

Statistical Methods III: Spring 2013

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means + inequalities + splines

Outline

- 1 Testing inequality constraints
- 2 Basis function
- 3 B-splines
- 4 Example
- 5 Comments

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1 Testing inequality constraints

2 Basis function

3 B-splines

4 Example

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Hypothesis tests of $r = \text{Rank}(R)$ restrictions

- Equality restriction versus unconstrained

$$H_0 : R\theta = 0 \text{ versus } H_A : R\theta \neq 0$$

- Equality restrictions versus inequality restriction

$$H_0 : R\theta = 0 \text{ versus } H'_A : R\theta \geq 0$$

- Inequality restricted vs unconstrained

$$H'_A : R\theta \geq 0 \text{ versus } H'_B : R\theta \not\geq 0.$$

- Inequality restricted versus additional inequalities

$$H'_A : R_A\theta \geq 0 \text{ versus } H'_B : R_B\theta \geq 0, R_A \subset R_B$$

Hypothesis tests of $r = \text{Rank}(R)$ restrictions

- Fixed difference in dimensionality of models

- ▶ Equality restriction versus unconstrained

$$\Pr(-2[L(\tilde{\theta}) - L(\hat{\theta})] > c) = \Pr(\chi_r^2 > c)$$

- Difference in number of free parms is stochastic

- ▶ Equality restrictions versus inequality restriction
- ▶ Inequality restricted vs unconstrained
- ▶ Inequality restricted versus additional inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(-2[L(\tilde{\theta}) - L(\hat{\theta})] > c) &= \Pr(\bar{\chi}^2 > c) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \Pr(\chi_k^2 > c)\end{aligned}$$

where w_k is the probability of having a difference of k degrees of freedom between models

Inference on a convex cone

Let

$$\hat{\Delta} = (\hat{\Delta}_1, \hat{\Delta}_2) \sim N(\Delta, I_2)$$

where, possibly,

$$\hat{\Delta}_j = \hat{\mu}_j - \hat{\mu}_{j-1} \quad j \in \{1, 2\}$$

and I_k is a $k \times k$ identity matrix.

Hypotheses/comparisons

- $H_0 : \Delta = 0$ vs $H_\emptyset : \Delta \neq 0$
- $H_0 : \Delta = 0$ vs $H_{\nearrow} : \Delta \geq 0$

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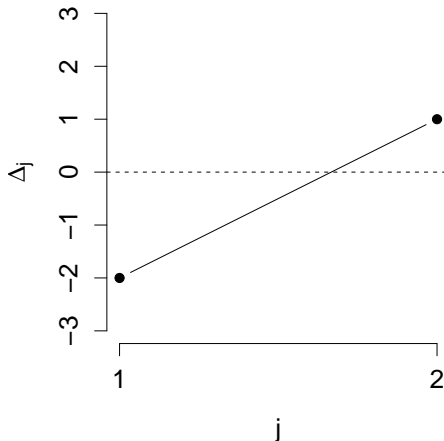
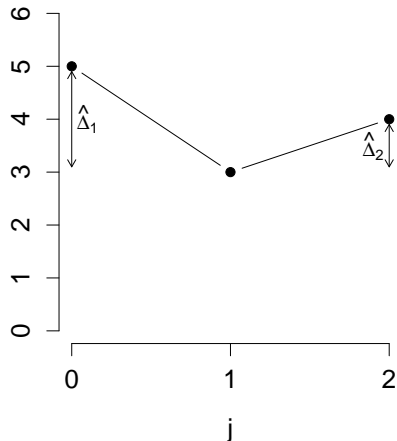
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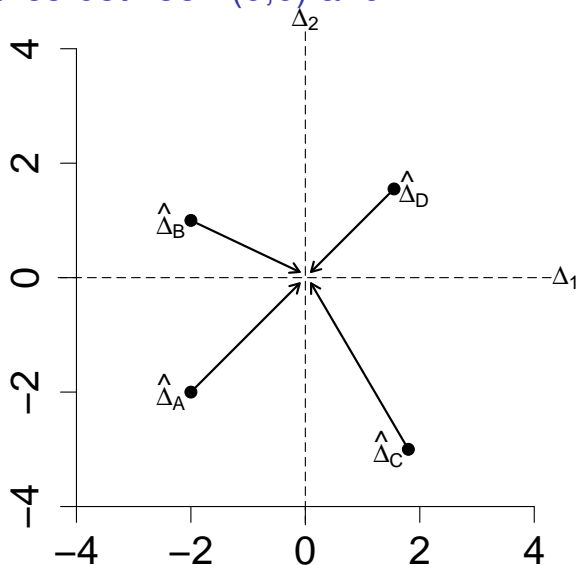
- $H_0 : \Delta = 0$ vs $H_\emptyset : \Delta \neq 0$
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For example



