by
# sex, use random = lKe + lKa + lCl ~ sex,

summary(theoph.ml)

# other helper functions are fitted(), predict()
# random.effects(), residuals()
```

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Computing for NLME's

```
# nlme is extremely powerful. You can also fit
# models for correlation among observations using
# corClasses and model heterogeneity in
# variances (see varClasses and varPower)

# There are also a variety of interesting/useful
# plots for grouped data. See library(help=nlme)
```

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Nonparametric regression using smoothing splines

- Smoothing is fitting a smooth curve to data in a scatterplot
- Will focus on two variable problems: Y and one X
- Our model:

$$y_i = f(x_i) + \varepsilon_i,$$

where $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n$ are independent with mean 0

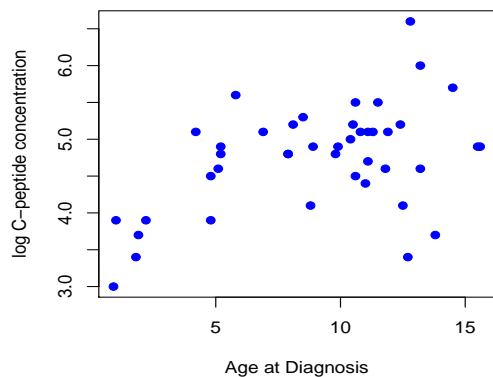
- f is some unknown smooth function
- Up to now f has a specified form with unknown parameters
 - f could be linear or nonlinear in the parameters,
 - functional form always specified
- If f not determined by the subject matter, we may prefer to let the data suggest a functional form

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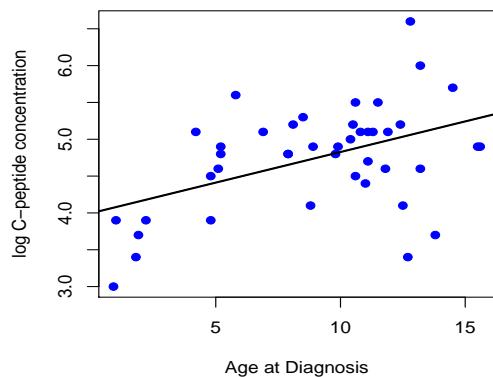
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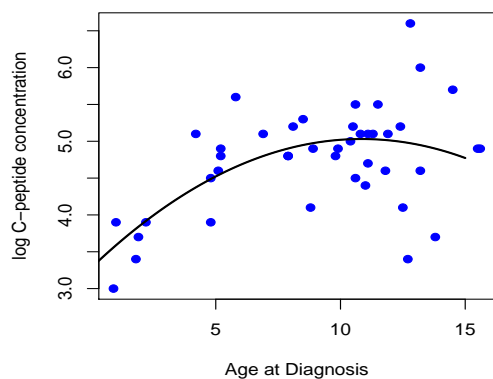
- Why estimate f ?
 - can see features of the relationship between X and Y that are obscured by error variation
 - summarizes the relationship between X and Y
 - provide a diagnostic for a presumed parametric form
- Example: Diabetes data set in Hastie and Tibshirani's book *Generalized Additive Models*
- Examine relationship between age of diagnosis of diabetes and log of the serum C-peptide concentration
- Here's what happens if we fit increasing orders of polynomial, then fit an estimated f



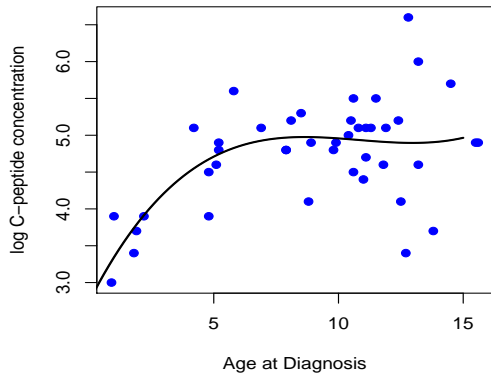
linear fit



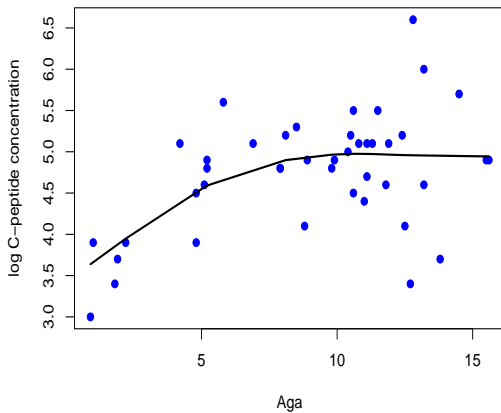
Quadratic fit



Cubic fit



Penalized spline fit



- A slightly different way of thinking about Gauss-Markov Linear models:

- If we assume that $f(x)$ is linear, then $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$
- In terms of the Gauss-Markov Linear Model $\mathbf{y} = X\beta + \epsilon$,

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The linear model approximates $f(x)$ as a linear combination of two "basis" functions: $b_0(x) = 1$, $b_1(x) = x$,

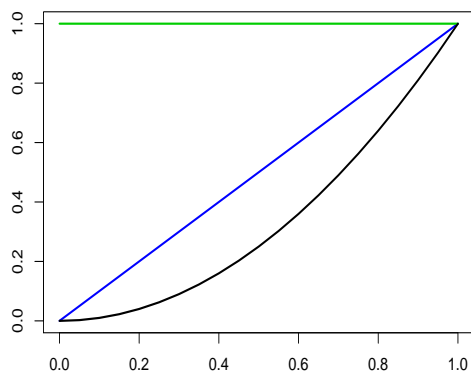
$$f(x) = \beta_0 b_0(x) + \beta_1 b_1(x)$$

- If we assume that $f(x)$ is quadratic, then $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2$.
- In terms of the Gauss-Markov Linear Model $\mathbf{y} = X\beta + \epsilon$,

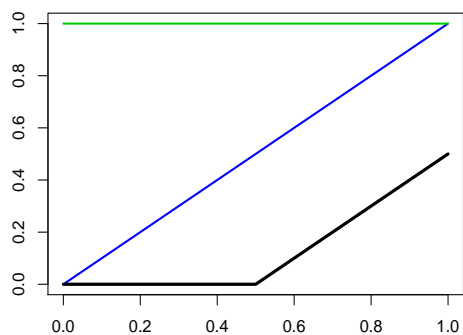
$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & x_n^2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The quadratic model tries to approximate $f(x)$ as a linear combination of three basis functions:
 $b_0(x) = 1$, $b_1(x) = x$, $b_2(x) = x^2$

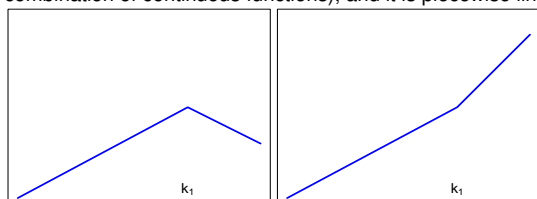
$$f(x) = \beta_0 b_0(x) + \beta_1 b_1(x) + \beta_2 b_2(x)$$



- Now consider replacing $b_2(x) = x^2$ with $S_1(x) = (x - k_1)^+ \equiv \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \leq k_1 \\ x - k_1 & \text{if } x > k_1 \end{cases}$ where k_1 is a specified real value.
- $f(x)$ is now approximated by $\beta_0 b_0(x) + \beta_1 b_1(x) + u_1 S_1(x)$, where u_1 (like β_0 and β_1) is an unknown parameter.



