

I/ The model

Let consider a dataset with $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)'$ and $x = (x_1', \dots, x_n')'$ where $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$ and $x_i = (x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,d})' \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Let also denote $\mathcal{D} = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ the dataset composed with each instance with its label.

The goal is to predict y_i based on x_i

x_i	$x_{i,1}$...	$x_{i,d}$
1	20	...	5
2	25	...	4
3	14	...	6

$y_i \sim B(\pi(x_i))$: y_i is assumed to follow a Bernoulli distribution.

(success or fail) where the probability of success depends on x_i (the covariates).

$$P(y_i | x_i) = \begin{cases} \pi(x_i) & \text{if } y_i = 1 \\ 1 - \pi(x_i) & \text{if } y_i = 0 \end{cases} \text{ or equivalently } P(y_i | x_i) = \pi(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - \pi(x_i))^{1-y_i}$$

Let also notice that $E[y_i | x_i] = \pi(x_i)$

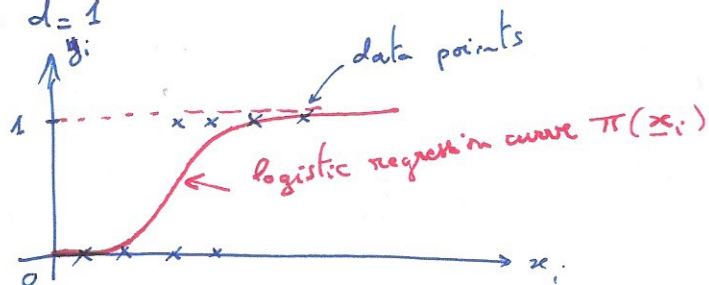
Logistic regression assumes that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{logit}(\pi(x_i)) &:= \log \left(\frac{\pi(x_i)}{1 - \pi(x_i)} \right) \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i,1} + \dots + \beta_d x_{i,d} \\ &= \beta' \tilde{x}_i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{logit}^{-1}(\pi(x_i)) &= \text{logit}^{-1}(\beta' \tilde{x}_i) \\ &= \sigma(\beta' \tilde{x}_i) \end{aligned} \iff$$

with $\sigma: z \mapsto \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-z)}$

Case $d=1$



with $\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_d \end{pmatrix}$ the vector of parameters to estimate

and $\tilde{x}_i = (1, x_i')' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x_{i,1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{i,d} \end{pmatrix}$

The statistical inference issue consist in estimating β (the vector of parameters) based on the dataset \mathcal{D} . (2)

Strategy: \rightarrow Build an estimator $\hat{\beta}$ of β by maximum likelihood

$\triangle!$ $\hat{\beta}$ is a random variable since it depend on the data y_i which is random

\rightarrow Study the properties of $\hat{\beta}$: asymptotically normal/Gaussian (thus allows to compute confidence intervals and to make tests on the parameters).

II / Parameters estimation

Let consider $p(y | x) = p(y_1, \dots, y_m | x_1, \dots, x_m)$ it is the probability of the responses given the covariates (conditional likelihood) over model

Since the data $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_m, y_m)$ are assumed to be independent we can write:

$$p(y | x) = \prod_{i=1}^m p(y_i | x_i) = \prod_{i=1}^m \pi(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - \pi(x_i))^{1-y_i}$$

The likelihood which is a function of β (since $\pi(x_i)$ is a function of β)

$= \mathcal{L}(\beta)$

We often consider the log-likelihood $l(\beta) = \log \mathcal{L}(\beta)$.

$$l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i \log \pi(x_i) + (1-y_i) \log (1 - \pi(x_i))]$$

$$l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[y_i \log \left(\frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\beta' \tilde{x}_i)} \right) + (1-y_i) \log \left(\frac{\exp(-\beta' \tilde{x}_i)}{1 + \exp(-\beta' \tilde{x}_i)} \right) \right]$$

$$l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \beta' \tilde{x}_i - \log(1 + \exp(\beta' \tilde{x}_i))$$

$\#$ $l: \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We want to maximise l with respect to β thus we will compute the gradient.

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_i \frac{\exp(\beta' \tilde{x}_i)}{1 + \exp(\beta' \tilde{x}_i)} = \sum_{i=1}^m \tilde{x}_i (y_i - \pi(\tilde{x}_i)) \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$$

Solving $\frac{\partial \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = 0$ has not closed-form

thus it is needed to use an iterative algorithm such as Newton-Raphson or gradient descent.

