



# ETC3580: Advanced Statistical Modelling

Week 3: Binary responses

# Outline

- 1 Logistic regression
- 2 Diagnostics for logistic regression
- 3 Inference for logistic regression
- 4 Latent variables and link functions

# Logistic regression

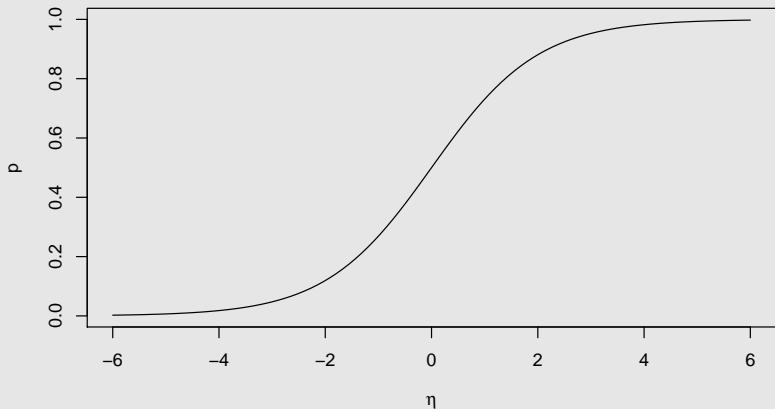
Suppose response variable  $Y_i$  takes values 0 or 1 with probability  $P(Y_i = 1) = p_i$ . (i.e., a Bernoulli distribution)  
We relate  $p_i$  to the predictors:

$$p_i = e^{\eta_i} / (1 + e^{\eta_i}) = P(Y_i = 1)$$

$$\eta_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i,1} + \cdots + \beta_q x_{i,q}$$

- $g(p) = \log(p/(1 - p))$  is the “logit” function. It maps  $(0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- The inverse logit is  $g^{-1}(\eta) = e^{\eta} / (1 + e^{\eta})$  which maps  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, 1)$ .
- $g$  is called the “link” function.

# Inverse logit function



■ If  $p_i \approx 0.5$ , logistic and linear regression similar.

# Log-likelihood

## Likelihood

$$L = \prod_{i=1}^n p_i^{y_i} (1 - p_i)^{1-y_i}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\log L(\beta) &= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log(p_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - p_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i [\eta_i - \log(1 + e^{\eta_i})] - (1 - y_i) \log(1 + e^{\eta_i}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i \eta_i - \log(1 + e^{\eta_i})]\end{aligned}$$

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- MLE: maximize  $\log L$  to obtain  $\hat{\beta}$
- Equivalent to iterative weighted least squares
- No closed form expressions

# Logistic regression in R

```
fit <- glm(y ~ x1 + x2, family=binomial,  
           data=df)
```

- Bernoulli is equivalent to Binomial with only two levels.
- First (alphabetical) level is set to 0, other to 1. Use `relevel` if you want to change it.
- `glm` uses MLE with a logit link function (when `family=binomial`).

# Interpreting a logistic regression

$$\text{Odds} = p/(1 - p).$$

- Example: 3-1 odds means  $p = 3/4$ .
- Example: 5-2 odds means  $p = 5/7$ .
- A horse at “15-1 against” means  $p = 1/16$ .
- Odds are unbounded.
- $\log(\text{odds}) = \log(p/(1 - p)) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2$
- A unit increase in  $x_1$  with  $x_2$  held fixed increases log-odds of success by  $\beta_1$ .
- A unit increase in  $x_1$  with  $x_2$  held fixed increases odds of success by a factor of  $e^{\beta_1}$ .



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# Fitted values

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```
fit <- glm(y ~ x1 + x2, family='binomial',  
          data=df)  
library(broom)  
augment(fit, type.predict='link') # default  
augment(fit, type.predict='response')
```

# OLS Residuals

**Response residuals:** Observation – estimate

$$e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$$

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- Mean 0, variance 1.

**Deviance residuals:** Signed root contribution to  $-2 \log L$ .

$$-2 \log L = c + \frac{1}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \sum e_i^2 = c + \sum d_i^2$$

$$d_i = e_i / \hat{\sigma}$$



# Logistic regression residuals

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**Deviance residuals:** Signed root contribution to

$$-2 \log L = -2 \sum [y_i \eta_i - \log(1 + e^{\eta_i})] = \sum d_i^2$$

$$d_i = \text{sign}(y_i - \hat{p}_i) \sqrt{2 [-y_i \log(\hat{p}_i) - (1 - y_i) \log(1 - \hat{p}_i)]}$$

# Logistic regression residuals

