



Regression trees and random forests as a tool for identifying the volatile organic compounds implied in the olfactory perception of wines

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DATA: The wines



- 8 wines

Pinot Noir (PN)

Burgundy

- 8 wines

Cabernet Franc (CF)

Loire Valley

selected according to their scores of exemplarity

Loison A., Symoneaux R., Deneulin P., Thomas-Danguin T., Fant C., Guérin L., Le Fur Y. (2015); *Food Quality and Preference*, 40, 240-251.



DATA: Sensory analysis

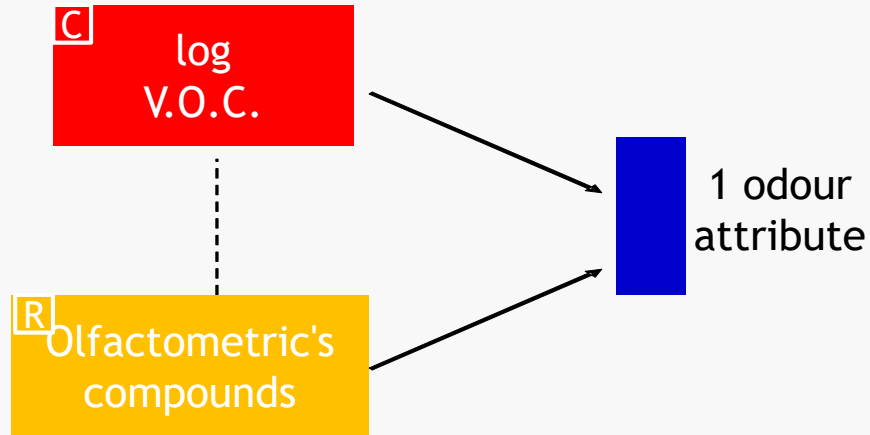
- 16 wine trained panelists
- 33 aroma attributes (orthonasal perception)
e.g.
Cherry Stone,
Fresh Black Currant,
Cooked Cherry,
Fresh Strawberry,
(bell) Pepper,
Woody,
...
- Scores of intensity (0-10)



OBJECTIVE

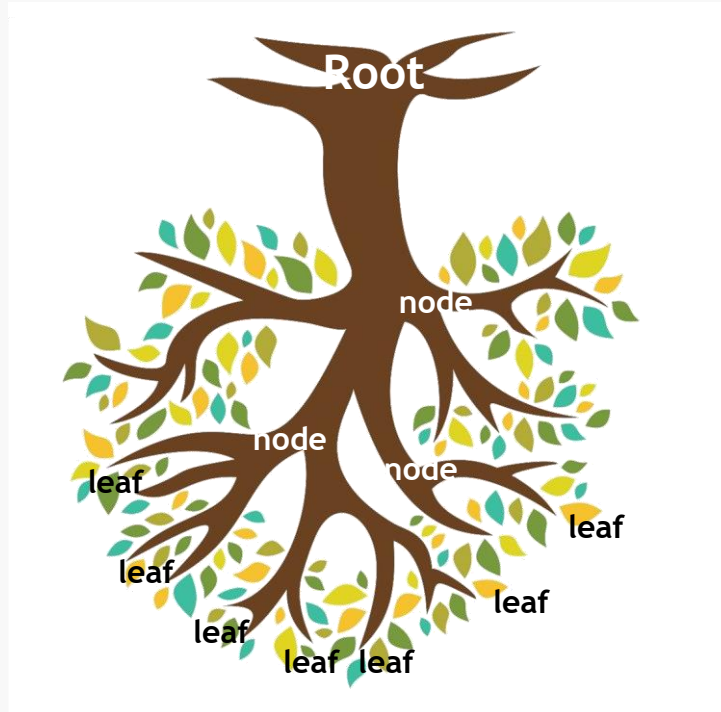


Modelization and prediction of the key **aromatic characteristics** of the wines (orthonasal perception) by taking account of their **V.O.C.s profiles** and **olfactory compounds**.



