

---

---

# BIostatISTICS II

---

---

## Statistical Modeling for Biomedical Researchers

**William D. Dupont, Ph.D.**

Volume I, Sections 1-4

---

---

M.P.H. Program  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
March 2011

© William D. Dupont, 2010, 2011

Use of this file is restricted by a

Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike license.

See <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses> for details.



## I. REVIEW OF BIOSTATISTICS 1 AND SIMPLE LINEAR REGRESSION

- ❖ Distinction between a parameter and a statistic
- ❖ The normal distribution
- ❖ Inference from a known sample about an unknown target population
- ❖ Simple linear regression: Assessing simple relationships between two continuous variables
- ❖ Interpreting the output from a linear regression program. Analyzing data with Stata
- ❖ Plotting linear regression lines with confidence bands
- ❖ Making inferences from simple linear regression models
- ❖ Lowess regression and residual plots. How do you know you have the right model?
- ❖ Transforming data to improve model fit
- ❖ Comparing slopes from two independent linear regressions

© William D. Dupont, 2010, 2011

Use of this file is restricted by a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike license. See <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses> for details.

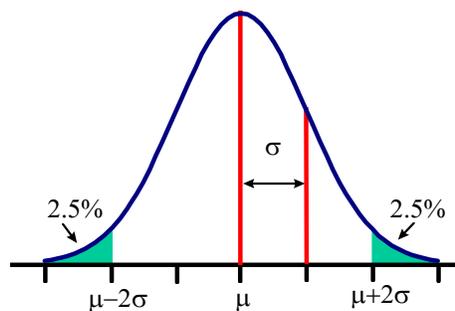


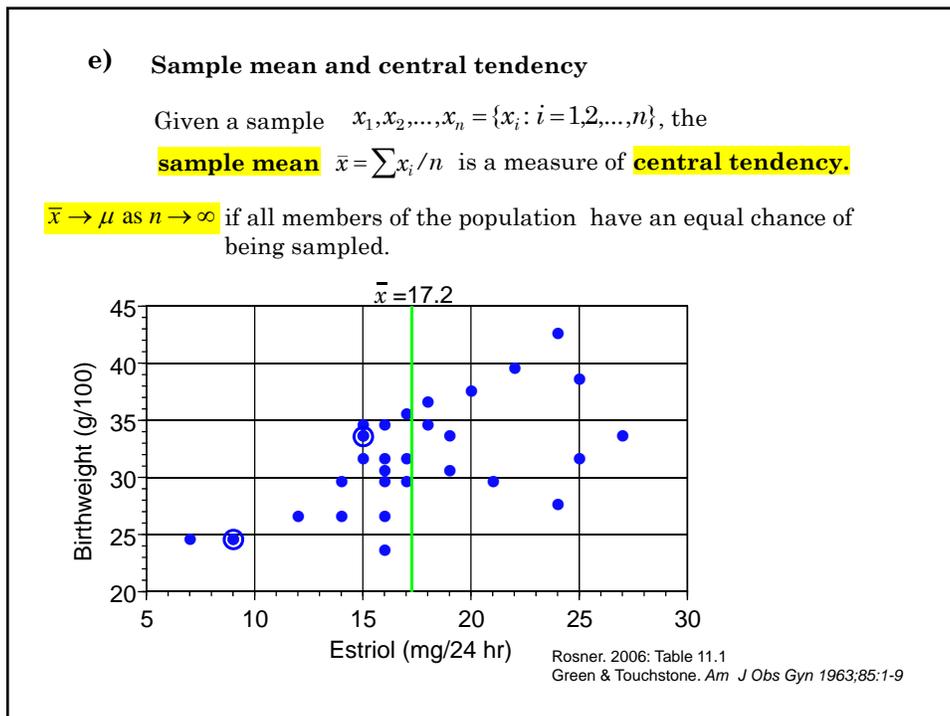
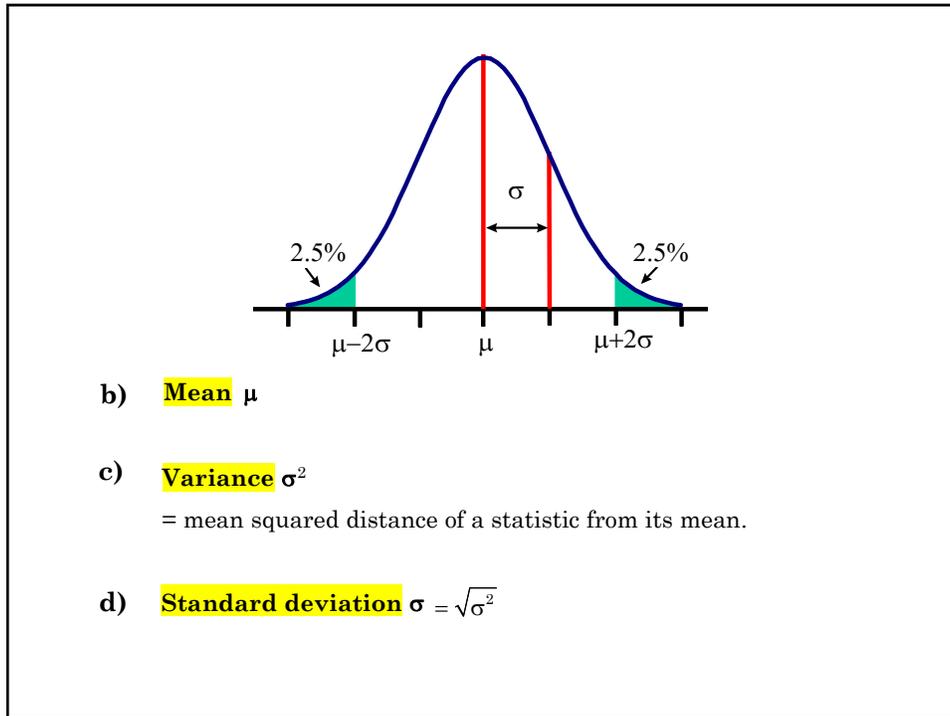
## I. REVIEW OF BIOSTATISTICS 1 AND SIMPLE LINEAR REGRESSION

### 1. Parameters, Statistics, and Statistical Notation

#### a) Normal distribution

This distribution is defined by two **parameters**:



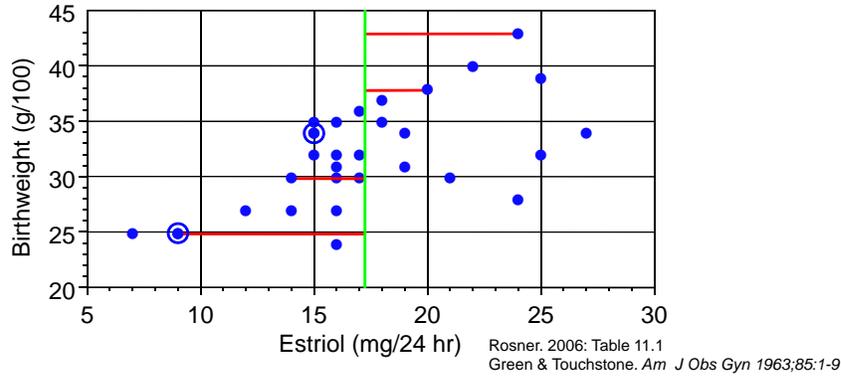


f) **Residuals and dispersion**

The  $i^{th}$  **residual** =  $x_i - \bar{x}$

The average residual length =  $\sum |x_i - \bar{x}| / n$  is an intuitive measure of **dispersion**: the extent to which observations vary from each other.

It is rarely used because it is difficult to work with mathematically.

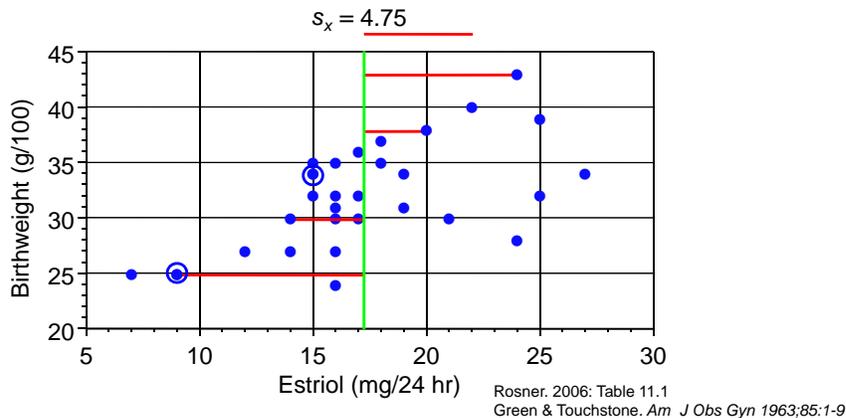


g) **Sample variance**

$$s^2 = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 / (n - 1) \quad \{1.1\}$$

h) **Sample standard deviation**

$s = \sqrt{s^2}$  is the most common measure of dispersion.



i) **Expected value**

The **expected value** of a statistic is its average value from a very large number of experiments.

The expected value of both  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}$  is  $\mu$ .

The expected value of  $s^2$  is  $\sigma^2$

We write  $E(\bar{x}) = \mu$        $E(s^2) = \sigma^2$

j) **Unbiased estimate of a parameter**

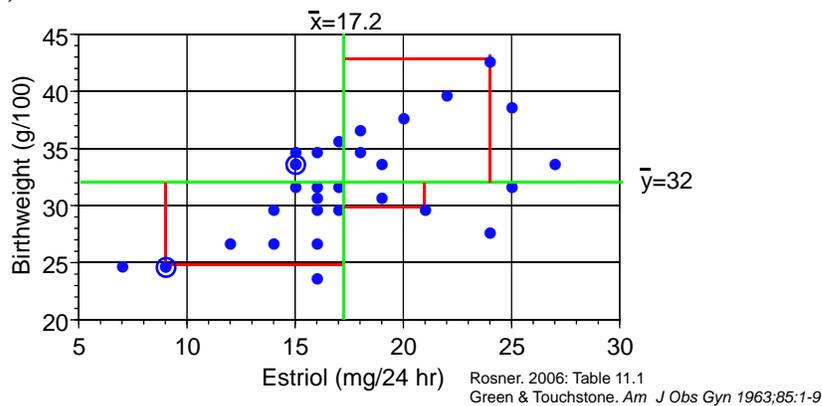
A statistic is **unbiased estimate** of a parameter if its expected value equals the parameter.

$\bar{x}$  is an unbiased estimate of  $\mu$  since  $E(\bar{x}) = \mu$

The denominator of  $s^2 = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 / (n-1)$  is  $n-1$  rather than  $n$  in order to make  $s^2$  an unbiased estimate of  $\sigma^2$ .

2. **Elementary Statistics for Continuous Bivariate Data**

a) **Covariance**



Given paired observations  $(x, y)$ , the **covariance**

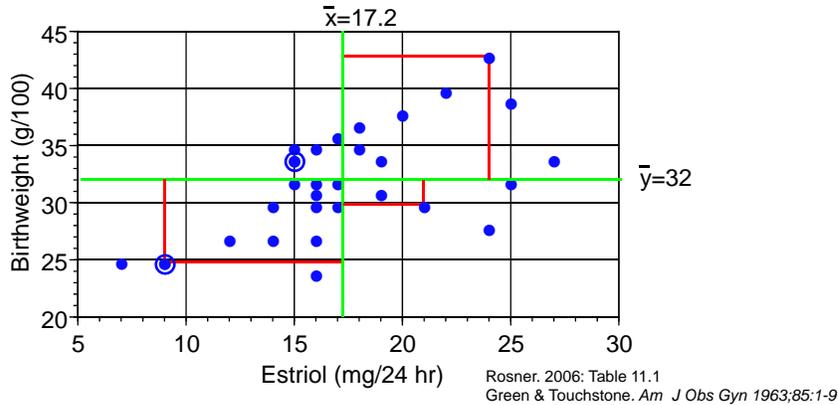
$\sigma_{xy} =$  expected mean product of paired residuals

**b) Sample covariance**

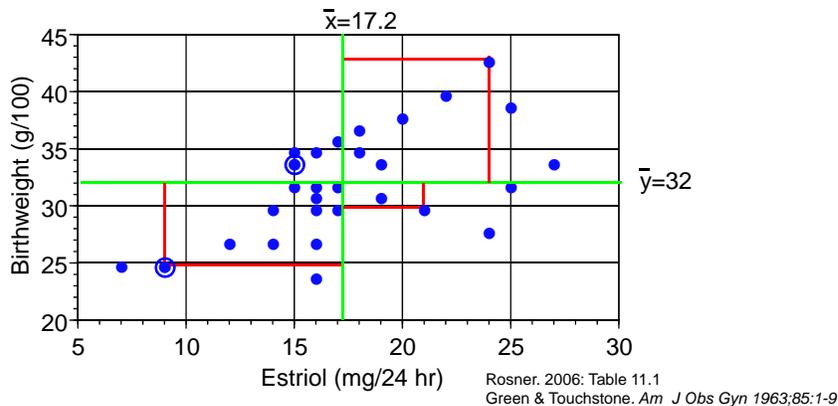
Given a sample of size  $n$ ,  $\sigma_{xy}$  is estimated by the **sample covariance**

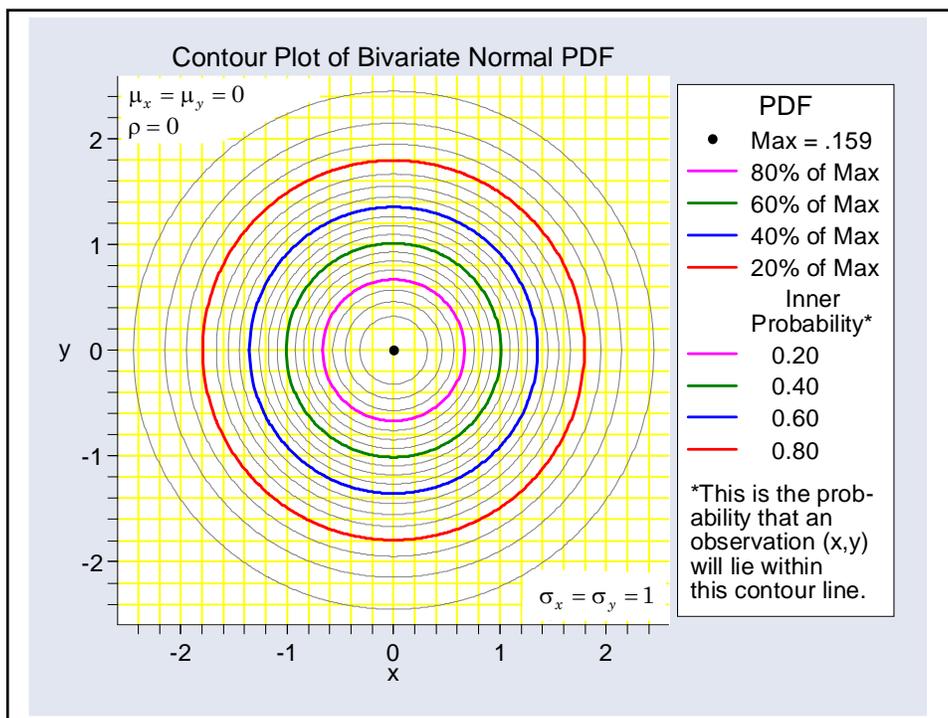
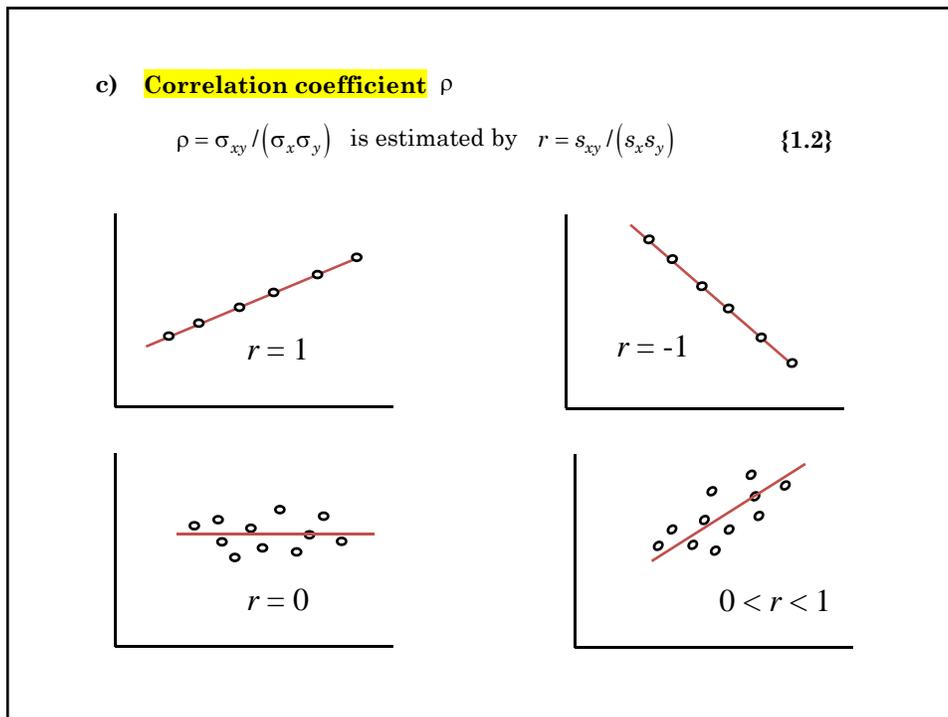
$$s_{xy} = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) / (n - 1)$$