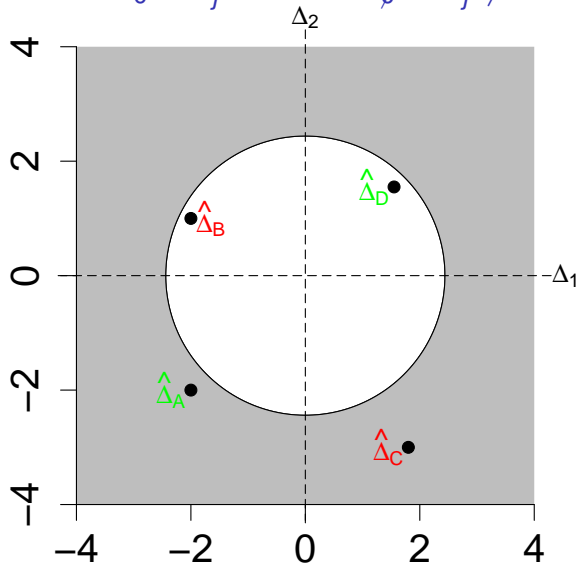
I will call this case “B”, with notation $\hat{\mu}_B = (\hat{\mu}_{0B}, \hat{\mu}_{1B}, \hat{\mu}_{2B})$ and $\hat{\Delta}_B = (\hat{\Delta}_{1B}, \hat{\Delta}_{2B})$.

Distance between $(0,0)$ and $\hat{\Delta}$



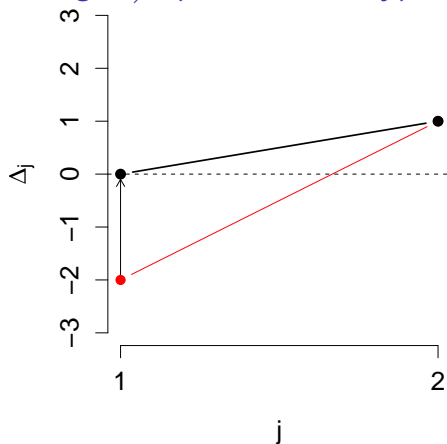
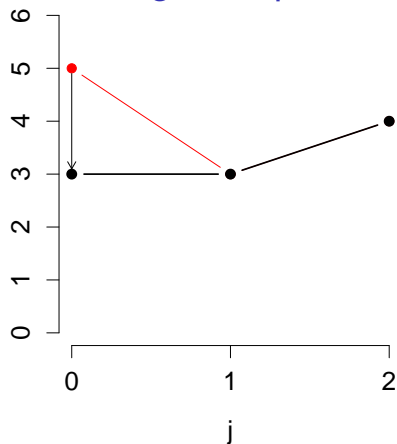
$$\Delta_1^2 + \Delta_2^2 \sim \chi_2^2$$

Critical set $H_0 : \Delta_j = 0$ vs $H_\theta : \Delta_j \neq 0$



Critical value $\chi_{2,\alpha=.05}^2 = 6$, so $\sqrt{\Delta_1^2 + \Delta_2^2} = \sqrt{6} = \text{radius}$

