## Logistic Regression

For a binary dependent variable: 1=Yes, 0=No

### Binary outcomes are common and important

- The patient survives the operation, or does not.
- The accused is convicted, or is not.
- The customer makes a purchase, or does not.
- The marriage lasts at least five years, or does not.
- The student graduates, or does not.

## For a binary variable

- The population mean E[Y] is the probability that Y=1
- Make the mean depend on a set of independent variables
- Consider one independent variable.
  Think of a scatterplot

## Least Squares vs. Logistic Regression



The logistic regression curve arises from an indirect representation of the probability of Y=1 for a given set of x values.

Representing the probability of an event by  $~\pi$ 

$$\text{Odds} = \frac{\pi}{1 - \pi}$$

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- If P(Y=1)=1/2, odds = .5/(1-.5) = 1 (to 1)
- If P(Y=1)=2/3, odds = 2 (to 1)
- If P(Y=1)=3/5, odds = (3/5)/(2/5) = 1.5 (to 1)
- If P(Y=1)=1/5, odds = .25 (to 1)

The higher the probability, the greater the odds

$$\text{Odds} = \frac{\pi}{1 - \pi}$$

$$0 \leq Odds < \infty$$

Linear model for the log odds

- Natural log, not base 10
- Symbolized ln



#### Some facts about ln

- The higher the probability, the higher the log odds.
- $\cdot \ln(e) = 1, e = 2.1728...$
- Only defined for positive numbers.
- So logistic regression will not work for events of probability exactly zero or exactly one (why not one?)

# The log of a product is the sum of logs

$$\ln(ab) = \ln(a) + \ln(b)$$

$$\ln(\frac{a}{b}) = \ln(a) - \ln(b)$$

This means the log of an odds *ratio* is the difference between the two log odds quantities.

## Linear regression model for the log odds of the event Y=1

$$\ln\left(\frac{P(Y=1|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}{P(Y=0|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \ldots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}$$

#### **Equivalent Statements**

$$\ln\left(\frac{P(Y=1|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}{P(Y=0|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \ldots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}$$

$$\frac{P(Y=1|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}{P(Y=0|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})} = e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}}$$
$$= e^{\beta_0} e^{\beta_1 x_1} \cdots e^{\beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}}$$

$$P(Y = 1 | x_1, \dots, x_{p-1}) = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}}}$$

In terms of log odds, logistic regression is like regular regression

$$\ln\left(\frac{P(Y=1|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}{P(Y=0|\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \ldots + \beta_{p-1} x_{p-1}$$

#### In terms of plain odds,

- Logistic regression coefficients
  represent odds ratios
- For example, "Among 50 year old men, the odds of being dead before age 60 are three times as great for smokers."

 $\frac{\text{Odds of death given smoker}}{\text{Odds of death given nonsmoker}} = 3$ 

#### Logistic regression

- X=1 means smoker, X=0 means nonsmoker
- Y=1 means dead, Y=0 means alive
- Log odds of death =  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x$
- Odds of death =  $e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1 x}$

Odds of Death =  $e^{\beta_0} e^{\beta_1 x}$ 

Group	x	Odds of Death
Smokers	1	$e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1}$
Non-smokers	0	$e^{eta_0}$

 $\frac{\text{Odds of death given smoker}}{\text{Odds of death given nonsmoker}} = \frac{e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1}}{e^{\beta_0}} = e^{\beta_1}$ 



## Exponential function $f(t) = e^t$

- Always positive
- $e^0=1$ , so when  $\beta_1 = 0$ , the odds ratio equals one (50-50).
- $f(t) = e^t$  is increasing



#### One more example

Log Survival Odds =  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 d_1 + \beta_2 d_2 + \beta_3 x$ 

Treatment	$d_1$	$d_2$	<b>Odds of Survival</b> = $e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1d_1}e^{\beta_2d_2}e^{\beta_3x}$
Chemotherapy	1	0	$e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1}e^{\beta_3x}$
Radiation	0	1	$e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_2}e^{\beta_3x}$
Both	0	0	$e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_3x}$

# For any given disease severity x,

Survival odds with Chemo	$=\frac{e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_1}e^{\beta_3x}}{e^{\beta_1}}=e^{\beta_1}$
Survival odds with Both	$= -\frac{1}{e^{\beta_0}e^{\beta_3 x}} = e$

## In general,

- When  $x_k$  is increased by one unit and all other independent variables are held constant, the odds of Y=1 are multiplied by  $e^{\beta_k}$
- That is, e<sup>β<sub>k</sub></sup> is an odds ratio --- the ratio of the odds of Y=1 when x<sub>k</sub> is increased by one unit, to the odds of Y=1 when everything is left alone.
- As in ordinary regression, we speak of "controlling" for the other variables.

## The conditional probability of Y=1

$$P(Y=1|x_1,\ldots,x_{p-1})=rac{e^{eta_0+eta_1x_1+\ldots+eta_{p-1}x_{p-1}}}{1+e^{eta_0+eta_1x_1+\ldots+eta_{p-1}x_{p-1}}}$$

This formula can be used to calculate a predicted P(Y=1) Just replace betas by their estimates (b)

It can also be used to calculate the probability of getting The sample data values we actually did observe.

# Maximum likelihood estimation

- Likelihood = Probability of getting the data values we did observe
- Viewed as a function of the parameters (betas), it's called the likelihood function
- Those parameter values for which the likelihood function is greatest are called the *maximum likelihood estimates*.
- Thank you again, Mr. Fisher.

Likelihood Function for Simple Logistic Regression



## Maximum likelihood estimates

- Must be found numerically
- Lead to nice large-sample chi-square tests
- We will mostly use Wald tests