

Logistic Regression

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- The statisticians approached the problem - “[how can we use linear regression to solve this?](#)”
 - We could consider the following encoding
 - Dependent variable coded as 0 ([Not Spam](#)) or 1 ([Spam](#))

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Logistic Regression

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- We can fit a linear regression to this binary response
 - and classify as [Spam](#) if $\hat{y} > 0.5$ and [Not Spam](#) otherwise, interpreting \hat{y} as a probability that Email is Spam

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Logistic Regression

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- Spam email classifier

Email Content	Probability	Classification
1 word	0	Not spam
5 words	1	Spam
3 words	1	Spam
2 words	0	Not spam
7 words	1	Spam
4 words	0	Not spam
9 words	1	Spam
8 words	0	Not spam

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Logistic Regression

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- A major problem with such an approach
- Linear regression models produce values in $(-\infty, +\infty)$, which does not make sense as a probability
 - Employ a function that constrains the values between 0 and 1

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Logistic Regression

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- Logistic function (Sigmoid)

$$f(x) = \frac{L}{1 + e^{-k(x-x_0)}}$$

x_0 = x value of midpoint
 L = maximum value
 k = growth rate

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- Logistic regression model
 - Let Y be a binary outcome and X a predictor

Sigmoid input

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

Linear regression output

$$p_X = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X}} \quad 0 \leq p_X \leq 1$$

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Logistic Regression

- Terminology

- The **logit** $\log\left(\frac{p_X}{1-p_X}\right)$

- The odds of an event is defined as

$$\text{odds}(Y = 1) = \frac{P(Y = 1)}{1 - P(Y = 1)} = \frac{p}{1 - p}$$

- Chance can be expressed either as a probability or as odds

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Logistic Regression

- Ranges

Measure	Min	Max	Name
$P(Y = 1)$	0	1	“probability”
$\frac{P(Y=1)}{1-P(Y=1)}$	0	∞	“odds”
$\log\left[\frac{P(Y=1)}{1-P(Y=1)}\right]$	$-\infty$	∞	“log-odds” or “logit”

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Logistic Regression

- The cost/loss function
 - The likelihood function

$$\prod_{i=1}^N p_{x_i}^{y_i} (1 - p_{x_i})^{1-y_i}$$

- The likelihood is a function of model parameters, and we can estimate them by **maximizing the likelihood**
 - Maximum likelihood estimates (MLE)

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Logistic Regression

- The cost/loss function
 - No closed form solution for MLE
 - We rely on numerical approximation to find the MLE
 - Most software uses the [Newton Raphson algorithm](#) or [gradient descent algorithm](#)

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Logistic Regression

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- In practice, it is more convenient to maximize the [log of the likelihood function](#)
 - product of a large number of small probabilities can easily lead to [underflow in computing machines](#)

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Thank You!

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