

Data-Driven Decision-Making In Enterprise Applications

Linear & Logistic Regression

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Outline

- Solution Homework: Fair Project Assignment Approaches
- Questions regarding last Lecture?
- Recall: Problem Classifications & Solvers
- Today: Linear & Logistic Regression

Problem Classifications & Solvers

- **Linear Continuous:** basically all solvers
- **Linear Integer:** Cplex, Gurobi (+), Minos (-)
- **Nonlinear Continuous:** Minos (+), Cplex, Gurobi (-)
- **Nonlinear Integer:** Bonmin, Baron (+) most solvers (-)
- Use linearizations and/or continuous relaxations to avoid Nonlinear Integer problems
- Use: `option solver './cplex';` or `option solver './minos';`



Linear Regression

Example: High Jump

- High Jump Results
- How they can be explained? What are the key factors?
- Data: Results and features of participants (observations)
- What is a suitable regression model?
- How does it work? What is the idea?
- How can we derive forecasts?
- How good are our forecasts? Is there a measure?

High Jump Data

ID	Name	Result	Size	Gender	Party
1	Keven	160	176	1	0
2	Martin	155	178	1	0
3	Christian	140	172	1	1
4	Matthias	150	175	1	0
5	Ralf	130	160	1	0
6	Stefan	165	190	1	1
7	Markus	165	185	1	0
8	Cindy	130	168	0	0
9	Julia	130	163	0	1
10	Anna	145	170	0	0
11	Viktoria	155	171	0	0
12	Marilena	125	167	0	0

Notations

- Number of observations N in the example?
- Which quantity do we want to explain? (dependent variable y)
- Which quantities may be factors? (explanatory variables x)
- What might be missing variables?
- Mean of the dependent variable?
- Variance of the dependent variable?
- Plausibility checks: Expectations? Hypotheses?
- How do we quantify the impact/dependencies of x on y ?

Notations

- Number of observations N in the example?
- Which quantity do we want to explain? (dependent variable y)
- Which quantities may be factors? (explanatory variables x)
- What might be missing variables?
- Mean of the dependent variable?
$$\bar{y} = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N y_i$$
- Variance of the dependent variable?
$$VAR = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$
- Plausibility checks: Expectations? Hypotheses?
- How do we quantify the impact/dependencies of x on y ?

Least Squares Regression

- Idea: Use explanatory variables x to explain dependent variable y .
- Approach: Try to reconstruct y by linear parts of x

$$y_i \approx \beta_1 \cdot \underbrace{x_i^{(1)}}_{:=1} + \beta_2 \cdot x_i^{(2)} + \beta_3 \cdot x_i^{(3)} + \dots \quad \text{with given data } \vec{x}_i, y_i, i = 1, \dots, N$$

β_k - coefficients have to be chosen such that the fit is “good”.

- What is a “good” fit? We need a measure.

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β_k - coefficients have to be chosen such that the fit is “good”.

- What is a “good” fit? We need a measure.
- Answer: Minimize, e.g., the sum of squared deviations, i.e.,

$$\min_{\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4 \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\beta_1 + \beta_2 \cdot x_i^{(2)} + \beta_3 \cdot x_i^{(3)} + \beta_4 \cdot x_i^{(4)} - y_i \right)^2$$

Solution & Forecasts

- We obtain optimal coefficients $\beta_1^*, \beta_2^*, \beta_3^*, \beta_4^*$ (via a quadratic solver)
- What can we do with the coefficients $\vec{\beta}^* = (-102, 1.43, 3.05, -5.43)$?
 - (1) We can quantify the impact of factors $x^{(2)}, x^{(3)}, x^{(4)}$ on y !
 - (2) We can compute smart forecasts!
- Example: We have a new participant (179 tall, male, party: yes)
- Forecast: Estimated/expected result?

