



Prediction rule ensembles

or a Japanese gardening approach to tree ensembles

Trees

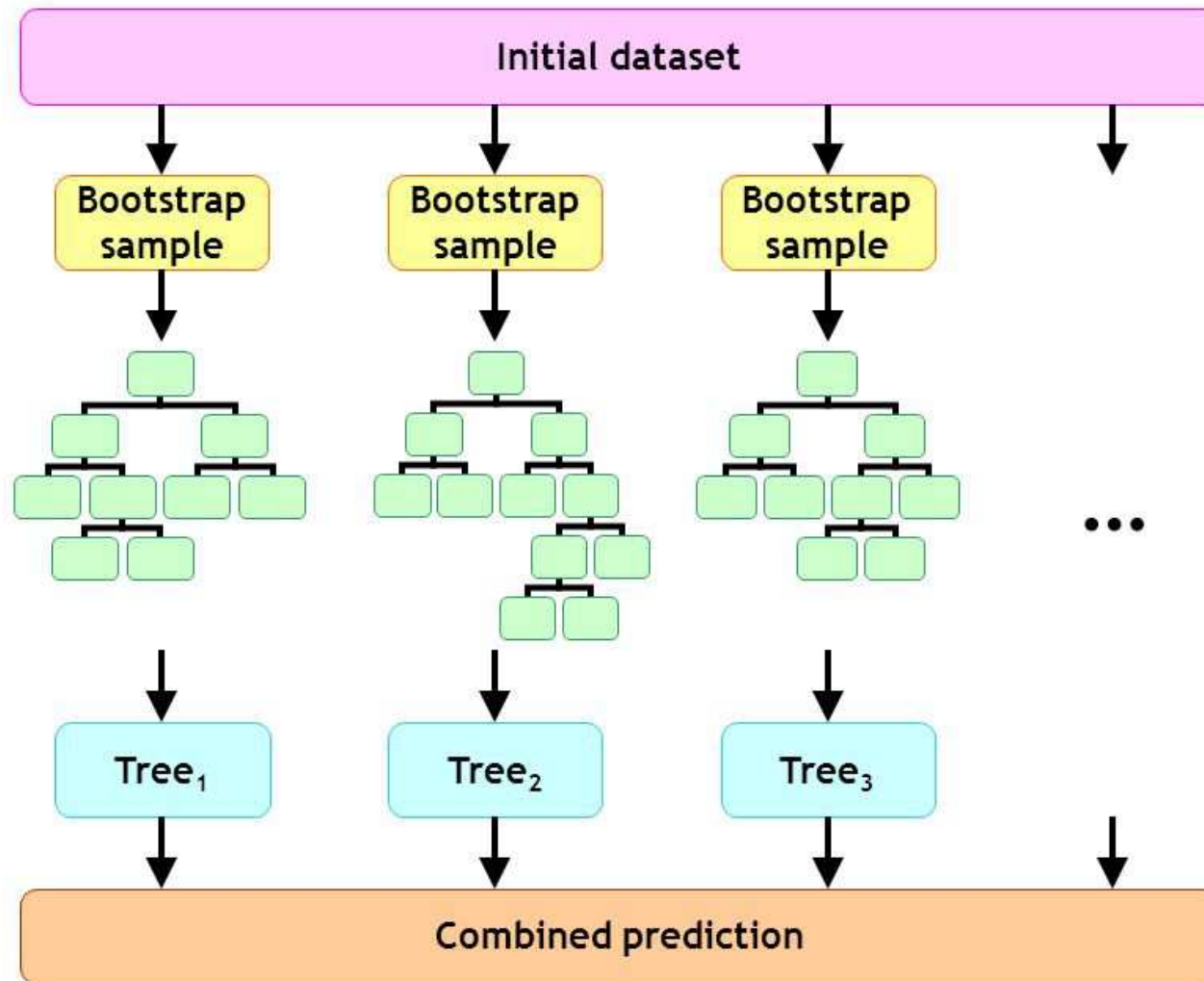
Good: Easily interpretable and applicable

Bad: Not most accurate method

Ugly: Unstable



Random forest



Random forests

- + (One of the) most accurate methods for prediction
- Difficult to interpret and apply:
 - > 100 trees in a single forest
 - Trees may be large/complex
 - Computer needs to combine predictions

