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# Logistic Regression

# Logistic Regression – a few points

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- Logistic Regression is also very popular for establishing a baseline
- Here are a few of the traits that make it popular:
  - ❖ Like Naïve Bayes, Logistic Regression is very fast
  - ❖ It's highly interpretable
  - ❖ Doesn't require features to be scaled
  - ❖ Doesn't require any tuning
  - ❖ Easy to regularize
  - ❖ Outputs predicted probabilities

# Logistic Regression – a few points

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- Although Logistic Regression is popular, it is often misunderstood.
- Here are a few common questions that people have when they think of logistic regression:
  - ❖ Why is it called “logistic regression” if it’s used for **classification**?
  - ❖ Why is it called a **linear model**?
  - ❖ How do you interpret the **model coefficients**?

# Probability Reminder

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- ❖ 0 ..... 1
- ❖ 0..... 100%

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1

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100%

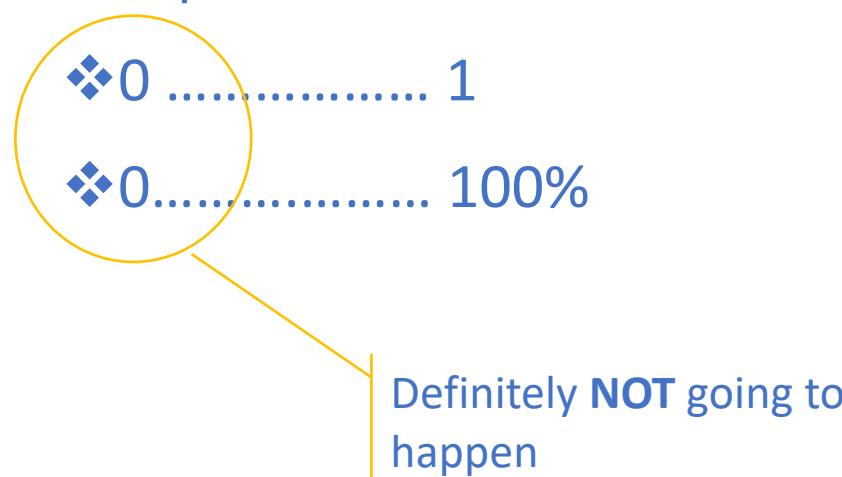
Definitely going to  
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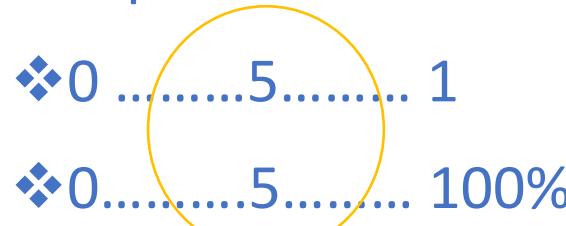


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In the case of a **binary outcome** we have some midpoint where it's equally probable/likely

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## Back to the coinflip

---

### ➤ Flip a coin

$$\diamond P(\text{Heads}) = \frac{\text{one outcome}}{\text{ALL possible outcome}} = \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{H}{H+T} = 0.5$$

$$\diamond O(\text{Heads}) = \frac{\text{one outcome}}{\text{ALL OTHER outcome}} = \frac{1}{1} = \frac{H}{T} = 1$$

❖ Ratio Representation

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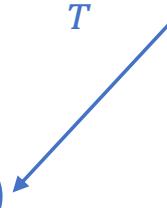
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➤ Odds can be represented as (1:1)



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## ❖ Ratio Representation

➤ Odds can be represented as (1:1)

➤ We say the odds are **even** because these numbers are the same

# Rolling a Die

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## ➤ Roll a Die

❖ We are interested in rolling a 3

$$\text{❖ } P(\text{"3"}) = \frac{\text{one outcome}}{\text{ALL possible outcome}} = \frac{\{3\}}{\{1,2,3,4,5,6\}} = \frac{1}{6} = 0.1667$$

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❖ Ratio Representation

➤ Odds can be represented as (0.2:1)

➤ We say the odds are **less than even**

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## ➤ Roll a Die

❖ Now say we are interested in rolling  $\leq 5$

$$\text{❖ } P(\leq 5) = \frac{\text{one outcome}}{\text{ALL possible outcome}} = \frac{\{5,4,3,2,1\}}{\{6,5,4,3,2,1\}} = \frac{5}{6} = 0.83$$

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❖ Ratio Representation

➤ Odds can be represented as (5:1)

➤ We say the odds are **better than even** (in your favor)

## Ranges for Odds and Probability

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$$0 \leq Odds \leq \infty$$

$$0 \leq Probability \leq 1$$

# Odds Ratio Example

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- Smokers, non-smokers study
- Interested in studying smoking/lung cancer, 2 groups
- Group 1 (Case Group) – Have lung cancer
  - ❖ 8 Smokers
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- How can we compare the odds?
- Conclusion:
  - ❖ The Case group was 6 times more likely to be a smoker
  - ❖ Making no claims about causation
  - ❖ Simply that people who have lung cancer are 6 times more likely to have smoked

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- ❖ “*The natural logarithm, formerly known as the hyperbolic logarithm, is the logarithm to the base e, where e is an irrational constant approximately equal to 2.718281828459.*”
- ❖ Describing **e** as “a constant approximately 2.71828...” is like calling **pi** “an irrational number, approximately equal to 3.1415...”. Sure, it’s true, but you completely missed the point.

➤ A Better way to think about  $\pi$  / e

❖  **$\pi$  is the ratio between circumference and diameter shared by all circles.** It is a fundamental ratio inherent in all circles and therefore impacts any calculation of circumference, area, volume, and surface area for circles, spheres, cylinders, and so on. (not to mention the trigonometric functions derived from circles (sin, cos, tan)).

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- ❖ **e shows up whenever systems grow exponentially and continuously:** population, radioactive decay, interest calculations, and more.
- ❖ Just like every number can be considered a scaled version of 1 (the base unit), every circle can be considered a scaled version of the unit circle (radius 1), and every rate of growth can be considered a scaled version of e (unit growth, perfectly compounded).

# Exponential Growth

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## ➤ *Understanding Exponential Growth*

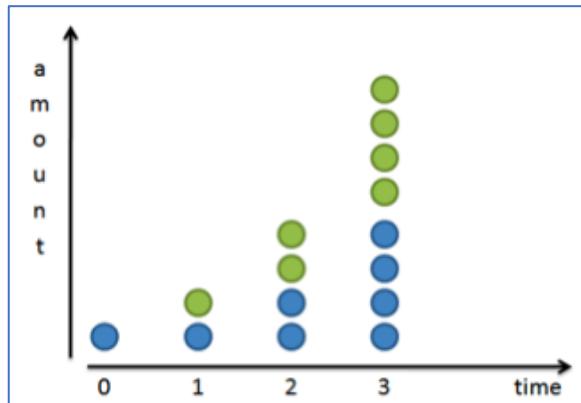
- ❖ Let's look at a basic system that **doubles** after an amount of time. For example,
- ❖ Bacteria can split and “doubles” every 24 hours
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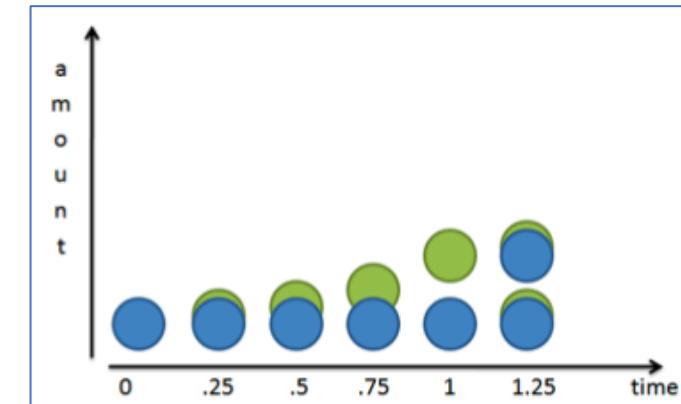
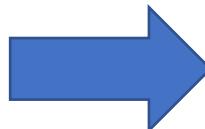
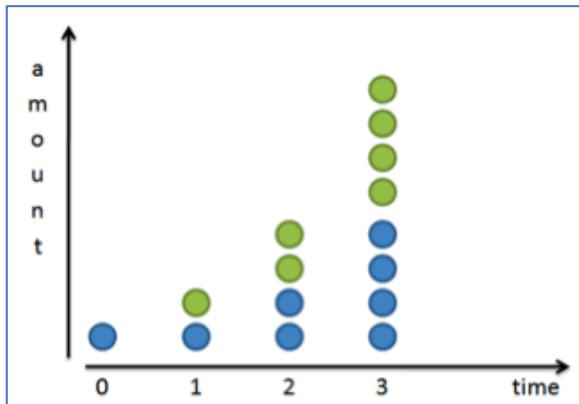


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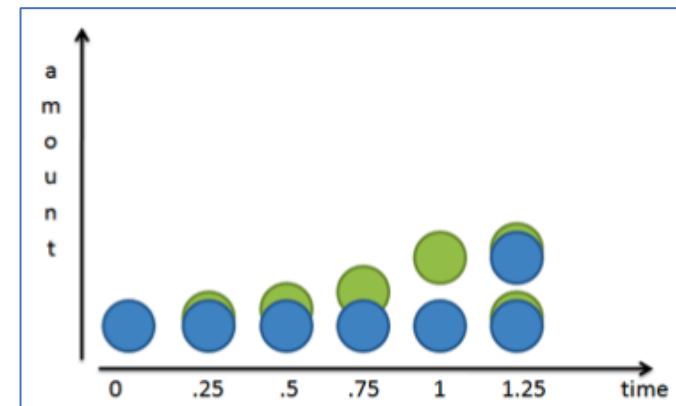
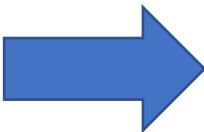
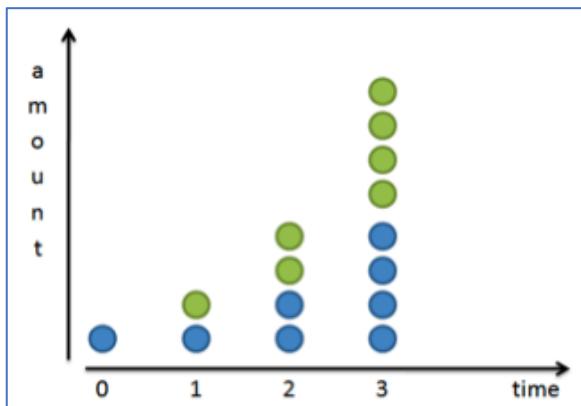
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# The secret to $e$

