

1

1

Logistic Regression

2

- 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**)

2

Logistic Regression

3

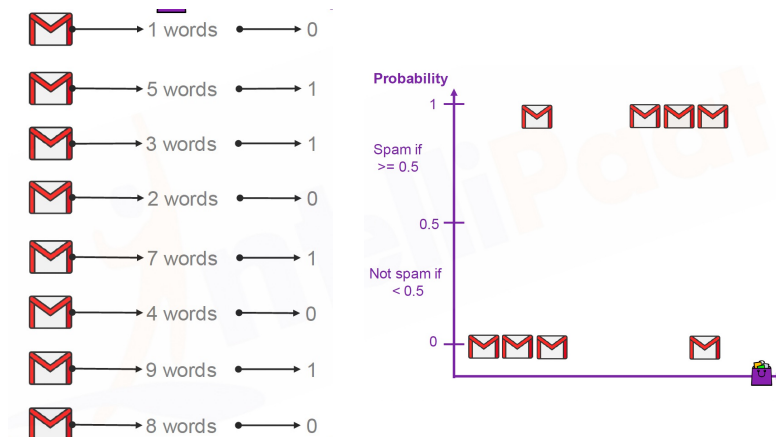
- We can fit a linear regression to this binary response
 - and classify as **Spam** if $\hat{y} > 0.5$ and **Not Spam** otherwise, interpreting \hat{y} as a probability that Email is Spam

3

Logistic Regression

4

- Spam email classifier



4

Logistic Regression

5

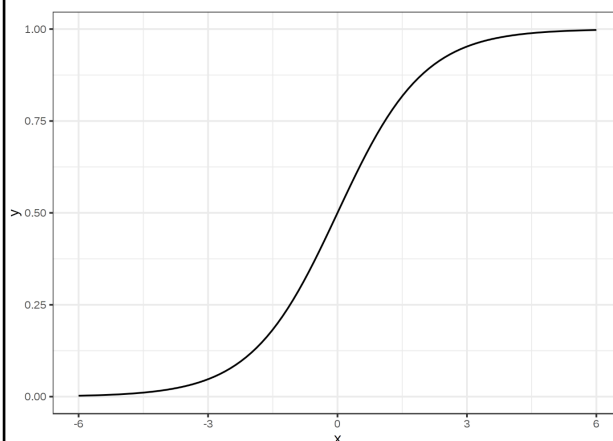
- A major problem with such an approach
- Linear regression models produce values in $(-\infty, +\infty)$, which does not make sense as a probability
 - Employ a function that constrains the values between 0 and 1

5

Logistic Regression

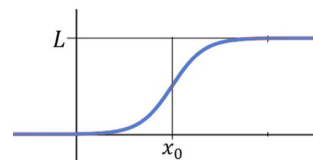
6

- 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



6

Logistic Regression

7

- Logistic regression model

Sigmoid input $\rightarrow \log \left(\frac{p_X}{1 - p_X} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$ \leftarrow Linear regression output

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

7

Logistic Regression

8

- Terminology

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

- 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

8

Logistic Regression

9

- 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”

9

Logistic Regression

10

- The cost/loss function (compares the model's **predictions** to the **target values**)
 - The likelihood function

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

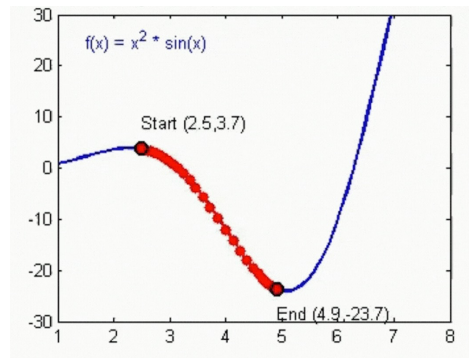
- The likelihood is a function of model parameters, and we can estimate them by **maximizing the likelihood**
 - Maximum likelihood estimates (MLE)

10

Logistic Regression

11

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



11

Logistic Regression

12

- 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](#)

12