Solution: Prediction rule ensembles

- Cut the trees into small parts and use only most accurate parts
- Rulefit (Friedman & Popescu, 2008)
- Node Harvest (Meinshausen, 2010)

Example dataset

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Openness to Experience and Depression*

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Keywords: Openness to experience, depression, openness to fantasy, openness to actions, PB theory of depression, gender and depression, five factor model

Summary: The present study examines, in the context of the Five Factor Model, the contradictory role played by the *Openness to Fantasy* and *Openness to Actions* facets (of the *Openness to Experience* factor) in the prediction of depression. The fact that our data are taken from a sample of the Spanish general population is also a cross-cultural contribution that must be emphasized. 112 participants – 50% females and 50% males – filled out the NEO-PI and the BDI depression questionnaires. A stepwise regression shows that the *Fantasy* facet

Example dataset

Aim: Predict depression based on personality scales

Predictor variables:

- Neuroticism: n1-n6, ntot
- Extraversion: e1-e6, etot
- Openness to exp.: open1-open5, opentot
- Altruism: altot
- Conscientiousness: contot
- Covariates: sex (sexo), age (edad)

Response variable:

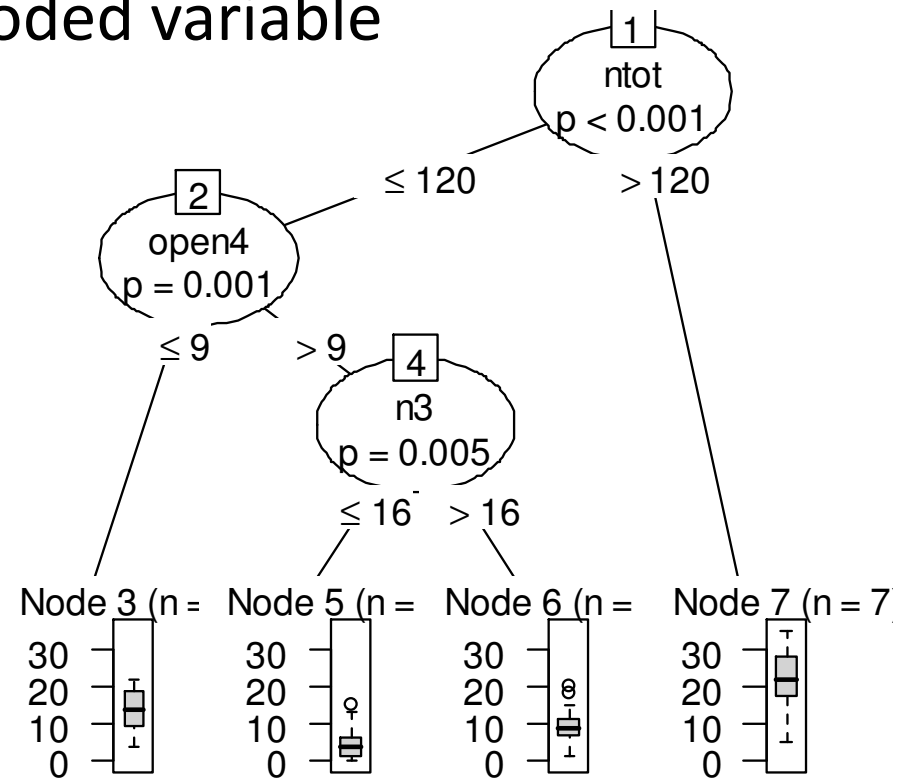
- Beck Depression Inventory total score (bdi)

