

# Stepwise Logistic Regression and log-linear models with R

**Akaike information criterion:**  $AIC = 2k - 2 \log L$   
 $= 2k + \text{Deviance}$ , where  $k = \text{number of parameters}$

Small numbers are better  
Penalizes models with lots of parameters  
Penalizes models with poor fit

```
> fullmod = glm(low ~ age+lwt+racefac+smoke+ptl+ht+ui+ftv,family=binomial)
> summary(fullmod)
```

Call:

```
glm(formula = low ~ age + lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht +
     ui + ftv, family = binomial)
```

Deviance Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-1.8946	-0.8212	-0.5316	0.9818	2.2125

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	0.480623	1.196888	0.402	0.68801
age	-0.029549	0.037031	-0.798	0.42489
lwt	-0.015424	0.006919	-2.229	0.02580 *
racefacBlack	1.272260	0.527357	2.413	0.01584 *
racefacOther	0.880496	0.440778	1.998	0.04576 *
smoke	0.938846	0.402147	2.335	0.01957 *
ptl	0.543337	0.345403	1.573	0.11571
ht	1.863303	0.697533	2.671	0.00756 **
ui	0.767648	0.459318	1.671	0.09467 .
ftv	0.065302	0.172394	0.379	0.70484

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

Null deviance: 234.67 on 188 degrees of freedom  
Residual deviance: 201.28 on 179 degrees of freedom  
AIC: 221.28

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4

```
> nothing <- glm(low ~ 1,family=binomial)
> summary(nothing)
```

Call:

```
glm(formula = low ~ 1, family = binomial)
```

Deviance Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-0.8651	-0.8651	-0.8651	1.5259	1.5259

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	-0.790	0.157	-5.033	4.84e-07 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

Null deviance: 234.67 on 188 degrees of freedom  
Residual deviance: 234.67 on 188 degrees of freedom  
AIC: 236.67

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4

```
> # Here was the chosen model from earlier
> redmod1 = glm(low ~ lwt+racefac+smoke+ptl+ht,family=binomial)
>
> backwards = step(fullmod) # Backwards selection is the default
Start: AIC= 221.28
low ~ age + lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui + ftv
```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
- ftv	1	201.43	219.43
- age	1	201.93	219.93
<none>		201.28	221.28
- ptl	1	203.83	221.83
- ui	1	204.03	222.03
- racefac	2	208.75	224.75
- lwt	1	206.80	224.80
- smoke	1	206.91	224.91
- ht	1	208.81	226.81

```
Step: AIC= 219.43
low ~ age + lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui
```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
- age	1	201.99	217.99
<none>		201.43	219.43
- ptl	1	203.95	219.95
- ui	1	204.11	220.11
- racefac	2	208.77	222.77
- lwt	1	206.81	222.81
- smoke	1	206.92	222.92
- ht	1	208.81	224.81

```
Step: AIC= 217.99
low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui
```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
<none>		201.99	217.99
- ptl	1	204.22	218.22
- ui	1	204.90	218.90
- smoke	1	207.73	221.73
- lwt	1	208.11	222.11
- racefac	2	210.31	222.31
- ht	1	209.46	223.46

```
> 217.99-201.99
[1] 16
```

```
> # backwards = step(fullmod,trace=0) would suppress step by step output.
> formula(backwards)
low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui
```

```
> summary(backwards)
```

```
Call:
```

```
glm(formula = low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui, family = binomial)
```

```
Deviance Residuals:
```

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-1.9049	-0.8124	-0.5241	0.9483	2.1812

```
Coefficients:
```

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	-0.086550	0.951760	-0.091	0.92754
lwt	-0.015905	0.006855	-2.320	0.02033 *
racefacBlack	1.325719	0.522243	2.539	0.01113 *
racefacOther	0.897078	0.433881	2.068	0.03868 *
smoke	0.938727	0.398717	2.354	0.01855 *
ptl	0.503215	0.341231	1.475	0.14029
ht	1.855042	0.695118	2.669	0.00762 **
ui	0.785698	0.456441	1.721	0.08519 .

```
---
```

```
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
```

```
Null deviance: 234.67 on 188 degrees of freedom  
Residual deviance: 201.99 on 181 degrees of freedom  
AIC: 217.99
```

```
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

