

## Generalized Linear Model (GLM)

## Summary

- Linear regression with normality assumption
- Estimation (LSE and MLE)
- Inference on parameter estimators
- Diagnostics

## Key terms of GLM

- Exponential family
- Three components of GLM

## Reading

- DB Chapter 3
- MN Chapter 2

## Exponential Family

Some books use a different expression:

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) =$$

$$c(y, \phi) \exp\left\{\frac{y\theta - a(\theta)}{\phi}\right\}$$

See de Jong & Heller (2008),

P 35, in "GLM"

for some specific functions  $a(\cdot)$ ,  $b(\cdot)$  and  $c(\cdot)$ , and where

For Insurance data  $\theta$ : "Canonical (natural) parameter"

$\phi$ : "Scale (dispersion) parameter"

- Note: it looks different from the one in your D&B's book
- This formulation is common in GLM and well-accepted in the literature — it is the so called Canonical Form.
- Through the course, I will use this formulation

<sup>1</sup> At the moment, without covariate, every parameter is constant. Later,  $\phi$  may depend on covariates  $x$ , the a GLM.

In general,  $a(\phi) = \phi / \omega$ ,  $\omega =$  a known weight, usually group size. e.g.,  $\text{Var}(\bar{y}) = \sigma^2 / m$ ,  $a(\phi) = \sigma^2 / m$ ,  $\phi = \sigma^2$ ,  $\omega = m$

### Examples from Exponential Family

- **Example 1:** Normal distribution  $Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}\right)^2 \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y-\mu)^2\right\}$$

$$= \exp\left[-\frac{y^2 - 2y\mu + \mu^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2}\log\left(\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}\right)\right]$$

$$\exp\left[\frac{y \cdot \mu - \mu^2/2}{\sigma^2} + \left\{-\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2}\log\left(\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}\right)\right\}\right].$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \mu, \quad b(\theta) = \mu^2/2, \quad \phi = \sigma^2, \quad \omega = 1, \quad a(\phi) = \phi/\omega = \sigma^2$$

$$c(y, \phi) = -\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2}\log\left(\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}[\log(2\pi\sigma^2) + y^2/\sigma^2].$$

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### Examples from Exponential Family

- **Example 2:** Binomial distribution  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(m, p)$ .

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) = \binom{m}{y} p^y (1-p)^{m-y}$$

For this distribution, we have two different GLM forms, since  $\text{Bin}(m, p) = \sum_{i=1}^m \text{Bernoulli r.v.s}$ ,  $m$  is a group size:

**Form 1** Consider  $y/m$  as a proportion, use it as a response variable

$$f(y; \theta, \phi) = \exp\left\{y \log p + (m-y) \log(1-p) + \log\left(\binom{m}{y}\right)\right\}$$

$$= \exp\left\{y \log \frac{p}{1-p} + m \log(1-p) + \log\left(\binom{m}{y}\right)\right\}$$

$$= \exp\left\{\left(\frac{y}{m}\right) \log \frac{p}{1-p} - \log \frac{1}{1-p} + \log\left(\binom{m}{y}\right)\right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \log \frac{p}{1-p}, \quad b(\theta) = \log \frac{1}{1-p}, \quad \phi = 1, \quad \omega = m, \quad a(\phi) = \phi/\omega = \frac{1}{m}$$

when  $m=1$ ,  
 $y/m = y$ ,  
 $y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(m=1, p)$

**Form 2.** Use  $y$  as a response, then  $f(y; \theta, \phi) = \exp\left\{\frac{y \log \frac{p}{1-p} - m \log(1-p)}{1} + \log\left(\binom{m}{y}\right)\right\}$

$$\Rightarrow b(\theta) = m \log\left(\frac{1}{1-p}\right), \quad a(\phi) = \phi/\omega = 1, \quad c(y, \phi) = \log\left(\binom{m}{y}\right)$$

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### Examples from Exponential Family

