

PLSC 504 – Fall 2024

Regression Models for Nominal and Binary Responses

September 4, 2024

Binary Outcomes: Quick Review

Latent:

$$Y_i^* = \mathbf{X}_i\beta + u_i$$

Observed:

$$Y_i = 0 \text{ if } Y_i^* < 0$$

$$Y_i = 1 \text{ if } Y_i^* \geq 0$$

So:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y_i = 1) &= \Pr(Y_i^* \geq 0) \\ &= \Pr(\mathbf{X}_i\beta + u_i \geq 0) \\ &= \Pr(u_i \geq -\mathbf{X}_i\beta) \\ &= \Pr(u_i \leq \mathbf{X}_i\beta) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i\beta} f(u) du\end{aligned}$$

“Standard logistic” PDF:

$$\Pr(u) \equiv \lambda(u) = \frac{\exp(u)}{[1 + \exp(u)]^2}$$

CDF:

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda(u) &= \int \lambda(u) du \\ &= \frac{\exp(u)}{1 + \exp(u)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-u)}\end{aligned}$$

Logistic \rightarrow "Logit"

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y_i = 1) &= \Pr(Y_i^* > 0) \\ &= \Pr(u_i \leq \mathbf{X}_i\beta) \\ &= \Lambda(\mathbf{X}_i\beta) \\ &= \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(equivalently)} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}$$

$$L = \prod_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)} \right)^{Y_i} \left[1 - \left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)} \right) \right]^{1-Y_i}$$

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^N Y_i \ln \left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)} \right) + (1 - Y_i) \ln \left[1 - \left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{X}_i\beta)} \right) \right]$$

Normal \rightarrow “Probit”

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y_i = 1) &= \Phi(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})^2}{2}\right) d\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

$$L = \prod_{i=1}^N [\Phi(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})]^{Y_i} [1 - \Phi(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})]^{(1-Y_i)}$$

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^N Y_i \ln \Phi(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta}) + (1 - Y_i) \ln [1 - \Phi(\mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})]$$

Logit and Probit, Explained

Things we talked about at length in PLSC 503 ([here](#) and [here](#); code [here](#) and [here](#)):

- Odds ratios and the random utility model
- Model estimation and interpretation
- Marginal effects, predictions, etc.
- Assessing model fit
- A couple variants (e.g., c-log-log)

Extensions: Two Topics, One Theme

Things:

- Models for dealing with “separation”
- Models for *rare events*

Common Focus: Shortage of information on Y

“Separation” = “perfect prediction” = “monotone likelihood”

Intuition: House votes on the PPACA (3/21/2010)

	Dems	
Yeas	0	1
0	178	34
1	0	219

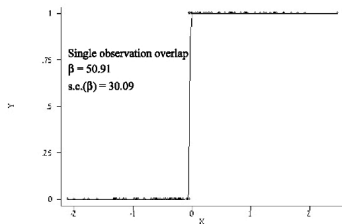
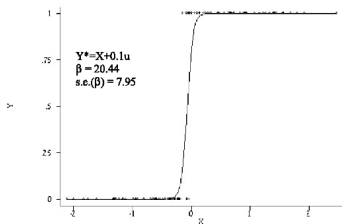
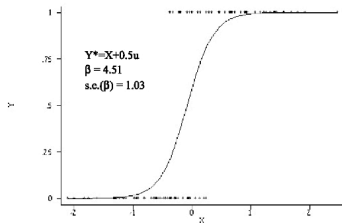
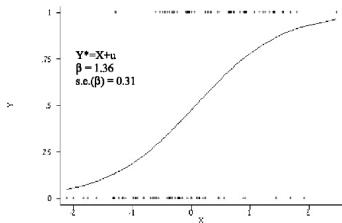
$\Pr(Y = 1|X = 0) = ?$

“Separation” means that:

- $\hat{\beta}_X = \pm\infty$
- $\widehat{\text{s.e.}}_{\beta} = \infty$
- $\left. \frac{\partial^2 \ln L}{\partial X^2} \right|_{\hat{\beta}} = 0$ (monotone likelihood)

Separation Illustrated

Figure 1: Actual and Predicted Values, Simulated Logistic Regressions



Separation: What Happens

```
> set.seed(7222009)
> Z<-rnorm(500)
> W<-rnorm(500)
> Y<-rbinom(500,size=1,prob=plogis((0.2+0.5*W-0.5*Z)))
> X<-rbinom(500,1,(pnorm(Z)))
> X<-ifelse(Y==0,0,X) # Induce separation of Y on X

> summary(glm(Y~W+Z+X,family="binomial"))

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)  -0.638      0.133   -4.81  1.5e-06 ***
W              0.653      0.140    4.67  3.0e-06 ***
Z             -1.134      0.146   -7.76  8.3e-15 ***
X             20.915     861.458    0.02  0.98
---
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 18

# Change the maximum # of iterations / convergence tolerance:

> summary(glm(Y~W+Z+X,family="binomial",maxit=100,epsilon=1e-16))

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)  -0.638      0.133   -4.81  1.5e-06 ***
W              0.653      0.140    4.67  3.0e-06 ***
Z             -1.134      0.146   -7.76  8.3e-15 ***
X             34.915    5978532.779    0.00      1
---
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 32

Warning message:
glm.fit: fitted probabilities numerically 0 or 1 occurred
```

One Solution: Exact Logistic Regression

Exact logistic regression (ELR):

- Cox (1970, Ch. 4); Hirji et al. (1987 *JASA*); Mehta & Patel (1995 *Stat. Med.*); Forster et al. (2003 *Stat. & Comp.*); Zamar and Graham (2007 *J. Stat. Soft.*).
- Conditions on permutations of covariate patterns
- \longrightarrow Always has finite solutions for $\hat{\beta}$
- Implementation:
 - `elrm` in R ; `exlogistic` in Stata
 - Fitted via MCMC; see Forster et al. for details
 - In practice, there are often computational issues...