Solution & Forecasts

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- Example: We have a new participant (179 tall, male, party: yes)
- Forecast: Estimated/expected result = $\beta_1^* + 179 \cdot \beta_2^* + 0 \cdot \beta_3^* + 1 \cdot \beta_4^* = 151.74$

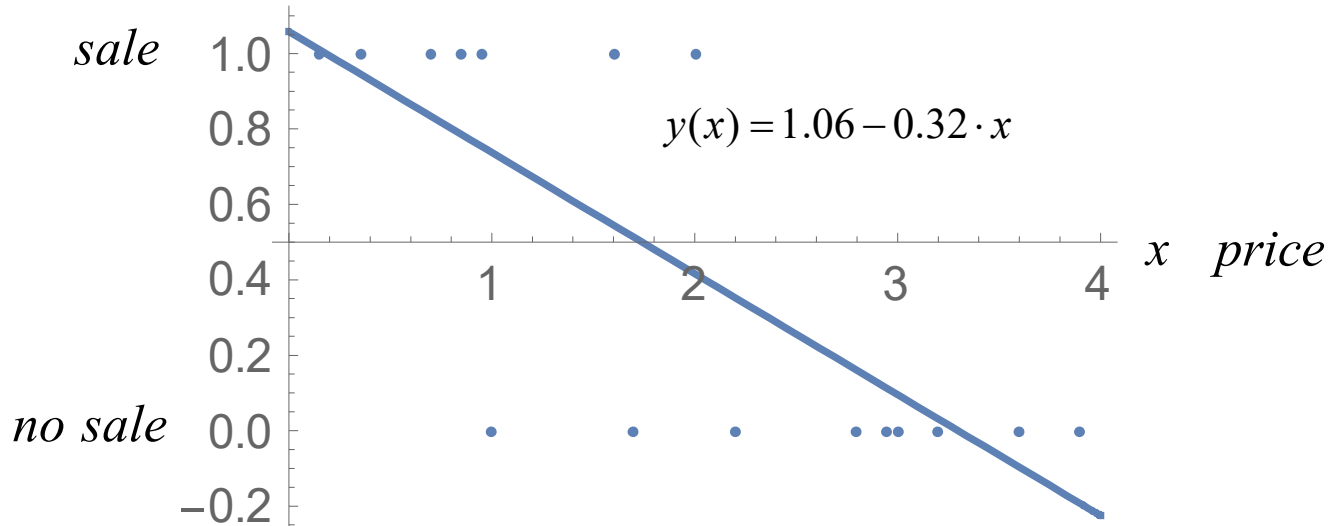
How reliable is our Model?

- We can use various combinations of explanatory variables.
- We will always obtain a result and some optimal β^* coefficients!
- How to measure the quality of a model? There is a measure: R^2 .
- **Idea:** How much of the variance in y can be explained by the model.
- Model fit:
$$\hat{y}_i = \beta_1^* + \beta_2^* \cdot x_i^{(2)} + \beta_3^* \cdot x_i^{(3)} + \dots \approx y_i$$
- New variance:
$$VAR_{new} = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 \leq VAR = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$
- Goodness of fit:
$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{VAR_{new}}{VAR} \in [0,1] \quad (\text{large is good})$$



