

## **MULTIVARIATE ADAPTIVE REGRESSION SPLINE (MARS) FOR MODELLING OF CHILD LABOR IN JAKARTA**

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### **Abstract**

A Child is defined as male or female under the age of 18 years unless under the law of maturity has been reached earlier. Based on data from the ILO, there were four million child labors in Indonesia in 2002. Jakarta as the capital city of Indonesia has a high economic growth in 2010 by reaching 6.51 percent (LKPD 2010). Behind that growth, Jakarta has a problem of high number of child workers as well, which is about 93 571 children in 2010.

Some researchers often use regression analysis to determine the description of the factors that contribute to a response variable. Regression analysis has several assumptions that must be met, while research in the social subjects often violates those assumptions. To overcome this limitation required nonparametric method that is not tied to the assumption. One method is non-parametric regression Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS). MARS method is an approach for nonparametric regression model that can accommodate multicollinearity in the model.

This study uses secondary data drawn from SUSENAS in 2013 in DKI Jakarta. Response variable used is the status of work in children aged 10-17 years, while the predictor variables are fifteen variables that represent the characteristics of children and household. Based on the results of processing with MARS, obtained models are affected by Status of Child's Education, Child's Education, Child Live with Parent, Education of Head of Household, and etc.

**Key words:** child labor, MARS, SUSENAS, Jakarta

### **INTRODUCTION**

Children are very precious wealth, either as themselves or as a human resources will determine the future of the nation. The parents and the government has an obligation to ensure that every child gets right is to grow healthy, getting access to proper education, and protection of all hazardous situations for them. Countries in the world including Indonesia seeks to protect children by releasing some legislation to ensure the rights of the child are met.

Enforcement of the legislation was not fully running properly because there are quite a lot of cases of children leaving school and entering the workforce too early or be victims of various forms of abuse and murder. Central Bureau of Statistics in 2012 released the number of child workers in the amount of 3.6 million children who are considered works according to international standards. This figure is higher than in 2011 amounted to 3.4 million children. Jakarta is the capital city of Indonesia with a fairly good economic conditions, even economic growth in 2012 reached 6.5 percent. Economic growth in 2012 was higher than the national growth rate of 6.2 percent. Behind the high economic growth, Jakarta has a problem of high number of child workers as well, which is more than one hundred thousand children in 2012. This is a serious problem because the children who work in turn will lead to poor quality of human resources for a nation.

Several studies have been conducted to find the factors that cause a child into child labor. Hugo and Verner (2001) classify the causes of child labor into three groups, namely the child's internal

factors, factors household, and community factors. One of the conclusions of these studies are poverty is closely linked to child labor. Syahrudin (2004) also investigated on child labor in the eastern part of Indonesia. Characteristics of the household head such as age, occupation, education and health status into several variables that affect households with child labor.

Some regression and classification methods have been used by researchers to identify the factors that cause children to become child laborers. Response variables in the study are Categorical or binary as working or not working. The method of analysis in accordance with the response variable is binary logistic regression, Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS) and classification methods such as CART, Decision Trees, Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest (RF), and others.

MARS is a nonparametric method developed by Friedman (1991) to solve the problem of parametric regression with the main objective to predict the value of the variable response of one or several explanatory variables. Besides being able to accommodate multicollinearity in the model, MARS is also good to use when the predictor variables used are numerous and the data used is not linear (Munoz and Felicimo, 2004). MARS sorting the data into sections with each regression equation. This makes MARS frequently used high-dimensional data. MARS can be used as a classification method that is used when the response variable is Categorical. Gunawan Chess Prasetyo (2009), Jalaluddin Mohammad (2009), and Munoz and Felicisimo (2004) gives the same conclusion that MARS is better than some models such as logistic regression analysis and CART. For it, in this study will be carried out classification characteristics of child labor using MARS method.