Firth's (1993) Correction

Firth proposed:

$$L(\beta|Y)^* = L(\beta|Y) |\mathbf{I}(\beta)|^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\ln L(\beta|Y)^* = \ln L(\beta|Y) + 0.5 \ln |\mathbf{I}(\beta)|$$

“Penalized likelihood”:

- Is consistent
- Eliminates small-sample bias
- Exist given separation
- To Bayesians, it's “Jeffreys' prior”:

$$P(\theta) = \sqrt{\det [I(\theta)]}$$

- “Profile” (= “concentrated”) likelihood
- $\hat{\beta}$ can be asymmetrical...
- \rightarrow can affect “normal” inference...
- Plotting the profile likelihood and calculating alternative C.I.s is recommended

Two directions:

- R
 - `elrm` (exact logistic regression via MCMC)
 - `brlr` (“bias-reduced logistic regression”)
 - `logistf` (“Firth’s logistic regression”)
- Stata
 - `exlogistic` (exact logistic regression)
 - `firthlogit` (Firth corrected logit)

Example: Pets as Family

Some data, and a silly question:

- CBS/NYT Poll, April 1997
- Standard political/demographics, plus
- “Do you consider your pet to be a member of your family, or not?”
- Yes = 84.4%, No = 15.6%

Data:

```
> summary(Pets)
```

petfamily	female	married	partyid	education
Min. :0.000	Min. :0.000	Married :442	Democrat :225	< HS : 71
1st Qu.:1.000	1st Qu.:0.000	Widowed : 46	Independent:214	HS diploma :244
Median :1.000	Median :1.000	Divorced/Sep:118	GOP :229	Some college:184
Mean :0.844	Mean :0.556	NBM :118	NA's : 58	College Grad:131
3rd Qu.:1.000	3rd Qu.:1.000	NA's : 2		Post-Grad : 96
Max. :1.000	Max. :1.000			

Pets as Family: Basic Model

```
> Pets.1<-glm(petfamily~female+as.factor(married)+as.factor(partyid)
+             +as.factor(education),data=Pets,family=binomial)
> summary(Pets.1)
```

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z)	
(Intercept)	2.0133	0.5388	3.74	0.00019	***
femaleMale	-0.6959	0.2142	-3.25	0.00116	**
as.factor(married)Married	-0.0657	0.2911	-0.23	0.82147	
as.factor(married)NBM	0.4599	0.3957	1.16	0.24504	
as.factor(married)Widowed	-0.1568	0.4921	-0.32	0.75007	
as.factor(partyid)Democrat	-0.1241	0.4286	-0.29	0.77213	
as.factor(partyid)GOP	-0.0350	0.4321	-0.08	0.93537	
as.factor(partyid)Independent	-0.1521	0.4299	-0.35	0.72338	
as.factor(education)College Grad	0.2511	0.4121	0.61	0.54228	
as.factor(education)HS diploma	0.0595	0.3685	0.16	0.87182	
as.factor(education)Post-Grad	0.1946	0.4331	0.45	0.65321	
as.factor(education)Some college	0.0587	0.3867	0.15	0.87928	

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Null deviance: 627.14 on 723 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 612.76 on 712 degrees of freedom
AIC: 636.8

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4



Pets as Family: More Complicated Model

```
> Pets.2<-glm(petfamily~female+as.factor(married)*female+as.factor(partyid)+  
+             as.factor(education),data=Pets,family=binomial)
```

```
> summary(Pets.2)
```

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z)	
(Intercept)	2.2971	0.6166	3.73	0.0002	***
femaleMale	-1.1833	0.5305	-2.23	0.0257	*
as.factor(married)Married	-0.3218	0.4470	-0.72	0.4716	
as.factor(married)NBM	0.1854	0.6140	0.30	0.7628	
as.factor(married)Widowed	-0.7415	0.5780	-1.28	0.1995	
as.factor(partyid)Democrat	-0.1575	0.4297	-0.37	0.7140	
as.factor(partyid)GOP	-0.0445	0.4334	-0.10	0.9182	
as.factor(partyid)Independent	-0.1757	0.4312	-0.41	0.6837	
as.factor(education)College Grad	0.2332	0.4137	0.56	0.5730	
as.factor(education)HS diploma	0.0558	0.3703	0.15	0.8801	
as.factor(education)Post-Grad	0.2171	0.4342	0.50	0.6171	
as.factor(education)Some college	0.0358	0.3890	0.09	0.9266	
femaleMale:as.factor(married)Married	0.4853	0.5908	0.82	0.4114	
femaleMale:as.factor(married)NBM	0.5260	0.8051	0.65	0.5136	
femaleMale:as.factor(married)Widowed	15.2516	549.3719	0.03	0.9779	

Null deviance: 627.14 on 723 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 607.42 on 709 degrees of freedom
AIC: 637.4

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 14

What's Going On?

```
> xtabs(~petfamily+as.factor(married)+female)
, , female = 0
```

```
      as.factor(married)
petfamily Married Widowed Divorced/Sep NBM
      0         47         0         11   8
      1        168         7         33  47
```

```
, , female = 1
```

```
      as.factor(married)
petfamily Married Widowed Divorced/Sep NBM
      0         28         7         7   5
      1        199        32        67  58
```

Pets as Family: Firth Model

```
> Pets.Firth<-logistf(petfamily~female+  
+ as.factor(married)*female+as.factor(partyid)+  
+ as.factor(education),data=Pets)
```

```
> Pets.Firth
```

```
logistf(formula = petfamily ~ female + as.factor(married) * female +  
as.factor(partyid) + as.factor(education), data = Pets)
```

