

# Lecture 29: Poisson Regression

Pratheepa Jeganathan

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# Recap

- ▶ What is a regression model?
- ▶ Descriptive statistics – graphical
- ▶ Descriptive statistics – numerical
- ▶ Inference about a population mean
- ▶ Difference between two population means
- ▶ Some tips on R
- ▶ Simple linear regression (covariance, correlation, estimation, geometry of least squares)
  - ▶ Inference on simple linear regression model
  - ▶ Goodness of fit of regression: analysis of variance.
  - ▶  $F$ -statistics.
  - ▶ Residuals.
  - ▶ Diagnostic plots for simple linear regression (graphical methods).

# Recap

- ▶ Multiple linear regression
  - ▶ Specifying the model.
  - ▶ Fitting the model: least squares.
  - ▶ Interpretation of the coefficients.
  - ▶ Matrix formulation of multiple linear regression
  - ▶ Inference for multiple linear regression
    - ▶  $T$ -statistics revisited.
    - ▶ More  $F$  statistics.
    - ▶ Tests involving more than one  $\beta$ .
- ▶ Diagnostics – more on graphical methods and numerical methods
  - ▶ Different types of residuals
  - ▶ Influence
  - ▶ Outlier detection
  - ▶ Multiple comparison (Bonferroni correction)
  - ▶ Residual plots:
    - ▶ partial regression (added variable) plot,
    - ▶ partial residual (residual plus component) plot.

# Recap

- ▶ Adding qualitative predictors
  - ▶ Qualitative variables as predictors to the regression model.
  - ▶ Adding interactions to the linear regression model.
  - ▶ Testing for equality of regression relationship in various subsets of a population
- ▶ ANOVA
  - ▶ All qualitative predictors.
  - ▶ One-way layout
  - ▶ Two-way layout
- ▶ Transformation
  - ▶ Achieving linearity
  - ▶ Stabilize variance
  - ▶ Weighted least squares
- ▶ Correlated Errors
  - ▶ Generalized least squares
- ▶ Bootstrapping linear regression
- ▶ Selection

# Recap

- ▶ Colliniarity
  - ▶ Bias-variance tradeoff
  - ▶ Penalized Regression
    - ▶ Ridge
    - ▶ LASSO
    - ▶ Elastic net
- ▶ Generalized linear regression
  - ▶ Logistic regression
  - ▶ Probit model

# Outline (Poisson regression)

- ▶ Contingency tables.
- ▶ Log-linear regression.
- ▶ Log-linear regression as a generalized linear model.

## Count data

► Example: Afterlife

Men and women were asked whether they believed in the after life (1991 General Social Survey).

Y	N or U	Total	
M	435	147	582
F	375	134	509
Total	810	281	1091



Question: is belief in the afterlife independent of gender?

# Poisson counts

- ▶ Definition

- ▶ A random variable  $Y$  is a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda$  if

$$P(Y = j) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^j}{j!}, \quad \forall j \geq 0.$$

- ▶ Some simple calculations show that  $E(Y) = \text{Var}(Y) = \lambda$ .
    - ▶ Poisson models for counts are analogous to Gaussian for continuous outcomes – they appear in many common models.



# Contingency table

- ▶ Model:  $Y_{ij} \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_{ij})$ .
- ▶ Null (independence):  
 $H_0 : \lambda_{ij} = \delta \cdot \alpha_i \cdot \beta_j, \sum_i \alpha_i = 1, \sum_j \beta_j = 1$ .
- ▶ Alternative:  $H_a : \lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^+$
- ▶ Test statistic: Pearson's  $\chi^2$  :  $\chi^2 = \sum_{ij} \frac{(Y_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}} \stackrel{H_0}{\approx} \chi_1^2$
- ▶ Here  $E_{ij}$  is the estimated expected value under independence.
- ▶ Why 1 df ? Independence model has 5 parameters, two constraints = 3 df. Unrestricted has 4 parameters.
- ▶ This is actually a *regression model* for the count data.

```
Y = c(435,147,375,134)
S = factor(c('M','M','F','F'))
B = factor(c('Y','N','Y','N'))

N = sum(Y)
piS = c((435+147)/N,(375+134)/N)
piB = c((435+375)/N,(147+134)/N)

E = N*c(piS[1]*piB[1], piS[1]*piB[2], piS[2]*piB[1], piS[2]*piB[2])
# Pearson's  $\chi^2$ 
X2 = sum((Y - E)^2/E)
c(X2, 1-pchisq(X2,1))

## [1] 0.1620840 0.6872451
```