## ➤ *The big secret: $e$ merges rate and time*

- ❖ This is wild,  $e^x$  can mean two things:
- ❖  $x$  is the number of times we multiply a growth rate: 100% growth for 3 years is  $e^3$
- ❖  $x$  is the growth rate itself: 300% growth for one year is  $e^3$



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➤ And now you know why it's "e", and not pi or some other number:  $e$  raised to " $r*t$ " gives you the growth impact of rate  $r$  and time  $t$ .

$$\text{growth} = e^x = e^{rt}$$

# Demystifying the Natural Logarithm (ln)

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- After understanding the exponential function, the next component required for logistic regression is the natural log
- If you look-up the Wikipedia definition, it's "the inverse of  $e^x$ "
- e and the Natural Log are twins:
  - ❖  $e^x$  is the **amount** of continuous growth after a certain amount of time.
  - ❖ Natural Log (ln) is the amount of **time** needed to reach a certain level of continuous growth

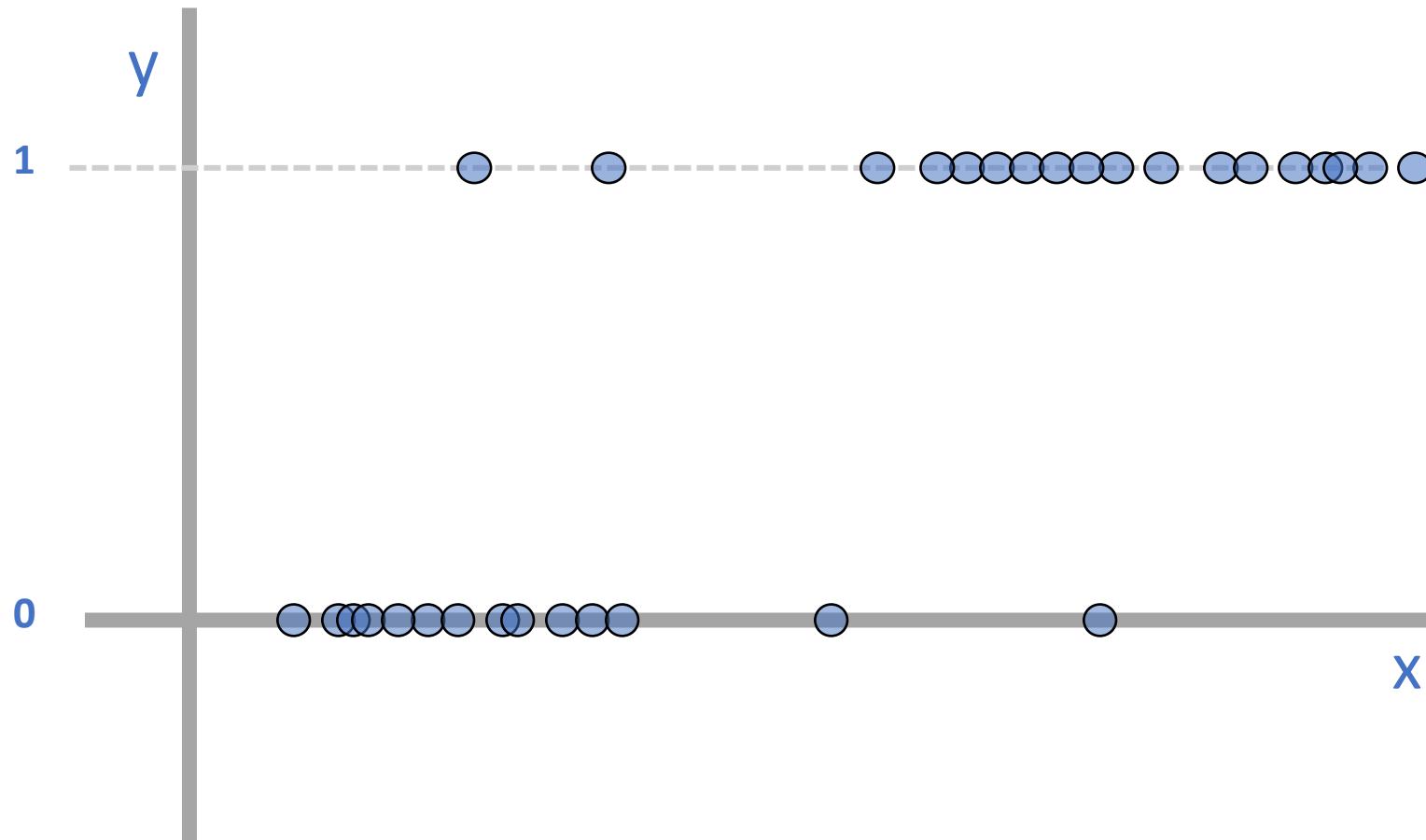
# Logistic Regression

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- When we think of linear regression, we usually think of predicting a numeric quantity
- Logistic Regression is somewhat misleading in that it serves primarily as a binary classification model
- Categorical response ( $y$ ) with 2 levels (binary: 0 and 1)
  - ❖ Passing or failing a test
  - ❖ Surviving a plane crash or not
  - ❖ Hospitalisation required or not
  - ❖ Diagnosis of diabetes (yes / no)
  - ❖ Labelling (over/under some threshold)
- Predictor variables ( $x_i$ ) can take on any form: binary, categorical, and/or continuous

