



TERRITORIAL RATEMAKING

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CAS RPM

March 19 - 21, 2012



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OUTLINE

Problem Description

Importance of territory, data challenges

Predictive Modeling Framework

Goodness-of-fit, generalization power

Spatial Smoothing

Inverse-distance weighted smoothing, estimating parameters, clustering

Rule Induction Methods

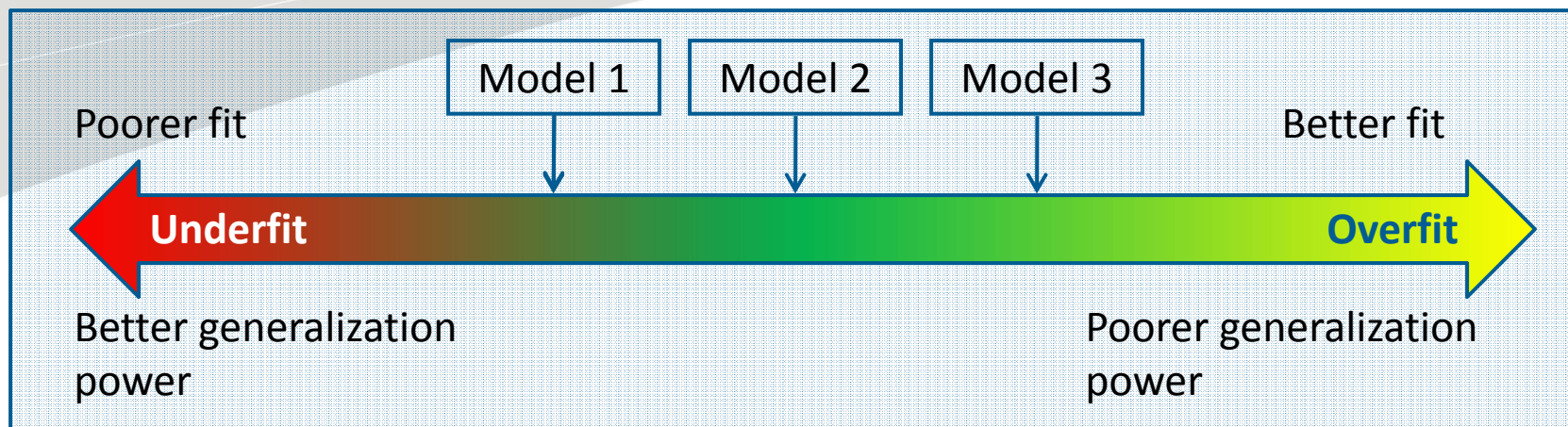
Definition, application to the territorial ratemaking problem

Conclusions

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

- ✓ Territorial ratemaking (and highly dimensional predictors in general) has been an area of active actuarial research lately
- ✓ Newer approaches try to incorporate some domain knowledge in solving the problem, such as distance, spatial adjacency or other similarity measures
- ✓ Challenges:
 - Choice of building block (zip code, census tract)
 - Data credibility and volume in each building block
 - Ease of explanation
- ✓ Compare and contrast possible approaches:
 - GLM + spatial smoothing + clustering
 - Machine learning (rule induction)

PREDICTIVE MODELING CHALLENGES



- ✓ Fit - does the model match the training data?
- ✓ Generalization power - how will the model perform with “unseen” data?
- ✓ There is no “best” model, just competing models - which model to use?
- ✓ The selected model may depend on modeler’s judgment and business considerations

