

## Over-dispersion §10.6

- ▶ over-dispersion means  $\text{Var}(Y)$  is larger than expected under the Poisson or Binomial model
- ▶ which specify  $\text{Var}(Y) = \mu$ , or  $v(\mu) = \mu(1 - \mu)/m$
- ▶ where does over-dispersion come from? possibly multiplicative “noise”, see p. 511 for Poisson, (10.34) for Binomial
- ▶ likelihood analysis computes marginal density, averaged over noise – e.g. Poisson  $\rightarrow$  Negative Binomial (Ex. 10.26)
- ▶ alternative analysis based on “quasi-likelihood” uses analogy with least squares
- ▶ recall that if  $E(Y) = X\beta$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y) = \sigma^2 I$ , then  $\hat{\beta}$  is best linear unbiased estimator of  $\beta$ , even if  $Y$  is not normally distributed (Gauss-Markov theorem)
- ▶ there could be better nonlinear estimators of  $\beta$

## ... overdispersion

- if  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $\text{Var}(Y) = V$ , then  $\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \mathbf{y}$  unbiased for  $\beta$
- $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = (X^T X)^{-1} (X^T V X) (X^T X)^{-1}$  "larger than best"
- if we knew  $V$ , replace  $\hat{\beta}$  by weighted least squares  
 $R$  will give  $\hat{\sigma}^2 (X^T X)^{-1}$  ("too small")  
otherwise, use  $\hat{\sigma}^2$  and confidence intervals by some estimate of  $V$ , see p.37

$$\bar{w} \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \text{SS}_{\text{res}} / (n - p)$$

$$\text{"best"} \quad \hat{\beta}_V = (X^T V^{-1} X)^{-1} (X^T V^{-1} \mathbf{y}) (V + bC)$$

## ... overdispersion

- ▶ if  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $\text{Var}(Y) = V$ , then  $\hat{\beta}$  = unbiased for  $\beta$
- ▶  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) =$  (8.19)
- ▶ if we knew  $V$ , replace  $\hat{\beta}$  by weighted least squares estimator; otherwise, use  $\hat{\beta}$  and adjust confidence intervals by some estimate of  $V$ , see p.377

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OLS

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- ▶ estimation of  $\beta$  in a generalized linear model depends only on the specification of the mean function
- ▶ and the variance function
- ▶ suggests using the same estimating equation for  $\beta$ , but allow inflation of the variance function by an unknown dispersion parameter
  - ▶ e.g.  $E(y_j) = \mu_j, \quad \text{Var}(y_j) = \phi\mu_j$  —
  - ▶ e.g.  $E(y_j) = \mu_j, \quad \text{Var}(y_j) = \phi\pi_j(1 - \pi_j)/m$  —
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## ... overdispersion



$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \frac{y_j - \mu_j}{g'(\mu_j) V(\mu_j)} = 0$$

- ▶ this is an unbiased estimating function  $g(y; \beta)$ ; satisfies  $E\{g(Y; \beta)\} = 0$

- ▶ under some regularity conditions the solution of  $\hat{\beta}$  is consistent, asymptotically normal

a.  $\text{Var}(\tilde{\beta}) = \phi(X^T \tilde{W} X)^{-1}$

- ▶ from general theory on unbiased estimating functions

$$E \left\{ -\frac{\partial g(Y; \beta)}{\partial \beta} \right\}^{-1} \text{Var}\{g(Y; \beta)\} E \left\{ -\frac{\partial g(Y; \beta)}{\partial \beta} \right\}^{-1}$$

now  $\tilde{W}_j$  has  
 $\phi_j = 1$   
by ass

# Example 10.29

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10 - Nonlinear Regression Models

City	Rain	r/m	City	Rain	r/m	City	Rain	r/m	City	Rain	r/m
1	1735	2/4	11	2050	7/24	21	1756	2/12	31	1780	8/13
2	1936	3/10	12	1830	0/1	22	1650	0/1	32	1900	3/10
3	2000	1/5	13	1650	15/30	23	2250	8/11	33	1976	1/6
4	1973	3/10	14	2200	4/22	24	1796	41/77	34	2292	23/37
5	1750	2/2	15	2000	0/1	25	1890	24/51			
6	1800	3/5	16	1770	6/11	26	1871	7/16			
7	1750	2/8	17	1920	0/1	27	2063	46/82			
8	2077	7/19	18	1770	33/54	28	2100	9/13			
9	1920	3/6	19	2240	4/9	29	1918	23/43			
10	1800	8/10	20	1620	5/18	30	1834	53/75			

**Table 10.19**  
Toxoplasmosis data:  
rainfall (mm) and the  
numbers of people testing  
positive for  
toxoplasmosis,  $r$ , out of  $m$   
people tested, for 34 cities  
in El Salvador (Efron,  
1986).

Terms	df	Deviance
Constant	33	74.21
Linear	32	74.09
Quadratic	31	74.09
Cubic	30	62.63

**Table 10.20** Analysis of  
deviance for polynomial  
logistic models fitted to  
the toxoplasmosis data.

- ▶ incidence of toxoplasmosis as a function of rainfall
- ▶ residual deviances approximately twice the degrees of freedom

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## ... example 10.29

```
> data(toxo)
   rain m r
1 1620 18 5
2 1650 30 15
3 1650 1 0
4 1735 4 2
> toxo.glm0 = glm(cbind(r,m-r) ~ rain + I(rain^2) + I(rain^3), data = toxo,
family = binomial)

> anova(toxo.glm0)
...
      Df Deviance Resid. Df Resid. Dev
NULL              33    74.212
rain             1    0.1244    32    74.087
I(rain^2)         1    0.0000    31    74.087
I(rain^3)         1   11.4529    30    62.635
> toxo.glm1 = glm(cbind(r,m-r) ~ poly(rain,3), data = toxo, family = binomial)

> summary(toxo.glm1)
...
Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) 0.02427  0.07693  0.315 0.752401
poly(rain, degree = 3)1 -0.08606  0.45870 -0.188 0.851172
poly(rain, degree = 3)2 -0.19269  0.46739 -0.412 0.680141
poly(rain, degree = 3)3  1.37875  0.41150  3.351 0.000806 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

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

Null deviance: 74.212 on 33 degrees of freedom

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## ... example 10.29

```
> toxo.quasi2 <- glm(cbind(r,m-r) ~ rain + I(rain^2)+I(rain^3),
+ data = toxo, family = quasibinomial)

> summary(toxo.quasi2)

Call:
glm(formula = cbind(r, m - r) ~ rain + I(rain^2) + I(rain^3),
     family = quasibinomial, data = toxo)

Deviance Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q      Max 
-2.7620 -1.2166 -0.5079  0.3538  2.6204 

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
(Intercept) -2.902e+02  1.215e+02 -2.388   0.0234 *  
rain         4.500e-01  1.876e-01  2.398   0.0229 *  
I(rain^2)    -2.311e-04  9.616e-05 -2.404   0.0226 *  
I(rain^3)    3.932e-08  1.635e-08  2.405   0.0225 *  
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for quasibinomial family taken to be 1.940446)

Null deviance: 74.212 on 33 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 62.635 on 30 degrees of freedom
> (74.212-62.635)/3/1.940446
[1] 1.988718
> pf(1.988718, 3, 30, lower=F)
[1] 0.1368842
```