

# Likelihood ratio tests

## Asymptotics of the LRT

Suppose we observe iid data  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and want to test  
 $H_0: \theta = \theta_0$  vs.  $H_A: \theta \neq \theta_0$ . ( $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ )

Under  $H_0$ ,

$$\underbrace{-2(\log L(\theta_0 | x) - \log L(\hat{\theta} | x))}_{= 2 \log \left( \frac{L(\hat{\theta} | x)}{L(\theta_0 | x)} \right)} \xrightarrow{d} \chi^2_1$$

Proof: (To make notation easier, let  $\ell(\theta) = \log L(\theta | x)$ )

① Using Taylor expansions,

$$2\ell(\hat{\theta}) - 2\ell(\theta_0) \approx -\ell''(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})^2$$

②  $-\frac{1}{n}\ell''(\hat{\theta}) \xrightarrow{P} ?$ ,  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{d} ?$

③ Apply Slutsky's continuous mapping theorem

Proof

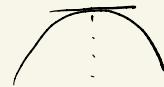
$$(\hat{\theta} = \text{MLE})$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \ell(\theta_0) \approx \ell(\hat{\theta}) + \underbrace{\ell'(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})}_{=0} + \frac{\ell''(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})^2}{2}$$

(2<sup>nd</sup>-order  
Taylor  
expansion  
around  $\hat{\theta}$ )

$$\Rightarrow 2\ell(\theta_0) \approx 2\ell(\hat{\theta}) + \ell''(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\ell(\hat{\theta}) - 2\ell(\theta_0) \approx -\ell''(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})^2$$



$$\textcircled{2} \quad -\ell''(\hat{\theta})(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta})^2 = -\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\hat{\theta}) (\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0))^2$$

$$-\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\theta) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x_i | \theta) \right) \xrightarrow{\text{WLLN}} -\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x_i | \theta) \right] = \mathcal{I}_1(\theta)$$

Under  $H_0$ , consistency of MLE  $\Rightarrow \hat{\theta} \xrightarrow{P} \theta_0$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\hat{\theta}) \xrightarrow{P} \mathcal{I}_1(\theta_0)$$

Under  $H_0$ ,  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} N(0, \mathcal{I}_1^{-1}(\theta_0)) = \mathcal{I}_1^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\theta_0) N(0, 1)$   
(asymptotic normality of MLE)

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \text{CMT: } (\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0))^2 \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{I}_1^{-1}(\theta_0) \chi_1^2$$

$$\text{Sakursky's: } -\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\hat{\theta}) (\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0))^2 \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{I}_1(\theta_0) \mathcal{I}_1^{-1}(\theta_0) \chi_1^2 = \chi_1^2$$

## Generalization to higher dimensions

Suppose we observe iid data  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  with parameter  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Partition  $\theta = (\theta_{(1)}, \theta_{(2)})^\top$ , with  $\theta_{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $q \leq d$

we want to test  $H_0: \theta_{(2)} = \theta_{(2)0}$  vs.  $H_A: \theta_{(2)} \neq \theta_{(2)0}$

Under  $H_0$ ,

$$2 \log \left( \frac{\sup_{\theta: \theta_{(2)} = \theta_{(2)0}} L(\theta | x)}{\sup_{\theta} L(\theta | x)} \right) \xrightarrow{d} \chi_q^2$$

# parameters tested

# Earthquake data

Data from the 2015 Gorkha earthquake on 211774 buildings, with variables including:

- + Damage: whether the building sustained any damage (1) or not (0)
- + Age: the age of the building (in years)
- + Surface: a categorical variable recording the surface condition of the land around the building. There are three different levels: n, o, and t

# Likelihood ratio tests

Surface n: Slope on Age = 0.060

surface 0: Slope on Age = 0.060 +  
0.003

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,  
            family = binomial)  
summary(m1)
```

```
...  
##                                     Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)  
## (Intercept)    1.411099   0.032512  43.402  < 2e-16 ***  
## Age           0.059786   0.002100  28.475  < 2e-16 ***  
## Surfaceo      0.061461   0.072861   0.844  0.398924  
## Surfacet     -0.474024   0.034382 -13.787  < 2e-16 ***  
## Age:Surfaceo  0.002808   0.005088   0.552  0.581013  
## Age:Surfacet  0.008163   0.002230   3.661  0.000252 ***  
##  
## Null deviance: 153536  on 211773  degrees of freedom  
## Residual deviance: 139150  on 211768  degrees of freedom  
...  $H_0: \beta_u = \beta_s = 0$   $H_A: \text{at least one of } \beta_u, \beta_s \neq 0$ 
```

We want to test whether the relationship between Age and Damage is the same for all three surface conditions. What hypotheses do we test?

# Likelihood ratio tests

Full model:

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,  
            family = binomial)
```