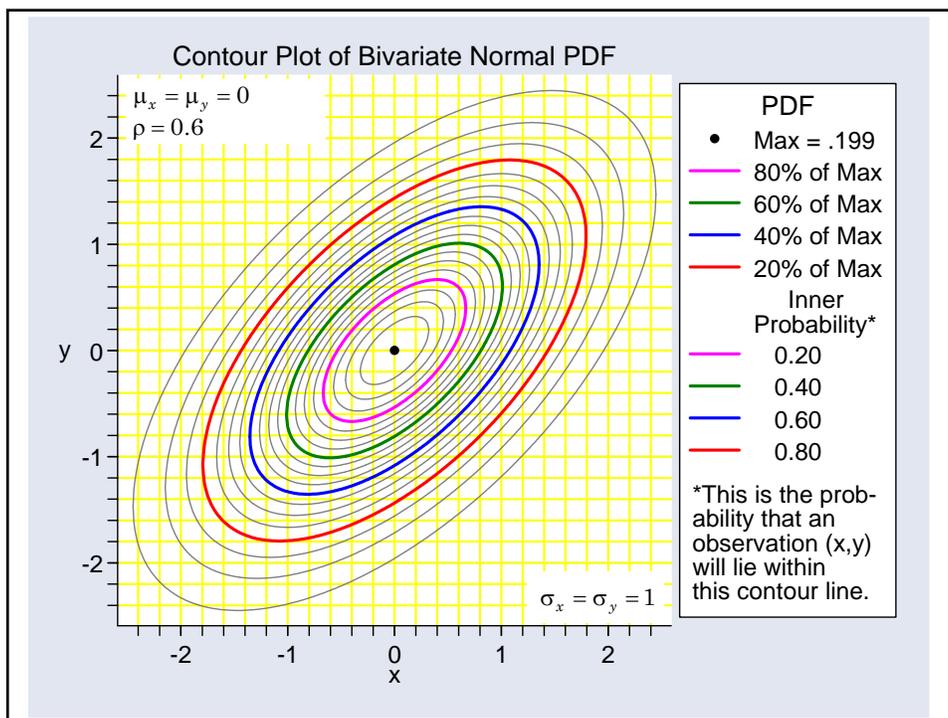
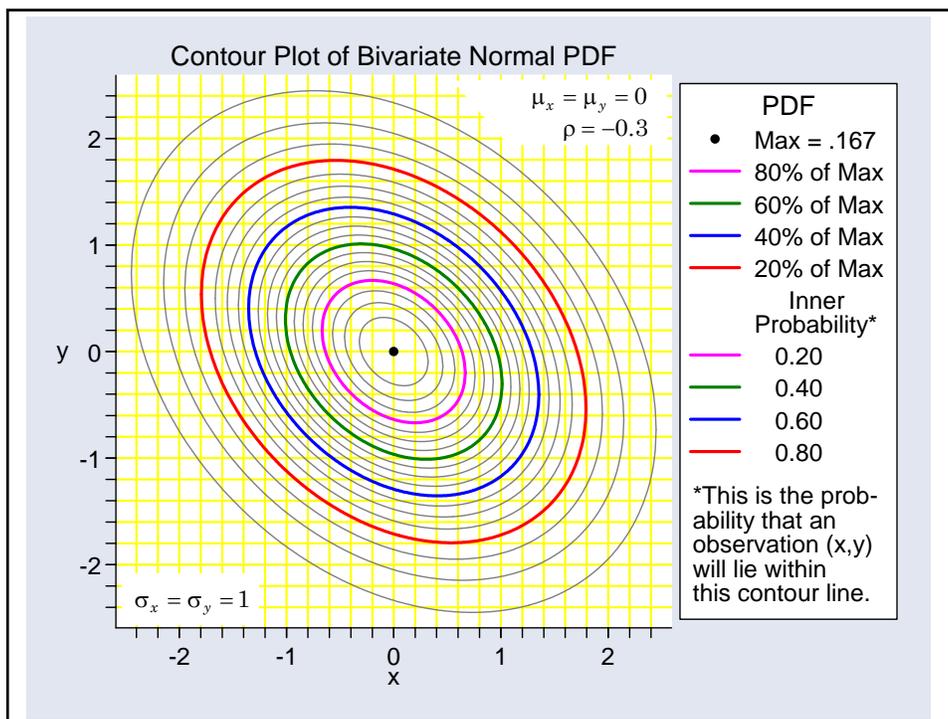
$$E(s_{xy}) = \sigma_{xy}$$

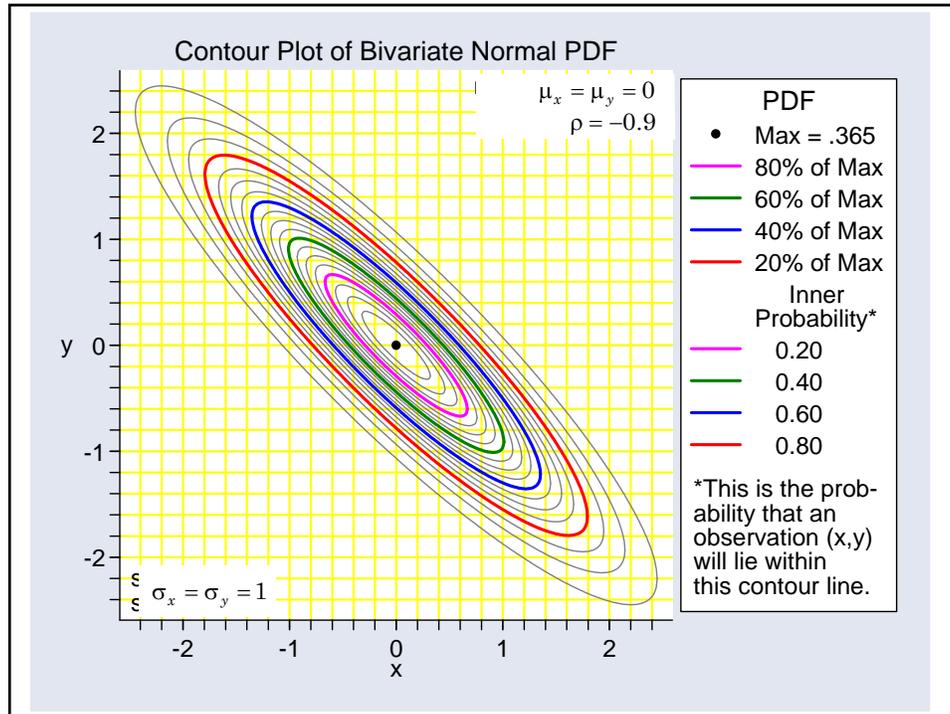


- Note:**
- i) Product of paired residuals may be positive or negative.
  - ii) If  $x$  and  $y$  are **independent** these terms cancel each out and  $\sigma_{xy} = 0$
  - iii)  $\sigma_{xy} > 0$  if most pairs fall in the upper right or lower left quadrant of the figure.









### 3. Simple Linear Regression

#### a) The Model

We assume that

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

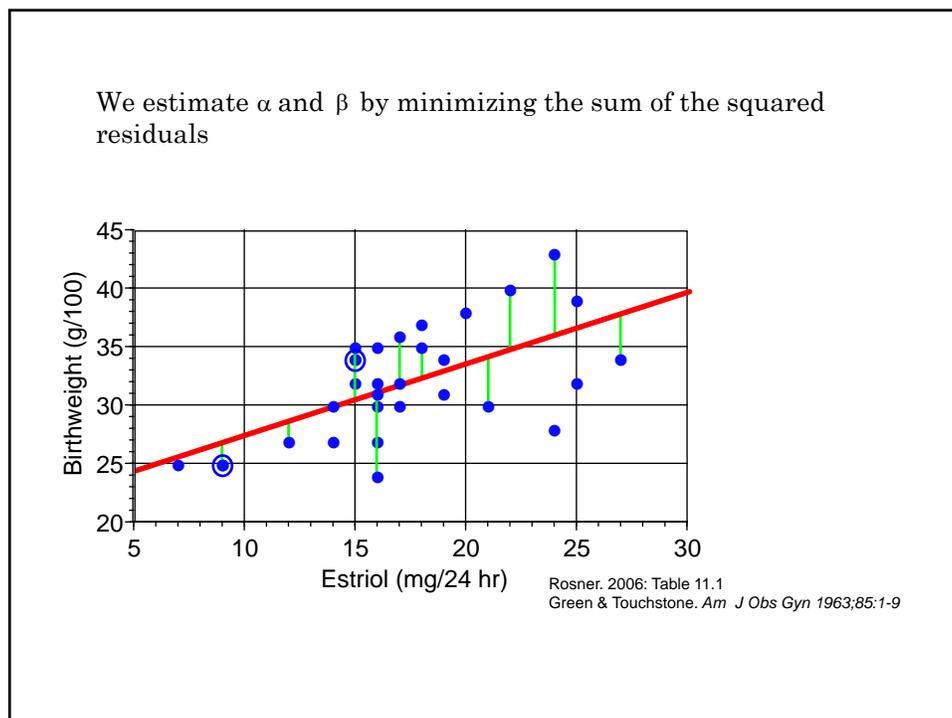
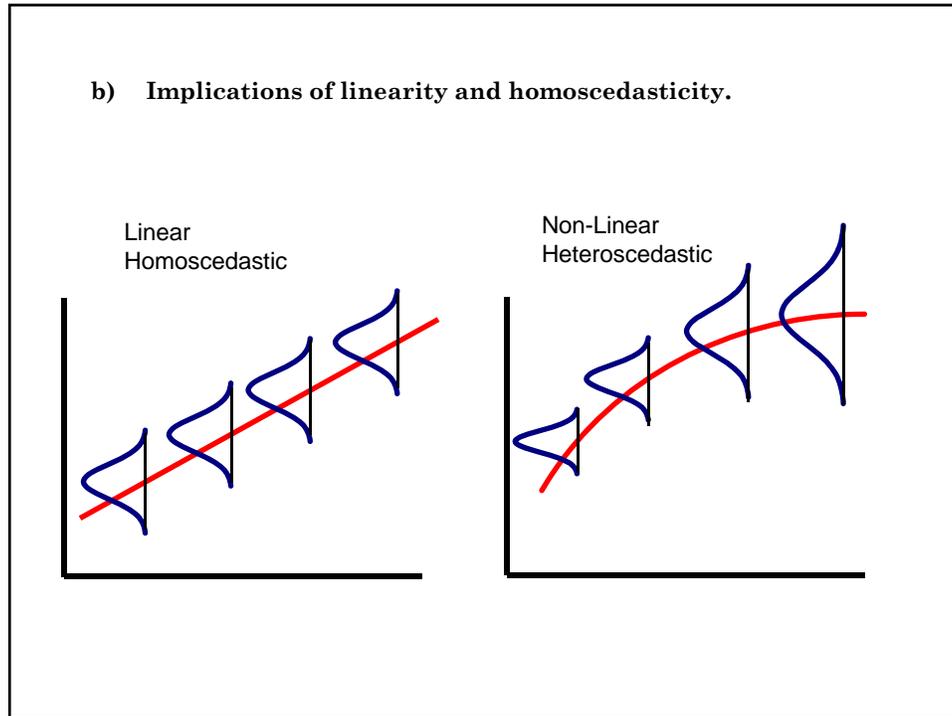
Where  $x_i$  is a variable observed on the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient

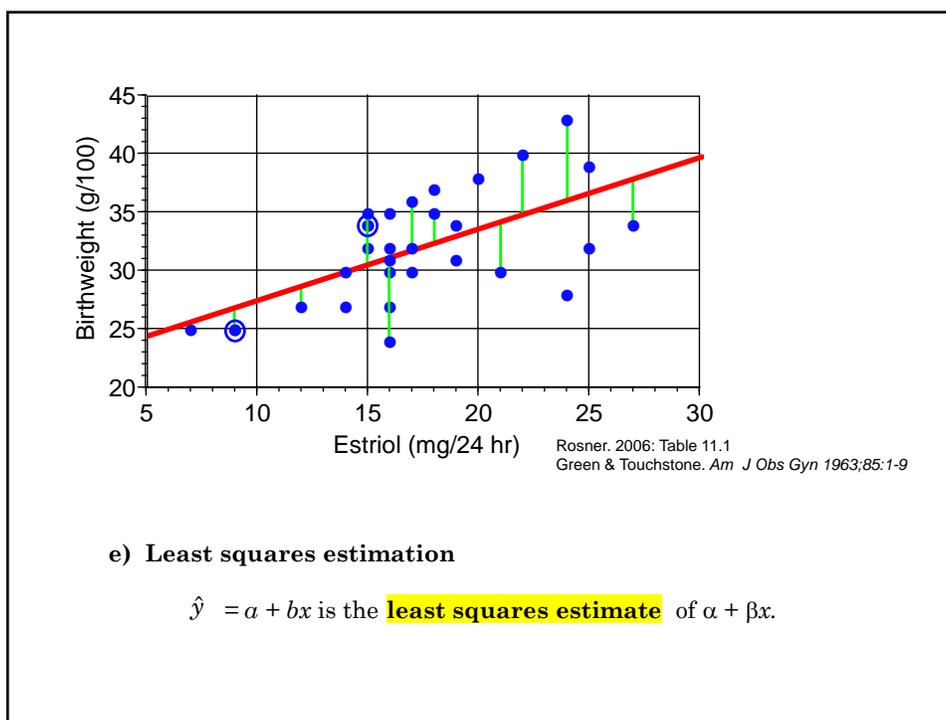
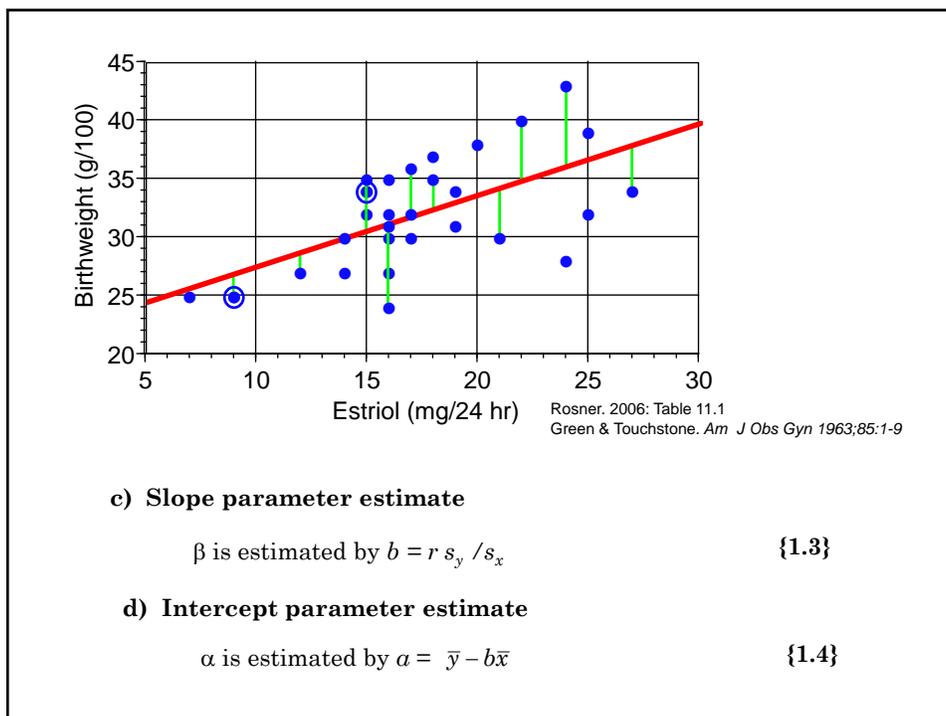
$\varepsilon_i$  is assumed to be normally and independently distributed with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma$