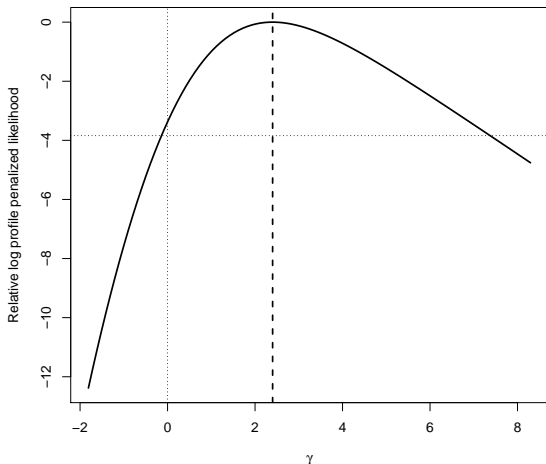
Model fitted by Penalized ML

Confidence intervals and p-values by Profile Likelihood

	coef	se(coef)	lower 0.95	upper 0.95	Chisq	p
(Intercept)	2.15893	0.597	1.054	3.404	16.17636	0.0000577
femaleMale	-1.13866	0.517	-2.187	-0.145	5.04186	0.0247420
as.factor(married)Married	-0.27387	0.433	-1.192	0.531	0.41518	0.5193531
as.factor(married)NBM	0.15888	0.588	-0.991	1.367	0.07322	0.7867048
as.factor(married)Widowed	-0.72627	0.561	-1.839	0.384	1.67233	0.1959467
as.factor(partyid)Democrat	-0.11818	0.418	-0.992	0.661	0.08159	0.7751592
as.factor(partyid)GOP	-0.00776	0.422	-0.888	0.780	0.00034	0.9852893
as.factor(partyid)Independent	-0.13643	0.419	-1.013	0.646	0.10813	0.7422784
as.factor(education)College Grad	0.23904	0.405	-0.574	1.024	0.34480	0.5570689
as.factor(education)HS diploma	0.07531	0.362	-0.667	0.763	0.04289	0.8359331
as.factor(education)Post-Grad	0.21837	0.425	-0.627	1.050	0.26307	0.6080189
as.factor(education)Some college	0.05240	0.380	-0.721	0.781	0.01888	0.8906980
femaleMale:as.factor(married)Married	0.45582	0.577	-0.661	1.613	0.63550	0.4253467
femaleMale:as.factor(married)NBM	0.52329	0.779	-1.023	2.050	0.45133	0.5017022
femaleMale:as.factor(married)Widowed	2.40167	1.684	-0.139	7.374	3.37453	0.0662116

Likelihood ratio test=17.3 on 14 df, p=0.242, n=724

Profile Likelihood Plot



Note: Plot shows estimated profile likelihood for different values of the parameter estimate for the interaction term `femaleMale:as.factor(married)Widowed`. Horizontal dotted line is the likelihood associated with $P \leq 0.05$. Vertical dashed line is $\hat{\gamma}$; vertical dotted line indicates $\hat{\gamma} = 0$.

- Separation is an *estimation* problem...
- Separation \rightarrow dropping covariates!
- Firth's approach $>$ ELR
- Can also be applied to other sparse-data situations:
 - “Fixed effects” logit models ([Cook et al. 2020](#))
 - Multinomial logit ([Cook et al. 2018](#))
 - Survival models ([Anderson et al. 2020](#))

Finally: Read [this twitter thread](#) before it's gone.

If events (“1s”) are rare, we can...

- Collect lots of “0s” for a few “1s”
- → Classification bias...

Example: Suppose that:

$$\Pr(Y_i) = \Lambda(0 + 1X_i)$$

then:

$$E(\hat{\beta}_0 - \beta_0) \approx \frac{\bar{\pi} - 0.5}{N\bar{\pi}(1 - \bar{\pi})}$$

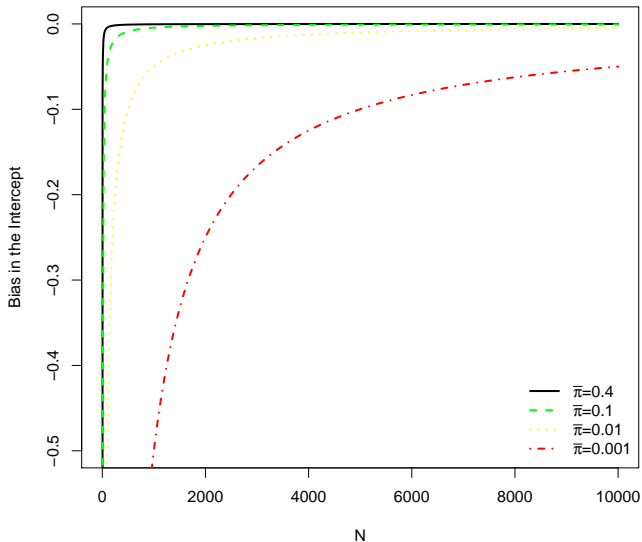
where $\bar{\pi} = \overline{\Pr(Y = 1)}$ is < 0.5 .

Bias is:

- always negative,
- worse as $\bar{\pi} \rightarrow 0$ (for fixed N),
- disappearing as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Implication: *Logit/probit “work best” around $\bar{\pi} = 0.5$.*

Rare Event Bias, Illustrated



The Case-Control Alternative

- Calculate $\tau = \frac{N_1 s}{N}$
- Collect data on all “1s”
- Sample from the “0s”
- Estimate a logit*
- *Correct* the estimates ex post...

Sampling...

- τ = fraction of “1s” in the population
- \bar{Y} = fraction of ‘1s’ in the sample
- K&Z suggest $\bar{Y} \in [0.2, 0.5]$

Weighting...

$$w_1 = \frac{\tau}{\bar{Y}} \quad (\text{weights for “1s”})$$

$$w_0 = \frac{1 - \tau}{1 - \bar{Y}} \quad (\text{weights for “0s”})$$

$$\ln L(\beta | Y) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_1 Y_i \ln \Lambda(\mathbf{X}_i \beta) + w_0 (1 - Y_i) \ln [1 - \Lambda(\mathbf{X}_i \beta)]$$

Weighting:

- Good under (possible) misspecification, but
- Not as efficient as “prior correction,” and
- Gets s.e.s wrong...

