

Computational strategies for regression model selection

C. Gatu¹, M. Hofmann², E. Kontoghiorghes^{3,4}

¹“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, Romania

²University of Oviedo, Spain

³Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus

⁴Birkbeck University of London, UK

Limassol, 5th of April 2018

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

- All subset regressions

 - Variable updating

 - Subrange selection

- Parallel dropping columns algorithm

- Efficient variable selection

 - Branch and bound algorithm

 - Variable reordering

 - Heuristic BBA

 - Size HBBA

- Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

- lmSubsets R package

- gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Linear regression model

$$y = a_1 \times \beta_1 + a_2 \times \beta_2 + \dots + a_n \times \beta_n + \varepsilon$$

y, a_1, \dots, a_n : variables (data)

β_1, \dots, β_n : parameters (unknown)

ε : error

Linear regression model

$$y = a_1 \times \beta_1 + a_2 \times \beta_2 + \dots + a_n \times \beta_n + \varepsilon$$

y, a_1, \dots, a_n : variables (data)

β_1, \dots, β_n : parameters (unknown)

ε : error

$$y_1 = a_{1,1} \beta_1 + a_{1,2} \beta_2 + \dots + a_{1,n} \beta_n + \varepsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = a_{2,1} \beta_1 + a_{2,2} \beta_2 + \dots + a_{2,n} \beta_n + \varepsilon_2$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$y_m = a_{m,1} \beta_1 + a_{m,2} \beta_2 + \dots + a_{m,n} \beta_n + \varepsilon_m$$

Matrix notation

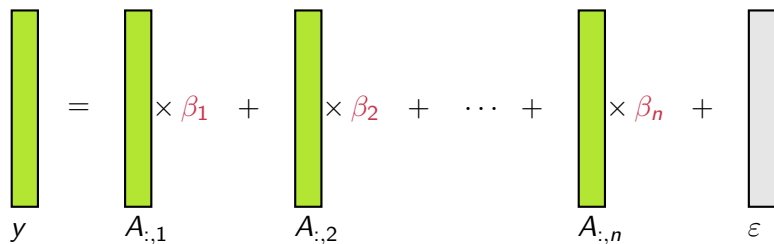
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,1} \end{array} \times \beta_1 + \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,2} \end{array} \times \beta_2 + \dots + \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,n} \end{array} \times \beta_n + \begin{array}{c} \text{grey bar} \\ \varepsilon \end{array}$$

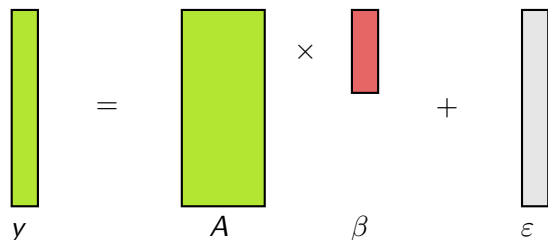
Matrix notation

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,1} \end{array} \times \beta_1 + \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,2} \end{array} \times \beta_2 + \dots + \begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ A_{:,n} \end{array} \times \beta_n + \begin{array}{c} \text{grey bar} \\ \varepsilon \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{green bar} \\ y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{green rectangle} \\ A \end{array} \times \begin{array}{c} \text{red bar} \\ \beta \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{grey bar} \\ \varepsilon \end{array}$$

Matrix notation


$$y = A_{:,1} \times \beta_1 + A_{:,2} \times \beta_2 + \dots + A_{:,n} \times \beta_n + \varepsilon$$


$$y = A \times \beta + \varepsilon$$

$$y = A\beta + \varepsilon, \quad e \sim (0, \sigma^2 \Omega)$$

Least squares estimation

- ▶ Ordinary Linear Model (OLM)

$$y = A\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim (0, \sigma^2 I_m),$$

where $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

- ▶ Ordinary least squares (OLS):

$$\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - A\beta\|^2 = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y.$$

- ▶ Residual sum of squares (RSS):

$$\operatorname{RSS}(\hat{\beta}) = \|y - A\hat{\beta}\|^2$$

OLS and QR Decomposition

- ▶ QR decomposition:

$$Q^T [A \quad y] = \begin{bmatrix} R & z \\ 0 & \rho \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} n \\ 1 \\ m - n - 1 \end{matrix},$$

where R is upper-triangular.

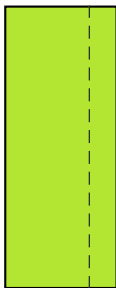
- ▶ OLS estimator:

$$\hat{\beta} = R^{-1}z.$$

- ▶ Residual sum of squares:

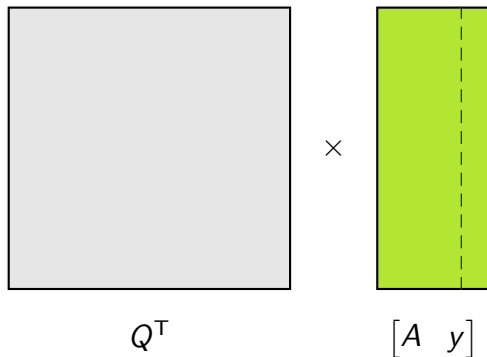
$$\text{RSS}(\hat{\beta}) = \rho^2.$$

QR decomposition

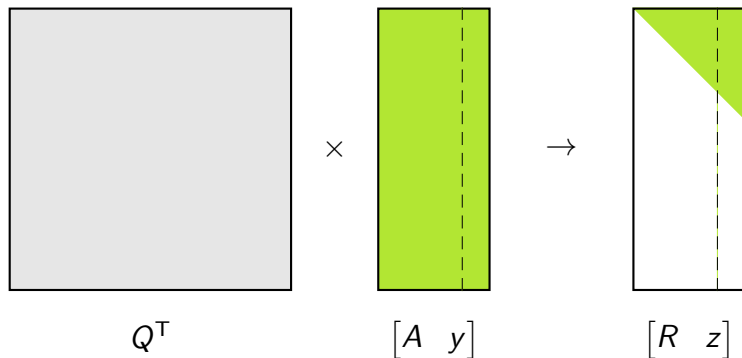


$[A \ y]$

QR decomposition



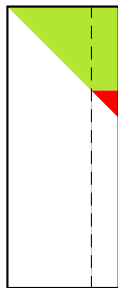
QR decomposition



QR decomposition

$$\hat{\beta} = R^{-1}z$$

$$\text{RSS}(\hat{\beta}) = \rho^2$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} R & z \end{bmatrix}$$

Subset model

$$y = A\beta + \varepsilon$$

Full model F :
OLS: $\hat{\beta}$, $RSS(F)$

Subset model

$$y = A\beta + \varepsilon$$

Full model F :
OLS: $\hat{\beta}$, $RSS(F)$

Subset model

$$y = A\beta + \varepsilon$$

Full model F :
OLS: $\hat{\beta}$, $RSS(F)$

select S

$$y = A_S \beta_S + \varepsilon$$

Subset model S :
OLS: $\hat{\beta}_S$, $RSS(S) \geq RSS(F)$

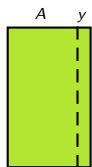
LS estimation of a subset linear model

- ▶ Let $A_S = AS$, $\beta_S = S^T \beta$, $S_{n \times k}$ – selection matrix.
- ▶ $y = A_S \beta_S + \varepsilon \longrightarrow z = RS \beta_S + \zeta$; $\zeta \sim (0, \sigma^2 I_n)$
- ▶ QR decomposition:

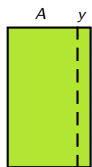
$$Q_S^T [RS \quad y] = \begin{bmatrix} R_S & z_S \\ 0 & \rho_S \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} k \\ 1 \\ n - k - 1 \end{matrix},$$

- ▶ $\hat{\beta}_S = R_S^{-1} z_S$ and $\text{RSS}(\hat{\beta}_S) = \text{RSS}(\hat{\beta}) + \rho_S^2$.


QR downdating



QR downdating



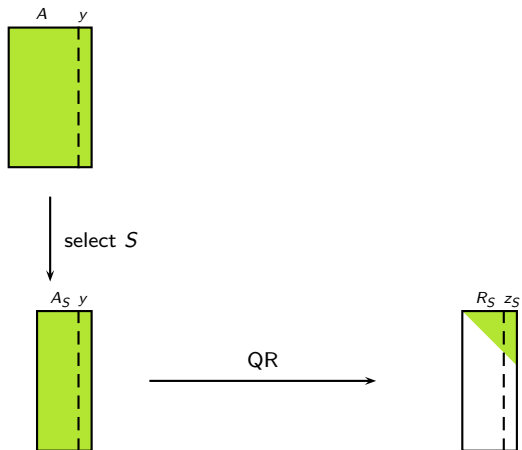
select S



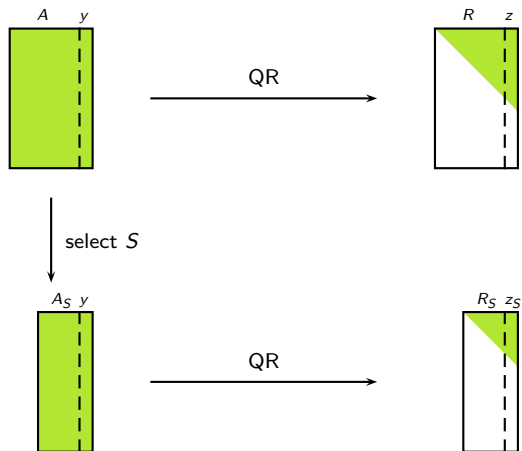
A vertical arrow pointing downwards from the top diagram to the bottom diagram.



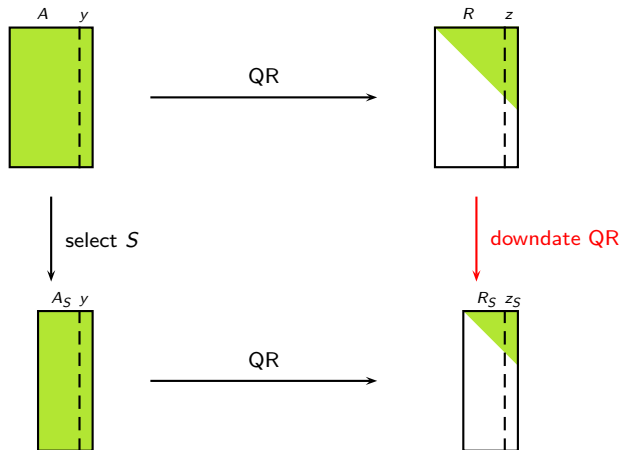
QR downdating



QR downdating



QR downdating



Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

All subset regressions

- ▶ Ordinary linear model with n variables:

$$F = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

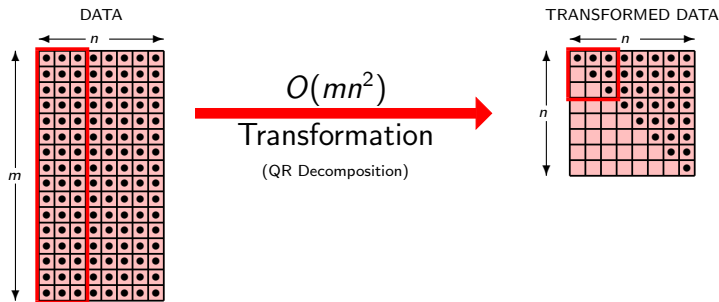
- ▶ Problem statement:

For all subset sizes k , find the *best* subset model S_k^* of size k .

$$(k = 1, 2, \dots, n, S_k^* \subset F, |S_k^*| = k)$$

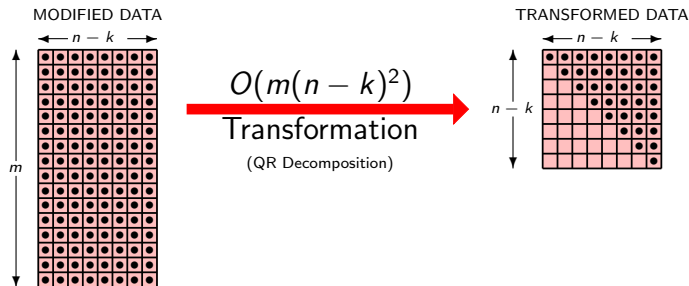
- ▶ *Best?* Smallest RSS.
- ▶ Computational cost: $2^n - 1$ possible models

Proper subset models



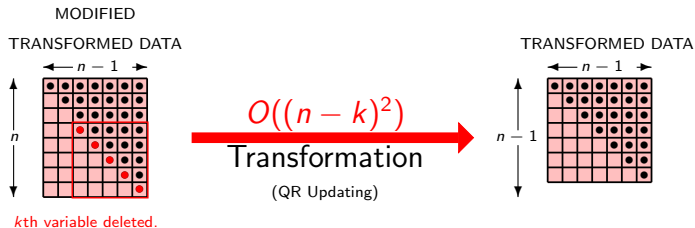
- ▶ The transformed data provides the n sub-models with variables: $\{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \dots, \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$.
- ▶ All $2^n - 1$ sub-models need to be computed.