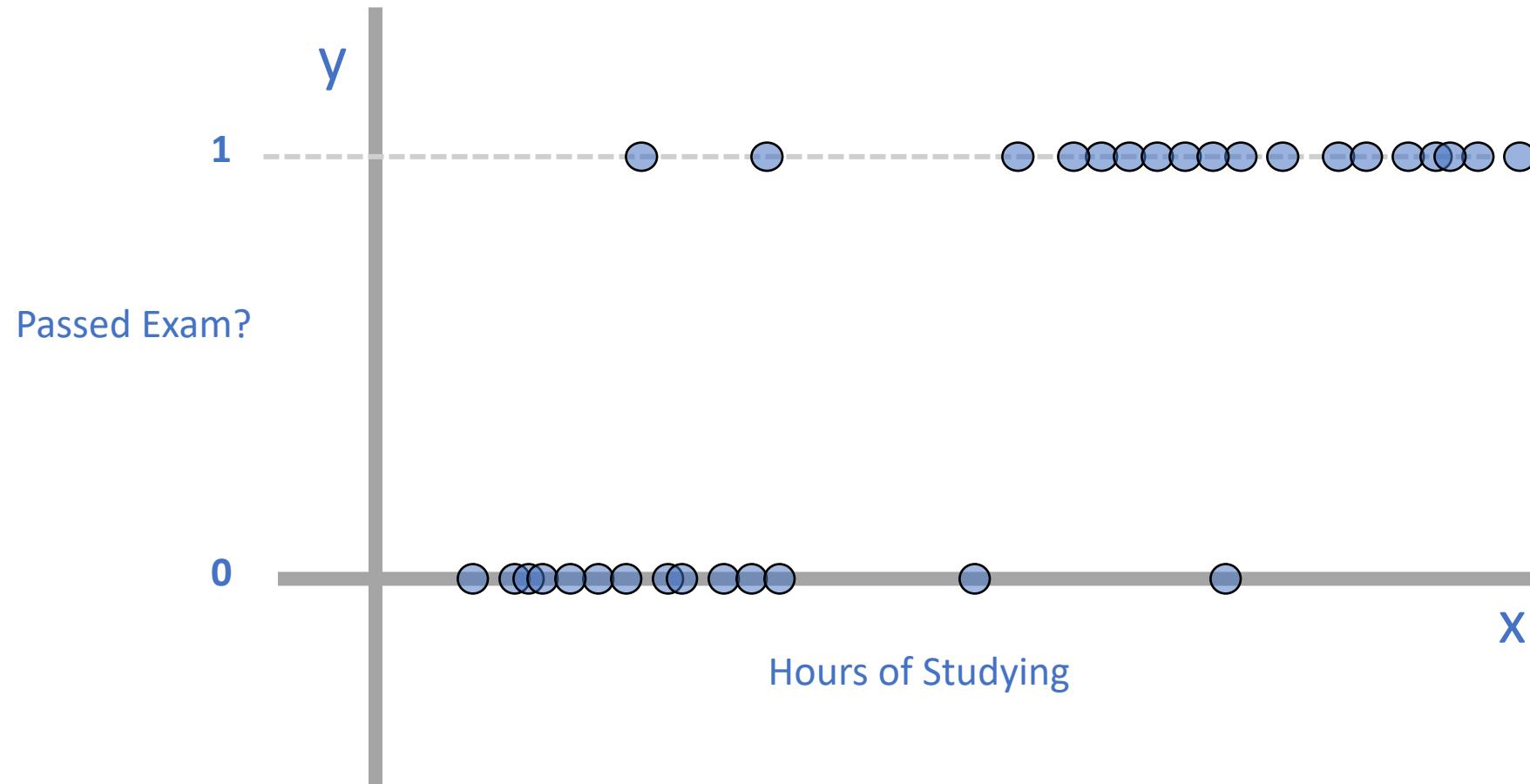
# Logistic Regression Classification

Consider this set of binary data



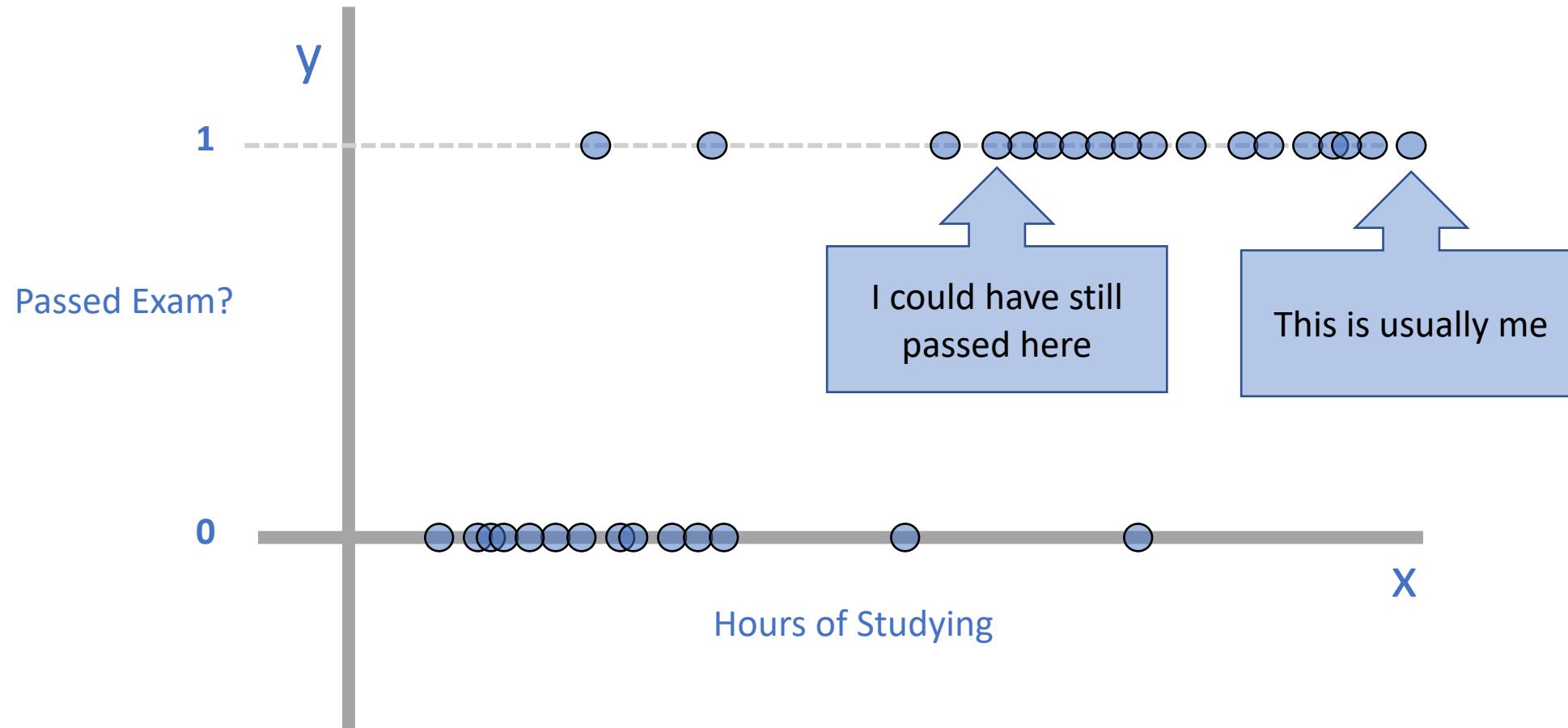
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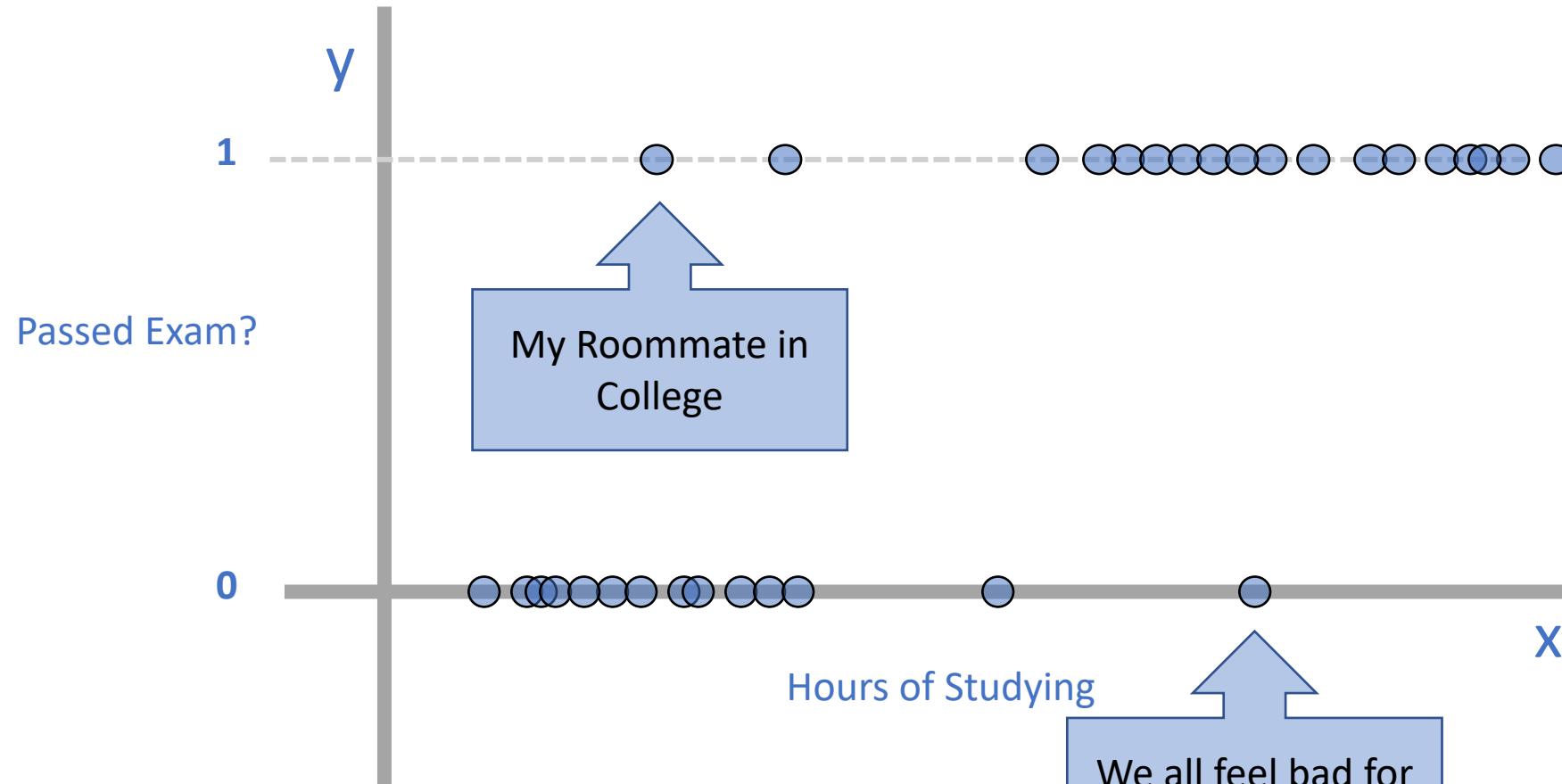
