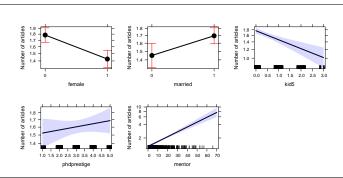
GLMs for Count Data

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Outline

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- GLMs for count data
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Generalized linear models

We have used generalized linear models (glm()) in two contexts so far:

Loglinear models

- the outcome variable is the vector of frequencies y in a table cross-classified by factors in a design matrix X
- The model is expressed as a linear model for log y

$$\log(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}$$

• The random (or unexplained) variation is expressed as a Poisson distribution for $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{X})$

Generalized linear models

Logistic regression

- the outcome variable is a categorical response y, with predictors X
- The model is expressed as a linear model for the log odds that y = 1 vs. y = 0.

$$logit(\mathbf{y}) \equiv log \left[\frac{Pr(y=1)}{Pr(y=0)} \right] = \mathbf{X}\beta$$

 The random (or unexplained) variation is expressed as a Binomial distribution for \(\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{y} \mathcal{X}) \)

Hey, aren't these both very like the familiar, classical linear model,

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$
?

Yes, for some transformation, $g(\mathbf{y})$, and with different distributions!

Generalized linear models

Nelder & Wedderburn (1972) said, "Let there be light!", a generalized linear model, encompassing them all, and many more. This has 3 components:

- A random component, specifying the conditional distribution of y given the explanatory variables in X, with mean $\mathcal{E}(y_i | x_i) = \mu_i$
 - The normal (Gaussian), binomial, and Poisson are already familiar
 - But, these are all members of an exponential family
 - GLMs now include an even wider family: negative-binomial and others
- The systematic component, a linear function of the predictors called the linear predictor

$$\eta = X\beta$$
 or $\eta_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \cdots + \beta_p X_{ip}$

- An invertible link function, $g(\mu_i) = \eta_i = \mathbf{x}_i^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}$ that transforms the expected value of the response to the linear predictor
 - The link function is invertable, so we can go back to the mean function $g^{-1}(\eta_i) = \mu_i$

Mean functions

Standard GLM link functions and their inverses:

Table 11.1: Common link functions and their inverses used in generalized linear models

Link name	Function: $\eta_i = g(\mu_i)$	Inverse: $\mu_i = g^{-1}(\eta_i)$
identity	μ_i	η_i
square-root	$\sqrt{\mu_i}$	η_i^2
log	$\log_e(\mu_i)$	$\exp(\eta_i)$
inverse	μ_i^{-1}	η_i^{-1}
inverse-square	μ_i^{-2}	$\eta_i^{-1/2}$
logit	$\log_e \frac{\mu_i}{1-\mu_i}$	$\frac{1}{1+\exp(-\eta_i)}$
probit	$\Phi^{-1}(\mu_i)$	$\Phi(\eta_i)$
log-log	$-\log_e[-\log_e(\mu_i)]$	$\exp[-\exp(-\eta_i)]$
comp. log-log	$\log_e[-\log_e(1-\mu_i)]$	$1 - \exp[-\exp(\eta_i)]$

- The top section recognizes standard transformations often used with traditional linear models
- The bottom section is for binomial data, where y_i represents an observed proportion in n_i trials

Canonical links and variance functions

- For every distribution family, there is a default, canonical link function
- Each one also specifies the expected relationship between mean and variance

Table 11.2: Common distributions in the exponential family used with generalized linear models and their canonical link and variance functions

Family	Notation	Canonical link	Range of y	Variance function, $\mathcal{V}(\mu \mid \eta)$
Gaussian	$N(\mu,\sigma^2)$	identity: μ	$(-\infty, +\infty)$	ϕ
Poisson	$Pois(\mu)$	$\log_e(\mu)$	$0,1,\ldots,\infty$	μ
Negative-Binomial	$NBin(\mu, \theta)$	$\log_e(\mu)$	$0,1,\ldots,\infty$	$\mu + \mu^2/\theta$
Binomial	$\operatorname{Bin}(n,\mu)/n$	$logit(\mu)$	$\{0,1,\ldots,n\}/n$	$\mu(1-\mu)/n$
Gamma	$G(\mu, \nu)$	μ^{-1}	$(0,+\infty)$	$\phi \mu^2$
Inverse-Gaussian	$IG(\mu, \nu)$	μ^2	$(0,+\infty)$	$\phi \mu^3$

Variance functions and over-dispersion

- In the classical Gaussian linear model, the conditional variance is constant, $\phi = \sigma_{\epsilon}^2$.
- For binomial data, the variance function is $V(\mu_i) = \mu_i (1 \mu_i)/n_i$, with ϕ fixed at 1
- In the Poisson family, $V(\mu_i) = \mu_i$ and the dispersion parameter is fixed at $\phi = 1$.
- In practice, it is common for count data to exhibit overdispersion, meaning that $V(\mu_i) > \mu_i$.
- One way to correct for this is to allow the dispersion parameter to be estimated from the data, giving what is called the *quasi-Poisson* family, with $\mathcal{V}(\mu_i) = \widehat{\phi}\mu_i$.

