

# Machine Learning by Analogy (Updated)

Colleen M. Farrelly

# Overview of Problem

- ▶ Many machine learning methods exist in the literature and in industry.
  - What works well for one problem may not work well for the next problem.
  - In addition to poor model fit, an incorrect application of methods can lead to incorrect inference.
    - Implications for data-driven business decisions.
    - Low future confidence in data science and its results.
    - Lower quality software products.
- ▶ Understanding the intuition and mathematics behind these methods can ameliorate these problems.
  - This talk focuses on building intuition.
  - Links to theoretical papers underlying each method.

# PLAN

- Régressions paramétriques et extensions
- **Régressions semi paramétriques et extensions**
- Régressions non paramétriques via méthodes d'optimisation
- **Combinaisons de méthodes supervisées et non supervisées**
- Apprentissage non supervisé
- **Séries chronologiques**

# Multiple Regression

- ▶ Total variance of a normally-distributed outcome as cookie jar.
- ▶ Error as empty space.
- ▶ Predictors accounting for pieces of the total variance as cookies.
  - Based on relationship to predictor and to each other.
    - Cookies accounting for the same piece of variance as those smooshed together.
- ▶ Many statistical assumptions need to be met.



# Generalized Linear Models

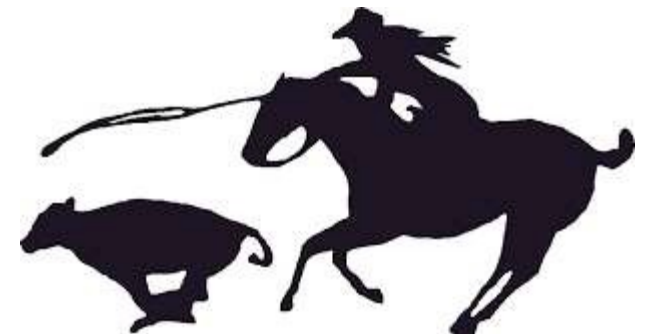
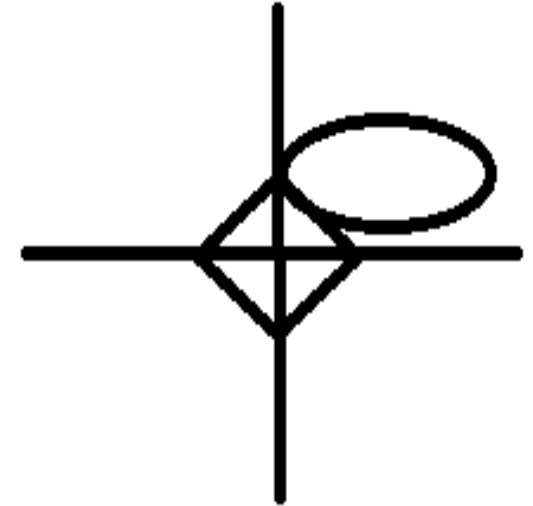


[tomstock.photoshelter.com](http://tomstock.photoshelter.com)

- ▶ Extends multiple regression.
  - Many types of outcome distributions.
  - Transform an outcome variable to create a linear relationship with predictors.
- ▶ Sort of like silly putty stretching the outcome variable in the data space.
- ▶ Does not work on high-dimensional data where predictors  $>$  observations.
- ▶ Only certain outcome distributions.
  - Exponential family as example.

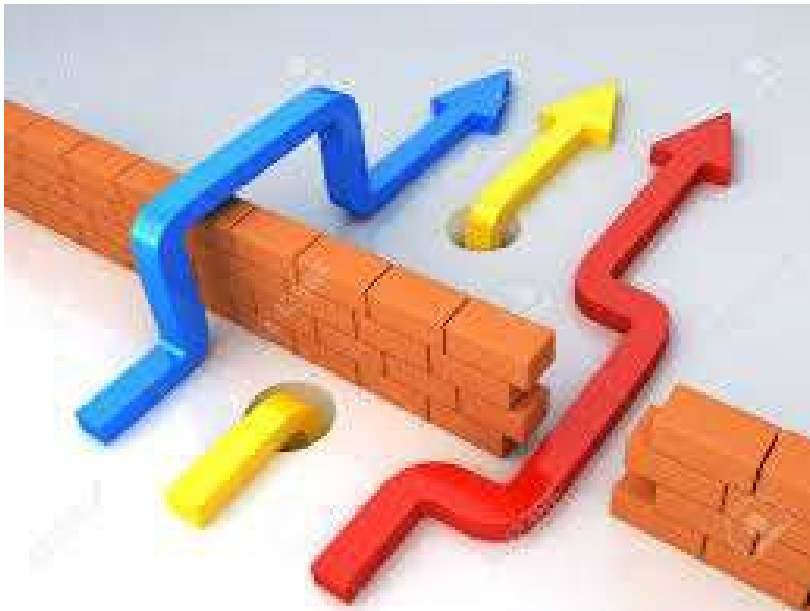
# LASSO, Ridge Regression, and Elastic Net

- ▶ Impose size and/or variable overlap constraints (penalties) on generalized linear models.
  - Elastic net as hybrid of these constraints.
  - Can handle large numbers of predictors.
- ▶ Reduce the number of predictors.
  - Shrink some predictor estimates to 0.
  - Examine sets of similar predictors.
- ▶ Similar to eating irrelevant cookies in the regression cookie jar or a cowboy at the origin roping coefficients that get too close



# Homotopy-Based LASSO/LARS

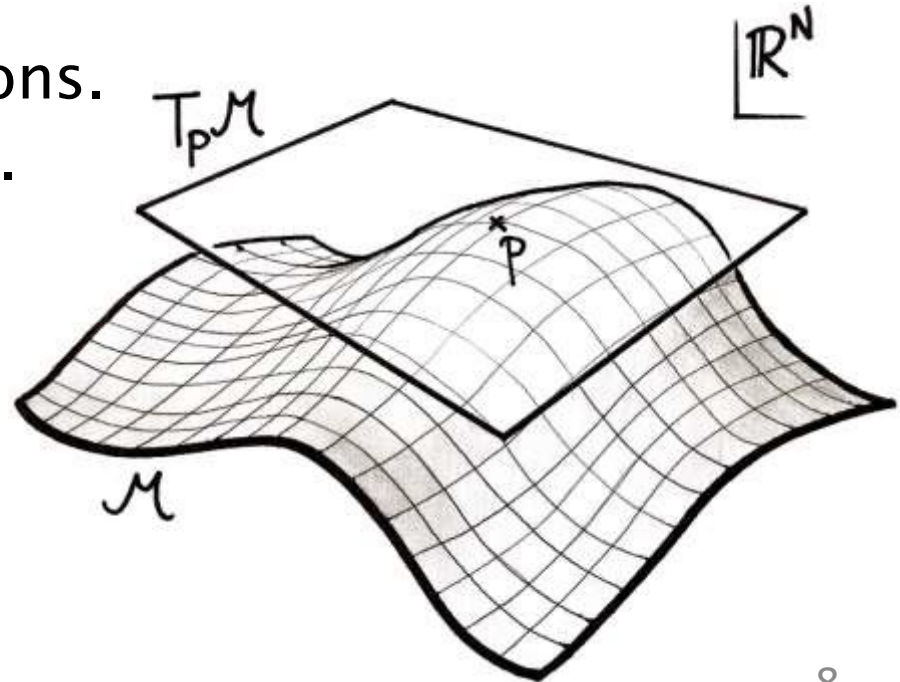
- ▶ Homotopy as path equivalence
  - Intrinsic property of topological spaces (such as data manifolds)



- ▶ Homotopy arrow example
  - Red and blue arrows can be deformed into each other by wiggling and stretching the line path with anchors at start and finish of line
  - Yellow arrow crosses holes and would need to backtrack or break to the surface to freely wiggle into the blue or red line
- ▶ Homotopy method in LASSO/LARS wiggles an easy regression path into an optimal regression path
  - Avoids obstacles that can trap other regression estimators (peaks, valleys, saddles...)

