

Multiple linear regression 2

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Categorical variables in regression models.

The changing reference level

Interaction/effect modification

Interaction between a categorical and continuous variable

Interaction between two categorical variables

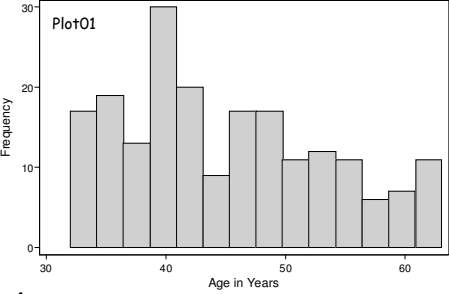
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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

1

Categorical variable in regression models

The age distribution:



Let us divide age into three agegroups ,

0: $age \leq 40$, 1: $40 < age \leq 50$, 2: $50 < age$

and consider the new model

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 0 reference

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

age1 is one if a person is in age group 1 and zero otherwise

age2 is one if a person is in age group 2 and zero otherwise

The expected $\ln(sbp)$ in the three age groups will be:

$$age \leq 40: \quad \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$40 < age \leq 50: \quad \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$50 < age: \quad \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$

We see that α_1 is the adjusted difference in $\ln(sbp)$ when comparing a person in the second group with one in the first group.

And α_2 is the adjusted difference in $\ln(sbp)$ when comparing a person in the third group with one in the first group.

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 0 reference

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

Finally we see that α_0 is the expected $\ln(sbp)$ for a man in the first (reference) age group, with $bmi=25$.

In most programs the model is fitted by first generating the grouping variable and then making the regression telling the program which variables are categorical.

In STATA this done like this:

```
egen agegrp3=cut(age), at(0,40,50,120) label  
  
xi: regress lnSBP woman i.agegrp3 lnBMI25
```

Categorical variables included

This is categorical

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 0 reference

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

agegrp3 is treated as categorical

The value 0 is chosen as reference

OUTPUT:

(naturally coded; _Iagegrp3_0 omitted)

Source	SS	df	MS
Model	.980169926	4	.245042482
Residual	4.26524771	195	.021873065
Total	5.24541764	199	.026358883

Number of obs = 200
F(4, 195) = 11.20
Prob > F = 0.0000
R-squared = 0.1869
Adj R-squared = 0.1702
Root MSE = .1479

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0035403	.0212026	0.17	0.868	-.0382757 .0453562
_Iagegrp3_1		.0715136	.0253373	2.82	0.005	.0215432 .121484
_Iagegrp3_2		.130465	.0280521	4.65	0.000	.0751404 .1857895
lnBMI25		.2898622	.0772432	3.75	0.000	.1375229 .4422015
_cons		4.789641	.0224814	213.05	0.000	4.745303 4.833979

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Categorical variable : age group 0 reference

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

Adjusted difference between for a person in age group 1 compared to age group 0

Adjusted difference between for a person in age group 2 compared to age group 0

Expected value for a man in age group 0 with bmi=25.

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0035403	.0212026	0.17	0.868	-.0382757 .0453562
Iagegrp3_1		.0715136	.0253373	2.82	0.005	.0215432 .121484
Iagegrp3_2		.130465	.0280521	4.65	0.000	.0751404 .1857895
lnBMI25		.2898622	.0772432	3.75	0.000	.1375229 .4422015
_cons		4.789641	.0224814	213.05	0.000	4.745303 4.833979

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The expected values:

$$age \leq 40: \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$40 < age \leq 50: \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$50 < age: \ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$

The estimates

	lnSBP	Coef.
woman		.003540
Iagegrp3_1		.071514
Iagegrp3_2		.130465
lnBMI25		.289862
_cons		4.789641

$$age \leq 40: \ln(sbp) = 4.789 + 0.004 \cdot woman + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$40 < age \leq 50: \ln(sbp) = 4.789 + 0.072 + 0.004 \cdot woman + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$
$$50 < age: \ln(sbp) = 4.789 + 0.130 + 0.004 \cdot woman + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$$