Sample size: N = 112

From trees to rules

Every node from every tree is transformed into a rule

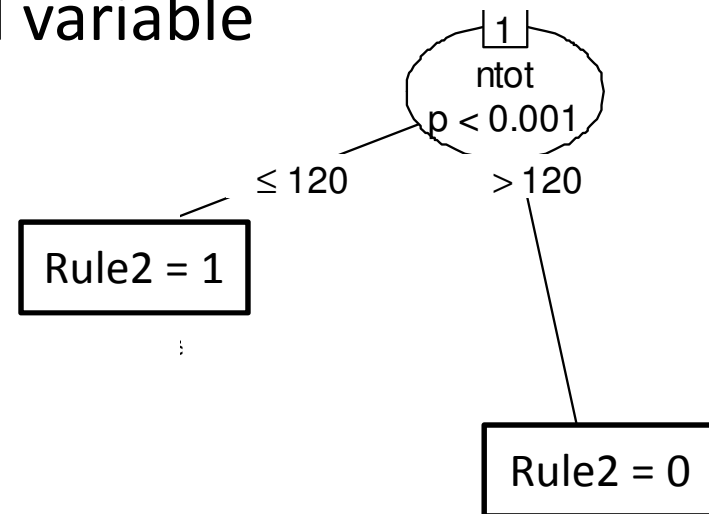
Each rule becomes a 0-1 coded variable



From trees to rules

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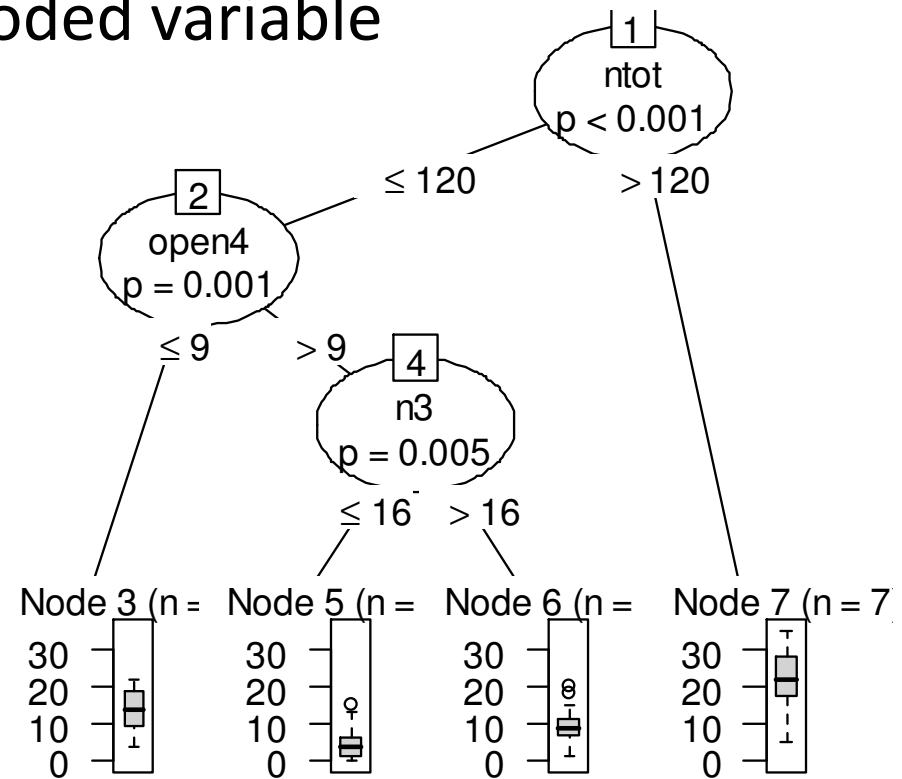