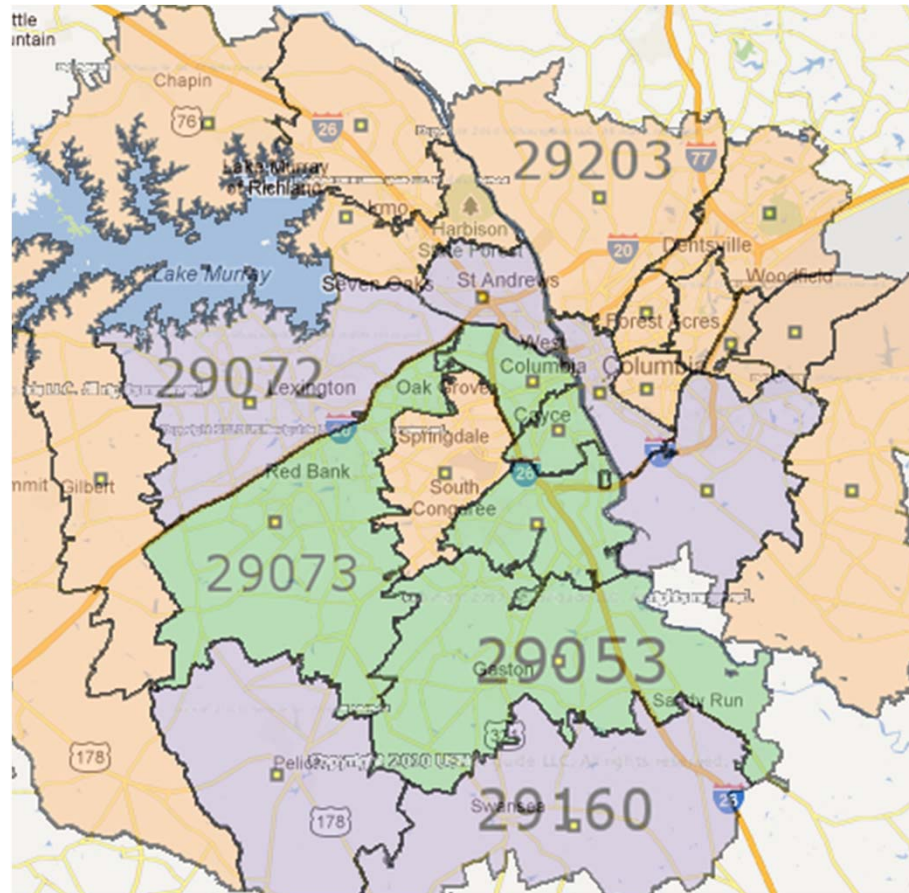
EVALUATING MODEL PERFORMANCE

- ✓ Analysis setup:
 - Split the data into training and validation datasets (60 – 40 random split)
 - Derive new model using only the training data
 - Validate by applying the model to the validation data

- ✓ Model performance metrics:
 - *Correlation*: measure of predictive stability (generalization power), computed as the correlation coefficient of pure premium by territory between training and validation datasets
 - *Goodness-of-fit statistics* (deviances):
 - Derive relativities on training data, then apply them to validation data to compute new model fitted premiums
 - Compare new model fitted premiums to the observed incurred losses

SPATIAL SMOOTHING

Compute better estimators for zip code loss propensity by incorporating the experience of neighboring zip:



SPATIAL SMOOTHING

✓ Requirements:

- *Credibility*: zips with higher volume should receive less smoothing than zips with sparse experience
- *Distance*: incorporate the experience of other zips based on some measure of “closeness” to a given zip
- *Smoothing amount*: determined based on data, possibly adjusted due to pragmatic considerations

✓ Data needed:

- “Zip code variables”: demographic, crime, weather, etc
- Location: latitude, longitude of zip centroid
- List of neighbors for each zip

SPATIAL SMOOTHING – GENERAL APPROACH

- ✓ Fit GLM to multistate data:

Observed Pure Premium \sim class plan variables + zip code variables

- ✓ Compute *Residual Pure Premium*:

ResPP = Observed PP / GLM Fitted PP

- ✓ Adjust model weights:

AdjEEXP = EEXP * GLM fitted PP

- ✓ Residual PP enters the smoothing algorithm, Adjusted EEXP are the model weights

- ✓ Choose:

- distance measure between zips d_{ik} :
 - Distance between centroids
 - Adjacency distance: number of zips that need to be traversed to get from Zip_i to Zip_k
- Neighborhood N_i

INVERSE DISTANCE WEIGHTED SMOOTHING

- ✓ Aggregate AdjEEXP and ResPP at the zip code level
- ✓ Compute Smoothed Residual PP for each Zip_i:

$$\text{SmResPP}_i = Z_i \cdot \text{ResPP}_i + (1 - Z_i) \cdot \frac{\sum_{k \in N_i} \text{AdjEEXP}_k \cdot f(d_{ik}) \cdot \text{ResPP}_k}{\sum_{k \in N_i} \text{AdjEEXP}_k \cdot f(d_{ik})}$$