All subsets: inefficient Approach



- ▶ Delete k ($k = 1, \dots, n - 1$) variables from the original data.
- ▶ Repeat for all 2^{n-1} possible combinations of k .
- ▶ Inefficient because it does not utilise previous computations.

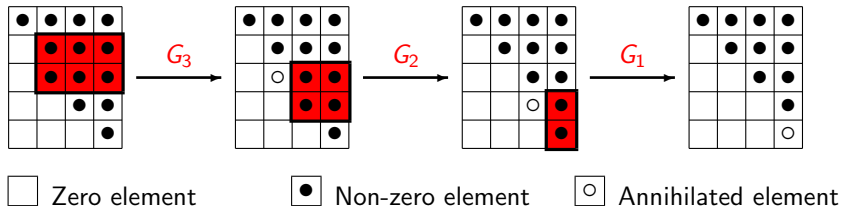
Utilising previous computation



- ▶ Delete a variable from the transformed data.
- ▶ Re-transformation of the modified data.
- ▶ Obtain new sub-models.
- ▶ Re-transform the data after deleting a single variable.

Re-estimate after dropping a single column

2nd column dropped



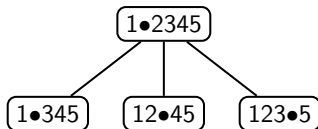
$$C_{\text{Drop}}(\lambda) = t \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda} (j+1) = t(\lambda^2 + 3\lambda)/2.$$

Tree strategy

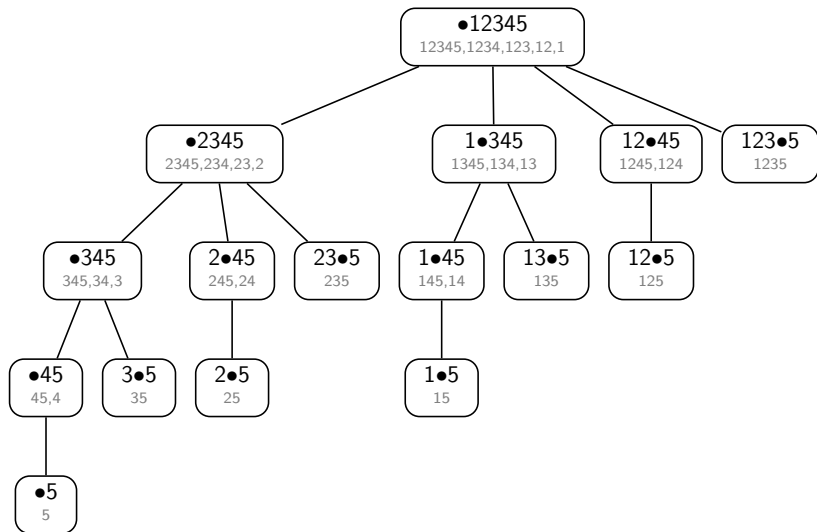
- ▶ Use a Tree strategy to generate the $2^n - 1$ sub-sets.
- ▶ A node of the Tree corresponds to a set of variables.
- ▶ A child node is obtained from its parent by **dropping** one variable.

Notation

- ▶ The variables right of the bullet \bullet will be deleted from the set one at a time. The last element of a set is never deleted.



Regression tree: 2^{n-1} nodes and $2^n - 1$ models



Dropping Column Algorithm (DCA): complexity

- ▶ Drop(V, i):

$$C_{\text{Drop}}(n, i) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-i} (j+1) = (n-i)(n-i+3)/2.$$

- ▶ Generating the RT having as root $\{v_1 \cdots v_i \bullet v_{i+1} \cdots v_n\}$:

$$\begin{aligned} C(n-i) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-i-1} (C_{\text{Drop}}(n-1, n-i-j) + C(n-i-j)) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^{(n-i)} - (n-i+2)(n-i+3)/2. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ DCA:

$$C_{\text{DCA}}(n) = C(n) = 3 \cdot 2^n - (n+2)(n+3)/2 = O(2^n).$$

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

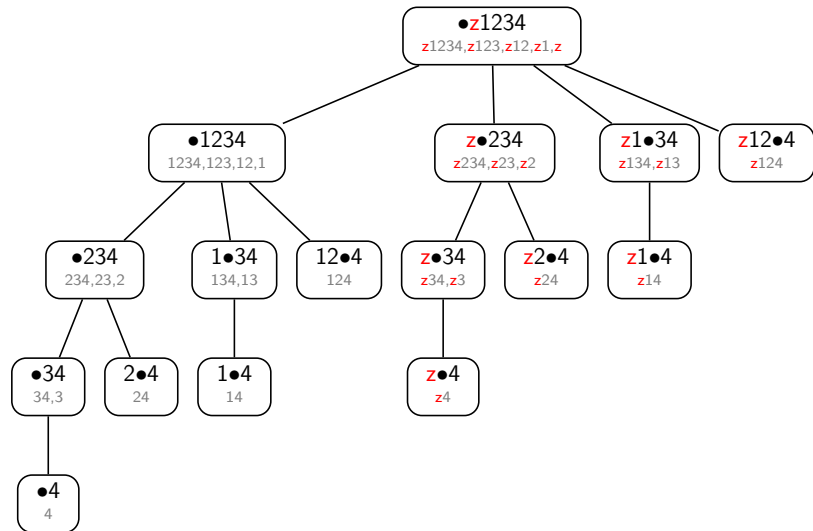
lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Variable updating

- ▶ Consider the updated set $V = \{z, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$.
- ▶ Compute all $2^{n+1} - 1$ subsets.
- ▶ Half of the models have been already generated, e.g. the models corresponding to all combinations of the elements $1, 2, \dots, n$.
- ▶ Compute only the models that include the new element.

Variable updating



Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

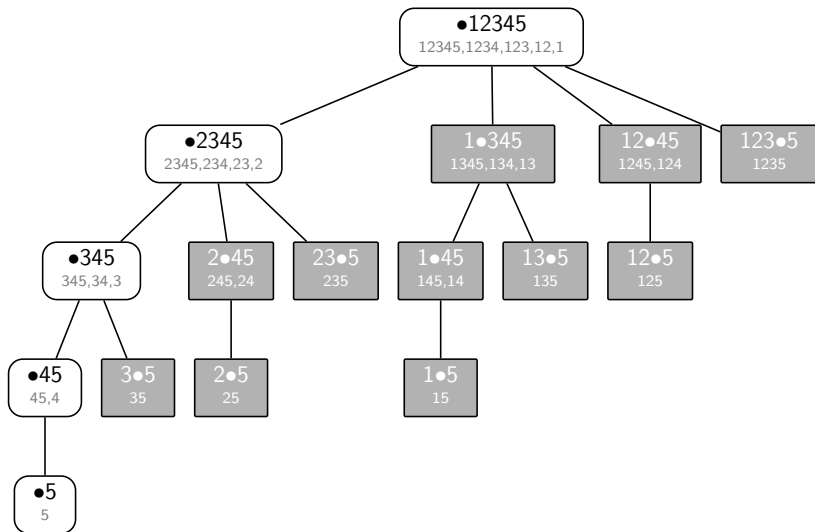
Subrange selection

- ▶ Given a and b ($1 \leq a \leq b \leq n$) generate the minimal subtree to find all subset models of size k , $a \leq k \leq b$.
- ▶ Δ_k the minimal subtree which generates the submodels of size k .

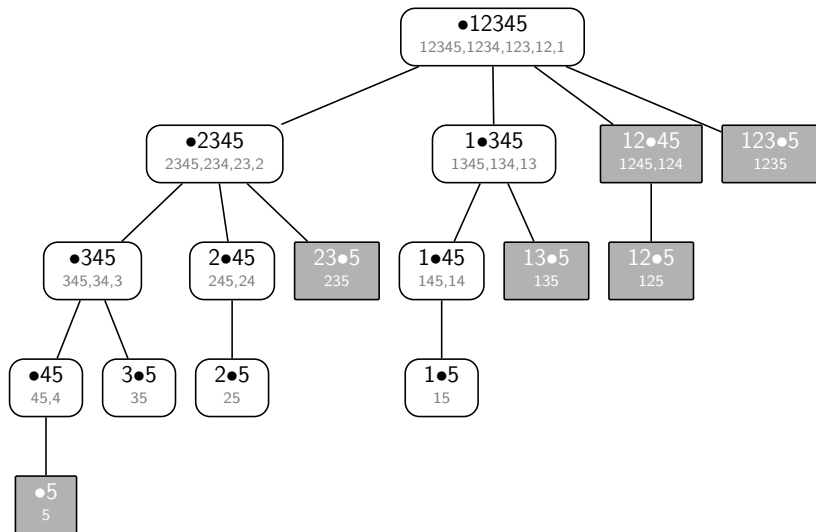
$$\Delta_k(V, i) = \begin{cases} (V, i) & \text{if } k = n - i, \\ ((V, i), \Delta_k(\text{Drop}(V, i + 1), i), \dots \\ \dots, \Delta_1(\text{Drop}(V, i + k), i + k - 1)) & \text{if } k < n - i. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $\Delta_{a-b}(V, i) = \bigcup_{k=a}^b \Delta_k(V, i)$.