Rule2: $ntot \leq 120$

From trees to rules

Every node from every tree is transformed into a rule

Each rule becomes a 0-1 coded variable

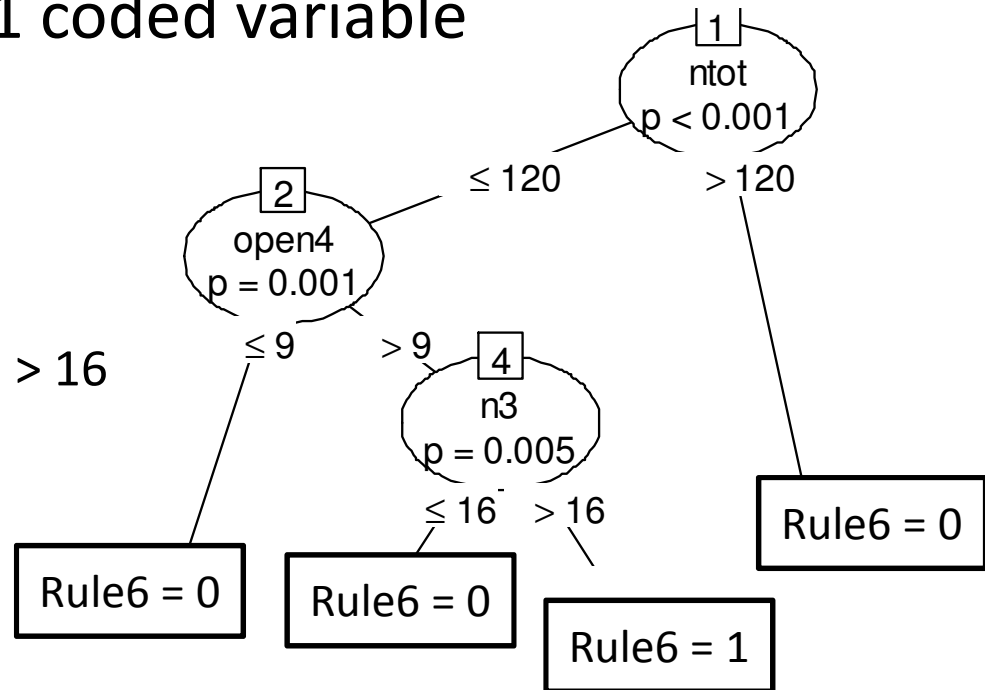


From trees to rules

Every node from every tree is transformed into a rule

Each rule becomes a 0-1 coded variable

Rule6: $\text{ntot} \leq 120 \ \& \ \text{open4} > 9 \ \& \ \text{n3} > 16$



Rule ensemble algorithm

- 1) Take sub- or bootstrap samples from training data
- 2) Grow tree on each sample
 - Boosting: Set learning rate > 0 when growing trees, and/or
 - Random forest: Select random subset of predictor variables for selection of each split
- 3) Create initial ensemble
 - Include each node from each tree as a rule, and/or
 - Include predictor variables as linear functions
- 4) Select final ensemble using penalized regression

Code example

Psychoco2017.Rpres file on

<https://github.com/marjoleinF/misc/>

pre

Prediction Rule Ensembles

Psychoco 2017

Marjolein Fokkema, Leiden University

Load library and data

```
library(devtools)
install_github("marjoleinF/pre")
library(pre)
library(foreign)
cardata <- read.spss(
  "https://github.com/marjoleinF/misc/raw/master/data Carillo et al.sav",
  to.data.frame = TRUE)
set.seed(42)
train <- sample(1:112, 80)
```

Fitting a PRE

```
carpre <- pre(formula = bdi ~ ., data = cardata[train,], type = "both",  
maxdepth = 3, learnrate = .01, mtry = Inf, sampfrac = .5)
```

- Above, default settings are specified
- To generate trees as a random forest:
 - maxdepth = Inf
 - learnrate = 0
 - mtry = sqrt(p)
 - sampfrac = 1

Some methods

```
print(carpre)
```

Final ensemble with cv error within 1se of minimum:

```
lambda = 0.9873066  
number of terms = 6  
mean cv error (se) = 32.80081 (6.512305)
```

rule	coefficient		description
(Intercept)	10.4221		<NA>
rule104	-1.6236	n3 <= 18 & open4 > 12	
rule69	-1.5237	n6 <= 14 & e6 > 16	
rule31	-1.4096	n4 <= 15	
rule3	-0.5847	n3 <= 15	
rule66	-0.0296	n2 <= 16 & e6 > 18	
rule4	0.0000	n3 > 15	

```
coef(carpre)  
predict(carpre, newdata = cardata[-train,])  
cvpre(carpre)
```


Importances

```
importance(carpre, round = 4, plot = FALSE)
```

```
$varimps
```

