# PLSC 504 - Fall 2017 Event Counts, I

September 12, 2017



# Things That Are Not Counts

- Ordinal scales/variables
- Grouped Binary Data
  - N of "successes"
     N of "trials"
  - Binomial data
  - $\bullet$  = counts only if Pr("success") is small

# Count Properties

- Discrete / integer-values
- Non-negative
- "Cumulative"

#### Count Data: Motivation

Arrival Rate = 
$$\lambda$$

$$Pr(Event)_{t,t+h} = \lambda h$$

$$Pr(No\ Event)_{t,t+h} = 1 - \lambda h$$

$$Pr(Y_t = y) = \frac{\exp(-\lambda h)\lambda h^y}{y!}$$
$$= \frac{\exp(-\lambda)\lambda^y}{y!}$$

# Poisson Assumptions

- No Simultaneous Events
- Constant Arrival Rate
- Independent Event Arrivals

#### Poisson: Other Motivations

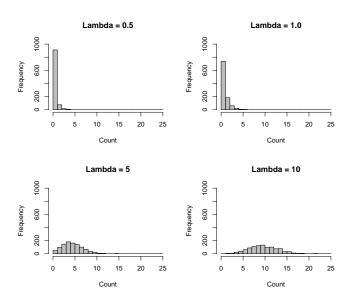
For M independent Bernoulli trials with (sufficiently small) probability of success  $\pi$  and where  $M\pi \equiv \lambda > 0$ ,

$$\Pr(Y_i = y) = \lim_{M \to \infty} \left[ \binom{M}{y} \left( \frac{\lambda}{M} \right)^y \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{M} \right)^{M-y} \right]$$
$$= \frac{\lambda^y \exp(-\lambda)}{y!}$$

#### Poisson: Characteristics

- Discrete
- $E(Y) = Var(Y) = \lambda$
- Is not preserved under affine transformations...
- For  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_X)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_Y)$ ,  $Z = X + Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_{X+Y})$  iff X and Y are independent but
- ...same is not true for differences.
- $\lambda \to \infty \iff Y \sim N$

# Poissons: Examples



# Poisson Regression

Suppose

$$\mathsf{E}(Y_i) \equiv \lambda_i = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})$$

then

$$\Pr(Y_i = y | \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \frac{\exp[-\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})][\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})]^y}{y!}$$

### Poisson Likelihood

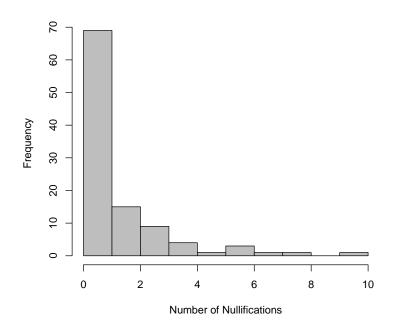
$$L = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\exp[-\exp(\mathbf{X}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta})][\exp(\mathbf{X}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta})]^{Y_{i}}}{Y_{i}!}$$

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [-\exp(\mathbf{X}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}) + Y_{i}\mathbf{X}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta} - \ln(Y_{i}!)]$$

# Example: Judicial Review

- Y<sub>i</sub> = number of Acts of Congress overturned by the Supreme Court in each Congress,
- The *mean tenure* (tenure) of the Supreme Court's justices ( $\bar{X} = 10.4, \sigma = 3.4, E(\hat{\beta}) > 0$ ).
- Whether (1) or not (0) there was unified government (unified) ( $\bar{X}=0.83, \mathsf{E}(\hat{\beta})<0$ ).

# Supreme Court Nullifications, 1789-1996



#### **Estimation**

```
> nulls.poisson<-glm(nulls~tenure+unified,family="poisson",data=Nulls)
> summary(nulls.poisson)
Call:
glm(formula = nulls ~ tenure + unified, family = "poisson", data = Nulls)
Deviance Residuals:
  Min 10 Median
                            Max
                        30
-2.367 -1.503 -0.623 0.561 4.153
Coefficients:
          Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
0.0959 0.0256 3.74 0.00018 ***
tenure
unified 0.1435 0.2327 0.62 0.53747
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
(Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)
   Null deviance: 251.80 on 103 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 237.52 on 101 degrees of freedom
ATC: 385.1
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 6
```