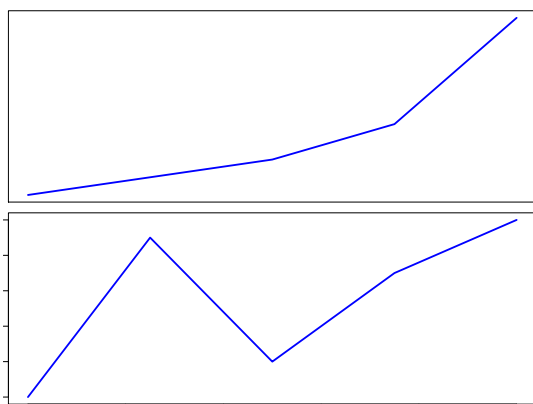
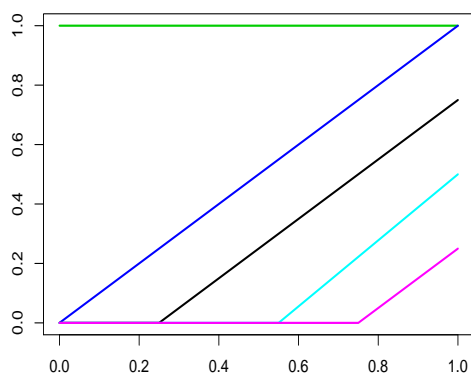
- Note that $\beta_0 b_0(x) + \beta_1 b_1(x) + u_1 S_1(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + u_1 (x - k_1)^+ = \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 x & \text{if } x \leq k_1 \\ \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + u_1 (x - k_1) & \text{if } x > k_1 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 x & \text{if } x \leq k_1 \\ \beta_0 - u_1 k_1 + (\beta_1 + u_1)x & \text{if } x > k_1 \end{cases}$
- This is clearly a continuous function (because it is a linear combination of continuous functions), and it is piecewise linear.



- The function $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x + u_1(x - k_1)^+$ is a simple example of a linear spline function.
- The value k_1 is known as a knot.
- As a Gauss-Markov Linear Model, $\mathbf{y} = X\beta + \epsilon$,

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & (x_1 - k_1)^+ \\ 1 & x_2 & (x_2 - k_1)^+ \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & (x_n - k_1)^+ \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ u_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- We can make our linear spline function more flexible by adding more knots k_1, \dots, k_k so that $f(x)$ is approximated by $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j s_j(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j (x - k_j)^+$



- If we assume $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j (x - k_j)^+$, we can write our model as the Gauss-Markov Linear Model $\mathbf{y} = X\beta + \epsilon$, where

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & (x_1 - k_1)^+ & (x_1 - k_2)^+ & \dots & (x_1 - k_k)^+ \\ 1 & x_2 & (x_2 - k_1)^+ & (x_2 - k_2)^+ & \dots & (x_2 - k_k)^+ \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & (x_n - k_1)^+ & (x_n - k_2)^+ & \dots & (x_n - k_k)^+ \end{bmatrix}$$

and $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)'$

- The OLS estimator of β is $(x'x)^{-1}x'y$. This is the BLUE of β , but this can often result in an estimate of $f(x)$ that is too “wiggly” or “non-smooth”.
- A “wiggly” curve corresponds to values of u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k far from zero

Curve	β_1	u_1	u_2	u_3	$\sum u_j^2$
Smoother	0.4	0.0	0.4	1.6	2.72
Wigglier	3.6	-6.4	4.8	-0.8	64.64

- If we really believe the true $f(x)$ is a linear spline function with knots at k_1, k_2, \dots, k_k , then $\hat{\beta} = (x'x)^{-1}y$ is the best linear unbiased estimator of $(\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, \dots, u_k)'$.
- However, we usually think of our linear spline function as an approximation to the true $f(x)$.
- Prefer a smoother (less flexible) estimate of $f(x)$.
- This has u_j coefficients closer to 0
- Use penalized least squares to estimate a smoother curve.
- Find $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, \dots, u_k)'$ that minimizes $(y - x\beta)'(y - x\beta) + \lambda^2 \sum_{j=1}^k u_j^2$, where λ^2 is the smoothing parameter, and $\lambda^2 \sum_{j=1}^k u_j^2$ is the penalty for roughness (lack of smoothness).
- Combines two ideas: fit (SSE) and smoothness (penalty for roughness)

Finding the penalized LS estimate of $(\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, \dots, u_k)'$

- If we let $D = \text{diag}(0, 0, 1, \dots, 1)$ (k terms), then

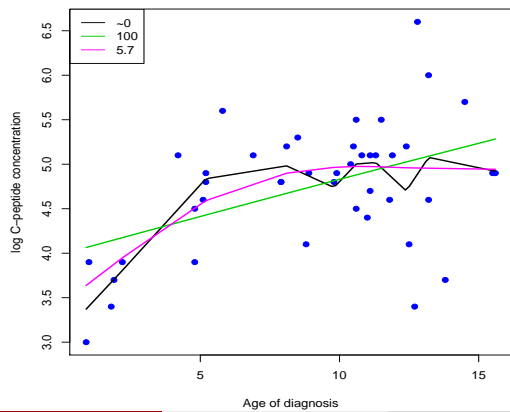