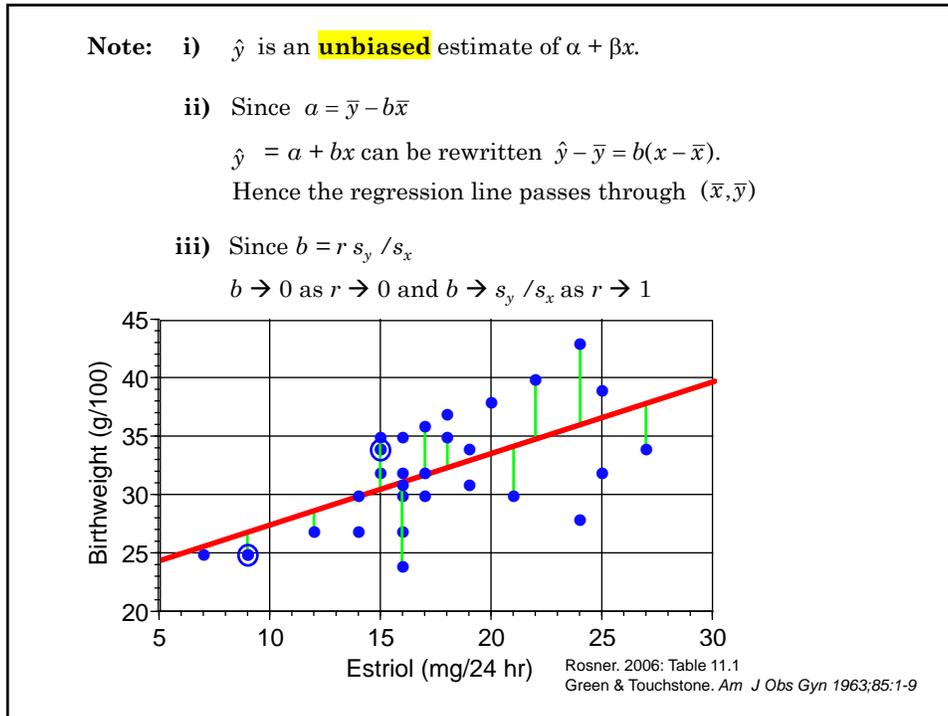
$y_i$  is the response from the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are model parameters.

The expected value of  $y_i$  is  $E(y_i) = \alpha + \beta x_i$ .

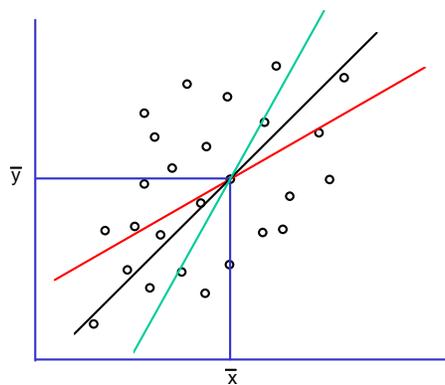






**4. Historical Trivia: Origin of the Term Regression**

If  $s_x = s_y$  then  $b = r$  and hence  $\hat{y} - \bar{y} = r(x - \bar{x}) < (x - \bar{x})$   
if  $1 > r > 0$  and  $x > \bar{x}$



Francis Galton, a 19<sup>th</sup> century pioneer of statistics who was interested in eugenics studied patterns of inheritance of all sorts of attributes and found that, for example, the sons of tall men tended to be shorter than their fathers. He called this regression toward the mean, which is where the term linear regression comes from.

## 5. The Stata Statistical Software Package

Stata is an excellent tool for the analysis of medical data. It is far easier to use than other software of similar sophistication. However, we will be using Stata for some complex analyses and you **may be puzzled** by some of its responses. If so **please ask**. I would very much like to minimize the time you spend struggling with Stata and maximize the time you spend learning statistics. **I will be available** to answer questions at most times on **days, evenings and weekends**.

If you have not used Stata since Biometry I you are probably very rusty. Here are a few reminders and aids that may help.

### a) Punctuation

Proper punctuation is mandatory. If Stata gives a confusing error message, the first thing to check is your punctuation. Stata commands are modified by **qualifiers** and **options**. Qualifiers precede options and there must be a comma before the first option.

For example

```
table age if treat==1 ,by(sex)
```

Might produce a table showing the number of men and women of different ages receiving treatment 1.

**if treat==1** is a qualifier and **by(sex)** is an option.

Without the comma, Stata will not recognize `by(sex)` as a valid option to the table command.

Some command prefixes must be followed by a colon.

**b) Capitalization**

Stata **variables** and commands are **case sensitive**. That is, Stata considers age and Age to be two distinct variables. In general, I recommend that you always use lower case variables. Sometimes Stata will create variables for you that contain upper case letters. You must use the correct capitalization when referring to these variables.

**c) Command summary**

At the end of the text book is a summary of most of the commands that are needed in this course. These may be helpful in answering your class exercises.

**d) GUI interface**

You can avoid learning Stata syntax by using their pull down menus. These menus generate rather complex syntax but feel free to use them if it makes the exercises easier.

This interface is extensively documented in my text. See Section 1.3.8 on page 15.

**d) Data files and log files**

You may download the Stata data files, log files, do files and these lecture notes that you will need from this course from the web at:

<http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/BiostatII/LectureNotes>

then click on the desired links for data files, Stata log files, do files or lecture notes. Pages for the class schedule, student names and exercises are password protected. The username and password for these pages is the same as for the other MPH courses except that the second letter of the username must be lower case while the other letters must be upper case. (This is due to a camel-case requirement for usernames on the Biostatistics wiki that I can't get around.)

The class exercises are very similar to the examples discussed in class. You can save yourself time by cutting and pasting commands from these log files into your Stata Command window, or by modifying these do files.

**e) Other things you should know**

It is important that you can do the following by the end of today.

- Open, close and save Stata data files.
- Review and modify data in the Stata editor.
- Open and close Stata log files.
- Paste commands from the Review window into the Command window.
- Copy and paste Stata graphics into your word processor.
- Copy and paste commands from your external text editor into the command window.

**6. Color Coding Conventions for Stata Log Files**

**a) Introductory Example**

```
. * RosnerTable11.1.log {1}
. *
. * Examine the Stata data set from Table 11.1 of Rosner, p. 554 {2}
. * See Green & Touchstone 1963
. *
. use "C:\MyDocs\MPH\LectureNotes\rostab11.dta", clear {3}
. * Data > Describe data > Describe data in memory
. describe

Contains data from \\PMPC158\mph\analyses\linear_reg\stata\rostab11.dta
obs:          31
vars:         3              10 Nov 1998 12:34
size:        496 (99.9% of memory free)
-----
 1. id          float %9.0g
 2. estriol     float %9.0g              Estriol (mg/24 hr)
 3. bweight     float %9.0g              Birth Weight (g/100)
-----
Sorted by:  estriol
```

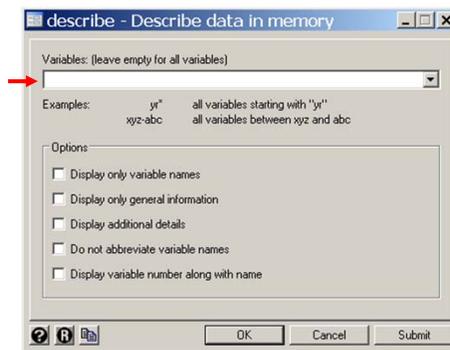
**{1}** You will find this and other Stata log files discussed in this course at: <http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/BiostatisticsTwoClassPage> and clicking on [Example Logs and Data from Lecture Notes](#).

Most of the class exercises may be completed by performing Stata sessions that are similar to those discussed in class.

**{2}** I have adopted the following color coding conventions for Stata log files throughout these notes.

- **Red** is used for Stata comment statements. Also, red numbers in braces in the right margin refer to comments at the end of the program and are not part of the programming code. **Red** text on Stata output is my annotation rather than text printed by Stata.
- Stata command words, qualifiers and options are written in **blue**
- Variables and data set names are written in **black**, as are algebraic or logical formulas
- Stata output is written in **green**

**{3}** The use command reads the Rosner data into memory. The previous contents of memory are purged.

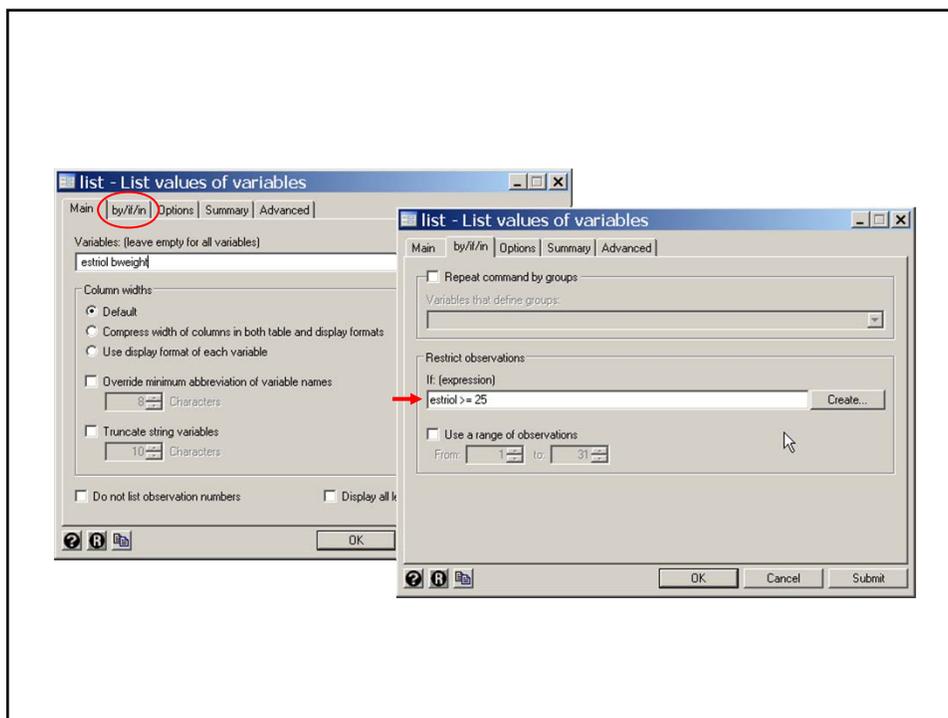


```
. * Data > Describe data > List data
. list estriol bweight if estriol >= 25 {4}

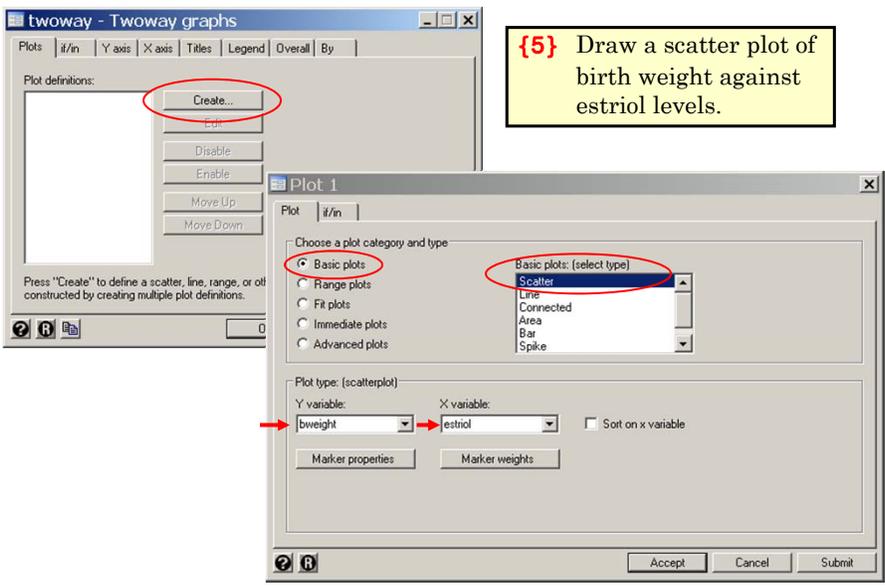
      estriol   bweight
29.         25         39
30.         25         32
31.         27         34
```

{4} List the variables of estriol and birthweight for those patients whose estriol values are at least 25.

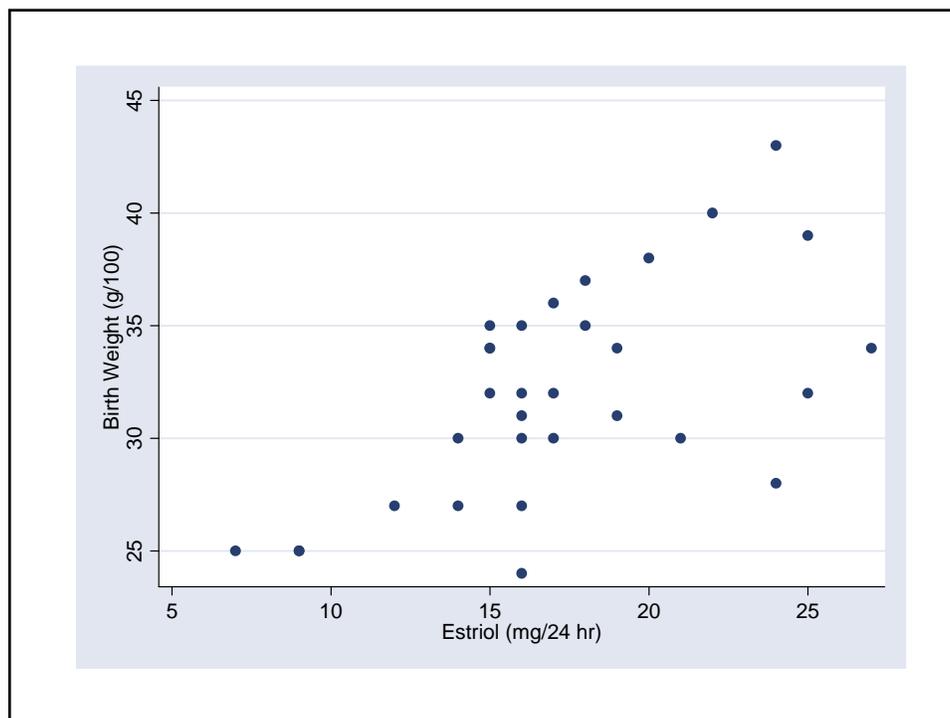
There is no obvious distinction between command modifiers like *if* and command options. In general, modifiers apply to most Stata commands while options are specific to a given class of commands. See your manuals and command summary in the text.



```
. * Graphics > Tway graph (scatter, line, etc.)  
. twoway scatter bweight estriol
```

 {5}  


{5} Draw a scatter plot of birth weight against estriol levels.



## 7. Linear Regression with Stata

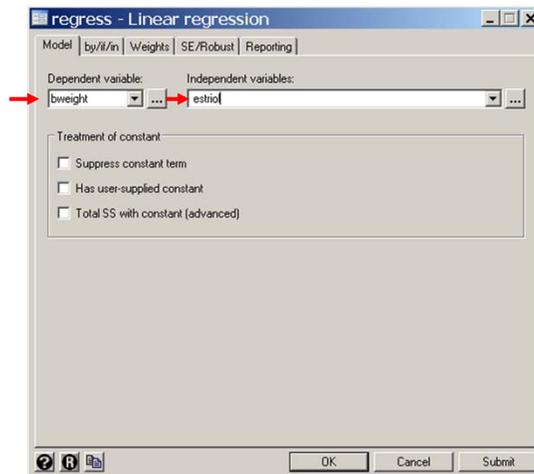
### a) Running a simple linear regression program

```
. * Birth_Weight.LR.log  
. *  
. * Linear regression of birth weight on estriol  
. * See Rosner, Table 11.1, p554, and Green & Touchstone 1963  
. *  
. use C:\MyDocs\MPH\ANALYSES\LINEAR_REG\Stata\rostab11.dta , clear  
. * Statistics > Linear models and related > Linear regression  
. regress bweight estriol {1}
```

{1} This command analyses the following model.

$$E(\text{bweight}) = \alpha + \text{estriol} * \beta$$

Of particular interest is to estimate the **slope parameter  $\beta$**  and to test that the null hypothesis that  $\beta = 0$ .



