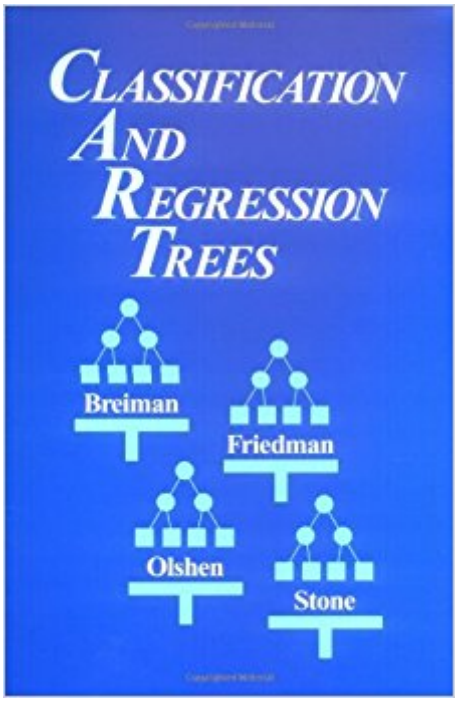
Classification And Regression Trees (Wadsworth Statistics/Probability)



Synopsis

The methodology used to construct tree structured rules is the focus of this monograph. Unlike many other statistical procedures, which moved from pencil and paper to calculators, this text's use of trees was unthinkable before computers. Both the practical and theoretical sides have been developed in the authors' study of tree methods. Classification and Regression Trees reflects these two sides, covering the use of trees as a data analysis method, and in a more mathematical framework, proving some of their fundamental properties.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a mathematician, I read a lot of textbooks. I have to say that the prose in this book is excellent, and is really a joy to read (I can't say THAT very often!). I wish more authors could produce this kind of work.

Great classic book.

This book is a must-have for all serious decision trees researchers. It explains the underlying algorithms of classification and regression trees methods in details. It's not for beginners though. It's a bit outdated by now as trees methodology has advanced much with the invention of boosting, bagging, and arcing.

In 1984 Brieman, Olshen, Friedman and Stone published this book and produced a software product called CART that made tree classification popular. These algorithms were very useful in medical applications and the book illustrated some simple success stories particularly ones from Richard Olshen's experience working in the Medical School at UC San Diego.Olshen and Gordon did some of the work on the asymptotic theory of recursive partitioning that made the methodology credible to the statistical research community. The methods began to be applied to pattern recognition problems and also to the development of expert systems. Today data miners use these tools.These ideas goes back a lot further than these authors. However, previous attempts at recursive partitioning algorithms tended to grow trees with too many terminal nodes. These authors introduced two important ideas. One was to grow the trees overly long and then prune them back. The second was to continually use cross-validation to evaluate the trees.This book is still very valuable 24 years after it was first published. It is also readible by general audiences for the most part. It now stands as a classic text on the subject of classification and regression trees. There are also books that followed in its footsteps and other places where tree structure comes into play.

For me, this 1984-issued monograph is more valuable than many contemporary books on CART (I actually read the 1983 edition with gold & brown hardcover, but the contents is the same). The reason is that it shows the tortuous, painstaking trial and error process of creating and adjusting CART methodology.Therefore, if your goal is to learn yet another statistical recipe quickly, this book is not for you. If, on the other hand, you want to pick up some of the research methodology of the great quantitative modelers, I can highly recommend it. It will positively affect your thinking and, in the end, you will be able to tackle quantitative problems a lot better, be it with or without CART.

This is the original textbook written by the pioneers of the Classification And Regression Trees algorithm, which has now been cited in over 2200 academic journals. While some of the material can be fairly complex, the authors take great pains to make the material accessible. Many examples are given, and the algorithm and process are broken down into discrete pieces. It is the single best resource I have encountered on the topic.NOTE: One odd aspect of the text is that there has been absolutely ZERO effort has been expended on either graphic design or typesetting. Instead, it looks like a high school student typed it out late one night. If such details are important to you, you should skip this one.

A good introduction to classification and regression trees with a variety of examples. You need never regress again! Many will find some of the technical topics difficult but then I found the statistical grounding to be rewarding in the end. My only complaint is that the book is near worthless to practitioners like myself without software which is a little hard to find and then pricey.

The book was a very good introduction to Classification andRegression Trees, and coupled with the software ( ) make for apowerful approach to solving traditional classification problems.

Classification and Regression Trees (Wadsworth Statistics/Probability) Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics (Salkind, Statistics for People Who(Think They Hate Statistics(Without CD)) Quantum Probability (Probability and Mathematical Statistics) Regression to Times and Places (Meditation Regression) Forecasting, Time Series, and Regression (with CD-ROM) (Forecasting, Time Series, & Regression) Plots, Transformations, and Regression: An Introduction to Graphical Methods of Diagnostic Regression Analysis (Oxford Statistical Science Series) Spiritual Progress Through Regression (Meditation Regression) Regression Through The Mirrors of Time (Meditation Regression) 3 TG/Age Regression Summer Stories (TG Age Regression Stories) Matrix Algebra Useful for Statistics (Wiley Series in Probability and Statistics) WHO Classification of Tumours of Haematopoietic and Lymphoid Tissues (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Head and Neck Tumours (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of the Lung, Pleura, Thymus and Heart (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of the Urinary System and Male Genital Organs (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of Soft Tissue and Bone (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of Haematopoietic and Lymphoid Tissue [OP] (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of Endocrine Organs (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) WHO Classification of Tumours of the Digestive System (IARC WHO Classification of Tumours) Planting and Establishment of Tropical Trees: Tropical Trees: Propagation and Planting Manuals (Tropical Trees, Propagation and Planting Manuals Series)