Case-Control Data: Prior Correction

$$\hat{\beta}_{0\text{pc}} = \hat{\beta}_0 - \ln \left[\left(\frac{1 - \tau}{\tau} \right) \left(\frac{\bar{Y}}{1 - \bar{Y}} \right) \right]$$

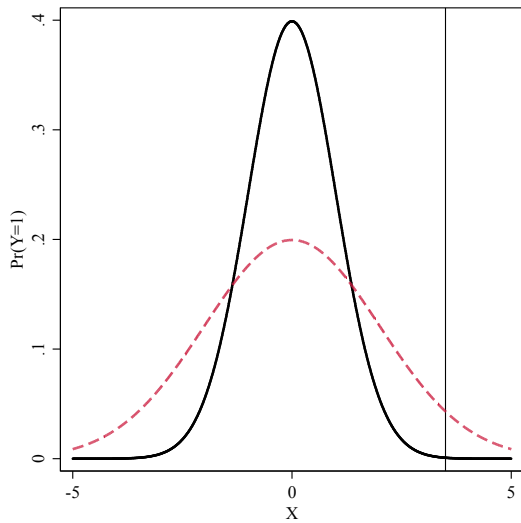
$$\text{bias}(\hat{\beta}) = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{W}\xi$$

where $\xi = f[w_i, \hat{\pi}_i, \mathbf{X}]$.

Correction is

$$\tilde{\beta} = \hat{\beta} - \text{bias}(\hat{\beta})$$

- Bias correction introduces additional variability...
- Ignoring it yields underpredictions (again).



Post-Correction Adjustments

Use:

$$\Pr(Y_i = 1) \approx \tilde{\pi}_i + C_i$$

where

$$C_i = (0.5 - \tilde{\pi}_i)\tilde{\pi}_i(1 - \tilde{\pi}_i)\mathbf{X}_i\mathbf{V}(\tilde{\beta})\mathbf{X}_i'$$

Puhr et al. (2017) note that Firth's method induces bias (toward 0.5) in predicted probabilities, and that the bias is worse when the baseline $\Pr(Y_i = 1)$ is low.

They introduce two modifications to deal with this:

- “Firth's logit with intercept correction” (FLIC)
- “Firth's logit with added covariate” (FLAC)

Through simulations, they show that both remove the bias; they have a slight preference for FLAC, but note that both work well relative to unmodified Firth regression.

An Example

- Washington University's [American Panel Study](#) (TAPS)
- $N \approx 1000$ U.S. respondents, 2012-2017
- Outcome: “During the past year, have you ever run out of gas while driving a car or other vehicle?” (RunOutOfGas; 0=no, 1=yes)
- Predictors:
 - Education – twelve-category ordinal variable with values ranging from 3 to 15;
 - Income – a 15-category ordinal variable (each unit roughly corresponds to an increase of \$10,000 in annual income);
 - Age in years, as of 2016 (divided by 10);
 - Female – a binary indicator of sex, naturally-coded;
 - Racial classifications – binary variables for White, Black, and Asian identification;
 - Binary political party variables for Democrat and GOP; and
 - Ideology – a seven-point Likert variable, higher values indicate greater political conservatism

Basic Logit...

```
> table(TAPS$RunOutOfGas)

 0   1
943 28

> prop.table(table(TAPS$RunOutOfGas))

 0   1
0.9712 0.0288

> ROGLogit<-glm(RunOutOfGas~Education+Age10+Female+White+Black+Asian+
+               Democrat+GOP+Ideology,data=TAPS,family=binomial)

> summary(ROGLogit)

Deviance Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-0.661  -0.248  -0.206  -0.170   2.962

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)  -1.9347    1.8114   -1.07  0.285
Education     -0.1185    0.1118   -1.06  0.289
Age10         -0.2107    0.1341   -1.57  0.116
Female         0.2911    0.3966    0.73  0.463
White          0.4348    0.7260    0.60  0.549
Black          1.3503    0.7602    1.78  0.076 .
Asian          1.8616    0.8717    2.14  0.033 *
Democrat       0.2743    0.4999    0.55  0.583
GOP           -0.3170    0.5926   -0.53  0.593
Ideology       0.0217    0.1097    0.20  0.843
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

Null deviance: 253.77  on 970  degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 238.13  on 961  degrees of freedom
AIC: 258.1
```

Firth Logit (for comparison)

```
> relogit.firth<-logistf(RunOutOfGas~Education+Age10+Female+White+Black+Asian+  
+ Democrat+GOP+Ideology,data=TAPS)
```

```
> summary(relogit.firth)
```

```
logistf(formula = RunOutOfGas ~ Education + Age10 + Female +  
White + Black + Asian + Democrat + GOP + Ideology, data = TAPS)
```

Model fitted by Penalized ML

Coefficients:

	coef	se(coef)	lower 0.95	upper 0.95	Chisq	p	method
(Intercept)	-1.7929	1.657	-5.362	1.6045	1.0457	0.3065	2
Education	-0.1167	0.103	-0.331	0.1009	1.1154	0.2909	2
Age10	-0.2071	0.124	-0.469	0.0498	2.4952	0.1142	2
Female	0.2749	0.367	-0.478	1.0490	0.5124	0.4741	2
White	0.3782	0.646	-1.007	1.7513	0.2769	0.5987	2
Black	1.3409	0.677	-0.182	2.7141	2.9875	0.0839	2
Asian	1.9202	0.766	0.149	3.4429	4.4610	0.0347	2
Democrat	0.2550	0.464	-0.688	1.2418	0.2767	0.5989	2
GOP	-0.3061	0.546	-1.479	0.7889	0.2969	0.5858	2
Ideology	0.0267	0.101	-0.191	0.2333	0.0613	0.8044	2

Method: 1-Wald, 2-Profile penalized log-likelihood, 3-None

Likelihood ratio test=17.5 on 9 df, p=0.0415, n=971

Wald test = 318 on 9 df, p = 0

Firth Logit with FLIC

```
> relogit.flic<-logistf(RunOutOfGas~Education+Age10+Female+White+Black+Asian+  
+ Democrat+GOP+Ideology,data=TAPS,flic=TRUE)
```

```
> summary(relogit.flic)
```

```
logistf(formula = RunOutOfGas ~ Education + Age10 + Female +  
White + Black + Asian + Democrat + GOP + Ideology, data = TAPS,  
flic = TRUE)
```

