

Bagging and regression trees in individual claims reserving

Jan Janoušek

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Outline

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This presentation is based on Janoušek and Pešta [2025].

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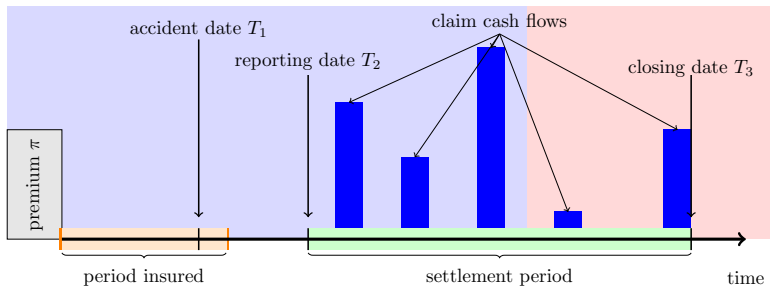


Figure: A non-life insurance claim progress illustration. The blue color in the background represents the past. The red color in the background represents the future that is to be predicted.

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- U_1 *beginning of insurance period*
- U_2 *end of insurance period* ($U_1 < U_2$).
- $[U_1, U_2]$ is called *period insured*
- T_1 *accident date*
- T_2 *reporting date* ($T_2 - T_1$ *reporting delay*)
- T_3 *settlement time*
- $T_3 - T_2$ *settlement delay*

Terminology introduction - cont.

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- We need to build as homogeneous groups as possible in order to use statistical tools such as LLN
- Claims are grouped by accident years accident year = i if $(T_1 \in [1/1/i, 31/12/i])$

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accident year i	development year l					
	0	1	...	l	...	L
1	$_0X_1$	$_1X_1$		...		$_LX_1$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$I - L$	$_0X_{I-L}$	$_1X_{I-L}$		...		$_LX_{I-L}$
$\vdots$						
i	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$						
$I - 1$	$_0X_{I-1}$	$_1X_{I-1}$		...		$_LX_{I-1}$
I	$_0X_I$	$_1X_I$		...		$_LX_I$

Figure: An illustration of a run-off triangle.

Notation for claim cash flows

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- X the sum of all payments made during the insurance period $[1, I]$.
- X_i the sum of all payments done for claims with accident year i . ($X = \sum_{i=1}^I X_i$)
- $X_{i,d}$ the sum of all payments done for claims with accident year i reported in calendar year $i + d$. ($X_i = \sum_{d=0}^{+\infty} X_{i,d}$)
- D maximal reporting delay
- $N_{i,d}$ the number of claims with accident year i and reporting delay d .

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accident year i	development year l					
	0	1	...	l	...	L
1	$_0X_1$	$_1X_1$		...		$_LX_1$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$I - L$	$_0X_{I-L}$	$_1X_{I-L}$		...		$_LX_{I-L}$
$\vdots$						
i	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$						
$I - 1$	$_0X_{I-1}$	$_1X_{I-1}$		...		$_LX_{I-1}$
I	$_0X_I$	$_1X_I$		...		$_LX_I$

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- $X_{i,d}^{(\nu)}$ the sum of all payments done for ν -th claim with accident year i , reported in calendar year $i + d$.
$$(X_{i,d} = \sum_{\nu=1}^{N_{i,d}} X_{i,d}^{(\nu)})$$
- (i, d, ν) now addresses each claim uniquely.
- $X_{i,d|k}^{(\nu)}$ payments done in calendar year $i + d + k$ for claim (i, d, ν) . $(X_{i,d}^{(\nu)} = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} X_{i,d|k}^{(\nu)})$
- (i, d, k, ν) now addresses each claim payment uniquely.

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accident year i	development year l					
	0	1	...	l	...	L
1	$_0X_1$	$_1X_1$		...		$_LX_1$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$I - L$	$_0X_{I-L}$	$_1X_{I-L}$		...		$_LX_{I-L}$
$\vdots$						
i	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$						
$I - 1$	$_0X_{I-1}$	$_1X_{I-1}$		...		$_LX_{I-1}$
I	$_0X_I$	$_1X_I$		...		$_LX_I$

Figure: An illustration of a run-off triangle.

Notation for claim cash flows

We want a slightly different approach as we want to predict reserves by years, e.g., next year's reserves. Thus, we look at the claim payments, not as payments in year $i + d + k$ but rather as payments $l = d + k$ years after the accident year i .