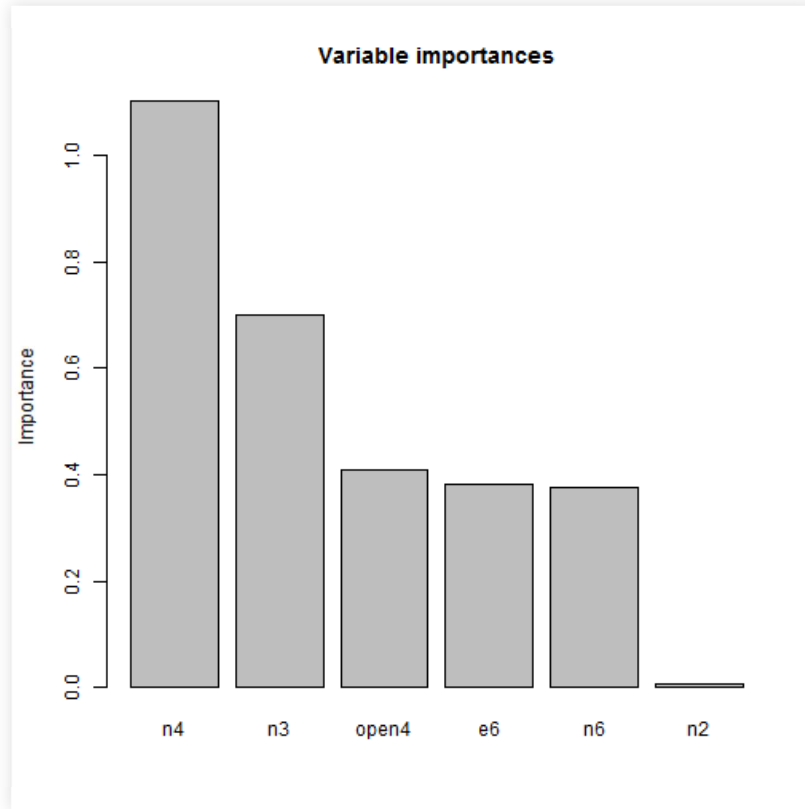
	varname	imp
4	n4	1.1034
3	n3	0.7011
18	open4	0.4084
13	e6	0.3830
6	n6	0.3756
2	n2	0.0074

```
$baseimps
```

		description	imp	coefficient	sd
33	n3 <= 18 & open4 > 12		0.8169	-1.6236	0.5032
115	n6 <= 14 & e6 > 16		0.7512	-1.5237	0.4930
74		n4 <= 15	0.6949	-1.4096	0.4930
72		n3 <= 15	0.2927	-0.5847	0.5006
112	n2 <= 16 & e6 > 18		0.0148	-0.0296	0.5006
83		n3 > 15	0.0000	0.0000	0.5006

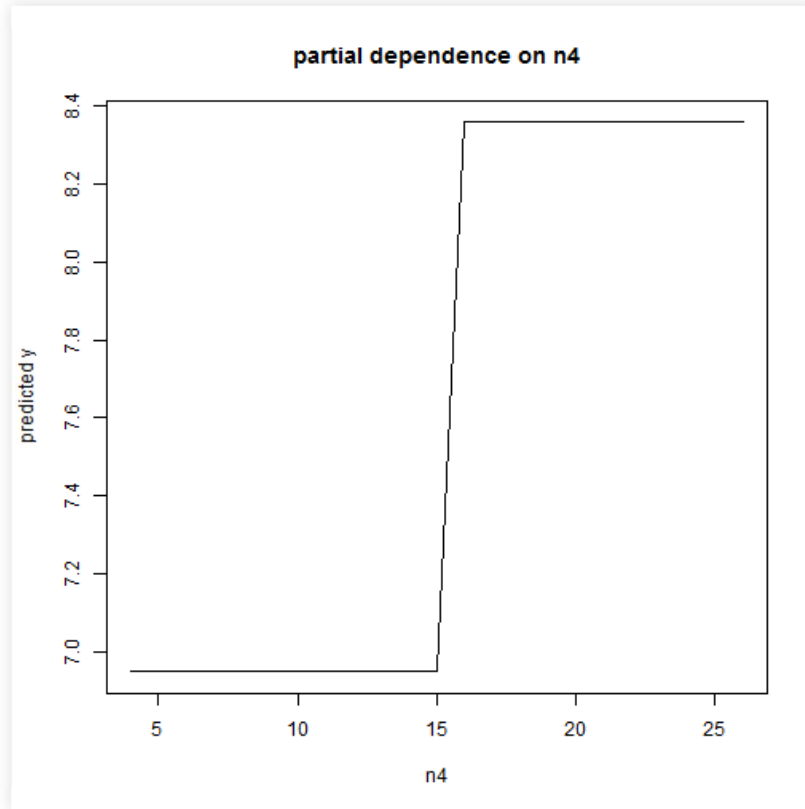
Importances

```
imps <- importance(carppe)
```



