

# Generalized linear model

Peter Smits

## Review of Linear Regression

## Definition of linear regression

*... a method that summarizes how the average values of a numerical outcome variable vary over subpopulations defined by linear functions of predictors. [...] Regression can be used to predict an outcome given a linear function of these predictors, and regression coefficients can be thought of as comparisons across predicted values or as comparisons among averages in the data.*

Gelman and Hill, 2007, p.31

## Compacy written form

$$y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

$$\mu = X\beta$$

$y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\beta_k \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ .

$y$  is a length  $N$  vector of observations.  $X$  is a  $N \times K$  matrix of covariates (and a column of 1s).  $\beta$  is a length  $K$  vector of regression coefficients (including intercept).

# Interpreting regression parameters

Coefficient  $\beta$  is the expected difference in  $y$  between two observations that differ by 1 in a single predictor.

## Fitting and inspecting a regression model