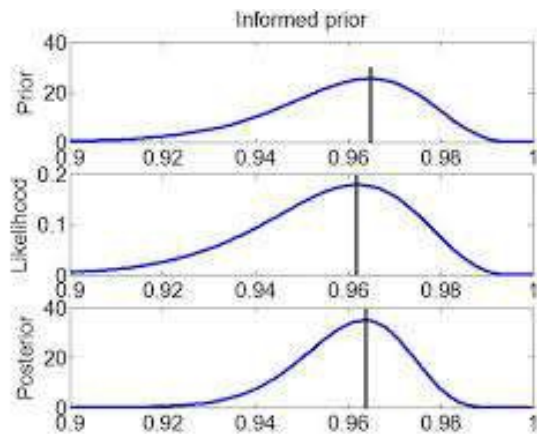
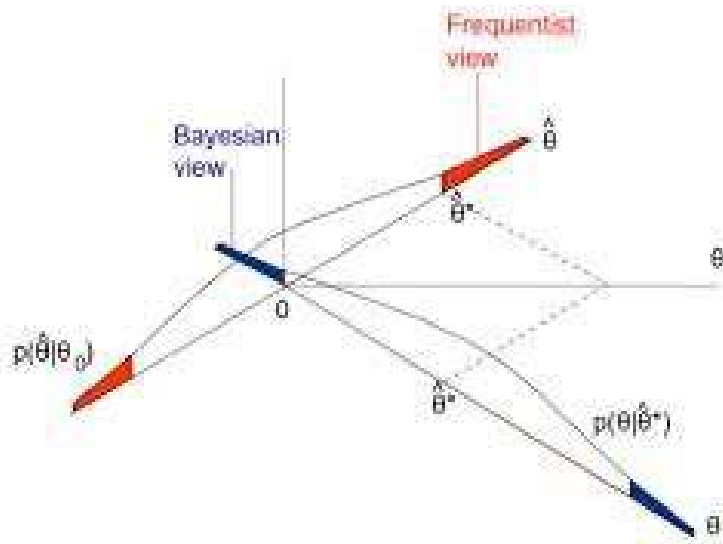
# Differential Geometry and Regression

- ▶ Instead of fitting model to data, fit model to tangent space (what isn't the data).
  - Deals with collinearity, as parallel vectors share a tangent space (only one selected of collinear group).
  - LASSO and LARS extensions.
  - Rao scoring for selection.
    - Effect estimates (angles).
    - Model selection criteria.
      - Information criteria.
      - Deviance scoring.





# Bayesian Regression Models



- ▶ Fit all possible models and figure out likelihood of each given observed data.
  - Based on Bayes' Theorem and conditional probability.
  - Instead of giving likelihood that data came from a specific parameterized population (univariate), figure out likelihood of set of data coming from sets of population (multivariate).
  - Can select naïve prior (no assumptions on model or population) or make an informed guess (assumptions about population or important factors in model).
  - Combine multiple models according to their likelihoods into a blended model given data.

## CHAPTER 2

# Semi-Parametric Extensions of Regression

# Spline Models

- ▶ Extends a generalized linear models by estimating unknown (nonlinear) functions of an outcome on intervals of a predictor.
- ▶ Use of “knots” to break function into intervals.
- ▶ Similar to a downhill skier.
  - Slope as a function of outcome.
  - Skier as spline.
  - Flags as knots anchoring the skier as he travels down the slope.



[www.dearsportsfan.com](http://www.dearsportsfan.com)

# MARS

- ▶ Multivariate adaptive regression splines as an extension of spline models to multivariate

data

- Knots placed according to multivariate structure and splines fit between knots
- Much like fixing a rope to the peaks and valleys of a mountain range, where the rope has enough slack to hug the terrain between its fixed points



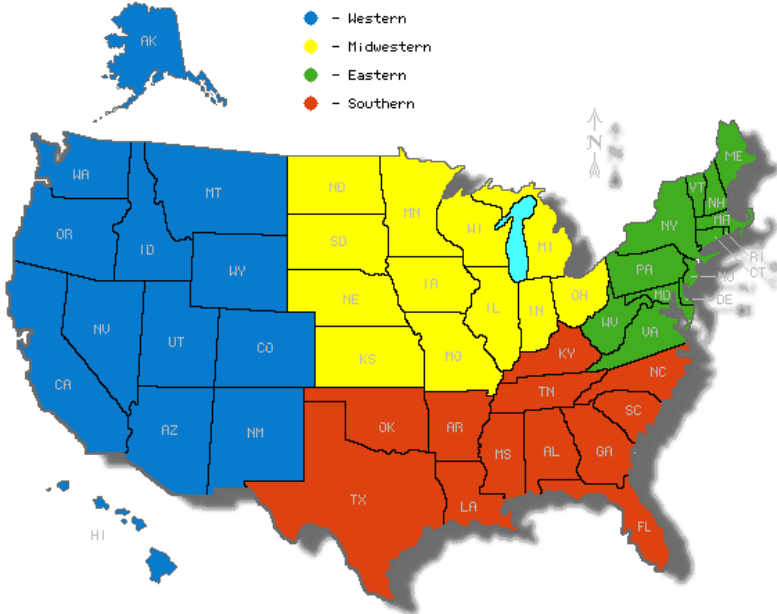
# Generalized Additive Models



[www.filigreeinn.com](http://www.filigreeinn.com)

- ▶ Extends spline models to the relationships of many predictors to an outcome.
  - Also allows for a “silly-putty” transformation of the outcome variable.
- ▶ Like multiple skiers on many courses and mountains to estimate many relationships in the dataset.

# Piece-Wise Regression

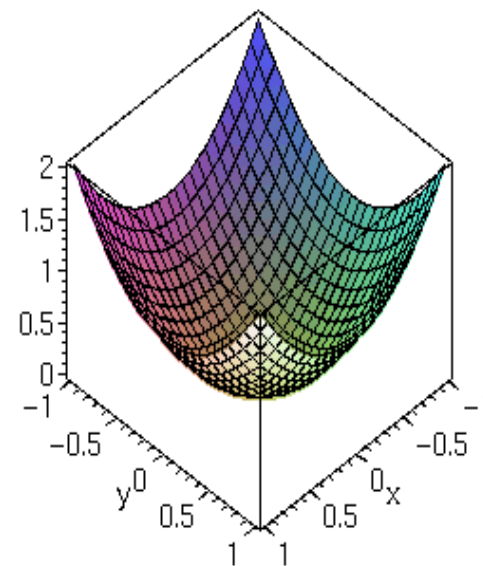


[www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

- ▶ Chop data into partitions and then fit multiple regression models to each partition.
- ▶ Divide-and-conquer approach.
- ▶ Examples:
  - Multivariate adaptive regression splines
  - Regression trees
  - Morse-Smale regression

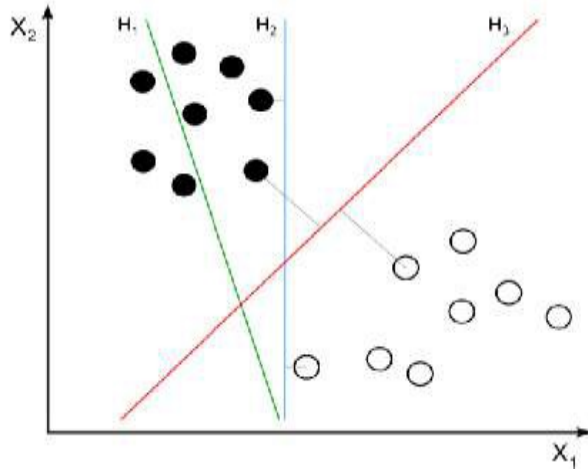
# Morse–Smale Regression

- ▶ Based on a branch of math called **topology**.
  - Study of changes in function behavior on shapes.
  - Used to classify similarities/ differences between shapes.
  - Data clouds turned into discrete shape combinations (simplices).
- ▶ Use these principles to partition data and fit elastic net models to each piece.
  - Break data into multiple toy sets.
  - Analyze sets for underlying properties of each toy.
- ▶ Useful visual output for additional data mining.



