



#### Visualizing Goodness of Fit of Probabilistic Regression Models

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**Classical approach:** Model conditional expectation  $E(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i) = \mu_i$  (i = 1, ..., n). **Regression model:**  $\mu_i = r(\mathbf{x}_i)$ 

Often: Full conditional probability distribution is of interest.





GAM



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Random forest

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Distributional forest

**Formally:** Fit distribution with cumulative distribution function  $F(y_i|\theta_i)$  and parameter vector  $\theta_i$  for each observation  $y_i$ .

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Forecasting:  $\hat{\theta}_i = \hat{r}(x_i)$ .

- Model fit typically yields distribution parameters.
- Implies all other aspects of the distribution  $F(\cdot|\theta_i)$ .
- Thus: Moments, quantiles, probabilities, ...

**Response:** Goals scored by the two teams in all 64 matches.

**Covariates:** Basic match information and prediction of team (log-)abilities (based on bookmakers odds).

R> data("FIFA2018", package = "distributions3")
R> tail(FIFA2018, 2)
goals team match type stage logability difference
127 4 FRA 64 Final knockout 0.8866 0.629
128 2 CR0 64 Final knockout 0.2576 -0.629

**Model:** Poisson GLM with mean  $\lambda_i$  using log link.

In R:

R> m <- glm(goals ~ difference, data = FIFA2018, family = poisson)</pre>

Forecasting: In-sample for simplicity.

```
R> tail(procast(m), 2)
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distribution

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distribution 127 Poisson distribution (lambda = 1.6044) 128 Poisson distribution (lambda = 0.9538)

#### Implies:

- Probabilities for match results (assuming independence of goals).
- Corresponding probabilities for win/draw/lose.

#### **Example:** Probabilities for final France-Croatia.



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#### Idea:

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Questions: Graphics are not new but novel unifying view.

- What are useful elements of such graphics?
- What are relative (dis)advantages?

Ideas: Illustrated for FIFA Poisson model.



Marginal calibration:

- Observed

frequencies.

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Probabilistic calibration:

- Probability integral  $u_i = F(y_i \mid \hat{\theta}_i).$
- Compare: Uniform.

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Probabilistic calibration:

- Quantile residuals  $\Phi^{-1}(u_i)$ .
- Compare: Normal

**Observed vs. expected frequencies:** Standing, with reference line.



 $\sqrt{\text{Observed}}$  vs.  $\sqrt{\text{expected}}$  frequencies: Standing, with reference line.



#### $\sqrt{\text{Observed}}$ vs. $\sqrt{\text{expected}}$ frequencies: Hanging.



 $\sqrt{\text{Observed}}$  vs.  $\sqrt{\text{expected}}$  frequencies: Hanging, with confidence interval.



#### **Rootogram:**

- Frequencies on raw or square-root scale.
- Hanging, standing, or suspended styled rootograms.

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#### **Overall:**

- Advantage: Scale of observations is natural, direct interpretation.
- Disadvantage: Needs to be compared with a combination of distributions.

#### **PIT:** Randomization 1a.



**PIT:** Randomization 1a, with reference line.



**PIT:** Randomization 1a, with reference line and confidence interval.



#### **PIT:** Randomization 1b.



#### **PIT:** Randomization 1c.



**PIT:** Randomization 1c, with simulation intervals.



PIT: 10 random draws.



#### PIT: 100 random draws.



PIT: Expected.



#### Randomized quantile residuals: Expected.



#### Randomized quantile residuals: Expected, with reference.



#### Observed vs. expected quantiles: Q-Q plot.



#### Observed vs. expected quantiles: Detrended Q-Q plot (worm plot).



- Probability scale or transformed to normal scale.
- Randomized or expected for discrete distributions.

#### PIT histogram:

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#### Q-Q residuals plot:

- Normal or uniform scale.
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#### **Overall:**

- Advantage: Comparison with only one distribution (uniform or normal).
- *Disadvantages:* Scale is not so natural. May require randomization.

**Experiment:** Behaviour of adolescents (mostly 11–19).

- Setup: Nine rounds of a lottery with positive expectation.
- Response: Proportion of invested points across all rounds.
- Covariates: Arrangement (single vs. team), gender, age.

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#### Models:

- Ordinary least squares, interpreted as homoscedastic Gaussian model.
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**Goodness of fit:** Similar fitted means but rather different distributions.

**Rootogram:** 

![](_page_48_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### **Rootogram:**

![](_page_49_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Q-Q residual plot:

![](_page_53_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Q-Q residual plot: Detrended.

![](_page_54_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Software: topmodels

**R package:** topmodels. Forecasting and assessment of probabilistic models.

Not yet on CRAN: https://topmodels.R-Forge.R-project.org/

#### Visualizations:

rootogram()	Rootograms of observed and fitted frequencies

- pithist() PIT histograms
- qqrplot() Q-Q plots for quantile residuals
- wormplot() Worm plots for quantile residuals
- reliagram() (Extended) reliability diagrams

## Software: topmodels

#### Numeric quantities:

procast()Probabilistic forecasts (probabilities, quantiles, etc.)proscore()Evaluate scoring rules for procastspitresiduals()Probability integral transform (PIT) residualsqresiduals()(Randomized) quantile residuals

## Software: topmodels

#### Numeric quantities:

procast()	Probabilistic forecasts (probabilities, quantiles, etc.)
proscore()	Evaluate scoring rules for procasts
<pre>pitresiduals()</pre>	Probability integral transform (PIT) residuals
<pre>qresiduals()</pre>	(Randomized) quantile residuals

#### **Object orientation:**

- Work with distribution objects (vectorized) from *distributions3*.
- Model classes like lm, glm, gamlss, bamlss, hurdle, zeroinfl, ...
- New model classes can be easily added if distribution can be extracted.

#### References

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