$$\begin{aligned} (y - x\beta)'(y - x\beta) + \lambda^2 \sum_{j=1}^k u_j^2 &= (y - x\beta)'(y - x\beta) + \lambda^2 \beta' D \beta \\ &= y'y - 2y'x\beta + \beta'x'x\beta + \lambda^2 \beta' D \beta \\ &= y'y - 2y'x\beta + \beta'(x'x + \lambda^2 D)\beta \end{aligned}$$

- Set derivatives with respect to β equal to 0
- estimating equations: $(x'x + \lambda^2 D)\beta \equiv x'y$
- solution: $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda^2} = (x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1}x'y$ for any fixed $\lambda^2 \geq 0$
- predicted values: $\hat{y}_{\lambda^2} \equiv x\hat{\beta}_{\lambda^2} = x(x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1}x'y$

- You choose λ^2 and the knots k_1, \dots, k_k .
- As $\lambda^2 \rightarrow 0$, $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda^2} \rightarrow \hat{\beta} = (x'x)^{-1}x'y$.
Small λ^2 results in non-smooth fit.
- As $\lambda^2 \rightarrow \infty$, $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda^2} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_0 \\ \hat{\beta}_1 \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$
In the limit, $\lambda^2 \rightarrow \infty$ results in the least squares fit
- When $f(x)$ is defined as $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j(x - k_j)^+$, the resulting function is continuous but the 1st and 2nd derivatives are not.
- 1st and 2nd derivatives are undefined at the knots

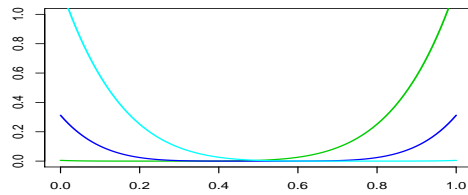
A smoother smoother

- Next page: fitted penalized regression splines for 3 smoothing parameters: ~ 0 , 100, and 5.7
- 5.7 is the "optimal" choice, to be discussed shortly
- "optimal" curve is a sequence of straight lines
- continuous, but 1st derivative is not continuous
- Smoothed fits look "smoother" if continuous in 1st derivative and in 2nd derivative
- Suggests joining together cubic pieces with appropriate constraints on the pieces so that the 1st and 2nd derivatives are continuous
- Many very slightly different approaches
 - cubic regression splines (cubic smoothing splines)
 - thin plate splines



- We'll talk about thin plate splines because they provide an easy way to implement way to fit multiple X 's
 $E y = f(x_1, x_2)$ as well as $E y = f(x_1) + f(x_2)$
- The degree 3 thin plate spline with knots at (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_K)

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2 + \sum_{i=1}^K u_k |x - k_i|^5$$



- How much to smooth?
 - i.e. what λ^2 ? or what u_k 's
 - reminder: $0 \Rightarrow$ no smoothing (linear or quadratic in tps)
 - large \Rightarrow close fit to data points
- We'll talk about three approaches:
 - 1 Cross validation
 - 2 Generalized cross validation
 - 3 Mixed models

Cross validation

- General method to estimate "out of sample" prediction error
- Concept: Develop a model, want to assess how well it predicts
- Might use $\text{rMSEP} = \sqrt{\sum (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$ as a criterion.
- Problem: data used twice, once to develop model and again to assess prediction accuracy
- rMSEP systematically underestimates $\sqrt{\sum (y_i^* - \hat{y}_i^*)^2}$, where y^* are new observations, not used in model development
- Training/test set approach: split data in two parts
 - Training data: used to develop model, usually 50%, 80% or 90% of data set
 - Test set: used to assess prediction accuracy
- Want a large training data set (to get a good model) and a large test set (to get a precise estimate of rMSEP)