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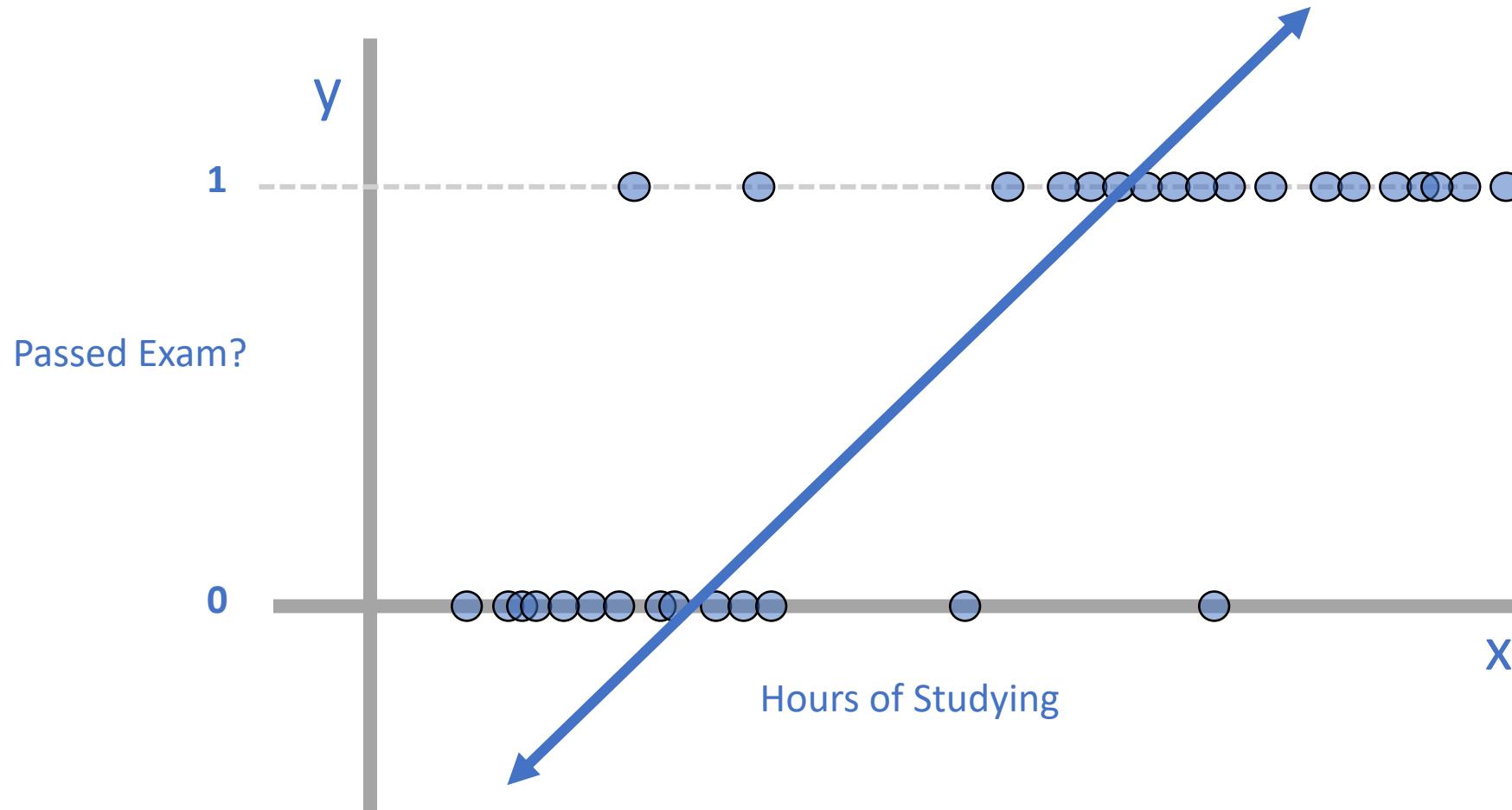
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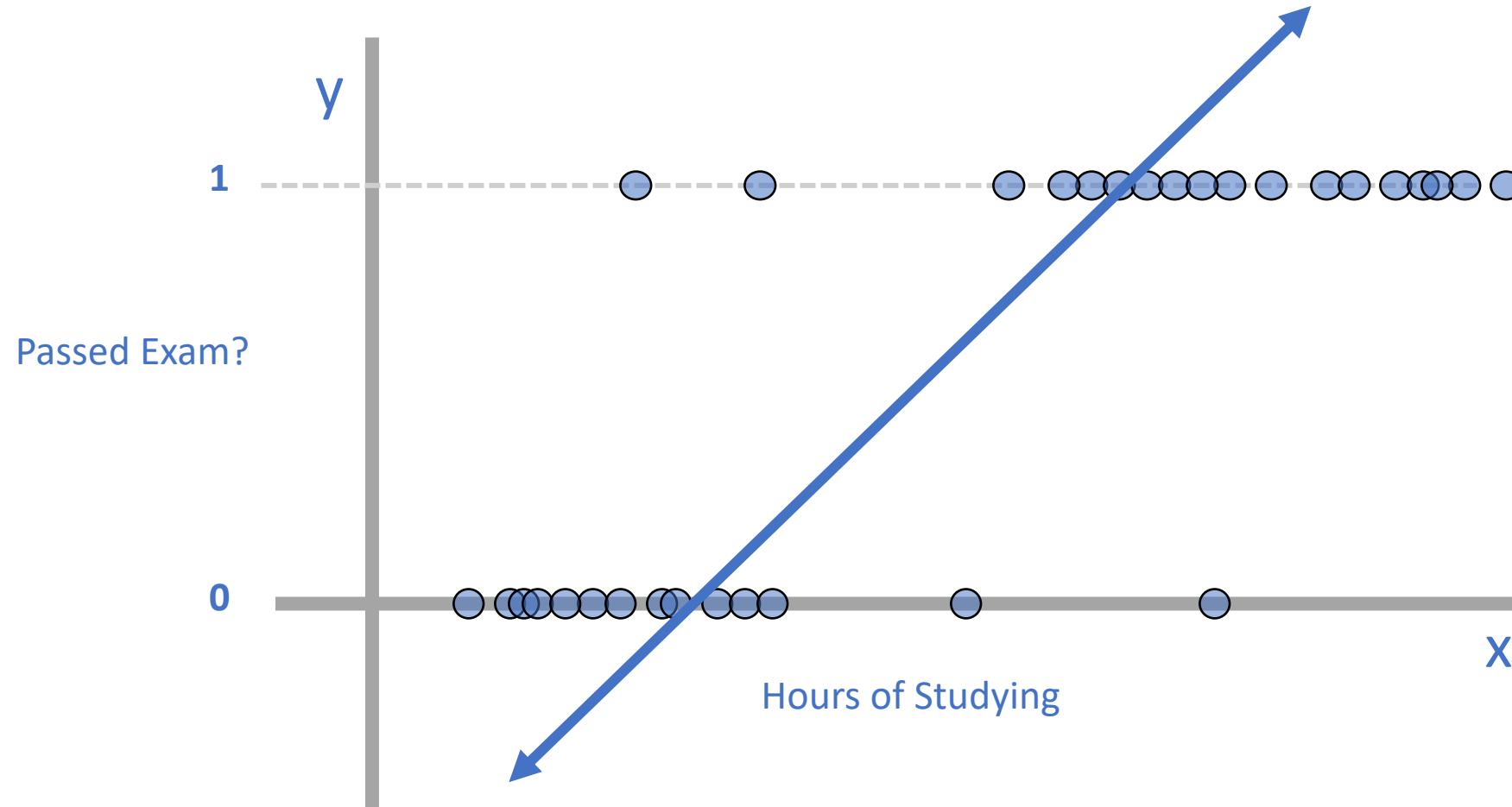
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➤ Linear Model? – Aside from being binary, there's nothing special about (y)