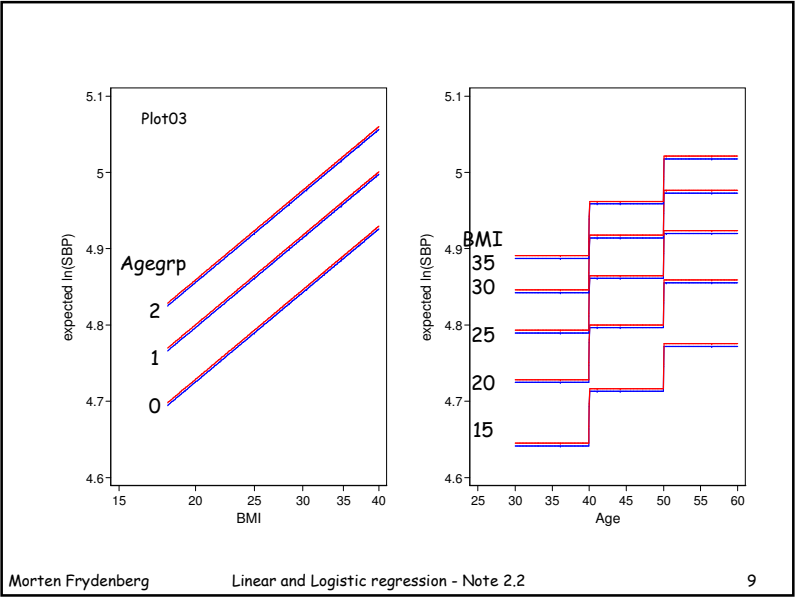
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Plot02

Agegroup

	Women	Men
0:	$4.793 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.790 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$
1:	$4.865 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.861 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$
2:	$4.924 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.920 + 0.290 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$

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Categorical variable : age group 1 reference

$$\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \cdot \text{age0} + \gamma_2 \cdot \text{age2} + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\text{bmi}}{25}\right) + E$$

age0 is one if a person is in age group 0 and zero otherwise
age2 is one if a person is in age group 2 and zero otherwise

The expected $\ln(\text{sbp})$ in the three age groups will be:

$\text{age} \leq 40$: $\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln(\text{bmi}/25)$
 $40 < \text{age} \leq 50$: $\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln(\text{bmi}/25)$
 $50 < \text{age}$: $\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_2 + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln(\text{bmi}/25)$

We see that γ_1 is the adjusted difference in $\ln(\text{sbp})$ when comparing a person in the **first group** with one in the **second group**.

And γ_2 is the adjusted difference in $\ln(\text{sbp})$ when comparing a person in the **third group** with one in the **second group**.

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 1 reference

$$\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \cdot \text{age0} + \gamma_2 \cdot \text{age2} + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\text{bmi}}{25}\right) + E$$

Finally we see that γ_0 is the expected $\ln(\text{sbp})$ for a man in the **second** (reference) age group, with $\text{bmi}=25$.

Many programs (but regression in SPSS) let you chose the reference group

In STATA this done like this:

```
char agegrp3[omit 1] ← The group label 1 is reference
```

```
xi: regress lnSBP woman i.agegrp3 lnBMI25
```

Categorical variables included

This is categorical

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 1 reference

$$\ln(\text{sbp}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \cdot \text{age0} + \gamma_2 \cdot \text{age2} + \gamma_3 \cdot \text{woman} + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\text{bmi}}{25}\right) + E$$