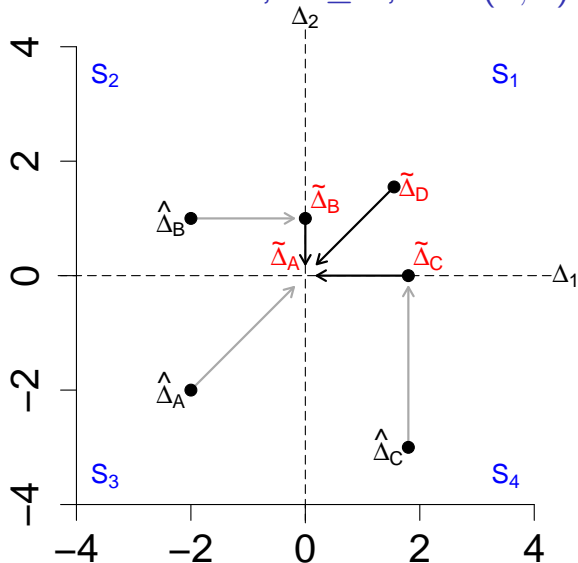
Revisiting example B, imposing H_{\nearrow} (monotonicity)



Red: unconstrained values changed to achieve monotonicity

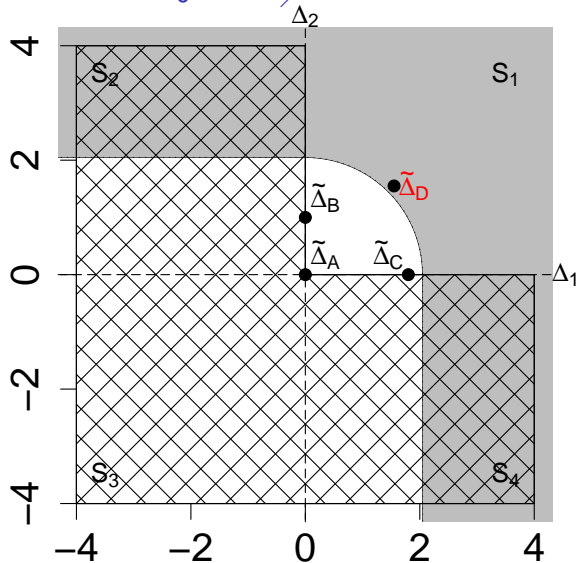
Black dots are consistent with monotonic

Distance between $\hat{\Delta}$, $\tilde{\Delta} \geq 0$, and $(0, 0)$



$$\tilde{\Delta}_A \sim 0 \quad \tilde{\Delta}_B, \tilde{\Delta}_C \sim \chi_1^2 \quad \tilde{\Delta}_D \sim \chi_2^2$$

Critical set of H_0 vs H_1



$$P(\bar{\chi}_{+, \alpha}^2 > \bar{c}) = 1/4P(\chi_2^2 > \bar{c}) + 1/2P(\chi_1^2 > \bar{c}) + 1/4 = \alpha$$

Constrained estimation: dimensions and distance

Constrained estimates $\tilde{\Delta}$, subject to $\Delta > 0$

$$\tilde{\Delta} = \begin{cases} (\hat{\Delta}_1, \hat{\Delta}_2) & \text{if } \hat{\Delta}_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } \hat{\Delta}_2 \geq 0 \\ (\hat{\Delta}_1, 0) & \text{if } \hat{\Delta}_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } \hat{\Delta}_2 < 0 \\ (0, \hat{\Delta}_2) & \text{if } \hat{\Delta}_1 < 0 \text{ and } \hat{\Delta}_2 \geq 0 \\ (0, 0) & \text{if } \hat{\Delta}_1 < 0 \text{ and } \hat{\Delta}_2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

How many free parameters? 2 (S1), 1 (S2, S4), or 0 (S3).