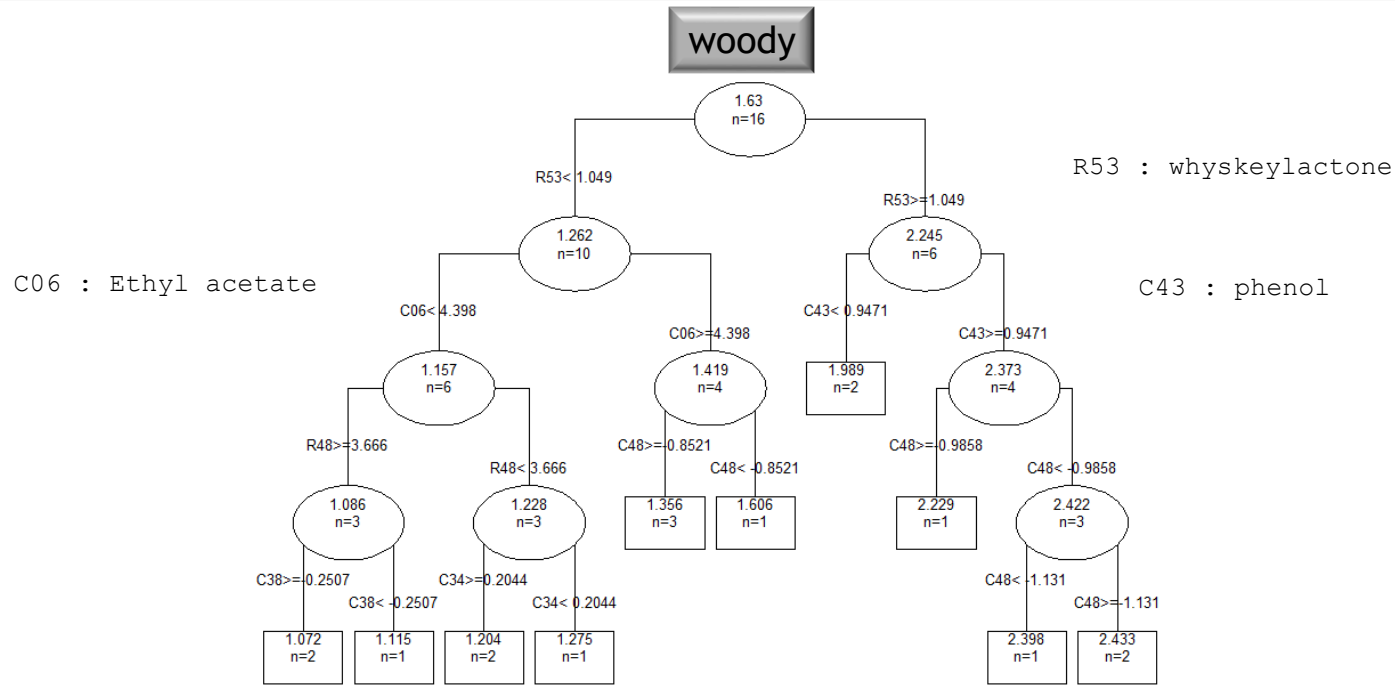
METHOD :Classification and Regression Trees (CART)

How ?



METHOD : Classification and Regression Trees (CART)