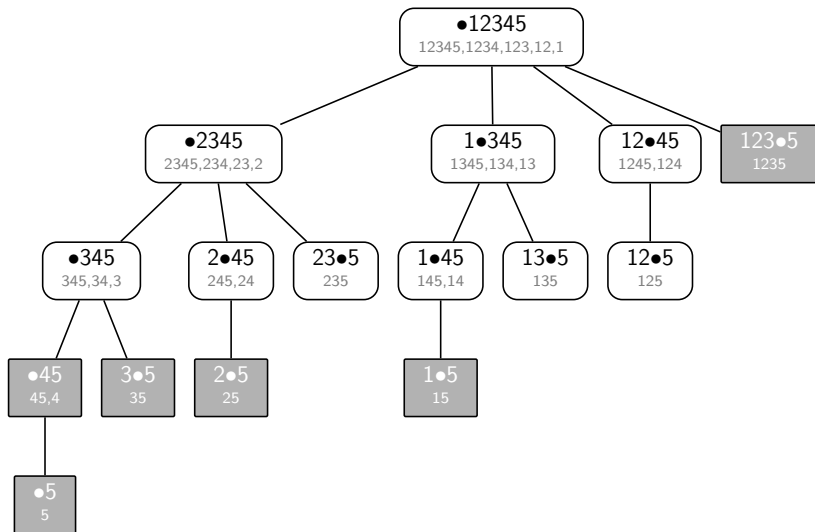
$$\Delta_1(\{12345\}, 0)$$



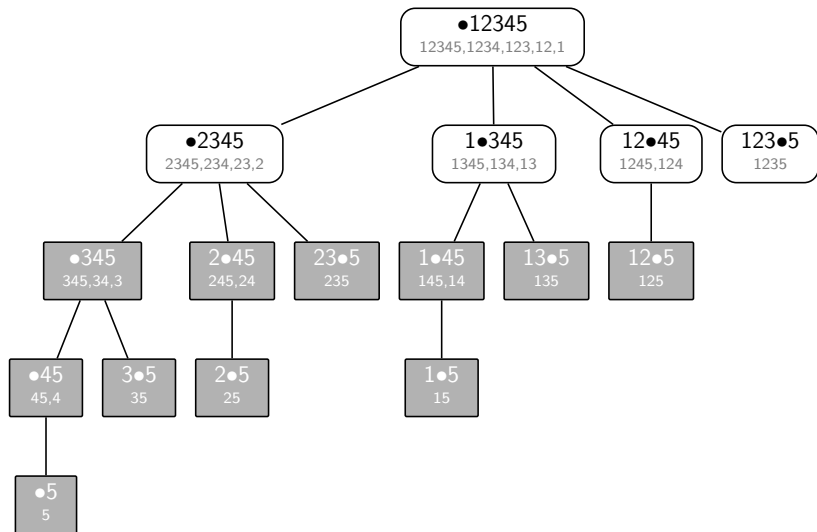
$$\Delta_2(\{12345\}, 0)$$



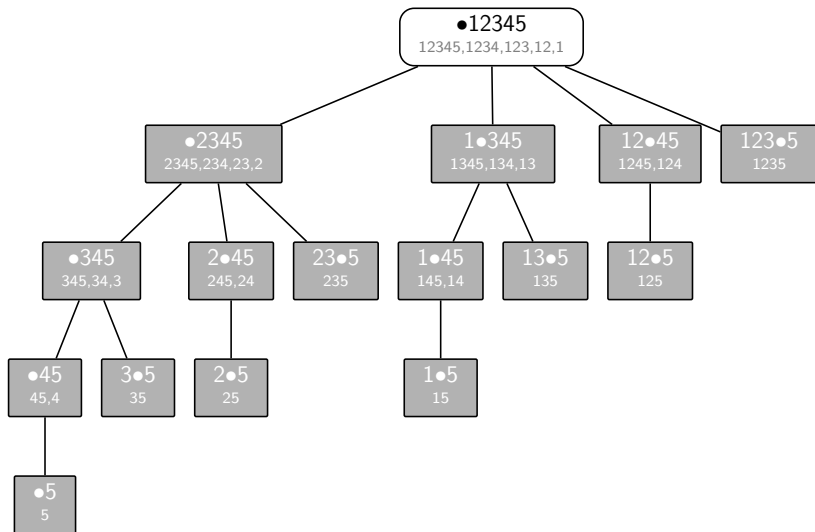
$$\Delta_3(\{12345\}, 0)$$



$$\Delta_4(\{12345\}, 0)$$



$$\Delta_5(\{12345\}, 0)$$



Computational cost

- ▶ nodes

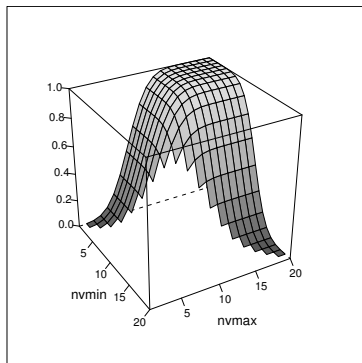
$$N_{a,b}(n) = \sum_{t=a}^{b-1} \binom{n-1}{t-1} + \binom{n}{b};$$

- ▶ operations

$$T_{a,b}(n) = \sum_{t=a}^{b-1} \sum_{j=0}^{t-1} \binom{n-t+j-1}{j} T_{\text{drop}}(t-j) + \sum_{j=0}^{b-1} \sum_{i=j}^{n-b+j-1} \binom{i}{j} T_{\text{drop}}(n-i-1).$$

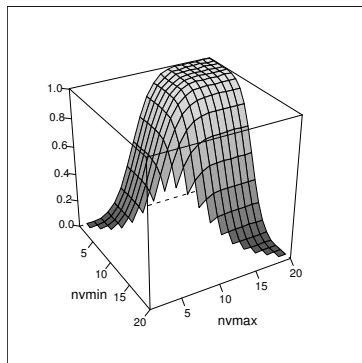
Subrange DCA

number of operations



theoretical, normalized
($n = 20$)

execution time



experimental, normalized

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

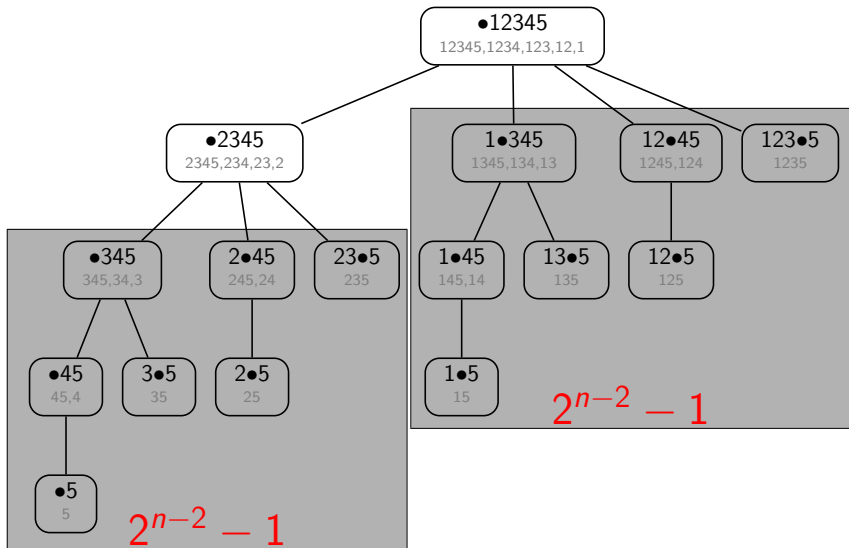
Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

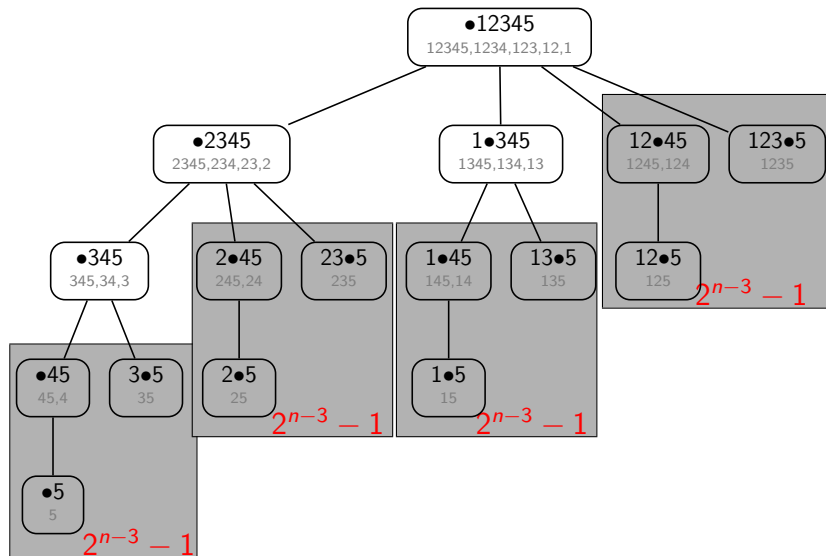
lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

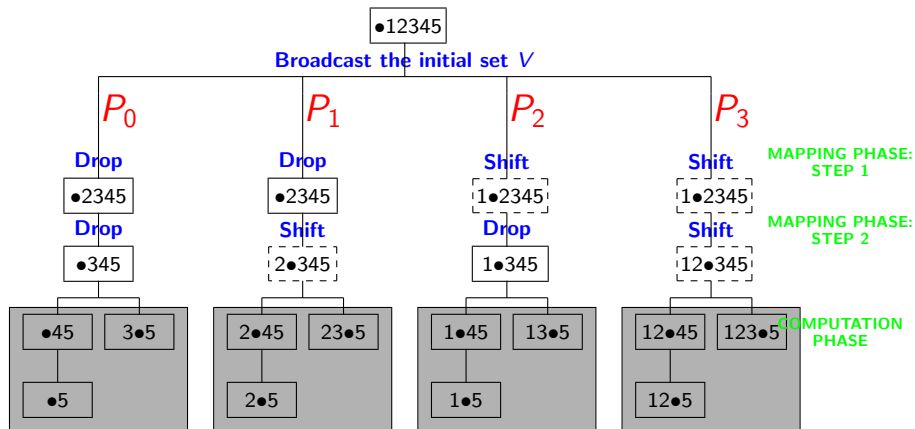
Complexity property of the regression tree



Complexity property of the regression tree



The Parallel Dropping Columns Algorithm (PDCA)



MAPPING PHASE:
STEP 1

MAPPING PHASE:
STEP 2

COMPUTATION
PHASE

$$C_{\text{PDCA}}(n, 2^p) \approx 3 \cdot 2^{n-p}$$

$$\text{Speedup}(n, 2^p) = C_{\text{DCA}}(n) / C_{\text{PDCA}}(n, 2^p) \approx 2^p$$

The PDCA using $p = 2^\ell$ processors

1: **initially do:**

- ▶ Transform the initial data $\rightarrow V \equiv \{v_1 \cdots v_n\}$
- ▶ Obtain the subsets $\{v_1\}, \dots, \{v_1 \cdots v_n\}$
- ▶ $k \leftarrow 0$
- ▶ Broadcast (V, k) to the processors P_0, \dots, P_{p-1}

2: $r \leftarrow$ rank of the processor

3: **each processor do:**

4: **for** $v = 1, \dots, \ell$ **do**

5: **if** $((r \operatorname{div} 2^{\ell-s}) \bmod 2) = 0$ **then**

6: $(V, k) \leftarrow \text{Drop}(V, k)$

7: Extract the new subsets $\{v_1 \cdots v_{k+1}\}, \dots, \{v_1 \cdots v_{k+1} \cdots v_{|V|}\}$

8: **else**

9: $(V, k) \leftarrow \text{Shift}(V, k)$ // i.e. $k \leftarrow k - 1$

10: **end if**

11: **end for**

12: **call** $\text{Subtree}(V, k)$

13: **end do**

The complexity of the PDCA using 2^ρ processors

- ▶ Complexity of the mapping phase

$$C_{\text{map}}(n, \rho) = \sum_{j=1}^{\rho} C_{\text{Drop}}(n, j) = \rho(3n^2 + 6n - 4 - \rho(3n - \rho + 3))/6$$

- ▶ Complexity of the computation phase

$$C(n - \rho) = 3 \cdot 2^{n-\rho} - (n - \rho + 2)(n - \rho + 3)/2$$

- ▶ Complexity of the PDCA

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{PDCA}}(n, \rho) &= C(n - \rho) + C_{\text{map}}(n, \rho) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^{n-\rho} - (n + 2)(n + 3)/2 + \\ &\quad \rho(3 \cdot n^2 + \rho^2 + 12n - 3n\rho - 6\rho + 11)/6 \\ &\approx 3 \cdot 2^{n-\rho} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ $\text{Speedup}(n, 2^\rho) = C_{\text{DCA}}(n)/C_{\text{PDCA}}(n, \rho) \approx 2^\rho$

Execution times in seconds of the PDCA and PDCA-2

# of Variables	# of Proc.	DCA Serial	PDCA Time	PDCA Effic.	PDCA-2 Time	PDCA-2 Effic.	Theoretical Effic.
15	1	0.600	0.603	0.99	0.610	0.98	1.00
15	2		0.313	0.97	0.310	0.98	0.99
15	4		0.160	0.94	0.157	0.96	0.99
15	8		0.080	0.94	0.080	0.94	0.98
20	1	21.52	21.52	1.00	21.53	0.99	1.00
20	2		11.03	0.98	10.81	0.99	0.99
20	4		5.63	0.96	5.46	0.98	0.99
20	8		2.88	0.93	2.78	0.97	0.99
21	1	43.49	43.59	0.99	43.55	0.99	1.00
21	2		22.54	0.96	22.03	0.98	0.99
21	4		11.41	0.95	11.16	0.96	0.99
21	8		5.83	0.93	5.47	0.98	0.99
25	1	757.28	759.89	0.99	773.71	0.98	1.00
25	2		389.56	0.97	381.54	0.99	0.99
25	4		201.12	0.94	190.97	0.99	0.99
25	8		102.89	0.92	98.55	0.97	0.99

SUN Enterprise 10000

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

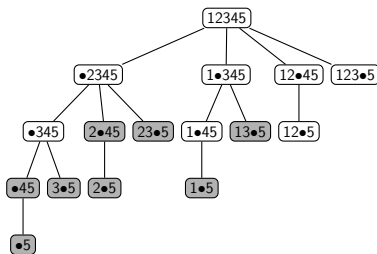
Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Branch and bound algorithm

- ▶ Exhaustive algorithm.
- ▶ Exploit statistical information (RSS) to cut subtrees.



Deriving the best sub-models

- ▶ For each $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ consider a criterion $f(V)$.

- ▶ Problem:

$$\text{for all } p = 1, \dots, n \text{ find } V_p^* = \underset{|V|=p}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(V)$$

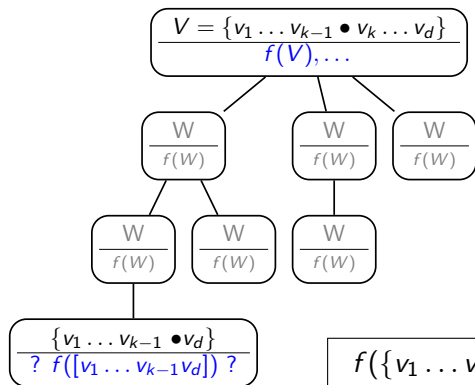
- ▶ E.g. $\min(f([1]), f([2]), \dots, f([n]));$
 $\min(f([1, 2]), f([1, 3]), \dots, f([1, n]), f([2, 3]), \dots);$
 $\min(f([1, 2, 3]), f([1, 2, 4]), \dots); \dots$

- ▶ Objective: Prune non-optimal subtrees.