- ✓ Where:

$$Z_i = \frac{\text{AdjEEXP}_i}{\text{AdjEEXP}_i + K}$$

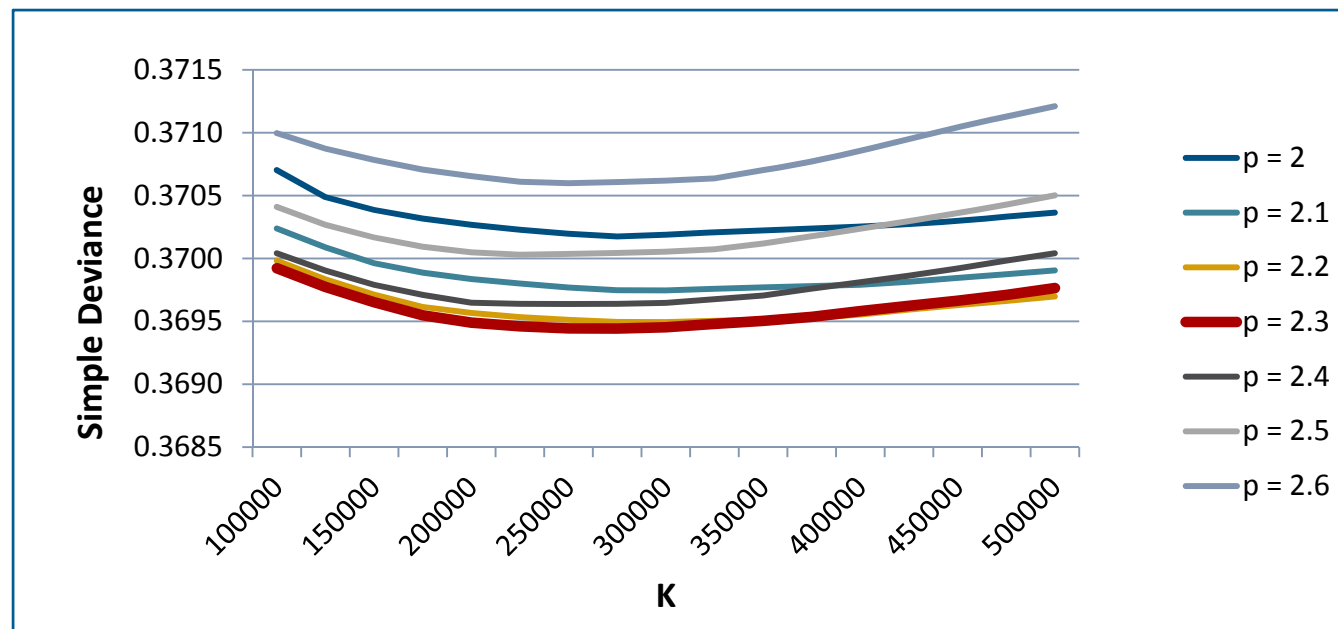
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^p}$$

- ✓ Compute Fitted Geographical PP for each zip:

$$\text{Fitted Geo PP}_i = \text{SmResPP}_i \cdot \text{Zip Code Variables GLM relativities}$$

ESTIMATING K AND P

- ✓ K and p need to be estimated from the *training* data by cross-validation
- ✓ Split the training data 70 – 30 at random
- ✓ Apply the smoothing algorithm on 70% of the data and compute Residual fitted pure premiums for each zip
- ✓ Compute a deviance measure on the remaining 30% and choose K and p that minimize deviance:



CLUSTERING

- ✓ Type of *unsupervised* learning: no training examples
- ✓ Cluster: collection of objects similar to each other within cluster and dissimilar to objects in other clusters
- ✓ Form of data compression: all objects in a cluster are represented by the cluster (mean)
- ✓ Objects: individual zip codes, described by Fitted Geo PP_i
- ✓ Types of clustering algorithms:
 - *Hierarchical*: agglomerative or divisive - HCLUST
 - *Partitioning*: create an initial partition, then use iterative relocation to improve partitioning by switching objects between clusters – k-Means
 - *Density-based*: grow a cluster as long as the number of data points in the “neighborhood” exceeds some density threshold - DBSCAN
 - *Grid-based*: quantize space into a grid, then use some transform (FFT or similar) to identify structure - WaveCluster

HOW MANY CLUSTERS?