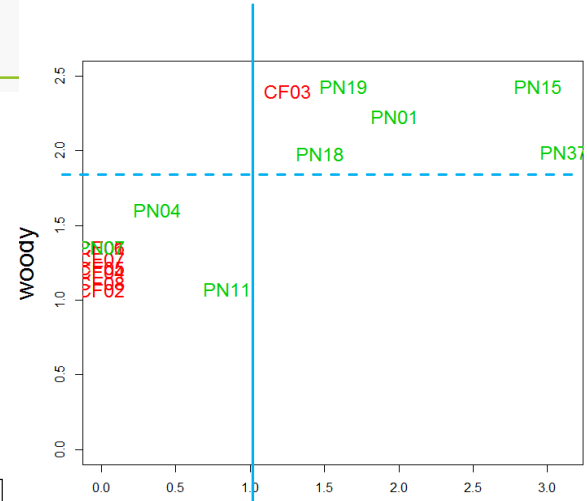
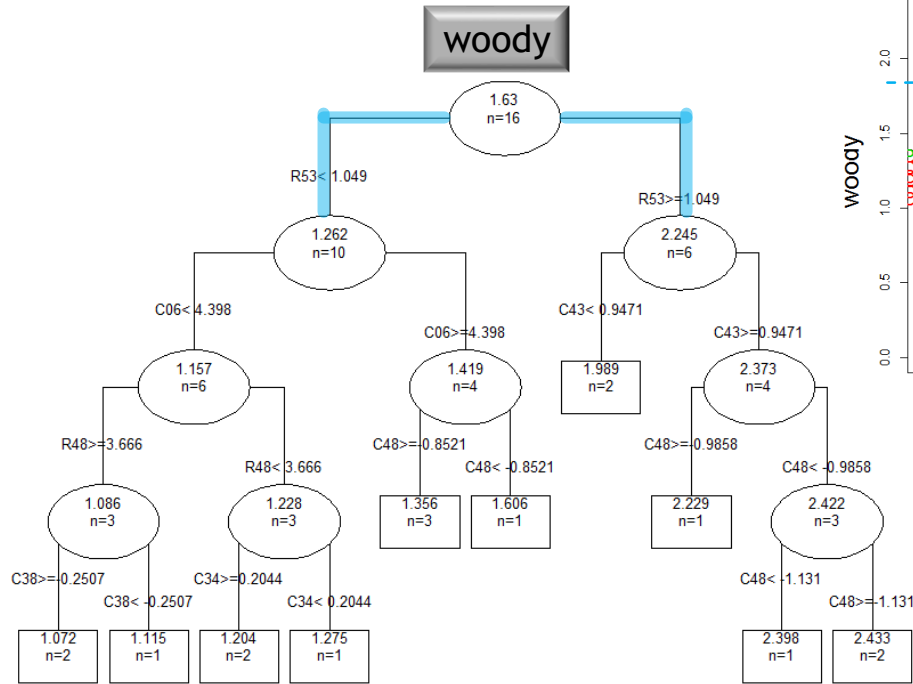
Illustration



Here - uniform branch length

METHOD : Classification and Regression Trees (CART)

Illustration



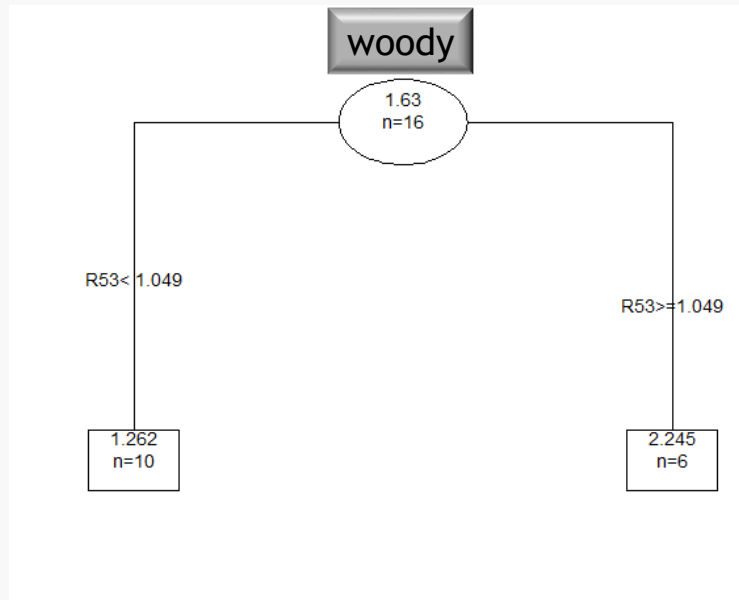
R53 : whyskeylactone

METHOD :Classification and Regression Trees (CART)



Pruning

based on Cross-Validation (here LOO)

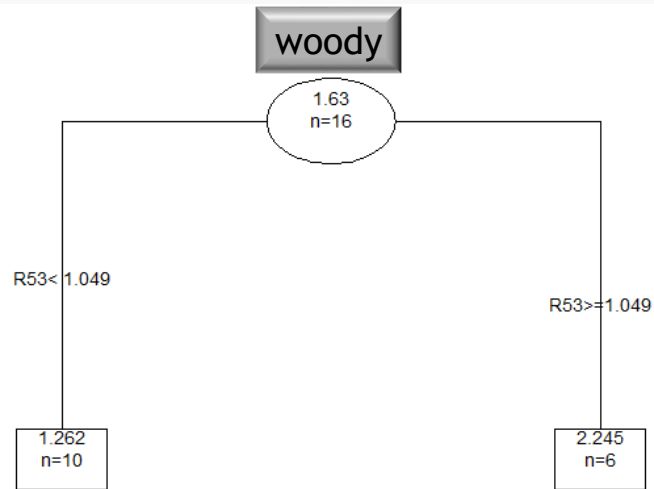


METHOD : Classification and Regression Trees (CART)