- ▶ Properties:

- if $V_1 \subseteq V_2$ then $\operatorname{RSS}(V_1) \geq \operatorname{RSS}(V_2)$,
- if $|V_1| = |V_2|$ and $\operatorname{RSS}(V_1) \geq \operatorname{RSS}(V_2)$ then $f(V_1) \geq f(V_2)$.

Branch-and-bound: pruning



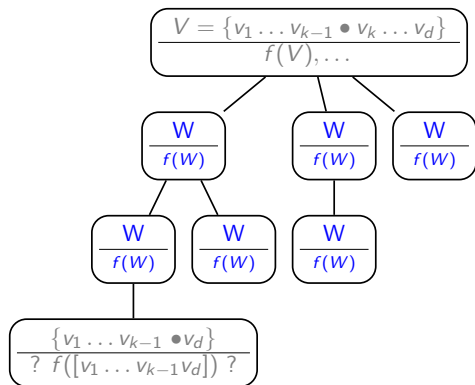
current MIN for each size

$$r_1 \quad \dots \quad r_k \quad \dots \quad r_n$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(\{v_1 \dots v_d\}) \geq f(V) \\ f(V) \geq r_k \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow f([v_1 \dots v_d]) \geq r_k$$

Lemma 1. $r_j^{(g)} \geq r_{j+1}^{(g)}$, where $g = 1, \dots, 2^{n-1}$ and $j = 1, \dots, n-1$.

Branch-and-bound: pruning

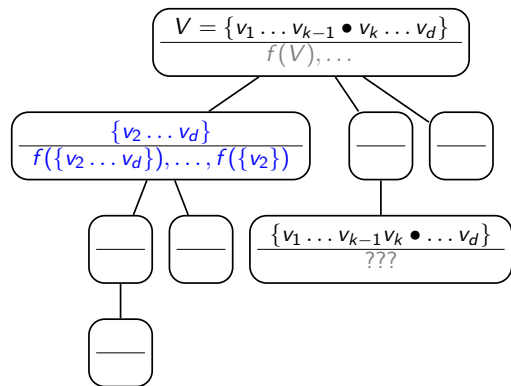


current MIN for each size

$$r_1 \quad \dots \quad r_{|W|} \quad \dots \quad r_n$$

Lemma 2. $r_{|W|} \leq f(W)$, where W is any set obtained from a node of $T(V, k-1)$, $f(V) \leq r_k$ and $1 \leq k < d$.

Branch-and-bound: pruning fails



current MIN for each size

r_1	\dots	r_k	\dots	r_n
-------	---------	-------	---------	-------

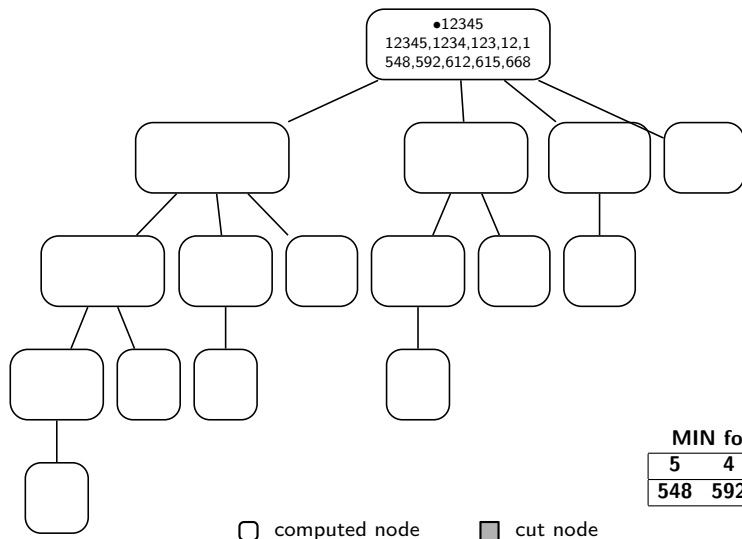
$$f(V) < r_k$$

Branch-and-bound Algorithm

- 1: Compute the QRD of $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$: $Q^T A = \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} n \\ m-n \end{matrix}$ and $Q^T y = \tilde{y}$
- 2: Let $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, $k = 0$ and
 $r_j = \text{RSS}(\{1, 2, \dots, j\}) \equiv \sum_{i=j+1}^m \tilde{y}_i^2$ where $j = 1, \dots, n$
- 3: **call** ProcessSubtree(V, k)

- 4: **def** ProcessSubtree(V, k) = **do**
- 5: **for** $i = k + 1, \dots, |V| - 1$ **do**
- 6: **if** ($r_i > \text{RSS}(V)$) **then**
- 7: $V^{(i)} \leftarrow \text{Drop}(V, i)$
- 8: $r_j = \min(r_j, \text{RSS}(\{v_1^{(i)}, v_2^{(i)}, \dots, v_j^{(i)}\}))$, where
 $j = i, \dots, |V| - 1$
- 9: **else**
- 10: Cut the remaining sub-trees and go to step 13
- 11: **end if**
- 12: **end for**
- 13: **call** ProcessSubtree($V^{(i)}, j - 1$), where
 $j = k + 1, \dots, \min(i, |V| - 2)$
- 14: **end def**

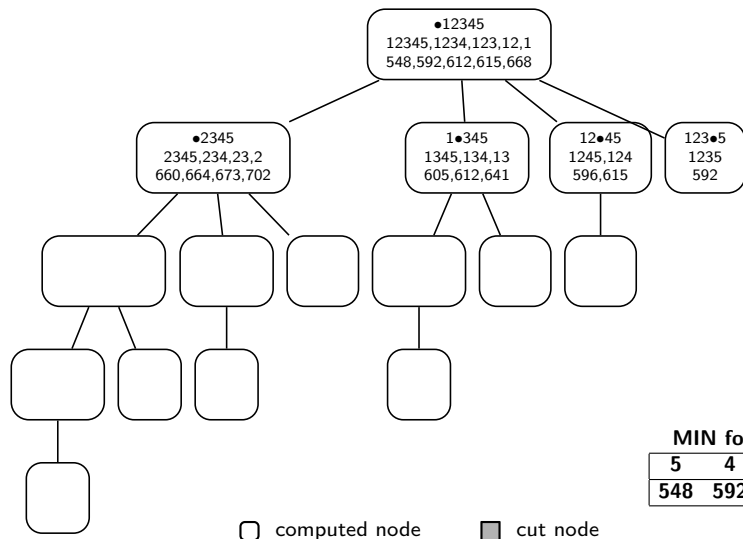
Branch-and-bound algorithm



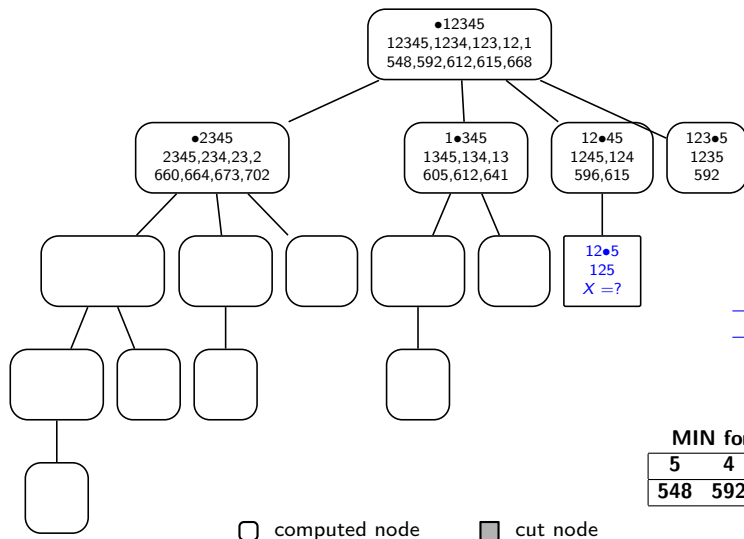
MIN for # of variables

5	4	3	2	1
548	592	612	615	668

Branch-and-bound algorithm



Branch-and-bound algorithm

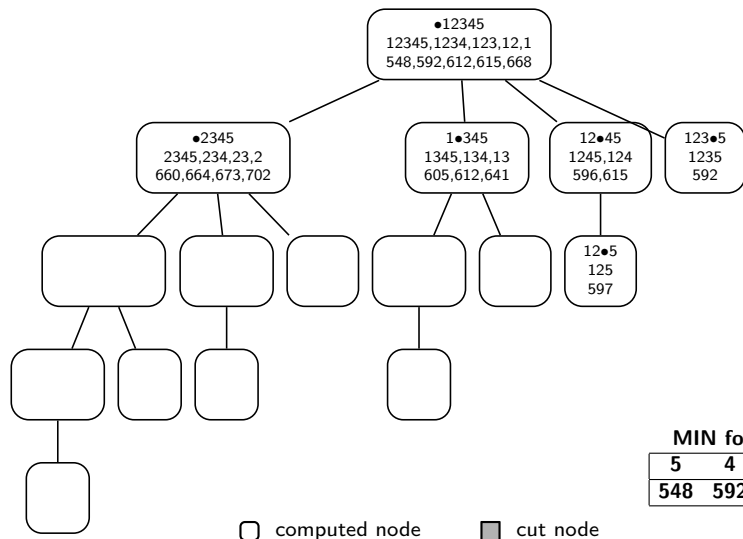


$$\begin{aligned}
 f(1245) &= 596 \\
 \text{MIN}_3 &= 612 \\
 X &> f(1245) \\
 \hline
 f(1245) &< \text{MIN}_3 \\
 \hline
 &\text{COMPUTE}
 \end{aligned}$$