- ${}_lX_i$ the sum of all payments for claims with accident year i paid in year $i + l$. $({}_lX_i = \sum_{d=0}^l \sum_{v=1}^{N_{i,d}} X_{i,d}^{(v)} | l-d)$
- X can be then rewritten as:

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^I X_i = \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=0}^L {}_lX_i = \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=0}^L \sum_{d=0}^l \sum_{v=1}^{N_{i,d}} X_{i,d}^{(v)} | l-d.$$

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accident year i	development year l					
	0	1	...	l	...	L
1	${}_0X_1$	${}_1X_1$		...		${}_LX_1$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$I - L$	${}_0X_{I-L}$	${}_1X_{I-L}$		...		${}_LX_{I-L}$
$\vdots$						
i	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\ddots$		$\vdots$
$\vdots$						
$I - 1$	${}_0X_{I-1}$	${}_1X_{I-1}$		...		${}_LX_{I-1}$
I	${}_0X_I$	${}_1X_I$		...		${}_LX_I$

Figure: An illustration of a run-off triangle.

Notation for claim cash flows

- ${}_lX$ the sum of all payments happening in the calendar year

$$l. \quad ({}_lX = \sum_{i=\max\{1, l-L\}}^{\min\{l, l\}} {}_{l-i}X_i.)$$

- Altogether, we get:

$$X = \sum_{l=1}^{l+L} {}_lX = \sum_{l=1}^{l+L} \sum_{i=\max\{1, l-L\}}^{\min\{l, l\}} {}_{l-i}X_i =$$

$$\sum_{l=1}^{l+L} \sum_{i=\max\{1, l-L\}}^{\min\{l, l\}} \sum_{d=0}^{l-i} \sum_{v=1}^{N_{i,d}} X_{i,d}^{(v)} \mid l-i-d.$$

Our goal

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At time $t > L$ we have the following information

$$\mathcal{D}_t = \{I X_i : i + I \leq t, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, I\}, I \in \{0, 1, \dots, L\}\},$$

and our goal is to predict *outstanding loss liabilities at time t*

$$\mathcal{D}_t^c = \{I X_i : i + I > t, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, I\}, I \in \{0, 1, \dots, L\}\}.$$

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This can be translated in the terms of $X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}$ as

$$\mathcal{F}_t^c = \left\{ X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}; i + d + k > t, v \leq N_{i,d} \right\}.$$

and further split into RBNS and IBNR as

$$\mathcal{F}_t^{RBNS} = \left\{ X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}; i + d + k > t, v \leq N_{i,d}, i + d \leq t \right\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{F}_t^{IBNR} = \left\{ X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}; i + d + k > t, v \leq N_{i,d}, i + d > t \right\}.$$

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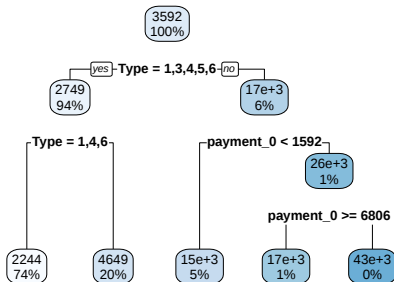


Figure: An example of regression tree from rpart.

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Regression trees are a type of decision tree methodology used for predicting continuous variables. Regression trees were originally introduced by (Breiman et al. [1984]), and they are a non-linear and non-parametric technique and are highly effective for capturing complex interactions and dependencies between the predictor variables and the target variable.

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A regression tree is constructed through a process of binary recursive partitioning. Each branch represents the outcome of the decision, and each leaf node represents a predicted value. The objective is to minimize the variance within each subset, thus ensuring that the resulting predictions are as accurate as possible, i.e. our goal is to minimize $SSE(T) = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y})^2$, where T is the regression tree that for a given pair of covariates and targets $(\mathbf{X}_i, y_i)$ predicts the value $\hat{y}$. The predictions in leaf nodes are done by simply calculating averages.

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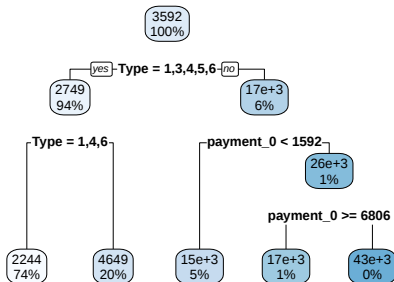


Figure: An example of regression tree from rpart.

Bootstrap aggregating

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Bootstrap aggregating (bagging), introduced by Breiman (Breiman [1996]) is a simple algorithm based on *averaging* multiple regression trees.