What is probability of being “far” from H_0 ? By quadrant:

$$P(\tilde{\Delta}_1^2 + \tilde{\Delta}_2^2 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_1) = P(\chi_2^2 < c')$$

$$P(\tilde{\Delta}_1^2 + 0 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_2) = P(\chi_1^2 < c')$$

$$P(0 + \tilde{\Delta}_2^2 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_4) = P(\chi_1^2 < c')$$

$$P(0 + 0 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_3) = 1$$

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Constrained estimation: dimensions and distance

In this simple example, each of quadrants is equally likely under H_0

$$P(\tilde{\Delta}_1^2 + \tilde{\Delta}_2^2 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_1) = P(\chi_2^2 < c')$$

$$P(\tilde{\Delta}_1^2 + 0 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_2) = P(\chi_1^2 < c')$$

$$P(0 + \tilde{\Delta}_2^2 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_4) = P(\chi_1^2 < c')$$

$$P(0 + 0 < c' \mid \hat{\Delta} \in S_3) = 1$$

So for given α , solve for c'

$$P(\bar{\chi}^2 < c') = 1/4P(\chi_2^2 < c') + 1/2P(\chi_1^2 < c') + 1/4 = 1 - \alpha$$

Distribution of hypothesis tests

- Equality restriction versus unconstrained
 - ▶ Fixed difference in dimensionality of models

$$Pr(-2[L(\tilde{\theta}) - L(\hat{\theta})] > c) = Pr(\chi_r^2 > c)$$

- But number of free – restricted parms is stochastic if
 - ▶ Equality restrictions versus inequality restriction
 - ▶ Inequality restricted vs unconstrained
 - ▶ Inequality restricted versus additional inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(-2[L(\tilde{\theta}) - L(\hat{\theta})] > c') &= Pr(\bar{\chi}^2 > c') \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K w_k Pr(\chi_k^2 > c') \end{aligned}$$

where w_k is the probability of having a difference of k degrees of freedom between models

Distribution of hypothesis tests

- For equality-based hypo., choose test size α , solve for c ,

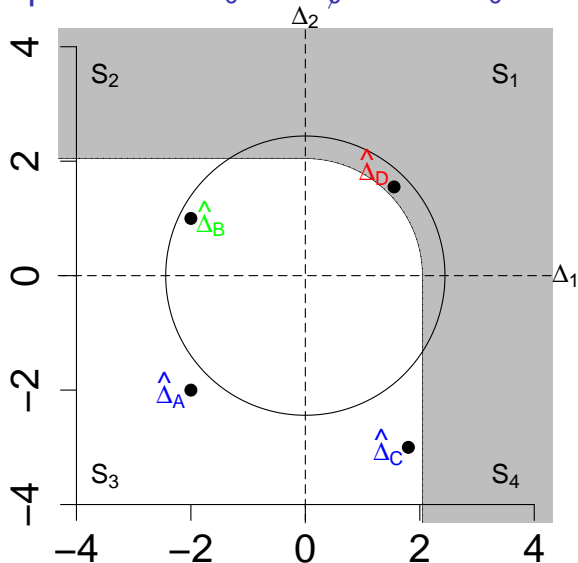
$$\Pr(\chi_r^2 > c) = \alpha$$

- For convex hypo., choose size α and solve for c' ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^K w_k \Pr(\chi_k^2 > c') = \alpha$$

- For any α , if $w_k < 1$ then $c' < c$
Can use c as an upper bound (cf. Wand 2010)

Overlap of sets: H_0 vs H_\emptyset and H_0 vs H_\nearrow



$$\sqrt{\chi_{2,\alpha}^2} = \text{radius}_\emptyset = 2.45 \quad \text{vs} \quad \sqrt{\bar{\chi}_{+,\alpha}^2} = \text{radius}_\nearrow = 2.05$$

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functions of x

Let's think about approximating $E(y|x) = f(x)$ by

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=0}^M \beta_m h_m(x)$$

Quadratic regression

$$h_0(x) = 1; \quad h_1(x) = x; \quad h_2(x) = x^2$$

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2$$

Broken stick

$$h_0(x) = 1; \quad h_1(x) = x; \quad h_2(x) = (x - .5)_+$$

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 (x - .5)_+$$

Sequence of means

$$h_m(x) = I(L_m \leq x < U_m)$$

$$f(x) = \beta_0 h_0 + \beta_1 h_1(x) + \dots + \beta_m h_m(x)$$

functions of x

A whip like model,

$$h_0(x) = 1$$

$$h_1(x) = x$$

$$h_2(x) = (x - .5)_+$$

$$h_3(x) = (x - .55)_+$$

...

$$h_m(x) = (x - .95)_+$$

- this is a particular case of *linear spline basis function*
- piecewise linear
- “knot” locations:

$$\lambda = (.5, .55, \dots, .95)$$

- Q: what does adding knots do to property of curve?
- Q: how do we pick knots?

functions of x

Q: what is the derivative of a function of linear basis at a knot?