- **Example 3:** Poisson distribution  $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(y|\theta, \phi) &= \frac{\lambda^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!}, \\
 &= \exp [y \log \lambda - \lambda - \log(y!)] \\
 &= \exp \left[ \frac{y \log \lambda - \lambda}{1} + \{-\log(y!)\} \right] \\
 \Rightarrow \theta &= \log \lambda, \quad b(\theta) = \lambda, \quad \phi = 1, \quad \omega = 1, \quad a(\phi) = \phi/\omega = 1 \\
 c(y, \phi) &= \log(y!)
 \end{aligned}$$

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### Properties of Exponential Family

First, we introduce the two Bartlett identities: For a density  $f(y; \theta)$  with a single parameter  $\theta$ , let  $\ell(\theta) = \log f(y; \theta)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \because \int f(y; \theta) dy &= 1 \\
 \therefore \int \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} dy &= 0 \\
 \therefore \int \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right) / f \right\} f dy &= 0 \quad (i)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow E\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right) = 0 \quad (i)$$

$$\text{By (i), } \int \frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta} f dy = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow E\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}\right) + E\left\{\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right)^2\right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow E\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}\right) + \text{Var}\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right) = 0 \quad (ii)$$

- Properties: if  $Y \sim f(y|\theta, \phi)$  and  $\phi$  is fixed (known), then:

- $\mu \equiv E[Y] = b'(\theta)$ .  $b''(\theta) = V(\mu)$  is called the variance function.
- $V(Y) = b''(\theta)a(\phi)$ . Not the same as  $V(Y) = \text{Var}(Y)$ .

**Proof:**

$$\text{Use } E[U(\theta)] = 0 \text{ and } E[U(\theta)^2] = -E[\partial^2 \ell(\theta) / \partial \theta^2]$$

For the canonical form, let  $\ell(\theta) = \log f(y; \theta, \phi)$  then

$$\ell(\theta) = \frac{y\theta - b(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + c(y, \phi), \quad u(\theta) = \frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{y - b'(\theta)}{a(\phi)},$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} = -\frac{b''(\theta)}{a(\phi)}. \quad \text{Use the two Bartlett identities, we have}$$

$$E(u(\theta)) = 0, \text{ and } E\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}\right) + \text{Var}(u(\theta)) = 0 \text{ or } E\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}\right) + E(u(\theta)^2) = 0$$

$$\text{Note: } b'' \text{ is often referred as the "variance function"}$$

$$\text{It implies } 0 = E\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right) = E(u(\theta)) = \frac{E(y) - b'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \Rightarrow \mu = E(Y) = b'(\theta)$$

$$\text{Since } E(u(\theta)) = E\left[\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right)^2\right] = E\left[\left(\frac{y - b'(\theta)}{a(\phi)}\right)^2\right] = \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{(a(\phi))^2}$$

$$\text{using } E[u^2(\theta)] = E\left[\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}\right], \text{ and } \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} = -\frac{b''(\theta)}{a(\phi)},$$

$$\text{we get } \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{(a(\phi))^2} = \frac{b''(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \Rightarrow \text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(Y) = b''(\theta)a(\phi)$$

## Examples (Revisit)

- **Example 1:**  $Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \therefore b(\theta) = \mu^2/2$ ,  $\theta = \mu$ ,  $a(\phi) = \sigma^2/\omega = \sigma^2/1 = \sigma^2$   
 $E[Y] = b'(\theta) = b'(\mu) = \mu$   $\therefore b'(\theta) = (\theta^2/2)' = \theta = \mu$ ,  $b''(\theta) = (\theta)' = 1$   
 $V(Y) = b''(\theta) a(\phi) = a(\phi) = \sigma^2$  [Here,  $V(\mu) = \text{Var}(Y) = V(Y)$ ]

- **Example 2:**  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(m, p)$ .

