Modeling known-fate data on survival – binomials & logistic regression

Week	# Females	# Died	# Survived	Ppn Survived	(p*(1-p))/n	se-hat
1	48	1	47	0.979	0.00042	0.021
2	47	2	45	0.957	0.00087	0.029
3	41	2	39	0.951	0.00113	0.034
4	39	5	34	0.872	0.00287	0.054
5	32	4	28	0.875	0.00342	0.058
6	28	3	25	0.893	0.00342	0.058
7	25	1	24	0.960	0.00154	0.039
8	24	1	23	0.958	0.00166	0.041
TOTAL	284	19	265	0.9331	0.00022	0.015

Consider the following dataset:



MLE's: S-hat = 0.933, se-hat = 0.015

AIC = 139.47 + 2(1) = 141.47

AICc = 139.47 + 2(1) + 2(1)(1+1)/(284-1-1) = 141.47+ ~0.014 = ~141.484

Model = S(t) – Survival varies freely among weeks

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{-2InL} = -2 \; x \; ln \; \{ [(0.979)^{47} (1-0.979)^1] \\ & x \; [(0.957)^{45} (1-0.957)^2] \\ & x \; [(0.951)^{39} (1-0.951)^2] \\ & x \; [(0.871)^{34} (1-0.871)^5] \\ & x \; [(0.875)^{28} (1-0.875)^4] \\ & x \; [(0.893)^{25} (1-0.893)^3] \\ & x \; [(0.960)^{24} (1-0.960)^1] \\ & x \; [(0.958)^{23} (1-0.958)^1] \} \end{array}$

-2InL = 132.01

AIC = 132.01 + 2(8) = 148.01

AICc = 132.01 + 2(8) + 2(8)(8+1)/(284-8-1) = 132.01 + 16 + 0.52 = 148.53

Likelihood Ratio Test

H₀: S(.) fits the data as well as S(t)

 $\begin{aligned} X^2 &= -2 ln [L(S.)/L(S_t)] \\ &= -2 ln [(5.17686E-31)/(2.16094E-29)] \\ &= -2 ln [0.023956514] \\ &= 7.463 \end{aligned}$

Alternatively, [-2lnL(S(.)] – [-2lnL(S(t)] = 139.47 - 132.01 = 7.46

df = 7 ... S(t) has 8 parameters and S(.) has 1, and 8-1=7. P = 0.3823 ... cannot reject the null hypothesis – considering weekly estimates does not improve the fit of the model to the data – don't have strong evidence of weekly variation in survival rate.

Information-theoretic - AIC comparison

 \triangle AICc for S(.) = 0.00 \triangle AICc for S(t) = 7.05

S(.) is a more parsimonious model for this dataset than is S(t)

BUT WHAT OF OTHER MODELS?

Imagine that the average temperature (in degrees C) varied by week

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	8	4	6	5	10	9

To find out if there's evidence of a relationship between weekly survival rate and temperature, we need a more flexible method: LOGISTIC REGRESSION is one such tool and one we'll use often.

Building and Evaluating Competing Models of Binomial Processes

So far, we've simply worried about estimating p based on an observed number of heads out of N trials. This is useful (9/37 walruses survive; p-hat = 0.243, se-hat = 0.07). But ... this is also inadequate for most problems. That is, we'll want to know if p (probability of surviving 1 year) varies among the walruses based on factors such as age, year, individual characteristics, etc. We need to evaluate a variety of models to check for **heterogeneity** in p (or S). A useful method for evaluating competing models of binomial responses is logistic regression.

This method assumes that errors in Y are **binomially distributed** and uses a logit link between Y and the regression string. Let's work through what these features entail.

$$\Pr(y_i = 1 \mid \beta_0, \beta_1, x_i) = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)} = \pi(x) = E(Y \mid x)$$

So, $E(y_i | x_i) = \pi(x)$ and $y_i = \pi(x) + \varepsilon_i$,

where the quantity can assume 1 of 2 possible values:

(1) if $y_i = 1$, then $\varepsilon_i = 1 - \pi(x)$ with probability $\pi(x)$; and

(2) if $y_i = 0$, then $\varepsilon_i = -\pi(x)$ with probability $1 - \pi(x)$.