- ✓ Most algorithms have the number of desired clusters p as an input
- ✓ Between sum of squares (SS_b), within sum of squares(SS_w):
 - SS_b increases as the number of clusters increase, highest when each object is assigned to its own cluster, opposite for SS_w
 - Plot SS_b , SS_w vs. the number of clusters p and judgmentally select p such that the improvement appears “insignificant”
- ✓ Use F-test:
 - $F_w = SS_w(p) / SS_w(q)$ has a $F_{n-p, n-q}$ distribution
 - $F_b = SS_b(p) / SS_b(q)$ has a $F_{p-1, q-1}$ distribution
 - Select p based on a given significance level
- ✓ Clustering is unsupervised learning, so need better metrics to assess quality of results

CLUSTER VALIDITY INDEX

- ✓ p clusters C_1, \dots, C_p , with means m_1, \dots, m_p
- ✓ Each object r described by a given metric x_r
- ✓ Define *Dunn Index*:

$$r(C_j) = \frac{1}{|C_j|} \sum_{r \in C_j} |x_r - m_j| \text{ (cluster radius)}$$

$$d(C_i, C_j) = \frac{1}{|C_i| \cdot |C_j|} \sum_{r \in C_i, s \in C_j} |x_r - x_s| \text{ (inter - cluster distance)}$$

$$D = \frac{\min_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} d(C_i, C_j)}{\max_{1 \leq j \leq p} r(C_j)} \text{ (Dunn Index)}$$

- ✓ Higher values for D indicate better clustering, so choose p that maximizes D
- ✓ Used k-Means with $p=22$ based on SS_b , SS_w and D

ALTERNATIVE APPROACH

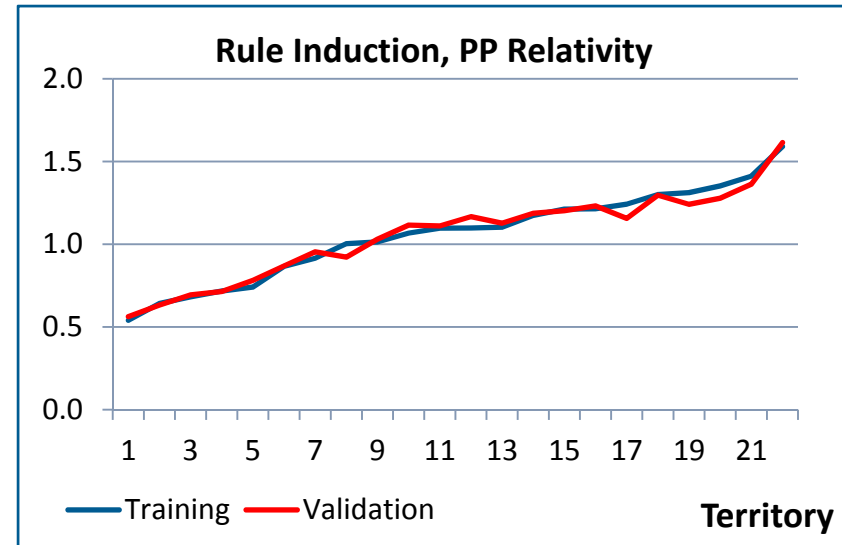
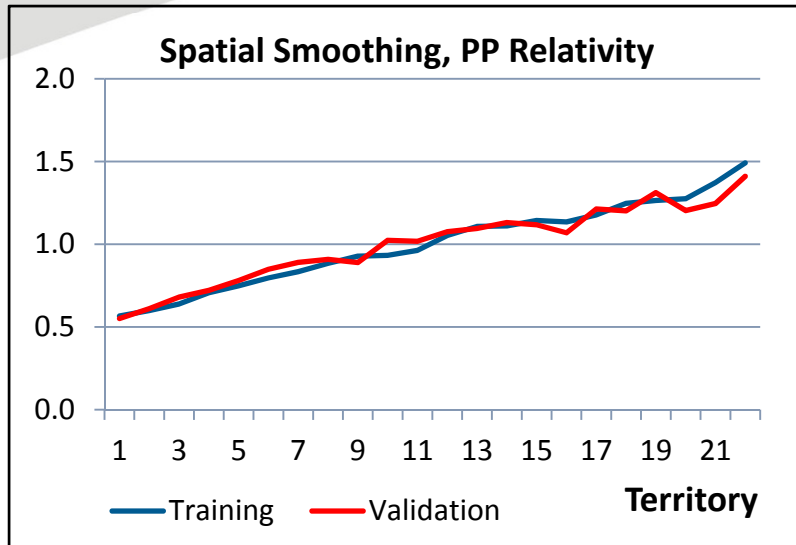
- ✓ *Machine Learning* methods:
 - Non-parametric: no explicit assumptions about the functional form of the distribution of the data
 - Computer does the “heavy lifting”, no human intervention required in the search process
- ✓ *Rule Induction*:
 - Partitions the whole universe into “segments” described by combinations of significant attributes: *compound variables*
 - Risks in each segment are homogeneous with respect to chosen model response
 - Risks in different segments show a significant difference in expected value for the response
- ✓ The only predictors used are zip code variables, the segments will become the new territories
- ✓ Response: $\text{ResPP} = \text{Observed PP} / \text{Class Plan Variables GLM relativities}$
- ✓ Model weights: $\text{AdjEEXP} = \text{EEXP} * \text{Class Plan Variables GLM relativities}$