**{2}** The **Total Sum of Squares** (TSS) = 674 can be shown to equal  $\sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2$ , the total squared variation in  $y$ .

**{3}** The **Model Sum of Squares** (MSS) = 250.6 equals  $\sum (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2$ , which is the squared variation explained by the model.

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 31	
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) = 17.16	<b>{3}</b>
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	14.6008801	Prob > F = 0.0003	
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	R-squared = 0.3718	
				Adj R-squared = 0.3501	<b>{2}</b>
				Root MSE = s = 3.8211	

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268	.9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407	26.88278

**{4}** The **Residual or Error Sum of Squares** (ESS) = 423.4 =  $\sum (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$   
It can be shown that  $SST = \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2 = \sum (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2 + \sum (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$   
= SSM + SSE

**{5}** **R-squared** is the square of the correlation coefficient. It also equals MSS/TSS and hence measures the **proportion of the total variation in bweight** that is explained by the model. When R-squared = 1, s<sup>2</sup>=0 and the data points fall on the straight line

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 31	
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) = 17.16	<b>{5}</b>
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	14.6008801	Prob > F = 0.0003	
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	R-squared = 0.3718	
				Adj R-squared = 0.3501	<b>{2}</b>
				Root MSE = s = 3.8211	

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268	.9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407	26.88278

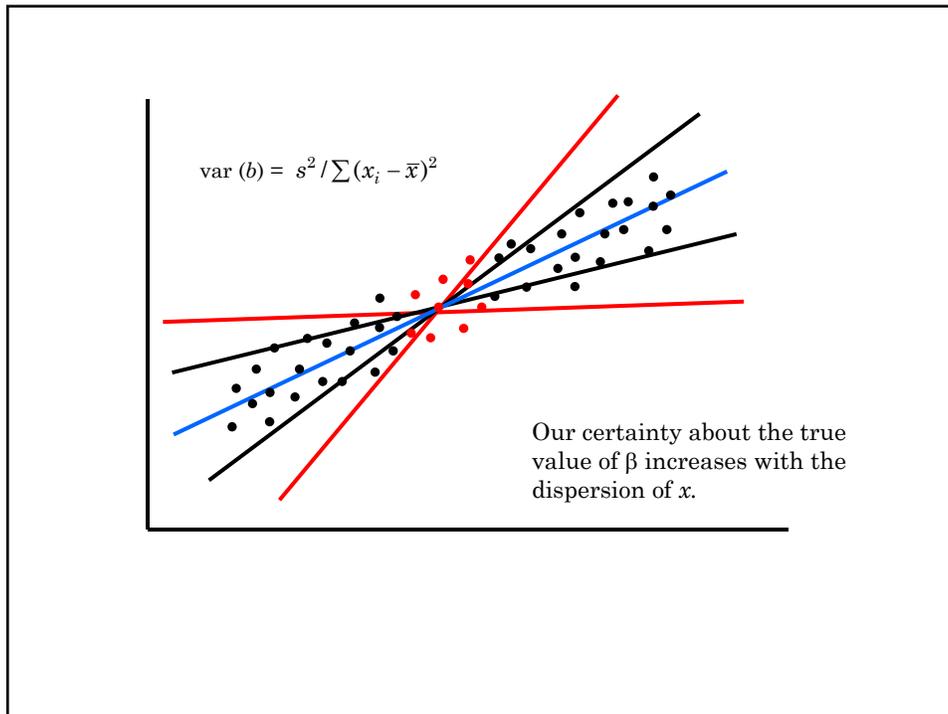
**b) Interpreting output from a simple linear regression program**

- i) The estimates  $a$  and  $b$  of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  and their standard errors are as shown.
- ii) The null hypothesis that  $\beta = 0$  can be rejected with  $P < 0.0005$
- iii)  $s^2 = \sum (y_i - (a + bx_i))^2 / (n - 2)$  estimates  $\sigma^2$  {1.5}
- iv)  $s^2$  is often called the mean sums of squares for error, or MSE.
- v)  $s$  is often called the Root MSE.

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 31		
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) =	17.16	
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	$s^2 = 14.6008801$	Prob > F =	0.0003	
				R-squared =	0.3718	
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501	
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	Root MSE = s =	3.8211	

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268	.9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407	26.88278



**b) Interpreting output from a simple linear regression program**

viii)  $se(b) = \sqrt{\text{var}(b)}$

ix)  $b/se(b) = .6081905 / .1468117 = 4.143$  {1.7}

has a *t* distribution with *n*-2 degrees of freedom when  $\beta = 0$

If **n is large** then the *t* distribution converges to a standard normal *z* distribution.

For large *n* these coefficients will be significantly different from 0 if the **ratio of the coefficient to its standard error** is greater than **2**.

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	Number of obs =	31	
Residual	423.425524	$n-2 = 29$	$s^2 = 14.6008801$	F( 1, 29) =	17.16	
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	Prob > F =	0.0003	
				R-squared =	0.3718	
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501	
				Root MSE = $s =$	3.8211	

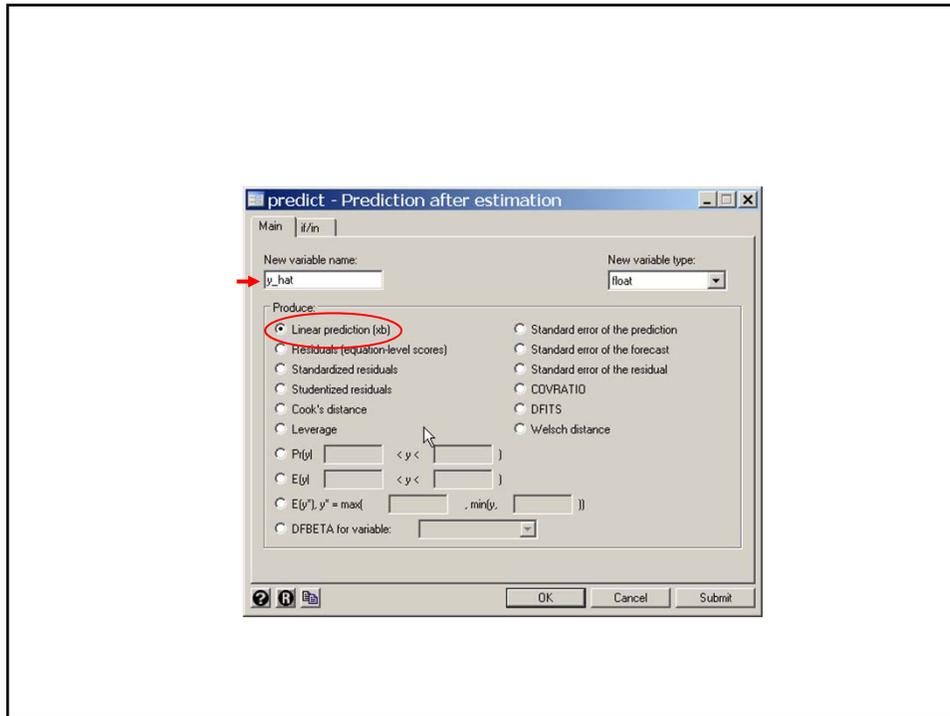
bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
estriol	$b = .6081905$	$se(b) = .1468117$	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268	.9084541
_cons	$a = 21.52343$	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407	26.88278

**8. Plotting a Linear Regression with Stata**

```
. * Statistics > Postestimation > Predictions, residuals, etc.
. predict y_hat , xb {1}
```

**{1}** **predict** is a post estimation command that can estimate a variety of statistics after a regression or other estimation command is run. The **xb** option causes a new variable (in this example *y\_hat*) to be set equal to each child's **expected birth weight**  $\hat{y}(x) = a + bx$ , where *x* is the mother's estriol level and *a* and *b* are the parameter estimates of the linear regression.

**N.B. Calculations by the predict command always are based on the most recently executed regression command.**

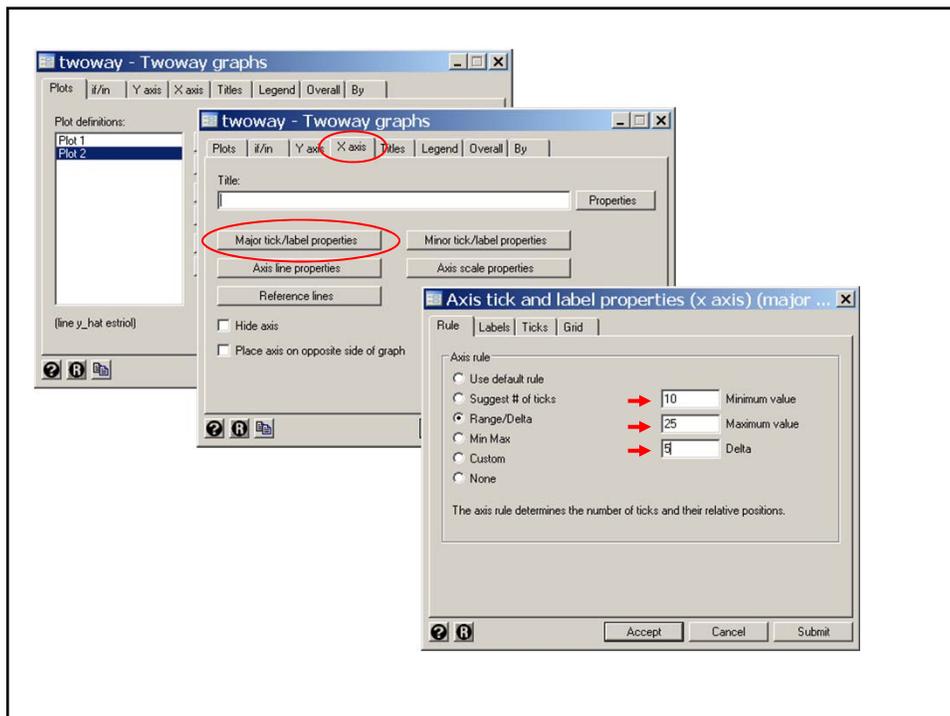
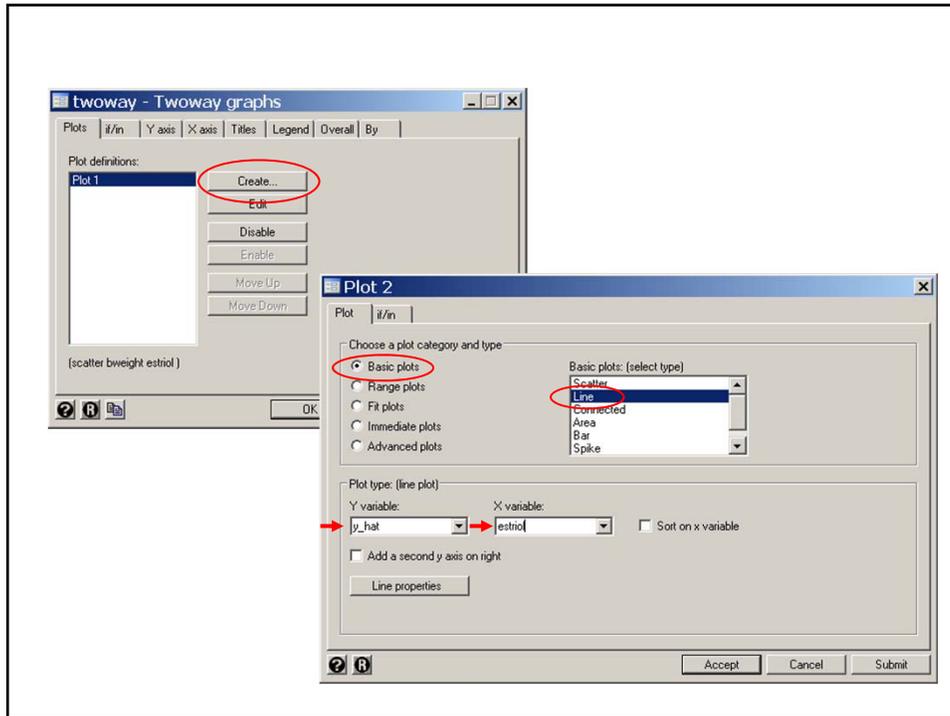


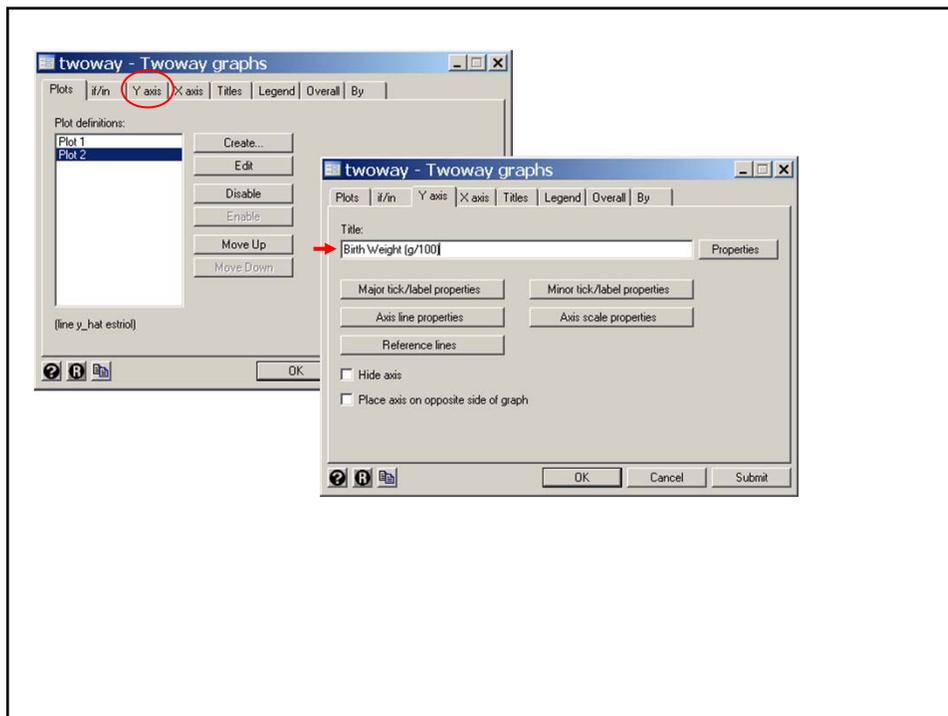
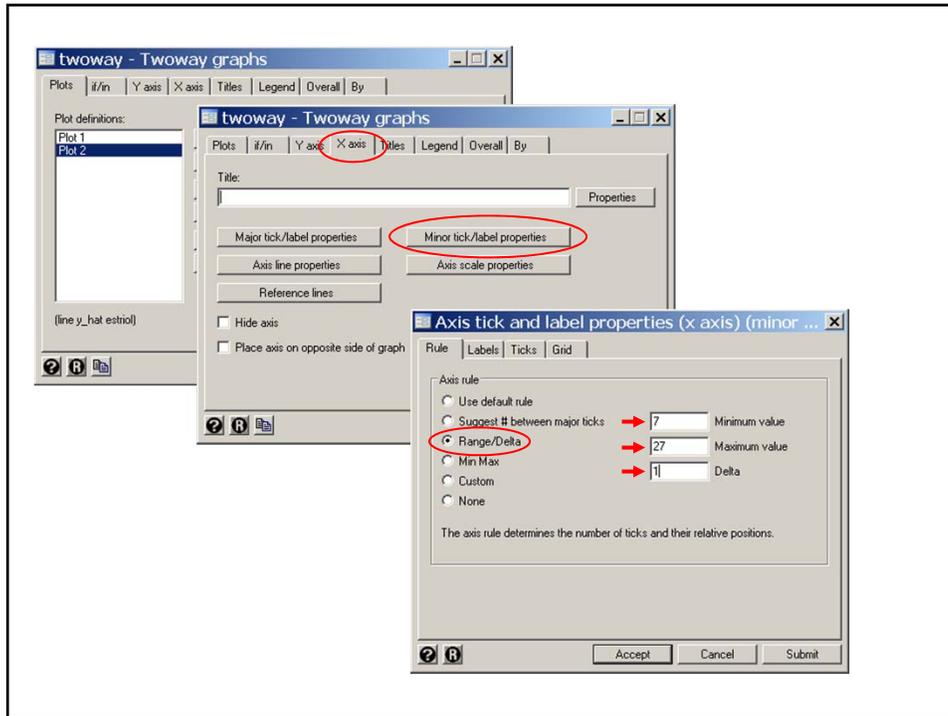
```
. * Graphics > Tway graph (scatter, line, etc.)  
. twoway scatter bweight estriol /// {2}  
> || line y_hat estriol /// {3}  
> , xlabel(10 (5) 25) xmtick(7 (1) 27) ytitle("Birth Weight (g/100)") {4}
```