# Logistic Regression Classification

➤ The value of “Passed Exam” is higher if a student studies more



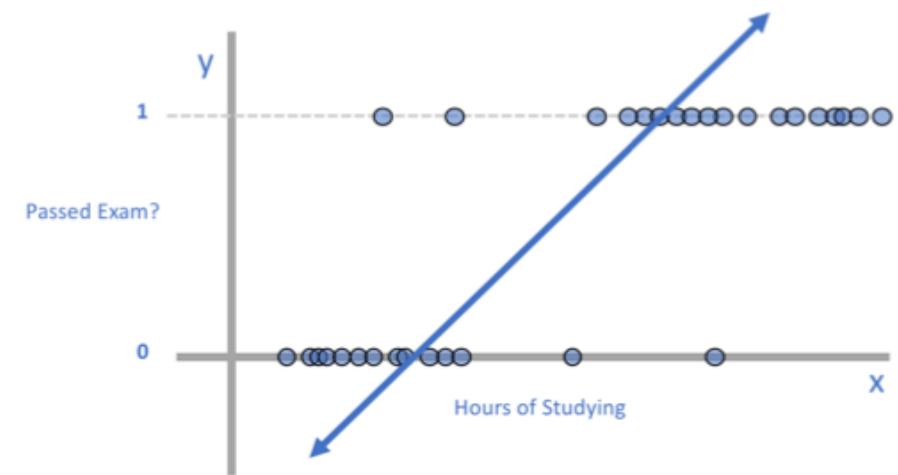
# Logistic Regression Classification

## ➤ Linear Model

$$\diamond Pass = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{hours of studying} + \varepsilon$$

## ➤ Problem

- ❖ We want to see what makes the dependent variable change from a 0 to a 1
- ❖ This can also be interpreted as what increases the likelihood of passing, or  $P(\text{pass} = 1)$  which we can simply denote as  $p$ .
- ❖ We should then be able to re-write the linear model as
- ❖  $P(\text{pass} = 1) = p = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{hours of studying} + \varepsilon$
- ❖ Every additional hour of studying increases the probability of passing by  $x\%$

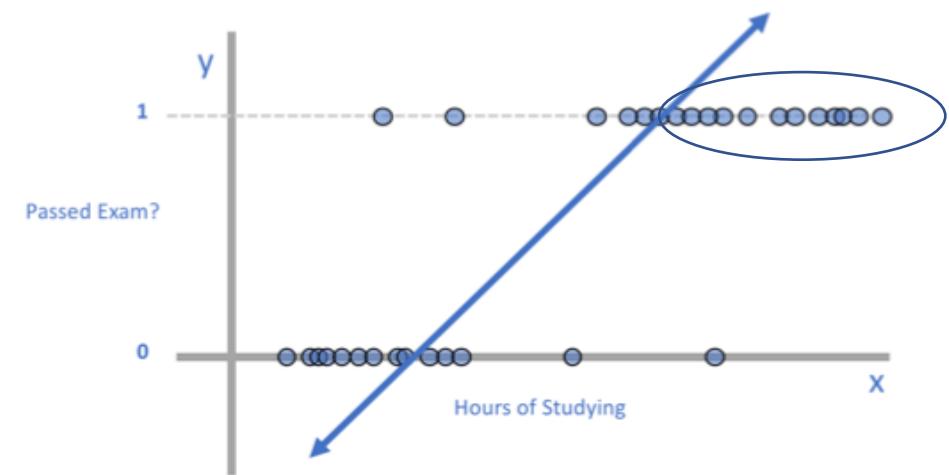


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$$P(\text{pass} = 1) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{hours of studying} + \varepsilon$$

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- ❖ If we were to look at students who studied this many hours, our model would predict a probability greater than 1