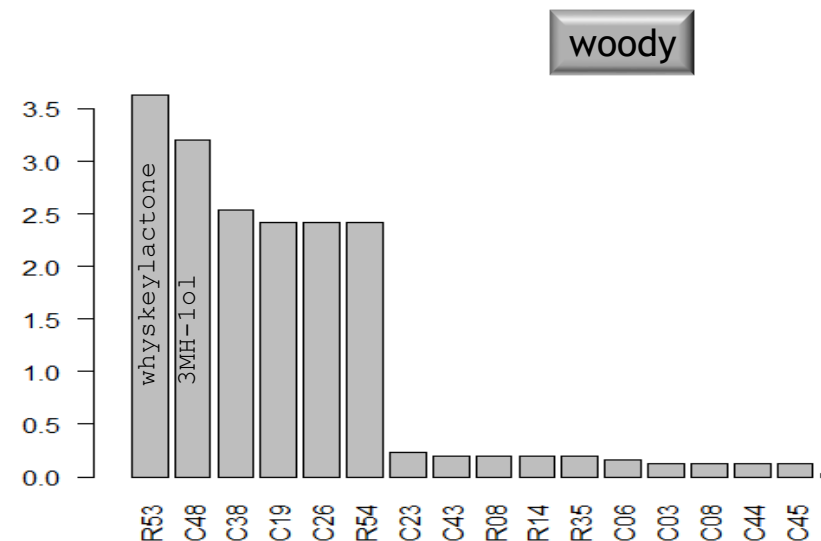
Pruning

based on Cross-Validation (here LOO)



Surrogate variables

impurity decrease allowed by each variable



METHOD :Classification and Regression Trees (CART)



Why ?

- Output providing decision rules,
- Non linear links can be handled,
- No distributional hypotheses
- ...

However

- when there are correlated variables,
- caution must be taken in terms of interpretation
 - lack of robustness of the obtained tree.

METHOD :Classification and Regression Trees (CART)



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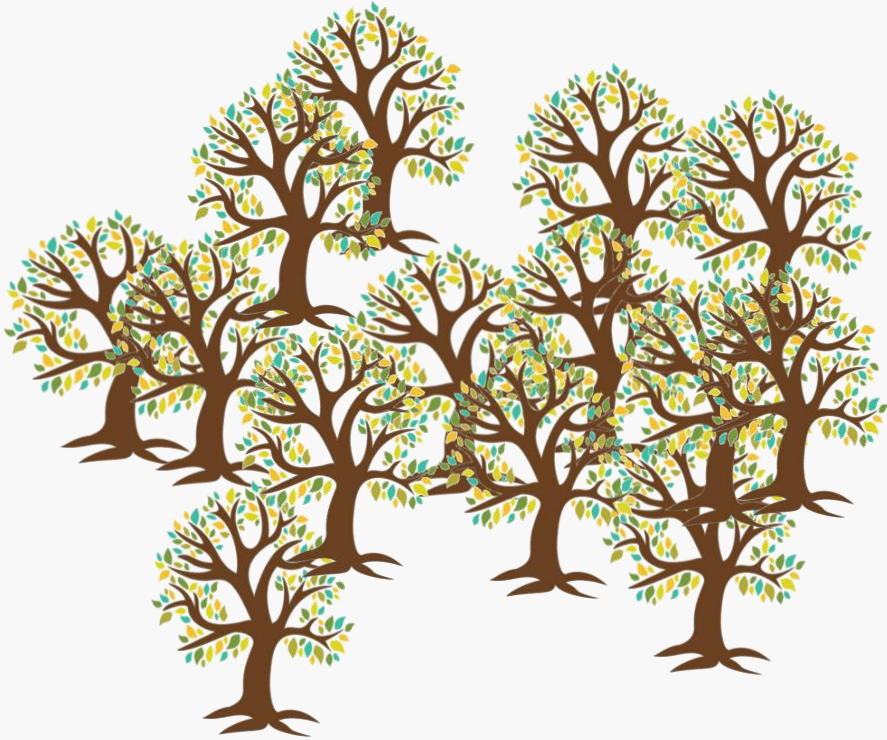
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construct a lot of trees with randomization :
Random forests