- Cross validation gets the best of both.
 - leave-one-out cv: fit model without obs i , use that model to compute \hat{y}_i
 - 10-fold cv: same idea, blocks of $N/10$ observations
- Can be used to choose a smoothing parameter
- Find λ^2 that minimizes cv prediction error
-

$$CV(\lambda^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ y_i - \hat{f}_{-i}(x_i; \lambda^2) \right\}^2,$$

where $\hat{f}_{-i}(x_i; \lambda^2)$ is the predicted value of y_i using a penalized linear spline function estimated with smoothing parameter λ^2 from the data set that excludes the i^{th} observation.

- Find λ^2 value that minimizes $CV(\lambda^2)$. Perhaps compute $CV(\lambda^2)$ for a grid of λ^2 values
- Requires a **LOT** of computing (each obs, many λ^2)

- Approximation to $CV(\lambda^2)$

$$CV(\lambda^2) \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{y_i - \hat{f}(x_i; \lambda^2)}{1 - S_{\lambda^2, ii}} \right\}^2$$

, where $S_{\lambda^2, ii}$ is the i^{th} diagonal element of the smoother matrix $S_{\lambda^2} = X(X'X + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} X'$.

- Remember that $\hat{y} = X(X'X + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} X' y = S_{\lambda^2} y$
- OLS: $\hat{y} = X(X'X)^{-1} X' y = P_X y$
- The smoother matrix S_{λ^2} is analogous to the "hat" or projection matrix, P_X in a Gauss-Markov model.

- Stat 500: discussed "deleted residuals" $y_i - \hat{y}_{-i}$, where \hat{y}_{-i} is the prediction of y_i when model fit without observation i .
- Can compute with refitting the model N times

$$y_i - \hat{y}_{-i} = \frac{y_i - \hat{y}_i}{1 - h_{ii}},$$

where h_{ii} is the i^{th} diagonal element of the "hat" matrix $H = P_X = X(X'X)^{-1} X'$.

- h_{ii} = "leverage" of observation i
- Thus, the approximation $CV(\lambda^2) \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{y_i - \hat{f}(x_i; \lambda^2)}{1 - S_{\lambda^2, ii}} \right\}^2$ is analogous to the PRESS statistic $\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_{-i})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{y_i - \hat{y}_i}{1 - h_{ii}} \right)^2$ used in multiple regression.

2. Generalized Cross-Validation (GCV)

- GCV is an approximation to CV obtained as follows:

$$GCV(\lambda^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{y_i - \hat{f}(x_i; \lambda^2)}{1 - \frac{1}{n} \text{trace}(S_{\lambda^2})} \right\}^2$$

- Since $\text{trace}(S_{\lambda^2}) = \sum_{i=1}^n S_{\lambda^2, ii}$, GCV is $CV(\lambda^2)$ using the average $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n S_{\lambda^2, ii}$ instead of each specific element
- Used same way: find λ^2 minimizes $GCV(\lambda^2)$
- GCV is not a generalization of CV
- Originally proposed because faster to compute
- In some situations, seems to work better than CV, see Wahba, G. (1990). *Spline Models for Observational Data* for details
- And in very complicated situations, cannot compute H but can estimate $\text{trace}(H)$, so can't use CV but can use GCV.

3. The Linear Mixed Effects Model Approach

- Recall that for our linear spline approach, we assume the model $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j (x_i - k_j)^+ + \epsilon_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$; where $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2)$
- Suppose we add the following assumptions: $u_1, \dots, u_k \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, \sigma_u^2)$ independent of $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$. ($\sigma_\epsilon^2 \equiv \sigma^2$)