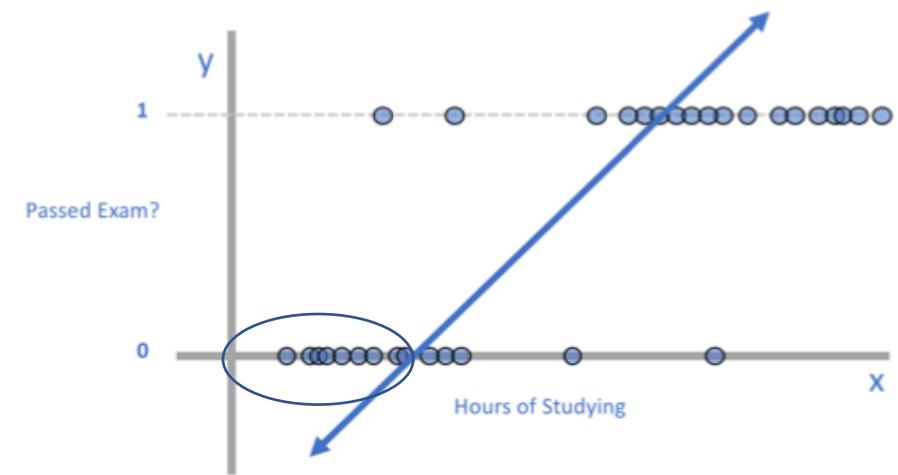


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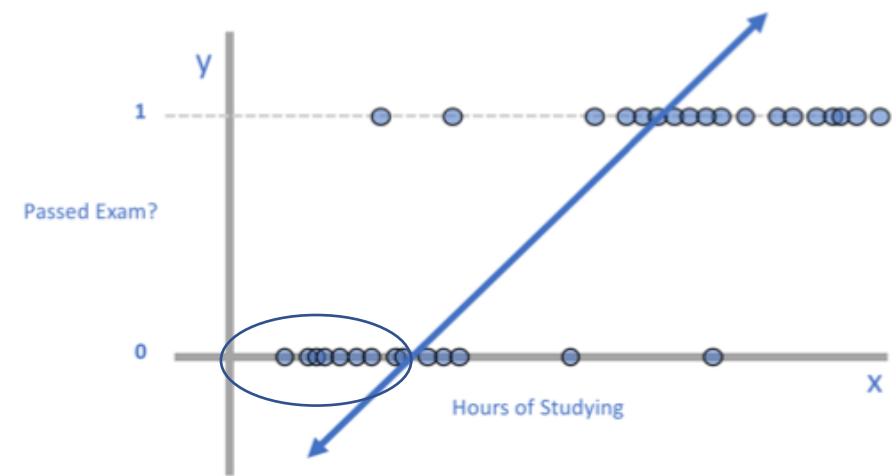
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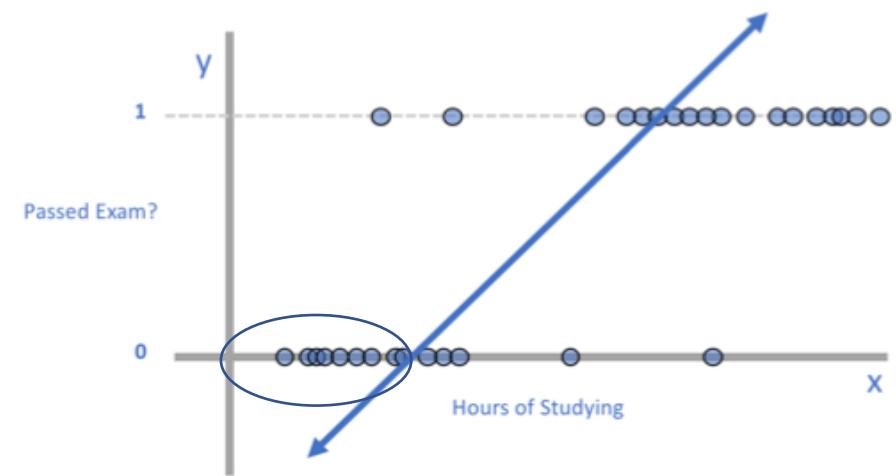
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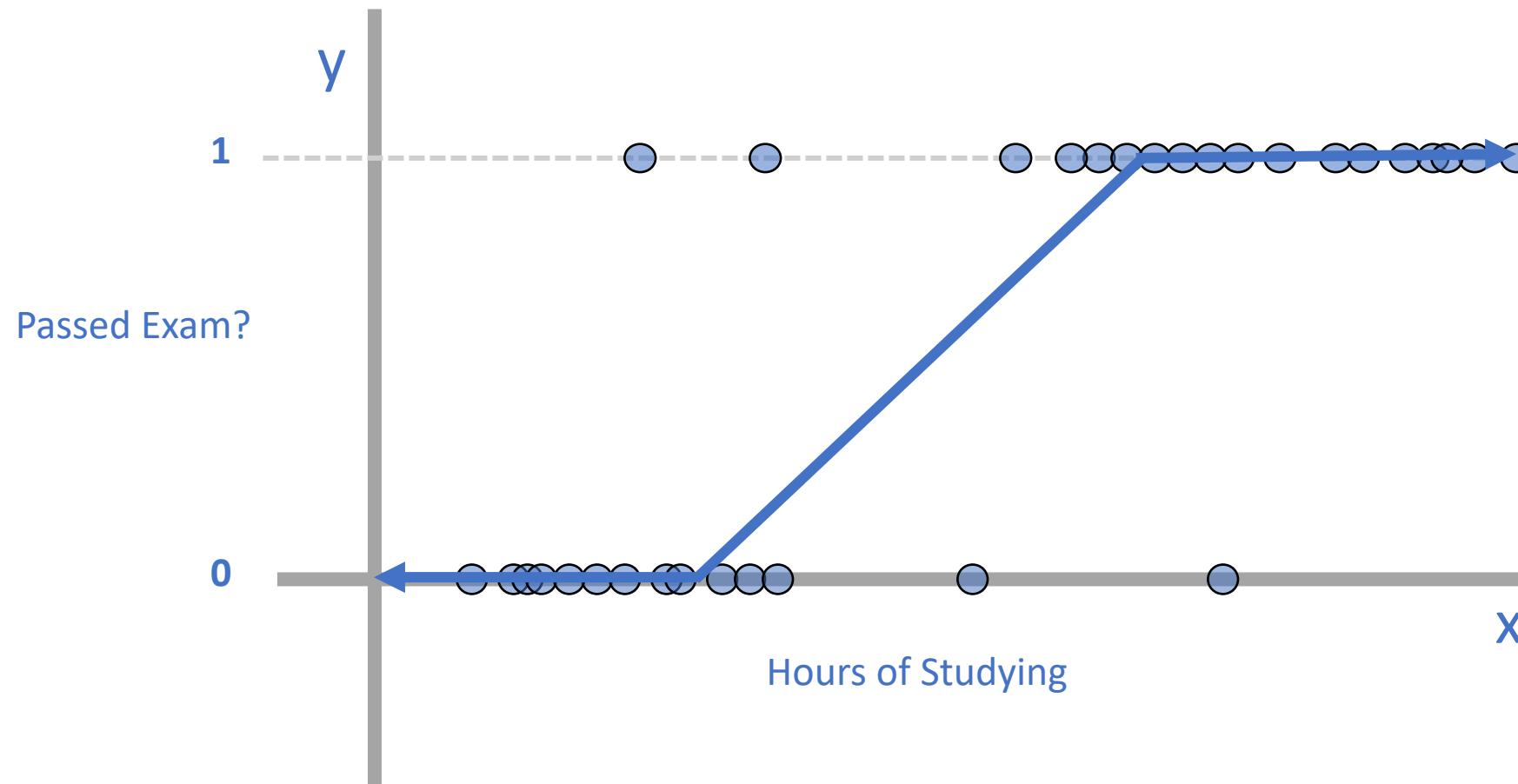
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➤ What can we do to fix this?



# Logistic Regression Classification

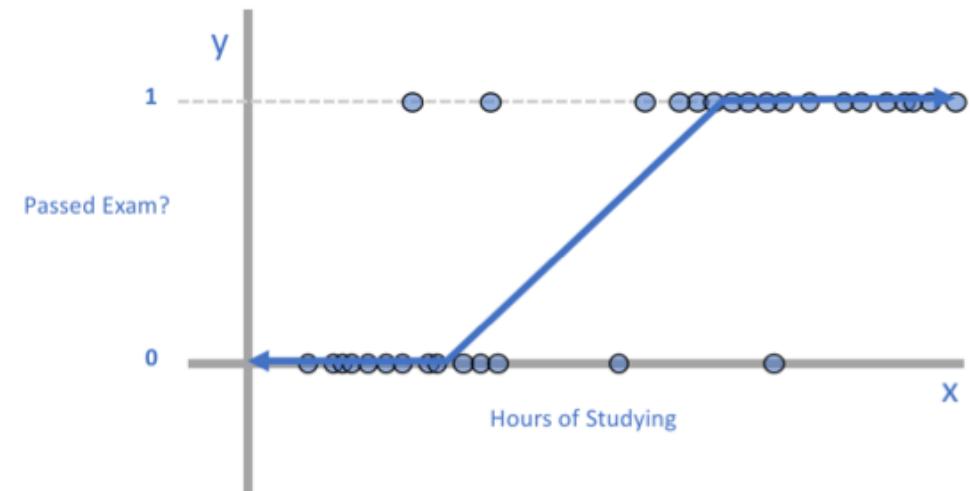
- We could cap the probabilities at 0 and 1



# Logistic Regression Classification

## ➤ Fixing the prior approach

- ❖ We need to somehow constrain  $p$  such that  $0 \leq p \leq 1$
- ❖ We know  $P(\text{pass}) = f(\text{hours of studying})$  but the linear function didn't work
- ❖ Let's try to develop a new function  $f(\text{hours of studying})$  that satisfies this criteria



# Logistic Regression Classification

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## ➤ Two Steps

1. It must always be positive (since  $0 \leq p(\text{pass})$ )

- $|x|$  ?
- $x^2$  ?
- What about  $p(\text{pass}) = e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}}$  ?

➤ This works, but there are times when it would be greater than 1

2. It must always be less than 1 ( $p(\text{pass}) \leq 1$ )

- If you think about proportions, any number that is divided by a number slightly greater than it will give us a number smaller than 1
- What if we just add 1 to the denominator?

$$p(\text{pass}) = \frac{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}})}{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}}) + 1}$$

- Note that we could have added any small number ( $\varepsilon$ ) and this condition would have been met, but we use 1 for reasons that will become clear shortly

# Logistic Regression Classification

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➤ The previous expression:

$$p(\text{pass}) = p = \frac{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}})}{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}}) + 1}$$

➤ After applying some algebra, can be re-written as:

$$\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}$$

# Logistic Regression Classification

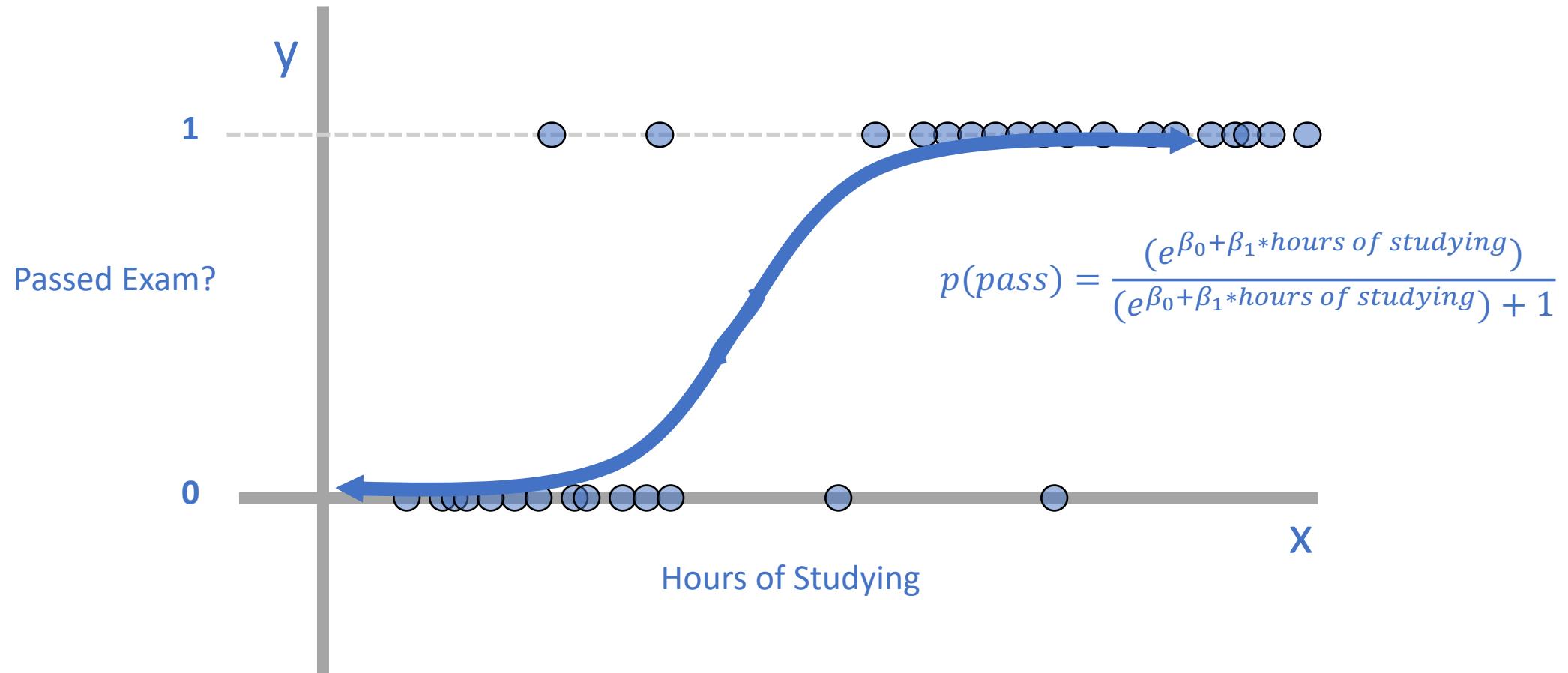
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$$\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{hours of studying}$$