METHOD: Random Forests



Breiman, L. (2001). Random Forests. *Machine Learning*, 45, 5-32

- Randomization of the observations (bootstrap samples / bagging)
- Random selection of variables at each node (*mtry* variables selected at random at each node)



Determination of the Variable Importance (VI) of each variable (Breiman, 2001) based on the mean increase of the error obtained with a tree after permutation of the values for the Out-Of-Bag samples.

Strategy of analysis / Step 1

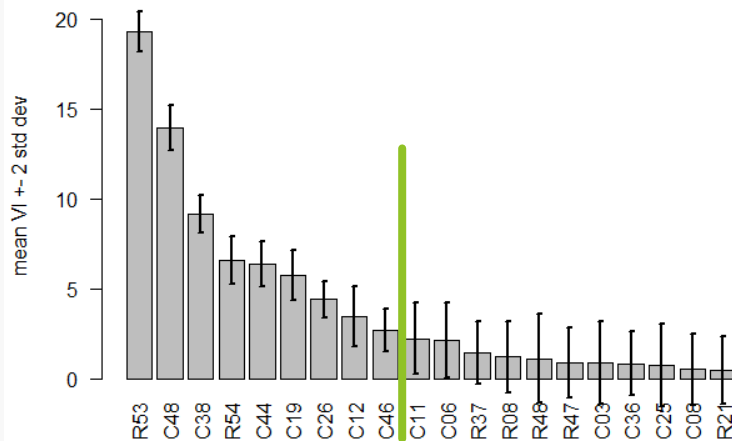


- Forest with 2000 trees ($n_{tree}=2000, m_{try}=p/3$)
- Repetition of the procedure => 50 forests are built

Ranking of the compounds according to their Variable importance (VI)

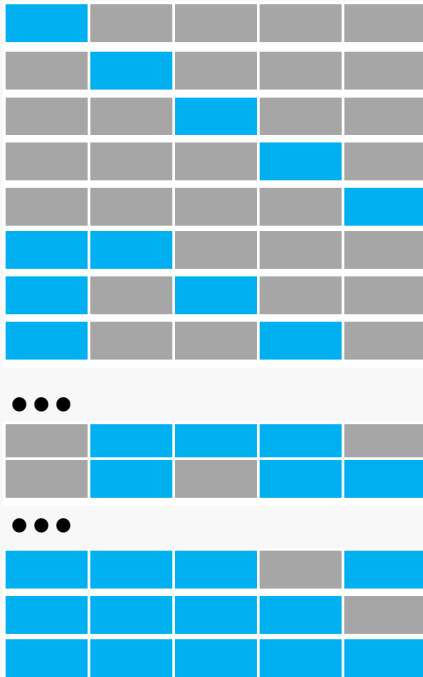
(here the first 20 are shown)

woody



+ 2 std.dev.
average
- 2 std.dev.

