



EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,  
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání  
pro konkurenceschopnost

## INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Tento projekt je spolufinancován Evropským sociálním fondem a Státním rozpočtem ČR  
InoBio – CZ.1.07/2.2.00/28.0018

Statistical Analysis in Ecology using R

# Linear Models/GLM

Ing. Daniel Volařík, Ph.D.

13. 11. 2013



INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

# Recap

- Basics in R, exploring data (mean, median, correlation , ...)
- Graphs
- Linear models
  - ANOVA
  - Linear regression
  - Ancova

# Limitation of linear models

Assumptions of linear models:

- Normality – observation are normally distributed for each value of  $X$
- Homogeneity – constant variance
- Independence – value of one observation doesn't influence value of other, violated in time series data and spatial data.

# Limitation of linear models

What to do when violating the assumptions?

- Normality – we can use GLM
- Homogeneity – GLM, GLS
- Independence – LME (nested data, random effect), GLS (spatial, temporal autocorrelations)
- Normality + independence – GLMM

# Generalized linear models (GLM)

- Generalisation of linear models that allows other than normal distribution of errors.
- For distributions from exponential family – binomial, Poisson, gamma, negative binomial, quasi-binomial, quasi-poisson
- Concept proposed by Nelder & Wedderburn (1972)
- Other possibilities how to deal with non-normal distribution of errors:
  - Transformations (square root, log)

# GLM components

- Linear predictor.
- Error distribution
- Link function

# Linear predictor

- The same as in linear models
- Combination of explanatory variables
- e.g.  $a + bx$ ;  $a + bx + cx$
- interactions and quadratic terms could be included like in linear models



# Error distributions

- (or distribution for error terms, distribution of the response variable)
- To model variance
- Normal, binomial, Poisson, gamma, negative binomial

# Normal distribution

- Continuous two-parameter distribution:
- the mean,  $\mu$  (mu), and the
- standard deviation,  $\sigma$  (sigma).
- Bell shaped probability distribution
- variance and mean are independent
- Could have both negative and positive values

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

# Gamma distribution

- For continuous response variable with strictly positive values ( $Y > 0$ )
- Two parameter – mean  $\mu$  and  $\nu$
- Variance is defined as  $\mu^2 / \nu$ ;  $\nu^{-1}$  denotes to dispersion
- Depending on  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ , it could have various shapes

# Poisson distribution

- Response variable has to have only integer values
- One parameter, the mean number of successes,  $\mu$  (mu). ( $\mu$  can be non-integer)
- Variance is equal to mean
- Typically used for count data
- Allows heterogeneity
- in ecology it is quite often that the variance is even larger than mean – overdispersion – quasi-Poisson

# Binomial distribution

- A sequence of independent Bernoulli trials (like tossing a coin).
- A two-parameter distribution: the number of trials,  $N$ , and the probability of success,  $p$ , in any given trial.
- Mean is given by  $N \times p$
- Variance by  $N \times p \times (1 - p)$
- Assumption: probability of success does not change from trial to trial.
- In ecology it can be presence/absence of mistletoe on the oak tree, presence/absence of some species on particular sites.

# Link function

- Link between the mean of response variable and the systematic part (GLM alternative to data transformation).

Distribution	Default link	Alternative link
Normal	identity	log, inverse
Binomial	logit	probit, cauchit, log, complementary log-log
Poisson	log	identity, square root
Gamma	reciprocal	log, identity, square root

# Maximum likelihood

- How to estimate parameters?
- In linear models – ordinary least squares
- GLM – maximum likelihood estimation
  - iterative approximation using method iteratively reweighted least squares

# Analogies between Normal Least Squares and generalized Linear Models

<b>Normal Least Squares</b>	<b>Generalized Linear Models</b>
Sums of squares (SS)	Deviance
Normal least squares	Maximum likelihood iterative (re-weighted) least squares
Normal error distribution	Exponential family of distributions
Transform data	Link function
Variance ratio F-tests	Chi-squared tests of deviance (F tests of mean deviance ratios)



# How to fit GLM in R

- Function `glm()` with parameters:
  - Formula (for linear predictor – the same as in `lm()`)
  - Family – try `?family` for possible families
  - Link function specified by `family(link = "possible_link")`

- Example:

```
glm(y ~ x + z, data = data,  
    family = Gamma(link = "inverse"))
```

# GLM in R

```
Call: glm(formula = Hardness ~ Density, family = Gamma(link = "inverse"), data = Janka)
```

```
Deviance Residuals:
```

```
Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -0.55341 -0.18060 0.05147 0.14486 0.38080
```

```
Coefficients:
```

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	1.998e-03	1.131e-04	17.67	< 2e-16 ***
Density	-2.498e-05	1.859e-06	-13.44	3.7e-15 ***

```
---
```

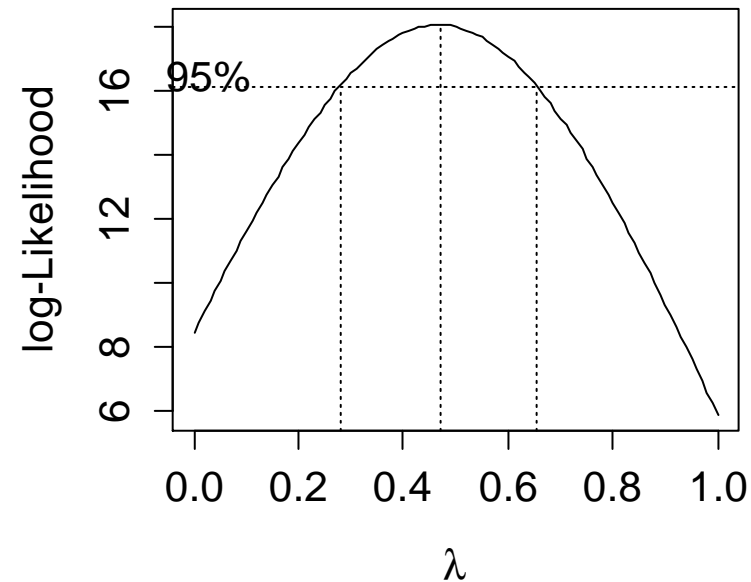
```
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1  
(Dispersion parameter for Gamma family taken to be 0.05049825)
```

```
Null deviance: 11.268 on 35 degrees of freedom Residual  
deviance: 1.902 on 34 degrees of freedom AIC: 516.42 Number of  
Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

# Transformations in R

- > `lm(log(Y) ~ X, data = data)`
- To find the best transformation, we can use `boxcox()` function in MASS package
  - The Box-Cox family of transformations
  - Tries a whole series of transformations and indicates which one performs best

# Transformations in R – boxcox function



- Lambda indicate the type of tranformation
- Lambda = 1, the data is untransformed
- Lambda = 2, the data is squared
- Lambda = 0.5, square-root transformed and so on.
- Lambda = 0, defined as the natural log transformation
- Doesn't work with zeros in the data

# Exercise on Janka dataset

- Janka Timber Hardness Data
- From Williams (1959) via Venables (2000)
- Dataset is in the file  
DataRegressionTimberVenables.txt
- Just 2 variables – timber density and timber hardness
- We are interested in how timber hardness depends on timber density