- ▶ The independence test is called `chisq.test` in R. Depending on whether one corrects or not, we get the  $X^2$  or a corrected version.

```
chisq.test(matrix(Y,2,2), correct=FALSE)
```

```
##
```

```
##  Pearson's Chi-squared test
```

```
##
```

```
## data:  matrix(Y, 2, 2)
```

```
## X-squared = 0.16208, df = 1, p-value = 0.6872
```

```
chisq.test(matrix(Y,2,2))
```

```
##
```

```
## Pearson's Chi-squared test with Yates' continuity correction
```

```
##
```

```
## data:  matrix(Y, 2, 2)
```

```
## X-squared = 0.11103, df = 1, p-value = 0.739
```

# Contingency table as regression model

- ▶ Under independence
$$\log(E(Y_{ij})) = \log \lambda_{ij} = \log \delta + \log \alpha_i + \log \beta_j$$
- ▶ OR, the model has a *log link*.
- ▶ What about the variance? Because of Poisson assumption
$$\text{Var}(Y_{ij}) = E(Y_{ij})$$
- ▶ OR, the *variance function* is  $V(\mu) = \mu$ .

The goodness of fit test can also be found using a glm.

```
summary(glm(Y ~ S + B, family=poisson()))
```

```
##
```

```
## Call:
```

```
## glm(formula = Y ~ S + B, family = poisson())
```

```
##
```

```
## Deviance Residuals:
```

```
##          1          2          3          4  
## 0.1394 -0.2377 -0.1494  0.2524
```

```
##
```

```
## Coefficients:
```

```
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)  
## (Intercept)  4.87595    0.06787  71.839   <2e-16 ***  
## SM          0.13402    0.06069   2.208   0.0272 *  
## BY          1.05868    0.06923  15.291   <2e-16 ***
```

```
## ---
```

```
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1
```

```
##
```

```
## (Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)
```

- ▶ This model has the same fitted values as we had computed by hand above.

```
fitted(glm(Y ~ S+B, family=poisson()))
```

```
##           1           2           3           4  
## 432.099 149.901 377.901 131.099
```

```
E
```

```
## [1] 432.099 149.901 377.901 131.099
```

- ▶ Here is the deviance test statistic.
- ▶ It is numerically close, but not identical to Pearson's  $X^2$  for this data.

```
DEV = sum(2*(Y*log(Y/E)+Y-E))  
c(X2, DEV)
```

```
## [1] 0.1620840 0.1619951
```



## Contingency table ( $k \times m$ )

- ▶ Suppose we had  $k$  categories on one axis,  $m$  on the other (i.e. previous example  $k = m = 2$ ). We call this as  $k \times m$  contingency table.
- ▶ Independence model ( $H_0$ ):  
 $\log(E(Y_{ij})) = \log \lambda_{ij} = \log \delta + \log \alpha_i + \log \beta_j$
- ▶ Test for independence: Pearson's

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{ij} \frac{(Y_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}} \stackrel{H_0}{\approx} \chi^2_{(k-1)(m-1)}$$

- ▶ Alternative test statistic  $G = 2 \sum_{ij} Y_{ij} \log \left( \frac{Y_{ij}}{E_{ij}} \right)$

# Independence tests

- ▶ Unlike in other cases, in this case the *full model* has as many parameters as observations (i.e. it's saturated).
- ▶ This test is known as a *goodness of fit* test.
- ▶ It tests: “how well does the independence model fit this data”?
- ▶ Unlike other tests we've seen, the deviance is the test statistic, not a difference of deviance.