Strategy of analysis / Step 2



For each subset "s" of 1, 2, 3...compounds among pre-selected compounds

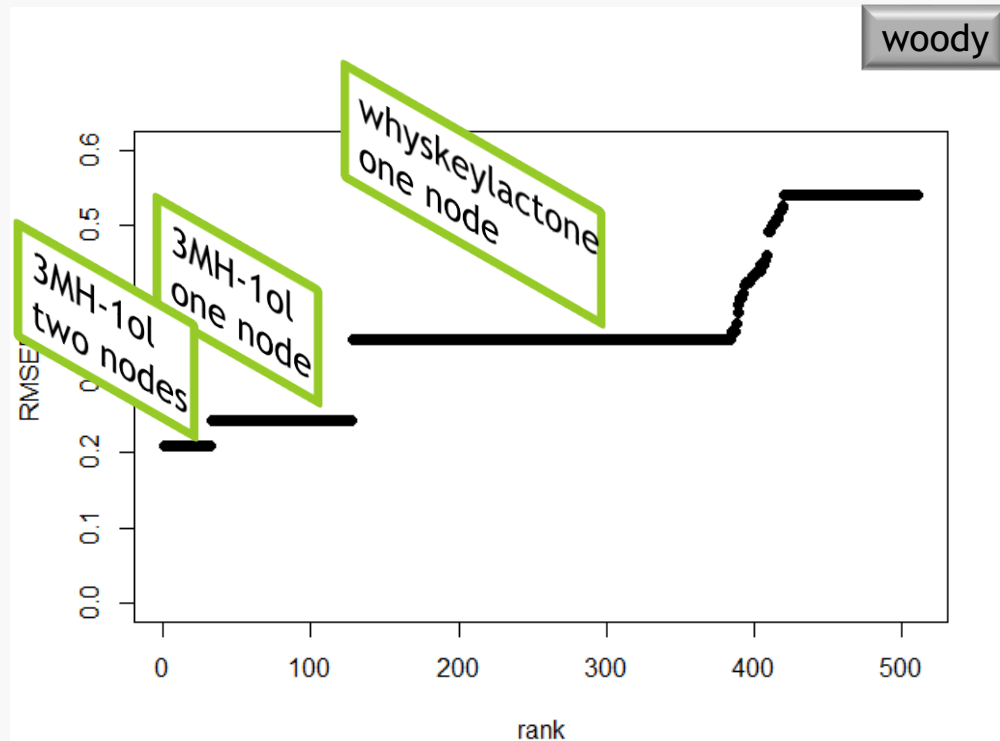
- Construction of the regression tree for "s"
- Pruning based of LOO cross-validation
- $RMSEP_{LOO,s}$