Q: How might we get smoothness?

$$h_0(x) = 1$$

$$h_1(x) = x$$

$$h_1(x) = x^2$$

$$h_2(x) = (x - \lambda_1)_+^2$$

...

$$h_m(x) = (x - \lambda_K)_+^2$$

- quadratic spline
- f has continuous first derivative at all points
- more generally, a truncated power basis of degree p

$$(x - \lambda_k)_+^p$$

- has continuous $p - 1$ derivatives

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Basis splines

Logic:

- map $x_i \rightarrow h_m(x_i)$ (x_i into M basis functions)
- estimate $f(x)$ (curve, a weighted sum of $h_m(x)$):

$$\hat{f}(x_i) = \sum_{m=1}^M \hat{\beta}_m h_m(x_i) = \beta h(x_i)$$

where $\hat{\beta} = [\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \dots, \hat{\beta}_m]$ are simply regression coefficients.

Features of B-splines

- shapes can be described by linear functions of β
- $h_m(x)$ has local support, β_m has local effect

Basis splines, basic logic

- Given a choice of knot locations $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_M\}$ and polynomial order k
- Decompose x_i into $M + 2$ basis functions, with m th

$$h_{m,k+1}(x) = (\lambda_{m+k+1} - \lambda_j) \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} \frac{(\lambda_{m+j} - x)_+^k}{\prod_{l=0, l \neq j}^{k+1} (\lambda_{m+j} - \lambda_{m+l})}$$

- for a vector of spline coefficients,

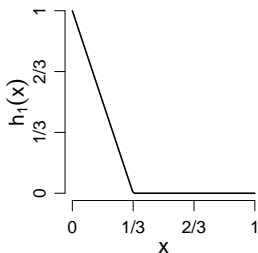
$$\hat{\beta} = [\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \dots, \hat{\beta}_m]$$

- $f(x)$ is a weighted sum of $h_m(x)$

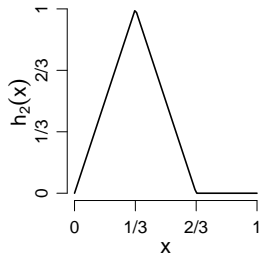
$$\hat{f}(x_i) = \sum_{m=1}^M \hat{\beta}_m h_m(x_i)$$

A look at $h(x)$ of order 1, knots at $1/3$ and $2/3$

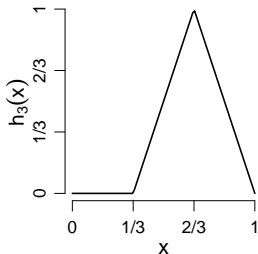
Basis function 1



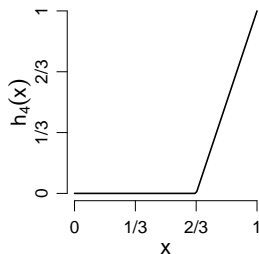
Basis function 2



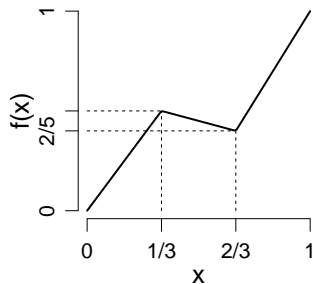
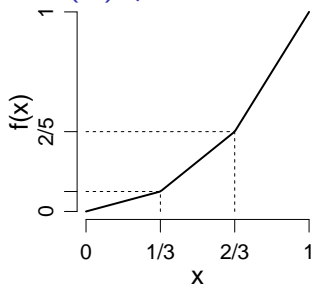
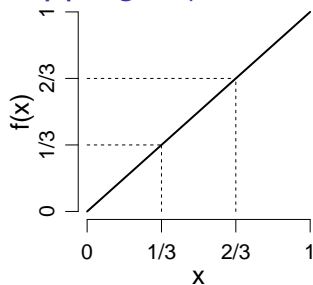
Basis function 3