## RESEARCH METHOD

### Method and Material

The data will be used in this research is the National Socioeconomic Survey Data (SUSENAS) In DKI Jakarta 2013. Details of the variables used in this study are as follows:

Tabel 1. Research Variables

Var	Variables Name	Scale	Details
Y	Child Labor	Categorical	1. Yes 2. No
X1	Child sex	Categorical	1. Male 2. Female
X2	Status of Child's Education	Categorical	1. Attend school 2. Not Attending
X3	Child's Education	Categorical	1. Not Attending 2. SD 3. SLTP 4. SLTA
X4	School's Access	Categorical	1. Not Attending 2. With Vehicles 3. Without Vehicles
X5	Child Live with Parent	Categorical	1. Yes 2. No
X6	Age of Head of household	Numerical	
X7	Head of household's sex	Categorical	1. Male 2. Female
X8	Employment Status of Head of Household	Categorical	1. Unemployment 2. Informal 3. Formal
X9	Employment of Head of Household	Categorical	1. Unemployment

			2. Primary 3. Secondary 4. Tertiary
X10	Education of Head of Household	Categorical	1. Not attending 2. SLTA 3. College
X11	Health Status of Head of Household	Categorical	1. Health complaints 2. No Complaints
X12	Marital Status of head of household	Categorical	1. Not Married 2. Married
X13	Number of Household Member	Numerical	
X14	Member of Household that Works	Categorical	1. Yes 2. No
X15	Rank of Expenditure	Categorical	Rank 1 - 3

Stages of the analysis conducted in this study are:

1. Prepare the data
2. Split the data into 80% data training and 20 % data testing
3. Analyze MARS using data training
4. Determine the maximum number of basis functions, the level of interaction variables, and the minimum number of observations per knot
5. Establish a model based on a combination of the above three points and get the value of GCV
6. Compare each model that the value of the smallest GCV is the best model
7. Use the best model for prediction and compare with data testing
8. Build confusion matrix and get the value of Sensitivity and Specificity

Some of the tools used in this study, namely R with package Earth and Caret, MS Excel, and IBM SPSS 22

## **Methodology**

### **Child Labor**

BPS defines a child is child labor when it meets the following criteria:

1. All children aged 5-12 years who work, regardless of their working hours. This definition is consistent with the regulations set a minimum age for employment is 13 years.
2. Children aged 13-14 years who work more than 15 hours per week. Regulations allow children in this age group engaged in light work.
3. Children who work aged 15-17 years who work more than 40 hours per week.

### **Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline**

Recursive Partitioning (RP) is the approach of the function  $f(x)$  which is unknown by using basis functions. The function of the base is the distance between successive knots. Although RPR is the most adaptive method to approximate functions with many variables, but RPR has several drawbacks that limit its effectiveness. One is the function of assessment will be discontinued at the boundary subregion (knots). This limits the accuracy of the assessment, especially when the function is continuous. The other drawback is difficult to estimate the RPR simple linear function or additives.

Friedman made modifications to the model PR and MARS model is obtained which can be written as follows

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{m=1}^M a_m \prod_{k=1}^{K_m} [s_{km} \cdot (x_{v(k,m)} - t_{km})] \quad (1)$$

And MARS basis functions can be expressed as follows

$$B_m(x) = \prod_{k=1}^{K_m} (s_{km} \cdot (x_{v(k,m)} - t_{km})) \quad (2)$$

Where:  $a_0$  = constant,  $a_m$  = base parent function,  $M$  = sum of basis function,  $K_m$  = degree of interaction,  $s_{km}$  = value  $\pm 1$ ,  $x_{v(k,m)}$  = independent variable,  $t_{km}$  = knots value of variabel  $x_{v(k,m)}$

Another form of equation (2) is

$$\hat{y} = B_0 + B_1 * BF_1 + B_2 * BF_2 + \dots + B_k * BF_k \quad (3)$$

Where  $y$  = response variable,  $B_0$  = constanta,  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k$  = spline basis function coefficients 1,2,...,k, dan  $BF_1, BF_2, \dots, BF_k$  = basis function 1,2,...,k