Logistic Regression

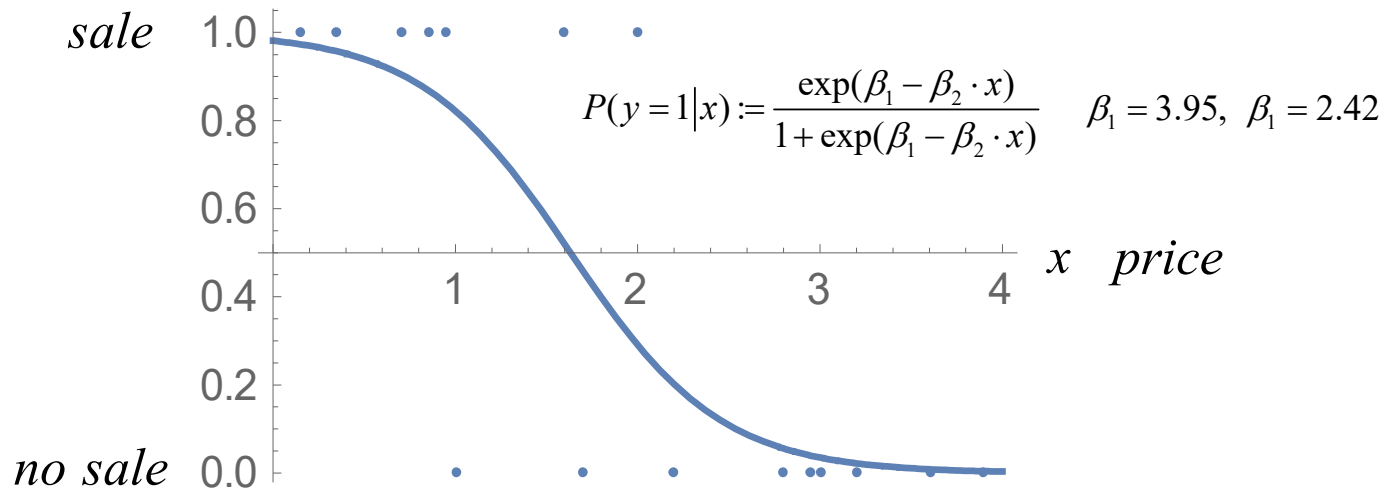
Estimation of Probabilities



Can the relation/prediction $y(x) = 1.06 - 0.32 \cdot x$ be used as sales probability?

Second Approach: Logistic Regression

- Binary 0/1 y observations, explanatory variable x , and **probabilities** $P(x)$



- What is the idea behind logistic regression?

Approach: Maximum Likelihood Estimation

- Idea: (1) Choose a model + (2) Find the best calibration
- Toy Example: Coin Toss
- Data: 010111010100010001010010001100000
- Model: Bernoulli Experiment with success probability p
- Calibration: Which model, i.e., which p explains our data best?

Our Model: Bernoulli Distribution

- Random variable Y sale occurred (1 yes, 0 no)
- Success probability $P(Y = 1) = p$ and $P(Y = 0) = 1 - p$
- Bernoulli distribution $P(Y = k) = p^k \cdot (1 - p)^{1-k}$, $k = 0, 1$
- FYI: Generalization $P(Y = k) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot p^k \cdot (1 - p)^{n-k}$,
(Binomial distribution) for multiple sales $k = 0, \dots, n$ (cf. $n=1$)

Likelihood Function

- Bernoulli distribution $P(Y = k) = p^k \cdot (1-p)^{1-k}$, $k = 0, 1$
- Consider observed data $\vec{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_N)$, $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$, $i = 1, \dots, N$
- Probability for one obs. $P(Y_i = y_i) = p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i}$, $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$
- *Joint probability* $P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) = ?$

Likelihood Function

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- Probability for one obs. $P(Y_i = y_i) = p^{y_i} \cdot (1 - p)^{1-y_i}$, $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$
- *Joint probability*
(Likelihood Function)
$$P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(Y_i = y_i)$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1 - p)^{1-y_i}$$
- Now, maximize the joint probability over the success probability p !

Maximize the Likelihood Function

$$\max P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) \quad \text{i.i.d. (independent, identically distributed)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \max_p \prod_{i=1}^N P(Y_i = y_i) \\ &= \max_{p \in [0,1]} \prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \end{aligned}$$

Actually, we wanted to find the best p .

$$\arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i}$$

We are interested in First Order Conditions. Hence, we do not like products!