Variance functions and over-dispersion

Overdispersion often results from failures of the assumptions of the model:

- supposedly independent observations may be correlated
- the probability of an event may not be constant, or
- it may vary with unmeasured or unmodeled variables

ML Estimation

- GLMs are fit by the method of maximum likelihood.
- For the Poisson distribution with mean μ , the probability that the random variable Y takes values y = 0, 1, 2, ... is

$$\Pr(Y = y) = \frac{e^{-\mu}\mu^y}{y!}$$

In the GLM with a log link, the mean, μ_i depends on the predictors in x
through

$$\log_e(\mu_i) = \mathbf{x}_i^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

 The log-likelihood function (ignoring a constant) for n independent observations has the form

$$\log_{e} \mathcal{L}(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \{y_{i} \log_{e}(\mu_{i}) - \mu_{i}\}$$

 It can be shown that the maximum likelihood estimators are solutions to the estimating equations,

$$m{X}^{\mathsf{T}}m{y} = m{X}^{\mathsf{T}}m{\mu}$$

The solutions are found by iteratively re-weighted least squares.

Goodness of fit

 The residual deviance defined as twice the difference between the maximum log-likelihood for the saturated model that fits perfectly and maximized log-likelihood for the fitted model.

$$D(\mathbf{y}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) \equiv 2[\log_e \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{y}) - \log_e \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}; \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}})]$$
.

- For classical (Gaussian) linear models, this is just the residual sum of squares
- For Poisson models with a log link giving $\mu = \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\beta})$, the deviance takes the form

$$D(\boldsymbol{y}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[y_i \log_e \left(\frac{y_i}{\widehat{\mu}_i} \right) - (y_i - \widehat{\mu}_i) \right] .$$

• For a GLM with p parameters, both the Pearson and residual deviance statistics follow approximate χ^2_{n-p} distributions with n-p degrees of freedom.

GLMs for count data

- Typicaly, these are fit using: glm(y x1 + x2 + x3, family=poisson, data=mydata)
- As in other linear models, the predictors x_j can be discrete factors, quantitative variables, and so forth.
- This fixes the dispersion parameter ϕ to 1, assuming that the count variable y conditional on x1, x2, ... is Poisson distributed.
- It is possible to fit a quasi Poisson model, allowing ϕ to be estimated from the data. Specify: family=quasipoisson. This allows the variance to be proportional to the mean,

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}_i \mid \eta_i) = \phi \mu_i$$

Another possibility is the negative-binomial model, which has

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}_i \mid \eta_i) = \mu_i + \mu_i^2/\theta$$

Example: Publications of PhD Candidates

Example 3.24 in DDAR gives data on the number of publications by PhD candidates in biochemistry in the last 3 years of study

```
data("PhdPubs", package = "vcdExtra")
table(PhdPubs$articles)

##
## 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 16 19
## 275 246 178 84 67 27 17 12 1 2 1 1 2 1 1
```

Predictors are: gender, marital status, number of young children, prestige
of the doctoral department, and number of publications by the student's
mentor.

Example: Publications of PhD Candidates

- Initially, ignore the predictors.
- For the Poisson, equivalent to an intercept-only model: glm(articles ~ 1, data=PhdPubs, family="poisson")

As a quick check on the Poisson assumption:

The assumption that mean = variance could be met when we add predictors.

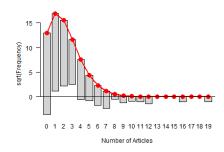
Example: Publications of PhD Candidates

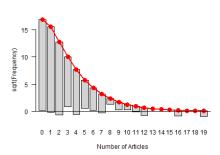
First, look at rootograms:

```
plot(goodfit(PhdPubs$articles), xlab = "Number of Articles",
    main = "Poisson")
plot(goodfit(PhdPubs$articles, type = "nbinomial"),
    xlab = "Number of Articles", main = "Negative binomial")
```

Poisson

Negative binomial





One reason the Poisson doesn't fit: excess 0s (some never published?)

Fitting the Poisson model

Fit the model with all main effects:

Only phdprestige is NS; it does no harm to keep it, for now.

Interpreting coefficients

 β_j is the increment in log (articles) for a 1 unit change in x_j ; $\exp(\beta_j)$ is the multiple of articles:

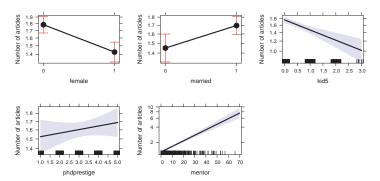
Thus:

- ullet females publish -0.224 fewer log (articles), or 0.8 imes that of males
- married publish 0.157 more log (articles); or 1.17 × unmarried (17% increase)
- \bullet each additional young child decreases this by 0.185; or 0.831 \times articles (16.9% decrease)
- each mentor pub multiplies student pub by 1.026, a 2.6% increase

Effect plots

As usual, we can understand the fitted model from predicted values for the model effects:

library(effects); plot(allEffects(phd.pois))



These are better visual summaries for a model than a table of coefficients.

