

Logit / Probit Models

Estimation by Maximum Likelihood (maximized numerically)

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n F(Z_i)^{Y_i} (1 - F(Z_i))^{1-Y_i} \quad \text{where } Z_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik}$$

$$\text{or } \ln \mathcal{L}(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \ln F(Z_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - Y_i) \ln(1 - F(Z_i))$$

Together with coefficients, often report AIC, SIC, and Pseudo- $R^2 = 1 - \frac{\ln \mathcal{L}_{ur}}{\ln \mathcal{L}_0}$

- note that $\ln \mathcal{L}_0 \leq \ln \mathcal{L}_{ur} \leq 0$
- $\ln \mathcal{L}_0$ is log-Likelihood from model with intercept only

Linear Probability Model and Logit / Probit Models

For LPM:
$$\frac{\partial \Pr(Y = 1 \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_k} = \beta_k$$

For Logit / Probit models

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \Pr(Y = 1 \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_k} &= \beta_k \frac{\partial F(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k)}{\partial X_k} \\ &= \beta_k f(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k) \end{aligned}$$

where f is the p.d.f. corresponding to F

- This is the main difference between LPM and Logit/Probit (apart from the fact that LPM can give you probability estimates less than zero or greater than one)
- Care must be taken when comparing LPM / Logit / Probit coefficient estimates

LPM, Logit, Probit Example

Usually compare β_k from LPM with

- Partial Effect at the Average: $\hat{\beta}_k f(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{X_1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k \overline{X_k})$
- Average Partial Effect: $\hat{\beta}_k \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k X_{ik}) \right]$

from Logit / Probit

If $f(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{X_1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k \overline{X_k})$ or $\frac{1}{n} f(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k X_{ik})$ is unavailable, can use $\lambda(0) \approx 0.25$ for logit or $\phi(0) \approx 0.4$ for probit

LPM, Logit, Probit Example

```
# Estimate Models
lpm_md1 <- lm(inlf ~ nwifeinc + educ + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6, data=mroz) # LPM Model
robust_se_lpm <- sqrt(diag(vcovHC(lpm_md1, type="HCO"))) # Always use HC Standard Errors for LPM
probit_md1 <- glm(inlf ~ nwifeinc + educ + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6, data=mroz, family=binomial(link="probit")) # Probit
logit_md1 <- glm(inlf ~ nwifeinc + educ + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6, data=mroz, family=binomial(link="logit")) # Logit

# Show LPM, Probit and Logit Output
stargazer(lpm_md1, probit_md1, logit_md1, type="text", se = list(robust_se_lpm, NULL, NULL),
          omit.stat = "all")

# Show APE for Probit and Logit
cat("\n APE Probit")
margins(probit_md1) %>% summary()
cat("\n APE Logit")
margins(logit_md1) %>% summary()

# Show PEA for Probit and Logit
at_list <- list(nwifeinc=mean(mroz$nwifeinc), educ=mean(mroz$educ),
               age=mean(mroz$age), kidslt6=mean(mroz$kidslt6), kidsge6=mean(mroz$kidsge6))
cat("\n PEA Probit")
margins(probit_md1, at = at_list) %>% summary()
cat("\n PEA Logit")
margins(logit_md1, at = at_list) %>% summary()
```

LPM, Logit, Probit Example

```

=====
Dependent variable:
-----
              inlf
             OLS   probit   logistic
             (1)   (2)     (3)
-----
nwifeinc -0.007*** -0.021*** -0.035***
          (0.002)  (0.005)  (0.008)

educ      0.052***  0.156***  0.258***
          (0.007)  (0.024)  (0.041)

age       -0.012*** -0.034*** -0.058***
          (0.002)  (0.008)  (0.013)

kidslt6  -0.297*** -0.892*** -1.484***
          (0.033)  (0.115)  (0.198)

kidsge6   -0.012   -0.038   -0.066
          (0.014)  (0.041)  (0.068)

Constant  0.645***   0.422    0.723
          (0.155)  (0.472)  (0.789)
=====