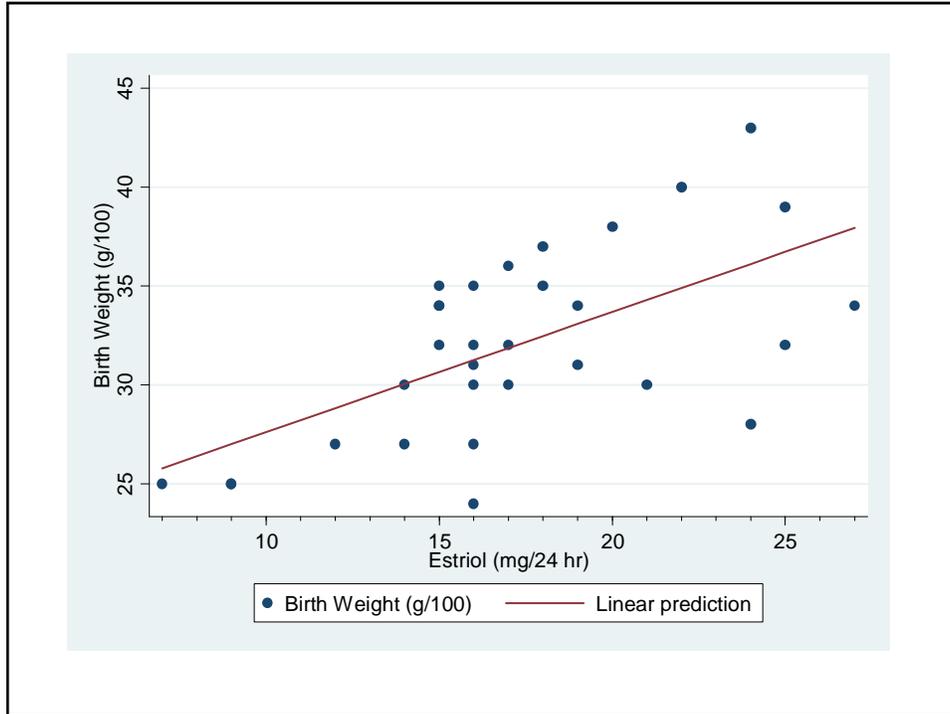
**{2}** This command is written over several lines to improve legibility. The three slashes (///) indicate that this command continues on the next line. These slashes are permitted in do files but not in the Command window.

**{3}** A double bar (||) indicates that another graph is to be overlaid on top of the preceding one. *line y\_hat estriol* indicates that *y\_hat* is to be plotted against *estriol* with the points connected by a straight line.

**{4}** This *xlabel* option labels the x-axis from 10 to 25 in steps of 5. *xmtick* adds tick marks from 7 to 27 in unit steps. *ytitle* gives a title to the y-axis





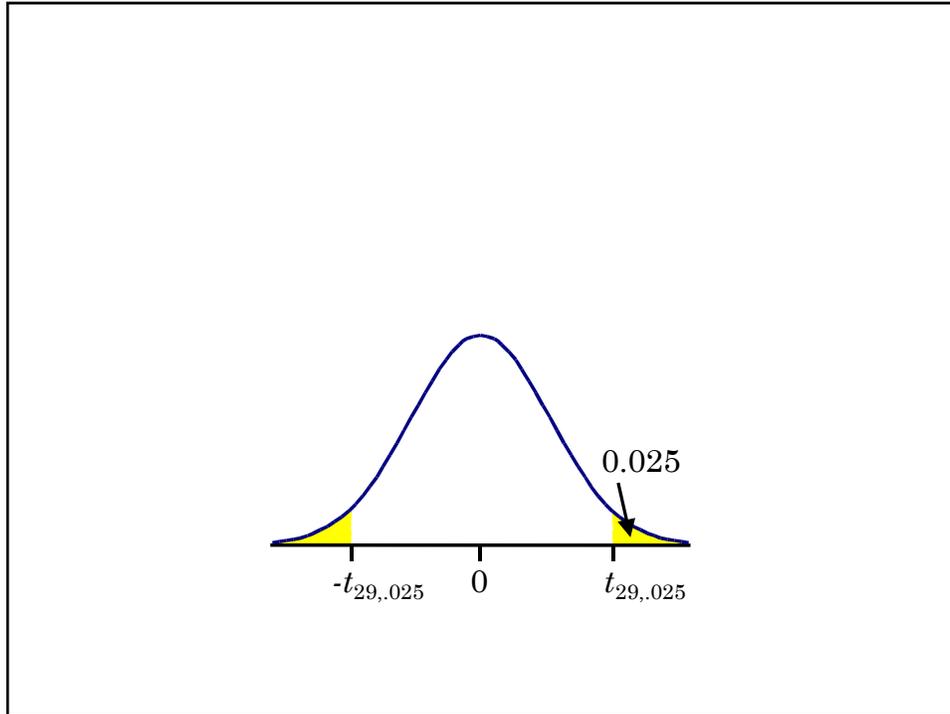


**9. 95% Confidence Interval (CI) for  $\beta$**

$$\begin{aligned}
 b \pm t_{n-2, .025} se(b) &= 0.608 \pm t_{29, .025} \times 0.147 \\
 &= 0.608 \pm 2.045 \times 0.147 \\
 &= 0.608 \pm 0.300 \\
 &= (0.308, 0.908)
 \end{aligned}$$

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	31
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) =	17.16
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	s <sup>2</sup> = 14.6008801	Prob > F =	0.0003
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	R-squared =	0.3718
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501
				Root MSE = s =	3.8211

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268 .9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407 26.88278



**10. 95% (CI) for  $\alpha + \beta x$**

Let  $\hat{y}(x) = a + bx$

The variance of  $\hat{y}(x)$  is

$$\text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) = [s^2/n] + (x - \bar{x})^2 \text{var}(b) \quad \{1.8\}$$

The 95% confidence interval for  $\hat{y}(x)$  is

$$\hat{y} \pm t_{n-2,0.025} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}(x))} \quad \{1.9\}$$

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 31	
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) =	17.16
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	s <sup>2</sup> = 14.6008801	Prob > F =	0.0003
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	R-squared =	0.3718
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501
				Root MSE = s =	3.8211

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268	.9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407	26.88278

### 11. Plotting a 95% Confidence Region for the Expected Response

The listing of *Birth\_Weight.LR.log* continues as follows

```
. predict std_p, stdp {1}
. * Data > Create or change data > Create new variable
. generate ci_u = y_hat + invttail(_N-2,0.025)*std_p {2}
. generate ci_l = y_hat - invttail(_N-2,0.025)*std_p
```

{1} The *stdp* option of the **predict** command defines *std\_p* to be the error of *y\_hat*.

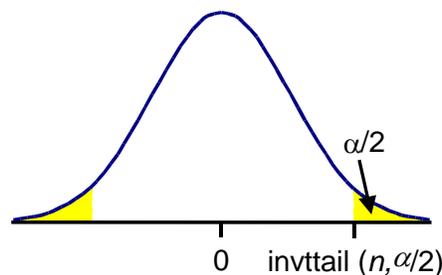
$$\text{That is } std\_p = \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}(x))}$$

{2} **invttail** calculates a critical value of size  $\alpha$  for a *t* distribution with *n* degrees of freedom.

```
. generate ci_u = y_hat + invttail(_N-2,0.025)*std_p
```

*\_N* denotes the number of variables in the data set, which in this example is 31. Thus  $\text{invttail}(\_N-2, 0.025) =$

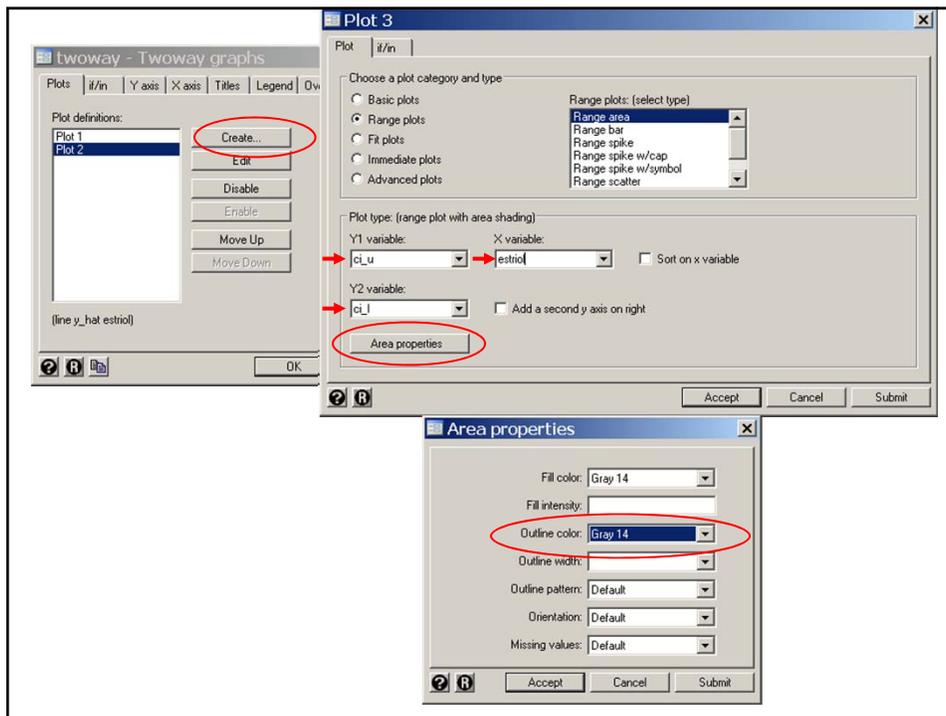
$$\text{invttail}(29, 0.025) = t_{29,0.025} = 2.045$$

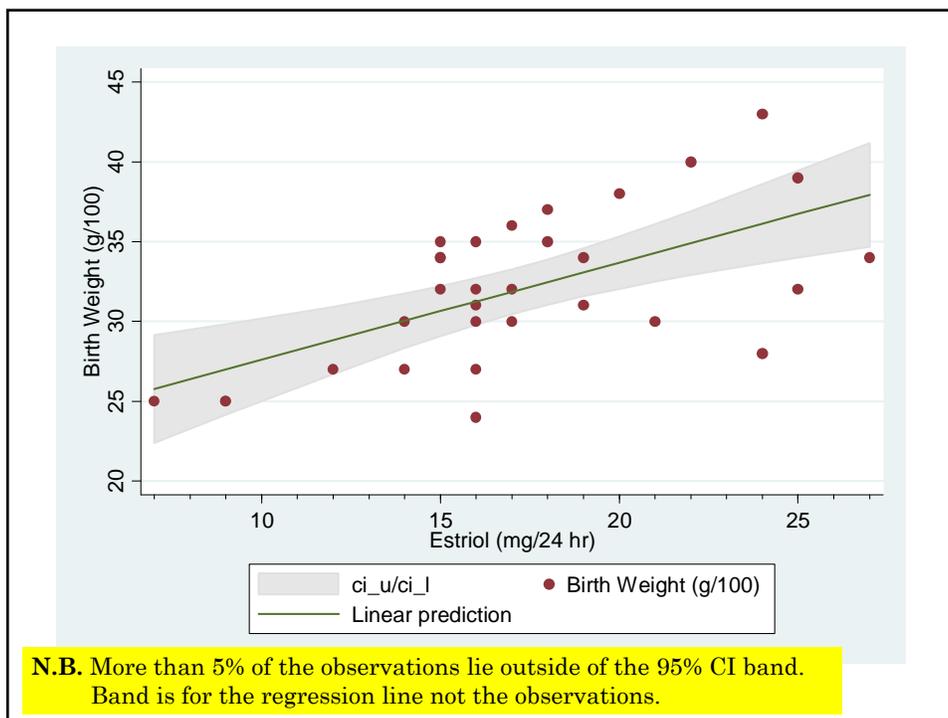
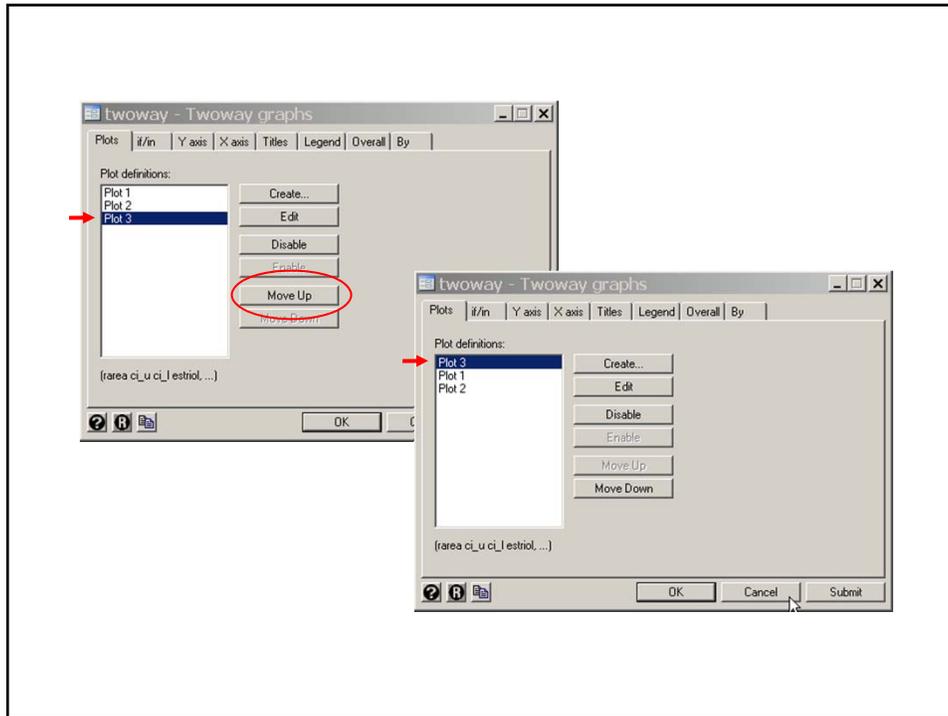


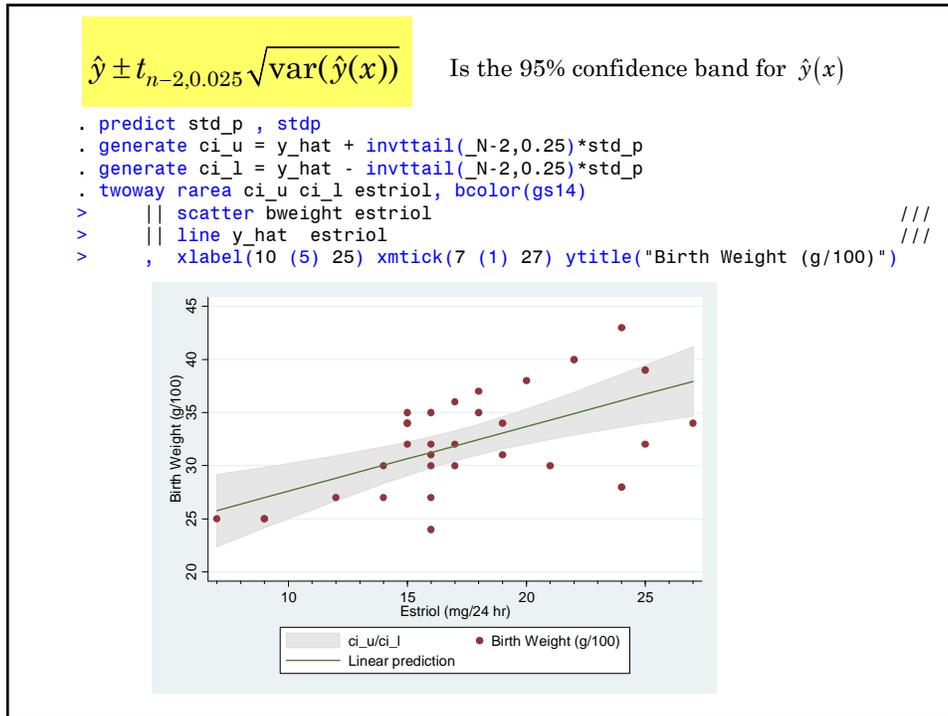
```
. twoway rarea ci_u ci_l estriol, color(gs14)          /// {3,4}  
> || scatter bweight estriol                        ///  
> || line y_hat estriol                            ///  
> , xlabel(10 (5) 25) xmtick(7 (1) 27) ytitle("Birth Weight (g/100)")
```

**{3}** *twoway rarea* shades the region between *ci\_u* and *ci\_l*

**{4}** *color* selects the color of the shaded region. *gs14* is a gray scale. Gray scales vary from *gs0* which is black through *gs16* which is white.