```
> # I would be inclined to drop ptl
```

```
> back2 = glm(low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ht + ui, family=binomial)
```

```
> summary(back2)
```

```
Call:
```

```
glm(formula = low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ht + ui, family = binomial)
```

```
Deviance Residuals:
```

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-1.7396	-0.8322	-0.5359	0.9873	2.1692

```
Coefficients:
```

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	0.056276	0.937853	0.060	0.95215
lwt	-0.016732	0.006803	-2.459	0.01392 *
racefacBlack	1.324562	0.521464	2.540	0.01108 *
racefacOther	0.926197	0.430386	2.152	0.03140 *
smoke	1.035831	0.392558	2.639	0.00832 **
ht	1.871416	0.690902	2.709	0.00676 **
ui	0.904974	0.447553	2.022	0.04317 *

```
---
```

```
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
```

```
Null deviance: 234.67 on 188 degrees of freedom  
Residual deviance: 204.22 on 182 degrees of freedom  
AIC: 218.22
```

```
Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

```

> redmod1$deviance; back2$deviance
[1] 204.8977
[1] 204.2166
> # back2 may be slightly "better," but I like redmod1 more.
> # Why? Because ptl is easier to assess than ui
>
> forwards = step(nothing,
scope=list(lower=formula(nothing),upper=formula(fullmod)), direction="forward")
Start: AIC= 236.67
low ~ 1

```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
+ ptl	1	227.89	231.89
+ lwt	1	228.69	232.69
+ ui	1	229.60	233.60
+ smoke	1	229.81	233.81
+ ht	1	230.65	234.65
+ racefac	2	229.66	235.66
+ age	1	231.91	235.91
<none>		234.67	236.67
+ ftv	1	233.90	237.90

```

Step: AIC= 231.89
low ~ ptl

```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
+ lwt	1	223.41	229.41
+ ht	1	223.58	229.58
+ age	1	224.27	230.27
+ racefac	2	222.53	230.53
+ smoke	1	224.78	230.78
+ ui	1	224.89	230.89
<none>		227.89	231.89
+ ftv	1	227.30	233.30

```

Step: AIC= 229.41
low ~ ptl + lwt

```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
+ ht	1	215.96	223.96
+ racefac	2	217.68	227.68
+ smoke	1	220.54	228.54
+ age	1	221.05	229.05
+ ui	1	221.23	229.23
<none>		223.41	229.41
+ ftv	1	223.12	231.12

```

Step: AIC= 223.96
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht

```

	Df	Deviance	AIC
+ racefac	2	210.85	222.85
+ ui	1	213.01	223.01
+ smoke	1	213.15	223.15
<none>		215.96	223.96
+ age	1	214.01	224.01
+ ftv	1	215.84	225.84

```

Step: AIC= 222.85

```

```

low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac

      Df Deviance   AIC
+ smoke 1   204.90 218.90
+ ui     1   207.73 221.73
<none>   1   210.85 222.85
+ age    1   209.81 223.81
+ ftv    1   210.82 224.82

Step: AIC= 218.9
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac + smoke

      Df Deviance   AIC
+ ui     1   201.99 217.99
<none>   1   204.90 218.90
+ age    1   204.11 220.11
+ ftv    1   204.88 220.88

Step: AIC= 217.99
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac + smoke + ui

      Df Deviance   AIC
<none>   1   201.99 217.99
+ age    1   201.43 219.43
+ ftv    1   201.93 219.93

> formula(redmod1)
low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht
> formula(backwards)
low ~ lwt + racefac + smoke + ptl + ht + ui
> formula(forwards)
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac + smoke + ui
> bothways =
+ step<(nothing, list(lower=formula(nothing),upper=formula(fullmod)),
direction="both",trace=0)
> formula(forwards)
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac + smoke + ui
> formula(bothways)
low ~ ptl + lwt + ht + racefac + smoke + ui

```