# Support Vector Regression

- ▶ Linear or non-linear support beams used to separate group data for classification or map data for kernel-based regression.
- ▶ Much like scaffolding and support beams separating and holding up parts of a high rise.



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Support\\_vector\\_machine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Support_vector_machine)



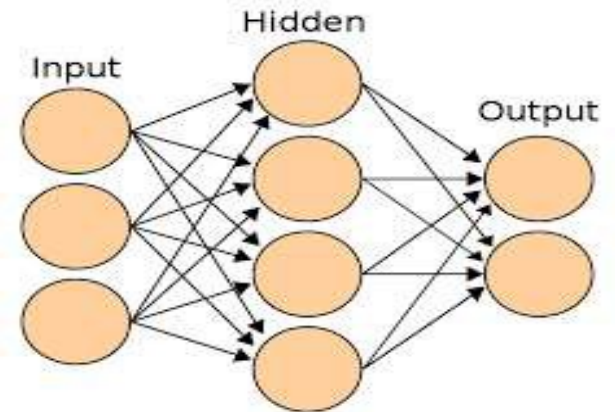
# Neural Networks



- ▶ Based on processing complex, nonlinear information the way the human brain does via a series of feature mappings.

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)

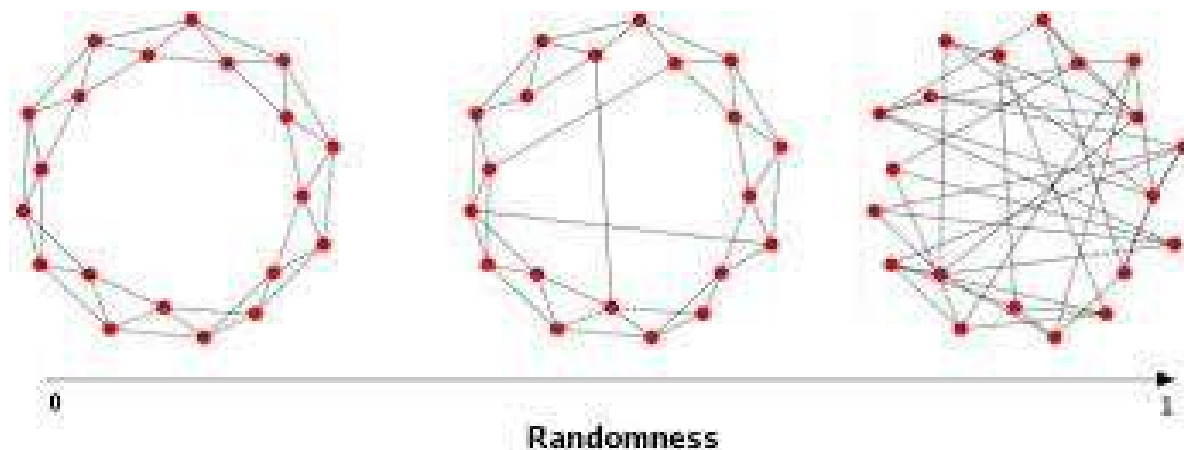
Arrows denote mapping functions, which take one topological space to another



[colah.github.io](http://colah.github.io)

# Extreme Learning Machines

- ▶ Type of shallow, wide neural network.
- ▶ Reduces framework to a penalized linear algebra problem, rather than iterative training (much faster to solve).
- ▶ Based on random mappings.
- ▶ Shown to converge to correct classification/regression (universal approximation property—may require unreasonably wide networks).
- ▶ Semi-supervised learning extensions.



# Deep Learning



- ▶ Added layers in neural network to solve width problem in single-layer networks for universal approximation.
- ▶ More effective in learning features of the data.
- ▶ Like sifting data with multiple sifters to distill finer and finer pieces of the data.
- ▶ Computationally intensive and requires architecture design and optimization.

# Tensor Flow

- ▶ Recent extension of deep learning framework from spreadsheet data to multiple simultaneous spreadsheets
  - Spreadsheets may be of the same dimension or different dimensions
  - Could process multiple or hierarchical networks via adjacency matrices
- ▶ Like sifting through data with multiple inputs of varying sizes and textures



## CHAPTER 3

# Nonparametric Regression via Optimization Methods

# Single Decision Tree Models



[tvtropes.org](http://tvtropes.org)

- ▶ Classifies data according to optimal partitioning of data (visualized as a high-dimensional cube).
- ▶ Slices data into squares, cubes, and hypercubes (4+ dimensional cubes).
  - Like finding the best place to cut through the data with a sword.
- ▶ Option to prune tree for better model (glue some of the pieces back together).
- ▶ Notoriously unstable.
- ▶ Optimization possible to arrive at best possible trees (genetic algorithms).

# Gradient Descent Methods

- ▶ Optimization technique.
  - Minimize a loss function in regression.
- ▶ Accomplished by choosing a variable per step that achieves largest minimization.
- ▶ Climber trying to descend a mountain.
  - Minimize height above sea level per step.
- ▶ Directions (N, S, E, W) as a collection of variables.
- ▶ Climber rappels down cliff according to these rules.



[www.chinatravelca.com](http://www.chinatravelca.com)

# Genetic Algorithms



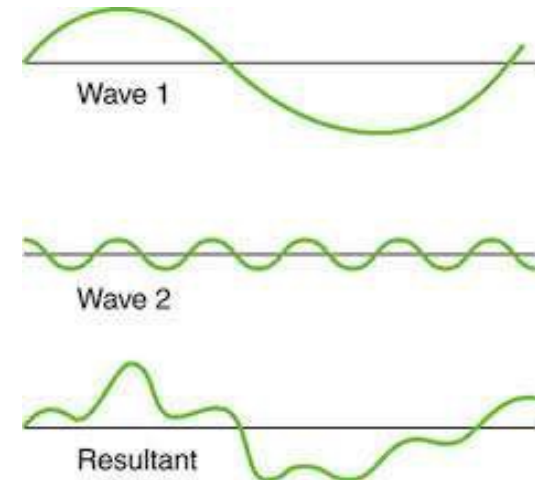
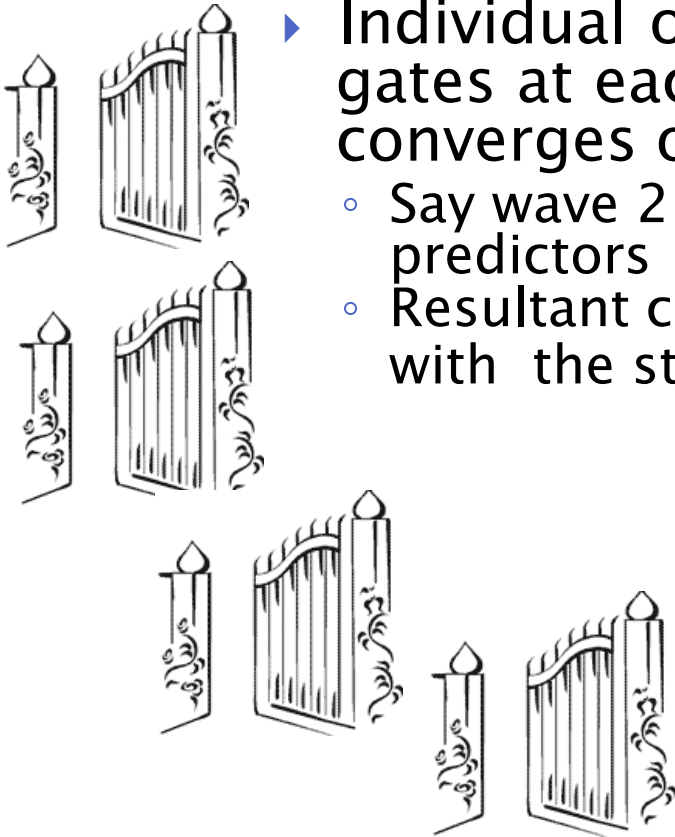
[wallpapers.brothersoft.com](http://wallpapers.brothersoft.com)

- ▶ Optimization helpers.
  - Find global maximum or minimum by searching many areas simultaneously.
  - Can impose restrictions.
- ▶ Teams of mountain climbers trying to find the summit.
- ▶ Restrictions as climber supplies, hours of daylight left to find summit...
- ▶ Genetic algorithm as population of mountain climbers each climbing on his/her own.