agegrp3 is treated as categorical

The value 1 is chosen as reference

```
i.agegrp3      _Iagegrp3_0-2      (naturally coded; _Iagegrp3_1 omitted)
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 200		
Model	.980169926	4	.245042482	F(4, 195)	= 11.20	
Residual	4.26524771	195	.021873065	Prob > F	= 0.0000	
Total	5.24541764	199	.026358883	R-squared	= 0.1869	
				Adj R-squared	= 0.1702	
				Root MSE	= .1479	

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0035403	.0212026	0.17	0.868	-.0382757 .0453562
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0715136	.0253373	-2.82	0.005	-.121484 -.0215432
_Iagegrp3_2		.0589513	.0263496	2.24	0.026	.0069846 .1109181
lnBMI25		.2898622	.0772432	3.75	0.000	.1375229 .4422015
_cons		4.861154	.0207406	234.4	0.000	4.82025 4.902059

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Categorical variable : age group 1 reference

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

Adjusted difference between for a person in age group 0 compared to age group 1

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0035403	.0212026	0.17	0.868	-.0382757 .0453562
Iagegrp3_0		-.0715136	.0253373	-2.82	0.005	-.121484 -.0215432
Iagegrp3_2		.0589513	.0263496	2.24	0.026	.0069846 .1109181
lnBMI25		.2898622	.0772432	3.75	0.000	.1375229 .4422015
_cons		4.861154	.0207406	234.4	0.000	4.82025 4.902059

Adjusted difference between for a person in age group 2 compared to age group 1

Expected value for a man in age group 1 with bmi=25.

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Categorical variable: Comparing to parameterizations

$$\ln(sbp) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot age1 + \alpha_2 \cdot age2 + \alpha_3 \cdot woman + \alpha_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

$$\ln(sbp) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \cdot age0 + \gamma_2 \cdot age2 + \gamma_3 \cdot woman + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

age group 0: $\alpha_0 = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1$

age group 1: $\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 = \gamma_0$

age group 2: $\alpha_0 + \alpha_2 = \gamma_0 + \gamma_2$

$$\alpha_0 = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1$$

$$\alpha_1 = -\gamma_1$$

$$\alpha_2 = \gamma_2 - \gamma_1$$

$$\alpha_3 = \gamma_3$$

$$\alpha_4 = \gamma_4$$

$$\gamma_0 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1$$

$$\gamma_1 = -\alpha_1$$

$$\gamma_2 = \alpha_2 - \alpha_1$$

$$\gamma_3 = \alpha_3$$

$$\gamma_4 = \alpha_4$$

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Categorical variable: Comparing two parameterizations

The estimates:

age group 0 reference

age group 1 reference

Root MSE	=	.1479
lnSBP	Coef.	[95% CI]
woman	.0035	-.0382 .0453
Iagegrp3_1	.0715	.0215 .1214
Iagegrp3_2	.1304	.0751 .1857
lnBMI25	.2898	.1375 .4422
_cons	4.7896	4.745 4.833

Root MSE	=	.1479
lnSBP	Coef.	[95% CI]
woman	.0035	-.0382 .0453
Iagegrp3_0	-.0715	-.1214 -.0215
Iagegrp3_2	.0589	.0069 .1109
lnBMI25	.2898	.1375 .4422
_cons	4.8611	4.820 4.902

Note, the estimates fulfil the same equations.

The interpretation of the "Iagegrp3_2 line" and "_cons line" are altered!!!!!!!!

Always remember: what is the reference group!

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Categorical variable : age group 1 reference

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0035403	.0212026	0.17	0.868	-.0382757 .0453562
Iagegrp3_0		-.0715136	.0253373	-2.82	0.005	-.121484 -.0215432
Iagegrp3_2		.0589513	.0263496	2.24	0.026	.0069846 .1109181
lnBMI25		.2898622	.0772432	3.75	0.000	.1375229 .4422015
_cons		4.861154	.0207406	234.4	0.000	4.82025 4.902059

Two test:

One testing no difference between age group 0 and 1.

One testing no difference between age group 2 and 1.

Can we get one test testing no difference between age groups?

A F-test in STATA: `testparm Iagegrp3*`

(1) Iagegrp3_0 = 0

(2) Iagegrp3_2 = 0

F(2, 195) = 10.93

Prob > F = 0.0000

Highly significant

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Interactions/effectmodification

$$\ln(sbp) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \cdot age0 + \gamma_2 \cdot age2 + \gamma_3 \cdot woman + \gamma_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

One of the **central** assumptions was "no effect modification".

E.g. in model above the "effect" of **age**, **sex** and **bmi** did not depend on the value of each other.

One can **introduce** effect modification between a categorical variable and another variable.

Here we first will look at **agegrp3** and **lnBMI25**.

The effect modification will be that the coefficient to **lnBMI25** depend on **age group**.

That is, we will allow **different effect** of bmi in the **different age groups**.

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Interactions/effectmodification

$$\ln(sbp) = \omega_0 + \omega_1 \cdot age0 + \omega_2 \cdot age2 + \omega_3 \cdot woman + \omega_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + \omega_5 \cdot age0 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + \omega_6 \cdot age2 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + E$$

$age \leq 40$: $\ln(sbp) = (\omega_0 + \omega_1) + (\omega_4 + \omega_5) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + \omega_3 \cdot woman$

$40 < age \leq 50$: $\ln(sbp) = \omega_0 + \omega_4 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + \omega_3 \cdot woman$

$50 < age$: $\ln(sbp) = (\omega_0 + \omega_2) + (\omega_4 + \omega_6) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{bmi}{25}\right) + \omega_3 \cdot woman$

ω_1 is the **difference** between the constant for age **group 0** and **reference group**.

ω_5 is the **difference** between the coefficient to **lnBMI25** for age **group 0** and **reference group**.

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Interactions/effectmodification