Monotone Increasing Transformations

$$\arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right\}$$

$$= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ 5 \cdot \left(\prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right) + 17 \right\} \quad ? \text{ (linear)}$$

$$= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \left(\prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right)^2 \right\} \quad ?? \text{ (convex)}$$

$$= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \ln \left(\prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right) \right\} \quad ??? \text{ (concave)}$$

Log-Likelihood Function

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \max_p P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) \\ &= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \ln \left(\prod_{i=1}^N p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right) \right\} \\ &= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \ln \left(p^{y_i} \cdot (1-p)^{1-y_i} \right) \right\} \\ &= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\ln \left(p^{y_i} \right) + \ln \left((1-p)^{1-y_i} \right) \right) \right\} \\ &= \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \ln(p) + (1-y_i) \cdot \ln(1-p) \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Optimization

- FOC: $\frac{\partial}{\partial p} P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i \cdot \ln(p)' + (1 - y_i) \cdot \ln(1 - p)') \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

Optimization

- FOC: $\frac{\partial}{\partial p} P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i \cdot \ln(p)' + (1 - y_i) \cdot \ln(1 - p)') \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{y_i}{p} + \frac{1 - y_i}{1 - p} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\underbrace{(1 - p) \cdot y_i + p \cdot (1 - y_i)}_{= y_i + (1 - 2y_i) \cdot p} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

- Solve for p .
- 1 Variable, 1 Equation (Unique solution p^*)
- **Result:** Our data fits to the model $P(Y = 1) = p^*$ and $P(Y = 0) = 1 - p^*$.



Generalization & Pricing Use Case

Use Case: Demand Estimation on Amazon

- Regular price adjustments (e.g., time intervals of ca. 2 hours)
- Observation of market conditions (at the time of price adjustments)
e.g., Competitors' prices, quality, rating, shipping time, etc.
- Sales observations: Points in time (within certain intervals)
- Rare events, i.e., 0 or 1 sales between price adjustments (2 hours)

A Seller's Data Set

period	sale	price	rank	competitor's prices for product i (ISBN)				
t	$y_t^{(i)}$	$a_t^{(i)}$	$r_t^{(i)}$	$p_{t,1}^{(i)}$	$p_{t,2}^{(i)}$	$p_{t,3}^{(i)}$	$p_{t,4}^{(i)}$... $p_{t,K}^{(i)}$
1	0	19	3	13	17	20	25	
2	0	15	2	13	17	20	25	
3	1	10	1	13	15	20	/	
4	0	10	1	13	15	20	22	
5	1	12	2	11	15	20	24	
6	0	15	3	11	14	20	24	
...								

Estimation of Sales Probabilities

- Goal: Quantify sales probabilities as function of our offer price
- Idea: Sales probabilities should depend on market conditions
- Approach: **Maximum Likelihood**
 - (1) Choose family of models: Logistic function
 - (2) Define explanatory variables (based on our data)
 - (3) Calibrate model: Find model coefficients
 - (4) Result: Quantify sales probabilities for any market situation!

Explanatory Variables

- Data: Market situation in t : $\vec{s} = (t, p_1, \dots, p_K, q_1, \dots, p_K, r_1, \dots, r_K, f_1, \dots, f_K, \dots)$
- Define explanatory variables (What could affect decisions?):

$x_1(a, \vec{s}) := 1$ (Intercept)

$x_2(a, \vec{s}) := \textit{price rank}$ (Rank of offer price within competitors' prices)

$x_3(a, \vec{s}) := a - \min_{k=1, \dots, K} p_k$ (Price difference to best competitor)

...

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$x_3(a, \vec{s}) := a - \min_{k=1, \dots, K} p_k$ (Price difference to best competitor)

$x_4(a, \vec{s}) := \textit{quality rank}$ (Rank of our product condition)

$x_5(a, \vec{s}) := \# \textit{commercials}$ (Number of competitors with feedback >10000)

$x_6(a, \vec{s}) := \textit{combinations}$ (Number of comp. with better price + better quality)

$x_7(a, \vec{s}) := 1_{\{a \cdot 100 \bmod 10 = 9\}}$ (Psychological Prices)

...

