

## Topic 4. Marginal Models

### Binary responses –

(a) The log-linear model:

$$t_{ij} = t_j, i = 1, \dots, n, j = 1, \dots, m$$

$$P(Y_i = y_i) = C(\theta) \exp\left(\sum_{j=1}^m \theta_j^{(1)} y_{ij} + \sum_{j_1 < j_2} \theta_{j_1 j_2}^{(2)} y_{ij_1} y_{ij_2} + \dots + \theta_{1 \dots m}^{(m)} y_{i1} \dots y_{im}\right),$$

where  $\theta = (\theta_1^{(1)}, \dots, \theta_m^{(1)}, \theta_{12}^{(2)}, \dots, \theta_{m-1m}^{(2)}, \dots, \theta_{12 \dots m}^{(m)})$  is the canonical parameters and  $C(\theta)$  is a function of  $\theta$  which normalizes the p.d.f. to sum to one.

#### Remark.

1. This model requires the responses of each subject occurring at the common times. Otherwise, the interpretation and value of the canonical parameters will change.
2. The canonical parameters facilitate the calculation of cell probabilities but are less useful for describing the probability of  $Y$  as a function of the covariates  $X$ . This is because  $\theta_{jk}$  describes the association between  $Y_{ij}$  and  $Y_{ik}$  given  $Y_{il} = 0 \forall l \neq j, k$ . Since  $X_i$  may depend on  $Y_{il}$ , it would be inappropriate to consider the conditional association.

(b) Log-linear models for marginal means:

$$E[Y_j] = \mu_j, j = 1, \dots, m.$$

**Remark.** The saturated log-linear model for  $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_m)^T$  has  $(2^m - 1)$  free parameters.

(b.1) Log-linear model:  $P(Y = y) = C(\theta_1, \theta_2) \exp(Y^T \theta_1 + W^T \theta_2)$ , where  $W = (Y_1 Y_2, Y_1 Y_3, \dots, Y_{m-1} Y_m, \dots, Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_m)^T$ ,  $\theta_1 = (\theta_1^{(1)}, \dots, \theta_m^{(1)})$  and  $\theta_2 = (\theta_{12}^{(2)}, \dots, \theta_{m-1m}^{(2)}, \dots, \theta_{12 \dots m}^{(m)})$ .

Transformation:  $(\theta_1, \theta_2) \rightarrow (\mu, \theta_2)$ ,  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m) \triangleq \mu(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ .

Model assumption:  $\text{logit}(\mu_j) = X_j^T \beta$ .

The score equation for  $\beta$  under this parameterization takes the GEE form:

$$\left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \beta}\right)^T [V(Y)]^{-1} (Y - \mu) = 0, \text{ where } \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \beta} = \left(\frac{\partial \mu_1}{\partial \beta}, \dots, \frac{\partial \mu_m}{\partial \beta}\right)^T.$$

**Remark.** The conditional odds ratios are not easily interpreted when the association among responses is itself a focus of the study.

**Properties:**

1. From  $M_Y(t) = E[e^{t^T Y}] = \sum_y C(\theta_1, \theta_2) \exp(y^T(t + \theta_1) + w^T \theta_2) = \frac{C(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{C(\theta_1 + t, \theta_2)}$ , one has

$$\mu = \frac{\partial M_Y(t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = - \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} C(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{C(\theta_1, \theta_2)} E[YY^T] = \frac{\partial^2 M_Y(t)}{\partial t \partial t^T} \Big|_{t=0} = - \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_1^T} C(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{C(\theta_1, \theta_2)} + 2\mu\mu^T,$$

$$\text{and } V(Y) = - \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_1^T} C(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{C(\theta_1, \theta_2)} + \mu\mu^T.$$

2. Let  $l(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \ln P(Y = y) = \ln C(\theta_1, \theta_2) + (y^T (\theta_1 + \theta_2) + w^T \theta_2)$ . We can derive that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial l(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_1} &= \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} C(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{C(\theta_1, \theta_2)} + Y = (Y - \mu) \text{ and, hence,} \\ \frac{\partial l(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \beta} &= \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \beta}\right)^T \frac{\partial \theta_1}{\partial \mu} \left(\frac{\partial l(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_1}\right) = \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \beta}\right)^T \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \theta_1}\right)^{-1} (Y - \mu) = \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \beta}\right)^T (V(Y))^{-1} (Y - \mu). \end{aligned}$$

(b.2) The Bahadur representation:

$$\text{Let } r_j = \frac{Y_j - \mu_j}{\sqrt{\mu_j(1 - \mu_j)}}, j = 1, \dots, m, \rho_{jk} = E[r_j r_k], \rho_{jkl} = E[r_j r_k r_l], \dots, \rho_{12 \dots m} = E[r_1 r_2 \dots r_m].$$

$$P(Y = y) = \prod_{j=1}^m \mu_j^{y_j} (1 - \mu_j)^{1-y_j} \left(1 + \sum_{j < k} \rho_{jk} r_j r_k + \sum_{j < k < l} \rho_{jkl} r_j r_k r_l + \dots + \rho_{12 \dots m} r_1 r_2 \dots r_m\right).$$

**Remark.**

1. the joint probability density function is expressed in terms of the marginal means, pairwise correlations, and higher moments of the standardized variables  $r_j$ .

2. The correlations among binary responses are constrained in complicated ways by the marginal means.

## Appendix

Let  $P_{[1]}(Y = y) = \prod_{j=1}^m \mu_j^{y_j} (1 - \mu_j)^{1-y_j}$ ,  $g(y) = P(Y = y) / P_{[1]}(Y = y)$ , and  $V$  be a vector space of real-valued functions  $f$  on  $Y_1$  ( $2^m$  possible values of  $y$ ). Here,  $V$  is regarded as an inner-product space with  $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \triangleq E_{P_{[1]}}[f_1 f_2] = \sum_{y \in Y_1} f_1(y) f_2(y) P_{[1]}(y)$ .