(3) Thus, ε has a distribution with mean 0 and variance = $\pi(x) \cdot [1 - (\pi(x))]$.

The use of $\pi(x)$ provides us with a simpler notation for working with the regression problem and nicely shows how the errors are explicitly assumed to be binomially distributed.

We can use the logit transformation on both sides of the equation and simplify the right side considerably! Aha, so that's what the **logit link** refers to – let's look at that a bit more closely.

$$\ln\left(\frac{\pi(x)}{1-\pi(x)}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1$$

This is nice but leads to a transformed response variable: $\ln(S/(1-S)) = \log \circ dds$ or the natural logarithm of the ratio of S & 1-S. Here, the relationship between In(S/(1-S)) and $\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1$ is linear. The relationship between (Pr(y=1)) and

 $\frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)}$ is S-shaped and constrains the resulting values so that they

range between 0 & 1, which is appropriate for probabilities.

To get some experience with how the function behaves, try using a range of values from -5 to +5 (e.g., by step sizes of 0.25) in place of $(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)$ in the equation. When you do, you'll see that the resulting values range from ~0 to ~1 and are at exactly 0.5 when $(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1) = 0$, which makes sense given that exp(0)=1. In **R**, you can obtain these probabilities from the



logistic distribution with: plogis(seg(-5,5,.25))

The error term and link function lead to a pdf and likelihood function for the logistic equation. These functions should look quite familiar to you.

$$L(\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1 \mid X) = \prod_{i=1}^n \pi(x_i)^{y_i} [1 - \pi(x_i)]^{1-y_i}$$

As we discussed before, actual estimation is done on InL.

But ... the basic concepts here are that:

- 1. $\pi(x)$ gives the conditional probability that y=1 given x for any estimates of β_0 and β_1 .
- 2. $1 \pi(x)$ gives the conditional probability that y=0 given x for any estimates of β_0 and β_1 .
- 3. For those pairs (x_i, y_i) where $y_i = 1$ the contribution to the likelihood function is $\pi(x)^{1}$
- 4. For those pairs (x_i, y_i) where $y_i = 0$ the contribution to the likelihood function is $1 - \pi(x)^{T}$
- 5. Thus, the most likely estimates of β_0 and β_1 are those that lead to high values of $\pi(x)$ when $y_i = 1$ and low values of $\pi(x)$ when $y_i = 0$ (OR high values of $1 - \pi(x)$ when $y_i = 0$).

Beyond this set of difficulties, everything else about model building and model selection is the same as what you learned in regression problems with normally distributed errors in **y**. The principles that we're using to guide analysis of linear regression also apply in logistic regression (model lists, model selection, etc.).

Useful information about interpreting beta's in simple logistic regression

The parameter β_1 determines the rate of increase or decrease of the S-shaped curve. The sign of β_1 indicates whether the curve ascends or descends, and the rate of change increases as $|\beta_1|$ increases. When the model holds with $\beta_1 = 0$, the Pr(S=1) simplifies to a constant value = $\frac{e^{\beta_0}}{1+e^{\beta_0}}$. In this case, $\pi(x)$ is identical for all *x*, i.e., *y* is independent of *x*. Examine the curve below and note that the rate of change in $\pi(x)$ per unit change in *x* varies. Straight lines drawn tangent to the curve at any particular *x* value describe the rate of change at that point. The logistic regression's line has a slope equal to $\beta_1 \cdot \pi(x) \cdot [1-\pi(x)]$. Thus, the line tangent to the curve at *x* for which $\pi(x) = 0.5$ has slope $\beta_1(0.5)(0.5)$, and when $\pi(x) = 0.9$ or 0.1, the line has slope $\beta_1(0.9)(0.1)$. Thus, the line has its steepest slope when $\pi(x) = 0.5$, and the slope approaches 0 as $\pi(x)$ approaches 0 or 1. It turns out for a simple model that's only $(\beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot X_1)$, the *x* value for which $\pi(x) = 0.5$ can be determined by $x = -\beta_0/\beta_1$ and is sometimes called the median effective level (EL₅₀).