# Interpretation: Incidence Rate Ratios

$$\frac{\hat{\lambda}|X_D = 1}{\hat{\lambda}|X_D = 0} = \frac{\exp(\hat{\beta}_0 + \bar{\mathbf{X}}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + (X_D = 1)\hat{\beta}_{X_D})}{\exp(\hat{\beta}_0 + \bar{\mathbf{X}}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + (X_D = 0)\hat{\beta}_{X_D})}$$

$$= \exp(\hat{\beta}_{X_D})$$

- Like ORs
- unified: IRR = exp(0.143) = 1.15

# Incidence Rate Ratios, continued

$$\mathsf{IRR}_{X_k,X_k+\delta} = \mathsf{exp}(\delta\hat{\beta}_k)$$

So, a ten-year difference in tenure:

IRR = 
$$exp(10 \times 0.096)$$
  
=  $exp(0.96)$   
= 2.61

#### Incidence Rate Ratios

# Predicted Values $(\hat{Y}s)$

#### Mean predicted *Y*:

$$E(Y|\bar{\mathbf{X}}_i) = \exp[-0.878 + (0.096 \times 10) + (0.143 \times 1)]$$
  
= \exp(0.225)  
= 1.25

#### In-Sample

• R: in \$fitted.values

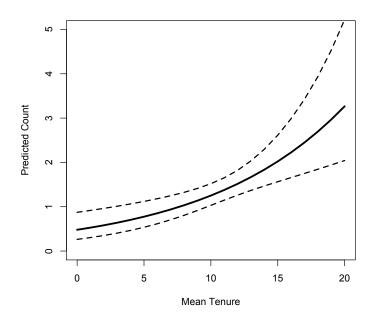
• Stata: use predict

Out-of-Sample: use predict

# Example: Out-Of-Sample Predicted Values

```
> tenure<-seq(0,20,1)
> unified<-1
> simdata<-as.data.frame(cbind(tenure.unified))</pre>
> nullhats<-predict(nulls.poisson,newdata=simdata,se.fit=TRUE)
>
> # NOTE: These are XBs, not predicted counts.
> # Transforming:
> nullhats$Yhat<-exp(nullhats$fit)
> nullhats$UB<-exp(nullhats$fit + 1.96*(nullhats$se.fit))
> nullhats$LB<-exp(nullhats$fit - 1.96*(nullhats$se.fit))</pre>
> plot(simdata$tenure,nullhats$Yhat,t="1",lwd=3,ylim=c(0,5),ylab=
             "Predicted Count", xlab="Mean Tenure")
> lines(simdata$tenure,nullhats$UB,lwd=2,lty=2)
> lines(simdata$tenure,nullhats$LB,lwd=2,lty=2)
>
> plot(simdata$tenure,nullhats$Yhat,t="1",lwd=3,ylim=c(0,5),ylab=
             "Predicted Count", xlab="Mean Tenure")
> lines(simdata$tenure,nullhats$UB,lwd=2,lty=2)
> lines(simdata$tenure,nullhats$LB,lwd=2,lty=2)
```

# Plotting Out-Of-Sample Predicted Values



#### Predicted Probabilities

$$\Pr(\widehat{Y_i = y | \mathbf{X}_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}}) = \frac{\exp[-\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})][\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})]^y}{y!}$$

$$\rightarrow \Pr(\widehat{Y_i = 0 | \mathbf{X}_i}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) = \frac{[\exp(-1.25)](1.25)^0}{0!}$$

$$= \frac{(0.287)(1)}{1}$$

$$= 0.287$$

$$\Pr(\widehat{Y_i = 1 | \mathbf{X}_i}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) = \frac{[\exp(-1.25)](1.25)^1}{1!}$$

$$= \frac{(0.287)(1.25)}{1}$$

$$= 0.359$$

### Predicted Probabilities

$$Pr(\widehat{Y_i = 2|\mathbf{X}_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}}) = \frac{[\exp(-1.25)](1.25)^2}{2!}$$

$$= \frac{(0.287)(1.563)}{2}$$

$$= 0.224$$

$$Pr(\widehat{Y_i = 3|\mathbf{X}_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}}) = \frac{[\exp(-1.25)](1.25)^3}{3!}$$

$$= \frac{(0.287)(1.953)}{6}$$

$$= 0.093$$

# "Exposure" and "Offsets"

$$\mathsf{E}(Y_i|\mathbf{X}_i,M_i)=\lambda_iM_i$$

Same as including  $ln(M_i)$  in **X** with  $\beta_{ln M} = 1$ .