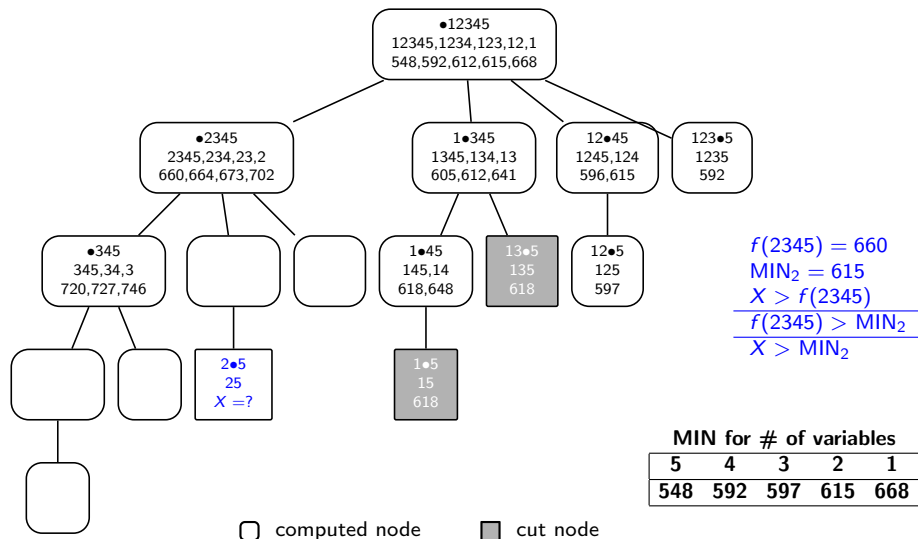
MIN for # of variables

5	4	3	2	1
548	592	612	615	668

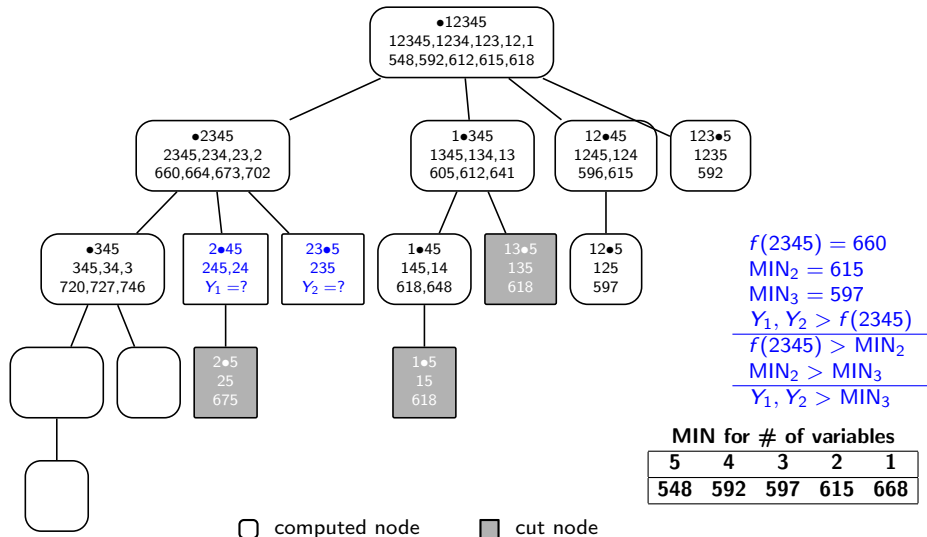
Branch-and-bound algorithm



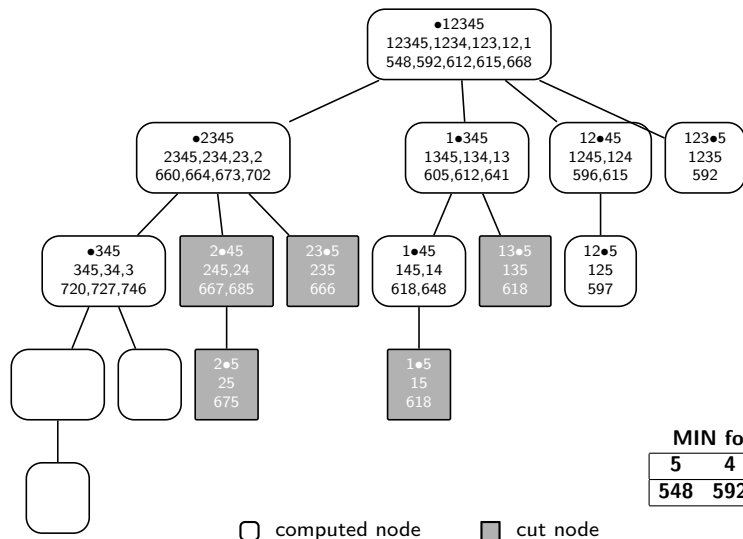
Branch-and-bound algorithm



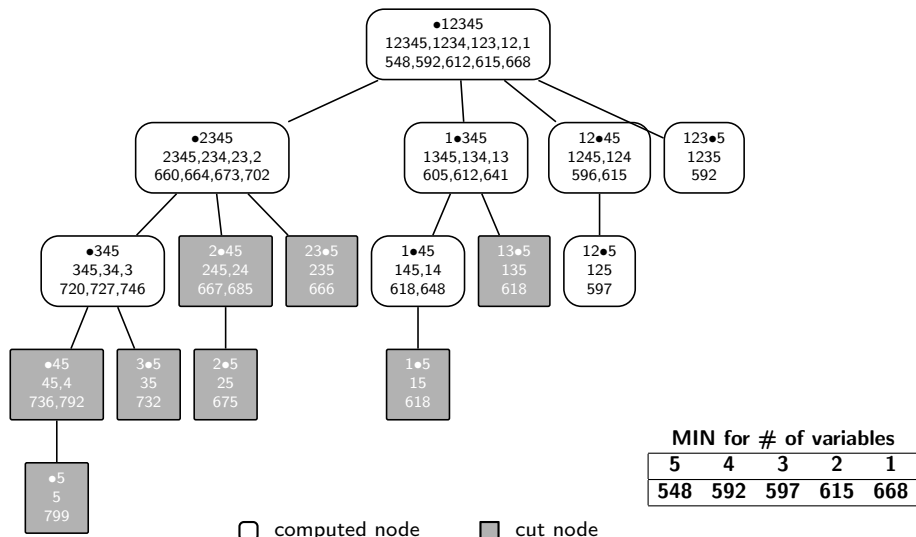
Branch-and-bound algorithm



Branch-and-bound algorithm



Branch-and-bound algorithm



Execution times in seconds of the LBA and BBA

# of Var	Generating all models			Cutting sub-trees			
	Time			LBA		BBA	
	LBA	BBA	LBA / BBA	Time	Nodes	Time	Nodes
15	2.17	0.15	14	0.17	1958	0.02	969
16	4.55	0.28	16	0.15	1556	0.03	760
17	9.49	0.54	18	0.58	5932	0.08	2966
18	19.93	1.07	19	0.94	8870	0.13	4383
19	43.64	2.17	20	2.55	23316	0.29	11655
20	88.73	4.48	20	11.35	108806	1.07	54403
21	184.51	8.65	21	7.77	64348	0.80	32174
22	387.50	17.02	23	7.13	49994	0.72	24988
23	811.99	34.16	24	8.18	57060	0.81	28511
24	1739.70	68.20	26	62.76	454332	5.74	227159
25	3617.78	136.00	27	53.66	358008	5.60	178997
25	1h	2 min		1 min		6 sec	

$$C_{\text{LBA}}(n)/C_{\text{BBA}}(n) \approx 0.0058(2n^3 + 9n^2 - 5n - 6) \equiv O(n^3)$$

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

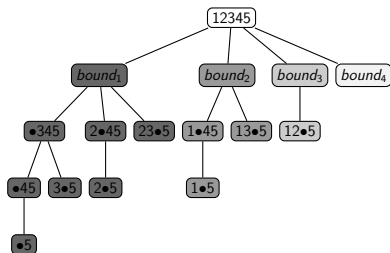
Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

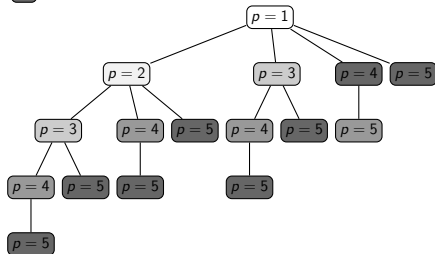
gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Variable preordering

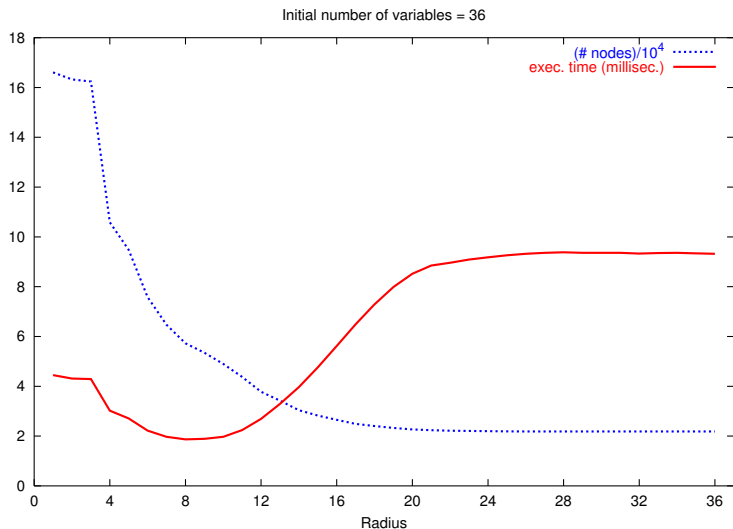
- ▶ Pre-order variables into the root node such that $bound_1 \geq bound_2 \geq bound_3 \geq bound_4$.



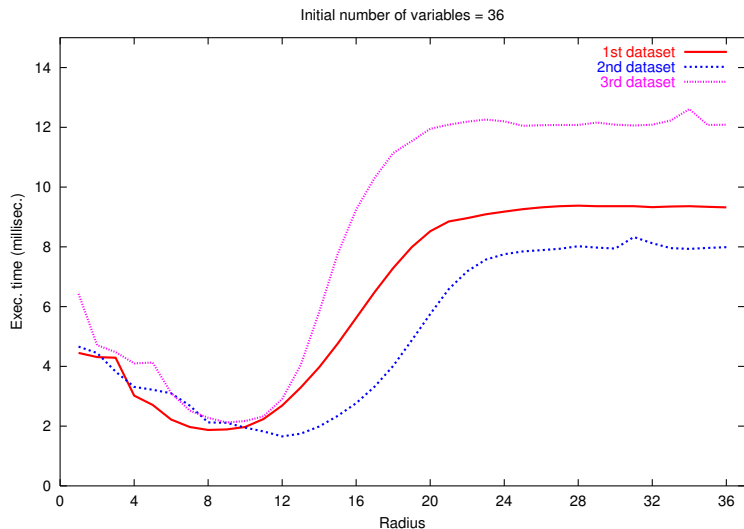
- ▶ preorder variables in all nodes within a given radius p .



Execution times of PBBA using various radius levels



Execution times of PBBA using various radius levels



Heuristic branch-and-bound (HBBA)

- ▶ Finds good, but not necessarily optimal, subset models.
- ▶ VERY FAST!
- ▶ Tolerance parameter τ .
- ▶ Relative residual error (RRE):

$$RRE(W_j) = \frac{RSS(W_j) - RSS(V_j^*)}{RSS(W_j)}$$

where W_j is a subset model of size j , V_j^* is the optimal subset model of the same size.

- ▶ It has been shown that

$$RRE(W_j) < \tau,$$

where W_j has been computed by $HBBA_\tau$.

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

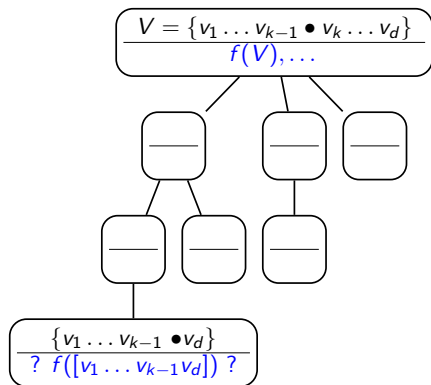
Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Heuristic Branch and bound

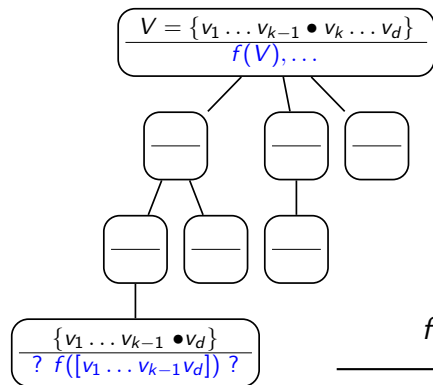


current MIN for each size

r_1	\dots	r_k	\dots	r_n
-------	---------	-------	---------	-------

$$f(V) < r_k$$

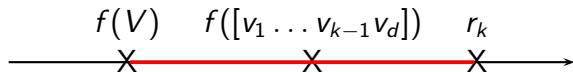
Heuristic Branch and bound



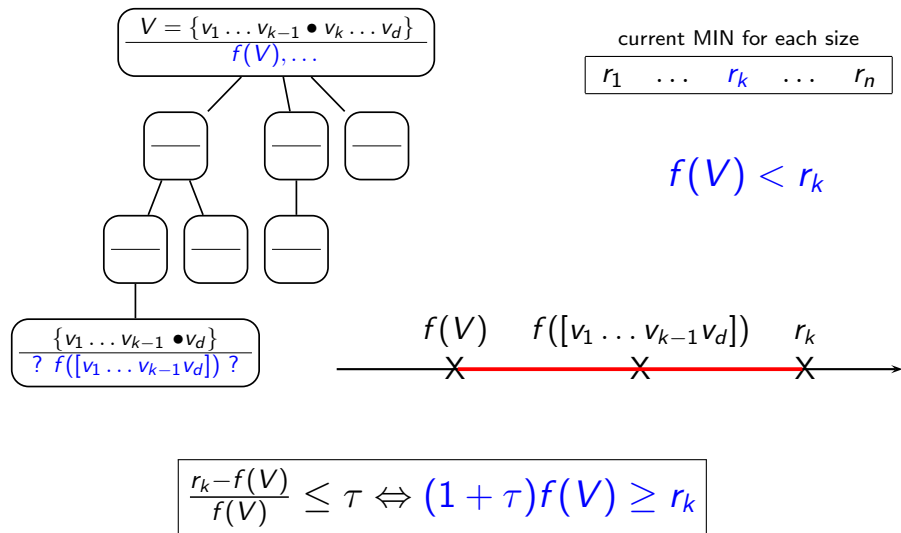
current MIN for each size

$r_1 \quad \dots \quad r_k \quad \dots \quad r_n$

$$f(V) < r_k$$



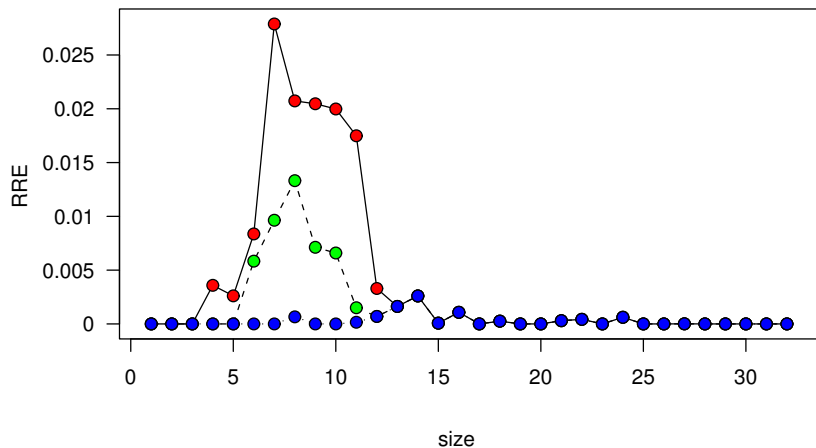
Heuristic Branch and bound



HBBA

($n = 32$)