# Quantum Evolutionary Models

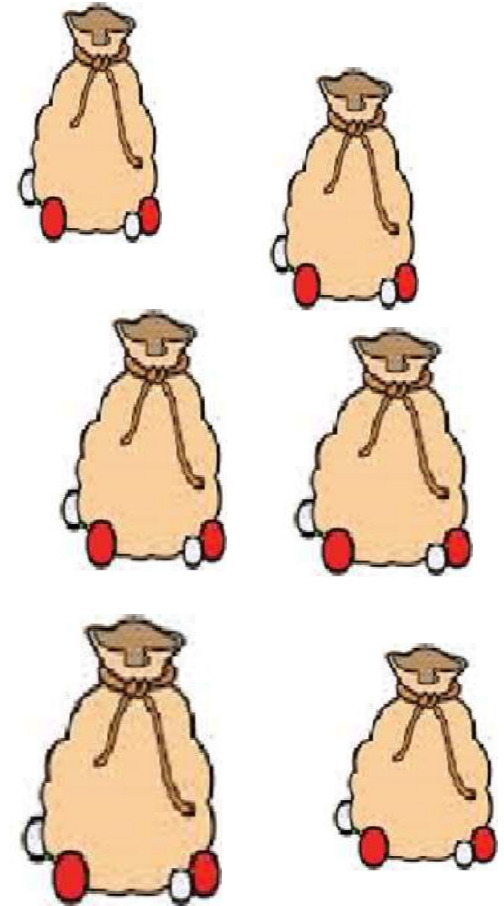
- ▶ One climber exploring multiple routes simultaneously.
- ▶ Individual optimized through a series of gates at each update until superposition converges on one state
  - Say wave 2 is the optimal combination of predictors
  - Resultant combination slowly flattens to wave 2, with the states of wave 1 disappearing



<http://philschatz.com/physics-book/contents/m42249.html>

# Ensemble Methods

- ▶ Combine multiple models of the same type (ex. trees) for better prediction.
  - Single models unstable.
    - Equally-good estimates from different models.
  - Use bootstrapping.
    - Multiple “marble draws” followed by model creation.
  - Creates diversity of features.
  - Creates models with different biases and error.



# Boosted Regression Models



[play.google.com](http://play.google.com)

- ▶ Uses gradient descent algorithm to model an outcome based on predictors (linear, tree, spline...).
- Proceeds in steps, adding variables and adjusting weights according to the algorithm.
- ▶ Like putting together a puzzle.
  - Algorithm first focuses on most important parts of the picture (such as the Mona Lisa's eyes).
  - Then adds nuances that help identify other missing pieces (hands, landscape...).

# XGBoost

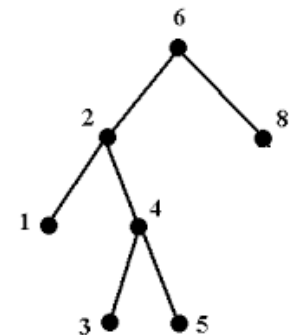
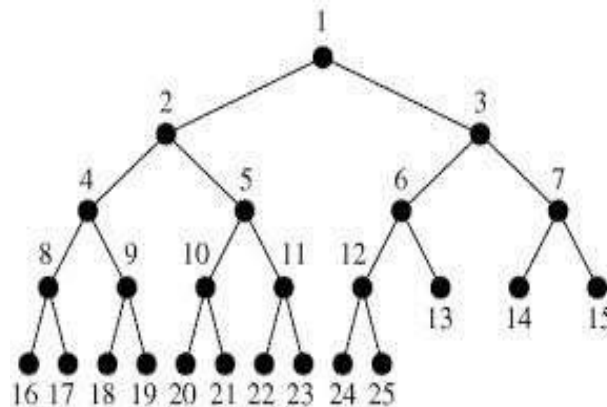
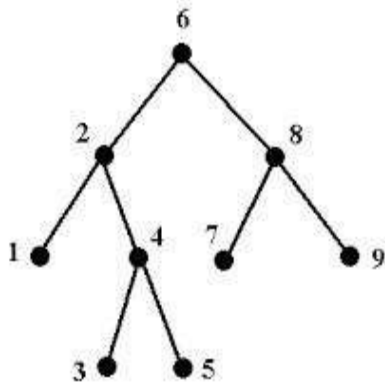
- ▶ Adds a penalty term to boosted regression
  - Can be formulated as LASSO/ridge regression/elastic net with constraints
  - Also leverages hardware to further speed up boosting ensemble



[play.google.com](http://play.google.com)

# Random Forests: Multiple Trees

- ▶ Single tree models poor predictors.
- ▶ Grow a forest of them for a strong predictor (another ensemble method).
- ▶ Algorithm:
  - Takes random sample of data.
  - Builds one tree.
  - Repeats until forest grown.
  - Averages across forest to identify strong predictors.



# CHAPTER 4

## Combining Supervised and Unsupervised Methods

# Dimension Reduction

## ▶ Principle Component Analysis (PCA)

- Variance partitioning to combine pieces of variables into new linear subspace.
- Smashing cookies by kind and combining into a flat hybrid cookie in previous regression model.

## ▶ Manifold Learning

- PCA-like algorithms that combine pieces into a new nonlinear subspace.
- Non-flat cookie combining.

## ▶ Useful as pre-processing step for prediction models.

- Reduce dimension.
- Obtain uncorrelated, non-overlapping variables (bases).



[marmaladeandmileposts.com](http://marmaladeandmileposts.com)

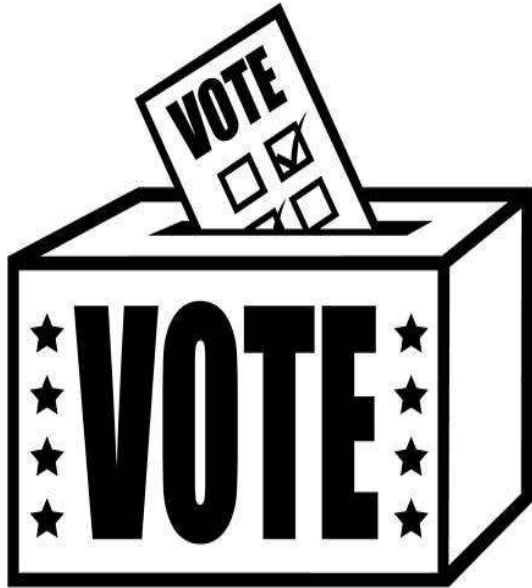
# Random Forest as Extension Example

- ▶ Balanced sampling for low-frequency predictors.
  - Stratified samples (i.e. sample from bag of mostly white marbles and few red marbles with constraint that  $1/5^{\text{th}}$  of draws must be red marbles).
- ▶ Dimension reduction/mapping pre-processing
  - Principle component, manifold learning...
  - Hybrid of neural network methods and tree models.