- Example: Data on numbers of interstate disputes by country, 1950-1985
- N = 102, but
- Ndyads = number of dyad-years which were aggregated to create each observation, ranging from five to 3249
- disputes = number of (interstate) dispute-years that country experienced during 1950-1985
- allies = number of (dyadic) ally-years each country had during 1950-1985
- openness =  $\frac{1}{36} \left( \frac{\text{Imports}_t + \text{Exports}_t}{\text{GDP}_t} \right)$  across all 36 years in the data.

# "Exposure" and "Offsets": Data

# Data are aggregated dyadic data, 1950-1985...

#### > summary(TR)

ccode	Ndyads	disputes	allies	openness	exposure
Min. : 2	Min. : 5	Min. : 0.00	Min. : 0.0	Min. :0.032	Min. :1.61
1st Qu.:214	1st Qu.: 44	1st Qu.: 0.00	1st Qu.: 0.0	1st Qu.:0.185	1st Qu.:3.79
Median:436	Median: 92	Median : 1.00	Median: 26.0	Median :0.296	Median:4.52
Mean :418	Mean : 179	Mean : 3.55	Mean : 63.9	Mean :0.392	Mean :4.42
3rd Qu.:598	3rd Qu.: 146	3rd Qu.: 4.00	3rd Qu.: 81.0	3rd Qu.:0.535	3rd Qu.:4.98
Max. :900	Max. :3249	Max. :52.00	Max. :1283.0	Max. :1.659	Max. :8.09
				NA's :12	

#### > cor(IR,use="complete.obs")

	ccode	Ndyads	disputes	allies	openness	exposure
ccode	1.00000	-0.29623	-0.1399	-0.3983	0.02744	-0.6544
Ndyads	-0.29623	1.00000	0.8626	0.9200	-0.07511	0.6988
disputes	-0.13989	0.86257	1.0000	0.8255	-0.16819	0.6335
allies	-0.39826	0.92004	0.8255	1.0000	-0.12548	0.7003
openness	0.02744	-0.07511	-0.1682	-0.1255	1.00000	-0.1433
exposure	-0.65442	0.69878	0.6335	0.7003	-0.14325	1.0000

## Ignoring Exposure

```
> IR.fit1<-glm(disputes~allies+openness,data=IR,family="poisson")
> summary(IR.fit1)
Coefficients:
             Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) 1.1559498 0.1117581 10.343 < 2e-16 ***
allies 0.0025184 0.0001159 21.734 < 2e-16 ***
openness -1.1144132 0.2773631 -4.018 5.87e-05 ***
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
(Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)
   Null deviance: 732.68 on 101 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 392.97 on 99 degrees of freedom
  (12 observations deleted due to missingness)
ATC: 588.29
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 6
```

## Correcting for Exposure

```
> IR.fit2<-glm(disputes~allies+openness,data=IR,family="poisson",
 offset=log(Ndyads))
> summary(IR.fit2)
Coefficients:
             Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) -3.2906055 0.1194616 -27.545 < 2e-16 ***
allies
           -0.0006058 0.0001333 -4.544 5.52e-06 ***
openness -1.6040587 0.3167415 -5.064 4.10e-07 ***
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
   Null deviance: 320.19 on 101 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 277.79 on 99 degrees of freedom
  (12 observations deleted due to missingness)
AIC: 473.11
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 5
```

# Correcting for Exposure (continued)

```
> IR.fit3<-glm(disputes~allies+openness+log(Ndyads),data=IR,
              family="poisson")
> summary(IR.fit3)
Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value
                                                      Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) -2.42656676
                        0.34345252 -7.07
                                               0.000000000016 ***
allies
           -0.00000948 0.00025687 -0.04
                                                          0.97
openness -1.44462460 0.31193821 -4.63
                                               0.0000036368547 ***
log(Ndyads) 0.81097748 0.07095243 11.43 < 0.0000000000000000 ***
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
(Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)
   Null deviance: 732.68 on 101 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 270.59 on 98 degrees of freedom
  (12 observations deleted due to missingness)
ATC: 467.9
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 5
```

# Test $\beta_{\text{exposure}} = 1.0$

```
> # z-test:
> 2*pnorm((0.811-1)/.071)
[1] 0.007768438
> # Wald test:
> wald.test(b=coef(IR.fit3),Sigma=vcov(IR.fit3),Terms=4,H0=1)
Wald test:
Chi-squared test:
X2 = 7.1, df = 1, P(> X2) = 0.0077
```