Model fitted by Penalized ML

Coefficients:

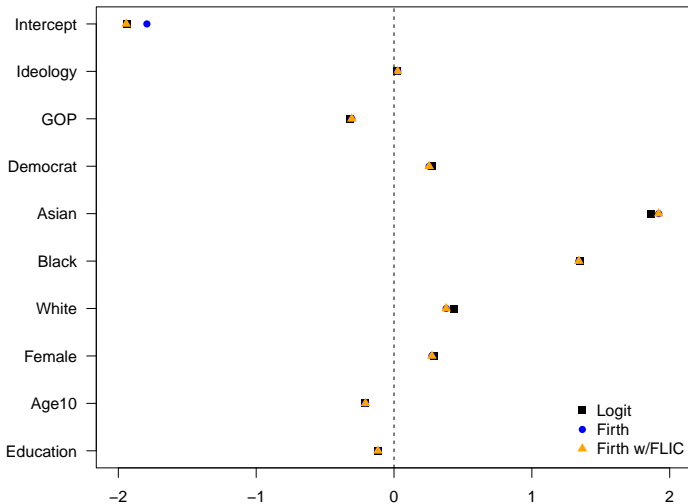
	coef	se(coef)	lower 0.95	upper 0.95	Chisq	p	method
(Intercept)	-1.9430	1.807	-5.486	1.5995	1.0457	0.3065	1
Education	-0.1167	0.112	-0.331	0.1009	1.1154	0.2909	2
Age10	-0.2071	0.134	-0.469	0.0498	2.4952	0.1142	2
Female	0.2749	0.397	-0.478	1.0490	0.5124	0.4741	2
White	0.3782	0.720	-1.007	1.7513	0.2769	0.5987	2
Black	1.3409	0.756	-0.182	2.7141	2.9875	0.0839	2
Asian	1.9202	0.857	0.149	3.4429	4.4610	0.0347	2
Democrat	0.2550	0.501	-0.688	1.2418	0.2767	0.5989	2
GOP	-0.3061	0.590	-1.479	0.7889	0.2969	0.5858	2
Ideology	0.0267	0.110	-0.191	0.2333	0.0613	0.8044	2

Method: 1-Wald, 2-Profile penalized log-likelihood, 3-None

Likelihood ratio test=17.5 on 9 df, p=0.0415, n=971

Wald test = 299 on 9 df, p = 0

Summarizing: $\hat{\beta}$ s



Some Final Thoughts

- The key to doing King-Zeng is to be able to conduct C-C sampling *in advance*
- BUT: The R implementation of K&Z (in `Ze1ig`) is currently a bit buggy (its dependencies are all messed up...)
- In practice: the Firth + FLIC approach is generally superior to King/Zeng (and arguably should *always* be used for binary-response regressions, especially with small-to-medium N s)
- Also: Remember that as your N gets big, the problem goes away; Paul Allison has a (old, but useful) [blog post](#) on that topic.

Other Binary-Response Extensions

Things we'll talk about later:

- Binary responses in panel / longitudinal data
- Multilevel / hierarchical models for binary responses
- Models with (binary) sample selection
- Measurement models for binary outcomes (e.g., item response models)

Things we won't talk about:

- Semi- and non-parametric models (see, e.g., Horowitz and Savin 2001)
- “Heteroscedastic” models (where $\sigma_i^2 \neq \sigma^2 \forall i$) (see, e.g., Alvarez and Brehm 1995, 1997; Tutz 2018)
- “Bivariate” probit models, where:

$$\{Y_{1i}, Y_{2i}\} \sim BVN(0, 0, 1, 1, \rho)$$

(e.g., Zorn 2002)

Nominal Outcomes

Motivation: Discrete *Outcomes*

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = P_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^J P_{ij} = 1$$

$$P_{ij} = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)$$

Rescale:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) \equiv P_{ij} = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}$$

Ensures

- $\Pr(Y_i = j) \in (0, 1)$
- $\sum_{j=1}^J \Pr(Y_i = j) = 1.0$

Constrain $\beta_1 = \mathbf{0}$; then:

$$\Pr(Y_i = 1) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{j=2}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}$$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}{1 + \sum_{j=2}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}$$

where $\beta'_j = \beta_j - \beta_1$.

Alternative Motivation: Discrete *Choice*

$$U_{ij} = \mu_i + \epsilon_{ij}$$

$$\mu_i = \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(U_{ij} > U_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\mu_i + \epsilon_{ij} > \mu_i + \epsilon_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell + \epsilon_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \end{aligned}$$

$\epsilon \sim ???$

- *Type I Extreme Value*
- Density: $f(\epsilon) = \exp[-\epsilon - \exp(-\epsilon)]$
- CDF: $\int f(\epsilon) \equiv F(\epsilon) = \exp[-\exp(-\epsilon)]$
- \rightarrow Multinomial Logit

Define:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{ij} &= 1 \text{ if } Y_i = j, \\ &= 0 \text{ otherwise.}\end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned}L_i &= \prod_{j=1}^J [\Pr(Y_i = j)]^{\delta_{ij}} \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^J \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]^{\delta_{ij}}\end{aligned}$$

So:

$$L = \prod_{i=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^J \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]^{\delta_{ij}}$$

and (of course):

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^J \delta_{ij} \ln \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]$$

It is exactly the same as the multinomial logit model. Period.

CL with choice-varying predictors $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma$ is:

$$\Pr(Y_{ij} = j) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma)}$$

Combinations: $\mathbf{X}_i\beta$ and $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma$:

- “Fixed effects” for each possible outcome / choice
- Observation-specific \mathbf{X} s
- Interactions...