Model diagnostics

Diagnostic tests for count data GLMs are similar to those used for classical linear models

- Test for presence of interactions
 - Fit model(s) with some or all two-way interactions
- Non-linear effects of quantitative predictors?
 - Component-plus-residual plots— car::crPlot() are useful here
- Outliers? Influential observations?
 - car::influencePlot() is your friend

For count data models, we should also check for over-dispersion. This is similar to homogeneity of variance checks in lm()

Testing for interactions

As a quick check for interactions, fit the model with all two-way terms

```
phd.pois1 <- update(phd.pois, . ~ .^2)</pre>
Anova (phd.pois1)
## Analysis of Deviance Table (Type II tests)
##
  Response: articles
##
                     LR Chisq Df Pr(>Chisq)
## female
                        14.5 1 0.00014 ***
                        6.2 1 0.01277 *
## married
                       19.5 1 9.8e-06 ***
## kid5
  phdprestige
                        1.0 1 0.32655
                      128.1 1 < 2e-16 ***
0.3 1 0.60995
## mentor
## female:married
## female:kid5
                        0.1 1 0.72929
                       0.2 1 0.63574
## female:phdprestige
## female:mentor
                        0.0
                                0.91260
## married:kid5
## married:phdprestige 1.7 1 0.19153
                       1.2 1 0.28203
## married:mentor
## kid5:phdprestige 0.2 1 0.68523
                        2.8 1 0.09290 .
## kid5:ment.or
                         3.8 1 0.05094 .
  phdprestige:mentor
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Compare models I

Compare models: LR tests for nested models (anova()), and AIC/BIC (LRstats())

```
anova(phd.pois, phd.pois1, test="Chisq")

## Analysis of Deviance Table

##
## Model 1: articles ~ female + married + kid5 + phdprestige + mentor
## Model 2: articles ~ female + married + kid5 + phdprestige + mentor + female:kid5 + female:phdprestige + female:mentor + married:kid5 +

## married:phdprestige + married:mentor + kid5:phdprestige +

## kid5:mentor + phdprestige:mentor

## Resid. Df Resid. Dev Df Deviance Pr(>Chi)

## 1 909 1634

## 2 900 1618 9 15.2 0.086 .

## ---

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

Compare models II

```
LRstats(phd.pois, phd.pois1)

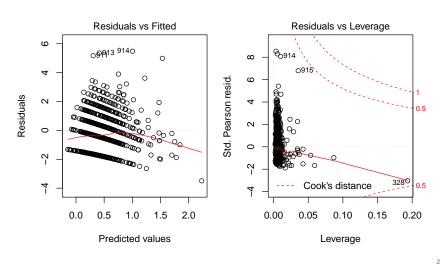
## Likelihood summary table:
## AIC BIC LR Chisq Df Pr(>Chisq)
## phd.pois 3313 3342 1634 909 <2e-16 ***
## phd.pois1 3316 3388 1618 900 <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1</pre>
```

- There seems to be no reason to include interactions in the model
- We might want to re-visit this, after examining other models for the basic count distribution (quasi-poisson, negative-binomial)

Basic model plots

Only two of the standard model plots are informative for count data models

plot(phd.pois, which=c(1,5))



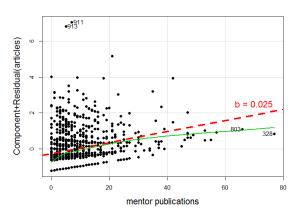
Nonlinearity diagnostics

- Non-linear relations are difficult to assess in marginal plots, because they don't control (or adjust) for other predictors
- Component-plus-residual plots (also called partial residual plots) can show non-linear relations for numeric predictors
 - These graph the value of $\hat{\beta}_i x_i + \text{residual}_i$ vs. the predictor, x_i .
 - In this plot, the slope of the points is the coefficient, $\hat{\beta}_i$ in the full model
 - The residual is $y_i \hat{y}_i$ in the full model
- A non-parametric (e.g., loess()) smooth makes it easy to detect non-linearity

Nonlinearity diagnostics: car::crPlot()

Is the relationship between articles published by the student and the mentor adequately represented as linear?

```
crPlot(phd.pois, "mentor", pch=16, lwd=4, id.n=2)
```



Residuals I

Several types of residuals can be defined based on the Pearson and deviance goodness-of-fit measures

• the **Pearson residual** is the case-wise contribution to Pearson χ^2

$$r_i^P = \frac{y_i - \widehat{\mu}_i}{\sqrt{\widehat{\mathcal{V}}(y_i)}}$$

 the deviance residual is the signed square root of the contribution to the deviance G²

$$r_i^D = \operatorname{sign}(y_i - \widehat{\mu}_i) \sqrt{d_i}$$

• Both of these have standardized forms that correct for conditional variance and leverage, and have approx. $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ distributions.

$$\widetilde{r}_{i}^{P} = \frac{r_{i}^{P}}{\sqrt{\widehat{\phi}(1-h_{i})}}$$

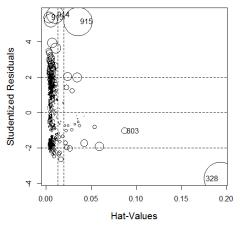
$$\widetilde{r}_{i}^{D} = \frac{r_{i}^{D}}{\sqrt{\widehat{\phi}(1-h_{i})}}$$

Residuals II

The most useful is the studentized residual (or deletion residual),
 rstudent () in R. This estimates the standardized residual resulting from omitting each observation in turn. An approximation is:

$$\widetilde{r}_i^S = \text{sign}(y_i - \widehat{\mu}_i) \sqrt{(1 - h_i)(\widetilde{r}_i^D)^2 + h_i(\widetilde{r}_i^P)^2}$$
.