B0=-5, B1 =0.1
-(-5/0.1)= EL ₅₀ = 50
Pr(S=1 x = 50) = 0.5
$\frac{e^{-5+.1\cdot 50}}{1+e^{-5+.1\cdot 50}} = 0.5$
slope @ x=50 = .1(.25) = .025
slope @ x=5 is .1(.011)(.989)=0.001



B0=-5, B1 =0.2
-(-5/0.2)= EL₅₀ = 25
Pr(S=1|x = 25) = 0.5

$$\frac{e^{-5+.2\cdot25}}{1+e^{-5+.2\cdot25}} = 0.5$$
slope @ x= 25 = .2(.25) = .05
slope @ x = 5 is .2(.018)(.982) = 0.004

Logistic Regression – MLE

DATA

Graphical Representation of data and fitted line



Calculating the Likelihood of different combinations of parameter estimates

 $\ln L(-15.000, 21.000) = -20.383$

 $\ln L(-30.000, 11.000) = -175.700$

 $\ln L(-22.000, 23.000) = -4.347$

MLE's are:

Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	95% Confidence Intervals	
βο	-22.7465	12.26336	-46.7823	1.28922
β ₁	23.8061	12.81938	-1.3194	48.93159
lnL	-4.34485			

Calculating the Likelihood and log-Likelihood of $\beta_0 = -22.7465$ and $\beta_1 = 23.8061$ for the dataset under consideration (obtain π_i using $\pi_i = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)}$)

$\pi_{_i}$	\mathcal{Y}_i	$\pi_i^{y_i}$	$(1-\pi_i)$	$(1-y_i)$	$(1-\pi_i)^{(1-y_i)}$	$\pi_i^{y_i} \cdot (1 - \pi_i)^{(1-y_i)}$	$\ln(\pi_i^{y_i}\cdot(1-\pi_i)^{(1-y_i)})$
0.000	0	1.000	1.000	1	1.000	1.000	-0.000
0.002	0	1.000	0.998	1	0.998	0.998	-0.002
0.024	0	1.000	0.976	1	0.976	0.976	-0.024
0.211	0	1.000	0.789	1	0.789	0.789	-0.237
0.211	0	1.000	0.789	1	0.789	0.789	-0.237
0.211	0	1.000	0.789	1	0.789	0.789	-0.237
0.211	1	0.211	0.789	0	1.000	0.211	-1.558
0.743	0	1.000	0.257	1	0.257	0.257	-1.357
0.743	1	0.743	0.257	0	1.000	0.743	-0.298
0.743	1	0.743	0.257	0	1.000	0.743	-0.298
0.969	1	0.969	0.031	0	1.000	0.969	-0.032
0.969	1	0.969	0.031	0	1.000	0.969	-0.032
0.969	1	0.969	0.031	0	1.000	0.969	-0.032
0.997	1	0.997	0.003	0	1.000	0.997	-0.003
1.000	1	1.000	0.000	0	1.000	1.000	-0.000
1.000	1	1.000	0.000	0	1.000	1.000	-0.000
1.000	1	1.000	0.000	0	1.000	1.000	-0.000
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Do you think that this is a desirable shape? Now, take a look back at the estimates, the associated SE's, and the dataset: we've got a small sample size and poor precision.

Estimated Variance-Covariance Matrix

Parameter	β ₀	β ₁
β ₀	150.390	-156.823
β ₁	-156.823	164.336

Do these values make sense given the estimates & graph you saw above?

Estimated Correlation Matrix

Correlation or
$$\left(\frac{\text{cov}_{1,2}}{se_1 \cdot se_2}\right)$$
 for the 2 estimates = -156.823/(12.26336 x 12.81938) = ?