$$E[Y] = m b'(\theta) = m p$$

$$V(Y) = m p(1-p)$$

- **Example 3:**  $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ . (HW)

$$E[Y] = b'(\theta) = b(\theta) = \lambda$$

$$V(Y) = b''(\theta) a(\phi) = b''(\theta) = \lambda$$

Notice:  $\theta = \log \lambda$ ,  $b(\theta) = \lambda$

$$\Rightarrow b(\theta) = \exp(\theta), \quad b'(\theta) = b''(\theta) = \exp(\theta) = b(\theta), \quad a(\phi) = 1.$$

$\Rightarrow$  We use  $Y/m$  as a response variable, then  $\theta = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ ,  $b(\theta) = \log \frac{1}{1-p}$ ,  $a(\phi) = \frac{1}{m}$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{e^\theta}{1+e^\theta}$$

$$b'(\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \log \frac{1}{1-p} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-p} \cdot \frac{(1+e^\theta)e^\theta - e^{2\theta}}{(1+e^\theta)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-p} \cdot \frac{e^\theta}{(1+e^\theta)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-p} (1-p) p = p$$

$$b''(\theta) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta} = p(1-p)$$

$$\Rightarrow E\left(\frac{Y}{m}\right) = b'(\theta) \Rightarrow E(Y) = m b'(\theta) = m p$$

$$\text{Var}\left(\frac{Y}{m}\right) = b''(\theta) a(\phi) = p(1-p)/m$$

$$\Rightarrow V(Y) = \text{Var}(Y) = m p(1-p)$$

## Revisit: Why GLM?

- e.g., binary response ( $Y = \text{death or alive}$ ).  
normality assumption fell through.  
 $E[Y_i] = x_i^T \beta$  does not hold without constraint.

In situations of the mean and/or Variance depending on some covariates  $X_i$

- Need a more general regression framework accounting for response data having a variety of measurement scales.
- Methods for model fitting and inference under this framework.

### Three Components of GLM

- **Revisit:** Linear regression model with normality assumption.
  - Random variation:  $Y_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu_i = E[Y_i|x_i]$ .
  - Linear predictor  $\eta_i = x_i^T \beta = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_{ij} \beta_j$  with  $p$  covariates.
  - Link between  $\mu_i$  and  $x_i^T \beta$ . In linear regression,

\* Display this late

[ In GLM, what is the change in  $\mu_i = x_i^T \beta$  holding others constants?  $\mu_i = g^{-1}(\eta_i)$  for change in  $x_{jk}$

Recall  $\eta_i = g(\mu_i)$ , then  $\mu_i = g^{-1}(\eta_i) = h(\eta_i)$ , then

$$\frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \frac{\partial h(\eta_i)}{\partial \eta_i} \cdot \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \left[ \frac{\partial h(\eta_i)}{\partial \eta_i} \right] \beta_k = \propto \beta_k$$

If  $g = \text{identity link}$ , then  $\frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \beta_k$ , interpretation follows that in the linear regression model ]

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### Three Components of GLM

- **Random component:**  $Y$  independent r.v. from (exponential) family of distribution with

$$E[Y] = \mu.$$

- **Systematic component** or **linear predictor**  $p$  covariates produce a linear predictor  $\eta$

$$\eta = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_{ij} \beta_j$$

- **Link function:** the link between the random and systematic components:

$$\eta = g(\mu).$$

- the link function determined by  $\theta = \eta$  is called *Canonical Link*.

### Components of GLM (Example)

- **Binary outcome:**  $Y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p) \rightarrow \text{Logistic regression.}$

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) = p^y(1-p)^{1-y}$$

Here, group size  $m=1$ ,  $\eta = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ ,  $b(\eta) = \log \frac{1}{1-p}$ ,  $a(\phi)=1$

1. Random component  $Y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ , with  $E(Y) = p = \mu$ .

2. Linear predictor:  $\eta = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_j \beta_j$

3. Link function (canonical link):  $g(p) = \log \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right)$ , called logit link