Outliers, leverage and influence



influencePlot(phd.pois)

- Several observations (913–915) stand out with large + residuals
- One observation (328) has a large leverage
- Why are they unusual? Do they affect our conclusions?
- Look back at data & decide what to do!

Outliers, leverage and influence

At the very least, we should look at these observations in the data:

- case 328: Mentor published 77 papers! Student, only 1
- 913–915: all published >> predicted

Outlier test

- A formal test for outliers can be based on the studentized residuals. rstudent (model), using the standard normal distribution for p-values
- A Bonferroni correction should be applied, because interest focuses on the largest *n* absolute residuals.

For the Poisson model, 4 observations are nominated as large + outliers:

```
outlierTest (phd.pois, cutoff=0.001)
      rstudent unadjusted p-value Bonferonni p
                       2.9852e-08
                                   2.7315e-05
## 914
        5.5423
## 913 5.3821
                       7.3617e-08 6.7360e-05
## 911 5.2074
                       1.9153e-07 1.7525e-04
## 915 5.1504
                       2.5988e-07 2.3779e-04
```

Overdispersion

- The Poisson model for counts assumes $V(\mu_i) = \mu_i$, i.e., the dispersion parameter $\phi = 1$
- But often, the counts exhibit greater variance than the Poisson distribution allows, $V(\mu_i) > \mu_i$ or $\phi > 1$
 - The observations (counts) may not be independent (clustering)
 - The probability of an "event" may not be constant
 - There may be unmeasured influences, not accounted for in the model
 - These effects are sometimes called "unmodeled heterogeneity"
- The consequences are:
 - Standard errors of the coefficients, $se(\widehat{\beta}_i)$ are optimistically small
 - Wald tests, $z_i = \widehat{\beta}_i/\text{se}(\widehat{\beta}_i)$, are too large, and thus overly liberal.

Testing overdispersion

- Statistical tests for overdispersion are described in DDAR §11.3.4.
- They test $H_0: \mathcal{V}(y) = \mu$, vs. H_1 that variance depends on the mean according to some function $f(\mu)$

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}) = \mu + \alpha \times f(\mu)$$

- This is implemented in dispersiontest () in the AER package.
 - If significant, overdispersion should not be ignored
 - Alternatively, you can try fitting a more general model to see what difference it makes.

Overdispersion: Quasi-poisson models

• Instead, we can fit another version of the model in which the dispersion ϕ is a free parameter, estimated along with the other coefficients. That is, the conditional variance is allowed to be

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}_i \mid \eta_i) = \phi \mu_i$$

- This model is fit with glm () using family=quasipoisson
 - ullet the estimated coefficients $\widehat{\beta}$ are unchanged
 - the standard errors are multiplied by $\hat{\phi}^{1/2}$
 - peace, order, and good governance is restored!

Overdispersion: Quasi-poisson models

- One estimate of the dispersion parameter is the residual deviance divided by degrees of freedom $\widehat{\phi} = D(\mathbf{y}, \widehat{\mu})/df$
- \bullet The Pearson χ^2 statistic has better statistical properties and is more commonly used

$$\widehat{\phi} = \frac{X_P^2}{n-p} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - \widehat{\mu}_i)^2}{\widehat{\mu}_i} / (n-p)$$
.

For the PhdPubs data, these estimates are quite similar: about 80% overdispersion

```
with(phd.pois, deviance / df.residual)
## [1] 1.7971
sum(residuals(phd.pois, type = "pearson")^2) / phd.pois$df.residual
## [1] 1.8304
```

Fitting the quasi-poisson model

The quasi-Poisson model is can be fit using glm() as:

```
phd.qpois <- glm(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs, family=quasipoisson)</pre>
```

The dispersion parameter estimate $\widehat{\phi}$ can be obtained as follows:

```
(phi <- summary(phd.qpois)$dispersion)
## [1] 1.8304</pre>
```

This is much better than variance/mean ratio of 2.91 calculated for the marginal distribution ignoring the predictors.