# Heterogeneity, Contagion, and Dispersion

#### Cats:

```
\begin{array}{lcl} Y_{cats} & = & \{0,1,1,0,2,0,1,0,3,1,2,1,0,2\} \\ \bar{Y}_{cats} & = & 1.0, \\ \sigma_{cats} & = & 0.92. \end{array}
```

# Heterogeneity, Contagion, and Dispersion

$$\mathsf{E}(Y_{cats}) = \lambda_{cats}$$

#### Assumes:

- Y = 0 at t = 0,
- Exclusive events
- $t_j = t_k \, \forall j \neq k$
- Constant, independent Pr(Event) over t

# Antelope

$$Y_{antelope} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 7, 7\}$$
  
 $\bar{Y}_{antelope} = 1.0,$   
 $\sigma_{antelope} = 6.46.$ 

Positive contagion  $\rightarrow$  overdispersion.

## Foxes

$$Y_{foxes} = \{1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1\}$$
  
 $\bar{Y}_{foxes} = 1.0,$   
 $\sigma_{foxes} = 0.15.$ 

Negative contagion  $\rightarrow$  underdispersion.

# Aggregation & Cross-Period Effects

$$Y_{cats} = \{1, 1, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2\}$$
 $Y_{antelope} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 14\}$ 
 $Y_{foxes} = \{1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 2, 2\}$ 

# Heterogeneity

- Correct specification
- ullet Correct distribution for  $\epsilon$
- Constant  $E(Y|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$

$$\lambda_i \equiv \mathsf{E}(Y_i) = f[\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{Z}_i \boldsymbol{\theta}]$$

## Overdispersion: A Test

Examine:

$$\hat{u}_i = \delta \hat{\lambda}_i + \epsilon_i$$

where

$$\hat{u}_i = \frac{(Y_i - \hat{\lambda}_i)^2 - Y_i}{\hat{\lambda}_i \sqrt{2}}$$

- Estimate a Poisson regression of  $Y_i$  on  $\mathbf{X}_i$ , and generate predicted counts  $\hat{\lambda}_i$ .
- Calculate  $\hat{u}_i$  according to the equation above.
- Estimate  $\delta$  using OLS, and test  $H_0: \hat{\delta} = 0$ .

## Overdispersion: Models

$$E(Y_i) \equiv \lambda_i = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + u_i)$$

$$= \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}) \exp(u_i)$$

$$= \lambda_i \nu_i$$

$$u_i \sim \mathsf{gamma}\left(1, \frac{1}{lpha}\right)$$

$$\Pr(Y_i = y | \lambda_i, \alpha) = \left(\frac{\Gamma(\alpha^{-1} + Y_i)}{\Gamma(\alpha^{-1})\Gamma(Y_i + 1)}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha^{-1}}{\alpha^{-1} + \lambda_i}\right)^{\alpha^{-1}} \left(\frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_i + \alpha^{-1}}\right)^{Y_i}$$

where

$$\Gamma(a) = \int_0^\infty \exp(-t)t^{a-1}dt$$

## Negative Binomial

Basis:

$$\lambda_i = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})$$

Model has

$$E(Y) = \lambda$$

$$Var(Y) = \lambda(1 + \alpha\lambda), \ \alpha > 0$$

# Negative Binomial (log-)Likelihood

$$\ln L_{NB} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left\{ \left( \sum_{j=0}^{Y_i - 1} \ln(j + \alpha^{-1}) \right) - \ln Y_i! - (Y_i - \alpha^{-1}) \ln[1 + \alpha \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})] + Y_i \ln \alpha + Y_i \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} \right\}$$

- $\alpha = 0 \iff \mathsf{E}(Y) = \mathsf{Var}(Y)$
- LR test for overdispersion:

$$-2 imes (\widehat{\ln L_{Poisson}} - \widehat{\ln L_{NB}}) \sim \chi_1^2$$

• 
$$\widehat{E(Y_i)} \equiv \hat{\lambda}_i = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})$$

### Underdispersion / CPB

"Continuous parameter binomial":

$$\Pr(Y_i = y | \lambda_i, \alpha) = \frac{\frac{\Gamma(\frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} + 1)}{Y_i!\Gamma(\frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} - Y_i + 1)} (1 - \alpha)^{Y_i} (\alpha)^{\frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} - Y_i}}{D_i}$$

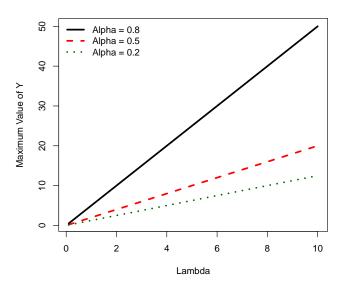
where  $D_i = \sum_{0}^{\frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha-1}+1}$  of the binomial distribution...