# Superlearners

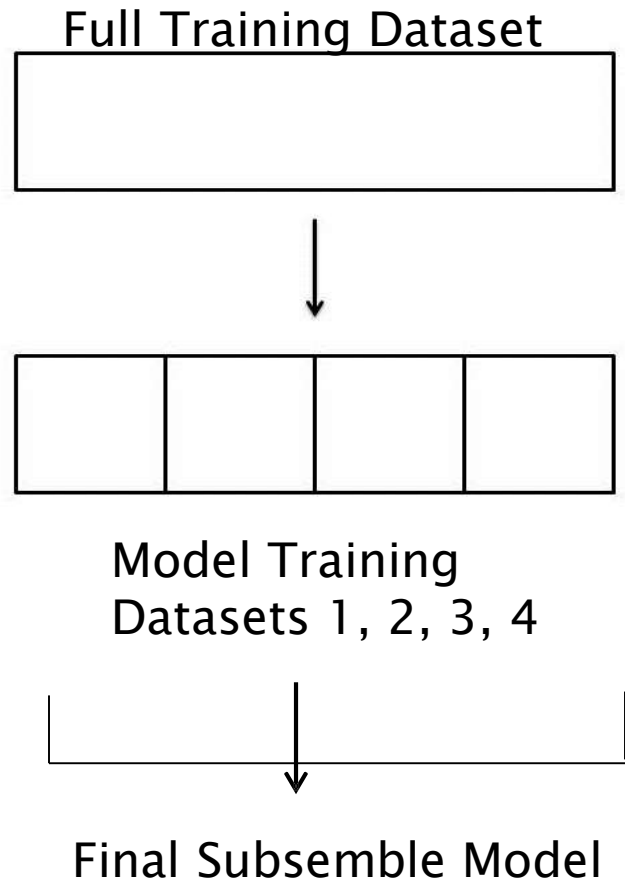


- ▶ Aggregation of multiple types of models.
  - Like a small town election.
  - Different people have different views of the politics and care about different issues.
- ▶ Different modeling methods capture different pieces of the data and vote in different pieces.
  - Leverage strengths, minimize weaknesses
  - Diversity of methods to better explore underlying data geometry
- ▶ Avoids multiple testing issues.

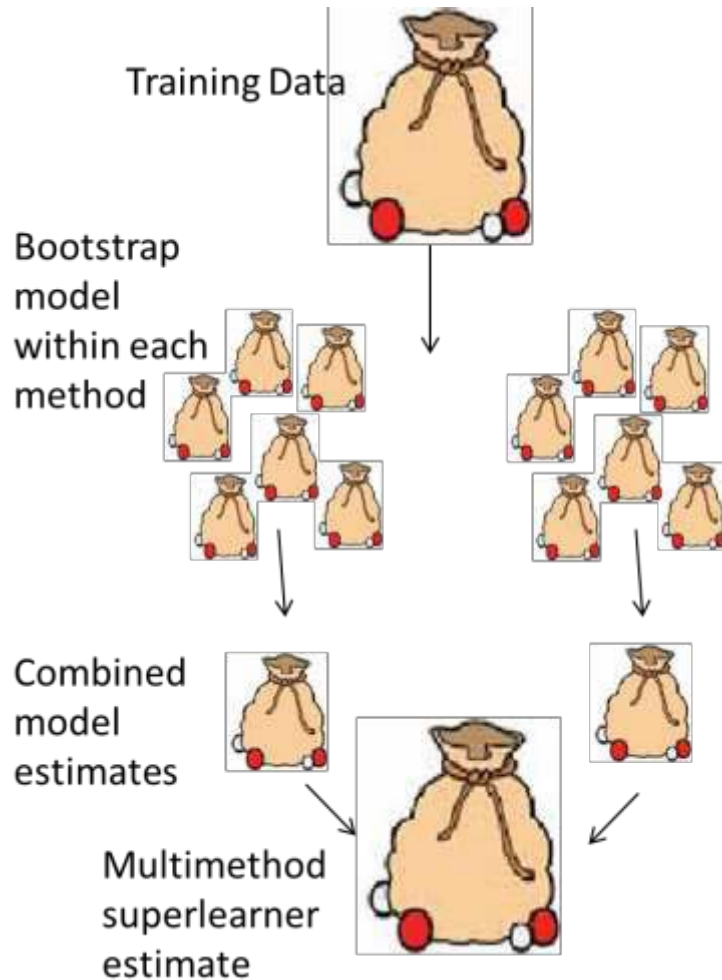
# Subsembles

## ▶ Subsembles

- Partition data into training sets
    - Randomly selected or through partition algorithm
  - Train a model on each data partition
  - Combine into final weighted prediction model
- ▶ This is similar to national elections.
- Each elector in the electoral college learns for whom his constituents voted.
  - The final electoral college pools these individual votes.



# Supersemble



- ▶ Combines superlearning and subsembles for better prediction
  - Diversity improves subsemble method (better able to explore data geometry)
  - Bootstrapping improves superlearner pieces (more diversity within each method)
  - Preliminary empirical evidence shows efficacy of combination.

## CHAPTER 5

# Unsupervised Learning

# K Nearest Neighbors

- ▶ Classification of a data point based on the classification of its nearest neighboring points.
- ▶ Like a junior high lunchroom and student clicks.
  - Students at the same table tend to be more similar to each other than to a distant table.



[www.wrestlecrap.com](http://www.wrestlecrap.com)

# K-Means Clustering

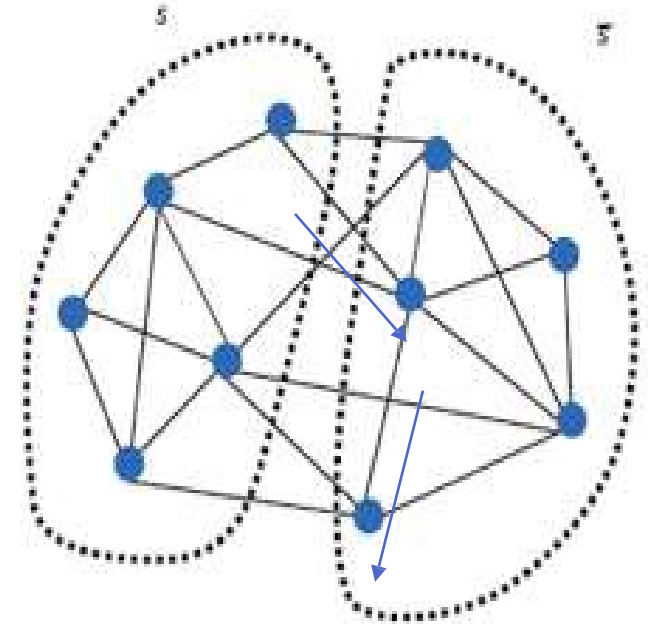


[krazymommakreations.blogspot.com](http://krazymommakreations.blogspot.com)

- ▶ Iteratively separating groups within a dataset based on similarity.
- ▶ Like untangling tangled balls of yarn into multiple, single-colored balls (ideally).
  - Each step untangles the mess a little further.
  - Few stopping guidelines (when it looks separated).

# Graph-Based Techniques

- ▶ Hybrid of supervised and unsupervised learning (groupings and prediction).
- ▶ Uses graphical representation of data and its relationships.
- ▶ Algorithms with connections to topology, differential geometry, and Markov chains.
- ▶ Useful in combination with other machine learning methods to provide extra insight (ex. spectral clustering).