```

Very roughly, $LPM \approx 0.4Probit \approx 0.25Logit$

```

APE Probit:
factor   AME   SE   z     p   lower  upper
age     -0.0118 0.0025 -4.7315 0.0000 -0.0167 -0.0069
educ     0.0536 0.0075  7.1019 0.0000  0.0388  0.0684
kidsge6 -0.0130 0.0140 -0.9240 0.3555 -0.0404  0.0145
kidslt6 -0.3067 0.0348 -8.8029 0.0000 -0.3750 -0.2384
nwifeinc -0.0072 0.0015 -4.6620 0.0000 -0.0102 -0.0042

```

```

APE Logit:
factor   AME   SE   z     p   lower  upper
age     -0.0120 0.0025 -4.7500 0.0000 -0.0169 -0.0070
educ     0.0537 0.0076  7.0289 0.0000  0.0388  0.0687
kidsge6 -0.0138 0.0141 -0.9799 0.3271 -0.0415  0.0138
kidslt6 -0.3093 0.0354 -8.7447 0.0000 -0.3786 -0.2400
nwifeinc -0.0073 0.0016 -4.6454 0.0000 -0.0103 -0.0042

```

LPM, Logit, Probit Example

PEA Probit:

factor	nwifeinc	educ	age	kidslt6	kidsge6	AME	SE	z	p	lower	upper
age	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0135	0.0030	-4.5458	0.0000	-0.0193	-0.0077
educ	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	0.0611	0.0094	6.5063	0.0000	0.0427	0.0795
kidsge6	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0148	0.0160	-0.9227	0.3562	-0.0462	0.0166
kidslt6	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.3497	0.0453	-7.7115	0.0000	-0.4386	-0.2608
nwifeinc	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0082	0.0018	-4.4763	0.0000	-0.0118	-0.0046

PEA Logit:

factor	nwifeinc	educ	age	kidslt6	kidsge6	AME	SE	z	p	lower	upper
age	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0141	0.0031	-4.5252	0.0000	-0.0202	-0.0080
educ	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	0.0631	0.0100	6.3374	0.0000	0.0436	0.0826
kidsge6	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0162	0.0166	-0.9780	0.3281	-0.0487	0.0163
kidslt6	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.3629	0.0486	-7.4668	0.0000	-0.4582	-0.2677
nwifeinc	20.1290	12.2869	42.5378	0.2377	1.3533	-0.0085	0.0019	-4.4203	0.0000	-0.0123	-0.0047

LPM / Logit / Probit Summary

- Linear Probability Model, Logit and Probit Models used for Binary Dependent Variables
- Fitted values are predicted probabilities $\widehat{\Pr}(Y = 1 \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)$
 - Can use for classification: $\widehat{Y} = 1$ if $\widehat{\Pr}(Y = 1 \mid X_1, \dots, X_k) \geq 0.5$
- Predictions from LPM, Logit and Probit are often similar
 - But LPM can sometimes give predicted probabilities greater than 1 or less than 0
- Partial effects from Probit / Logit depend on regressor values, partial effects from LPM are constant (main difference)
- Don't compare coefficients across LPM, Logit and Probit. Compare Average Partial Effects (APE), or Partial Effects at the Average (PEA)

Poisson Regressions

For **Count Dependent Variable** $Y = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ where most outcomes are low integers

- No. of children, no. of patents filed in a year, etc.

Count data usually modelled using Poisson Distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$

$$\Pr(Y = h) = \frac{\exp(-\lambda)\lambda^h}{h!}, \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

If $Y \sim \text{Poisson}$, then $E(Y) = \lambda$ and $\text{Var}(Y) = \lambda$

Proof omitted, but uses the fact that $\exp(x) = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots = \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^h}{h!}$

Poisson Regressions

A Poisson regression assumes

$$\Pr(Y = h \mid X_1, \dots, X_k) = \frac{\exp(-\lambda)\lambda^h}{h!}$$

where λ now is a *conditional* expectation, and specifies

$$E(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_k) = \lambda = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k)$$

Interpretations:

- $\frac{\partial E(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k) \beta_j$
- $\frac{\partial \ln E(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \beta_j$

