

POSTGRADUATE COURSE IN
LINEAR AND LOGISTIC REGRESSION
Day 3

Consider the dataset: "serumchol.dta", which is a subset of the dataset 2.20.framingham.dta used in Dupont. In this exercise, focus is on the dependent variable serum cholesterol (scl) and possible explanatory variables systolic blood pressure (sbp), diastolic blood pressure (dbp), Body Mass Index (bmi), and sex (sex=1 men, sex=2 women) ..

1. Create a categorical variable from bmi according to the WHO definitions by
`egen bmi_who=cut(bmi), at(10, 18.5, 25, 30, 60) label`
Is the distribution of scl the same in the groups defined by bmi_who?
2. Estimate a model (**Model 1**) with scl as the dependent variable and sbp, bmi_who and sex as the independent variables; bmi_who and sex should be entered as a categorical variable in the model with $BMI < 18.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ and men as reference.
Write down the estimated equation for the expected serum cholesterol.
3. Explain the coefficients for sbp, bmi_who=3 and sex=2.
Write down the estimated relationship between the expected serum cholesterol and systolic blood pressure for a man with bmi=26.
Write down the estimated relationship between the expected serum cholesterol and systolic blood pressure for a woman with bmi=26.
Make a plot of the relationship between the expected serum cholesterol and systolic blood pressure for the eight different combinations of sex and bmi_who.
Write down the estimated relationship between serum cholesterol and BMI for a man with a systolic blood pressure of 130 mmHg
Make a plot of the relationship between the expected serum cholesterol and BMI for a man with a systolic blood pressure of 130 mmHg.
4. Find the expected value with 95% confidence interval for a subject with sbp=85, sex=2 and bmi_who=1.
(Hint: use the lincom command).
5. Create a new variable sbp2 equal to the square of sbp.
Add sbp2 to **Model 1** and estimate this model (**Model 2**).

Explain the coefficient of `sbp2`.

Find the expected value for `scl` with 95% confidence interval for a subject with values given in 4. Compare the result with the one you found in 4.

6. Estimate a model (**Model 3**) with `scl` as the dependent variable and `sbp`, `sex` and `bmi` as independent variables (that is, BMI in a non-categorized version).
Make a plot of the relationship between the expected serum cholesterol and BMI for a man with systolic blood 130 mmHg. Decide from this and the estimates (from **Model 1** and **2**) whether BMI as a continuous variable is preferable to/as good as BMI as a categorized according to WHO.

We stick with **Model 1**.

7. Use the *explanatory* variables in **Model 1** as a basis for an investigation of whether the *dependent* variable would benefit from a transformation. (Hint: plots of the distribution of the residuals, residual versus fitted values, and residual versus independent variable should be made.)

In order to estimate a more realistic model possible interactions should perhaps be included.

Here we focus on two: an interaction between `sex` and `sbp` and an interaction between `sex` and `bmi_who`.

8. Estimate a model (**Model 3**) with $\ln(\text{scl})$ as the dependent variable and `sbp`, `bmi_who`, `sex` and both interactions as independent variables.
9. Explain the coefficient to the interaction between `sex` and `sbp`.
Test the hypothesis that the interaction is zero.
10. Explain the coefficient to the interaction between `sex` and `bmi_who=2`.
Test the hypothesis that all coefficients to the interaction between `sex` and `bmi_who` are zero.