# Spectral Clustering

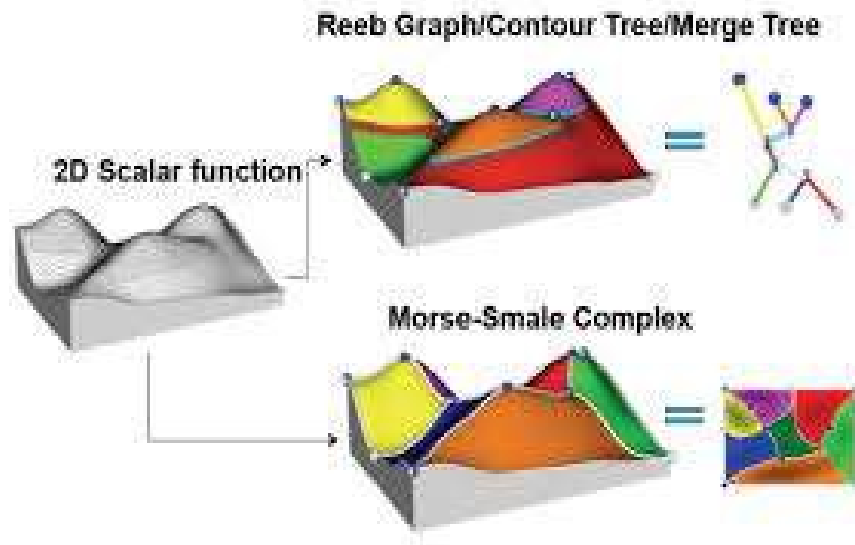
- ▶ K-means algorithm with weighting and dimension reduction components of similarity measure.
  - Simplify balls of string to warm colors and cool colors before untangling.
- ▶ Can be reformulated as a graph clustering problem.
  - Partition subcomponents of a graph based on flow equations.



[www.simplepastimes.com](http://www.simplepastimes.com)

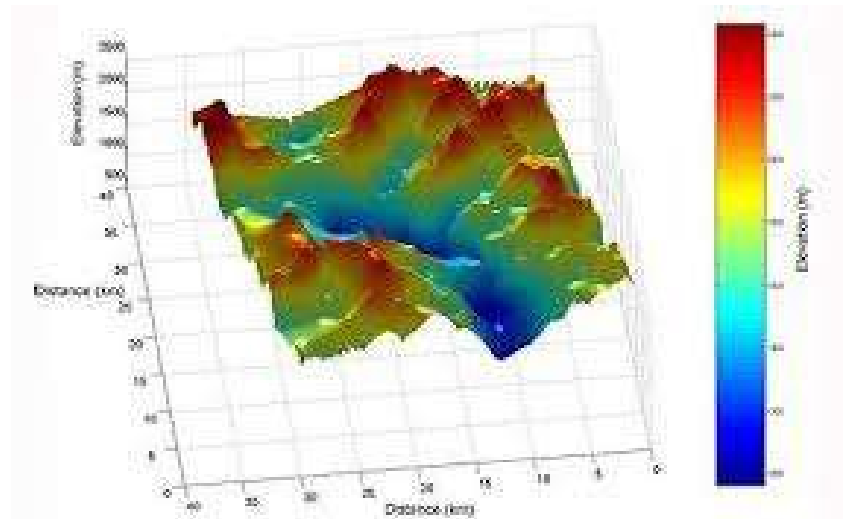


# Morse–Smale Mode Clustering



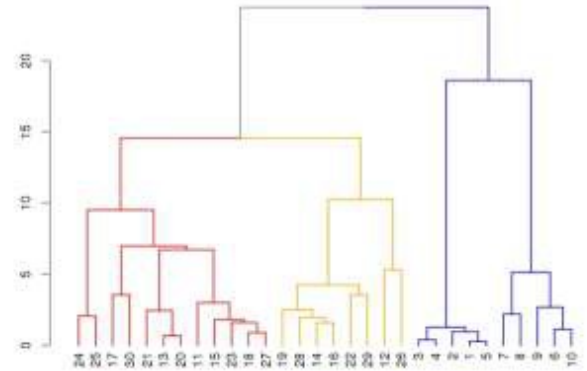
- ▶ Multivariate technique similar to mode or density clustering.
  - Find peaks and valleys in data according to an input function on the data (level set slices)—much like a watershed on mountains.

- Separate data based on shared peaks and valleys across slices (shared multivariate density/gradient).
- Many nice theoretical developments on validity and convergence.



# Mapper Clustering

- ▶ Topological clustering.
  - Define distance metric.
  - Slice multidimensional dataset with Morse function.
  - Examine function behavior across slice.
  - Cluster function behavior.
  - Iterate through multiple slices to obtain hierarchy of function behavior.
- ▶ Much like examining the behavior of multiple objects across a flip book.
  - Nesting
  - Cluster overlap

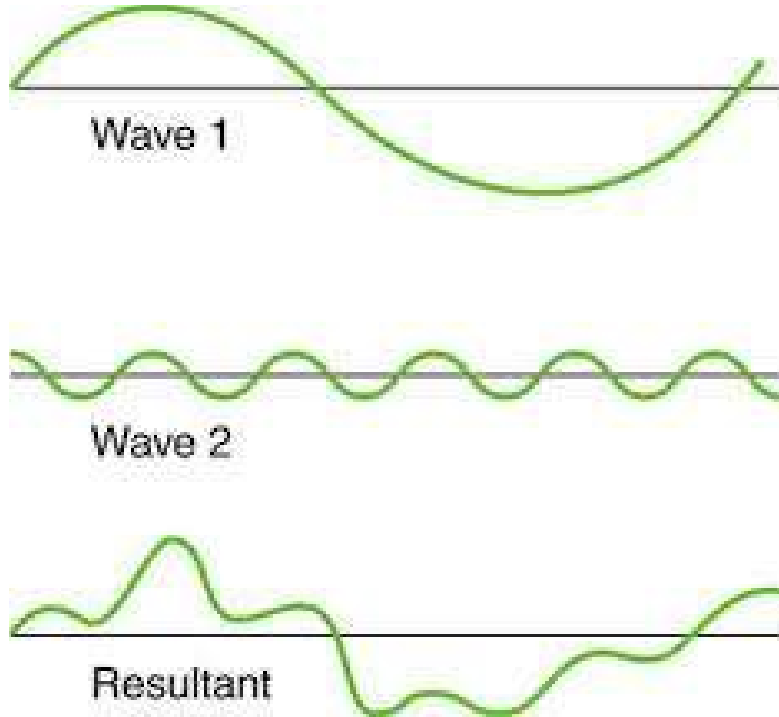


Filtered functions then used to create various resolutions of a modified Reeb graph summary of topology.