Basis function 4



Mapping x (horizontal axis) to $f(x)$ (vertical axis)



(a) $\theta = [0, .33, .66, 1]$

$\Delta\theta = [.33, .33, .33]$

(b) $\theta = [0, .1, .4, 1]$

$\Delta\theta = [1, .3, .6]$

(c) $\theta = [0, .5, .4, 1]$

$\Delta\theta = [.5, -.1, .6]$

Linear constraints implying shapes

<i>Restriction</i>	<i>f(x)</i>	<i>Interval</i>
1) $\beta_m - \beta_{m-1} > 0$	increasing	(k_{m-1}, k_m)
2) $\beta_m - \beta_{m-1} = 0$	flat	(k_{m-1}, k_m)
3) $\beta_m - \beta_{m-1} < 0$	decreasing	(k_{m-1}, k_m)
4) $\frac{\beta_{m+1} - \beta_m}{k_{m+1} - k_m} = \frac{\beta_m - \beta_{m-1}}{k_m - k_{m-1}}$	linear	(k_{m-1}, k_{m+1})
5) $\frac{\beta_{m+1} - \beta_m}{k_{m+1} - k_m} > \frac{\beta_m - \beta_{m-1}}{k_m - k_{m-1}}$	convex	(k_{m-1}, k_{m+1})
6) $\frac{\beta_{m+1} - \beta_m}{k_{m+1} - k_m} < \frac{\beta_m - \beta_{m-1}}{k_m - k_{m-1}}$	concave	(k_{m-1}, k_{m+1})

and can combine, e.g., monotonic and convex; unimodal

Linear constraints implying B-spline shapes

Linear restrictions on parameters, can be written as,

$$R\beta - c \geq 0$$

Example 1: monotonicity ($\beta_m - \beta_{m-1} > 0$)

$$R_m = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \\ \beta_4 \end{bmatrix}, c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 2: symmetric

$$R_m = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \\ \beta_4 \end{bmatrix}, c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Estimation of spline coefficients

- Unconstrained shape, $f(x)$ is linear function of β

$$\min \sum_i^N (y_i - h(x_i)\hat{\beta})^2$$

- Constrained OLS: quadratic programming problem

$$\min \sum_i^N (y_i - h(x_i)\tilde{\beta})^2 \quad \text{subject to } R\tilde{\beta} - c \geq 0$$