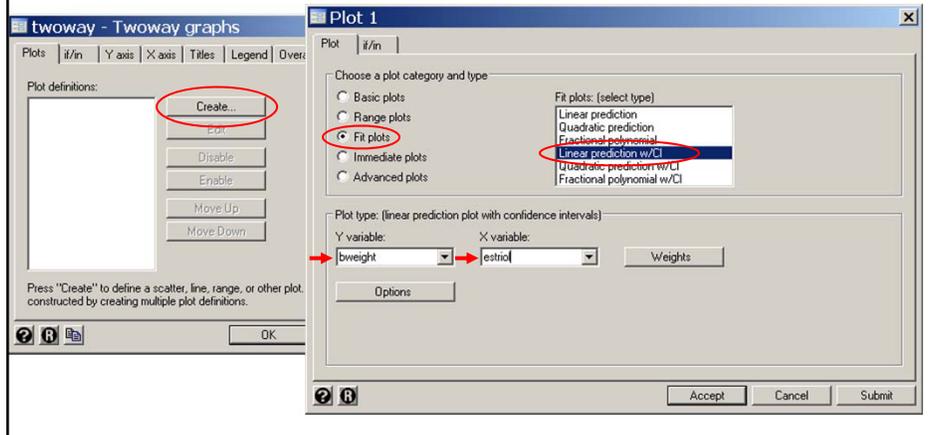


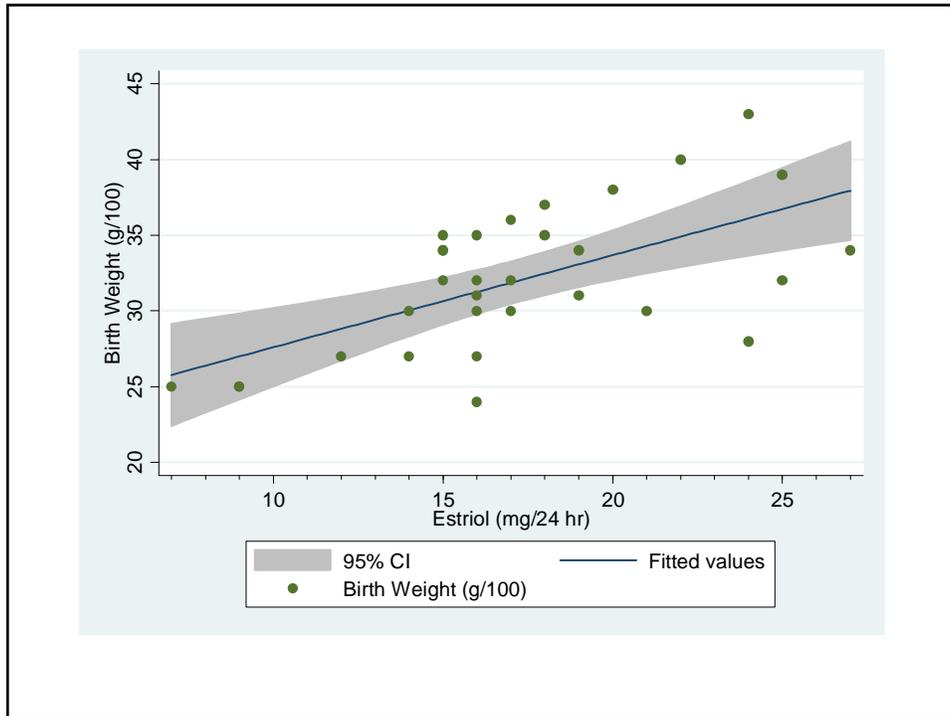


```

. *
. * The preceding graph could also have been generated without explicitly
. * calculating yhat, ci_u or ci_l as follows
. *
. twoway lfitci bweight estriol
> || scatter bweight estriol
> , xlabel(10 (5) 25) xmtick(7 (1) 27) ytitle("Birth Weight (g/100)")
    
```

**{1}** lfitci plots both the regression line and the 95% confidence interval for *bweight* against *estriol*.



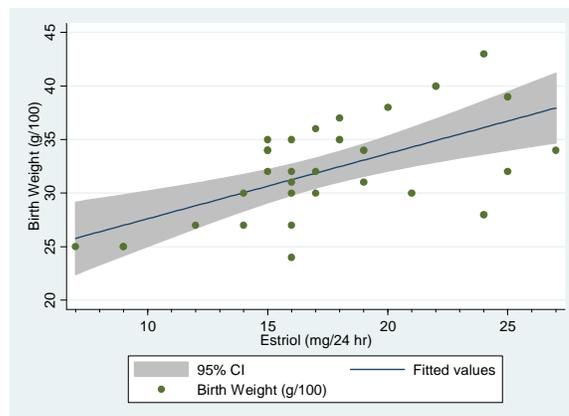


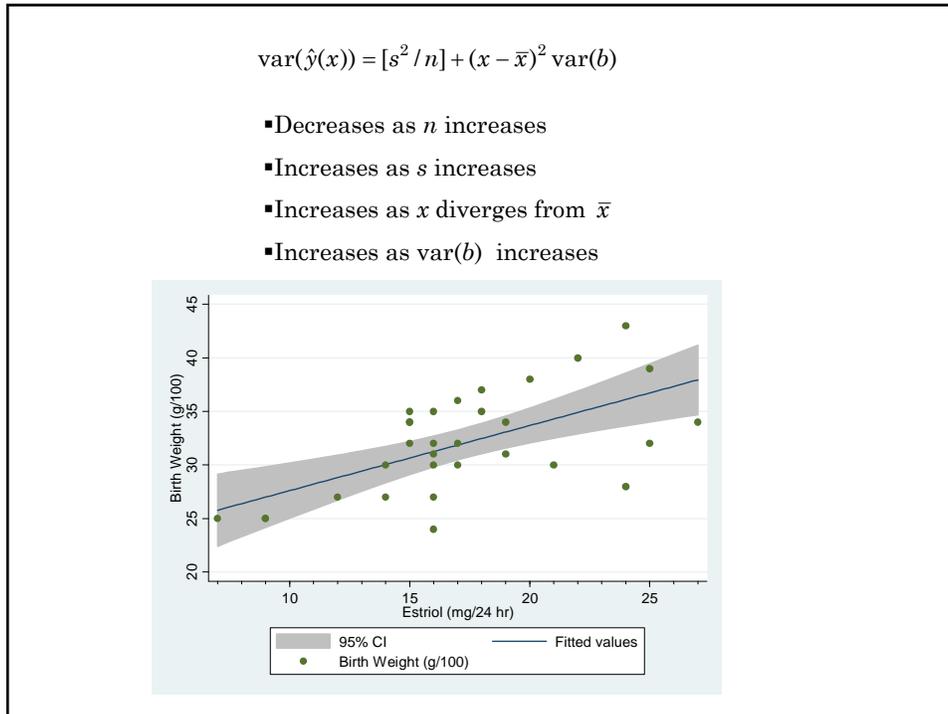
The variance of  $\hat{y}(x)$  is

$$\text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) = [s^2/n] + (x - \bar{x})^2 \text{var}(b)$$

The 95% confidence interval for  $\hat{y}(x)$  is

$$\hat{y} \pm t_{n-2, 0.025} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}(x))}$$





**12. Distribution of the Sum of Independent Variables.**

Suppose that  $x$  has mean  $\mu_x$  and variance  $\sigma_x^2$

$y$  has mean  $\mu_y$  and variance  $\sigma_y^2$  and

$x$  and  $y$  are independent.

Then  $x + y$  has mean  $\mu_x + \mu_y$  and variance  $\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2$

**13. The 95% CI for the Forecasted Response of a New Patient**

This response is  $y = a + \beta x + \varepsilon_i \equiv \hat{y}(x) + \varepsilon_i$

The variance of  $y = \text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) + s^2$

Therefore, a 95% confidence interval for  $y$  is

{1,10}

$$\hat{y} \pm t_{n-2,0.025} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) + s^2}$$

$\text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) = [s^2 / n] + (x - \bar{x})^2 \text{var}(b)$

If  $x = 22$  then

$\text{var}(\hat{y}(22)) = 14.6009/31 + (22 - 17.226)^2 \times 0.1468^2 = 0.9621$

$\hat{y} = 21.523 + 0.6082 \times 22 = 34.903$

95% C.I. for  $\hat{y}(x) = 34.903 \pm t_{29,0.025} \times \sqrt{0.9621}$   
 $= 34.903 \pm 2.045 \times 0.981$   
 $= (32.9, 36.9)$

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	31
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) =	17.16
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	s <sup>2</sup> = 14.6008801	Prob > F =	0.0003
				R-squared =	0.3718
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	Root MSE = s =	3.8211

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268 .9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407 26.88278

95% C.I. for  $y$  at  $x = \hat{y} \pm t_{n-2,0.025} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) + s^2}$

If  $x = 22$  then

$\text{var}(\hat{y}(22)) = 0.9621$

$\hat{y} = 34.903$

95% C.I. for  $y$  at  $x = 34.903 \pm 2.045 \times \sqrt{0.9621 + 14.6009}$   
 $= (26.8, 43.0)$

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	31
Model	250.574476	1	250.574476	F( 1, 29) =	17.16
Residual	423.425524	n-2 = 29	s <sup>2</sup> = 14.6008801	Prob > F =	0.0003
				R-squared =	0.3718
				Adj R-squared =	0.3501
Total	674.00	30	22.4666667	Root MSE = s =	3.8211

bweight	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
estriol	b= .6081905	se(b)= .1468117	4.14	P=0.000	.3079268 .9084541
_cons	a= 21.52343	2.620417	8.21	0.000	16.16407 26.88278

#### 14. Plotting 95% Confidence Intervals for Forecasted Responses

The listing of *Birth\_Weight.LR.log* continues as follows

```
. predict std_f , stdf {1}
. generate ci_uf = y_hat + invttail(_N-2,0.025)*std_f
. generate ci_lf = y_hat - invttail(_N-2,0.025)*std_f
. twoway lfitci bweight estriol
> || scatter bweight estriol ///
> || line ci_uf estriol, color(red) /// {2}
> || line ci_lf estriol, color(red) ///
> , xlabel(10 (5) 25) xmtick(7 (1) 27) ///
> ytitle("Birth Weight (g/100)") legend(off) {3}
```

**{1}** `predict` defines *std\_f* to be the forecasted error of *y*.

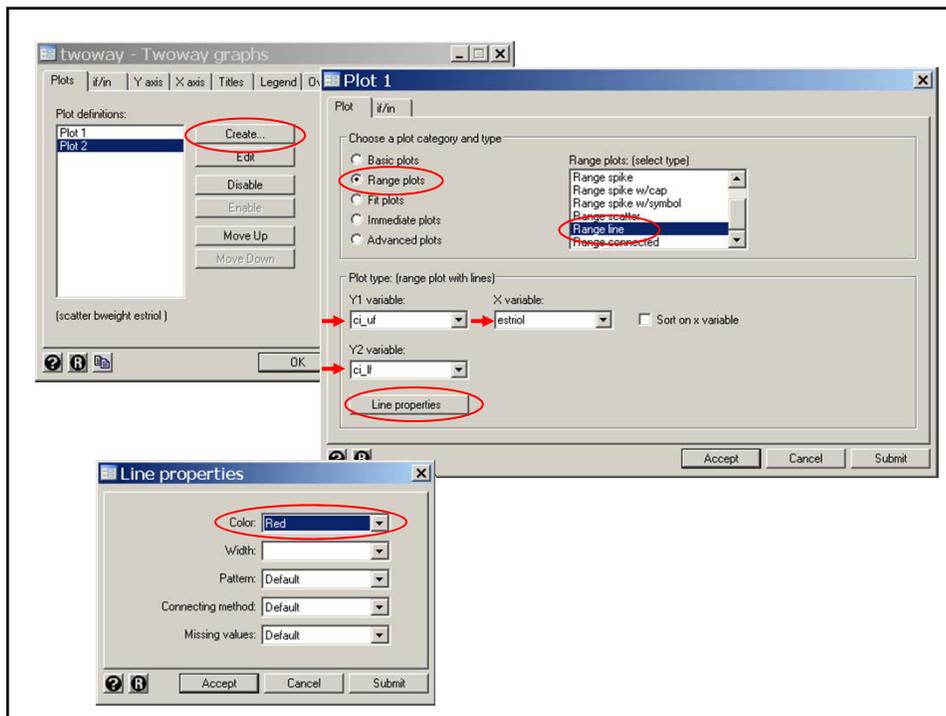
$$\text{That is } \text{std}_f = \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{y}) + s^2}$$

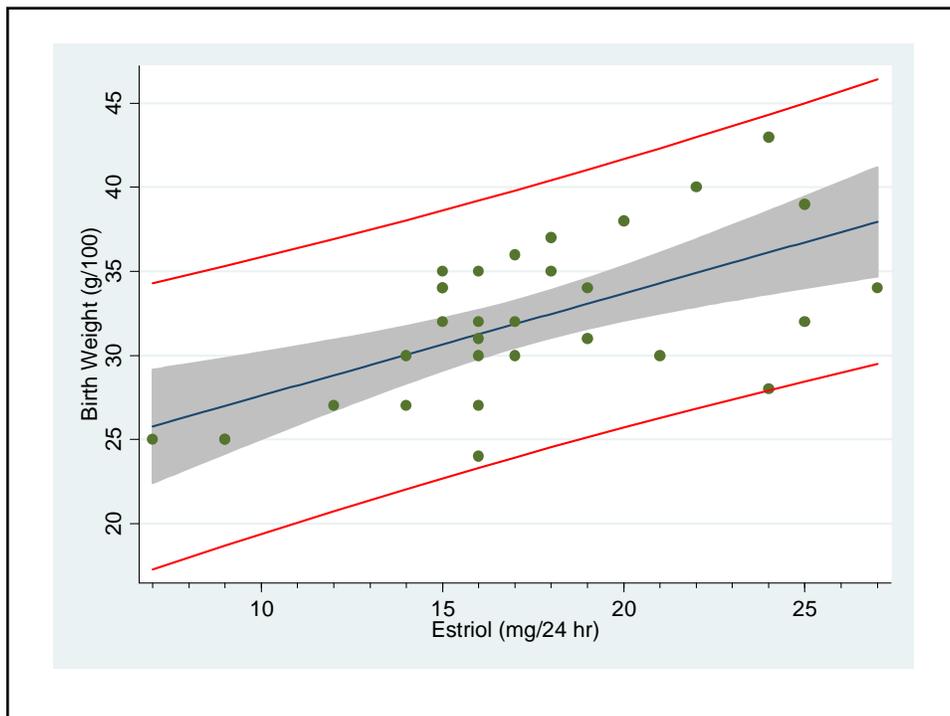
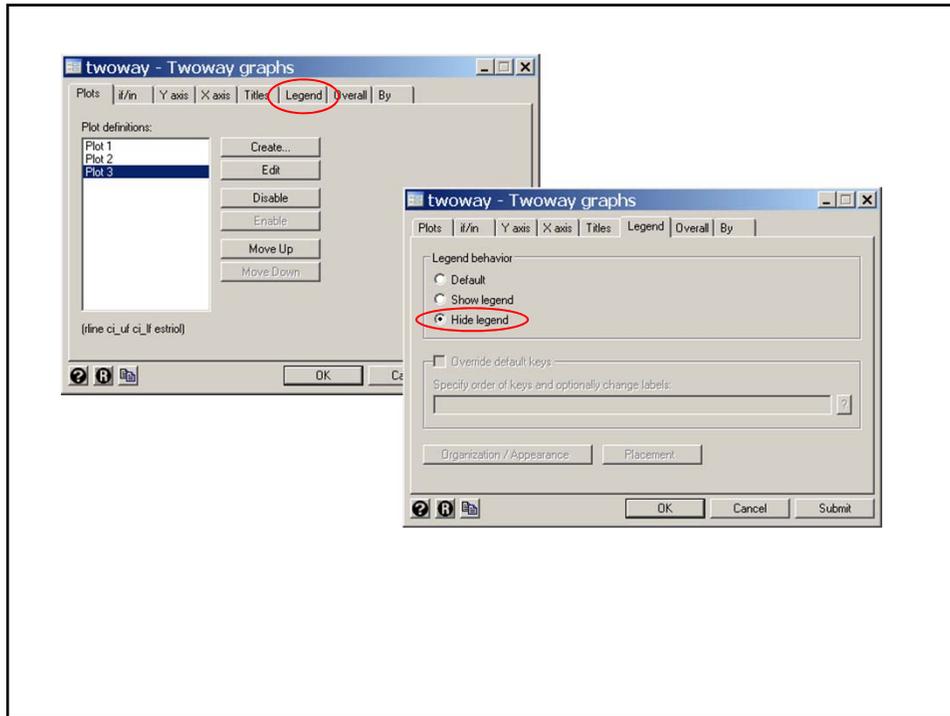
**{2}** `rline` plots both *ci\_uf* and *ci\_lf* against *estriol*.