Parameter	β ₀	β ₁
β ₀	1.000000	-0.997550
β ₁	-0.997550	1.000000



Goodness of Fit

Deviance Residuals (formal testing available [chi-square distribution] but problematic)

$$dev_i = \pm \{-2[Y_i \cdot \log_e(\hat{\pi}_i) + (1 - Y_i) \cdot \log_e(1 - \hat{\pi}_i)]\}^{1/2}$$

The sign of a *deviance residual* is positive if $y_i \ge \hat{\pi}_i$ and negative if $y_i < \hat{\pi}_i$

π_{i}	\mathcal{Y}_i	Deviance _i	Dev_i^2
0.000	0	-0.021	0.0004
0.002	0	-0.068	0.0046
0.024	0	-0.221	0.0488
0.211	0	-0.688	0.4733
0.211	0	-0.688	0.4733
0.211	0	-0.688	0.4733
0.211	1	1.765	3.1152
0.743	0	-1.648	2.7159
0.743	1	0.771	0.5944
0.743	1	0.771	0.5944
0.969	1	0.251	0.0630
0.969	1	0.251	0.0630
0.969	1	0.251	0.0630
0.997	1	0.077	0.0059
1.000	1	0.023	0.0005
1.000	1	0.023	0.0005
1.000	1	0.023	0.0005

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (dev_i)^2 = ModelDeviance = -2 \ln L = -2 (-4.3449) = 8.6898$$

Deviance Residuals (y-axis) against values of x (x-axis)



More interesting problems will have:

- Larger datasets
- Competing models

Under these circumstances, we'll:

- Find the MLEs for each model,
- Use the lnL values to compare models (more on how to do that later)
- Evaluate Goodness of fit, if possible, for our most complex model (more on that later too!).



Week	# Females	# Died	# Survived	Ppn Survived	(p*(1-p))/n	se-hat
1	48	1	47	0.979	0.00042	0.021
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8	24	1	23	0.958	0.00166	0.041
TOTAL	284	19	265	0.9331	0.00022	0.015

OK – so now that you have some background in logistic regression. Let's go back to our dataset on weekly survival and see if we can work with some more interesting models.

Average temperature (in degrees C) varied by week. Does this relate to variation in survival?





The MLEs for this model are $\hat{\beta}_0 = 0.75$; $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.26$ – consider their role in the likelihood equation and how they would have been found.

$$\pi_i = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)} \qquad \qquad \ln\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1 - \pi_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i$$

$$lnL(\beta_0, \beta_1) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [y_i \cdot (\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)] - \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln[1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_0 \cdot x_i)]$$

 $\hat{\pi}_i = \exp(0.75 + (0.26 \times \text{temp}_{\text{week }i})) / [1 + \exp(0.75 + (0.26 \times \text{temp}_{\text{week }i}))]$

 $-2InL = -2 \times \ln \left\{ \left[(0.974)^{47} (1-0.974)^{1} \right] \times \left[(0.957)^{45} (1-0.957)^{2} \right] \times \left[(0.945)^{39} (1-0.945)^{2} \right] \right\}$

x $[(0.858)^{34}(1-0.858)^5] \times [(0.910)^{28}(1-0.910)^4] \times [(0.887)^{25}(1-0.887)^3]$

x $[(0.967)^{24}(1-0.967)^{1}] \times [(0.957)^{23}(1-0.957)^{1}]$

-2InL = 132.64

AIC = 132.64 + 2(2) = 136.64

AICc= 132.64 + 2(2) + 2(2)(2+1)/(284-2-1) = 132.64 + 4 + 0.04 = 136.68

Delta AICc							
Model	AICc	AICc	Weight	#Par	~-2InL	~Deviance	
{S(temp)}	136.690	0.00	0.87171	2.0000	132.64	0.63	
{S(.)}	141.486	4.80	0.07924	1.0000	139.47	7.46	
{S(t)}	148.532	11.84	0.00234	8.0000	132.01	0.00	

Aha – so, it looks bringing in covariates through logistic regression can be useful.

Now what you need is some software for analyzing data. Luckily, Program MARK does a nice job at this. One might also use other packages such as R, SAS, etc. We'll use MARK because it is also very useful for so many other related analyses that we'll do.

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