Coefficients unchanged; std. errors multiplied by $\hat{\phi}^{1/2} = \sqrt{1.83} = 1.35$.

```
summary (phd. qpois)
##
## Call:
## glm(formula = articles ~ ., family = quasipoisson, data = PhdPubs)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##
     Min 1Q Median 3Q Max
## -3.488 -1.538 -0.365 0.577 5.483
##
## Coefficients:
##
      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 0.26562 0.13478 1.97 0.04906 * ## female1 -0.22442 0.07384 -3.04 0.00244 **
## married1 0.15732 0.08287 1.90 0.05795.
## kid5 -0.18491 0.05427 -3.41 0.00069 ***
## phdprestige 0.02538 0.03419 0.74 0.45815
## mentor 0.02523 0.00275 9.19 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for quasipoisson family taken to be 1.8304)
##
## Null deviance: 1817.4 on 914 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 1633.6 on 909 degrees of freedom
## AIC: NA
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 5
```

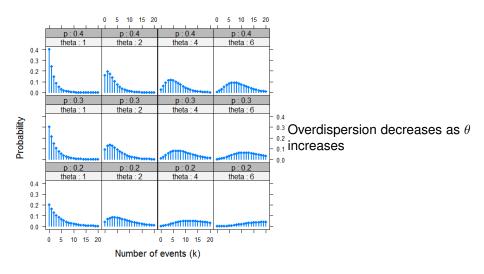
The negative-binomial model

- The negative-binomial model is a different generalization of the Poisson that allows for over-dispersion
- Mathematically, it allows the mean $\mu \mid \mathbf{x}_i$ to vary across observations as a gamma distribution with a shape parameter θ .
- The variance function, $V(y_i) = \mu_i + \mu_i^2/\theta$, allows the variance of y to increase more rapidly than the mean.
- Another parameterization uses $\alpha = 1/\theta$

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}_i) = \mu_i + \mu_i^2/\theta = \mu_i + \alpha \mu_i^2 ,$$

• As $\alpha \to 0$, $V(y_i) \to \mu_i$ and the negative-binomial converges to the Poisson.

The negative-binomial model



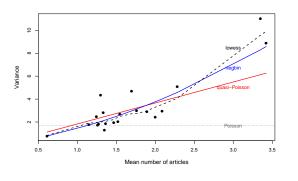
The negative-binomial model: Fitting

- For fixed θ , the negative-binomial is another special case of the GLM
- This is handled in the MASS package, with family=negative.binomial(theta)
- But most often, θ is unknown, and must be estimated from the data
- This is implemented in glm.nb() in the MASS package.

```
library(MASS)
phd.nbin <- glm.nb(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs)</pre>
```

Visualizing the mean variance relation

One way to see the difference among models is to plot the variance vs. mean for grouped values of the fitted linear predictor.

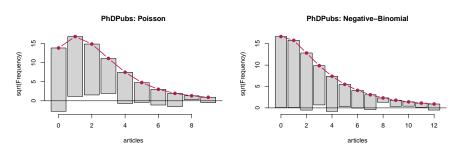


- The smoothed (loess) curve gives the empirical mean-variance relationship
- Also plot the theoretical mean–variance from different models
- For PhdPubs, the data is most similar to the negative-binomial
- The models differ most for those with > 3 articles

Visualizing goodness-of-fit

The countreg package extends the rootogram() function to work with fitted
models:

```
countreg::rootogram(phd.pois, main="PhDPubs: Poisson")
countreg::rootogram(phd.nbin, main="PhDPubs: Negative-Binomial")
```



The Poisson model shows a systematic, wave-like pattern with excess zeros, too few observed frequencies for counts of 1–3.

What difference does it make?

The NB is certainly a better fit than the Poisson; the QP cannot be distinguished by standard tests

```
LRstats(phd.pois, phd.qpois, phd.nbin)

## Likelihood summary table:
## AIC BIC LR Chisq Df Pr(>Chisq)
## phd.pois 3313 3342 1634 909 <2e-16 ***
## phd.qpois 909
## phd.nbin 3135 3169 1004 909 0.015 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1</pre>
```

Can also compare standard errors of the coefficients:

```
## pois qpois nbin
## (Intercept) 0.100 0.135 0.133
## female1 0.055 0.074 0.073
## married1 0.061 0.083 0.082
## kid5 0.040 0.054 0.053
## phdprestige 0.025 0.034 0.034
## mentor 0.002 0.003 0.003
```

What have we learned?

A summary for an article to this point would use the result of negative-binomial model, from summary (phd.nbin)

- The number of articles published by these PhD candidates is most strongly influenced by publications of their mentor
- Increasing young children (kids5) results in fewer publications.
- Being married is marginally non-significant— don't interpret
- The prestige of the university doesn't make a difference
- There are still some remaining doubts:
 - Several cases (328, 913–915) appeared unusual in earlier diagnostic plots.
 Refit without them to see if any conclusions change.
 - The NB model seems to account for the zero counts— students who never published.
 - Is there a better way?

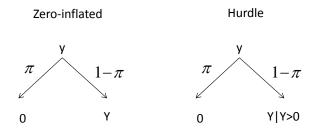
Excess zero counts

- A common problem in count data models is that many sets of data have more observed zero counts than the (quasi) Poisson or NB models can handle.
 - In the PhdPubs data, 275 of 915 (30%) candidates published zilch, bupkis
 - The expected count of 0 articles in the Poisson model is only 191 (21%)
- Maybe there are two types of students giving zero counts:
 - Those who never intend to publish (non-academic career path?)
 - The rest, who do intend to publish, but have not yet done so
 - This suggests the idea of zero inflation
- An alternative idea is that there is some hurdle to overcome before attaining a positive count, e.g., external pressure from the mentor.