# CHAPTER 6

## Time Series Forecasting

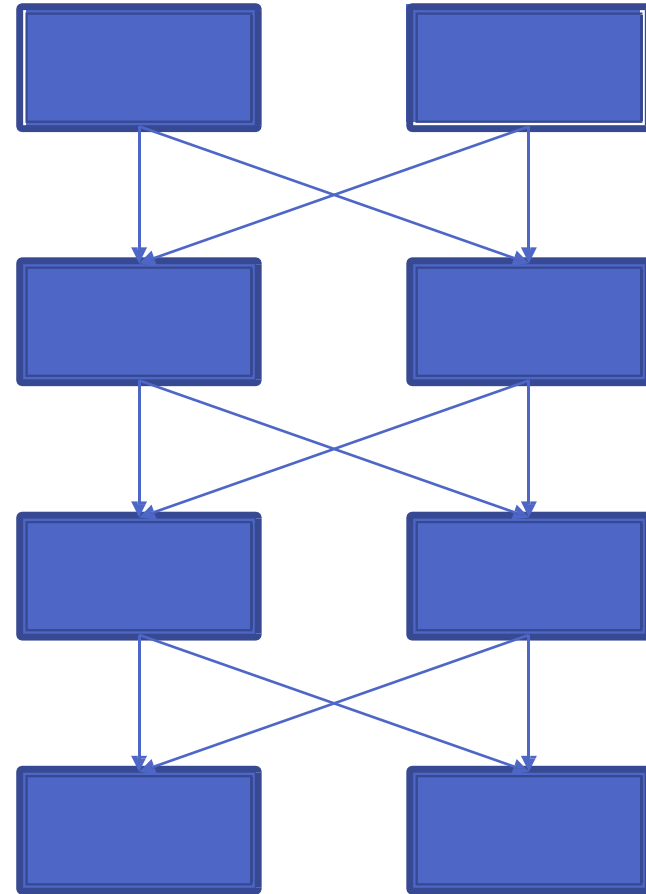
# ARIMA Models



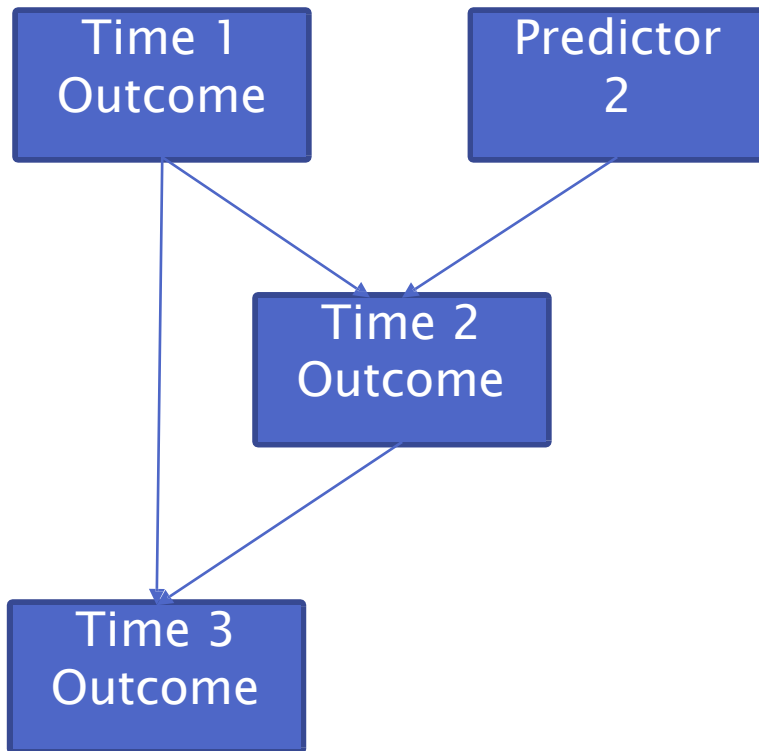
- ▶ Similar to decomposing superposed states
  - Seasonal trends
  - Yearly trends
  - Trend averages
  - Dependencies on previous time point
- ▶ Knit individual forecasted pieces into a complete forecast by superposing these individual forecasts
- ▶ Several extensions to neural networks, time-lagged machine learning models...

# Structural Equation Models (SEM)

- ▶ A time-series method incorporating predictors
  - Constant predictors at initial time point
  - Varying predictors at multiple time points
- ▶ Creates a sort of correlation web between predictors and time points
  - Can handle multiple time lags and multivariate outcomes
  - Can handle any GLM outcome links
- ▶ Related to partial differential equations of dynamic systems



# Bayesian Networks



- ▶ Data-based mining for SEM
  - relationships/time-lag components
    - Leverages conditional probability between predictors to find dependencies
    - Does not require a priori model formulation like SEM
- ▶ Peeking at data to create a dependency web over time or predictors/outcome
- ▶ Can be validated by a follow-up SEM based on network structure

# Singular Spectrum Analysis

- ▶ Technically:
  - Matrix decomposition (similar to PCA/manifold learning)
  - Followed by spectral methods
  - Cleaning of time-lagged covariance matrix
  - Reconstruction with simple forecast
- ▶ Kind of like deconstructing, cleaning, a rebuilding a car engine



# Extensible Markov Models



Like remembering classes of chess board configurations across games played

- ▶ Combines k-nearest neighbors-based clustering with memoryless state changes converging to a transition distribution (weighted directed graph)
  - Reduce an observation to a pattern
  - Remember patterns seen (across time or space)
  - Match new observations to this set of patterns
  - Computationally more feasible than k-means clustering



# Conclusions

- ▶ Many machine learning methods exist today, and many more are being developed every day.
- ▶ Methods come with certain assumptions that must be met.
  - Breaking assumptions can lead to poor model fit or incorrect inference.
  - Matching a method to a problem not only can help with better prediction and inference; it can also lead to faster computation times and better presentations to clients.
- ▶ Development depends on problem–matching and deep understanding of the mathematics behind the methods used.

## Machine Learning by Analogy by Colleen Farrelly

<https://www.slideshare.net/ColleenFarrelly/machine-learning-by-analogy-59094152>

### NOTES

2. } Many machine learning methods exist in the literature and in industry. ◦ What works well for one problem may not work well for the next problem. ◦ In addition to poor model fit, an incorrect application of methods can lead to incorrect inference. □ Implications for data-driven business decisions. □ Low future confidence in data science and its results. □ Lower quality software products. } Understanding the intuition and mathematics behind these methods can ameliorate these problems. ◦ This talk focuses on building intuition. ◦ Links to theoretical papers underlying each method.

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4. } Extends multiple regression. ◦ Many types of outcome distributions. ◦ Transform an outcome variable to create a linear relationship with predictors. } Sort of like silly putty stretching the outcome variable in the data space. } Does not work on high- dimensional data where predictors > observations. } Only certain outcome distributions. ◦ Exponential family as example. [tomstock.photoshelter.com](http://tomstock.photoshelter.com)

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[13.](#) } Chop data into partitions and then fit multiple regression models to each partition. } Divide-and-conquer approach. } Examples: ◦ Multivariate adaptive regression splines ◦ Regression trees ◦ Morse-Smale regression [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

[14.](#) } Based on a branch of math called topology. ◦ Study of changes in function behavior on shapes. ◦ Used to classify similarities/ differences between shapes. ◦ Data clouds turned into discrete shape combinations (simplices). } Use these principles to partition data and fit elastic net models to each piece. ◦ Break data into multiple toy sets. ◦ Analyze sets for underlying properties of each toy. } Useful visual output for additional data mining.

[15.](#) } Linear or non-linear support beams used to separate group data for classification or map data for kernel- based regression. } Much like scaffolding and support beams separating and holding up parts of a high rise. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Support\\_vector\\_machine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Support_vector_machine) [leadertom.en.ec21.com](http://leadertom.en.ec21.com)

[16.](#) } Based on processing complex, nonlinear information the way the human brain does via a series of feature mappings. [colah.github.io](http://colah.github.io) [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) Arrows denote mapping functions, which take one topological space to another

[17.](#) } Type of shallow, wide neural network. } Reduces framework to a penalized linear algebra problem, rather than iterative training (much faster to solve). } Based on random mappings. } Shown to converge to correct classification/regression (universal approximation property—may require unreasonably wide networks). } Semi-supervised learning extensions.

[18.](#) } Added layers in neural network to solve width problem in single-layer networks for universal approximation. } More effective in learning features of the data. } Like sifting data with multiple sifters to distill finer and finer pieces of the data. } Computationally intensive and requires architecture design and optimization.