```
xi: regress lnSBP woman i.agegrp3*lnBMI25
```

i.agegrp3

lnBMI25

(naturally coded)

(coded as above)

_Iagegrp3_1 omitted

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =
Model	.994860827	6	.165810138	200
Residual	4.25055681	193	.02202361	F(6, 193) = 7.53
Total	5.24541764	199	.026358883	Prob > F = 0.0000
				R-squared = 0.1897
				Adj R-squared = 0.1645
				Root MSE = .1484

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. E.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0076438	.02191	0.35	0.728	-.03558 .0508772
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0708045	.02611	-2.71	0.007	-.1223213 -.0192877
_Iagegrp3_2		.0631082	.02703	2.33	0.021	.009787 .1164287
lnBMI25		.3155479	.12229	2.58	0.011	.074350 .5567453
_IageXlnBM~0		.0429736	.19123	0.22	0.822	-.334209 .420157
_IageXlnBM~2		-.1165375	.18554	-0.63	0.531	-.482499 .2494241
_cons		4.859743	.02141	226.9	0.000	4.81751 4.901975

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Interactions/effect modification

Ref: constant and 'slope' in reference group

0: difference in constant and slope compared to reference

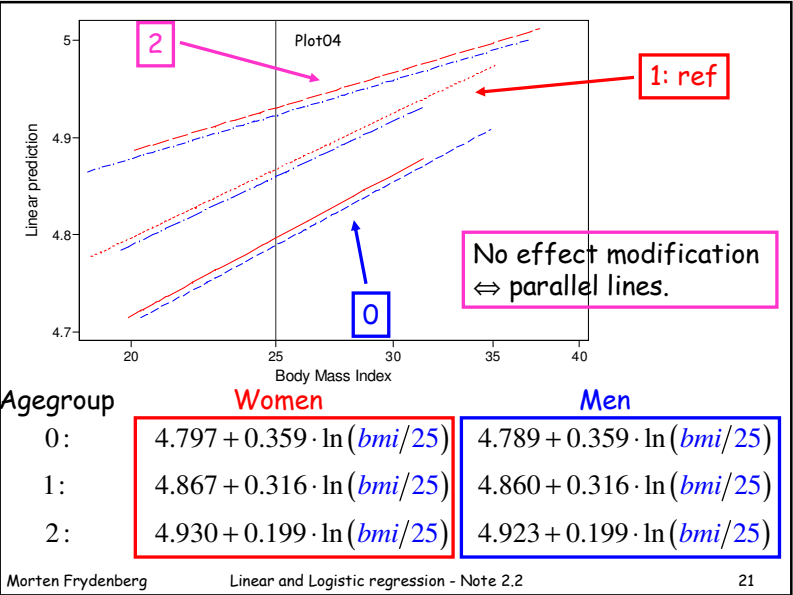
2: difference in constant and slope compared to reference

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. E.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0076438	.02191	0.35	0.728	-.03558 .0508772
0_Iagegrp3_0		-.0708045	.02611	-2.71	0.007	-.1223213 -.0192877
_Iagegrp3_2		.0631082	.02703	2.33	0.021	.009787 .1164287
lnBMI25		.3155479	.12229	2.58	0.011	.074350 .5567453
0_IageXlnBM~0		.0429736	.19123	0.22	0.822	-.334209 .420157
_IageXlnBM~2		-.1165375	.18554	-0.63	0.531	-.482499 .2494241
_cons		4.859743	.02141	226.9	0.000	4.81751 4.901975

Note the larger standard errors

Based on the estimates one can find the six "dose-response" curves:

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Interactions/effect modification

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. E.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman		.0076438	.02191	0.35	0.728	-.03558 .0508772
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0708045	.02611	-2.71	0.007	-.12232 -.0192877
_Iagegrp3_2		.0631082	.02703	2.33	0.021	.009787 .1164287
lnBMI25		.3155479	.12229	2.58	0.011	.074350 .5567453
_IageXlnBM~0		.0429736	.19123	0.22	0.822	-.334209 .420157
_IageXlnBM~2		-.1165375	.18554	-0.63	0.531	-.482499 .2494241
_cons		4.859743	.02141	226.9	0.000	4.81751 4.901975

Two test:
One testing differences between "slope" in age group 0 and 1.
One testing differences between "slope" in age group 2 and 1.

Can we get one test testing no difference between age groups?
A F-test in STATA: `testparm _IageX*`
(1) `_IageXlnBMI_0 = 0`
(2) `_IageXlnBMI_2 = 0`

F(2, 193) =	0.33
Prob > F =	0.7168

Non-significant

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Interactions/effect modification

The test of no interaction was non-significant.
But look at the confidence interval for the difference in slope for between age group 2 and group 1 !

lnSBP	Coef.	Std. E.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
woman	.0076438	.02191	0.35	0.728	-.03558 .0508772
_Iagegrp3_0	-.0708045	.02611	-2.71	0.007	-.1223213 -.0192877
_Iagegrp3_2	.0631082	.02703	2.33	0.021	.009787 .1164287
lnBMI25	.3155479	.12229	2.58	0.011	.074350 .5567453
_IageXlnBM~0	.0429736	.19123	0.22	0.822	-.334209 .420157
_IageXlnBM~2	-.1165375	.18554	-0.63	0.531	-.482499 .2494241
_cons	4.859743	.02141	226.9	0.000	4.81751 4.901975

It is very wide!!! We know very little about this difference!
The test for no interaction has very low power!!!
The data have very little information on whether there is effect modification.

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Interaction between age group and sex

