

Regression Analysis

Poisson Regression

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Goodness of Fit Assessment

About This Lesson



Poisson Regression Model

Data: $\{(x_{11}, \dots, x_{1p}), Y_1\}, \dots, \{(x_{n1}, \dots, x_{np}), Y_n\}$ where Y_1, \dots, Y_n are event count data per observation unit with a Poisson distribution

Assumptions:

- *Linearity Assumption:* $\log(E(Y|x_1, \dots, x_p)) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p$
- *Independence Assumption:* Y_1, \dots, Y_n are independent random variables
- *Variance Assumption:* $E(Y|x_1, \dots, x_p) = V(Y|x_1, \dots, x_p)$

There is no error term! How to check the assumptions?

Residuals in Poisson Regression

Poisson Regression:

$$Y_i | (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}))$$

- Estimated rates are:

$$\hat{\lambda}_i = \hat{\lambda}(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}) = e^{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_p x_{ip}}$$

- Pearson Residuals: $r_i = \frac{Y_i - \hat{\lambda}_i}{\sqrt{\hat{\lambda}_i}}$

- Deviance Residuals:

$$d_i = \text{sgn}(Y_i - \hat{\lambda}_i) \sqrt{2 \left\{ Y_i \log \left(\frac{Y_i}{\hat{\lambda}_i} \right) - (Y_i - \hat{\lambda}_i) \right\}}$$

- Pearson's residuals follow directly a normal approximation to a binomial. Hence approximately $N(0,1)$
- The deviance residuals are the signed square root of the log-likelihood evaluated at the saturated model vs. the fitted model. Thus approximately $N(0,1)$ if the model is a good fit.
- Deviances play the role of sum of squares in a linear model.

Goodness of Fit

GOF Visual Analytics:

- Normal Probability plot & Histogram of the Residuals
- Log of the event rate vs predictors

Hypothesis Testing Procedure:

H_0 : *the Poisson model fits the data*

H_A : *the Poisson model does not fit the data*

Deviance test statistic: $D = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i^2$

Under null hypothesis, $D \sim \chi_{df}^2$ with $df = n-p-1$

Reject the null that the model is correct if p-value = $P(\chi_{df}^2 > D)$ small.

Note that for this test, we want large p-values!!!!

What if No Goodness of Fit?

- Add predicting variables, consider interaction terms, or/and transform predicting variables to improve linearity;
- Identify unusual observations (outliers, leverage points);
- The Poisson distribution isn't appropriate:
 - Overdispersion: the variability of the estimated rates is larger than would be implied by a Poisson model
 - Correlation in the observed responses
 - Heterogeneity in the rates that hasn't been modeled

Overdispersion

Overdispersion: the variability of the response variable is larger than would be implied by the model

Binomial regression model:

- $V(Y_i | x_1, \dots, x_p) = n_i p(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip})(1-p(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}))$
- Overdispersed Binomial: $V(Y_i | x_1, \dots, x_p) = \phi n_i p(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip})(1-p(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}))$

Poisson regression model:

- $V(Y_i | x_1, \dots, x_p) = \lambda(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip})$
- Overdispersed Poisson: $V(Y_i | x_1, \dots, x_p) = \phi \lambda(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip})$

Overdispersion Parameter: ϕ

- Estimate: $\hat{\phi} = \frac{D}{n-p-1}$ where D is the sum of the squared deviances
- If $\hat{\phi} > 2$ then overdispersed model

Summary