[19.](#) } Recent extension of deep learning framework from spreadsheet data to multiple simultaneous spreadsheets ◦ Spreadsheets may be of the same dimension or different dimensions ◦ Could process multiple or hierarchical networks via adjacency matrices } Like sifting through data with multiple inputs of varying sizes and textures

## [20.](#) **CHAPTER 3**

[21.](#) } Classifies data according to optimal partitioning of data (visualized as a high- dimensional cube). } Slices data into squares, cubes, and hypercubes (4+ dimensional cubes). ◦ Like finding the best place to cut through the data with a sword. } Option to prune tree for better model (glue some of the pieces back together). } Notoriously unstable. } Optimization possible to arrive at best possible trees (genetic algorithms). tvtropes.org

[22.](#) } Optimization technique. ◦ Minimize a loss function in regression. } Accomplished by choosing a variable per step that achieves largest minimization. } Climber trying to descend a mountain. ◦ Minimize height above sea level per step. } Directions (N, S, E, W) as a collection of variables. } Climber rappels down cliff according to these rules. [www.chinatracavelca.com](http://www.chinatracavelca.com)

[23.](#) } Optimization helpers. ◦ Find global maximum or minimum by searching many areas simultaneously. ◦ Can impose restrictions. } Teams of mountain climbers trying to find the summit. } Restrictions as climber supplies, hours of daylight left to find summit... } Genetic algorithm as population of mountain climbers each climbing on his/her own. [wallpapers.brothersoft.com](http://wallpapers.brothersoft.com)

[24.](#) } One climber exploring multiple routes simultaneously. } Individual optimized through a series of gates at each update until superposition converges on one state ◦ Say wave 2 is the optimal combination of predictors ◦ Resultant combination slowly flattens to wave 2, with the states of wave 1 disappearing <http://philschatz.com/physics-book/contents/m42249.html>

[25.](#) } Combine multiple models of the same type (ex. trees) for better prediction. ◦ Single models unstable. ◻ Equally-good estimates from different models. ◦ Use bootstrapping. ◻ Multiple “marble draws” followed by model creation. ◦ Creates diversity of features. ◦ Creates models with different biases and error.

[26.](#) } Uses gradient descent algorithm to model an outcome based on predictors (linear, tree, spline...). ◦ Proceeds in steps, adding variables and adjusting weights according to the algorithm. } Like putting together a puzzle. ◦ Algorithm first focuses on most important parts of the picture (such as the Mona Lisa’s eyes). ◦ Then adds nuances that help identify other missing pieces (hands, landscape...). [play.google.com](http://play.google.com)

[27.](#) } Adds a penalty term to boosted regression ◦ Can be formulated as LASSO/ridge regression/elastic net with constraints ◦ Also leverages hardware to further speed up boosting ensemble [play.google.com](http://play.google.com)

[28.](#) } Single tree models poor predictors. } Grow a forest of them for a strong predictor (another ensemble method). } Algorithm: ◦ Takes random sample of data. ◦ Builds one tree. ◦ Repeats until forest grown. ◦ Averages across forest to identify strong predictors.

## 29. CHAPTER 4

[30.](#) } Principle Component Analysis (PCA) ◦ Variance partitioning to combine pieces of variables into new linear subspace. ◦ Smashing cookies by kind and combining into a flat hybrid cookie in previous regression model. } Manifold Learning ◦ PCA-like algorithms that combine pieces into a new nonlinear subspace. ◦ Non-flat cookie combining. } Useful as pre-processing step for prediction models. ◦ Reduce dimension. ◦ Obtain uncorrelated, non-overlapping variables (bases).

marmaladeandmileposts.com

[31.](#) } Balanced sampling for low-frequency predictors. ◦ Stratified samples (i.e. sample from bag of mostly white marbles and few red marbles with constraint that 1/5th of draws must be red marbles). } Dimension reduction/mapping pre-processing ◦ Principle component, manifold learning... ◦ Hybrid of neural network methods and tree models.

[32.](#) } Aggregation of multiple types of models. ◦ Like a small town election. ◦ Different people have different views of the politics and care about different issues. } Different modeling methods capture different pieces of the data and vote in different pieces. ◦ Leverage strengths, minimize weaknesses ◦ Diversity of methods to better explore underlying data geometry } Avoids multiple testing issues.

[33.](#) } Subsembles ◦ Partition data into training sets ◻ Randomly selected or through partition algorithm ◦ Train a model on each data partition ◦ Combine into final weighted prediction model } This is similar to national elections. ◦ Each elector in the electoral college learns for whom his constituents voted. ◦ The final electoral college pools these individual votes. Full Training Dataset Model Training Datasets 1, 2, 3, 4 Final Subsemble Model

[34.](#) } Combines superlearning and subsembles for better prediction ◦ Diversity improves subsemble method (better able to explore data geometry) ◦ Bootstrapping improves superlearner pieces (more diversity within each method) ◦ Preliminary empirical evidence shows efficacy of combination.

## **35. CHAPTER 5**

[36.](#) } Classification of a data point based on the classification of its nearest neighboring points. } Like a junior high lunchroom and student clicks. ◦ Students at the same table tend to be more similar to each other than to a distant table. [www.wrestlecrap.com](http://www.wrestlecrap.com)

[37.](#) } Iteratively separating groups within a dataset based on similarity. } Like untangling tangled balls of yarn into multiple, single- colored balls (ideally). ◦ Each step untangles the mess a little further. ◦ Few stopping guidelines (when it looks separated). [krazymommakreations.blogspot.com](http://krazymommakreations.blogspot.com)

[38.](#) } Hybrid of supervised and unsupervised learning (groupings and prediction). } Uses graphical representation of data and its relationships. } Algorithms with connections to topology, differential geometry, and Markov chains. } Useful in combination with other machine learning methods to provide extra insight (ex. spectral clustering).

[39.](#) } K-means algorithm with weighting and dimension reduction components of similarity measure. ◦ Simplify balls of string to warm colors and cool colors before untangling. } Can be reformulated as a graph clustering problem. ◦ Partition subcomponents of a graph based on flow equations. [www.simplepastimes.com](http://www.simplepastimes.com)

[40.](#) } Multivariate technique similar to mode or density clustering. ◦ Find peaks and valleys in data according to an input function on the data (level set slices)— much like a watershed on mountains. ◦ Separate data based on shared peaks and valleys across slices (shared multivariate density/gradient). ◦ Many nice theoretical developments on validity and convergence.

[41.](#) } Topological clustering. ◦ Define distance metric. ◦ Slice multidimensional dataset with Morse function. ◦ Examine function behavior across slice. ◦ Cluster function behavior. ◦ Iterate through multiple slices to obtain hierarchy of function behavior. } Much like examining the behavior of multiple objects across a flip book. ◦ Nesting ◦ Cluster overlap Filtered functions then used to create various resolutions of a modified Reeb graph summary of topology.



## 42. Time Series Forecasting

43. } Similar to decomposing superposed states ◦ Seasonal trends ◦ Yearly trends ◦ Trend averages ◦ Dependencies on previous time point } Knit individual forecasted pieces into a complete forecast by superposing these individual forecasts } Several extensions to neural networks, time-lagged machine learning models...

44. } A time-series method incorporating predictors ◦ Constant predictors at initial time point ◦ Varying predictors at multiple time points } Creates a sort of correlation web between predictors and time points ◦ Can handle multiple time lags and multivariate outcomes ◦ Can handle any GLM outcome links } Related to partial differential equations of dynamic systems

45. } Data-based mining for SEM relationships/time-lag components ◦ Leverages conditional probability between predictors to find dependencies ◦ Does not require a priori model formulation like SEM } Peeking at data to create a dependency web over time or predictors/outcome } Can be validated by a follow-up SEM based on network structure  
Time 1 Outcome Predictor 2 Time 2 Outcome Time 3 Outcome

46. } Technically: ◦ Matrix decomposition (similar to PCA/manifold learning) ◦ Followed by spectral methods ◦ Cleaning of time-lagged covariance matrix ◦ Reconstruction with simple forecast } Kind of like deconstructing, cleaning, a rebuilding a car engine

47. } Combines k-nearest neighbors-based clustering with memoryless state changes converging to a transition distribution (weighted directed graph) ◦ Reduce an observation to a pattern ◦ Remember patterns seen (across time or space) ◦ Match new observations to this set of patterns ◦ Computationally more feasible than k-means clustering Like remembering classes of chess board configurations across games played

48. } Many machine learning methods exist today, and many more are being developed every day. } Methods come with certain assumptions that must be met. ◦ Breaking assumptions can lead to poor model fit or incorrect inference. ◦ Matching a method to a problem not only can help with better prediction and inference; it can also lead to faster computation times and better presentations to clients. } Development depends on problem-matching and deep understanding of the mathematics behind the methods used.

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