```
fit <- glm(y ~ x1 + x2, family='binomial',  
          data=df)  
library(broom)  
augment(fit, type.resid='response')  
augment(fit, type.resid='pearson')  
augment(fit, type.resid='deviance') # default
```

- Residual plots can be hard to interpret
- Don't expect residuals to be normally distributed

# Partial residuals

- Let  $e_i = y_i - \hat{p}_i$  be a response residual. Then

$$e_i^* = \frac{e_i}{\hat{p}_i(1-\hat{p}_i)}$$

is the “logit residual” (compare Pearson residuals).

- The “logit partial residual” for the  $j$ th variable is

$$e_i^* + \hat{\beta}_j x_{i,j}$$

- We can plot these against  $x_{i,j}$  to identify potential nonlinearity.
- `visreg` plots  $d_i + \hat{\beta}_j x_{i,j}$  instead.

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# Deviance

Generalization of sum of squared residuals based on likelihood ratio:

$$D = \sum d_i^2 = -2 \log L + c$$

where  $L$  is the likelihood of the model and  $c$  is constant that depends on data but not model.

- Difference between deviances equivalent to a likelihood ratio test.
- $D_1 - D_2 \sim \chi^2_{q_2 - q_1}$  where  $q_i$  is df for model  $i$  assuming
  - 1 smaller model is correct
  - 2 models are nested
  - 3 distributional assumptions true
- Null deviance is for model with only an intercept.



# Deviance test

In R:

```
fit <- glm(y ~ x1 + x2, family='binomial',  
           data=df)  
anova(fit, test="Chisq")  
drop1(fit, test="Chisq")  
anova(fit1, fit2, test="Chisq")
```

- NOT equivalent to t-tests on coefficients
- Deviance tests preferred

# Confidence intervals for coefficients

- Standard intervals based on normal distribution are poor approximations.
- Better to use “profile likelihood” confidence intervals
- Let  $L_p(\theta)$  be the profile likelihood (the likelihood without the nuisance parameters). LR test for  $H_0 : \theta = \theta_0$  is

$$LR = 2 \left[ \log L_p(\hat{\theta}) - \log L_p(\theta_0) \right]$$

Confidence interval consists of those values  $\theta_0$  for which test is not significant. (A contour region of the likelihood.)

- Implemented in R using `confint`

## Akaike's Information Criterion

$$\text{AIC} = -2 \log L + 2q = c + D + 2q$$

- Select model with smallest AIC
- Beware of hypothesis tests after variable selection
- `step()` works for `glm` objects in the same way as for `lm` objects, and minimizes the AIC.

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# Latent variable interpretation

- Suppose  $z$  is a latent (unobserved) random variable:

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & z = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \cdots + \beta_q x_q + \varepsilon > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $\varepsilon$  has cdf  $F$ .

- If  $F$  is “standard logistic”, then  $F(w) = 1/[1 + e^{-w}]$ .
- So  $\text{logit}(p) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \cdots + \beta_q x_q$ .

That is, we can think of logistic regression as an ordinary regression with logistic noise, and we observe only if it is above or below 0.

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That is, probit regression is an ordinary regression with normal noise, and we observe only if it is above or below 0.



# Latent variable interetation

## General binary model

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where  $g$  maps  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, 1)$ .

- $g(\eta) = e^\eta / (1 + e^\eta)$ : logit link, logistic regression
- $g(\eta) = \Phi(\eta)$ : normal cdf link, probit regression
- $g(\eta) = 1 - \exp(-\exp(\eta))$ : log-log link

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```
fit <- glm(y ~ x1 + x2,  
  family=binomial(link=probit), data=df)
```

# Why prefer logit over probit?

- odds ratio interpretation of coefficients
- non-biased with disproportionate stratified sampling. Only link function with this property.
- non-biased with clustered observations. Only link function with this property.
- logit link is “canonical”: ensures  $\sum x_{ij}y_i$  ( $j = 1, \dots, q$ ) are sufficient for estimation. So  $p$ -values are exact.