Define  $g(p) = g(\mu)$ . Let  $\eta = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ , that is  $\log \frac{p}{1-p} = \eta$  on the other hand, let  $\eta = g(\mu)$   $\mu = E(Y) = p$ , that is  $\log \frac{p}{1-p} = g(\mu)$ , then  $g(\mu) = \log \frac{\mu}{1-\mu}$  or  $g(p) = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ , a logit link

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### Components of GLM (Example)

- **Grouped binary data:** e.g., grouped by covariate classes,

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(m, p).$$

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) = \binom{m}{p} p^y (1-p)^{m-y}$$

Consider  $Y/m$  as the response,  $m$  is the group size. Then

1. Random component  $Y/m$ ,  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(m, p)$  with  $E(Y/m) = p$

2. Linear predictor:  $\eta = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_j \beta_j$

3. Link function: Let  $\eta = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ , then  $\log \frac{p}{1-p} = \eta$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow g(p) = \log \frac{p}{1-p}$ ,  
 also a logit link

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## Interpretation of Parameter

- **Revisit:** linear regression with normal assumption

$$E[Y_i|X_i] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_p X_{ip}.$$

- $\beta_k$ : change in mean response per unit increase of  $X_{ik}$  with holding other covariates constant.

- In GLM,

$$\eta_i = X_i^T \beta.$$

- $\beta_k$ : change in  $\eta_i$  per unit increase of  $X_{ik}$  with holding other covariates constant.

In GLM, what is the change in  $\mu_i$  for change in  $x_k$  holding other covariates  $x_j, j \neq k$ ? Recall  $\eta_i = g(\mu_i)$ , then  $\mu_i = g^{-1}(\eta_i) = h(\eta_i)$   
 we obtain  $\frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \frac{\partial h(\eta_i)}{\partial \eta_i} \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \left[ \frac{\partial h(\eta_i)}{\partial \eta_i} \right] \beta_k \propto \beta_k$  prop.

If  $g(\cdot)$  is identity link, then

$\frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial x_{ik}} = \beta_k$ , interpretation of  $\beta_k$  follows that in the linear regression model <sup>13</sup>

## Logistic Regression

- The logistic regression model, for  $Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_i)$ , can be written as:

$$\log \frac{p_i}{1-p_i} = X_i^T \beta = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_p X_{ip}. \quad \text{In the form of } g(p_i) = \eta_i$$

or

$$E[Y_i|X_i] = p_i = \frac{\exp(X_i^T \beta)}{1 + \exp(X_i^T \beta)}$$

- Some useful definitions:

- Odds

$$\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}$$

- log-odds of the response  $Y_i = 1$

$$\log \frac{p_i}{1-p_i}$$

– logit function

$$g(p_i) = \log \frac{p_i}{1 - p_i}.$$

- Interpret  $\beta_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, p$ .

–  $\beta_k$ . change in log-odds per unit increase of  $X_{ik}$  with holding other covariates constant

GLMs using the logit link are often called logit models

Other links for probability  $p$  in Bernoulli or Binomial distribution

(a)  $\eta = \mu$  — identity link

(b)  $\eta = \Phi^{-1}(\mu)$  — probit link

(c)  $\eta = \log(-\log(\mu))$  — log-log link

(d)  $\eta = \log(-\log(1-\mu))$  — complementary log-log link

In fact, for any CDF,  $F(x)$ , let  $F(\eta) = p$ , then  $\eta = F^{-1}(p)$   
 $g(p) = F^{-1}(p)$  is a link function 15

### Logistic Regression: Example

- Low Birth Weight Study:

– A case-control study of association between mother's weight (in pounds) at the last menstrual cycle (LWT) and the risk of delivering a low birth weight baby.

– Data:

$$\text{LOW} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{Birth weight} \geq 2500g \\ 1, & \text{Birth weight} < 2500g \end{cases}$$

LWT = Mother's Weight (lbs) at the last menstrual period.

AGE = Mother's age in years.