Newton Raphson

$$\beta^{(k+1)} = \beta^{(n)} - \underbrace{\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta \partial \beta'} \right) \bigg|_{\beta = \beta^{(n)}}}_{\text{Hessian matrix}}^{-1} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta} \right) \bigg|_{\beta = \beta^{(n)}}$$

We have $\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta \partial \beta'} = -\tilde{X}' V \tilde{X}$

where \tilde{X} is the matrix with $m \times (d+1)$ composed with \tilde{x}_i in rows and V is the diagonal matrix of $\pi(\tilde{x}_i)(1 - \pi(\tilde{x}_i))$

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} \pi(\tilde{x}_1)(1 - \pi(\tilde{x}_1)) & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \pi(\tilde{x}_i)(1 - \pi(\tilde{x}_i)) \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \pi(\tilde{x}_m)(1 - \pi(\tilde{x}_m)) \end{pmatrix}$$

Let notice that $\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta \partial \beta'}$ is definite negative if \tilde{X} is of maximal rank (i.e. $d+1$ if $d+1 \leq m$).

III / Properties of $\hat{\beta}$

Since $\hat{\beta}$ is the maximum likelihood estimator it is asymptotically unbiased and follows asymptotically a normal distribution with asymptotic covariance matrix $\hat{V}(\hat{\beta}) = \left[- \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\beta)}{\partial \beta \partial \beta'} \bigg|_{\beta = \hat{\beta}} \right]^{-1}$ which is the inverse of the Fisher information matrix.

Thus $\hat{\beta} \underset{\text{as } n \rightarrow +\infty}{\approx} \mathcal{N}_{d+1}(\beta, (\tilde{X}'\tilde{V}\tilde{X})^{-1})$

\Rightarrow Thus possible to make similar computations as in the linear regression. Since n assumed to be large we only rely on ~~Student~~ normal distribution and not anymore on Student(t)

IV / Tests, confidence intervals and model choice

A/ Test on β_j

Let consider testing if variable j has an effect or not:

$$H_0: \beta_j = 0 \quad \text{against} \quad H_1: \beta_j \neq 0$$

There are three possibilities:

- Likelihood ratio test:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LRT} &= 2 \log \frac{\max_{\beta} \mathcal{L}(\beta)}{\max_{\substack{\beta \\ \text{s.t. } \beta_j = 0}} \mathcal{L}(\beta)} = 2 \log \frac{\max_{\beta} \mathcal{L}_{H_1}(\beta)}{\max_{\beta} \mathcal{L}_{H_0}(\beta)} \\ &= 2 \left[\underbrace{\ell(\hat{\beta})}_{\text{maximum log-likelihood}} - \underbrace{\ell(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})}_{\text{maximum log-likelihood under } H_0} \right] = D_0 - D_1 \quad \text{with } D_0 = -2 \ell(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) \\ &\quad \text{and } D_1 = -2 \ell(\hat{\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

Under H_0 : $\text{LRT} \rightsquigarrow \chi_1^2$

- Wald test

We know that $\frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_j)} \approx \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

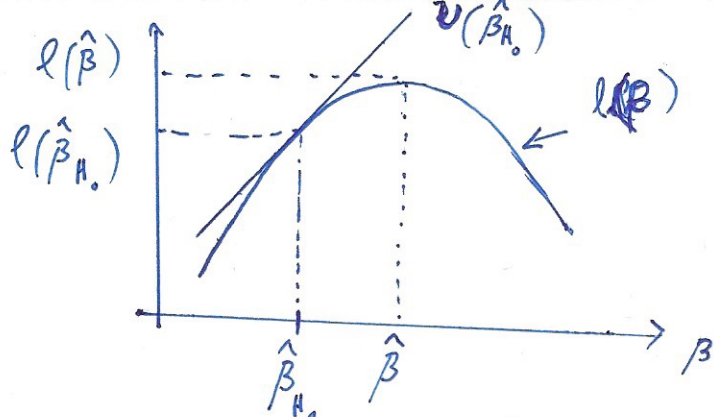
Thus under H_0 : $\frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_j)} \approx \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{\beta}_j^2}{\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_j)^2} \rightsquigarrow \chi_1^2$

- Score test

$$U(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})' \hat{V}(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) U(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) \rightarrow \chi_1^2$$

where $\hat{V}(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})$ is the inverse of the Fisher information matrix and $U(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})$ the vector of partial derivative of the log-likelihood both estimated under H_0 .

Illustration for only one parameter

 $q \times (k-1)$

B/ Test on linear combination of the parameter $C\beta = 0$

We can still use the test defined in previous section extended to the multivariate framework.