- Does this look familiar?
  - ❖ Yes!
  - ❖ It's in the form of a standard linear model
- So, even though the probability of a student passing is not a linear function of study-hours, the simple transformation is a linear function of study-hours
- This is the equation used in logistic regression

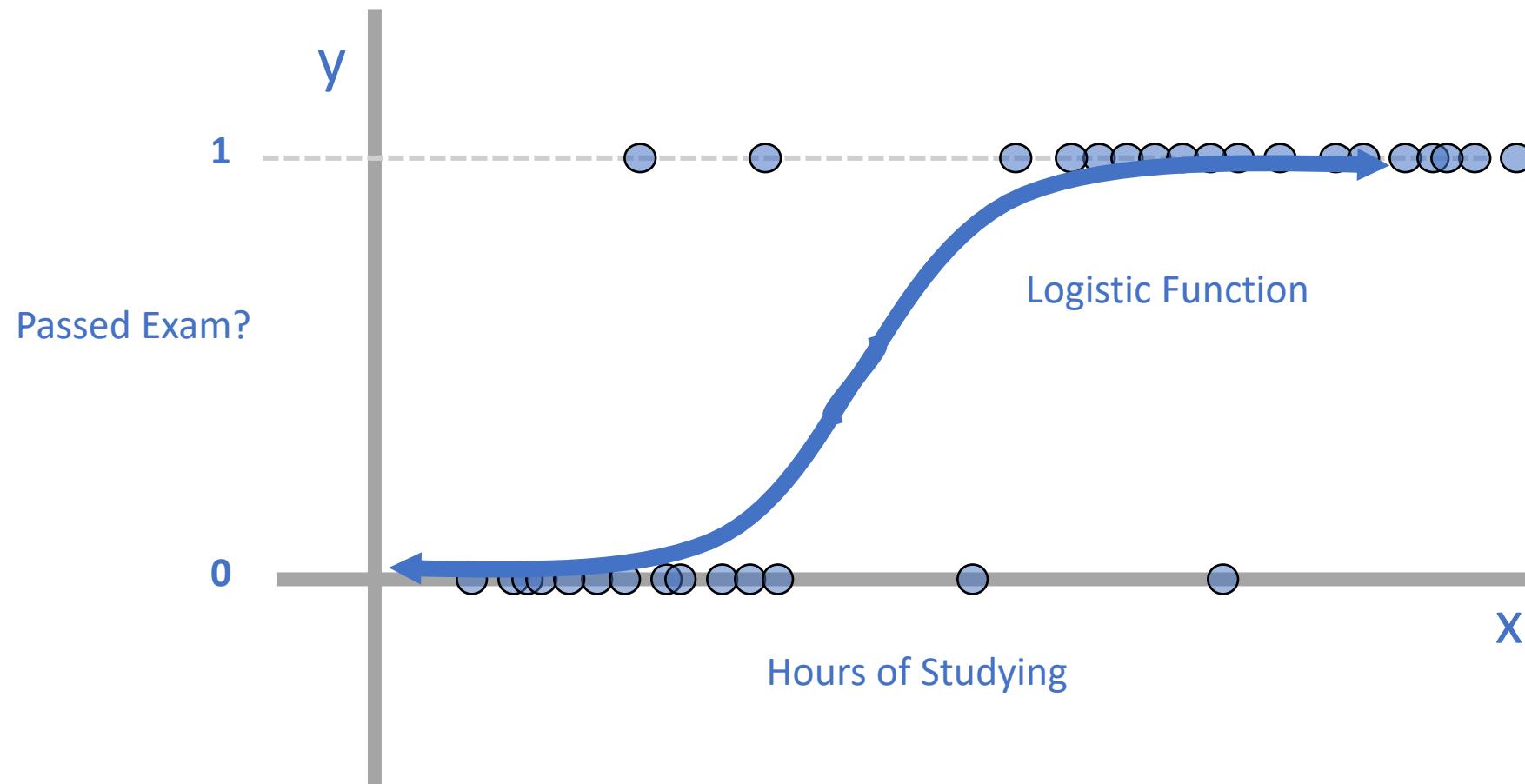
# Logistic Regression Classification

## Logistic Regression



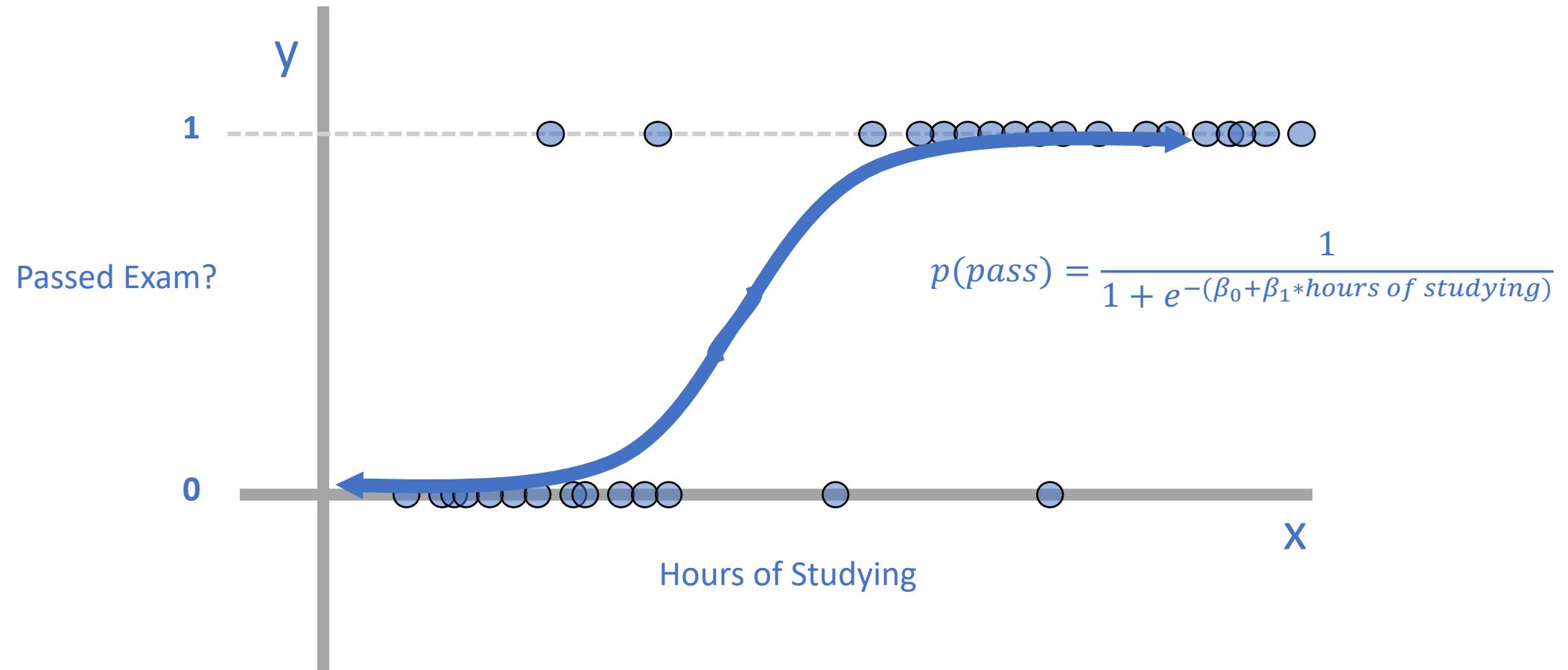
# Logistic Regression Classification

## Logistic Regression



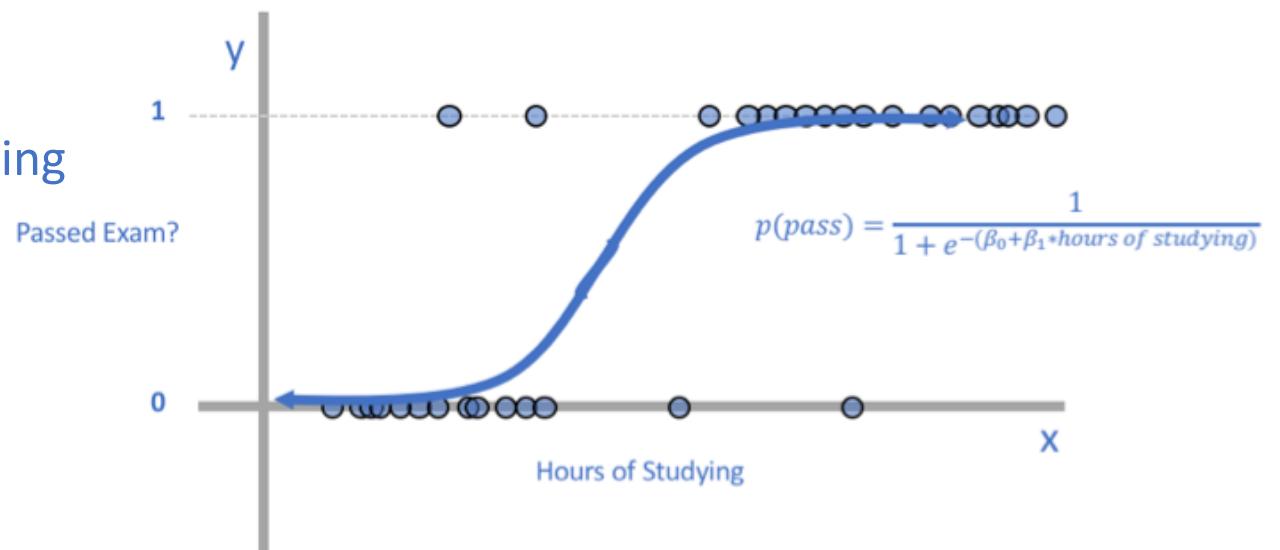
# Logistic Regression Classification

## Logistic Regression



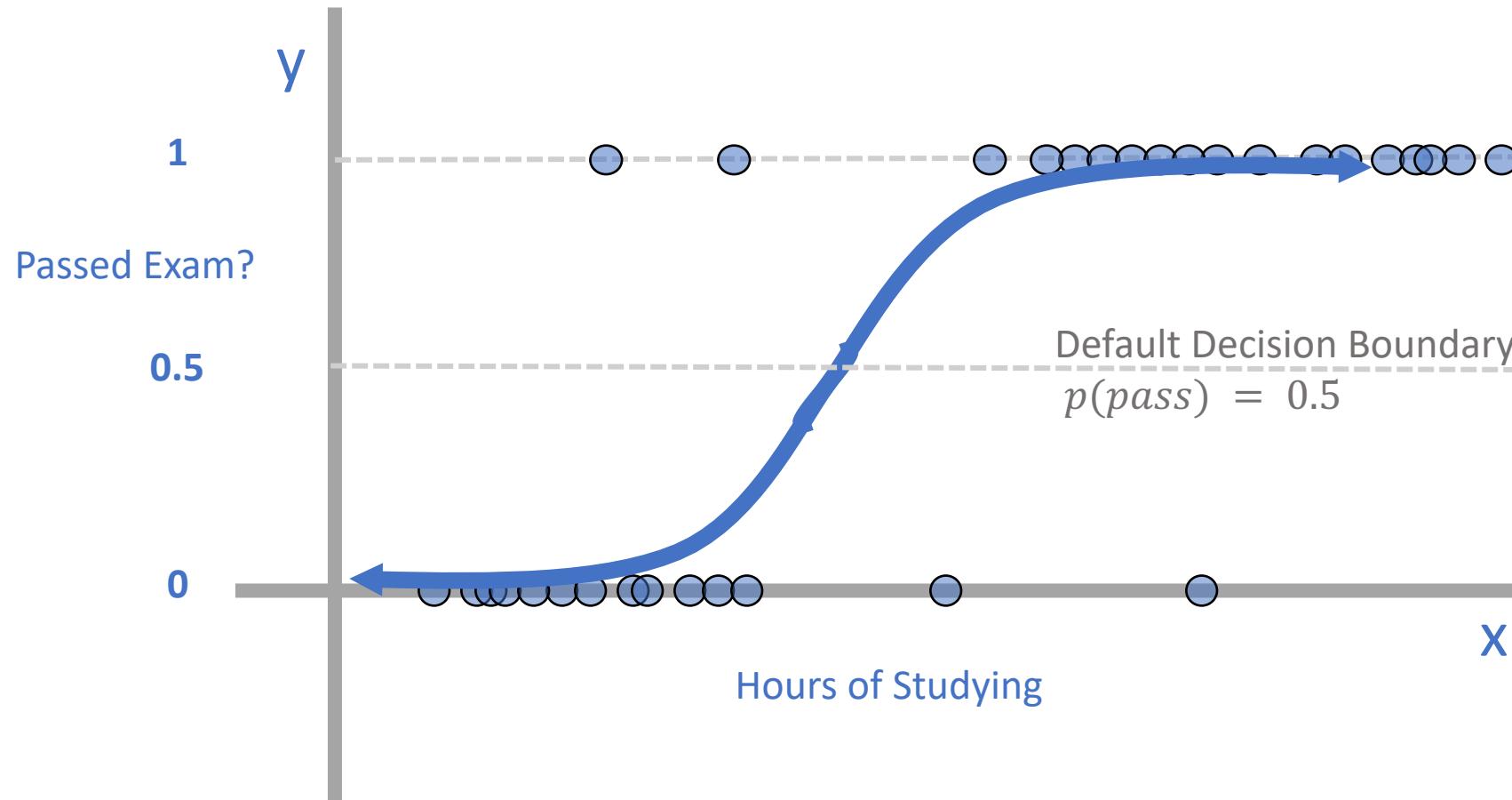
# Logistic Regression Classification

- Note that the probability of passing is now between 0 and 1
  - ❖  $0 \leq p \leq 1$
- We now have a continuous function
- As study-hours approach 0, the probability of passing goes (asymptotically) to zero
- As study-hours approach infinity, probability of passing goes (asymptotically) to 1



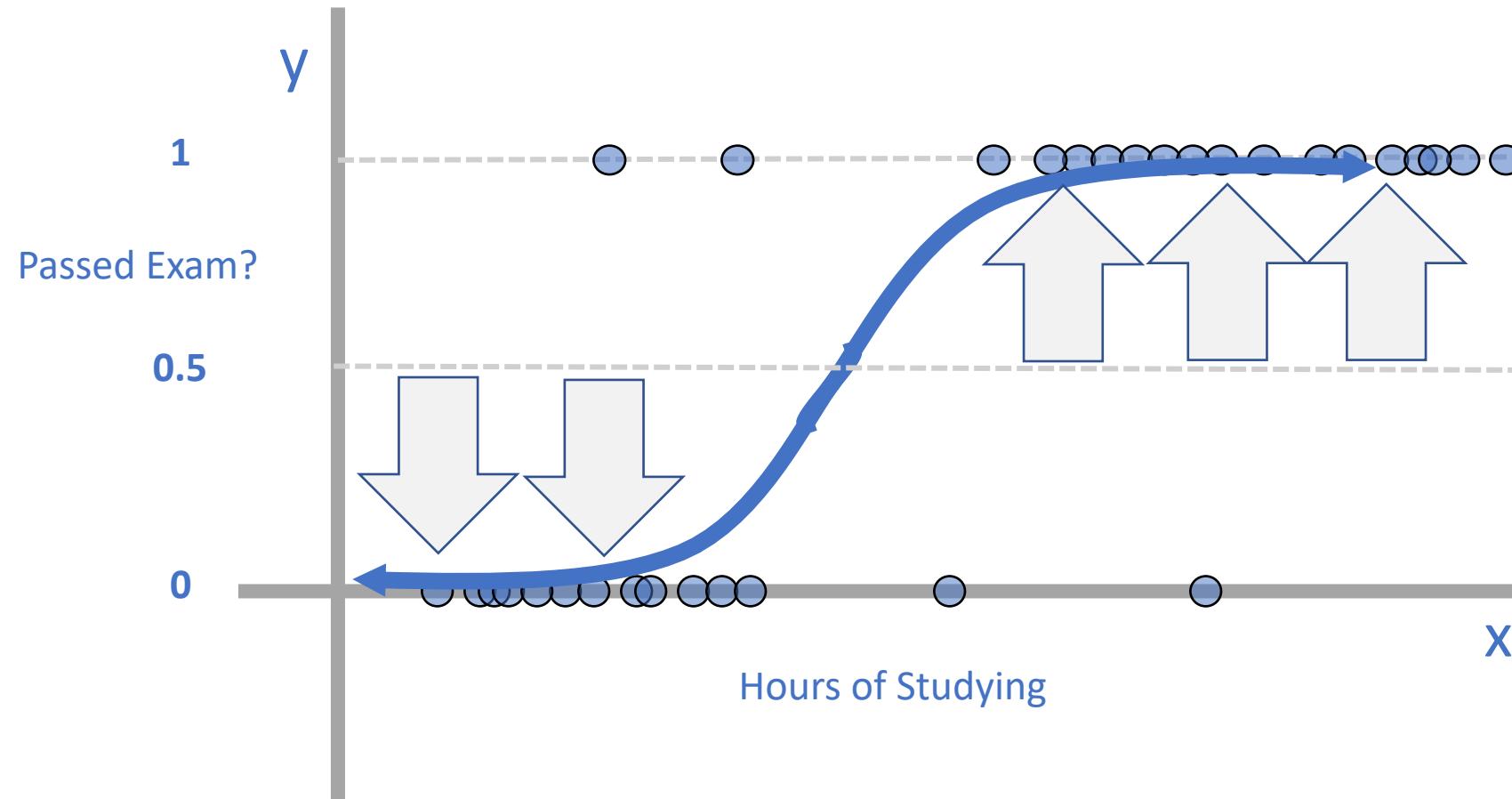
# Logistic Regression Classification

## Decision Boundary



# Logistic Regression Classification

## Decision Boundary



# Interpreting Binary Logistic Regression Model Output

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- Interpreting the coefficients from a Logistic Regression model is different from a Linear Regression model
- Consider these results from a fitted logistic regression model
  - ❖  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * study\_hrs$
  - ❖  $\beta_0 = -4.077$
  - ❖  $\beta_1 = 1.5046$

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  - ❖ For every additional unit increase in  $study\_hrs$ ,  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)$  increases by 1.5046 units?
  - ❖ But what does that mean?