- Then we may write our model as $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u} + \epsilon$, where

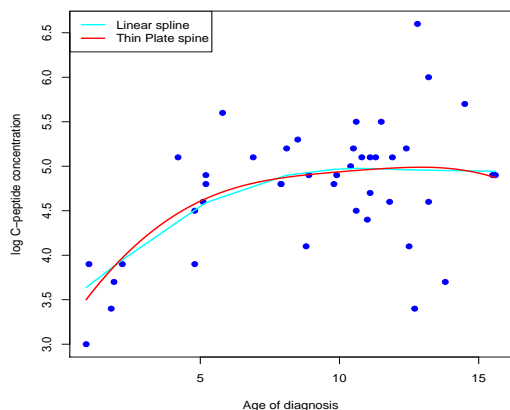
$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{Z} = \begin{bmatrix} (x_1 - k_1)^+ & \dots & (x_1 - k_k)^+ \\ (x_2 - k_1)^+ & \dots & (x_2 - k_k)^+ \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ (x_n - k_1)^+ & \dots & (x_n - k_k)^+ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_k \end{bmatrix} \quad \epsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \epsilon \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_u^2 I & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_\epsilon^2 I \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

- This is a linear mixed effects model!

- It can be shown that the BLUP of $\mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u}$ is equal to $\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{w}'\mathbf{w} + \frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_u^2})^{-1}\mathbf{w}'\mathbf{y}$ where $\mathbf{w} = [\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}]$.
- Thus, the BLUP of $\mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u}$ is equal to $S_{\frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_u^2}} \mathbf{y} = (\text{Fitted values of linear spline smoother for } \lambda^2 = \frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_u^2})$
- Thus, we can use either ML or REML to estimate σ_u^2 and σ_ϵ^2 . (Denote estimates by $\hat{\sigma}_u^2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_\epsilon^2$.)
- Then we can estimate β by $\hat{\beta}_{\hat{\Sigma}} = (\mathbf{x}'\hat{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{x})^{-1}\mathbf{x}'\hat{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{y}$ and predict \mathbf{u} by $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\hat{\Sigma}} = \hat{\mathbf{G}}\mathbf{Z}'\hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\hat{\beta}_{\hat{\Sigma}}) = \hat{\sigma}_u^2\mathbf{Z}'\hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\hat{\beta}_{\hat{\Sigma}})$ where $\hat{\Sigma} = \hat{\sigma}_u^2\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{Z}' + \hat{\sigma}_\epsilon^2\mathbf{I}$
- The resulting coefficients $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_{\hat{\Sigma}} \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\hat{\Sigma}} \end{bmatrix}$ will be equal to the estimate obtained using penalized least squares with smoothing parameter $\lambda^2 = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_\epsilon^2}{\hat{\sigma}_u^2}$



- Still need to choose number of knots (k) and their locations k_1, \dots, k_k
- Ruppert, Wand and Carroll (2003) recommend 20-40 knots maximum, located so that there are roughly 4-5 unique x values between each pair of knots.
- Most software automatically chooses knots using a strategy consistent (roughly) with this recommendation.
- Knot choice is not usually as important as choice of smoothing parameter
 - As long as there are enough knots, a good fit can usually be obtained.
 - Penalization prevents a fit that is too rough even when there are many knots.

Towards inference with a penalized spline

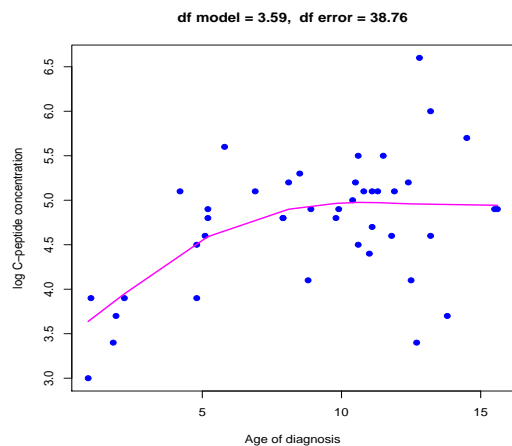
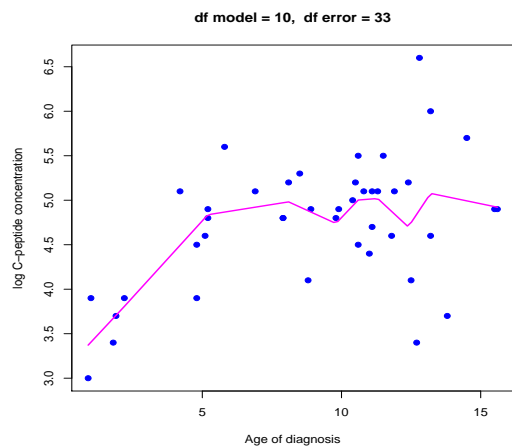
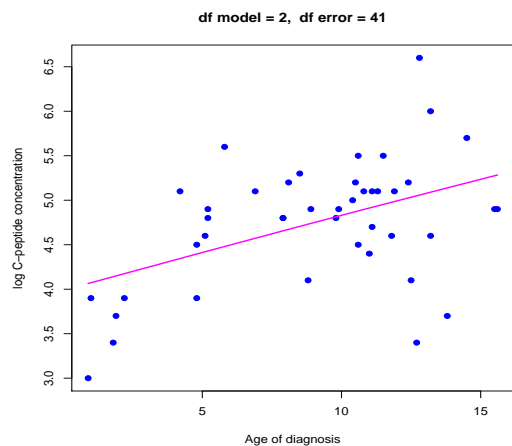