Let first notice that $C\hat{\beta} \approx \mathcal{N}(C\beta, C(\tilde{X}'\hat{V}\tilde{X})^{-1}C')$

Thus under H_0 : $C\hat{\beta} \approx \mathcal{N}(0, C(\tilde{X}'\hat{V}\tilde{X})^{-1}C')$

And consequently $(C\hat{\beta})' (C(\tilde{X}'\hat{V}\tilde{X})^{-1}C')^{-1} (C\hat{\beta}) \approx \chi_q^2$

Thus possible to use test similar to Wald test.

The likelihood ratio test is defined by

$$D_0 - D_1 = 2(l(\hat{\beta}) - l(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})) \underset{H_0}{\approx} \chi_q^2$$

where $l(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) = \max_{\beta \text{ s.t. } C\beta=0} l(\beta)$

And the score test

$$U(\hat{\beta}_{H_0})' \hat{V}(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) U(\hat{\beta}_{H_0}) \rightarrow \chi_q^2$$

C/ Model choice

$$BIC = -2l(\hat{\beta}) + (d+1) \log n$$

$$AIC = -2l(\hat{\beta}) + (d+1)$$

where $d+1$ is the number of estimated parameters

AIC and BIC can be used to put models into competitions ⑥
 the goal is to find the model (subset of variables) minimizing
 the criterium. This can be done for instance by using a stepwise
 approach. (forward, backward, or forward-backward)

BIC tends to select model of lower dimension than AIC
 By default the step function of R uses AIC.

D/ Confidence interval

Since $\hat{\beta}_j \approx N(\beta_j, \hat{\sigma}^2(\hat{\beta}_j))$

One can deduce a $(1-\alpha)$ confidence interval by the
 formula $\hat{\beta}_j \pm z_{\alpha/2} \hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_j)$ with $z_{\alpha/2}$ the $\alpha/2$ upper quantile
 of the normal distribution.

V Case of categorical features

Let assume that a variable x_j is categorical, with $x_j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$
 Thus a binary coding can be used

x_j	$x_{j, \text{blue}}$	$x_{j, \text{red}}$	$x_{j, \text{green}}$
blue	1	0	0
red	0	1	0
green	0	0	1

↑
 Reference level not used in design matrix

By default in R the first
 level of the variable is used
 as reference level (the column)
 is not used to fit
 the model

Testing if variable j has an effect consist in testing

$$H_0: \beta_{\text{red}} = \beta_{\text{green}} = 0 \quad \text{vs} \quad H_1: \beta_{\text{red}} \neq 0 \text{ or } \beta_{\text{green}} \neq 0$$

(possible: see IV B)

$$\text{Odds}(\underline{x}_i) = \frac{\pi(\underline{x}_i)}{1 - \pi(\underline{x}_i)} = \exp(\beta' \tilde{x}_i)$$

$$\text{Odds-ratio}(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_{i'}) = \frac{\text{odds}(\underline{x}_i)}{\text{odds}(\underline{x}_{i'})} = \exp(\beta'(\tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_{i'}))$$

If i and i' differ for only one variable $x_{ij} \neq x_{i'j}$ then

$\text{Odds-ratio}(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_{i'}) = \exp(\beta_j(x_{ij} - x_{i'j}))$ and this variable is categorical

$$\text{Odds-ratio}(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_{i'}) = \exp(\hat{\beta}_j(x_{ij} - x_{i'j}))$$

Then it is possible to derive a confidence interval on

$$\text{Odds-ratio}(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_{i'}) : \left[\exp\left((\hat{\beta}_j \pm z_{\alpha/2} \hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_j))(x_{ij} - x_{i'j})\right) \right]$$

If the variable is categorical ~~exp~~ $\exp(\beta_j)$ gives the odds ratio between the considered level and the reference level

Remark can add interaction in the model by creating new variables for instance $x_{\text{new}} = x_{i1} \times x_{i2}$

VI Multi-class logistic regression $y_i \in \{1, \dots, K\}$

$$P(y_i = k | \underline{x}_i) = \frac{\exp(\beta_k' \tilde{x}_i)}{1 + \sum_{h=1}^{K-1} \exp(\beta_h' \tilde{x}_i)} \quad \text{for } k \in \{1, \dots, K-1\}$$

$$\text{where } \beta_k = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{k0} \\ \beta_{k1} \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{kd} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P(y_i = K | \underline{x}_i) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{h=1}^{K-1} \exp(\beta_h' \tilde{x}_i)}$$

\Rightarrow Maximum likelihood, ...

can need regularization if too many parameters to estimate