Selection of the best models in the MARS using stepwise method. There are two methods, namely forward stepwise stepwise and backward stepwise. Forward stepwise done to get the maximum number of basis functions to minimize the average sum of square residuals (ASR). While backward stepwise conducted to determine the proper function of the base by removing the base functionality that small contribution to the prediction of the response. This method is done by minimizing the value of Generalized Cross Validation (GCV). The smaller the value of a variable GCV, the more important the variable. GCV is the following equation where the numerator is the average number of errors, and the denominator is the function of a complex value

$$GCV(M) = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - \hat{f}_M(x_i)]^2}{\left[1 - \frac{\tilde{C}(M)}{N}\right]^2} \quad (4)$$

Where  $N$  = sum of observation,  $M$  = sum of basis function of MARS,  $C(M) = \text{Trace}[B(B'B)^{-1}B'] + I$  is the number of parameters to be estimated,  $B$  = basis function,  $\tilde{C}(M) = C(M) + d.M$ , best value of  $d$  are in interval 2-4

Classification by MARS based approach to logistic regression analysis. The classification is to look at the level of accuracy in grouping the data according to the group. Binary response variable  $Y$  (0 and 1), it can use the following probability model

$$P(Y = 1|X = x) = \pi(x) = \frac{e^{g(x)}}{1 + e^{g(x)}} \quad (5)$$

The function of the probability model above can be searched by using nonparametric methods such as MARS (Friedman, 1991). Selection of basis functions performed by using the squared residual based loss criterion, and the coefficients of the basis functions for the best model estimated by logistic regression approach to the collection of the base (Friedman, 1991). Transformation of the above models can be written as follows

$$\ln\left[\frac{\pi(x)}{1 - \pi(x)}\right] = a_0 + \sum_{m=1}^M a_m \prod_{k=1}^{K_m} [s_{km} \cdot (x_{v(k,m)} - t_{km})] \quad (6)$$

## RESULT

MARS model is formed by performing simulations with the following parameter settings

1. 30, 45 and 60 the number of basis functions
2. Zero until three levels of interaction between variables.
3. Zero to 10 observations per knot

Selection of the best MARS models based on the value of the minimum GCV most models. From the above simulation, parameter MARS model is best achieved by 60 the number of basis functions, three levels of interaction and a minimum of three observations each knots.

Table 2. Simulation results of MARS Model Best Selection

BF	MI	MO	GCV
30	1	0	0.02177
30	1	1	0.02177
30	1	2	0.02177
30	1	3	0.02177
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
45	2	0	0.018204
45	2	1	0.018124
45	2	2	0.018124
45	2	3	0.018124
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
60	3	0	0.015379
60	3	1	0.015432
60	3	2	0.015481
<b>60</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.015087</b>
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
60	3	10	0.015663

The resulting minimum GCV value is 0.015. Of the 16 variables used in the model, only eight variables that affect the model. Variables that influence based on the value of the minimum GCV is as follows

Tabel 3. Importance Variables that enters model

Variables	Nsubset	GCV (%)	RSS (%)
X2 = 2	30	100	100
X5 = 2	29	56	58.5
X10 = 3	29	56	58.5
X15 = 3	29	56	58.5
X10 = 2	28	49	52
X3 = 3	26	35	39.4
X9 = 3	26	35	39.4
X8 = 2	25	30.9	35.8
X13	24	27.9	33.2
X6	17	19.2	24.5

X1 = 2	12	15.1	19.8
X4 = 2	9	11.4	16
X4 = 3	4	4.9	9

MARS models obtained are as follows

$$Y = 0.251 - 0.247 * BF1 - 0.286 * BF2 + 0.0381 * BF3 + 0.292 * BF4 + \dots + 0.104 * BF27 - 0.686 * BF28 + 2.02 * BF29 - 1.01 * BF30$$

BF is the base function where each BF contains its own function. The model above is not written entirely due to the number of functions that pretty much. Interpretation of the MARS models using logit function is using odds ratios. Some interpretations of the above models are below:

1. Coefficient BF6 =  $- 0.792 * X52 * X93$ . A child who lives with his parents and KRT have a tendency not to work twice as large as not working children than a child who does not live with his parents and KRT not work
2. Coefficient BF16 =  $0.842 * X33 * X52 * X93$ . A junior high school and do not live with their parents and KRT work in the secondary sector are more likely to two times more likely than children in child labor schools are not living with parents where KRT not work
3. Coefficient BF19 =  $-1.12 * X52 * X82 * X103$ . A child who lives with parents where KRT does not work and never went to school or primary school has three times greater tendency not working children than a child who does not live with their parents where KRT work in the informal sector and education above high school
4. Coefficient BF22 =  $- 2.09 * X22 * X52 * \max(0, X13-9)$ . A child who is in school and live with their parents and the number of ART under 9 have a tendency to eight times more likely not working children than children who do not attend school and did not live with his parents where the number of ART more than nine
5. Coefficient BF29 =  $2.02 * X52 * h(X13-9)$ . A child who does not live with their parents and the number of ART is more than nine tend to be seven times more likely to become child laborers than children who live with their parents and the number of ART under nine

The best model above will be calculated values are compared with the predictions and testing the data to produce a confusion matrix as shown in the table below

Table 4. Confusion Matrix

Prediction	Reference	
	0	1
0	454	13
1	7	6

Based on Table 4 above, can be calculated multiple measurements such as Accuracy of 95.83% which means that the accuracy of the model in an educated guess by 95 percent. The accuracy suspect a child is child labor was only 31.5% (sensitivity) and accuracy in predicting a child is not child labor is equal to 98.4% (specificity). Plot between sensitivity and specificity looks like in the picture below. Good model is expected to have a value of sensitivity and high specificity.

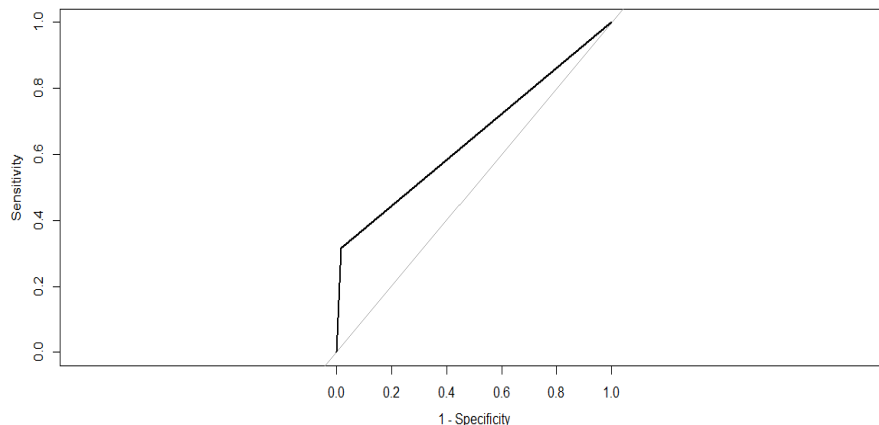


Figure 1. Plot ROC of Mars Model

## DISCUSSION

The proportion between child labor and child labor is not far enough at 96% is not child labor and 4% is child labors. Inequality is enough to affect the results of this analysis proved the prediction accuracy of a child is a child labor (sensitivity) is 31.5%. This disparity in data mining called imbalanced data.

Future studies are expected to focus addressing issues of imbalanced data before analysis. One of handling imbalanced data is to SMOTE (Synthetic Minority Oversampling Technique) which is a sampling technique to create synthetic data is the data minority groups. Synthetic data generation aims to balance class analysis of data.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

From this research of modelling child labor using MARS, it can be concluded and recommended some point as follows:

1. Simulation of the best MARS model search has produced the best model with a minimum GCV. The best model parameter is the number of basis functions 60, three levels of interaction and a minimum of three observations each knots.
2. The accuracy of the best models produced very high at around 95% but the accuracy of the data class is very small child labor yatu 31.5%
3. Inequality proportion in class affect the response variable data analysis
4. Further research is expected to make the handling of the data imbalanced
5. Further enumeration of child labor data collection should be more comprehensive and thorough covers children aged 5-17 years

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