SEGMENT DESCRIPTION – ILLUSTRATIVE OUTPUT

| Segment | Description |
|---------|--|
| 1 | Population=[-1 or 0 to 13119] TransportationCommuteToWorkGreaterThan60min=[-1 or 9 or more] CostofLivingFood=[95 to 122] |
| 2 | EconomyHouseholdIncome=[-1 or 53663 or more] TransportationCommuteToWorkGreaterThan60min=[-1 or 9 or more] PopulationByOccupationConstructionExtractionAndMaintenance=[-1 or 0 to 7] EducationStudentsPerCounselor=[27 to 535] HousingUnitsByYearStructureBuilt1999To2008=[-1 or 0 to 5] |
| ... | ... |
| 20 | TransportationCommuteToWorkGreaterThan60min=[-1 or 9 or more] Population=[-1 or 0 to 28784] HousingUnitsByYearStructureBuilt1990To1994=[0 to 2] CostofLivingFood=[-1 or 123 or more] |
| 21 | TransportationCommuteToWorkGreaterThan60min=[-1 or 9 or more] PopulationByOccupationSalesAndOffice=[0 to 28] EconomyHouseholdIncome=[-1 or 53663 or more] HousingUnitsByYearStructureBuilt1999To2008=[6 or more] |
| 22 | EconomyHouseholdIncome=[-1 or 53663 or more] TransportationCommuteToWorkGreaterThan60min=[-1 or 9 or more] PopulationByOccupationConstructionExtractionAndMaintenance=[8 or more] EducationStudentsPerCounselor=[27 to 535] HousingUnitsByYearStructureBuilt1999To2008=[-1 or 0 to 5] |

MODEL VALIDATION

- ✓ Each approach produced 22 territories using training data only
- ✓ Apply each set of territory definitions to the “unseen” validation data



| Statistic | Spatial Smoothing | Rule Induction |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Lift Training | 2.64 | 2.95 |
| Lift Validation | 2.56 | 2.87 |
| Correlation | 98.09% | 98.76% |

GOODNESS OF FIT MEASURES ON VALIDATION DATA

$$\text{Simple Dev} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{EEXP}_i \cdot |\text{Hist PP}_i - \text{Fitted PP}_i|$$

$$\text{Sum of Squares Dev} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{EEXP}_i \cdot (\text{Hist PP}_i - \text{Fitted PP}_i)^2$$

$$\text{Chi Sq Dev} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{EEXP}_i \frac{(\text{Hist PP}_i - \text{Fitted PP}_i)^2}{\text{Fitted PP}_i}$$