Poisson Regressions

Estimate by maximum likelihood (numerical maximization)

$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\exp(-\exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik})) \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik})^{Y_i}}{Y_i!}$$

$$\ln \mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(Y_i!)$$

Can calculate goodness of fit in the usual way

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{u}_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2} \quad \text{where} \quad \hat{u}_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i = Y_i - (\exp(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k X_{ik}))$$

Incidentally, can show that $\overline{\hat{u}} = 0$

Poisson Regressions

We can continue to use count Y in usual linear regression model

- but noise term obviously not normally distributed
- Coefficients in linear regression not directly comparable to Poisson regression

$$\text{Poisson: } \frac{\partial E(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k) \beta_j$$

$$\text{Linear Regression: } \frac{\partial E(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \beta_j$$

Can compare OLS estimates with “Average Partial Effects” from Poisson

$$(1/n) \sum_{i=1}^n \exp(\hat{\beta}_0^{pois} + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1}^{pois} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k^{pois} X_{ik}) \hat{\beta}_j^{pois} = \bar{Y} \hat{\beta}_j^{pois}$$

Poisson Regressions

One issue with Poisson regression is the assumption that

$$E(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k) = \text{Var}(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k)$$

Does not hold in many applications (there is often “overdispersion”)

Nonetheless, we often proceed with Poisson regression anyway (we call it “Quasi-Maximum Likelihood”), but assume

$$\text{Var}(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k) = \sigma^2 E(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k)$$

- $\widehat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n - k + 1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\widehat{u}_i^2}{\widehat{Y}_i}$
- Adjust estimator standard errors accordingly

Poisson Regressions (Example)

data: crime1

variables: narr86 (times arrested in 86), pcnv (proportion of prior arrests that led to conviction), qemp86 (quarters employed in 86), inc86 (legal income in 86), black (= 1 if black), hispan (=1 if hispanic)

```
data(crime1)
ols_count <- lm(narr86 ~ pcnv + qemp86 + inc86 + black + hispan, data = crime1)
robust_se_ols <- sqrt(diag(vcovHC(ols_count, type="HCO")))

pois_mle <- glm(narr86 ~ pcnv + qemp86 + inc86 + black + hispan, data = crime1, family = poisson())
pois_qmle <- glm(narr86 ~ pcnv + qemp86 + inc86 + black + hispan, data = crime1,
               family = quasipoisson())

stargazer(ols_count, pois_mle, pois_qmle, type="text",
          se = list(robust_se_ols, NULL, NULL), omit.stat = "all", no.space = TRUE)
```

Poisson Regressions (Example)

```

=====
Dependent variable:
-----
                narr86
      OLS      Poisson  glm: quasipoisson
                    link = log
      (1)      (2)      (3)
-----
pcnv      -0.143*** -0.433***   -0.433***
           (0.033)  (0.085)     (0.106)
qemp86    -0.037*** -0.010      -0.010
           (0.013)  (0.029)     (0.035)
inc86     -0.002*** -0.008***   -0.008***
           (0.0002) (0.001)    (0.001)
black     0.319***  0.643***   0.643***
           (0.058)  (0.073)    (0.091)
hispan    0.182***  0.472***   0.472***
           (0.041)  (0.074)    (0.091)
Constant  0.536*** -0.667***   -0.667***
           (0.038)  (0.064)    (0.079)
    
```

```
summary(margins(pois_mle))[,1:5]
```

factor	AME	SE	z	p
black	0.2599	0.0307	8.4588	0.0000
hispan	0.1910	0.0304	6.2946	0.0000
inc86	-0.0034	0.0004	-7.8449	0.0000
pcnv	-0.1752	0.0349	-5.0191	0.0000
qemp86	-0.0039	0.0115	-0.3385	0.7350

Corner Solutions

E.g. Y “essentially continuous” over strictly positive values, 0 with positive probability

- $Y \sim$ amount spent on alcohol
- $Y \sim$ no. of hours worked

Can use Linear Regression Model, but

- Can get negative predictions
- Estimated conditional expectation might be misleading

Tobit Model (Corner Solutions)