It follows easily that the set of functions  $S = \{1, r_1, \dots, r_m; r_1 r_2, \dots, r_{m-1} r_m; \dots, r_1 r_2 \dots r_m\}$  on  $Y_1$  is orthonormal and, thus, is a basis in  $V$ . Since  $g(y)$  is a function on  $Y_1$ , there exists a unique representation as a linear combination of functions in  $S$ , namely,

$$g(y) = \sum_{f \in S} \langle g, f \rangle f.$$

$$\because \langle g, f \rangle = \sum_{y \in Y_1} g(y) f(y) P_{[1]}(y) = \sum_{y \in Y_1} f(y) P(Y = y) = E_P[f] \quad \forall f, \text{ and}$$

$$E_P[1] = 1, E_P[r_j] = 0, E_P[r_j r_k] = \rho_{jk}, \dots, \text{ and } E_P[r_1 \dots r_m] = \rho_{12 \dots m}.$$

$$\therefore g(y) = (1 + \sum_{j < k} \rho_{jk} r_j r_k + \sum_{j < k < l} \rho_{jkl} r_j r_k r_l + \dots + \rho_{12 \dots m} r_1 r_2 \dots r_m).$$

(b.3) Marginal odds ratios: A compromise between conditional odds ratios (interpretations that depend on  $m$ ), and correlations (seriously constrained by the means).

$$\text{Let } \gamma_{jk} = OR(Y_j, Y_k) \triangleq \frac{P(Y_j = 1, Y_k = 1)P(Y_j = 0, Y_k = 0)}{P(Y_j = 1, Y_k = 0)P(Y_j = 0, Y_k = 1)}.$$

$$\eta_{jkl} = \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 1)) - \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 0)).$$

$$\eta_{jklm} = \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 1, Y_m = 1)) + \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 0, Y_m = 0)) \\ - \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 1, Y_m = 0)) - \ln(OR(Y_j, Y_k | Y_l = 0, Y_m = 1)).$$

$\vdots$

$$\eta_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_m} = \sum_{y_{j_3} \dots y_{j_m} = 0, 1} (-1)^{\left[ \sum_{l=3}^m y_{j_l} + m - 2 \right]} \ln(OR(Y_{j_1}, Y_{j_2} | Y_{j_3} = y_{j_3}, \dots, Y_{j_m} = y_{j_m})).$$

The joint p.d.f. of  $Y$  may be specified by  $\mu$ ,  $\eta_{jk}$ 's,  $\eta_{jkl}$ 's, ..., and  $\eta_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_m}$ .

Note:  $\gamma_{jk}$  can be modeled as is done for the marginal expectation.

### Generalized estimating equations -

Let  $E[Y_{ij}] = \mu_{ij}$  with  $\text{logit}(\mu_{ij}) = X_{ij}^T \beta$ .

Estimate  $(\beta, \alpha)$  by solving the GEE:

$$S_\beta(\beta, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta} \right)^T (Var(Y_i))^{-1} (Y_i - \mu_i) = 0, \text{ where } Var(Y_i) \triangleq Var(Y_i; \beta, \alpha) \text{ and}$$

$$S_\alpha(\beta, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial \alpha} \right)^T H_i^{-1} (W_i - \eta_i) = 0, \text{ where } W_i = (r_{i1}r_{i2}, r_{i1}r_{i3}, \dots, r_{im_i-1}r_{im_i}, r_{i1}^2, \dots, r_{im_i}^2),$$

$$\eta_i = E[W_i], \text{ and } H_i = \text{Diag}\{Var(r_{i1}r_{i2}), \dots, Var(r_{im_i-1}r_{im_i}), Var(r_{i1}^2), \dots, Var(r_{im_i}^2)\},$$

### Counted Responses -

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu), \mu = E[Y] = V[Y].$$

#### Over-dispersion model or under-dispersion model

$$V[Y] > E[Y]$$

$$V[Y] < E[Y]$$

Examples: (Random-effects model)

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ij} | \mu_i &\overset{iid}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\mu_i) & \Rightarrow & E[Y_{ij}] = \mu \\ \mu_i &\overset{iid}{\sim} \text{Gamma}(\mu, \phi\mu^2) & & V[Y_{ij}] = \mu + \phi\mu^2, \phi > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Log-linear model:

$$\text{Common unit time: } \ln(E[Y_{ij}]) = X_{ij}^T \beta (\triangleq \lambda_{ij}), \text{ i.e., } E[Y_{ij}] = e^{X_{ij}^T \beta}.$$

$$\text{Different time units: } \ln(E[Y_{ij}]) = \ln(t_{ij}) + X_{ij}^T \beta, \text{ where } \ln(t_{ij}) \text{ is the offset.}$$

$V(Y_{ij}) = \phi_{ij} E[Y_{ij}]$ : over-dispersion model when  $\phi_{ij} > 1$ . A regression model is needed

for  $\phi_{ij}$ , i.e.,  $\phi_{ij} = \phi(\alpha_1)$ .

Generalized estimating equation approach:

$$S_\beta(\beta, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta} \right)^T (V(Y; \alpha))^{-1} (Y_i - \mu_i) = 0, \text{ where } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \text{ with } \alpha_1 \text{ being related}$$

to dispersion parameters and  $S_\alpha(\beta, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial \alpha} \right)^T (W_i - \eta_i) = 0$ .