

MATH 829: Introduction to Data Mining and  
Analysis  
Logistic regression

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# Logistic regression

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Linear regression may not be the best model.

- $x^T \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  not in  $\{0, 1\}$ .
- Linearity may not be appropriate. Does doubling the predictor doubles the probability of  $Y = 1$ ? (e.g. probability of going to the beach vs outdoors temperature).

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We assume

$$\begin{aligned}\text{logit}(P(Y = 1|X = x)) &= \log \frac{P(Y = 1|X = x)}{1 - P(Y = 1|X = x)} \\ &= \log \frac{P(Y = 1|X = x)}{P(Y = 0|X = x)} = x^T \beta.\end{aligned}$$

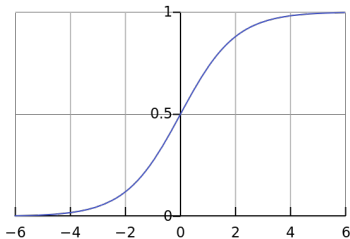
# Logistic regression (cont.)

Equivalently,

$$P(Y = 1|X = x) = \frac{e^{x^T \beta}}{1 + e^{x^T \beta}}$$

$$P(Y = 0|X = x) = 1 - P(Y = 1|X = x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{x^T \beta}}$$

The function  $f(x) = e^x / (1 + e^x) = 1 / (1 + e^{-x})$  is called the *logistic function*.



$\log \frac{P(Y=1|X=x)}{P(Y=0|X=x)}$  is the *log-odds ratio*.

- Larger positive values of  $x^T \beta \Rightarrow p \approx 1$ .
- Larger negative values of  $x^T \beta \Rightarrow p \approx 0$ .

In summary, we are assuming:

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- $\text{logit}(p) = \text{logit}(E(Y|X = x)) = x^T \beta$ .

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More generally, one can use a *generalized linear model* (GLM). A GLM consists of:

- A probability distribution for  $Y|X = x$  from the exponential family.
- A linear predictor  $\eta = x^T \beta$ .
- A *link function*  $g$  such that  $g(E(Y|X = x)) = \eta$ .



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Here  $p = p(x_i, \beta) = \frac{e^{x_i^T \beta}}{1 + e^{x_i^T \beta}}$ . Therefore,

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Taking the logarithm, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} l(\beta) &= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log p(x_i, \beta) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - p(x_i, \beta)) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i (x_i^T \beta - \log(1 + e^{x_i^T \beta})) - (1 - y_i) \log(1 + e^{x_i^T \beta}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i x_i^T \beta - \log(1 + e^{x_i^T \beta})]. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the derivative:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i x_{ij} - x_{ij} \frac{e^{x_i^T \beta}}{1 + e^{x_i^T \beta}} \right].$$

Needs to be solved using numerical methods  
(e.g. Newton-Raphson).

Logistic regression often performs well in applications.

As before, penalties can be added to regularize the problem or induce sparsity. For example,

$$\min_{\beta} -l(\beta) + \alpha \|\beta\|_1$$

$$\min_{\beta} -l(\beta) + \alpha \|\beta\|_2.$$

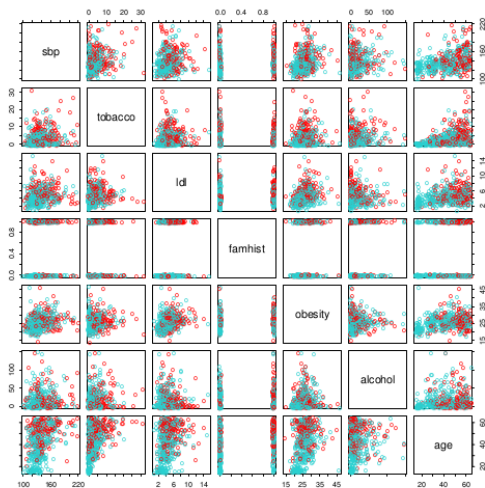
## South African Heart Disease (ESL):

- Subset of the Coronary Risk-Factor Study (CORIS) baseline survey.
- Carried out in three rural areas of the Western Cape, South Africa (Rousseauw et al., 1983).
- Aim of the study was to establish the intensity of ischemic heart disease risk factors in that high-incidence region
- Data represent white males between 15 and 64, and the response variable is the presence or absence of myocardial infarction (MI) at the time of the survey.
- 160 cases in dataset, and a sample of 302 controls.

## Dataset variables

sbp	systolic blood pressure
tobacco	cumulative tobacco (kg)
ldl	low densiity lipoprotein cholesterol
adiposity	
famhist	family history of heart disease (Present, Absent)
typea	type-A behavior
obesity	
alcohol	current alcohol consumption
age	age at onset
chd	response, coronary heart disease

# Example (cont.)



**FIGURE 4.12.** A scatterplot matrix of the South African heart disease data. Each plot shows a pair of risk factors, and the cases and controls are color coded (red is a case). The variable family history of heart disease (*famhist*) is binary (yes or no).

ESL



## Example (cont.)

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.cross_validation import train_test_split

data = pd.read_csv('../ ../ ../data/SouthAfrica_Heart/SAheart.csv')

y = np.array(data['chd'])
X = np.array(data.drop('chd',axis=1))

# Separate data into train/test
N = 100 # Number of repetitions

log_model = LogisticRegression(fit_intercept=True)
score = np.zeros((N,1))
for i in range(N):
    X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test =
        train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.25)
    log_model.fit(X_train,y_train)
    score[i] = log_model.score(X_test, y_test)

print score.mean()
print score.std()
```

We obtain about 72% accuracy with a standard deviation of  $\approx 4\%$ .

## Logistic regression with more than 2 classes

- Suppose now the response can take any of  $\{1, \dots, K\}$  values.
- Can still use logistic regression.
- We use the categorical distribution instead of the Bernoulli distribution.
- $P(Y = i|X = x) = p_i$ ,  $0 \leq p_i \leq 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^K p_i = 1$ .
- Each category has its own set of coefficients:

$$P(Y = i|X = x) = \frac{e^{x^T \beta^{(i)}}}{\sum_{i=1}^K e^{x^T \beta^{(i)}}.$$

- Estimation can be done using maximum likelihood as for the binary case.

## Example: handwritten digits

- Normalized handwritten digits, automatically scanned from envelopes by the U.S. Postal Service.
- Images here have been deslanted and size normalized, resulting in 16 x 16 grayscale images (Le Cun et al., 1990).
- Each line consists of the digit id (0-9) followed by the 256 grayscale values.
- There are 7291 training observations and 2007 test observations.
- The test set is notoriously “difficult”, and a 2.5% error rate is excellent.
- These data were kindly made available by the neural network group at AT&T research labs (thanks to Yann Le Cunn).

**Exercise:** Use logistic regression to predict the handwritten digits. Compute the prediction error of your model on the given test set.