

# Generalised linear models in R

John Joseph Valletta

University of Exeter, Penryn Campus, UK

November 2018



Researcher  
Development



# Recap: Linear regression

## Assumptions:

- 1 A **linear** mean function is relevant.
- 2 Variances are equal across all predicted values of the response (**homoscedastic**).
- 3 Errors are **normally** distributed.
- 4 Samples collected at **random**.
- 5 Errors are **independent**.

# Generalised linear models (GLMs)

- 1 A linear mean (including any explanatory variables you want to)  
i.e  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$
- 2 A **link function** (like an “internal” transformation).
- 3 An **error structure**.  
So far we assumed normality  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

**Links** your **mean** function to the *scale* of the **observed data** e.g.

$$E(Y) = g^{-1}(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X)$$

- $\mathbb{E}(Y)$  is the **expected value** (i.e. mean of  $Y$ ).
- The function  $g(\cdot)$  is known as the **link function**, and  $g^{-1}(\cdot)$  denotes the **inverse** of  $g(\cdot)$ .

# Simple linear regression is a special case of a GLM

① A linear mean:  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$

② An error structure:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

③ Link function: identity

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

# Simple linear regression is a special case of a GLM

① A linear mean:  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$

② An **error structure**:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

③ **Link function**: identity

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

# Simple linear regression is a special case of a GLM

① A linear mean:  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$

② An **error structure**:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

③ **Link function: identity**

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

# Simple linear regression is a special case of a GLM

① A linear mean:  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$

② An **error structure**:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

③ **Link function: identity**

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$



```
lm(height ~ weight, data=df)
```

Is equivalent to:

```
glm(height ~ weight, data=df, family=gaussian(link=identity))
```

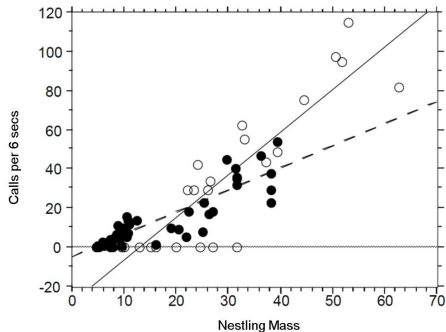
family specifies the error structure **and** link function

# Default link functions

| Family           | Link                     |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| gaussian         | identity                 |
| binomial         | logit, probit or cloglog |
| poisson          | log, identity or sqrt    |
| Gamma            | inverse, identity or log |
| inverse.gaussian | $1/\mu^2$                |
| quasi            | user-defined             |
| quasibinomial    | logit                    |
| quasipoisson     | log                      |

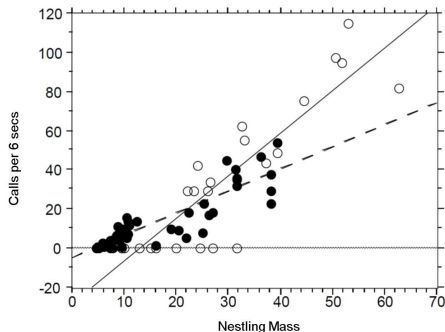
# Poisson regression

Count data is **discrete** and **non-negative**



# Poisson regression

Count data is **discrete** and **non-negative**



$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

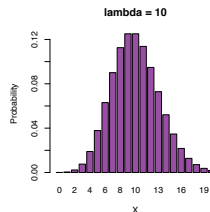
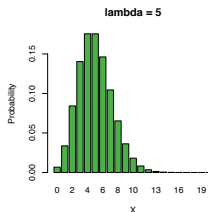
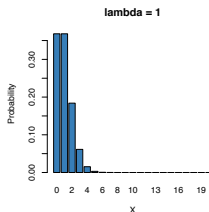
$$Y \sim \mathcal{Pois}(\mu)$$

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$\log \mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

# Poisson distribution

- **Discrete** variable, defined on the range  $0, 1, \dots, \infty$ .
- A single **rate** parameter  $\lambda$ , where  $\lambda > 0$ .
- **Mean** =  $\lambda$
- **Variance** =  $\lambda$



# Poisson regression

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Pois}(\lambda)$$
$$\log \lambda = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

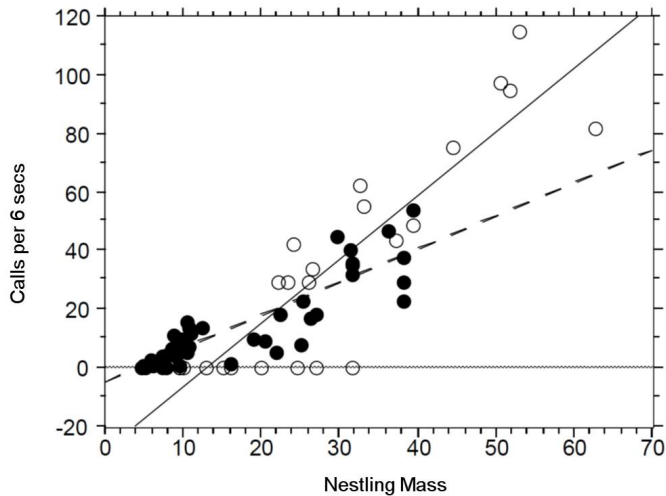
Using the rules of logarithm (i.e  $\log \lambda = k$ , then  $\lambda = e^k$ ):

$$\log \lambda = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$
$$\lambda = e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X}$$