- If we want a confidence or prediction interval around the predicted line, need to know df for error.
- If we want to compare models (e.g. $Ey = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$ vs $Ey = f(x)$), need to know df for penalized spline fit
- Can do this test because
 - $Ey = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$ is nested in $Ey = f(x)$ fit as a linear spline
 - $Ey = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2$ is nested in $Ey = f(x)$ fit as a thin plate spline
- If we use a penalized linear spline, how many parameters are we using to estimate the mean function ?
- It may seem like we have $k+2$ parameters $\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$.

- However, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k are not completely free parameters because of penalization.
- The effective number of parameters is lower than $k+2$ and depends on the value of the smoothing parameter λ^2 .
- Recall that our estimates of $\beta_0, \beta_1, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$ minimize $\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i - \sum_{j=1}^k u_j (x_i - k_j)^+)^2 + \lambda^2 \sum_{j=1}^k u_j^2$
- A larger λ^2 means less freedom to choose values for u_1, \dots, u_k for from 0.
- Thus, the number of effective parameters should decrease as λ^2 increases.
- In the Gauss-Markov framework with no penalization, the number of free parameters used to estimate the mean of $y(x|\beta)$ is $rank(x) = rank(P_x) = trace(P_x)$

- For a smoother, the smoother matrix S plays the role of P_x .
- For penalized linear splines, the smoother matrix is $S_{\lambda^2} = x(x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} x'$ where

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & (x_1 - k_1)^+ \dots (x_1 - k_k)^+ \\ 1 & x_2 & (x_2 - k_1)^+ \dots (x_2 - k_k)^+ \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & (x_n - k_1)^+ \dots (x_n - k_k)^+ \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ 2 \times 2 & 0 & \\ 0 & k \times k & \end{bmatrix}$$

- Thus, we define the effective number of parameter (or the degrees of freedom) used when estimating $f(x)$ to be $tr(S_{\lambda^2}) = tr[x(x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} x'] = tr[(x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} x'x]$



- Recall that our basic model is $y_i = f(x_i) + \epsilon_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) where $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2)$.
- How should we estimate σ^2 ?
- A natural estimator would be $MSE \equiv \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \{y_i - \hat{f}(x_i; \lambda^2)\}^2}{df_{ERROR}}$
- df_{ERROR} is usually defined to be $n - 2tr(S_{\lambda^2}) + tr(S_{\lambda^2} S'_{\lambda^2})$.
- To see where this comes from, recall that for \mathbf{w} random and \mathbf{A} fixed $E(\mathbf{w}' \mathbf{A} \mathbf{w}) = E(\mathbf{w})' \mathbf{A} E(\mathbf{w}) + tr(\mathbf{A} Var(\mathbf{w}))$

$$\text{Let } \mathbf{f} = \begin{bmatrix} f(x_1) \\ f(x_2) \\ \vdots \\ f(x_n) \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\lambda^2} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{f}(x_1; \lambda^2) \\ \hat{f}(x_2; \lambda^2) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{f}(x_n; \lambda^2) \end{bmatrix} = S_{\lambda^2} \mathbf{y}$$