MNL and CL: Practical Things

The PLSC 503 [slides](#) and [code](#) include some additional detail, plus a running example (the three-candidate 1992 U.S. presidential election), with discussions of:

- Model estimation (including choosing the baseline/reference outcome),
- Model interpretation and discussion (odds ratios, predicted probabilities, etc.),
- Model fit, and
- Diagnostics.

I've included most of the code for those examples in [today's code](#) as well.

Independence of Irrelevant Alternatives (“IIA”)

“An individual’s choice does not depend on the availability or characteristics of unavailable alternatives.”

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\Pr(Y_i = k)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell)} &= \frac{\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}}{\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}} \\ &= \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_k)}{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell)} \\ &= \exp[\mathbf{X}_i (\beta_k - \beta_\ell)]\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\frac{\Pr(Y_i = k | S_J)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell | S_J)} = \frac{\Pr(Y_i = k | S_M)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell | S_M)} \quad \forall k, \ell, J, M$$

- Initially: $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.5$, $\frac{\Pr(\text{Car})}{\Pr(\text{Red Bus})} = 1$.
- Enter the Blue Bus...
 - Intuitively: $\Pr(\text{Car}) = 0.5$, $\Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.25$,
 $\Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.25$
 - IIA requires that $\frac{\Pr(\text{Car})}{\Pr(\text{Red Bus})} = 1$.
 - So, that could be
 $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = \Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.33$, or
 - $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.4$ and $\Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.2...$

Random utility model:

$$\begin{aligned}U_{ij} &= \mu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

... means that:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(U_{ij} > U_{i\ell}) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \Pr(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell + \epsilon_{i\ell}) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \Pr(\epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \forall \ell \neq j \in J\end{aligned}$$

IIA Tests: Hausman/McFadden and Small/Hsiao

$$HM = (\hat{\beta}_r - \hat{\beta}_u)' [\hat{\mathbf{V}}_r - \hat{\mathbf{V}}_u]^{-1} (\hat{\beta}_r - \hat{\beta}_u)$$

$$\widehat{HM} \sim \chi^2_{(J-2)k}$$

$$SH = -2 \left[L_r(\hat{\beta}_u^{AB}) - L_r(\hat{\beta}_r^B) \right]$$

$$\widehat{SH} \sim \chi^2_{k_r}$$

IIA Freedom: Multinomial Probit

$\epsilon_{ij} \sim MVN(0, \Sigma)$, where:

$$\Sigma_{J \times J} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \dots & \sigma_{1J} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{J1} & \dots & \sigma_J^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Define $\eta_{ij\ell} = \epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(\eta_{ij\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j} \phi_J(\eta_{ij1}, \eta_{ij2}, \dots, \eta_{ij\ell}) d\eta_{ij1}, \eta_{ij2}, \dots, \eta_{ij\ell} \end{aligned}$$

- Identification: (Potentially) Fragile
- Estimation:
 - Always hard
 - Via “GHK” algorithm, or
 - Gaussian quadrature, or
 - Simulation (MCMC) (preferred)
- Software:
 - `mlogit` with `probit = TRUE` ([Geweke-Hajivassiliou-Keane algorithm](#))
 - MNP package (Bayesian/MCMC)
 - `endogMNP` package (Bayesian with endogenous switching)
 - Others?

$$\begin{aligned}f(\epsilon_{ij}) &= \lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) \\&= \frac{1}{\theta_j} \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right) \exp\left[-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right)\right]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}F(\epsilon_{ij}) &= \Lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) \\&= \int_{-\infty}^z f(\epsilon_{ij}) d\epsilon_{ij} \\&= \exp\left[-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right)\right]\end{aligned}$$

Means:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_{\ell}} \right) \frac{1}{\theta_j} \lambda \left(\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j} \right) d \epsilon_{ij}$$

With $w = \frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}$:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \theta_j w}{\theta_{\ell}} \right) \lambda(w) d w$$

MNL \subset HEV: When $\theta_j = 1 \ \forall \ j \rightarrow$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda(\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \epsilon_{ij}) \lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) d \epsilon_{ij}$$

IIA Freedom: “Mixed Logit”

$$U_{ij} = \mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \epsilon_{ij},$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} = \eta_i + \xi_{ij}$$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j|\eta) \equiv \Pr(Y_{ij} = 1|\eta) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}$$

What to do with the η s?

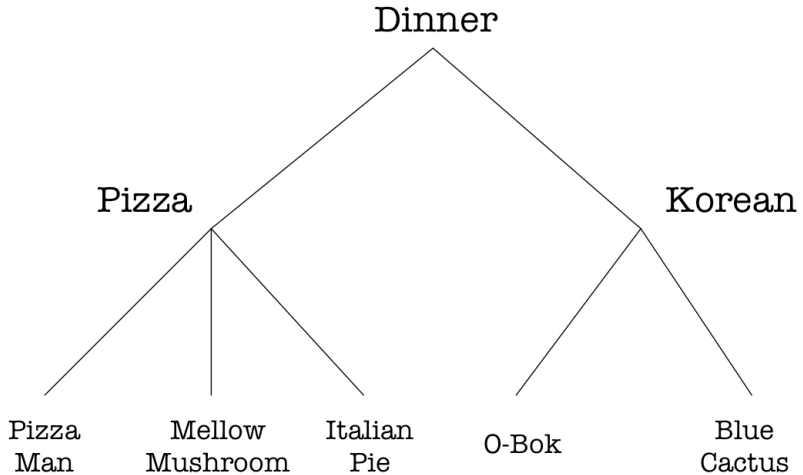
Assume:

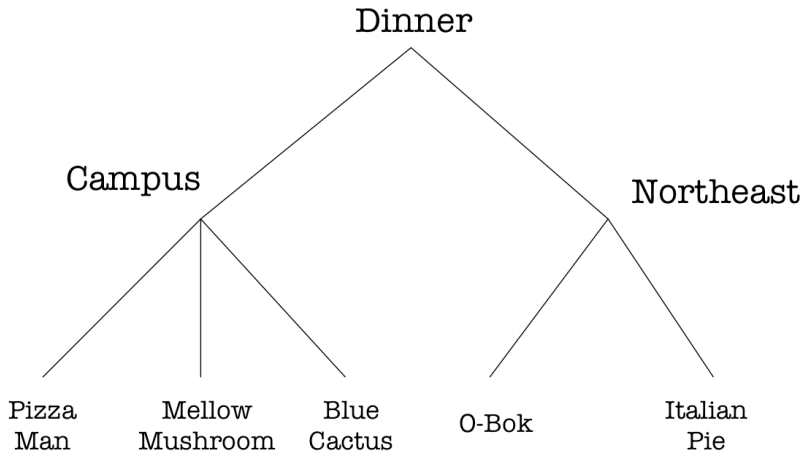
$$\eta_i \sim g(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Omega})$$

Yields:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)} \right] g(\eta|\mathbf{\Omega}) d\eta$$

- “Nested” choices
- A priori information about “subsets”
- IIA holds *within* (but not *across*) subsets...





Example: 2002 Swedish Election ($N = 6610$)

```
> summary(Sweden)
```

partychoice	female	union	leftright
Conservatives :1469	Min. :0.0000	Min. :1.000	Min. :1.000
Liberals :1212	1st Qu.:0.0000	1st Qu.:1.000	1st Qu.:2.000
Social Democrats:2975	Median :0.0000	Median :3.000	Median :3.000
Left Party : 954	Mean :0.4882	Mean :2.709	Mean :2.868
	3rd Qu.:1.0000	3rd Qu.:4.000	3rd Qu.:4.000
	Max. :1.0000	Max. :4.000	Max. :5.000

age
Min. :17.00
1st Qu.:29.00
Median :42.00
Mean :42.93
3rd Qu.:55.00
Max. :90.00

Swedish Election: MNL

```
> library(mlogit)
> Sweden.Long<-mlogit.data(Sweden,choice="partychoice",shape="wide")
> Sweden.MNL<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+age,data=Sweden.Long)
> summary(Sweden.MNL)
```

Frequencies of alternatives:

Conservatives	Left Party	Liberals	Social Democrats
0.22224	0.14433	0.18336	0.45008

Coefficients :

	Estimate	Std. Error	t-value	Pr(> t)
altLeft Party	13.3907039	0.3788540	35.3453	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals	4.4121638	0.2928137	15.0682	< 2.2e-16 ***
altSocial Democrats	11.3821332	0.3289066	34.6060	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:female	0.7211951	0.1218437	5.9190	3.239e-09 ***
altLiberals:female	0.5585172	0.0848597	6.5817	4.652e-11 ***
altSocial Democrats:female	0.3881456	0.0945266	4.1062	4.022e-05 ***
altLeft Party:union	-0.4334637	0.0513499	-8.4414	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals:union	-0.0563136	0.0388720	-1.4487	0.1474228
altSocial Democrats:union	-0.4145682	0.0408153	-10.1572	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:leftright	-4.0917135	0.0930610	-43.9681	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals:leftright	-1.1274488	0.0593125	-19.0086	< 2.2e-16 ***
altSocial Democrats:leftright	-2.7555009	0.0719411	-38.3022	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:age	-0.0277444	0.0038808	-7.1491	8.737e-13 ***
altLiberals:age	-0.0064185	0.0025768	-2.4909	0.0127410 *
altSocial Democrats:age	-0.0105052	0.0029196	-3.5982	0.0003204 ***

Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

Log-Likelihood: -5627.5

McFadden R²: 0.33693

Likelihood ratio test : chisq = 5719 (p.value=< 2.22e-16)

Hausman-McFadden IIA Test

```
> # Restricted model (omitting Social Democrats)
> Sweden.MNL.Restr<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+age,
+ Sweden.Long,alt.subset=c("Conservatives","Liberals","Left Party"))
>
> hmftest(Sweden.MNL,Sweden.MNL.Restr)
```

Hausman-McFadden test

```
data: Sweden.Long
chisq = 19.1137, df = 10, p-value = 0.03884
alternative hypothesis: IIA is rejected
```

Swedish Election: HEV

```
> Sweden.Het<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+
+ age,data=Sweden.Long,heterosc=TRUE)
> summary(Sweden.Het)
```

Coefficients :

	Estimate	Std. Error	z-value	Pr(> z)
Left Party:(intercept)	7.84569	0.42849	18.31	< 2e-16 ***
Liberals:(intercept)	3.09199	0.30607	10.10	< 2e-16 ***
Social Democrats:(intercept)	6.74242	0.32038	21.04	< 2e-16 ***
Left Party:female	0.29096	0.08057	3.61	0.0003 ***
Liberals:female	0.34113	0.06510	5.24	1.6e-07 ***
Social Democrats:female	0.15572	0.05718	2.72	0.0065 **
Left Party:union	-0.22645	0.03704	-6.11	9.7e-10 ***
Liberals:union	-0.03498	0.02685	-1.30	0.1926
Social Democrats:union	-0.23786	0.03319	-7.17	7.8e-13 ***
Left Party:leftright	-2.43814	0.17450	-13.97	< 2e-16 ***
Liberals:leftright	-0.77255	0.04629	-16.69	< 2e-16 ***
Social Democrats:leftright	-1.60927	0.09462	-17.01	< 2e-16 ***
Left Party:age	-0.01612	0.00338	-4.77	1.9e-06 ***
Liberals:age	-0.00200	0.00176	-1.14	0.2543
Social Democrats:age	-0.00267	0.00175	-1.53	0.1258
sp.Left Party	0.90017	0.14304	6.29	3.1e-10 ***
sp.Liberals	0.59981	0.09925	6.04	1.5e-09 ***
sp.Social Democrats	0.69163	0.10197	6.78	1.2e-11 ***