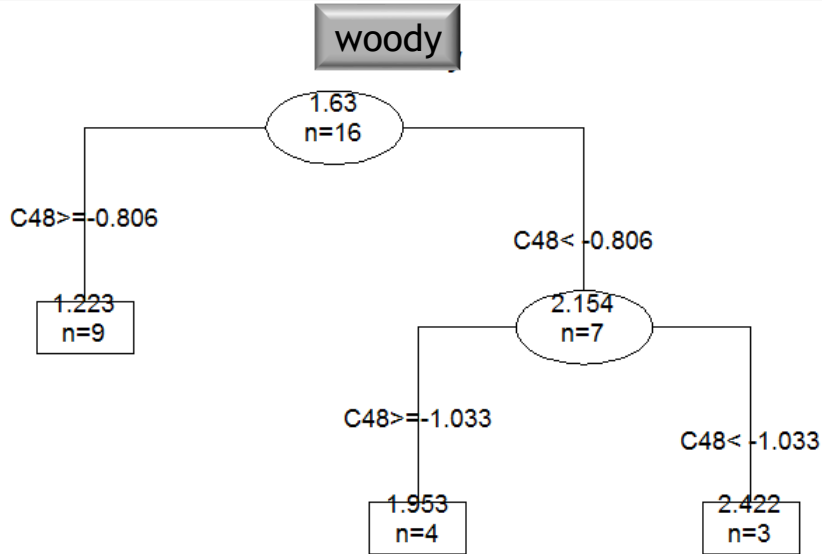
Strategy of analysis / Step 2



pre-selected compounds = 9
⇒ 511 pruned regression trees

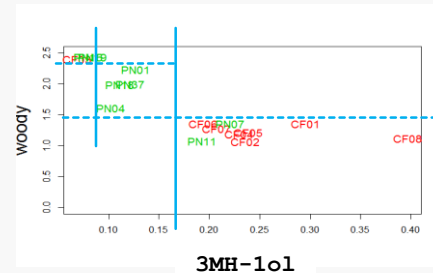
The $RMSEP_{LOO}$ are sorted





Decision rule

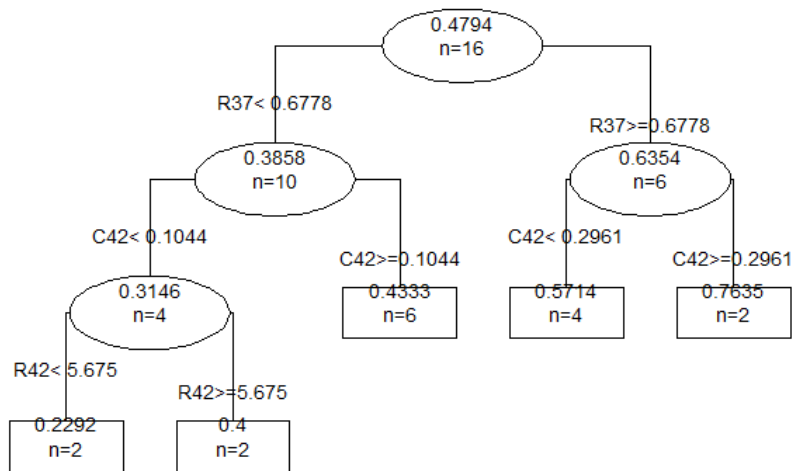
- If $C48 = \log_{10}(3MH-1ol) > -0.806$
i.e. $3MH-1ol > 0.16$
 ⇒ The woody odor should be rather low
 (expected value= 1.22)
- If $0.09 < 3MH-1ol < 0.16$
 ⇒ The woody odor should be intermediate
 (expected value= 1.95)
- If $3MH-1ol < 0.09$
 ⇒ The woody odor should be rather high
 (expected value= 2.42)



RESULTS: Others examples

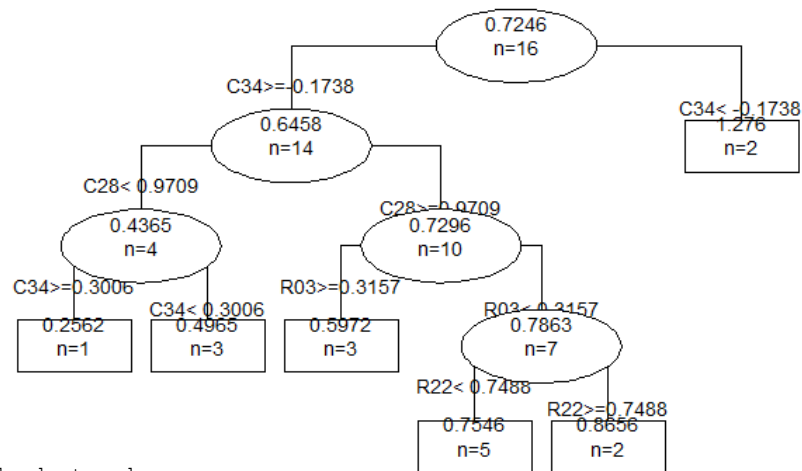


pepper



R37: 3-isobutyl-2-methopyrazine
C42: 1-phenoxy-2-propanol
R42: isovaleric acid

Cherry stone



C34: beta-damascenone
C28: 1-octanol
R03: acetaldehyde
R22: not identified

RESULTS: Comparison of the prediction ability with PLS regression



Sensory attribute	method	# of compounds in model	model complexity	RMSEP _{L00}
Woody	Reg.Tree	1	2 nodes	0.208
	PLS	115	2 PLS comp.	0.438
	PLS-VIP (>1.5)	6	2 PLS comp.	0.253
Pepper	Reg.Tree	3	4 nodes	0.093
	PLS	115	1 PLS comp.	0.107
	PLS-VIP (>1.5)	13	1 PLS comp.	0.077
Cherry stone	Reg.Tree	4	5 nodes	0.157
	PLS	115	3 PLS comp.	0.212
	PLS-VIP (>1.5)	12	4 PLS comp.	0.066

To conclude



Regression trees

Interpretation

- model easy to interpret,
- providing a set of decision rules.
- parsimonious (in our case study),
- able to handle non-linear relationships and interaction between the predictors.

Prediction

Satisfactory prediction ability.



Some references on CART and Random Forests

Breiman L., Friedman J., Olshen R., Stone C. (1984). Classification And Regression Trees. Chapman & Hall

Breiman, L. (2001). Random Forests. *Machine Learning*, 45, 5-32

Genuer R. Poggi, J.-M., Tuleau-Malot C. (2010). Variable Selection using Random Forests. *Pattern Recognition Letters*, 31 (14), 2225-2236.

Romano R., Davino C., Næs T. (2014). Classification trees in consumer studies for combining both product attributes and consumer preferences with additional consumer characteristics. *Food Quality and Preference*, 33, 27-36.