- Then, $E[\sum_{i=1}^n \{y_i - \hat{f}(x_i; \lambda^2)\}^2]$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= E[(\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})'(\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})] \\
&= E[\|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{f}}\|^2] = E[\|(I - S_{\lambda^2})\mathbf{y}\|^2] \\
&= E[\mathbf{y}'(I - S_{\lambda^2})'(I - S_{\lambda^2})\mathbf{y}] \\
&= \mathbf{f}'(I - S_{\lambda^2})'(I - S_{\lambda^2})\mathbf{f} + \text{tr}[(I - S_{\lambda^2})'(I - S_{\lambda^2})\sigma^2 I] \\
&= \|(I - S_{\lambda^2})\mathbf{f}\|^2 + \sigma^2 \text{tr}[I - S_{\lambda^2}' - S_{\lambda^2} + S_{\lambda^2}'S_{\lambda^2}] \\
&= \|\mathbf{f} - S_{\lambda^2}\mathbf{f}\|^2 + \sigma^2 [\text{tr}(I) - 2\text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}) + \text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}'S_{\lambda^2})] \\
&\approx \sigma^2 [n - 2\text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}) + \text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}'S_{\lambda^2})]
\end{aligned}$$

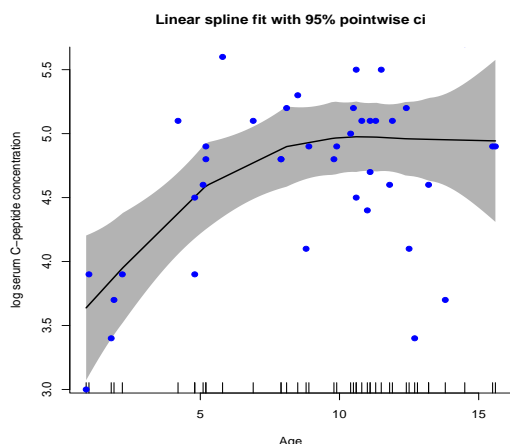
- Thus, if we define $df_{ERROR} = n - 2\text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}) + \text{tr}(S_{\lambda^2}'S_{\lambda^2})$, $E(MSE) \approx \sigma^2$

- The Standard Error of $\hat{f}(x; \sigma^2)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{f}(x; \lambda^2) &= \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x + \sum_{j=1}^k \hat{u}_j (x - k_j)^+ \\
&= [1, x, (x - k_1)^+, \dots, (x - k_k)^+] \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_0 \\ \hat{\beta}_1 \\ \hat{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{u}_k \end{bmatrix} \\
&= [1, x, (x - k_1)^+, \dots, (x - k_k)^+] (x'x + \lambda^2 D)^{-1} x'y = \mathbf{C}'\mathbf{y}
\end{aligned}$$

- If λ^2 and the knots, k_j , are fixed and not chosen as a function of the data, \mathbf{C} is just a fixed (nonrandom) vector.

- Thus, $\text{Var}[\hat{f}(x; \lambda^2)] = \text{Var}(\mathbf{C}'\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{C}'\sigma^2 I \mathbf{C} = \sigma^2 \mathbf{C}'\mathbf{C}$
- It follows that the standard error for $\hat{f}(x; \lambda^2)$ is $SE[\hat{f}(x; \lambda^2)] = \sqrt{MSE \mathbf{C}'\mathbf{C}}$
- If λ^2 and/or the knots are selected based on the data (as is usually the case), $\sqrt{MSE \mathbf{C}'\mathbf{C}}$ is still used as an approximate standard error.
- However, that approximate standard error may be smaller than it should be because it does not account for variation in the \mathbf{C} vector itself
- Ruppert, Wand, and Carroll (2003) suggest other strategies that use the linear mixed effects model framework.
- Calculate pointwise $1 - \alpha$ confidence intervals for $\hat{f}(x_i)$ by $t_{1-\alpha/2, dfe} \sqrt{\text{Var}[\hat{f}(x; \lambda^2)]}$, where dfe is the df_{ERROR} defined a few pages ago



Extensions of penalized splines

- More than one X variable
 - Can fit either as a thin plate spline, $f(X_1, X_2)$
 - or as additive effects: $f_1(X_1) + f_2(X_2)$
 - Can combine parametric and nonparametric forms:
 $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + f(X_2)$
- Additive effects models sometimes called Generalized Additive Models (GAM's)
- Penalized splines provide a model for $E y$
- Our discussion has only considered $y_i \sim N(E y_i, \sigma^2)$
- Can combine with GLM ideas, e.g.:
 $y_i \sim \text{Poisson}(f(x_i))$ or $\text{Binomial}(f(x_i))$

Computing splines

This is a compressed version of diabetes.r. The version on the class web site has more extensive comments.