We have B bootstrapped datasets $\mathcal{L}^1, \mathcal{L}^2, \dots, \mathcal{L}^B$. Upon the datasets we build regression trees $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \dots, \mathcal{T}_B$. Then for prediction we calculate average prediction among all B trees,

i.e., $\frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B \mathcal{T}_b(\mathbf{X})$.

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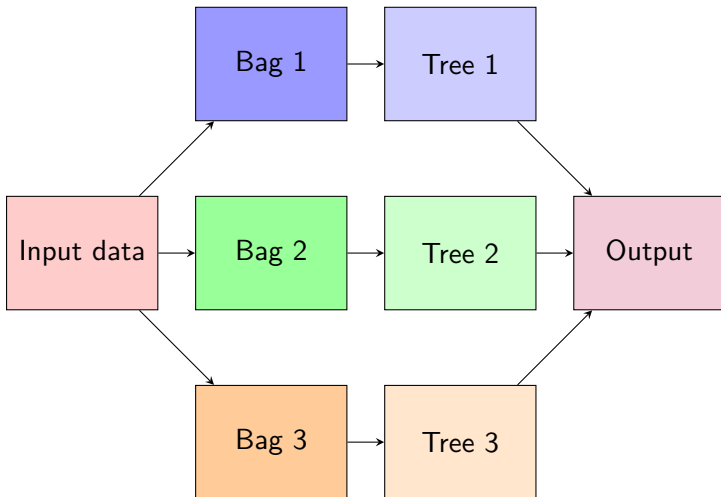
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For each data point ξ we gather the set of the trees that the data point was not used for training, i.e., $\Xi = \{b \in B; \xi \notin \mathcal{T}_b\}$. And we average the predictions to get an OOB estimate for ξ .

$$\text{OOB}(\xi) = \frac{1}{|\Xi|} \sum_{b \in \Xi} \mathcal{T}_b(\xi).$$

Then

$$\text{OOB}_{\text{error}} = \frac{1}{|X^*|} \sum_{x \in X^*} (\text{OOB}(x) - y(x))^2,$$

where $X^* = \{x \in \mathcal{L}; \exists b \in B \text{ s.t. } x \notin \mathcal{L}^b\}$.

Our goal

We build on the work of Wüthrich (Wüthrich [2018]) by not only predicting claim frequency but also extending the framework to include modeling claim severity.

Our goal is to predict:

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\min\{t-i, D\}} \sum_{v=1}^{N_{i,d}} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\min\{t-i-d, L-d\}} X_{i,d|k}^{(v)} \right)$$

$$+ \sum_{d=0}^{\min\{t-i, D\}} \sum_{v=1}^{N_{i,d}} \left(\mathbb{I}(L > t-i) \sum_{k=t-i-d+1}^{L-d} \left[X_{i,d|k}^{(v)} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \right),$$

where $\mathcal{F}_t$ is the information available at time t .

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Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t=0}^{I+L}, \mathbb{P})$ be a stochastic basis with sufficiently rich and discrete filtration $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t=0}^{I+L}$. Also let all processes $(N_{i,d})_{i,d}$ be $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t=0}^{I+L}$ -adapted for time $t = i + d$ and $(X_{i,d|k}^{(\nu)})_{i,d,k,\nu}$ be $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t=0}^{I+L}$ -adapted for time $t = i + d + k$. Furthermore, let us assume the following:

Assumption - cont.;

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- 1 claim counts $(N_{i,d})_{i,d}$ and claim payments $(X_{i,d|k}^{(v)})_{i,d,k,v}$ are independent;
- 2 the random variables $(N_{i,d})_{i,d}$ and $(X_{i,d|k}^{(v)})_{i,d,k,v}$ are independent for different accident years $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, I\}$;
- 3 the processes $(X_{i,d|k}^{(v)})_k$ are independent for different reporting delays $d \in \{1, 2, \dots, D\}$ and different claims $v \in \{1, 2, \dots, N_{i,d}\}$;
- 4 The conditional distribution of $X_{i,d|k+1}^{(v)}$ given $\mathcal{F}_{i+d+k}$ is

$$X_{i,d|k+1}^{(v)} \mid \mathcal{F}_{i+d+k} \sim p_{d+k} \left(\mathbf{x}_{i,d|k}^{(v)} \right),$$

where $\mathbf{x}_{i,d|k}^{(v)}$ is a realization of $\mathbf{X}_{i,d|k}^{(v)}$, which is a $\mathcal{F}_{i+d+k}$ -measurable vector of covariates of the claim (i, d, k, v) , and $p_{d+k} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ is some distribution.