- tol = 0.25 50 nodes
- tol = 0.1 1549 nodes
- tol = 0.05 9301 nodes
- BBA-1 129604 nodes



Exec. times in sec. for various versions of the BBA

# of Var	Exhaustive methods		Heuristics with $\tau = 0.1$		Heuristics with $\tau = 0.25$	
	BBA	BBA-1	HBBA	HBBA-1	HBBA	HBBA-1
15	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.009	0.003
20	1.14	0.05	0.48	0.02	0.16	0.009
25	5.60	0.32	1.78	0.05	0.20	0.010
30	22.54	1.09	3.46	0.04	1.46	0.005
35	171.64	3.01	42.47	0.32	4.77	0.040
40	10049.32	45.09	168.17	1.31	12.27	0.030
41	3197.91	63.22	80.94	1.12	0.89	0.070
42	28176.72	76.09	4949.46	3.15	255.20	0.090
43	31567.22	289.52	1353.42	4.50	115.70	0.093
44	3806.57	89.07	266.99	2.78	11.93	0.086
45	47342.35	149.80	2105.87	1.74	17.25	0.042
45	13 h	2.5 min	36 min	2 sec	17 sec	0.042 sec

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

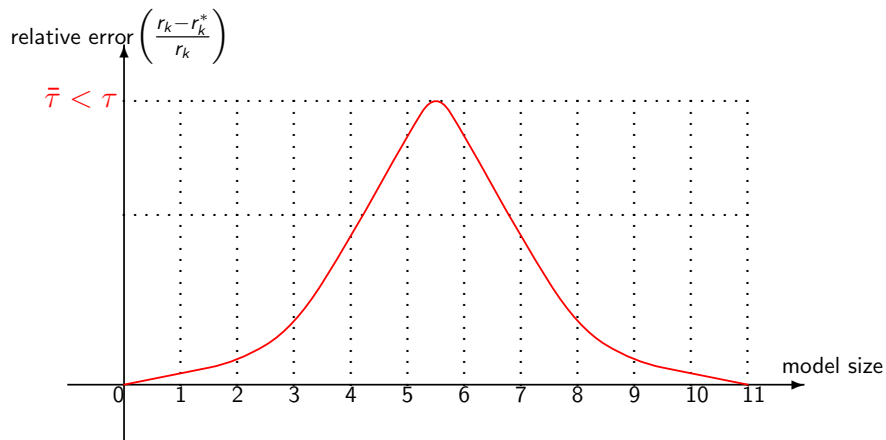
Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

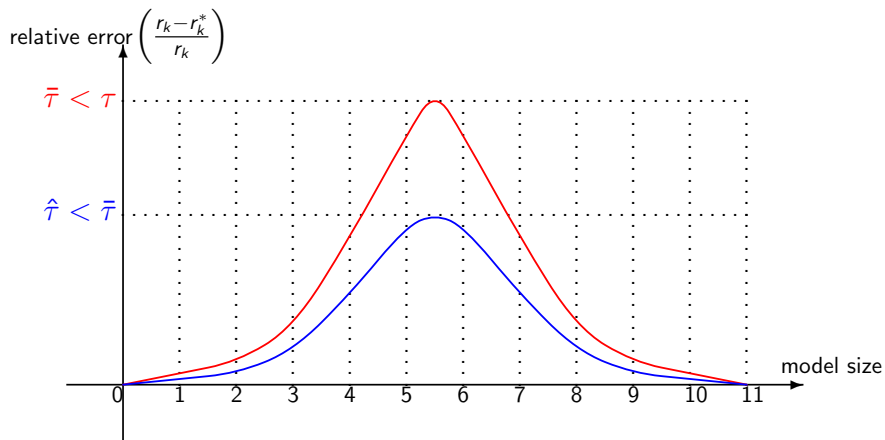
gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Size Heuristic Branch and bound



Split the tolerance τ (scalar) in (τ_1, \dots, τ_n) (vector).

Size Heuristic Branch and bound

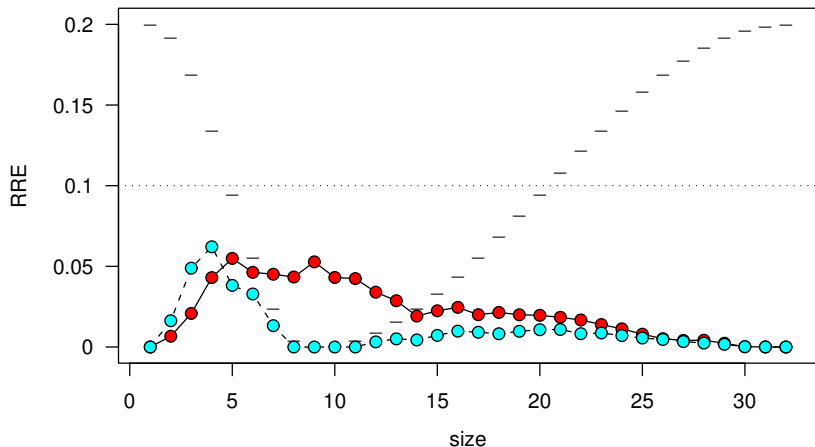


Split the tolerance τ (scalar) in (τ_1, \dots, τ_n) (vector).

Size HBBA

($n = 32$)

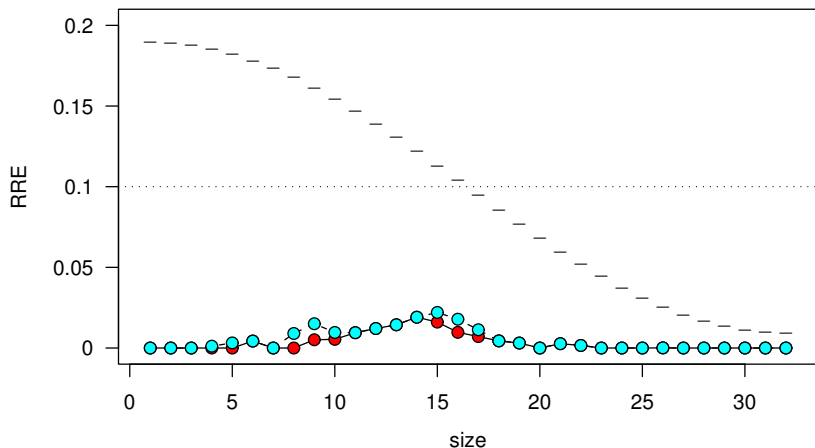
- tol(j)
- HBBA-1 mean = 0.1
3999 nodes, tol = 0.1
- SHBBA-1 168719 nodes, tol = tol(j)
- BBA-1 412821 nodes



Size HBBA

($n = 32$)

- tol(j) mean = 0.1
- HBBA-1 2037 nodes, tol = 0.1
- SHBBA-1 308 nodes, tol = tol(j)
- BBA-1 251753 nodes



Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Least squares estimation

- ▶ **Ordinary Linear Model (OLM):**

- ▶ $y = A\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim (0, \sigma^2 I)$

- ▶ **Ordinary Least Squares (OLS):**

- ▶ $\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - A\beta\|^2 \equiv (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y$

- ▶ $\text{RSS} = \|y - A\hat{\beta}\|^2$

- ▶ **Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS):**

- ▶ $\tilde{\beta} = \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - A\beta\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } \beta \geq 0$

- ▶ $\text{NN-RSS} = \|y - A\tilde{\beta}\|^2$

Least squares estimation

- ▶ **Ordinary Linear Model (OLM):**

- ▶ $y = A\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim (0, \sigma^2 I)$

- ▶ **Ordinary Least Squares (OLS):**

- ▶ $\hat{\beta} = \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - A\beta\|^2 \equiv (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y$

- ▶ $\text{RSS} = \|y - A\hat{\beta}\|^2$

- ▶ **Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS):**

- ▶ $\tilde{\beta} = \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - A\beta\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } \beta \geq 0$

- ▶ $\text{NN-RSS} = \|y - A\tilde{\beta}\|^2$

Non-Negative Model Selection (NNMS)

- ▶ Given

a set of n variables $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

- ▶ For all $p = 1, \dots, n$ find

$$W_p = \operatorname{argmin}_{W \subseteq V} \text{NN-RSS}(W) \quad \text{subject to} \quad |W| = p$$

- ▶ Complexity: solve $2^n - 1$ NNLS problems

NNMS: naive approach

1. **procedure** naiveNNMS(n, V) $\{ V = \{1, \dots, n\} \}$
2. $W_p \leftarrow \emptyset; \quad r_p \leftarrow +\infty, \quad \text{for } p = 1, \dots, n$
3. **for** $p = 1, \dots, n$ **do**
4. **for** all $W \subseteq V$ with $|W| = p$ **do**
5. solve NNLS(W)
6. **if** (NN-RSS(W) $< r_p$) **then**
7. $W_p \leftarrow W; \quad r_p \leftarrow \text{NN-RSS}(W)$
8. **end procedure**

Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS)

- ▶ Quadratic programming (Simplex)
- ▶ Alternative

```
Compute unconstraint  $\hat{\beta}$   
if (  $\hat{\beta} \geq 0$  ) then  
     $\hat{\beta}_c \equiv \hat{\beta}$   
else  
    {  $\hat{\beta}_c$  boundary in  $([0, \infty))^n$  }  
    Enumerate all unconstraint submodels  
end if
```

- ▶ Example: $n=3$; 123, 12, 13, 23, 1, 2, 3

Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS)

- ▶ Quadratic programming (Simplex)
- ▶ Alternative (Waterman 1974; Armstrong et al. 1976; Cutler 1993)

```
Compute unconstraint  $\hat{\beta}$   
if (  $\hat{\beta} \geq 0$  ) then  
     $\hat{\beta}_c \equiv \hat{\beta}$   
else  
    {  $\hat{\beta}_c$  boundary in  $([0, \infty))^n$  }  
    Enumerate all unconstraint submodels  
end if
```

- ▶ Example: $n=3$; 123, 12, 13, 23, 1, 2, 3

Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS)

- ▶ Quadratic programming (Simplex)
- ▶ Alternative

```
Compute unconstraint  $\hat{\beta}$   
if (  $\hat{\beta} \geq 0$  ) then  
     $\hat{\beta}_c \equiv \hat{\beta}$   
else  
    {  $\hat{\beta}_c$  boundary in  $([0, \infty))^n$  }  
    Enumerate all unconstraint submodels  
end if
```

- ▶ Example: $n=3$; 123, 12, 13, 23, 1, 2, 3

NNLS: alternative solution

LEMMA 1.

The NNLS problem is equivalent to

$$S^* = \underset{S \subseteq V}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{RSS}(S) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \beta_S \geq 0,$$

where the $\beta_S \in \mathfrak{R}^{|S|}$ is the coefficient vector corresponding to the variables selected in S .

NNMS: new formulation

LEMMA 2.