– Model:

$$\log \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{LWT} + \beta_2 \text{AGE}.$$

Here,  $p = \text{Prob}(\text{Low} = 1) = \text{Prob}(\text{Birth Weight} < 2500g)$



$$* p = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 LWT + \beta_2 AGE)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 LWT + \beta_2 AGE)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 * \beta_2 &= \log \left( \frac{P(LWT \text{ held constant}, AGE+1)}{P(LWT \text{ held constant}, AGE)} \right) \\
 &= \log \left( \frac{P(LWT \text{ held constant}, AGE)}{1} \right) \\
 &= \log \frac{\text{odds (At LWT held constant, AGE+1)}}{\text{odds (At LWT held constant, AGE)}} \\
 &= \log(\text{odds ratio})_{(AGE+1) \text{ relative to } (AGE)}
 \end{aligned}$$

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### Poisson Regression

- **Count data:**  $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda) \rightarrow \text{Poisson regression.}$ 
  - GLM components

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(y|\theta, \phi) &= \frac{\lambda^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!} \\
 &= \exp\{y \log \lambda - \lambda - \log y!\},
 \end{aligned}$$

thus,

$$\theta = \log \lambda, \quad b(\theta) = \lambda = e^\theta, \quad a(\phi) = \phi = 1, \quad \omega = 1$$

Hence, we have

$$\mu = b'(\theta) = e^\theta = \lambda,$$

and the canonical link is

$$\eta = \theta = g(\mu) = \log(\mu),$$

which is called *log link function*.

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## Poisson Regression (continued)

- The Poisson regression model can be written as:

$$\log \lambda_i = X_i^T \beta = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_p X_{ip}.$$

- Interpret  $\beta_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, p$ .

$\beta_k$ .

- More about Poisson regression later

rate;

- exposure; offset

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In general,  
 $Y \sim f(y, \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^y e^{-\lambda}}{y!},$

## Poisson Regression: Example

See

$\lambda = E(Y)$  is the expected number of deaths in a specified time period, it depends on the population size  $n$  and other characteristics of the population.

- British doctor's smoking and coronary death
  - Data:
    - Age = patient age in years (categorized, e.g., 35-44, 45-54, ...)
    - Smoking =  $\begin{cases} 0, & \text{non-smoking} \\ 1, & \text{smoking} \end{cases}$
    - $Y$  = death counts from coronary heart disease among male doctors 10 years after survey.

Let  $E(Y) = \lambda = n r(x|\beta)$ , where  $r(x|\beta)$  is the rate per person-year, and  $n$  is the total person years.

Two scenarios:

- the number of doctors at risk during the observation period are the same this is very rare (i.e., For each level of covariates  $n_i = n, i=1, \dots, m$ )

Then  $\pi_i = n_i \exp(x_i^T \beta) = n \exp(x_i^T \beta)$

$\log(\lambda_i) = \log(n) + \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Age}_i + \beta_2 \text{Smoking}_i$

Combined into  $\beta_0$

where  $\lambda_i$  = expected death counts. <sup>with</sup>

- o the total number of person-years of observation different

$$\log(\lambda_i) = \log(n_i) + \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Age}_i + \beta_2 \text{Smoking}_i,$$

where  $n_i$  = number of doctors at risk during observation period.

see BritishDoctorsPoissonReg\_F2015.ppt  
for SAS and R code

- British doctor's data:

	age	smoking	death	personyear
1	35-44	yes	32	52407
2	35-44	no	2	18790
3	45-54	yes	104	43248
4	45-54	no	12	10673
5	55-64	yes	206	28612
6	55-64	no	28	5710
7	65-74	yes	186	12663
8	65-74	no	28	3585
9	75-84	yes	102	5317
10	75-84	no	31	1462

See Table 9.123. sas for plots  
and analysis

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↓  
# of deaths from coronary heart disease

↓  
Total number of person-years during each observation period.

\*  $n_i$  = # of person-years in the  $i$ th observation period

\*  $\log(n_i)$  is called offset in software

Definition of person-year: One person had a number of years in the follow-up

e.g., one person is followed up for 00 years  
= 00 persons are followed up for one year.