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$\mathbf{x}_{i,d|k}^{(v)}$ is an S -dimensional vector

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{i,d|k}^{(v)} &= \left(X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}(s) \right)_{s \in \{1,2,\dots,S\}}^{\top} \\ &= \left(X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}(1), X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}(2), \dots, X_{i,d|k}^{(v)}(S) \right)^{\top} \in \mathcal{X}.\end{aligned}$$

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The dataset was obtained from (Wang and Wüthrich [2022]). It consists of 51,338 closed, 7,596 RBNS, and 2,436 IBNR claims observed in years $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$. The generator also generated claim payments for $t > 10$. Therefore, we can compare our methods with the (generated) reality. As all claims can be reopened, we decided to consider all claims as RBNS. We build bagging models to calibrate the probabilities p_l for $l \in \{0, 1, \dots, L - 1\}$, where $l = d + k$ and $L = 9$ is the maximal observed development delay.

Application on data

The vector contains the following information:

$x(1)$	type of the insurance claim (type)
$x(2)$	age of the person insured (age)
$x(3)$	weekday of the accident (weekday)
$x(4)$	reporting delay (d)
$x(5)$	payment at time i (only present if $d = 0$) (X_{d+0})
$x(6)$	payment at time $i + 1$ (only present if $d \leq 1$) (X_{d+1})
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$x(5 + d)$	payment at time $i + d$ (X_{d+0})
$x(5 + d + 1)$	payment at time $i + d + 1$ (X_{d+1})
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$x(5 + d + k)$	payment at time $i + d + k$ (X_{d+k})
$x(5 + d + k + 1)$	empty
$\vdots$	empty

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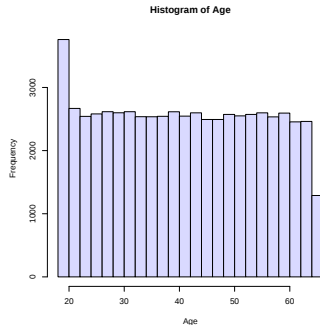
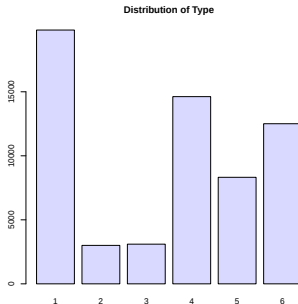
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(a) Distribution of type among claims
(b) Distribution of the age of person injured

Figure: Basic data exploration.

Data exploration

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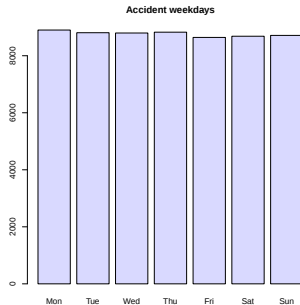
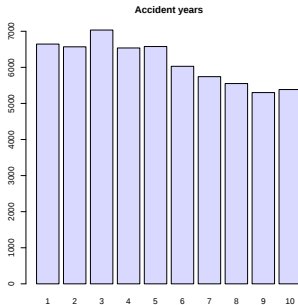
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(a) Distribution of accident years (b) Distribution of accident weekdays

Figure: Basic data exploration.

Prediction for RBNS

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	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	$0X_1$	$1X_1$	$2X_1$	$3X_1$	$4X_1$	$5X_1$	$6X_1$	$7X_1$	$8X_1$	$9X_1$
2	$0X_2$	$1X_2$	$2X_2$	$3X_2$	$4X_2$	$5X_2$	$6X_2$	$7X_2$	$8X_2$	$9\hat{X}_2$
3	$0X_3$	$1X_3$	$2X_3$	$3X_3$	$4X_3$	$5X_3$	$6X_3$	$7X_3$	$8\hat{X}_3$	$9\hat{X}_3$
4	$0X_4$	$1X_4$	$2X_4$	$3X_4$	$4X_4$	$5X_4$	$6X_4$	$7\hat{X}_4$	$8\hat{X}_4$	$9\hat{X}_4$
5	$0X_5$	$1X_5$	$2X_5$	$3X_5$	$4X_5$	$5X_5$	$6\hat{X}_5$	$7\hat{X}_5$	$8\hat{X}_5$	$9\hat{X}_5$
6	$0X_6$	$1X_6$	$2X_6$	$3X_6$	$4X_6$	$5\hat{X}_6$	$6\hat{X}_6$	$7\hat{X}_6$	$8\hat{X}_6$	$9\hat{X}_6$
7	$0X_7$	$1X_7$	$2X_7$	$3X_7$	$4\hat{X}_7$	$5\hat{X}_7$	$6\hat{X}_7$	$7\hat{X}_7$	$8\hat{X}_7$	$9\hat{X}_7$
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6	$0X_6$	$1X_6$	$2X_6$	$3X_6$	$4X_6$	$5\hat{X}_6$	$6\hat{X}_6$	$7\hat{X}_6$	$8\hat{X}_6$	$9\hat{X}_6$
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For IBNR claims we use the following estimator:

$${}_l\hat{X}_i^{IBNR} = \hat{N}_{i,l}^{(cCL)} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[{}_lX_i^{(1)}],$$

where $\hat{N}_{i,l}^{(cCL)}$ is the chain-ladder estimation of the cumulative number of claims calculated from the reported claims and $\hat{\mathbb{E}}[{}_lX_i^{(1)}]$ is the expected value of the payment $(i, d, k, 1)$ such that $d + k = l$ for a single claim (i, d, v) , such that $i + d > l$ with accident year i .

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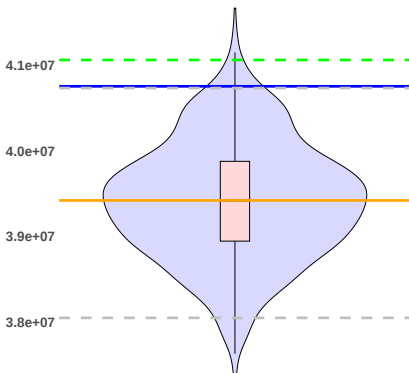


Figure: blue – real value of payments, orange – bagging method, grey dashed lines – 95% confidence interval, green dashed line-99.5% quantile.

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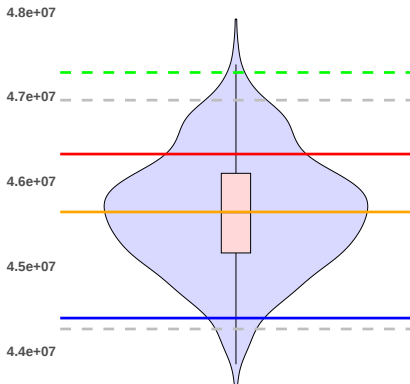


Figure: blue – real value of payments, green – chain-ladder method, red – regression tree method, orange – bagging method, grey dashed lines – 95% confidence interval, green dashed line-99.5% quantile.

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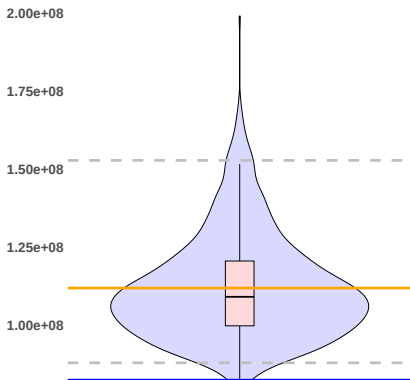


Figure: blue – real value of payments, orange – bagging method, grey dashed lines – 95% confidence interval.

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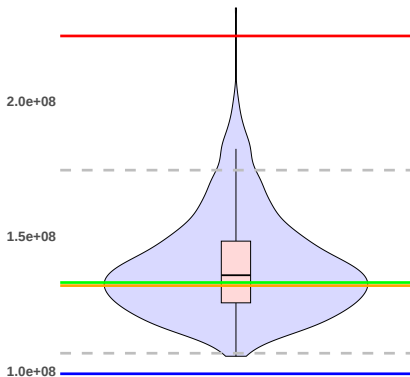


Figure: blue – real value of payments, green – chain-ladder method, red – regression tree method, orange – bagging method, grey dashed lines – 95% confidence interval.

Summary statistics

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	next year's	ultimate
real:	44,391,068	99,086,299
mean:	45,609,930	131,146,228
sd:	70,9815	16,920,947
maximum:	48,386,506	232,476,955
99.5% quantile:	47,470,514	188,363,958
97.5% quantile:	47,038,289	171,620,400
75% quantile:	46,083,806	140,646,058
median:	45,599,231	127,951,440
25% quantile:	45,111,226	118,884,735
2.5% quantile:	44,275,804	106,433,734
minimum:	43,024,020	94,354,990

Thank you for your attention

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