The problem of regression subset selection with non-negative coefficients constraints is equivalent to

$$S_p^* = \underset{S \subseteq V}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{RSS}(S) \quad \text{subject to}$$
$$\beta_S \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad |S| \leq p, \quad \text{for } p = 1, \dots, n.$$

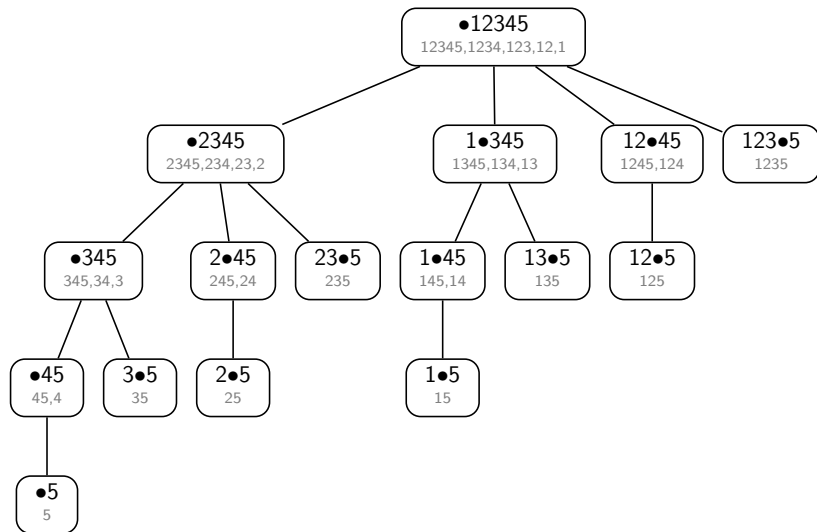
For all $p = 1, \dots, n$ find

$$W_p = \underset{W \subseteq V}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{NN-RSS}(W) \quad \text{subject to} \quad |W| = p$$

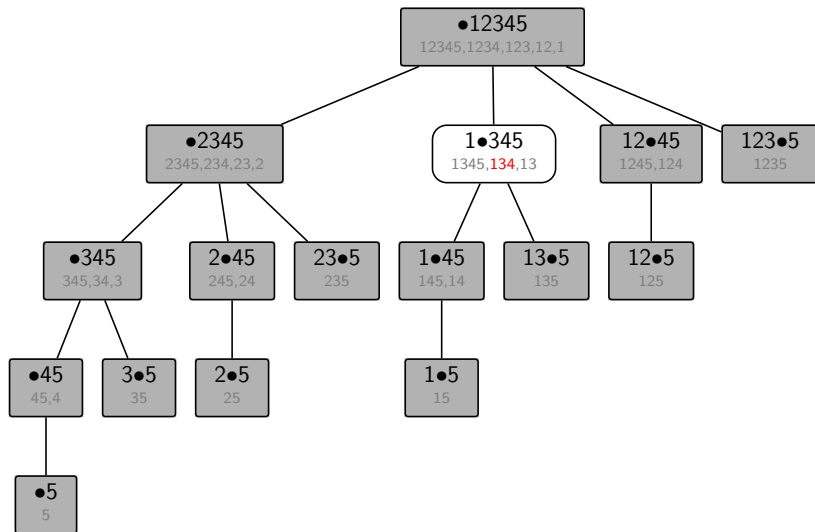
NNMS: enumerative algorithm

1. **procedure** NNMS(n, V) $\{ V = \{1, \dots, n\} \}$
2. $W_p \leftarrow \emptyset; \quad r_p \leftarrow +\infty, \quad \text{for } p = 1, \dots, n$
3. **for** $p = 1, \dots, n$ **do**
4. **for** all $S \subseteq V$ with $|S| = p$ **do**
5. **solve** OLS(S)
6. **if** $(\hat{\beta}_S \geq 0)$ **then**
7. **for** $j = p, \dots, n$ **do**
8. **if** $(\text{RSS}(S) < r_j)$ **then**
9. $W_j \leftarrow S; \quad r_j \leftarrow \text{RSS}(S)$
10. **end procedure**

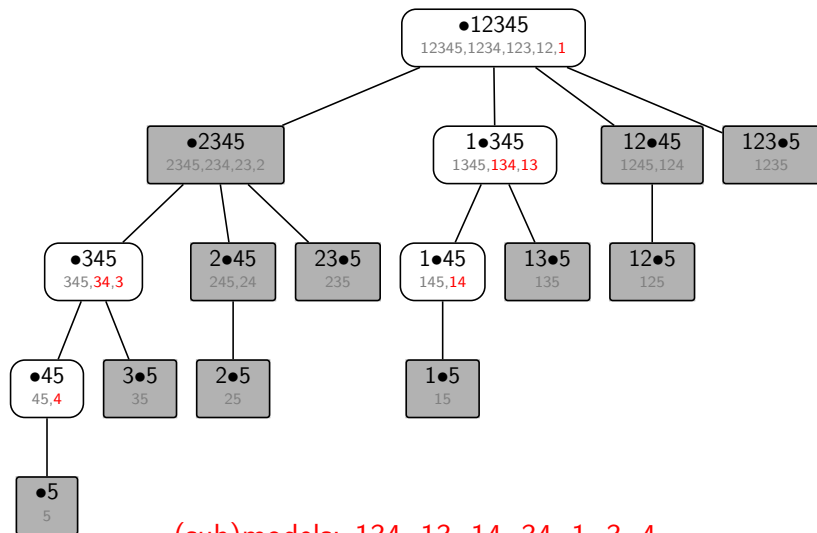
Enumeration scheme: regression tree ($n = 5$)



134 – unconstraint solution



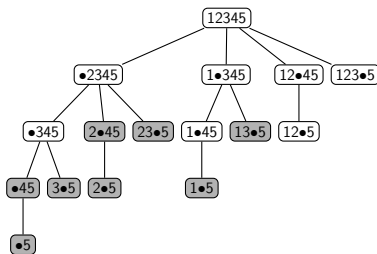
134 – constraint solution



(sub)models: 134, 13, 14, 34, 1, 3, 4

Branch and bound algorithms

- ▶ Exhaustive algorithm.
- ▶ Exploit statistical information (RSS) to cut subtrees.



Generated nodes & times (seconds)

n	naiveNNMS		NNMS		BB-NNMS		BB-NNMS [§]	
	nodes	time	nodes	time	nodes	time	nodes	time
15	16'384	25	16'384	0.06	489	0.004	800	0.004
16	32'768	57	32'768	0.12	885	0.004	891	0.004
17	65'536	139	65'536	0.23	1'120	0.005	1'667	0.008
18	131'072	331	131'072	0.48	1'270	0.008	3'254	0.015
19	262'144	723	262'144	0.95	1'867	0.008	3'686	0.017
20	524'288	1'678	524'288	1.93	8'830	0.040	6'983	0.033
21	1'048'576	3'775	1'048'576	3.90	15'451	0.068	13'289	0.062
22	2'097'152	8'876	2'097'152	7.90	8'128	0.036	14'522	0.070
23	4'194'304	19'707	4'194'304	15.80	17'292	0.084	26'706	0.128
24	8'388'608	43'818	8'388'608	32.30	56'894	0.276	54'159	0.258
25	***	***	16'777'216	64.10	35'798	0.176	61'549	0.301

*** – canceled after 24 hours;

§– mean values over 1000 runs on different data.

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

lmSubsets

▶ INPUT:

- ▶ an object of class 'lm' or
- ▶ a formula or
- ▶ a matrix.

▶ OUTPUT:

- ▶ an object of class 'lmSubsets';
- ▶ \$rss: residual sum of squares;
- ▶ \$which: selected variables.

▶ FUNCTIONS: print, plot, summary

lmSubsets

package:lmSubsets

R Documentation

All-Subsets Regression

Description:

All-subsets regression for ordinary linear models.

Usage:

```
lmSubsets(formula, data, subset, weights, na.action,  
model = TRUE, x = FALSE, y = FALSE, contrasts = NULL, offset, ...)
```

```
lmSubsets.fit(x, y, weights = NULL, offset = NULL,  
include = NULL, exclude = NULL, nmin = NULL, nmax = NULL,  
tolerance = 0, pradius = NULL, nbest = 1, ..., .algo = "hpbb")
```

Example:

```
library(lmSubsets)

## load data
data("AirPollution", package = "lmSubsets")

## canonical example: fit all subsets
all.AirPoll <- lmSubsets(mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 5)

## visualize RSS
plot(all.AirPoll)

## summarize
summary(all.AirPoll)

## plot summary
plot(summary(all.AirPoll))
```

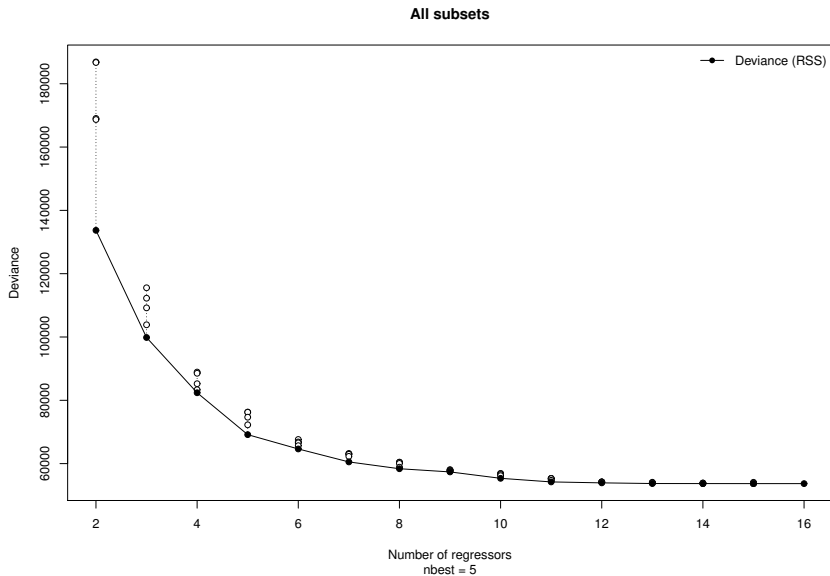
```
> print(all.AirPoll)
[...]
```

Model fit (deviance):

best x size

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	133694.54	99841.07	82388.53	69154.11	64633.79	60538.76	58385.72
2.	168695.53	103859.31	83335.14	72250.33	65659.86	62288.70	58870.48
3.	169041.38	109202.60	85241.98	74666.42	66554.64	62953.77	60057.48
4.	186715.91	112259.15	88542.69	76230.34	66837.27	63007.12	60422.51
5.	186896.19	115541.19	88919.66	76276.41	67621.51	63205.56	60465.10
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	57379.21	55358.05	54221.58	53921.82	53712.66	53696.00	53683.31
2.	57617.43	56185.55	54718.93	54146.37	53874.74	53696.65	53690.20
3.	57748.66	56550.95	55260.67	54186.59	53900.78	53709.86	53695.48
4.	57948.25	56818.31	55298.82	54217.60	53917.84	53846.53	53845.54
5.	58093.85	56896.70	55343.71	54219.26	54112.97	53872.20	54097.09
	16						
1.	53680.02						
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							


```
> plot(all.AirPoll)
```



```
> summary(all.AirPoll)
```

```
Call:
```

```
lmSubsets(formula = mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 3)
```

```
Summary:
```

```
Value: BIC (penalty = 4.094345)
```

```
Model fit:
```

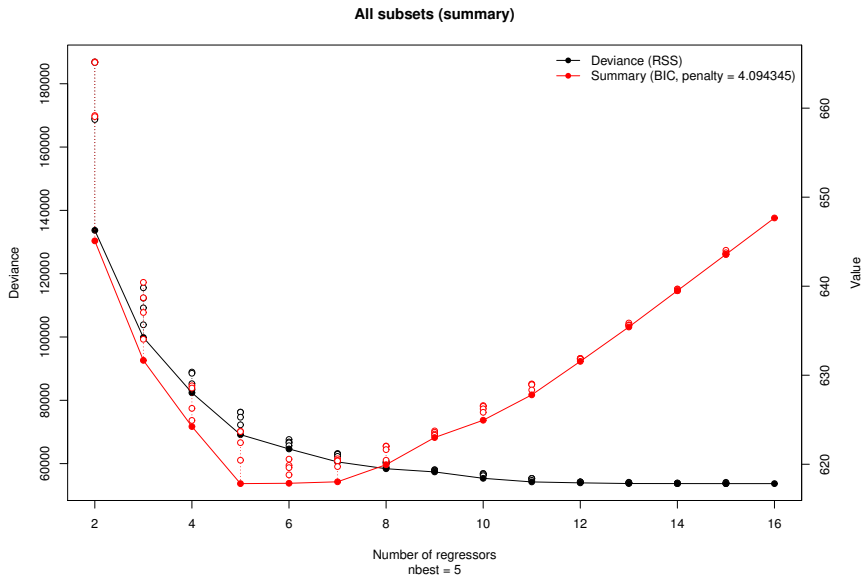
```
best x size
```

```
DEVIANCE
```

```
Summary
```

	2	3	4	5	6	7
1st	133694.5375 645.0938	99841.0707 631.6694	82388.5289 624.2358	69154.1114 617.8236*	64633.7871 617.8619	60538.7565 618.0290
2nd	168695.5325 659.0460	103859.3092 634.0369	83335.1406 624.9212	72250.3324 620.4516	65659.8646 618.8069*	62288.6991 619.7388
3rd	169041.3808 659.1689	109202.5995 637.0469	85241.9793 626.2786	74666.4172 622.4252	66554.6389 619.6191*	62953.7731 620.3761
	8	9	10	11	12	13
1st	58385.7150 619.9506	57379.2090 623.0016	55358.0499 624.9444	54221.5787 627.7941	53921.8188 631.5559	53712.6644 635.4170
2nd	58870.4775 620.4468	57617.4285 623.2502	56185.5482 625.8346	54718.9259 628.3420	54146.3720 631.8052	53874.7417 635.5978
3rd	60057.4817 621.6445	57748.6552 623.3867	56550.9524 626.2236	55260.6675 628.9331	54186.5889 631.8498	53900.7791 635.6268
	14	15	16			
1st	53696.0048 639.4928	53683.3135 643.5729	53680.0215 647.6636			
2nd	53696.6464 639.4935	53690.1979 643.5806				
3rd	53709.8603 639.5082	53695.4814 643.5865				

```
> plot(summary(all.AirPoll))
```



ImSelect: problem reformulation

- ▶ Ordinary linear model with n variables:

$$F = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

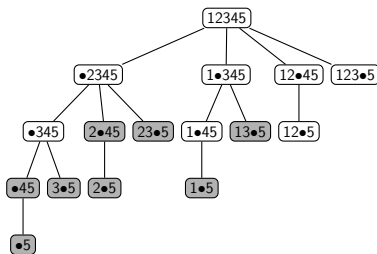
- ▶ Problem statement:

find the *best* subset model S^* , $S^* \subset F$.