```
xi: regress lnSBP lnBMI25 i.agegrp3*i.sex
```

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
lnBMI25		.2265018	.0774898	2.92	0.004	.0736662 .3793374
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0426734	.0377096	-1.13	0.259	-.1170493 .0317025
_Iagegrp3_2		-.0025412	.0365457	-0.07	0.945	-.0746215 .0695391
_Isex_2		-.0210869	.0322283	-0.65	0.514	-.0846518 .042478
_IageXse~0_2		-.0548967	.0501668	-1.09	0.275	-.1538422 .0440488
_IageXse~2_2		.133379	.0501308	2.66	0.008	.0345043 .2322536
_cons		4.873442	.0251767	193.57	0.000	4.823786 4.923099

```
. testparm _IageX*  
( 1) _IageXse~0_2 = 0  
( 2) _IageXse~2_2 = 0  


|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| F( 2, 193) = | 6.26   |
| Prob > F =   | 0.0023 |

Highly significant
```

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Interaction between age group and sex

Differences between age groups among men is small

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
lnBMI25		.2265018	.0774898	2.92	0.004	.0736662 .3793374
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0426734	.0377096	-1.13	0.259	-.1170493 .0317025
_Iagegrp3_2		-.0025412	.0365457	-0.07	0.945	-.0746215 .0695391
_Isex_2		-.0210869	.0322283	-0.65	0.514	-.0846518 .042478
_IageXse~0_2		-.0548967	.0501668	-1.09	0.275	-.1538422 .0440488
_IageXse~2_2		.133379	.0501308	2.66	0.008	.0345043 .2322536
_cons		4.873442	.0251767	193.57	0.000	4.823786 4.923099

Women age group 1: $4.873 - 0.021 = 4.894$

Women age group 0: $4.873 - 0.021 - 0.042 - 0.055 = 4.755$

Women age group 2: $4.873 - 0.021 - 0.003 + 0.133 = 4.982$

Large difference in the age groups among women.

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Interaction between age group and sex

Using women as reference: `char sex[omit]2`

Large differences between age groups among women

	lnSBP	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
lnBMI25		.2265018	.0774898	2.92	0.004	.0736662 .3793374
_Iagegrp3_0		-.0975701	.0328469	-2.97	0.003	-.162355 -.0327852
_Iagegrp3_2		.1308378	.0354804	3.69	0.000	.0608587 .2008168
_Isex_1		.0210869	.0322283	0.65	0.514	-.042478 .0846518
_IageXse~0_1		.0548967	.0501668	1.09	0.275	-.0440488 .1538422
_IageXse~2_1		-.133379	.0501308	-2.66	0.008	-.2322536 -.0345043
_cons		4.852355	.0205502	236.12	0.000	4.811824 4.892887

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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Plot05

Agegroup

	Women	Men
0:	$4.755 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.831 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$
1:	$4.894 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.873 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$
2:	$4.982 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$	$4.875 + 0.227 \cdot \ln(bmi/25)$

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Linear and Logistic regression - Note 2.2

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