#### Are You Down With The CPB?

#### CPB:

- ...also has  $E(Y_i) = \lambda_i$  [with  $\mu_i = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})$ ]
- ...has  $Var(Y) = \lambda_i \alpha$  with  $0 < \alpha < 1$
- ullet ... reduces to the standard Poisson when lpha=1
- ...imposes a theoretical "upper limit" on the count variable.
   In particular,

$$\max(Y_i) = \frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1}$$
.



## CPB (log-)Likelihood

$$\ln L_{CPB} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left\{ \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} + 1 \right) - \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} - Y_i + 1 \right) + Y_i \ln(1 - \alpha) + \left( \frac{-\lambda_i}{\alpha - 1} - Y_i \right) \ln(\alpha) - \ln(D_i) \right\}$$

# Example: SCOTUS amicus curiae (1953-85)

- N = 7157
- namici is the number of amicus curiae briefs filed in each case.
- term is the term (i.e., year) of the Court,
- civlibs is whether (=1) or not (=0) the case involved a civil rights and liberties issue.

#### > summary(amici)

namici	term	civlibs
Min. : 0.00	Min. :53.0	Min. :0.000
1st Qu.: 0.00	1st Qu.:64.0	1st Qu.:0.000
Median: 0.00	Median:72.0	Median :1.000
Mean : 1.03	Mean :71.1	Mean :0.501
3rd Qu.: 1.00	3rd Qu.:79.0	3rd Qu.:1.000
Max. :53.00	Max. :85.0	Max. :1.000

### Amicus Example: Poisson

```
> amici.poisson<-glm(namici~term+civlibs,data=amici,family="poisson")</pre>
> summary(amici.poisson)
Coefficients:
          Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
0.06361 0.00147 43.27 <2e-16 ***
term
civlibs -0.29797 0.02350 -12.68 <2e-16 ***
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
(Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)
   Null deviance: 22875 on 7156 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 20675 on 7154 degrees of freedom
 (4 observations deleted due to missingness)
ATC: 26862
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 6
```

#### Overdispersion Test: "By Hand"

```
> Phats<-fitted.values(amici.poisson)
> Uhats<-((amici$namici-Phats)^2 - amici$namici) / (Phats * sqrt(2))</pre>
> summary(lm(Uhats~Phats))
Call:
lm(formula = Uhats ~ Phats)
Residuals:
  Min 10 Median 30 Max
 -5.9 -3.0 -2.3 -1.9 1707.0
Coefficients:
           Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 1.579 0.693 2.28 0.023 *
Phats
          1.466 0.591 2.48 0.013 *
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
Residual standard error: 28.4 on 7155 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.000858, Adjusted R-squared: 0.000718
F-statistic: 6.14 on 1 and 7155 DF, p-value: 0.0132
```

### Negative Binomial Regression

```
> library(MASS)
> amici.NB<-glm.nb(namici~term+civlibs.data=amici)
> summary(amici.NB)
Call:
glm.nb(formula = namici ~ term + civlibs, data = amici, init,theta = 0.256657474,
   link = log)
Coefficients:
          Estimate Std. Error z value
                                           Pr(>|z|)
term
civlibs -0.26777 0.05403 -4.96
                                         0.00000072 ***
---
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1
(Dispersion parameter for Negative Binomial(0.2567) family taken to be 1)
   Null deviance: 5442 on 7156 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 4968 on 7154 degrees of freedom
ATC: 17378
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 1
           Theta: 0.25666
        Std. Err : 0.00838
> 1 / amici.NB$theta
Γ17 3.896
```

#### Predicted Values: Poisson and NB

- > plot(amici.poisson\$fitted.values,amici.NB\$fitted.values,xlab="Poisson",
   ylab="Negative Binomial",main="Predicted Counts")
- > abline(a=0,b=1,lwd=2)