- ▶ *Best?* Smallest RSS AIC.
- ▶ Computational cost: $2^n - 1$ possible models

Branch and bound algorithm

- ▶ Exhaustive algorithm.
- ▶ Exploit statistical information (~~RSS~~ AIC) to cut subtrees.



lmSelect

package:lmSubsets

R Documentation

All-Subsets Regression

Description: Best-subsets regression for ordinary linear models.

Usage:

```
lmSelect(formula, data, subset, weights, na.action,  
model = TRUE, x = FALSE, y = FALSE, contrasts = NULL, offset, ...)
```

```
lmSelect.fit(x, y, weights = NULL, offset = NULL,  
include = NULL, exclude = NULL, penalty = "BIC", tolerance = 0,  
pradius = NULL, nbest = 1, ..., .algo = "hpbba")
```

```
lmSubsets.select(object, penalty = "BIC", ...)
```

Examples:

```
library(lmSubsets)

## load data
data("AirPollution", package = "lmSubsets")

## canonical example: fit best subsets
best.AirPoll <- lmSelect(mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 10)

## equivalent to:
## Not run:

all.AirPoll <- lmSubsets(mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 10)
best.AirPoll <- lmSelect(all.AirPoll)
## End(Not run)

## visualize RSS
plot(best.AirPoll)

## summarize
summary(best.AirPoll)
```

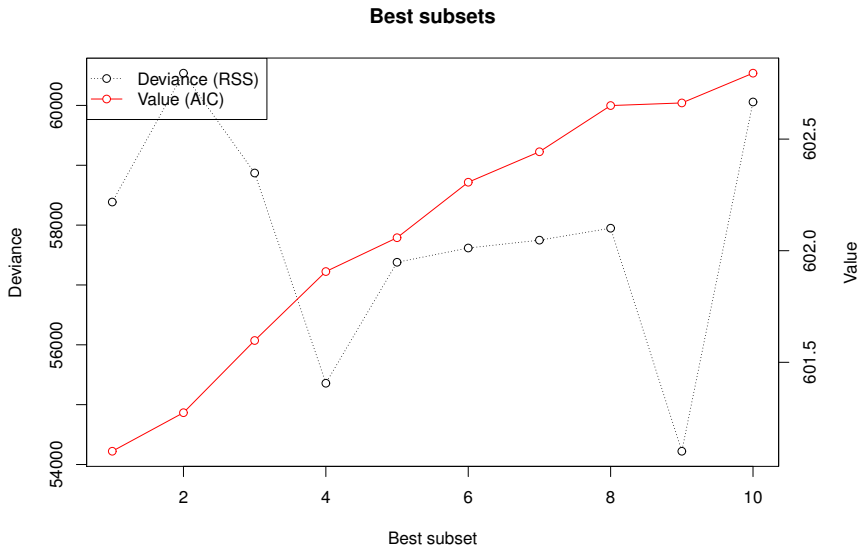
```
> print(best.AirPoll)
```

```
[...]
```

```
Model fit:
```

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
df	6.0000	7.0000	8.0000	7.0000	7.0000	8.0000
Deviance	69154.1114	64633.7871	60538.7565	65659.8646	66554.6389	62288.6991
VALUE	617.8236*	617.8619	618.0290	618.8069	619.6191	619.7388
	7th	8th	9th	10th		
df	7.0000	9.0000	8.0000	8.0000		
Deviance	66837.2687	58385.7150*	62953.7731	63007.1215		
VALUE	619.8733	619.9506	620.3761	620.4269		


```
> plot(best.AirPoll)
```



```
> summary(best.AirPoll)
```

Call:

```
lmSelect(formula = mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 10)
```

Summary:

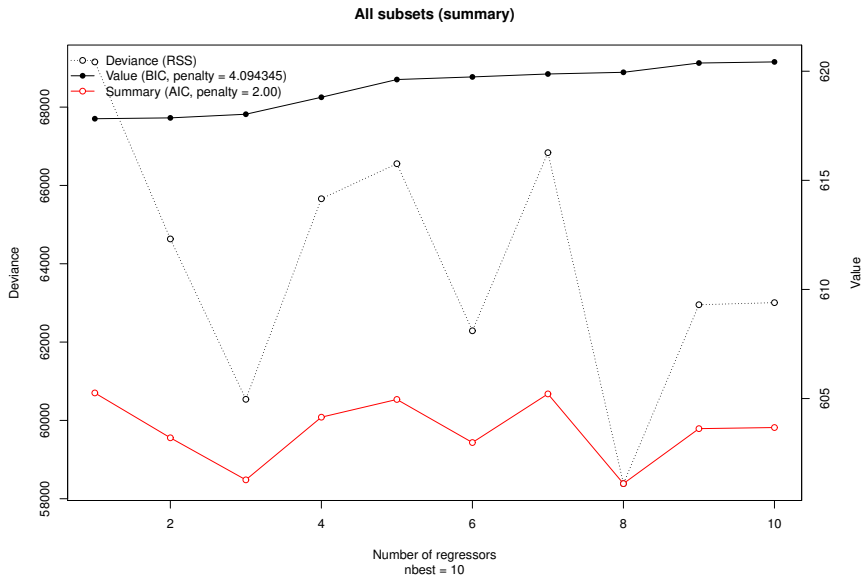
Value: AIC (penalty = 2.00)

Model fit:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
df	6.0000	7.0000	8.0000	7.0000	7.0000	8.0000
Deviance	69154.1114	64633.7871	60538.7565	65659.8646	66554.6389	62288.6991
VALUE	617.8236*	617.8619	618.0290	618.8069	619.6191	619.7388
Summary	605.2575	603.2015	601.2743	604.1465	604.9587	602.9841

	7th	8th	9th	10th
df	7.0000	9.0000	8.0000	8.0000
Deviance	66837.2687	58385.7150*	62953.7731	63007.1215
VALUE	619.8733	619.9506	620.3761	620.4269
Summary	605.2129	601.1015*	603.6213	603.6721

```
> plot(summary(best.AirPoll))
```



lmSubsets vs lmSelect

- ▶ lmSubsets finds the best models of each possible size.
- ▶ lmSelect finds the best model (by default, in terms of AIC).
- ▶ Both methods are equivalent (in terms of AIC).
- ▶ lmSelect is faster while lmSubsets is more informative.

```
> all.AirPoll <- lmSubsets(mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 1)
> all.AirPoll$.nodes
[1] 172
> best.AirPoll <- lmSelect(mortality ~ ., data = AirPollution, nbest = 1)
> best.AirPoll$.nodes
[1] 112
```

leaps vs lmSubsets

Leaps & BBA: Execution times in seconds for datasets of different sizes, without and with variable preordering.

# Var.	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Leaps	8	29	44	30	203	57	108	319	135	316	685	2697	6023
BBA	2	5	12	8	35	14	9	55	27	37	97	380	1722
Leaps-1	3	16	28	9	82	33	22	203	79	86	306	1326	1910
BBA-1	1	4	13	2	20	11	4	47	18	15	51	216	529

Genetic algorithms for variables selection in R

- ▶ `gaselect`: A Genetic Algorithm (GA) for Variable Selection from High-Dimensional Data
- ▶ `kofnGA`: A Genetic Algorithm for Fixed-Size Subset Selection
- ▶ `glmulti`: Model selection and multimodel inference made easy

Content

Ordinary Least Squares and QR Decomposition

All subset regressions

Variable updating

Subrange selection

Parallel dropping columns algorithm

Efficient variable selection

Branch and bound algorithm

Variable reordering

Heuristic BBA

Size HBBA

Non-Negative Regression Model Selection

lmSubsets R package

gaSelect vs. lmSelect

Settings

- ▶ gaSelect vs. lmSubsets.
- ▶ Average over $T = 100$ artificial datasets.
- ▶ “True” submodel comprises $n/3$ variables.
- ▶ 4 core Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-3612QM CPU @ 2.10GHz, running under Ubuntu 15.10.

I. Problem size

- ▶ `gaSelect()`:

T	n	mean time (sec.)	min.	max.
100	205	3333	2114	5272

- ▶ `lmSelect()`: ($\tau = 0$)

T	n	mean time	min	max	average AIC
100	125	4841	1455	54883	1371

- ▶ `gaSelect()`:

T	n	mean time	min	max	average AIC
100	125	323	237	454	1408 (0.027)

II. Relative errors of GA solutions

n	Time (sec.)		AIC		rel. AIC	
	GA	HBBA ₀	GA	HBBA ₀	GA	HBBA ₀
50	14	0.06	557	549	0.015	0
70	61	4	812	771	0.05	0
80	80	56	917	881	0.04	0
90	91	390	1024	992	0.03	0
n	GA	HBBA _{0.04}	GA	HBBA _{0.04}	GA	HBBA _{0.04}
90	91	69	1024	992	0.03	0.0001

Note: Average values over $T = 100$ runs (datasets).

III. gaSelect vs. lmSubsets (tolerance $\tau = 0.04$)

# of Var	Time (sec.)		Submodel size		AIC		relative AIC
	GA	HBBA	GA	HBBA	GA	HBBA	
50	14	0.05	25	23	553	549	0.007
60	22	0.34	30	28	668	662	0.009
70	61	2.47	61	33	811	771	0.05
80	80	11.6	63	38	917	881	0.04
90	91	69	65	43	1024	992	0.03
100	93	416	53	48	1123	1103	0.02
110	118	1251	59	52	1232	1210	0.02








lmSubsets():

- ▶ faster (less execution time) – for small data sets;
- ▶ more parsimonious models (less selected variables);
- ▶ better models (smaller AIC);
- ▶ *controlled relative error (bounded by τ).*

Conclusions

- ▶ Regression tree based algorithms for model selection.
- ▶ Branch-and-bound strategy prunes non-optimal subtrees.
- ▶ Heuristic strategies find solution close to the optimum.
- ▶ Novel approach to non-negative subset regression selection.
 - ▶ Enumerate unconstrained subproblems.
- ▶ An R package for regression subset selection.
- ▶ Versatile tool that allows subset model investigation.
- ▶ The proposed algorithms makes the selection procedure feasible for larger-scale models.

References

-  C. Gatu and E. J. Kontoghiorghes.
Parallel algorithms for computing all possible subset regression models using the QR decomposition.
Parallel Computing, 29(2003), pp. 505–521.
-  C. Gatu and E. J. Kontoghiorghes.
Branch-and-bound algorithms for computing the best subset regression models.
Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics, 15, 139–156, 2006.
-  M. Hofmann, C. Gatu and E. J. Kontoghiorghes.
Efficient algorithms for computing the best subset regression models for large-scale problems.
Computational Statistics and Data Analysis, 52(1), 16–29, 2007.
-  C. Gatu, P. Yanev and E. J. Kontoghiorghes.
A graph approach to generate all possible regression submodels.
Computational Statistics & Data Analysis, 52 (2007), pp. 799–815.
-  C. Gatu and E. J. Kontoghiorghes.
A fast algorithm for non-negativity model selection.
Statistics and Computing, 23 (2013), pp. 403–411.
-  M. Hofmann, C. Gatu, E. J. Kontoghiorghes and A. Zeileis.
lmSubsets: Variable Subset Selection in Linear Regressions.
R package version 0.1-0, <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=lmSubsets>, 2018.
-  M. Hofmann, C. Gatu, E. J. Kontoghiorghes, A. Zeileis and A. Colubi.
lmSubsets: Efficient Computation of Best Subset Linear Regressions in R.
Journal of Statistical Software, 2016, (to be submitted).