- Constrained, non-linear/ML: logarithmic barrier

$$\sum_i^N L(h(x_i)\tilde{\beta}) - \mu \sum \log(R\tilde{\beta} - c)$$

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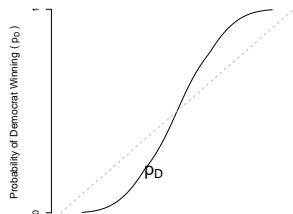
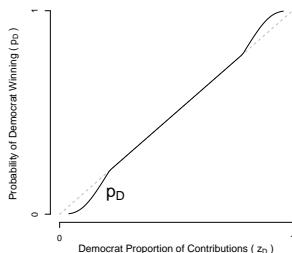
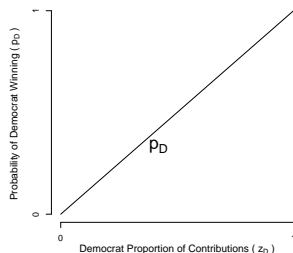
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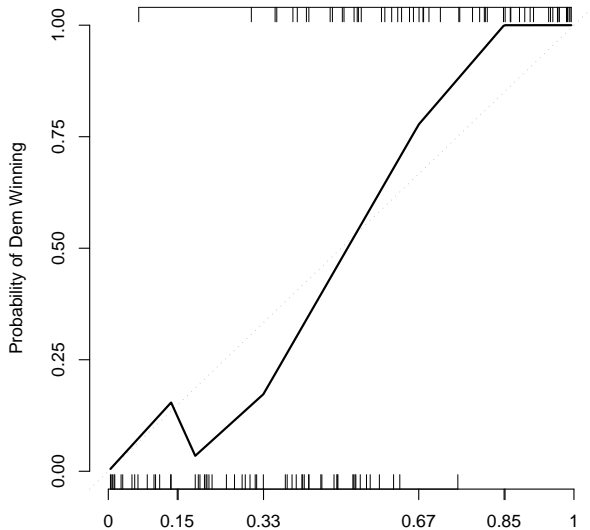
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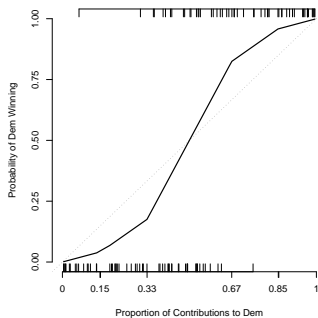
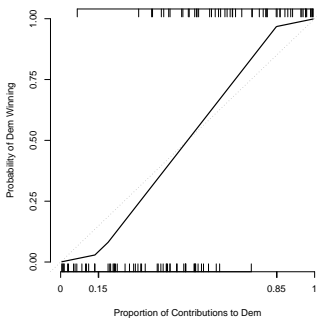
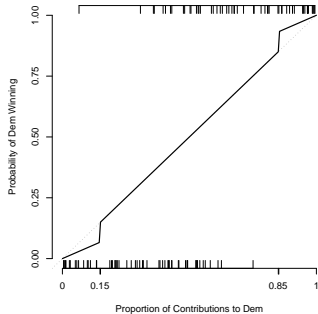
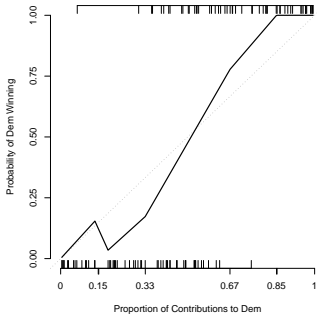
Motivations of PACs (Wand 2011)

Probability of Dem. victory by share of Dem. contributions



Open seats 1980–1986, unrestricted B-spline





PAC motives: model comparisons

Model (j):	Parms m max	Log-lik. L_j	Pr($\bar{\chi}^2 > c$)		
			j vs Linear	j vs Dips	j vs Mono.
Linear Equality	0	-47.03			
w/ symmetric dips	1	-46.59	0.18		
Symmetric, monotonic	2	-44.44	0.06	0.03	
w/ knots at $(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$	3	-43.81	0.07	0.04	0.48
Unrestricted	6	-42.92	0.22	0.89	0.34
w/ knots at $(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$	8	-42.46	0.99	0.89	0.34

Note: $\bar{\chi}^2 = -2(L_{\text{row}} - L_{\text{column}})$

Concluding comments

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Beyond average differences ... and arbitrary flexibility

- Have a theory, ideally more than one
- “Make your theories elaborate” (Fisher / Cochran 1965):
 - ▶ when constructing a causal hypothesis one should envisage as many different consequences of its truth as possible
 - ▶ if a hypothesis predicts that y will increase steadily as the causal variable z increases, a study with at least three levels of z gives a more comprehensive check than one with two levels
 - ▶ i.e, check shape! not just average change
- And check against omnibus alternatives
but be clear this is for idea generation and robustness!

GLM extensions

Simple extension, back-fitting

- Bachetti (1989) Additive Isotonic Models
- Geyer, Charles J. (1991) Constrained Maximum Likelihood in Logistic

However, do you want to...

- non-linear transformation of link often unappealing, distorts shape!
- Wand (2011) uses (constrained) spline to fit binary choice

Multivariate shapes

- rather than additive (cf Stout 2011)

Testing theories based on shapes

Design: no less important here than in RCM

- case selection
 - minimizing confounders
 - Eg., theories of campaign finance and “open seat” races
- selection of a test / distance-metric
 - identifying unique and invariant implications from theory
 - E.g., agenda theories hinge on status quo locations of (potential) proposals
- sensitivity analysis: bounds from theory and data
 - E.g., what (implausible) distribution of SQ could make agenda theories observationally equivalent