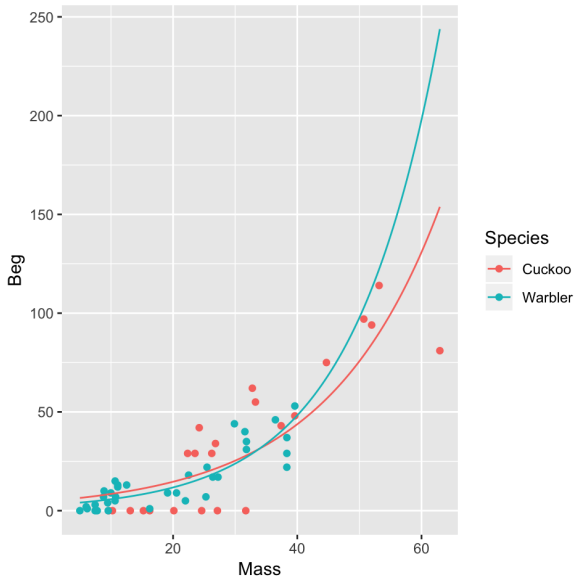
Thus we are effectively modelling the observed counts using an exponential distribution

```
glm(outcome ~ explanatory, data=df, family=poisson(link=log))
```

# Cuckoo data



# Cuckoo data



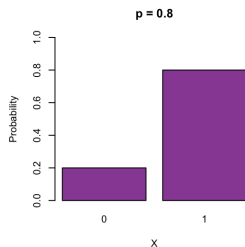
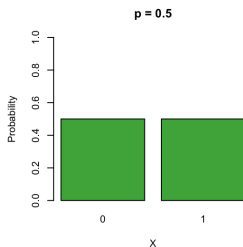
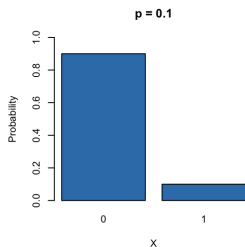


# Logistic regression

Consider a **categorical** response variable with two levels (e.g pass/fail). These type of **binary** data are assumed to be **Bernoulli** distributed:

$$Y \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

- A **probability** parameter  $p$ , where  $0 < p < 1$ .
- **Mean** =  $p$
- **Variance** =  $p(1 - p)$



# Logistic regression

$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Pois}(\lambda)$$

$$\log \lambda = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Bern}(p)$$

$$?? = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

# Logistic regression

$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Pois}(\lambda)$$

$$\log \lambda = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Bern}(p)$$

$$?? = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{Bern}(p)$$

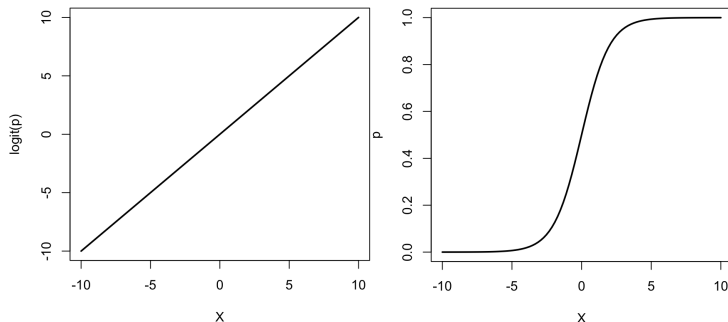
$$\log \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$\text{logit}(p) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

# Logistic regression

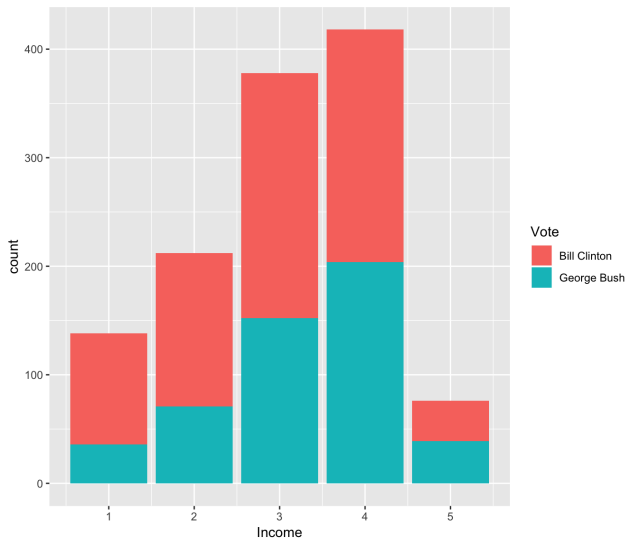
$$\log\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$p = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X}}$$



```
glm(response ~ explanatory, data=df, family=binomial(link=logit))
```

# 1992 US election survey



# 1992 US election survey

```
fit <- glm(Vote ~ Income, data=USA, family=binomial(link=logit))
summary(fit)
```

```
##
## Call:
## glm(formula = Vote ~ Income, family = binomial(link = logit),
##      data = USA)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -1.2699  -1.0162  -0.8998   1.2152   1.6199
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)  -1.3017     0.1828  -7.122 1.06e-12 ***
## Income         0.3033     0.0551   5.505 3.69e-08 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##      Null deviance: 1655.0  on 1221  degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 1623.5  on 1220  degrees of freedom
## AIC: 1627.5
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

$$Y \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

$$\log\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

- ‘(Intercept)’ =  $\beta_0 = -1.3$
- ‘Income’ =  $\beta_1 = 0.303$

It is common to interpret variables according to some **central tendency** e.g at the central income category (i.e  $X = 3$ )

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Republican vote at } X = 3) &= \text{logit}^{-1}(-1.3 + 0.3 \times 3) \\ &= \frac{e^{-1.3+0.3 \times 3}}{1 + e^{-1.3+0.3 \times 3}} \\ &= 0.48. \end{aligned}$$