`color` specifies the color of the plotted lines.

When plotting non-linear lines, it is important that the data be sorted by the *x*-variable.

**{3}** `legend(off)` eliminates the legend from the graph





## 15. Lowess Regression

Linear regression is a useful tool for describing a relationship that is linear, or approximately linear. It has the disadvantage that the linear relationship is assumed *a priori*. It is often useful to fit a line through a scatterplot that does not make any model assumptions. One such technique is **lowess regression**, which stands for locally weighted scatterplot smoothing. The idea is that for each observation  $(x_i, y_i)$  is fitted to a **separate linear regression** line based on adjacent observations. These points are **weighted** so that the farther away the  $x$  value is from  $x_i$ , the less effect it has on determining the estimate of  $\hat{y}_i$ . The proportion of the total data set considered for each  $\hat{y}_i$  is called the **bandwidth**. In Stata the default bandwidth is 0.8, which works well for small data sets. For **larger data sets** a bandwidth of **0.3 or 0.4** usually works better.

On large data sets lowess is computationally intensive.

## 16. Plotting a Lowess Regression Curve in Stata

We can now compare the lowess and linear curves.

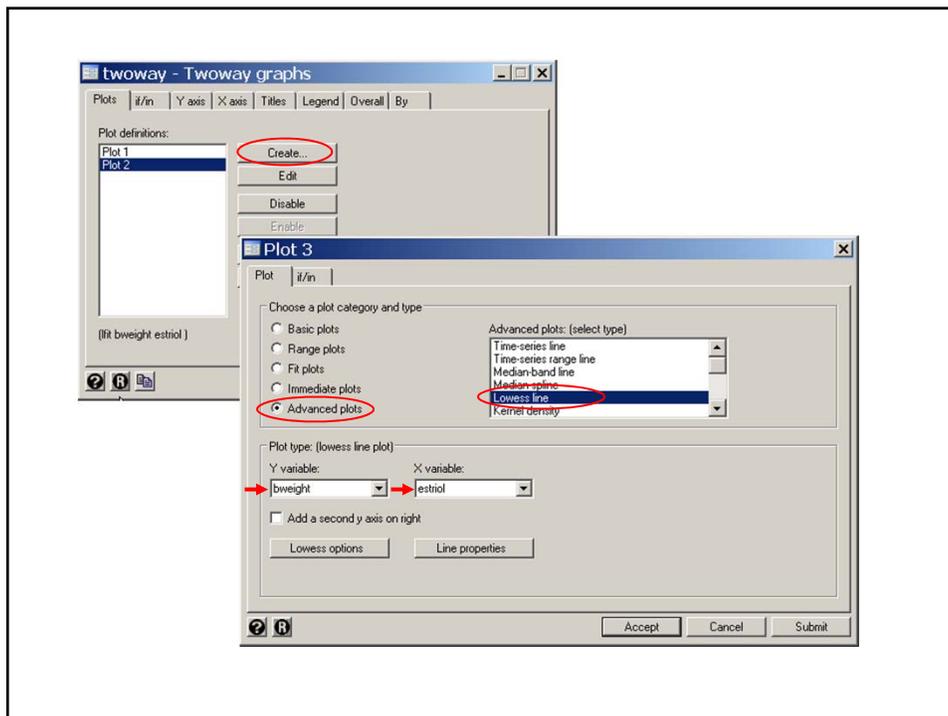
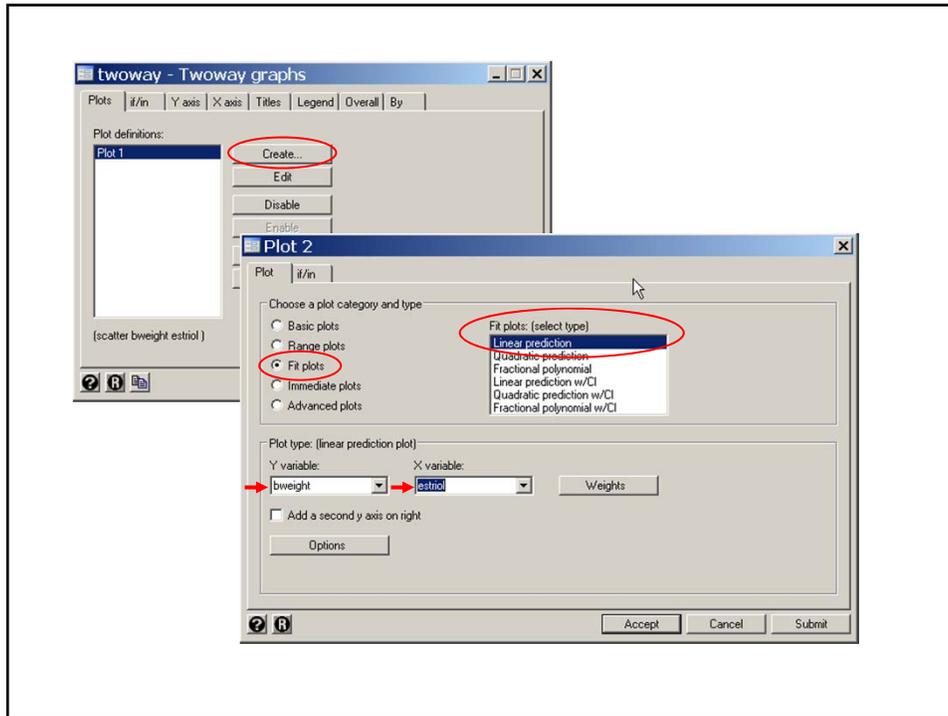
The listing of *Birth\_Weight.LR.log* continues as follows

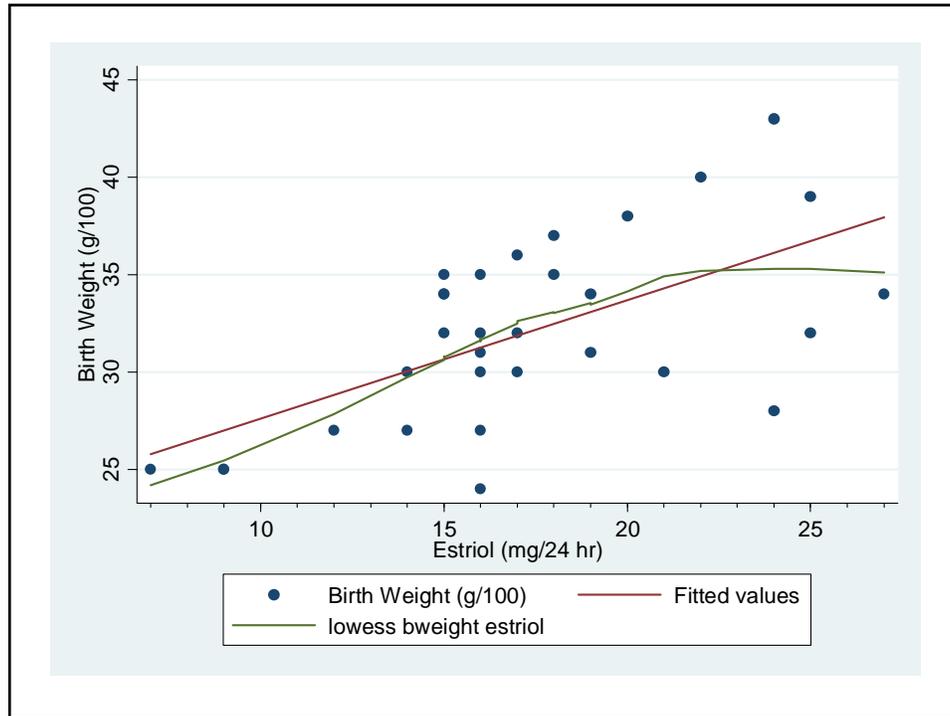
```
.twoway scatter bweight estriol          ///
>      || lfit bweight estriol          /// {1}
>      || lowess bweight estriol , bwidth(.8)  /// {2}
>      , xlabel(10 (5) 25) xmtick(7 (1) 27) ytitle("Birth Weight (g/100)")
```

**{1}** This **lfit** command plots the linear regression line for *bweight* against *estriol*.

**{2}** This **lowess** command plots the lowess regression line for *bweight* against *estriol*. *bwidth(.8)* specifies a bandwidth of .8

This comparison suggests that the linear model is fairly reasonable.





**17. Residuals, Standard Error Of Residuals, And Studentized Residuals**

The residual  $e_i = y_i - (a + bx_i)$   
has variance  $\text{var}(e_i) = s^2 - \text{var}(\hat{y}(x))$

The **Standardized residual** corresponding to the point

$$(x_i, y_i) \text{ is } e_i / \sqrt{s^2 - \text{var}(\hat{y}(x))} \quad \{1.11\}$$

A problem with Equation {1.11} is that a single large residual can

- Inflate the value of  $s^2$
- Decrease the size of the standardized residuals
- Can pull  $\hat{y}(x_i)$  towards  $y_i$

To avoid this problem, we usually calculate the **studentized residual**

$$t_i = e_i / s_{(i)} \sqrt{1 - h_i} \quad \{1.12\}$$

where  $s_{(i)}$  denotes the root MSE estimate of  $\sigma$  with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  case deleted and

$$h_i = \text{var}(\hat{y}(x)) / s_{(i)}^2$$

is the variance of  $\hat{y}(x)$  measured in units of  $s_{(i)}^2$ .  $h_i$  is called the **leverage** of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  observation.

$t_i$  is sometimes referred to as the **jackknife residual**

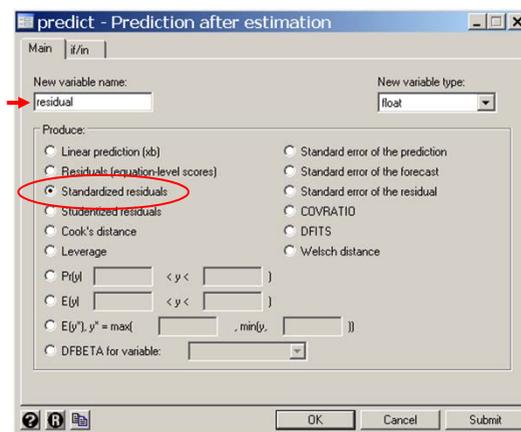
Plotting these studentized residuals against  $x_i$  assesses the homoscedasticity assumption.

The listing of *Birth\_Weight.LR.log* continues as follows

```
. predict residual, rstudent
```

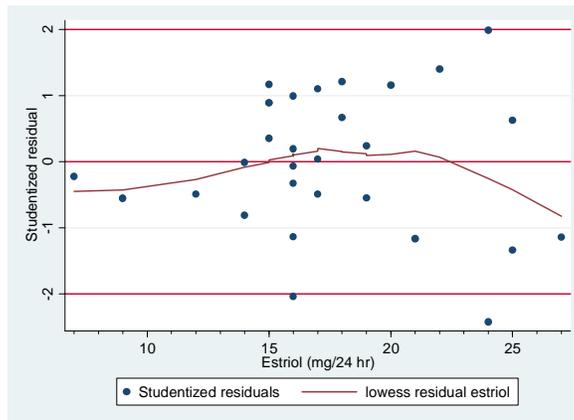
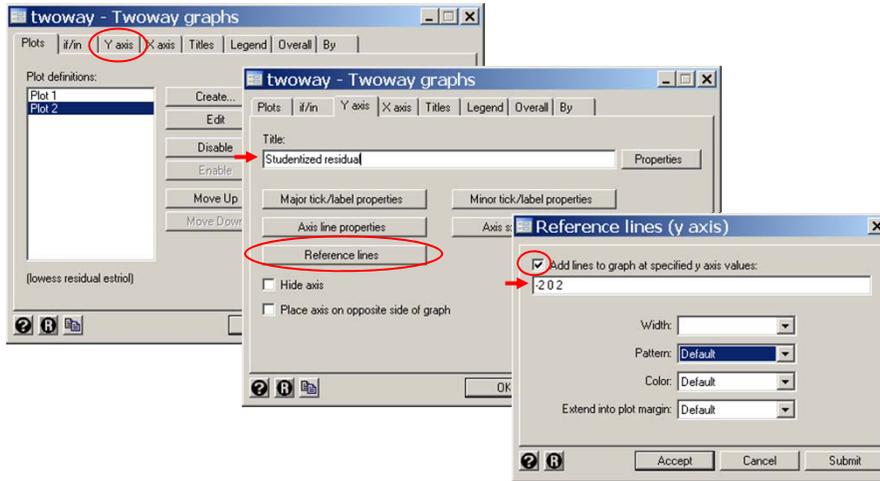
{1}

{1} Define *residual* to be a new variable that equals the studentized residual.



```
. twoway scatter residual estriol          ///  
> || lowess residual estriol           ///  
> , ylabel(-2 (1) 2) yline(-2 0 2) xlabel(10 (5) 25)  /// {2}  
> xmtick(7 (1) 27)
```

{2} The *yline* option adds horizontal grid lines at specified values on the y-axis.



This graph hints at a slight **departure from linearity** for large estriol levels. There is also a slight suggestion of **increasing variance** with increasing estriol levels, although the dispersion is fairly uniform if you disregard the patients with the lowest three values of estriol. Three of 31 residuals (**9.6%**) have a magnitude of 2 or greater. A large data set from a true linear model should have **5%** of their residuals outside this range.

**18. Variance Stabilizing Transformations**

a) **Square root transform**

Useful when the residual variance is proportional to the expected value.

b) **Log transform**

Useful when the residual standard deviation is proportional to the expected value.

**N.B.** Transformations that stabilize variance may cause non-linearity. In this case it may be necessary to use a non-linear regression technique.

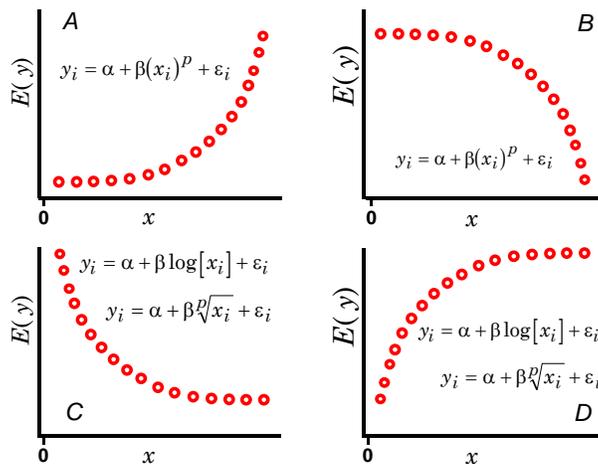
**19. Normalizing the Data Distribution**

For skewed data we can often improve the quality of our model fit by transforming the data to give the residuals a more normal distribution.

For example, log transforms can normalize data that is right skewed.

The figure shows common patterns on non-linearity between  $x$  and  $y$  variables.

**20. Correcting for Non-linearity**



If  $x$  is positive then models of the form

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta(x_i)^p + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.13\}$$

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta \log[x_i] + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.14\}$$

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta \sqrt[p]{x_i} + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.15\}$$

should be considered for some  $p > 1$ .