One Family of Models: Logistic Function

- $P(Y = 1 | \vec{x}(a, \vec{s})) := e^{\vec{x}'\vec{\beta}} / (1 + e^{\vec{x}'\vec{\beta}})$
$$= \frac{\exp(\beta_1 \cdot x_1(a, \vec{s}) + \beta_2 \cdot x_2(a, \vec{s}) + \dots)}{1 + \exp(\beta_1 \cdot x_1(a, \vec{s}) + \beta_2 \cdot x_2(a, \vec{s}) + \dots)} \in (0, 1)$$

- There are other families, but this is a good family
- Maximum Likelihood Estimation Idea:

Find best $\vec{\beta}$ coefficients for our data, i.e., $y_t, \vec{x}(a_t, \vec{s}_t)$, $t = 1, \dots, N$

Maximize the Log-Likelihood Function

- Recall:

$$\arg \max_p P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N) = \arg \max_{p \in [0,1]} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i \cdot \ln(p) + (1 - y_i) \cdot \ln(1 - p)) \right\}$$

- Now, we have the **conditional** probabilities and **K features**:

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \max_{\vec{\beta}} P(Y_1 = y_1 \mid a_1, \vec{s}_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N \mid a_N, \vec{s}_N) \\ &= \arg \max_{\beta_m \in \mathbb{R}, m=1, \dots, M} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \ln \left(\frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) + (1 - y_i) \cdot \ln \left(1 - \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Optimization

- FOC: $\frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{\beta}} P(Y_1 = y_1 | a_1, \vec{s}_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N | a_N, \vec{s}_N) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \ln \left(\frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) + (1 - y_i) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \ln \left(1 - \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0, \quad m = 1, \dots, M$$

Optimization

- FOC:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{\beta}} P(Y_1 = y_1 | a_1, \vec{s}_1, \dots, Y_N = y_N | a_N, \vec{s}_N) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
- $$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \ln \left(\frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) + (1 - y_i) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \ln \left(1 - \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0, \quad m = 1, \dots, M$$
- $$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\left(y_i - \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a_i, \vec{s}_i)' \vec{\beta}}} \right) \cdot x_i^{(m)} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0, \quad \text{for all } m = 1, \dots, M$$
- Solve **the nonlinear system** for $\vec{\beta} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_M)$
- M Variables, M Equations (Unique solution $\vec{\beta}^* = (\beta_M^*, \dots, \beta_1^*)$)
- Result: Our data fits to the model $P(Y = 1 | \vec{x}(a, \vec{s})) := e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*} / (1 + e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*})$

Task: Check the Proof

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \left(\frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right)^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \left(1 + e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^{-1} + (1 - y_i) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_m} \ln \left(1 - \frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

...

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(\left(y_i - \frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right) \cdot x_i^{(m)} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \left(\frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right)^{-1} (-1) \left(1 + e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^{-2} \cdot e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} (-x_i^{(k)}) - (1 - y_i) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right)^{-1} \left(1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^{-2} \cdot e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} (x_i^{(k)}) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot \left(1 + e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^1 (-1) \left(1 + e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^{-2} \cdot e^{-\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} (-x_i^{(k)}) - (1 - y_i) \cdot \left(1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} \right)^{-1} \cdot e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}} (x_i^{(k)}) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \cdot \left(y_i \cdot (x_i^{(k)}) - (1 - y_i) \cdot (x_i^{(k)}) \right) \frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(y_i \cdot (x_i^{(k)}) - (x_i^{(k)}) \frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(\left(y_i - \frac{e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}}{1 + e^{\bar{x}(a_i, \bar{s}_i)' \bar{\beta}}} \right) \cdot x_i^{(m)} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

Application of the Model Obtained

- Observe current market situation for a product: \vec{s}
- For *any* admissible offer prices a we can evaluate $\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})$ and obtain