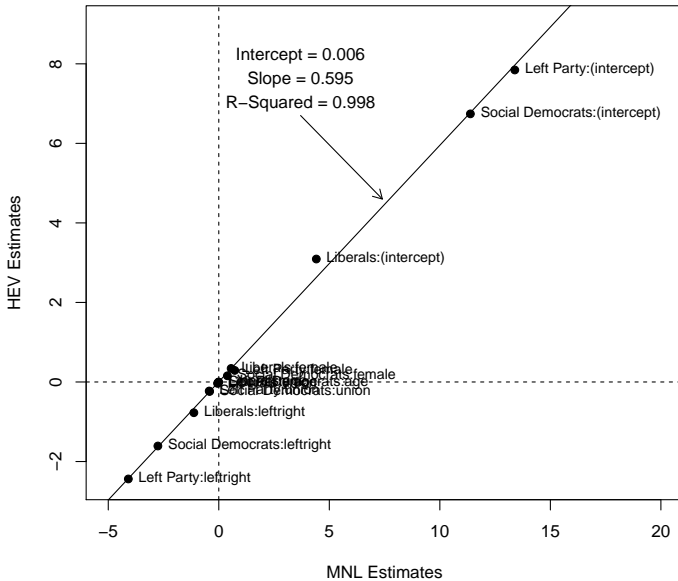
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

Log-Likelihood: -5840

McFadden R²: 0.312

Likelihood ratio test : chisq = 5300 (p.value = <2e-16)

$\hat{\beta}$ s: MNL vs. HEV



Tests:

```

> MNL.HEV.Wald <- waldtest(Sweden.Het, heterosc = FALSE) # Wald test
> MNL.HEV.Wald

Wald test

data: homoscedasticity
chisq = 20, df = 3, p-value = 0.0004

> MNL.HEV.LR <- lrtest(Sweden.Het)          # LR test
> MNL.HEV.LR
Likelihood ratio test

Model 1: partychoice ~ 1 | female + union + leftright + age
Model 2: partychoice ~ 1 | female + union + leftright + age
#Df LogLik Df Chisq Pr(>Chisq)
1  18 -5836
2  15 -5627 -3   416    <2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

> MNL.HEV.Score <- scoretest(Sweden.MNL, heterosc = TRUE) # score test
> MNL.HEV.Score

score test

data: heterosc = TRUE
chisq = 20, df = 3, p-value = 0.00002
alternative hypothesis: heteroscedastic model

```

Swedish Election: MNP

```
> library(MNP)
> Sweden.MNP<-mnp(partychoice~female+union+leftright+age, data=Sweden)
> summary(Sweden.MNP)
```

Coefficients:

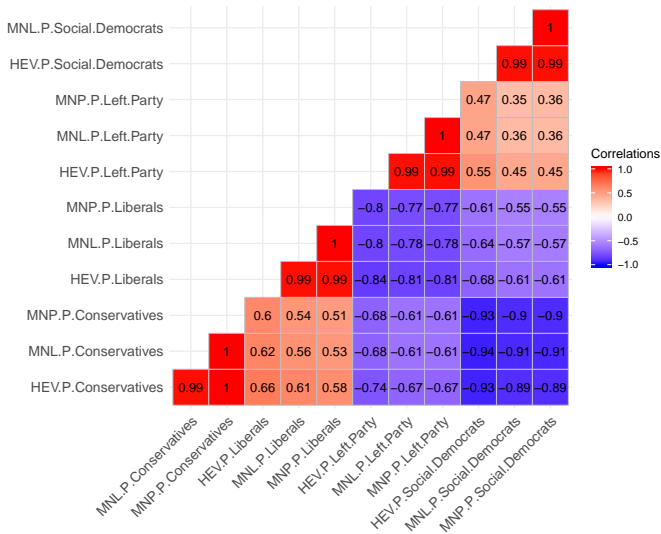
	mean	std.dev.	2.5%	97.5%
(Intercept):Liberals	3.964677	0.879442	0.983572	4.669
(Intercept):Social Democrats	7.993453	1.495732	3.986961	9.812
(Intercept):Left Party	10.342468	2.082971	4.845935	12.714
female:Liberals	0.293136	0.046373	0.204654	0.382
female:Social Democrats	0.290311	0.079166	0.124746	0.447
female:Left Party	0.613163	0.163673	0.289974	0.944
union:Liberals	-0.083366	0.036782	-0.140052	0.024
union:Social Democrats	-0.275696	0.059260	-0.369943	-0.145
union:Left Party	-0.346922	0.087131	-0.489992	-0.148
leftright:Liberals	-0.913247	0.168331	-1.045781	-0.350
leftright:Social Democrats	-1.920076	0.362403	-2.371245	-0.977
leftright:Left Party	-3.409277	0.750701	-4.308455	-1.576
age:Liberals	-0.003350	0.001490	-0.006264	-0.000409
age:Social Democrats	-0.007171	0.002630	-0.012327	-0.002
age:Left Party	-0.025595	0.007323	-0.039641	-0.011

Covariances:

	mean	std.dev.	2.5%	97.5%
Liberals:Liberals	1.0000	0.0000	1.0000	1.000
Liberals:Social Democrats	1.4083	0.3925	0.2116	1.830
Liberals:Left Party	2.4450	1.0779	0.6731	3.988
Social Democrats:Social Democrats	2.6696	0.9215	0.5630	3.898
Social Democrats:Left Party	4.4852	2.1846	0.3521	7.524
Left Party:Left Party	9.4811	5.0787	1.1682	17.095

Base category: Conservatives
Number of alternatives: 4
Number of observations: 6610
Number of estimated parameters: 20
Number of stored MCMC draws: 5000

How I Stopped Worrying and Learned To Love MNL...



Model	Stata	SAS	R
Multinomial Logit	mlogit	proc catmod	vglm, mlogit, multinom*
Conditional Logit	clogit	proc mdc	clogit, mlogit
Multinomial Probit	mprobit / asmprobit	proc mdc	mnp*, mlogit
Heteroscedastic Extreme Value	No(?)	proc mdc	mlogit
Mixed Logit	mixlogit	proc mdc	mlogit
Nested Logit	nlogit	proc mdc	mlogit

* See also bayesm.

Things To Read

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