Beyond simply identifying this as a problem of lack-of-fit, understanding the reasons for excess zero counts can contribute to a more complete explanation of the phenomenon of interest.

Two model types for excess zeros

- **zero-inflated models**: The responses with $y_i = 0$ arise from a mixture of structural, always 0 values, with $Pr(y_i = 0) = \pi_i$ and the rest, which are random 0s, with $Pr(y_i = 0) = 1 \pi_i$
- *hurdle models*: One process determines whether $y_i = 0$ with $Pr(y_i = 0) = \pi_i$. A second process determines the distribution of values of positive counts, $Pr(y_i | y_i > 0)$



Zero-inflated models

The zero-inflated Poisson (ZIP) model has two components:

 A logistic regression model for membership in the unobserved (latent) class of those for whom y_i is necessarily zero

$$\operatorname{logit}(\pi_i) = \mathbf{z}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \gamma = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 z_{i1} + \gamma_2 z_{i2} + \cdots + \gamma_q z_{iq} .$$

• A Poisson model for the other class (e.g., "publishers"), for whom y_i may be 0 or positive.

$$\log_e \mu(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{x}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \beta = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_q x_{ip}$$
.

In applications, the same predictors can be (and often are) used in both models $(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z})$.

Zero-inflated models

In the ZIP model, the probabilities of observing counts of $y_i = 0$ and $y_i > 0$ are:

$$\Pr(y_i = 0 \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \pi_i + (1 - \pi_i)e^{-\mu_i}
\Pr(y_i \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (1 - \pi_i) \times \left[\frac{\mu_i^{y_i}e^{-\mu_i}}{y_i!}\right], \quad y_i \ge 0.$$

The conditional expectation and variance of y_i then are:

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}_i) = (1 - \pi_i) \,\mu_i$$

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{y}_i) = (1 - \pi_i) \,\mu_i (1 + \mu_i \pi_i) .$$

When $\pi_i > 0$, the mean of y is always less than μ_i ; the variance of y is greater than its mean by a dispersion factor of $(1 + \mu_i \pi_i)$.

The model for the count variable could also be negative-binomial, giving a zero-inflated negative-binomial (ZINB) model using NBin(μ , θ)

Zero-inflated data

Generate some random data from Pois(3) = $ZIP(3, \pi = 0)$ and $ZIP(3, \pi = 0.3)$. This uses rzipois () in the VGAM.

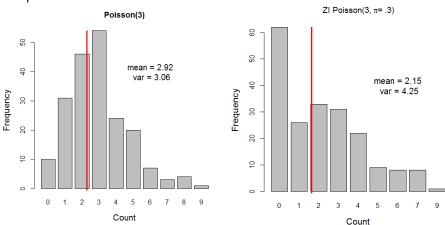
```
library(VGAM)
set.seed(1234)
data1 <- rzipois(200, 3, 0)
data2 <- rzipois(200, 3, .3)</pre>
```

Tables of the counts:

```
table(data1)
## data1
## 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
## 10 31 46 54 24 20 7 3 4 1
table(data2)
## data2
## 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9
## 62 26 33 31 22 9 8 8 1
```

Zero-inflated data

Bar plots of the counts:



The 30% extra zeros decrease the mean and inflate the variance

Hurdle models

The Hurdle model also has two components:

• A logistic regression model, for the probability that $y_i = 0$ vs. $y_i > 0$

$$\operatorname{logit}\left[\frac{\operatorname{Pr}(y_i=0)}{\operatorname{Pr}(y_i>0)}\right] = \boldsymbol{z}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\gamma} = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 z_{i1} + \gamma_2 z_{i2} + \dots + \gamma_q z_{iq} \ .$$

- A model for the positive counts, taken as a left-truncated Poisson or negative-binomial, excluding the zero counts
- Comparing the ZIP and Hurdle models:
 - In ZIP models, the first (latent) process generates extra zeros (with probability π_i).
 - In Hurdle models, $y_i = 0$ and $y_i > 0$ are fully observed. The first process generates all the zeros.

Fitting ZIP and Hurdle models

In R, these models can be fit using the pscl and countreg packages.

countreg is more mature, but is only available on R-Forge, not on CRAN. Use:

```
install.packages("countreg", repos="http://R-Forge.R-project.org")
```

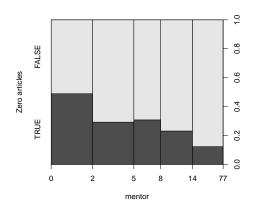
The functions have the following arguments:

The formula, y $\tilde{\ }$ x1 + x2 + ... uses the same predictors for both models.

Using $y \sim x1 + x2 + \dots \mid z1 + z2 + \dots$ allows separate predictors for the 0 submodel.