# Interpreting Binary Logistic Regression Model Output

➤ If we have

$$y^* = \text{logit} = \ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{study\_hrs}$$

➤  $y^*$  is called the “logit” function

❖ A logit is defined as the natural log of the odds

➤ Exponentiating both sides of equation results in:

$$\frac{p}{1-p} = e^{(\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{study\_hrs})}$$

➤ We can exponentiate each of the coefficients to generate their corresponding odds ratios

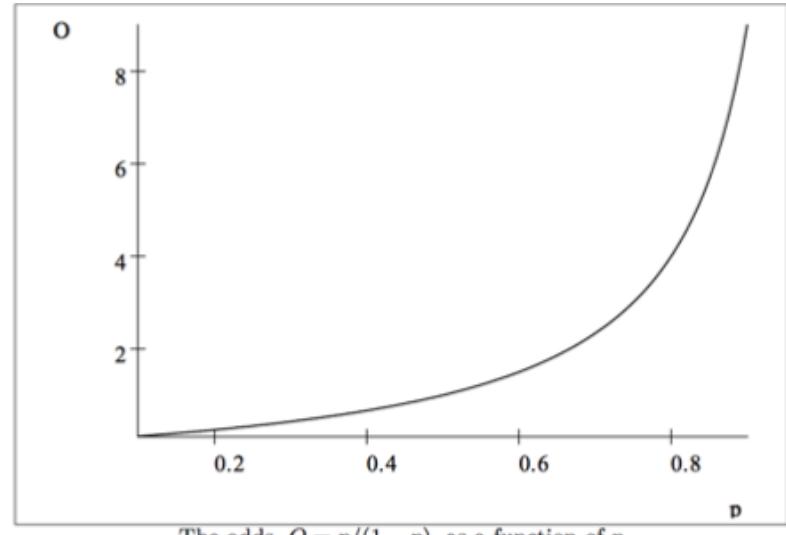
# Interpreting Binary Logistic Regression Model Output

## ➤ Odds

$$Odds(O) = \frac{P}{1 - P}$$

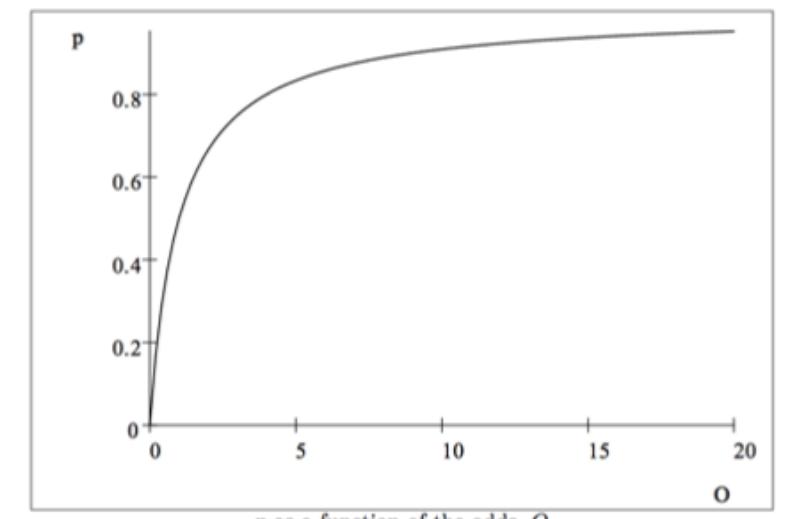
❖ The odds ratio tells you how a unit increase or decrease in the corresponding input variable affects the odds of passing the test

- When the odds ratio is greater than 1, it describes a positive relationship
- An odds ratio less than 1 implies a negative relationship



The odds,  $O = p/(1 - p)$ , as a function of  $p$

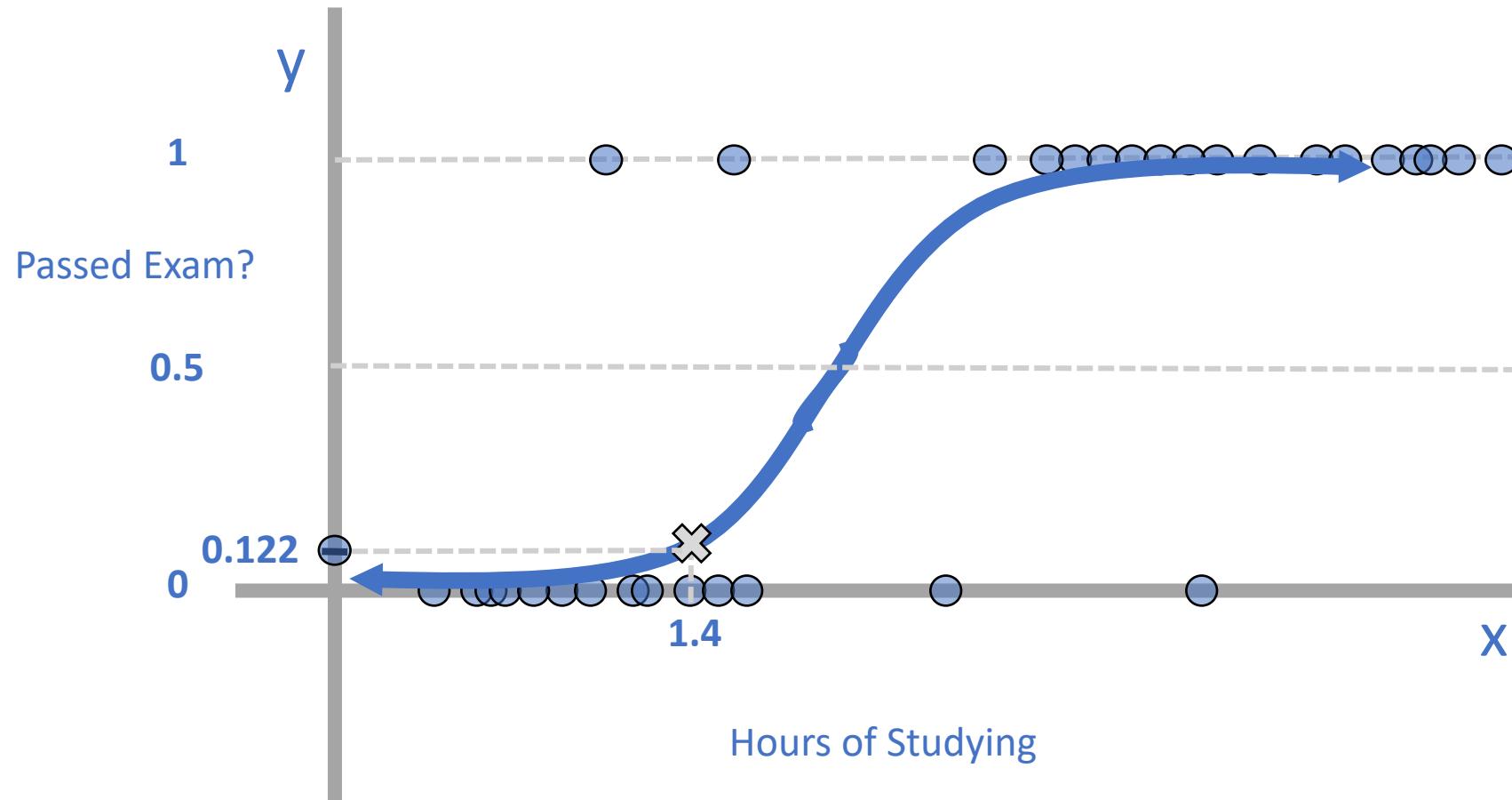
Note that  $0 \leq O$ , and  $O$  is undefined for  $p = 1$ . Solving  $O = \frac{p}{1-p}$  for  $p$ ,  
 $p = \frac{O}{(O+1)}$



$p$  as a function of the odds,  $O$

# Logistic Regression Classification

## Visualizing the Logistic Regression Model



# Logistic Regression Classification

- If a student only prepares 1.4 hours for the test

- ❖  $study\_hours=1.4$

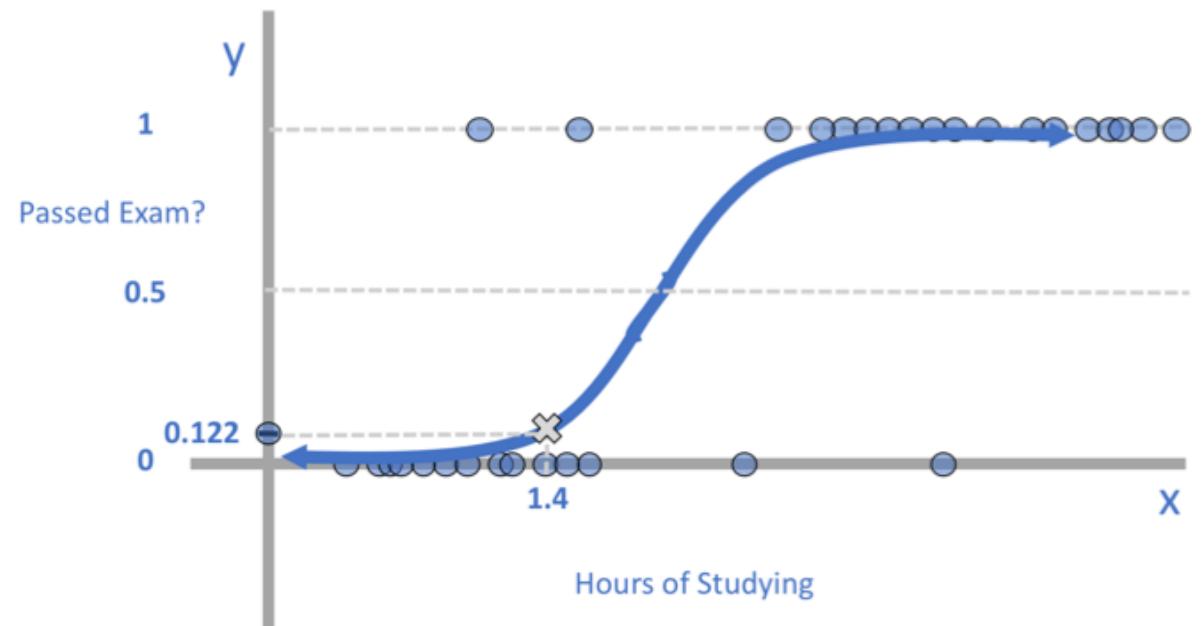
- ❖  $\beta_0 = -4.077$

- ❖  $\beta_1 = 1.5046$

$$p(\text{pass}) = \frac{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{studyhrs}})}{(e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{studyhrs}}) + 1}$$

$$p(\text{pass}) = \frac{(e^{-4.077 + 1.5046 * 1.4})}{(e^{-4.077 + 1.5046 * 1.4}) + 1} = 0.122$$

- Our model predicts a probability of passing of 12.2%
- This falls below the 0.5 threshold and results in a prediction of failing the exam



# Logistic Regression Example

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