Reduced model:

```
m2 <- glm(Damage ~ Age + Surface, data = earthquake,  
            family = binomial)
```

LRT : rejects when  $\frac{2 \log \left( \frac{L(\hat{\beta}_{\text{full}})}{L(\hat{\beta}_{\text{reduced}})} \right)}{2 \ell(\hat{\beta}_{\text{full}}) - 2 \ell(\hat{\beta}_{\text{reduced}})}$  is large

# Likelihood ratio tests

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,  
            family = binomial)  
summary(m1)
```

```
...  
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)  
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##  
## Null deviance: 153536  on 211773  degrees of freedom  
## Residual deviance: 139150  on 211768  degrees of freedom  
...
```

What information replaces  $R^2$  and  $R^2_{adj}$  in the GLM output?

deviance!

# Deviance

**Definition:** The *deviance* of a fitted model with parameter estimates  $\hat{\beta}$  is given by

$$2\ell(\hat{\beta}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left( \hat{p}_i^{y_i} (1-\hat{p}_i)^{1-y_i} \right) \quad \hat{p}_i = \frac{e^{\hat{\beta}^T x_i}}{1+e^{\hat{\beta}^T x_i}}$$

Saturated model: perfectly fits the observed data

$$\hat{p}_i = y_i \Rightarrow 2\ell(\text{saturated}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left( y_i^{y_i} (1-y_i)^{1-y_i} \right) = 2n \log(1) \\ = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  for binary logistic regression, deviance =  $-2\ell(\hat{\beta})$

# Residual and null deviance

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,  
            family = binomial)  
summary(m1)
```

...

## Null deviance: 153536 on  $\underbrace{211773}_{n-1}$

## Residual deviance: 139150 on  $\underbrace{211768}_{n-p}$

...

degrees of freedom

degrees of freedom

$n = \# \text{obs.}$ ,  $p = \# \text{parameters}$

linear reg.  
analogue:  
 $\text{SS}_{\text{Total}} = (\sum_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2)$

Residual deviance: deviance for the fitted model

$$-2 \ell(\hat{\beta}) = 139150$$

Null deviance:

(residual) deviance for fitted  
intercept-only model

i.e.  $\log \left( \frac{p_i}{1-p_i} \right) = \beta_0$

$$\text{LRT} : 2\ell(\hat{\beta}_{\text{full}}) - 2\ell(\hat{\beta}_{\text{reduced}}) \approx \chi^2_{\epsilon} \quad \epsilon = \begin{matrix} \# \text{ parameters} \\ \text{tested} \end{matrix}$$

$$= \text{deviance}_{\text{reduced}} - \text{deviance}_{\text{full}}$$

$$= df_{\text{red.}} - df_{\text{full}}$$

## Comparing deviances

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,
            family = binomial)
summary(m1)
```

```
...
## Null deviance: 153536 on 211773 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 139150 on 211768 degrees of freedom
...
```

```
m2 <- glm(Damage ~ Age + Surface, data = earthquake,
            family = binomial)
summary(m2)
```

```
...
## Null deviance: 153536 on 211773 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 139164 on 211770 degrees of freedom
```

LRT:  $139164 - 139150 = 14$  calculate P-value by comparing  $\chi^2$

How should I use this output to calculate a test statistic?

# Comparing deviances

```
m1 <- glm(Damage ~ Age*Surface, data = earthquake,  
           family = binomial)  
  
m2 <- glm(Damage ~ Age + Surface, data = earthquake,  
           family = binomial)  
  
test stat  
pchisq(m2$deviance - m1$deviance,  
        m2$df.residual - m1$df.residual,  $\leftarrow df$ ,  
        lower.tail = F)
```

```
## [1] 0.0009433954
```

# Summary: LRT for logistic regression

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

Full model:  $\log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) = \beta^T x_i$

$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{(1)} \\ \beta_{(2)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \beta_{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad H_0: \beta_{(2)} = 0 \quad H_A: \beta_{(2)} \neq 0$$

Reduced model:  $\log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) = \beta_{(1)}^T x_{i(1)}$

① Fit full and reduced models, calculate (residual) deviances

② Test statistic:  $G = 2l(\hat{\beta}_{\text{full}}) - 2l(\hat{\beta}_{\text{reduced}}) = \text{deviance}_{\text{reduced}} - \text{deviance}_{\text{full}}$

③ Under  $H_0$ ,  $G \sim \chi_q^2 \leftarrow \# \text{ parameters tested} = df_{\text{reduced}} - df_{\text{full}}$