Visualizing zero counts

It is often useful to plot the data for the binary distinction between $y_i = 0$ vs. $y_i > 0$ as in logistic regression models.



Example: Phd Publications

Just to illustrate, we fit all four models, the combinations of (ZI, Hurdle) \times (Poisson, NBin) to the PhdPubs data.

For simplicity, we use all predictors for both the zero model and the non-zero model.

```
library(countreg)
phd.zip <- zeroinfl(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs, dist="poisson")
phd.znb <- zeroinfl(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs, dist="negbin")

phd.hp <- hurdle(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs, dist="poisson")
phd.hnb <- hurdle(articles ~ ., data=PhdPubs, dist="negbin")</pre>
```

Example: Phd Publications

Compare models, sorting by BIC:

The standard negative binomial looks best by BIC. Why do you think this is?

Test the coefficients in the ZIP model using lmtest::coeftest()

```
library(lmtest)
coeftest (phd.zip)
##
  t test of coefficients:
##
##
                  Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## count_(Intercept) 0.59918
                           0.11861 5.05 5.3e-07 ***
## count_female1 -0.20879 0.06353 -3.29 0.0011 **
## count_married1 0.10623 0.07097
                                     1.50 0.1348
## count kid5
                -0.14271
                          0.04744
                                      -3.01 0.0027 **
## count_phdprestige 0.00700
                            0.02981
                                     0.23 0.8145
                          0.00233 7.65
## count mentor
                0.01785
                                            5.3e-14 ***
## zero (Intercept) -0.56332
                          0.49405
                                     -1.14 0.2545
                 0.10816 0.28173
## zero female1
                                      0.38 0.7011
## zero married1 -0.35558
                            0.31796
                                      -1.12
                                             0.2637
                  0.21974
                             0.19658
                                      1.12
                                             0.2639
## zero kid5
## zero_phdprestige -0.00537
                            0.14118
                                      -0.04
                                            0.9697
  zero mentor
               -0.13313
                            0.04643
                                      -2.87
                                             0.0042 **
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Only mentor is significant for the zero model!

```
phd.zip1 <- zeroinfl(articles ~ .| mentor, data=PhdPubs, dist="poisson")
phd.znb1 <- zeroinfl(articles ~ .| mentor, data=PhdPubs, dist="negbin")</pre>
```

Compare again:

```
LRstats (phd.pois, phd.nbin, phd.zip, phd.znb, phd.hp, phd.hnb,
       phd.zip1, phd.znb1, sortby="BIC")
## Likelihood summary table:
##
            AIC BIC LR Chisa Df Pr(>Chisa)
## phd.pois 3313 3342
                         3301 909 <2e-16 ***
  phd.hp 3235 3292 3211 903 <2e-16 ***
  phd.zip 3234 3291 3210 903 <2e-16 ***
## phd.zip1 3227 3266 3211 907 <2e-16 ***
## phd.hnb 3131 3194 3105 902 <2e-16 ***
  phd.znb 3126 3188
                     3100 902 <2e-16 ***
## phd.nbin 3135 3169 3121 909 <2e-16 ***
  phd.znb1 3124 3168
                     3106 906 <2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '*** 0.001 '** 0.01 '* 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Now, the phd.znb1 model is best by BIC. Why?

Model interpretation: Coefficients

Ignoring NS coefficients in the revised ZNB model (phd.znb1)

Count model:

$$log(articles) = 0.357 - 0.21 female - 0.17 kids5 + 0.024 mentor$$

Zero model:

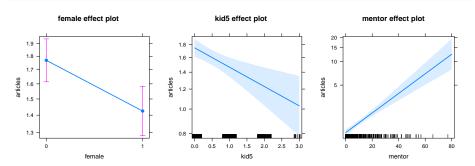
$$logit(articles = 0) = -0.817 - 0.608 mentor$$

Can you describe these in words?

Model interpretation: Effect plots

- The effects package cannot yet handle zero-inflated or hurdle models.
- But the fitted values don't differ very much among these models
- Here, I use the phd.nbin model, and just show the effects for the important terms

plot(allEffects(phd.nbin)[c(1,3,5)], rows=1, cols=3)



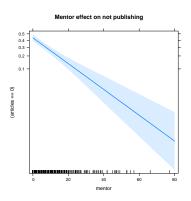
The ZIP sub-model for the zero counts ("did not publish") can also be interpreted visually

As an approximation, fit a separate logistic model for articles==0

Example

The effect plot for that gives an interpretation of the zero model.

```
phd.zero <- qlm((articles==0) ~ mentor, data=PhdPubs, family=binomial)</pre>
plot(allEffects(phd.zero), main="Mentor effect on not publishing")
```



What have we learned?