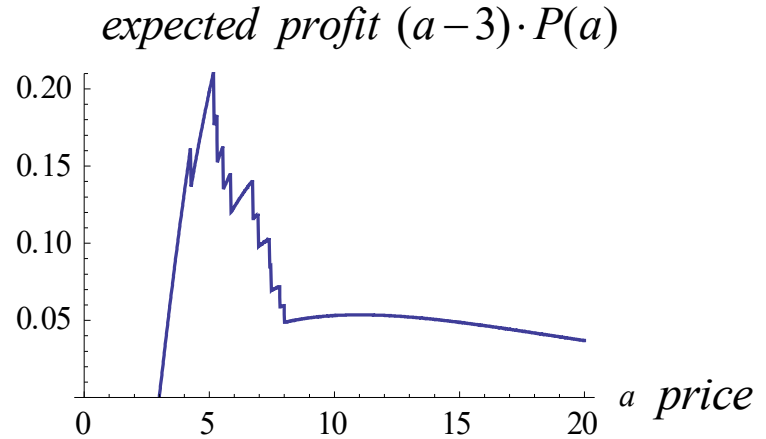
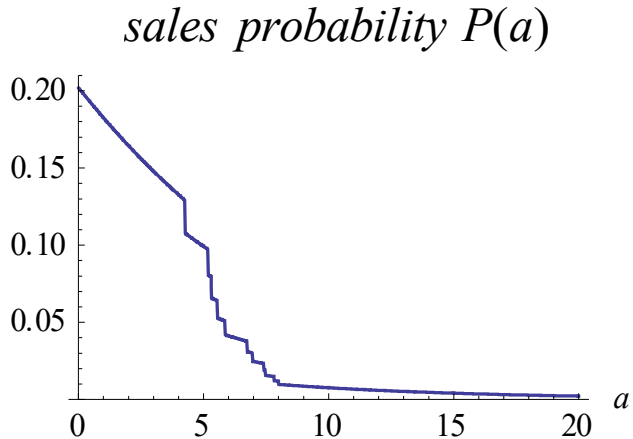
$$P(Y = 1 | \vec{x}(a, \vec{s})) := \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*}}$$

- We can optimize *expected profits* for one interval (c shipping costs):

$$\max_{a \geq 0} \left\{ (a - c) \cdot \frac{e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*}}{1 + e^{\vec{x}(a, \vec{s})' \vec{\beta}^*}} \right\}$$

Prediction of Sales Probabilities

- Example: Competitor's prices $\bar{p} = (4.26, 5.18, 5.31, 5.55, 5.86, \dots)$



Summary

- (+) Logistic Regression is simple and robust
- (+) Allows for many observations N and many features M
- (+) Plausibility Checks & Closed Form Expressions
- (+/-) Definition of Customized Explanatory Variables
- (-) No dependencies between variables
- (-) Limited to binary dependent variables

What is a good Model?

- Use “Goodness of fit” measures (for MLE models)
- AIC (low is good, trade-of between fit and number of variables M)

$$AIC := -2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i \cdot \ln p_i + (1 - y_i) \cdot \ln(1 - p_i)) + 2 \cdot M$$

Note, p_i depends on all features x_i and the optimal β^* coefficients.

- Normalized (McFadden Pseudo R^2): $R^2 := 1 - AIC / AIC_0$ (vs. Null-model)
- Be creative: Test different variables and find the smallest AIC value.

Hint: Not quantity but quality counts!

Next Lecture (May 25)

Homework:

- Study the Fair Project Assignment models (AMPL file)
- Study the `linear_regression.txt` example (AMPL file)
- Adapt the OLS model to solve logistic regressions (use slide 34)

Overview

Week	Dates	Topic
1	April 27/30	Introduction + Linear Programming
2	May 4/ (7)	Linear Programming II
3	May 11	Exercise Implementations
4	May 18	Linear + Logistic Regression (Thu May 21 “Himmelfahrt”)
5	May 25	Dynamic Programming (Mon June 1 “Pfingstmontag”)
6	June 4	Dynamic Pricing Competition
7	June 8/11	Project Assignments
8	June 15/18	Robust + Nonlinear Optimization
9	June 22/25	Work on Projects: Input/Support
10	June 29/2	Work on Projects: Input/Support
11	July 6/9	Work on Projects: Input/Support
12	July 13/16	Work on Projects: Input/Support
13	July/Aug	Finish Documentation (Deadline: Aug 31)