```
# these can be fit by at least three packages:
#   gam() in mgcv, spm() in SemiPar, and fda

# I've used gam() before.
# spm() has some peculiarities.
# Previous instructors of 511 used spm()
# the results are slightly different and I haven't
# had time to track down why.
# To replicate lecture results, this code
# demonstrates spm()
```

```
library(SemiPar)
```

Computing splines

```
diabetes <- read.csv('diabetes.csv')

plot(diabetes$age, diabetes$y, pch=19, col=4,
     xlab='Age at diagnosis',
     ylab='log C-peptide concentration')

# a couple of peculiarities
# 1) formula interface to spm() does not
# accept data= argument.
# 2) to use predict.spm(), cannot use diabetes$age.
# I use attach to avoid problems.

# basic call to spm
attach(diabetes)
diab.spm <- spm(y ~ f(age));
```

Computing splines

```
plot(diab.spm)
# Bands are pointwise 95% ci's for f hat(x)

diab.pred <- predict(diab.spm,
  newdata=data.frame(age=seq(1,16,0.5)))
lines(seq(1,16,0.5), diab.pred, lwd=2)

# default is normal d'n. can use binomial
# or Poisson, by specifying family=binomial
# or family=poisson

# warning: remember to specify f() to get a smooth
temp <- spm(diabetes$y ~ age)

# gives you the linear regression fit
```



```
# is useful for more than one X, some of which are modeled linearly
# others by a smooth.

# a third peculiarity: lots of useful values have been
# extracted by hand
print(diab.spm)    # not very informative
summary(diab.spm) # a little better

# info on where to find various potentially
# useful numbers is in the version on the web site
# also how to change the basis functions, amount
# of smoothing, and estimate derivatives (yes!)
```