

# Estimating parameters

Study Sessions (in addition to office hours)

TA: Zhenyang Sun

Time: Wednesdays 7-8 PM (starting today!)

Location: Kirby 120

Reminder: Lab 1 Due Friday at 12pm (noon)  
- Extension policy: Bank of 5 days, you may use 1-2 on an assignment

# Goal

Logistic regression model:

$$Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi_i) \quad \log\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1 - \pi_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$$

Given data  $(X_1, Y_1), (X_2, Y_2), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$ , how do I estimate  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ?

# Motivating example



$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Is  $Y_i$  a random variable?

## Motivating example

$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Is  $Y_i$  a random variable?

Yes -- there are two possible outcomes, but we don't know which will happen until we flip the coin.

# Motivating example

$\backslash$   $\backslash$  0

$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Let's make a model:

+ **Step 1:** Distribution of the response

$$Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi)$$

$P(Y_i = 1)$   
(assuming  $\pi$  for new doesn't change)

+ **Step 2:** Construct a model for the parameters

$$\pi = ??$$

# Motivating example

$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Let's make a model:

+ **Step 1:** Distribution of the response

$$Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi)$$

+ **Step 2:** Construct a model for the parameters

$$\pi = ??$$

Right now, we don't have any information to help us estimate  $\pi$

# Motivating example

$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Suppose your friend estimates that the probability of heads is 0.9

+  $Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi)$

+  $\hat{\pi} = 0.9$

How can we assess whether this estimate  $\hat{\pi}$  is reasonable?



## Motivating example

$Y_i$  = result of flipping a coin (Heads or Tails)

Suppose your friend estimates that the probability of heads is 0.9

+  $Y_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi)$

+  $\hat{\pi} = 0.9$

How can we assess whether this estimate  $\hat{\pi}$  is reasonable?

See if the estimate fits observed data.

# Motivating example

Suppose we flip the coin 5 times, and observe

$$y_1, \dots, y_5 = T, T, T, T, H$$

What is the probability of (i.e., how *likely* is) getting this string of flips if  $\pi = 0.9$ ? Discuss with your neighbor for 2 minutes, then we will discuss as a class.

$$\begin{aligned} P(H) &= 0.9 & \Rightarrow & P(T) = 0.1 \\ P(T, T, T, T, H) &= (0.1)(0.1)(0.1)(0.1)(0.9) \\ &= (0.1)^4 (0.9) & \leftarrow & \text{multiplication rule for independent events} \\ &= 0.0009 \end{aligned}$$

# Likelihood

**Definition:** The *likelihood*  $L(Model) = P(Data|Model)$  of a model is the probability of the observed data, given that we assume a certain model and certain values for the parameters that define that model.

- + Model:  $Y_i \sim Bernoulli(\pi)$ , and  $\hat{\pi} = 0.9$
- + Data:  $y_1, \dots, y_5 = T, T, T, T, H$
- + Likelihood:  $L(\hat{\pi}) = P(y_1, \dots, y_5 | \pi = 0.9) = 0.00009$

# Class Activity, Part I

[https://sta214-f22.github.io/class\\_activities/ca\\_lecture\\_5.html](https://sta214-f22.github.io/class_activities/ca_lecture_5.html)

## Class Activity

$$\begin{aligned} L(0.2) &= P(y_1, \dots, y_5 | \pi = 0.2) \\ &= (0.2)(0.8)(0.8)(0.2)(0.8) = 0.020 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(0.3) &= P(y_1, \dots, y_5 | \pi = 0.3) \\ &= (0.3)(0.7)(0.7)(0.3)(0.7) = 0.031 \end{aligned}$$

Which value, 0.2 or 0.3, seems more reasonable?

↑  
higher likelihood.

## Class Activity

Which value of  $\hat{\pi}$  in the table would you pick?

$$\hat{\pi} = 0.4$$

b/c it has highest likelihood  
(also observed proportion of 1's in data)

# Maximum likelihood

**Maximum likelihood principle:** estimate the parameters to be the values that maximize the likelihood

$\hat{\pi}$	Likelihood
0.30	0.031
0.35	0.033
0.40	0.036
0.45	0.033

Maximum likelihood estimate:  $\hat{\pi} = 0.4$

# Maximum likelihood

**Maximum likelihood principle:** estimate the parameters to be the values that maximize the likelihood

Steps for maximum likelihood estimation:

- + *Likelihood*: For each potential value of the parameter, compute the likelihood of the observed data
- + *Maximize*: Find the parameter value that gives the largest likelihood



# Maximum likelihood for logistic regression

$$\log\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1 - \pi_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Size}_i \quad \pi_i = \frac{\exp\{\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Size}_i\}}{1 + \exp\{\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Size}_i\}}$$

Observed data:

Tumor cancerous	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Size of tumor (cm)	6	1	0.5	4	1.2

Suppose  $\beta_0 = -2$ ,  $\beta_1 = 0.5$ . How would I compute the likelihood?

