

Optimization applied 1.5:

Maximum likelihood estimation continued

Marcin Lewandowski

November 28, 2024

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3. And want to estimate the underlying parameter p .

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We have defined the likelihood function:

- y_i are independent
- The likelihood of observing $\mathbf{y} = \{1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0\}$ is:

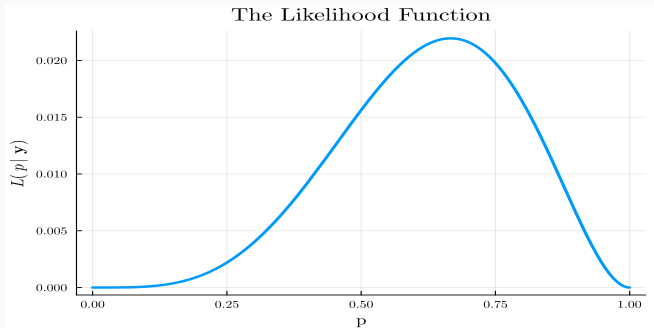
$$L(p \mid \mathbf{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^6 p^{y_i} (1 - p)^{1 - y_i}$$

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Necessary condition for maxima:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \log(L(p | \mathbf{y}))}{\partial p} &= 0 \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}{p} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (1-y_i)}{1-p} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

But what if we want to model the probability:

How to model *probability* of a binary outcome, $Y \in \{0, 1\}$.

Recall that Y can be:

- Whether a person has a disease or not
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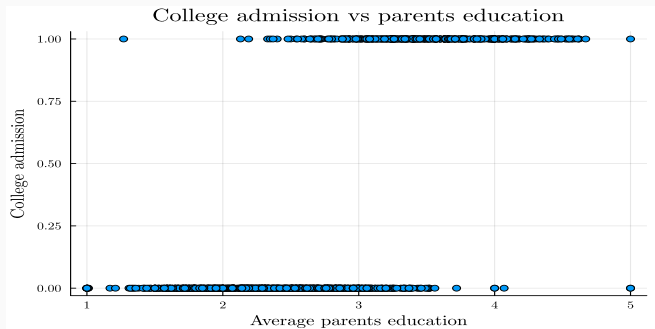
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Making it more concrete:

Suppose you were asked to model the relationship between the probability of getting to college and the (average) parents education.

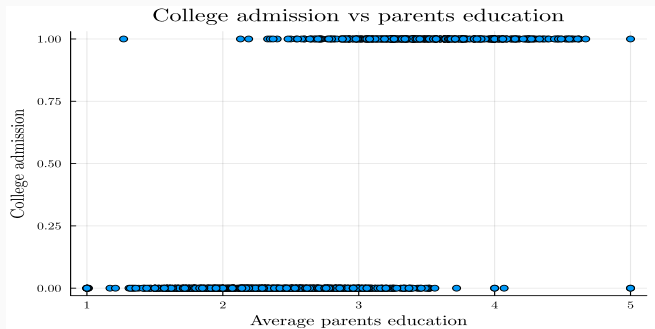
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In this case:

- Y is whether a person gets to college or not
- x is the average parents education

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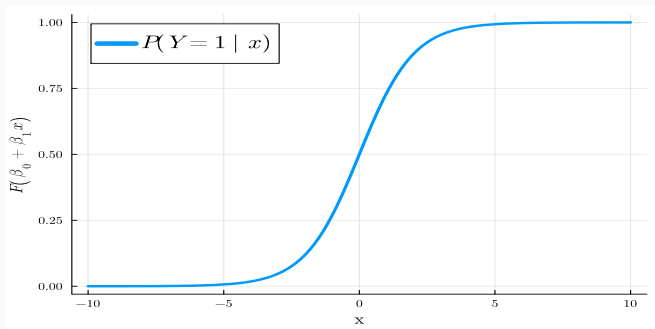
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$$\begin{aligned}P(y = 1 \mid x) &= F(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x) \\&= \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}} \\&= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}} + 1}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}P(y = 1 \mid x) &= 1 - F(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x) \\&= 1 - \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}} \\&= \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x}}\end{aligned}$$

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Suppose we want to know the probability of $Y = y_i$, where $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$.

$$P(Y = y_i | x_i) = P(Y = y_i | x)^{y_i} P(Y = 1 - y_i | x)^{1-y_i}$$

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The likelihood function is:

$$L(\beta_0, \beta_1 | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right)^{y_i} \left(\frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right)^{1-y_i}$$

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For example, suppose we have 3 observations:

- $y = [1, 0, 1]$
- $x = [5, 2, 1]$

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The log likelihood function:

Given:

$$L(\beta_0, \beta_1 \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right)^{y_i} \left(\frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right)^{1-y_i}$$

The log likelihood function is:

$$\log(L(\beta_0, \beta_1 \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ y_i \log \left(\frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right) + (1 - y_i) \log \left(\frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}} \right) \right\}$$

The log likelihood function

Note that if needed one can split the log likelihood function into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned}\log(L(\beta_0, \beta_1 \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})) &= \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \underbrace{\log\left(\frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}\right)}_{\text{The first part}} \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^N (1 - y_i) \underbrace{\log\left(\frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i}}\right)}_{\text{The second part}}\end{aligned}$$