Tobit Model:

$$Y_i^* = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik} + \epsilon_i = X_{i*} \beta + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \mid X_{i*} \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$Y_i = \max\{0, Y_i^*\}$$

Then (all probabilities conditional on X_{i*}):

- $\Pr(Y_i > 0) = \Pr(Y_i^* > 0) = \Pr(\epsilon > -X_{i*} \beta) = \Pr\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\sigma} > \frac{-X_{i*} \beta}{\sigma}\right) = 1 - \Phi(X_{i*} \beta)$
- $\Pr(Y_i = 0) = \Phi(X_{i*} \beta)$

Use this to construct likelihood

Tobit Model (Corner Solutions)

Can show (proof omitted, i dropped) that

$$E(Y \mid Y > 0, X_1, \dots, X_k) = Z + \sigma \underbrace{\frac{\phi(Z/\sigma)}{\Phi(Z/\sigma)}}_{\lambda(Z/\sigma) > 0, \text{ non-linear in } X}$$

where $Z = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k$, $\lambda(Z/\sigma)$ is the “inverse Mills ratio”, $\phi()$ and $\Phi()$ are the pdf and cdf of the standard normal distribution

$$\frac{\partial E(Y \mid Y > 0, X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \beta_j \left[1 - \lambda\left(\frac{Z}{\sigma}\right) \left\{ \frac{Z}{\sigma} + \lambda\left(\frac{Z}{\sigma}\right) \right\} \right]$$

Use this if interested in population where $Y > 0$

Tobit Model (Corner Solutions)

If interested in entire population

Can show that:

$$E(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k) = \Phi(Z/\sigma)Z + \sigma\phi(Z/\sigma)$$

$$\frac{\partial E(Y | X_1, \dots, X_k)}{\partial X_j} = \beta_j \Phi(Z/\sigma)$$

Example: data `mroz` from `wooldridge` package

```
data(mroz)
tobit_mdl <- tobit(hours ~ nwifeinc + educ + exper + expersq + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6,
                  data=mroz, left=0) # from AER package
ols_mdl <- lm(hours ~ nwifeinc + educ + exper + expersq + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6,
              data=mroz)
```


Tobit Model (Corner Solutions)

To compare OLS vs Tobit Coefficients

- Average Partial Effect (APE): $\beta_j \times \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Phi(Z_i/\hat{\sigma})$
- Partial Effect at the Average (PEA): $\beta_j \times \Phi(\bar{Z}/\hat{\sigma})$

```
APE_factor = mean(pnorm(model.matrix(tobit_md1) %*% coef(tobit_md1) / tobit_md1$scale))  
PEA_factor = pnorm(colMeans(model.matrix(tobit_md1)) %*% coef(tobit_md1) / tobit_md1$scale)
```

```
cat("APE factor:", APE_factor, " PEA factor:", PEA_factor)
```

```
APE factor: 0.5886634 PEA factor: 0.6042994
```

Tobit Model (Corner Solutions)

```
newdata <- data.frame(educ=0:20, nwifeinc=mean(mroz$nwifeinc), exper=mean(mroz$exper), expersq=mean(mroz$expersq),  
  age=mean(mroz$age), kidslt6=mean(mroz$kidslt6), kidsge6=mean(mroz$kidsge6))  
# Compare predictions Ehat(y |mid educ) between OLS and Tobit, other predictors set at average  
ols_corner <- lm(hours ~ nwifeinc + educ + exper + expersq + age + kidslt6 + kidsge6, data=mroz)  
Ey_ols <- predict(ols_corner, newdata)  
Z <- predict(tobit_mdl, newdata)  
Ey_tob <- pnorm(Z/tobit_mdl$scale)*Z + tobit_mdl$scale*dnorm(Z/tobit_mdl$scale)  
plotdat <- tibble(educ = 0:20, Ey_ols=Ey_ols, Ey_tob=Ey_tob)  
plotdat %>% pivot_longer(cols = c(Ey_ols, Ey_tob), names_to="variable", values_to="value") %>%  
  ggplot(aes(x=educ, y=value, color=variable)) + geom_line() + theme_bw()
```