- 1) compute  $\hat{\pi}_i$  for each person, using  $\beta_0 = -2$ ,  $\beta_1 = 0.5$
- 2) multiply probabilities!

# Class Activity, Part II

[https://sta214-f22.github.io/class\\_activities/ca\\_lecture\\_5.html](https://sta214-f22.github.io/class_activities/ca_lecture_5.html)

## Class Activity

$$\hat{\pi}_i = \frac{\exp\{-2 + 0.5 \text{ Size}_i\}}{1 + \exp\{-2 + 0.5 \text{ Size}_i\}}$$

Tumor cancerous	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Size of tumor (cm)	6	1	0.5	4	1.2
$\hat{\pi}_i$	0.731	0.182	0.148	0.5	0.197

Likelihood =  $(0.731)(1 - 0.182)(1 - 0.148)(0.5)(1 - 0.197)$   
 $= 0.204$

# Maximum likelihood for logistic regression

## Likelihood:

+ For estimates  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$ ,  $\hat{\pi}_i = \frac{\exp\{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i\}}{1 + \exp\{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i\}}$

+  $L(\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1) = P(Y_1, \dots, Y_n | \hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1)$

## Maximize:

+ Choose  $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1$  to maximize  $L(\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1)$

1) Do by hand ( tedious)  
2) use R!  
3) Calculus!

So far, we only considered a few values for  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ . How should we check other values, to make sure our estimates actually maximize likelihood?

# Computing likelihood in R

Observed data: T, T, T, T, H

- + We are going to consider several different potential values for  $\hat{\pi}$ :

$$0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, \dots, 0.9, 1$$

- + For each potential value, we will compute the likelihood:

$$L(\hat{\pi}) = (1 - \hat{\pi})^4(\hat{\pi})$$

- + We then see which value has the highest likelihood.
- + Is this all possible values? No, but let's start here.

## R code

```
# List the values for pi hat
```

```
pi_hat <- seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1)
```

↑  
"sequence"

0   0.1   0.2   ...   0.9   1.0  
(values of  $\hat{\pi}$  to try)

## R code

```
# List the values for pi hat  
pi_hat <- seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1)  
  
# Create a space to store the likelihoods  
likelihood <- rep(0, length(pi_hat))
```

"repeat" →

0 0 0 ... 0 0

for storage

will fill it in as we calculate  
likelihoods

Java:  $i = 0; i < n; i++$

## R code

```
# List the values for pi hat
pi_hat <- seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1)

# Create a space to store the likelihoods
likelihood <- rep(0, length(pi_hat))

# Compute and store the likelihoods
for(i in 1:length(pi_hat)) {
  likelihood[i] <- pi_hat[i] * (1 - pi_hat[i])^4
}
```

for loop

Do

$$\begin{aligned} i &= 1 \\ i &= 2 \\ i &= 3 \\ &\vdots \\ i &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pi\_hat}[1] * (1 - \text{pi\_hat}[1])^4 &= 0(1-0)^4 \\ \text{pi\_hat}[2] * (1 - \text{pi\_hat}[2])^4 &= 0.1(1-0.1)^4 \\ &0.2(1-0.2)^4 \\ &\vdots \\ &1(1-1)^4 \end{aligned}$$



## R code

```
# List the values for pi hat
pi_hat <- seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1)

# Create a space to store the likelihoods
likelihood <- rep(0, length(pi_hat))

# Compute and store the likelihoods
for( i in 1:length(pi_hat) ){
  likelihood[i] <- pi_hat[i]*(1-pi_hat[i])^4
}
```

Run this code in your R console. Which value of  $\hat{\pi}$  gives the highest likelihood?

# Results

pi_hat	likelihood
0.0	0.00000
0.1	0.06561
0.2	0.08192
0.3	0.07203
0.4	0.05184
0.5	0.03125
0.6	0.01536
0.7	0.00567
0.8	0.00128
0.9	0.00009
1.0	0.00000

$\approx \frac{1}{5}$