# Lumber company example

- ▶  $Y$  : number of customers visiting store from region;
- ▶  $X_1$  : number of housing units in region;
- ▶  $X_2$  : average household income;
- ▶  $X_3$  : average housing unit age in region;
- ▶  $X_4$  : distance to nearest competitor;
- ▶  $X_5$  : distance to store in miles.

# Poisson (log-linear) regression model

- ▶ Given observations and covariates  $Y_i, X_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq p$ .
- ▶ Model:

$$Y_i \sim \text{Poisson} \left( \exp \left( \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j X_{ij} \right) \right)$$

- ▶ Poisson assumption implies the variance function is  $V(\mu) = \mu$ .

```
url = 'http://stats191.stanford.edu/data/lumber.table'  
lumber.table = read.table(url, header=T)  
lumber.glm = glm(Customers ~ Housing + Income +  
                  Age + Competitor + Store,  
                  family=poisson(), data=lumber.table)
```

```
summary(lumber.glm)
```

```
##
```

```
## Call:
```

```
## glm(formula = Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age + Competitor
```

```
##       Store, family = poisson(), data = lumber.table)
```

```
##
```

```
## Deviance Residuals:
```

```
##      Min      1Q   Median      3Q      Max
```

```
## -2.93195 -0.58868 -0.00009  0.59269  2.23441
```

```
##
```

```
## Coefficients:
```

```
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
```

```
## (Intercept)  2.942e+00  2.072e-01  14.198  < 2e-16 ***
```

```
## Housing      6.058e-04  1.421e-04   4.262  2.02e-05 ***
```

```
## Income      -1.169e-05  2.112e-06  -5.534  3.13e-08 ***
```

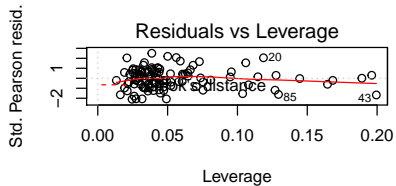
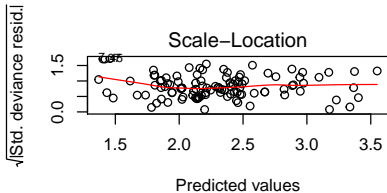
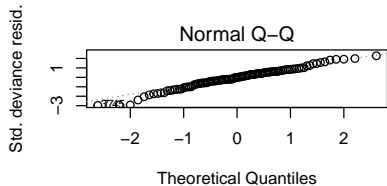
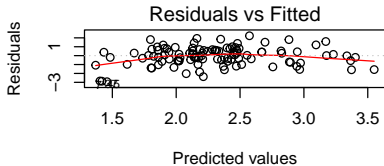
```
## Age         -3.726e-03  1.782e-03  -2.091   0.0365 *
```

```
## Competitor   1.684e-01  2.577e-02   6.534  6.39e-11 ***
```

```
## Store       -1.288e-01  1.620e-02  -7.948  1.89e-15 ***
```

```
## ---
```

```
par(mfrow=c(2,2))
plot(lumber.glm)
```



# Interpretation of coefficients

- ▶ The log-linear model means covariates have *multiplicative* effect.
- ▶ Log-linear model model:  $\frac{E(Y|\dots, X_j=x_j+h, \dots)}{E(Y|\dots, X_j=x_j, \dots)} = e^{h\beta_j}$
- ▶ So, one unit increase in variable  $j$  results in  $e^{\beta_j}$  (multiplicative) increase the expected count, all other parameters being equal.