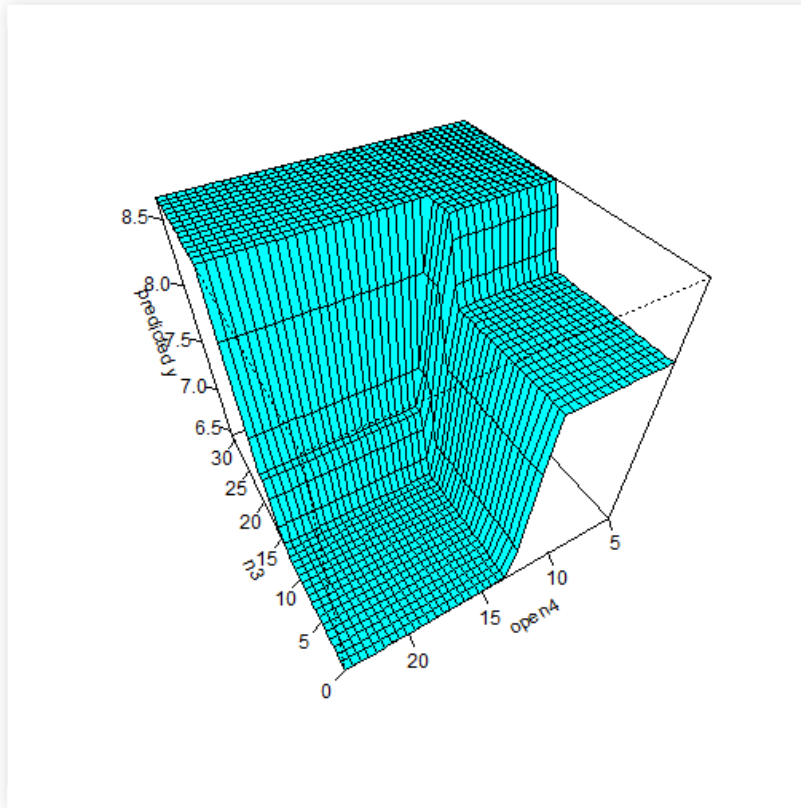
2D partial dependence plot

```
singleplot(carpre, "n4")
```



3D partial dependence plot

```
pairplot(carppe, c("n3", "open4"), nticks = 6, theta = 240)
```



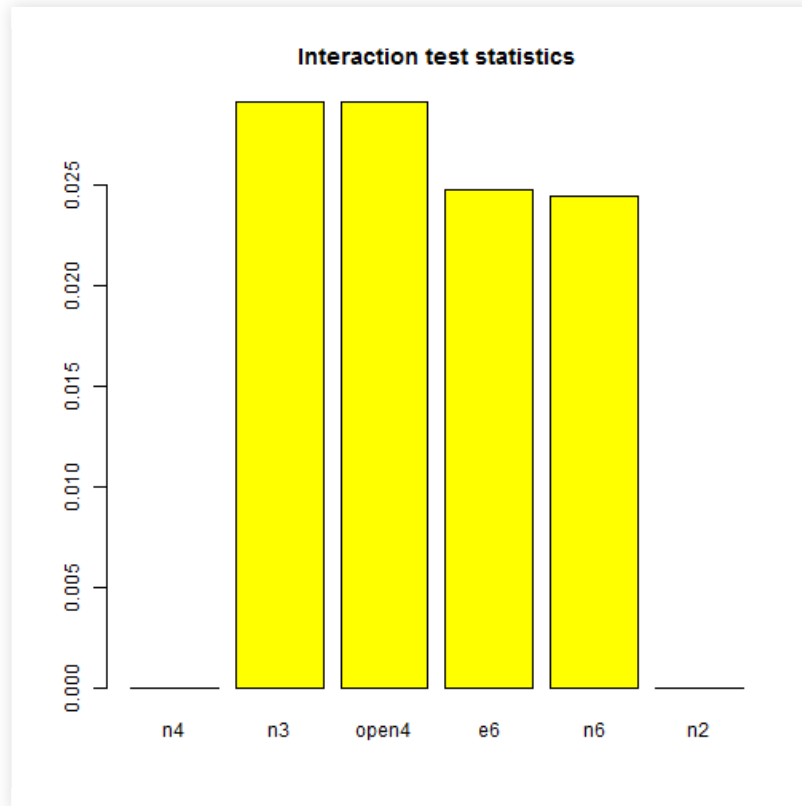
NOTE: function `pairplot` uses package 'akima', which has an ACM license.