- The simple Poisson regression model fits very badly
 - Standard errors do not reflect overdispersion
 - Inference about model effects is compromised by overly liberal tests
- The quasi-poisson model corrects for overdispersion.
 - But doesn't account for excess 0s
- The negative-binomial model provides valid tests and fits the 0 counts well.
 - But it doesn't provide any insight into why there are so many 0s
- The ZIP and ZNB models fit well, and account for the 0s.
 - But they lose here on BIC (and AIC) measures, because they have $2\times$ the number of parameters.
 - For simplicity, I have slighted the analogous hurdle models

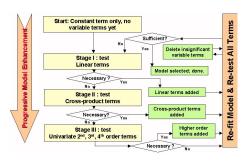
What have we learned?

- The revised ZNB model (phd.znb1), with only mentor predicting 0s, wins on parsimony, and has a simple interpretation.
 - The log odds that a student does not publish decrease by 0.61 for every article published by the mentor
 - Each mentor pub increases student publications by about 2.5%
 - ◆ ⇒ Encourage or help your supervisor to publish!
 - (Or, choose a high publishing one.)
- For this data set, the main substantive interpretation and predicted effects are similar across models. But details matter!
- In data sets where there are substantive reasons for excess 0s, the ZI and hurdle models provide different explanations.
 - It is not always just a matter of model fit!
 - Hurdle models make the distinction between 0 and > 0 more explicit
 - In ZI models, the interpretation of the mean count is clearer.

What have we forgotten?

"All models are wrong, but some are useful" — GEP Box

- Model building and model criticism go hand in hand
- But they don't form a linear series of steps, or steps you can put into a flow chart
- Sometimes, you have to go back and re-visit decisions made earlier:
 Re-think → Re-fit → Re-interpret





What I missed

- In the initial model, phdprestige was NS; I decided to keep it
- In the check for two way interactions, the interaction phdprestige:mentor was borderline (p = 0.051)
 - I did a global test for all interactions together.
 - That was NS (p = 0.08), so I decided to dismiss them all.
 - (I wanted to keep the model simple, to go on to other topics: overdispersion, models for excess zeros.)

Back to square two

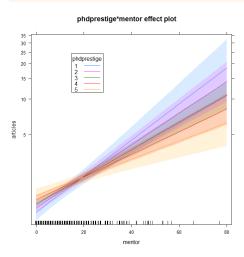
- A question in class made me reconsider the phdprestige:mentor interaction
- Perhaps the effect of mentor varied with phdprestige?

Try this, starting with the negative-binomial model, phd.nbin

```
phd.nbin2 <- update(phd.nbin, . ~ . + phdprestige:mentor)</pre>
Anova (phd.nbin2)
## Analysis of Deviance Table (Type II tests)
##
##
  Response: articles
##
                     LR Chisq Df Pr(>Chisq)
## female
                         9.1 1 0.0026 **
                         3.1 1 0.0762 .
## married
## kid5
                        10.7 1 0.0011 **
  phdprestige
                       0.7 1 0.3921
                        72.8 1 <2e-16 ***
## mentor
  phdprestige:mentor 5.6 1 0.0179 *
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Visualize the interaction

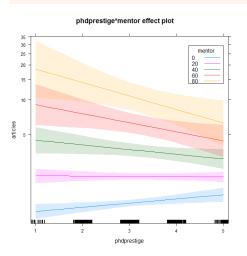
```
phd.effnb2 <- allEffects(phd.nbin2)
plot(phd.effnb2[4], x.var="mentor", multiline=TRUE, ci.style="bands", ...</pre>
```



- An effect plot for phdprestige*mentor shows the average over other predictors
- This plot, with mentor on the X-axis shows that the slope for mentor increases with higher prestige of the student's university

Visualize the interaction— the other way

plot(phd.effnb2[4], multiline=TRUE, ci.style="bands", ...)



- This plot, with phdprestige on the X-axis shows that the slopes change sign depending on the value of mentor.
- It explains why the main effect of phdprestige is near 0.
- The widths of the confidence bands indicate model uncertainty— they get wider as mentor pubs increase, and phdprestige differs from average.

What else is there?

The PhdPubs example was rather simple, in that:

- There were only a few predictors
 - Model selection methods could be based on simple Anova () s or coeftest () s
 - No need for more complex model selection methods, or cross-validation
- Of the quantitative predictors, only mentor and kids5 had important effects
 - The effects of mentor and kids5 were sufficiently linear.
 - No need to try polynomial (poly (mentor, 2)) or other non-linear effects
- There turned out to be one important interaction.
 - In Psychology, these are often called moderator effects
 - Interpretation is often based on post-hoc tests of simple slopes or regions of significance
 - Interpretation is usually simplified in effect plots.

What else is there?

- The response variable, articles was measured only once, i.e., there is no longitudinal aspect of the analysis.
 - One extension might track the number of articles published by these students over stages in their career.
 - Longitudinal models are examples of multilevel or hierarchical linear models
 - Well-developed for classical, Gaussian models (lm() →lme4::lmer())
 - These models are being extended to GLMs for count data (e.g., lme4::glmer())

```
Flance .....
```

- There was only one response variable: articles.
 - Another extension might analyse articles published and the number of job interviews upon graduation as a multivariate GLM
 - Yet another, could try to develop a structural equation model (SEM) or path analysis model, with a variable like "hired within one year?" as the ultimate binary outcome.