# Generalized linear models

- ▶ Logistic model:

$$\text{logit}(\pi(X)) = \beta_0 + \sum_j \beta_j X_j \quad V(\pi) = \pi(1 - \pi)$$

- ▶ Poisson log-linear model:

$$\log(\mu(X)) = \beta_0 + \sum_j \beta_j X_j, \quad V(\mu) = \mu$$

- ▶ These are the ingredients to a GLM

# Deviance tests

- ▶ To test  $H_0 : \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_R$  vs.  $H_a : \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_F$ , we use

$$DEV(\mathcal{M}_R) - DEV(\mathcal{M}_F) \sim \chi^2_{df_R - df_F}$$

- ▶ In contingency example  $\mathcal{M}_R$  is the independence model

$$\log(E(Y_{ij})) = \log \delta + \log \alpha_i + \log \beta_j$$

with  $\mathcal{M}_F$  being the *saturated model*: no constraints on  $E(Y_{ij})$ .

```
lumber.R.glm = glm(Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age,  
                    family=poisson, data=lumber.table)  
anova(lumber.R.glm, lumber.glm)
```

```
## Analysis of Deviance Table
```

```
##
```

```
## Model 1: Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age
```

```
## Model 2: Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age + Competitor
```

```
##   Resid. Df Resid. Dev Df Deviance
```

```
## 1         106       378.43
```

```
## 2         104       114.99  2    263.45
```

```
pchisq(263.45, 2, lower=FALSE, log=TRUE)
```

```
## [1] -131.725
```

```
1 - pchisq(263.45, 2)
```

```
## [1] 0
```

# Model selection

- ▶ As it is a likelihood model, step can also be used for model selection.

```
step(lumber.glm)
```

```
## Start:  AIC=571.02
## Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age + Competitor + Store
##
##           Df Deviance    AIC
## <none>           114.98 571.02
## - Age           1   119.36 573.40
## - Housing       1   133.19 587.23
## - Income        1   146.78 600.82
## - Competitor    1   156.65 610.68
## - Store         1   182.49 636.52
##
## Call:  glm(formula = Customers ~ Housing + Income + Age +
##           Store, family = poisson(), data = lumber.table)
```

```
step(glm(Customers ~ 1, data=lumber.table, family=poisson())
```

```
## Start: AIC=868.26
```

```
## Customers ~ 1
```

```
##
```

```
##           Df Deviance    AIC
```

```
## + Store      1   184.41 632.45
```

```
## + Competitor 1   201.90 649.93
```

```
## + Housing    1   379.56 827.60
```

```
## + Income     1   399.15 847.19
```

```
## <none>           422.22 868.26
```

```
## + Age        1   422.20 870.24
```

```
##
```

```
## Step: AIC=632.45
```

```
## Customers ~ Store
```

```
##
```

```
##           Df Deviance    AIC
```

```
## + Competitor 1   149.33 599.37
```

```
## + Income     1   177.45 627.49
```

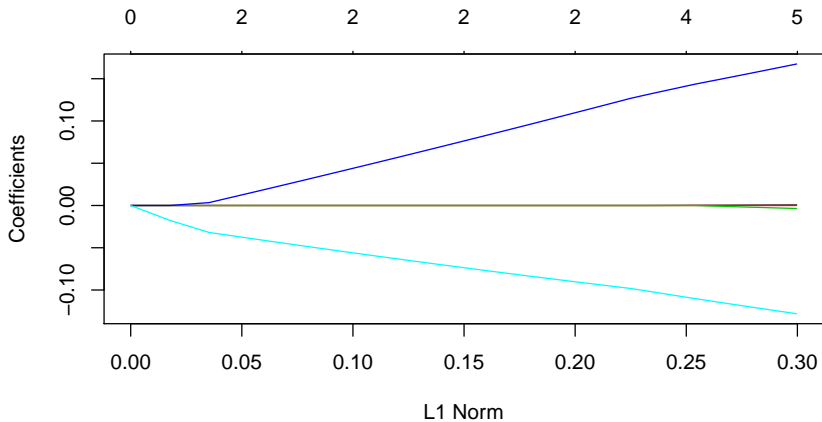
```
## + Housing    1   181.29 631.33
```

# LASSO

- ▶ LASSO also applicable

```
library(glmnet)
X = model.matrix(lumber.glm)[,-1]
Y = lumber.table$Customers
G = glmnet(X, Y, family='poisson')
```

```
plot(G)
```



# Reference

- ▶ **CH** Chapter
- ▶ Lecture notes of [Jonathan Taylor](#) .