Assessing interactions

```
int1 <- interact(carpre)
```

This will take a while (60 dots).

.....



Assessing interactions

To assess significance of interactions, we can compute null interaction models from bootstrapped datasets, to derive a reference distribution of the interaction test statistics.

```
bsnullmods <- bsnullinteract(carpre, nsamp = 2)
```

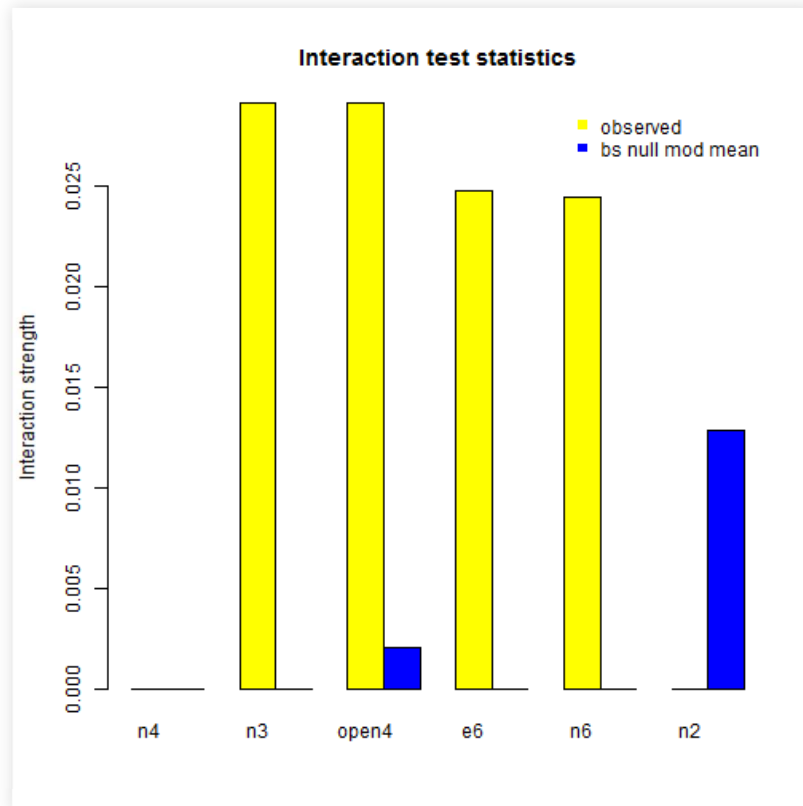
```
This may take a while. Computing null model 1 of 2 ... 2 of 2 ... Done!
```

Assessing interactions

```
int2 <- interact(carpre, nullmods = bsnullmods)
```

This will take a while (180 dots).

.....



What's next?

- Reducing computation time
- Plotting functions
- Support for other outcomes than continuous and binary ones

Haiku

Forest to branches

prediction rule ensembles

get it from GitHub

<https://github.com/marjoleinF/pre>

<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/pre/index.html>

Thank you for your attention!

References

Fokkema, M., Smits, N., Kelderman, & Penninx, B.W.J.H. (2015). Connecting clinical and actuarial prediction with rule-based methods. *Psychological Assessment*, 27(2), 636-644.

Friedman, J. H., & Popescu, B. E. (2008). Predictive learning via rule ensembles. *The Annals of Applied Statistics*, 2(3), 916-954.

Meinshausen, N. (2010). Node harvest. *The Annals of Applied Statistics*, 4(4), 2049-2072.