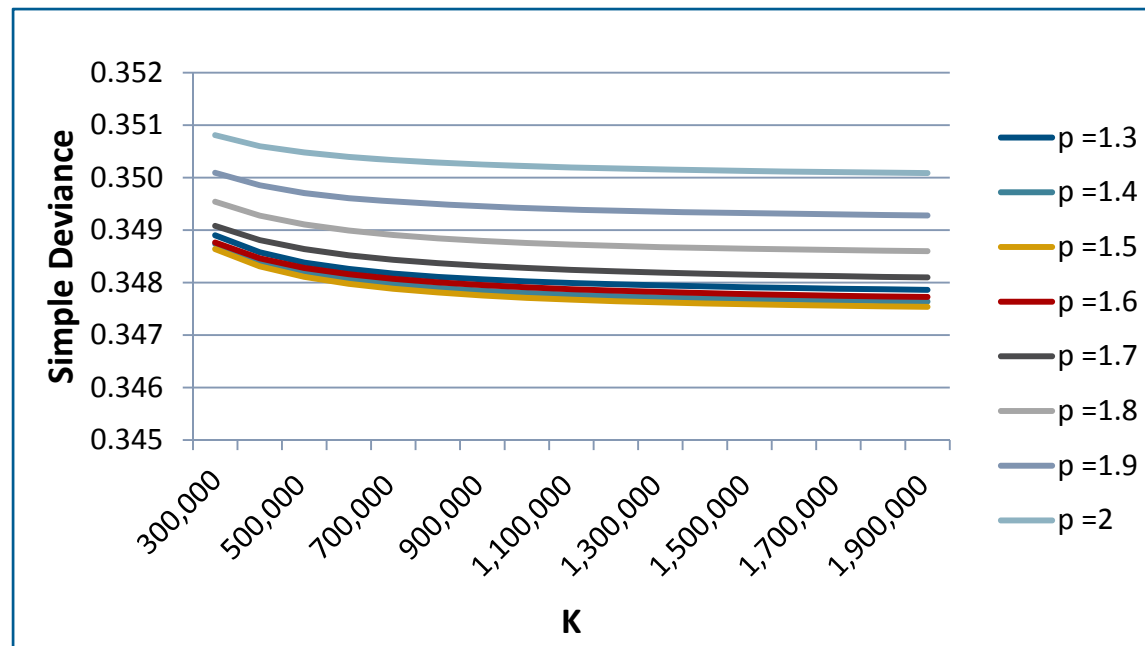
| | Simple Dev | SS Dev | Chi Sq Dev |
|-------------------|------------|--------|------------|
| Spatial Smoothing | 0.3084 | 0.2235 | 0.3201 |
| Rule Induction | 0.2984 | 0.2199 | 0.3155 |
| Improvement | 3.26% | 1.63% | 1.43% |

AGREEMENT ON PREDICTED VALUES

| | | Rule Induction Territory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| Spatial Smoothing Territory | 1 | 4.3% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 2 | 1.4% | 2.4% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 3 | 0.3% | 1.6% | 1.3% | 0.6% | 0.7% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 4 | 0.0% | 0.2% | 1.2% | 1.2% | 1.7% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 5 | 0.0% | 0.7% | 1.3% | 1.0% | 1.4% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 6 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.5% | 1.3% | 1.2% | 1.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 7 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 2.0% | 1.6% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 8 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 1.6% | 1.9% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 9 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 2.1% | 1.4% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 10 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 1.6% | 1.2% | 0.8% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 11 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.7% | 0.5% | 0.8% | 1.9% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 12 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.9% | 1.7% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 13 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 0.7% | 1.5% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 14 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.9% | 1.1% | 0.5% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 15 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.5% | 1.2% | 0.7% | 0.5% | 0.2% | 0.5% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |
| | 16 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.4% | 0.6% | 0.5% | 0.9% | 0.0% | 0.9% | 0.9% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | |
| | 17 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 1.4% | 0.4% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.3% | |
| | 18 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.8% | 1.7% | 0.1% | 0.7% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.8% | |
| | 19 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.9% | 0.5% | 1.7% | 0.3% | 0.3% | |
| | 20 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 1.8% | 0.6% | 1.9% | |
| | 21 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.6% | 2.8% | 1.0% | |
| | 22 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.1% | 1.0% | 2.6% |

SPATIAL SMOOTHING + RULE INDUCTION

- ✓ Try to combine both methods, any potential gain?
- ✓ Remove the signal accounted for by rule induction, apply spatial smoothing on the residuals
- ✓ Determine K and p using the same approach: the implied value for K is very large, which suggest that there is no signal left in the residuals



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Both models validated well when applied to unseen data

- ✓ Rule Induction:
 - Provides more lift and better fit
 - Plain English description for the territories
 - Less information required
 - May be applied to other states with sparser data
 - Easy to extend to other highly dimensional problems (such as rate symbols)

- ✓ Spatial Smoothing:
 - Makes intuitive sense for PPA (driving patterns)
 - Requires user selection for distance measure, neighborhood, clustering algorithm and number of clusters
 - Less transparent, harder to explain
 - Challenging to extend to other problems, such as rate symbols: choices for distance, neighborhood are not natural