Data similar to panels A and B of this figure may be modeled with equation {1.13}

If  $x$  is positive then models of the form

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta(x_i)^p + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.13\}$$

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta \log[x_i] + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.14\}$$

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta \sqrt[p]{x_i} + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.15\}$$

should be considered for some  $p > 1$ .

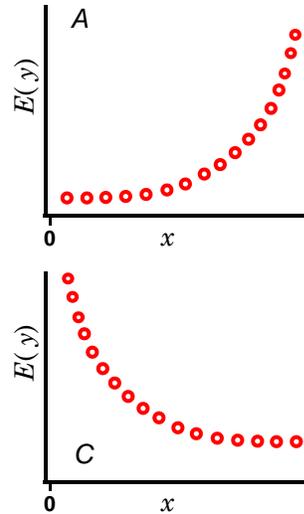
Data similar to panels C and D may be modeled with equations {1.14} and {1.15}.

The best value of  $p$  is found empirically.

Alternately, data similar to panels A or C may be modeled with

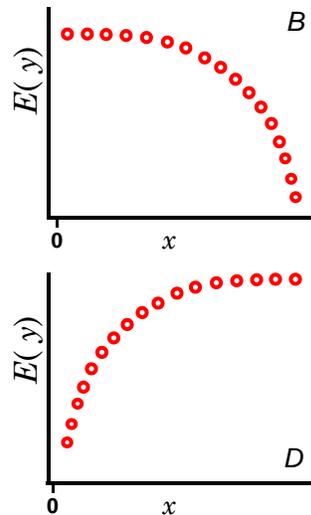
$$\log[y_i] = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.16\}$$

$$\text{or } \sqrt[k]{y_i} = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.17\}$$



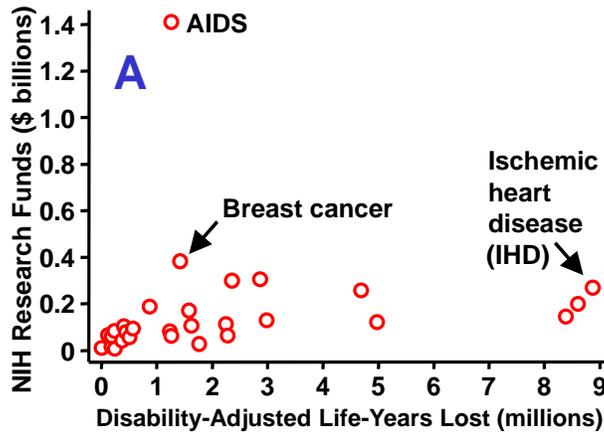
Data similar to panels B or D may be modeled with

$$y_i^p = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i \quad \{1.18\}$$

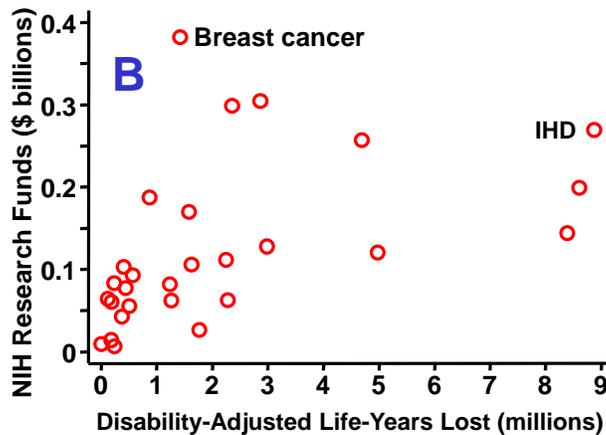


**21. Example: Research Funding and Morbidity for 29 Diseases**

Gross et al. (1999) studied the relationship between NIH research funding for 29 different diseases and disability-adjusted person-years of life lost due to these illnesses.

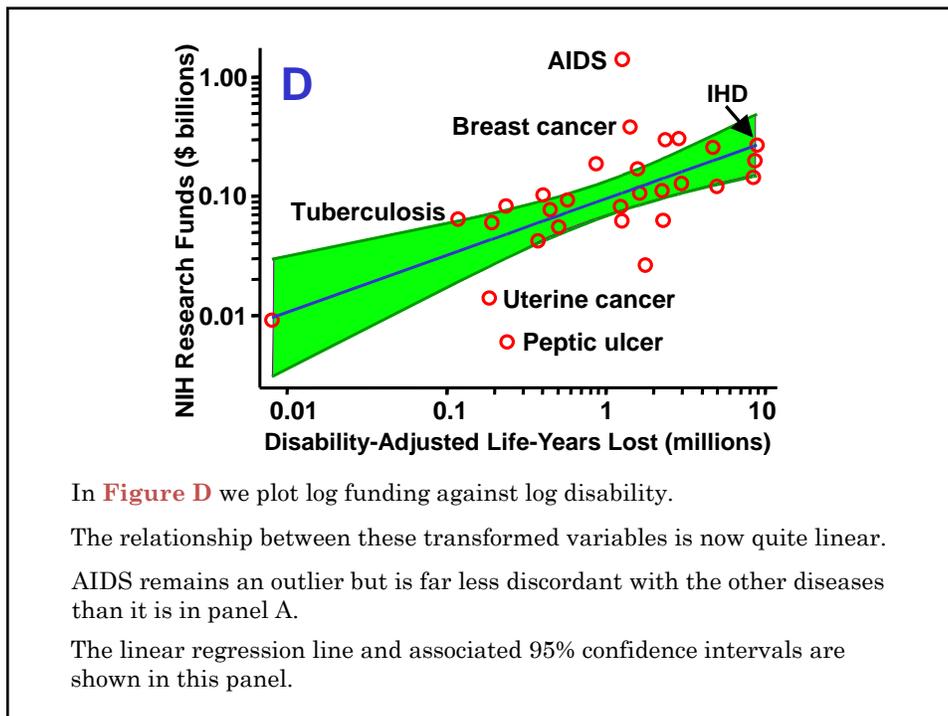
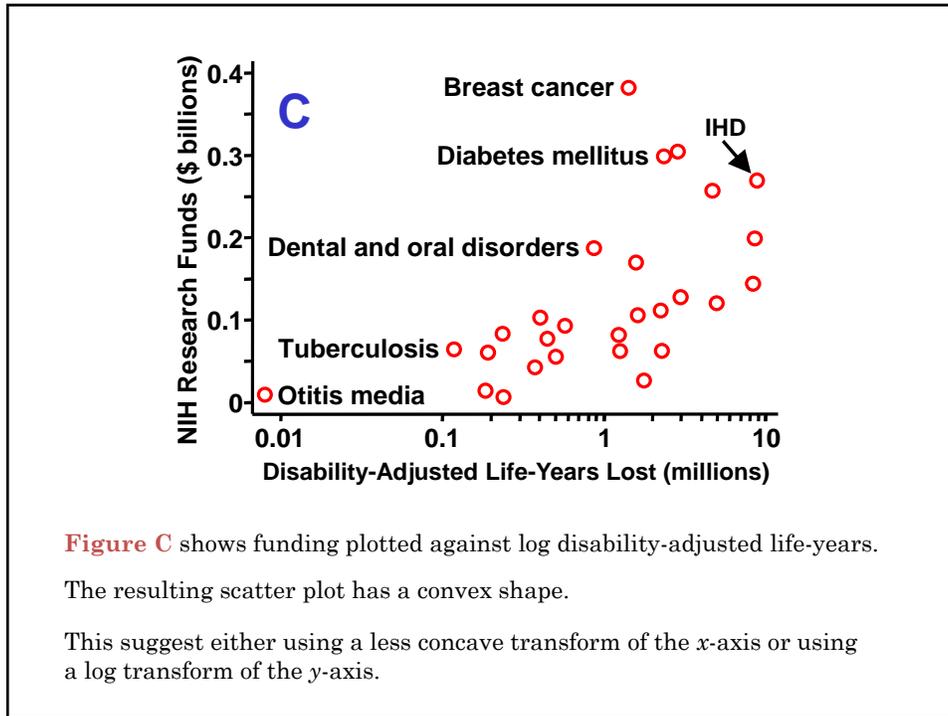


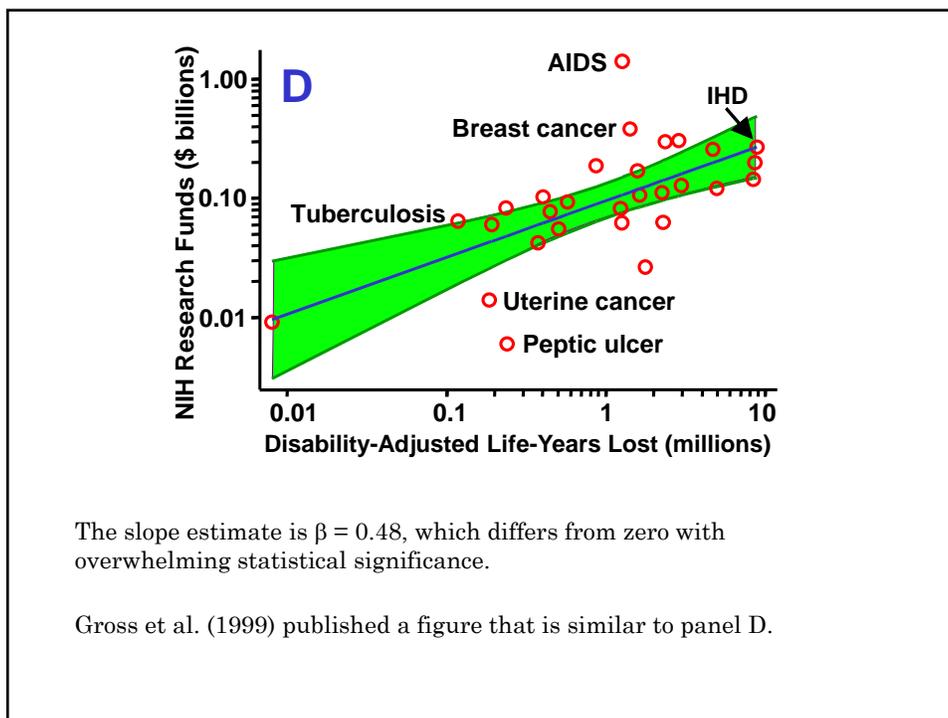
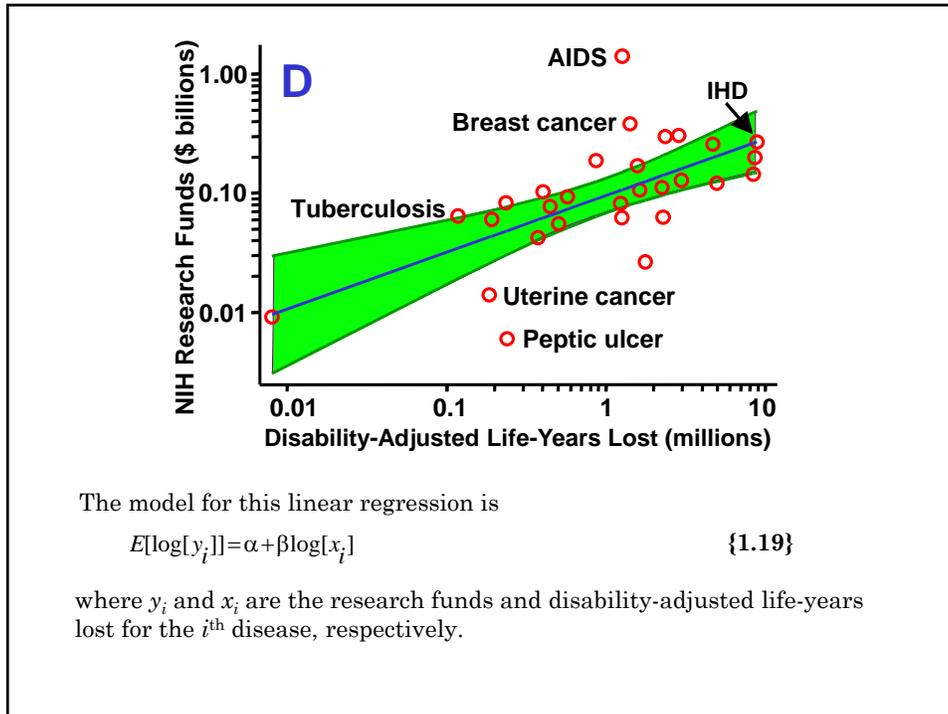
**Figure A** shows the untransformed scatter plot. Funding for AIDS is 3.7 times higher than for any other disease

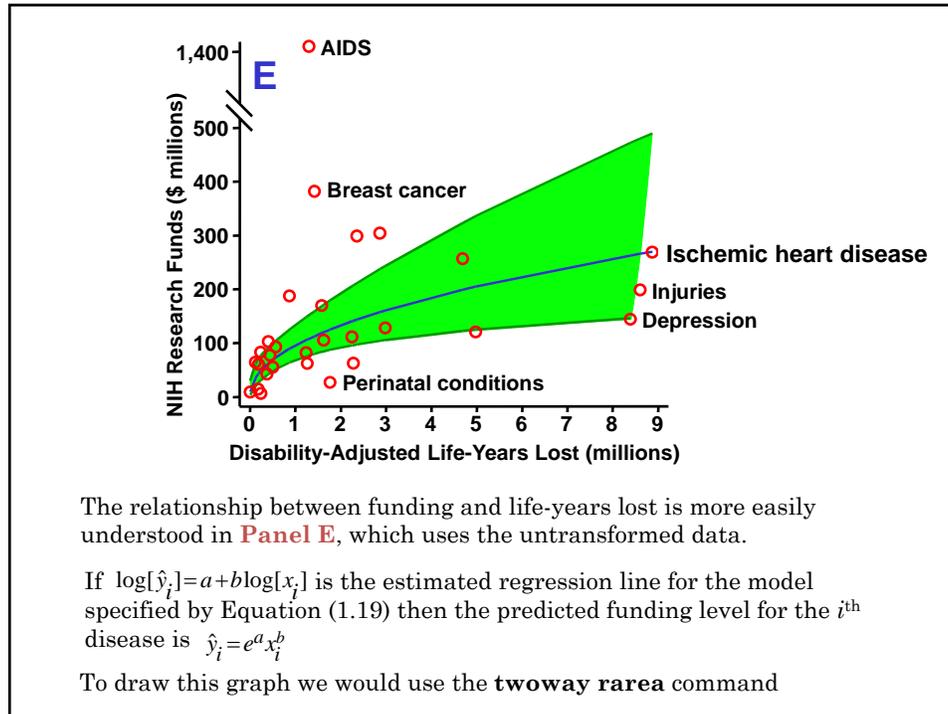


**Figure B** is similar to panel A except the AIDS data has been deleted and the y-axis has been re-scaled.

This scatter plot has a concave shape, which suggest using a log or power transform (equations 1.14 or 1.15).







## 22. Testing the Equality of Regression Slopes

Suppose that  $y_{i1} = \alpha_1 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \varepsilon_{i1}$  and

$$y_{i2} = \alpha_2 + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \varepsilon_{i2}$$

where  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  is assumed to be normally and independently distributed with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma$ .

We wish to test the null hypothesis that  $\beta_1 = \beta_2$ .

The pooled estimate of  $\sigma^2$  is

$$s^2 = [\sum_1 (y_{i1} - \hat{y}_1(x_{i1}))^2 + \sum_2 (y_{i2} - \hat{y}_2(x_{i2}))^2] / (n_1 + n_2 - 4)$$

$$= (s_1^2(n_1 - 2) + s_2^2(n_2 - 2)) / (n_1 + n_2 - 4) \quad \{1.20\}$$

Since  $s_1^2 = \sum_1 (y_{i1} - \hat{y}_1(x_{i1}))^2 / (n_1 - 2)$  and  $s_2^2 = \sum_2 (y_{i2} - \hat{y}_2(x_{i2}))^2 / (n_2 - 2)$

$$\text{var}(b_1 - b_2) = s^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{\sum_1 (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2} + \frac{1}{\sum_2 (x_{i2} - \bar{x}_2)^2} \right\} \quad \{1.21\}$$

But  $\text{var}(b_1) = s_1^2 / \sum_1 (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2$  and hence

$$\sum_1 (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2 = s_1^2 / \text{var}(b_1)$$

Therefore  $\text{var}(b_1 - b_2) = s^2(\text{var}(b_1)/s_1^2 + \text{var}(b_2)/s_2^2)$

$$t = (b_1 - b_2) / \sqrt{\text{var}(b_1 - b_2)} \quad \{1.22\}$$

has a  $t$  distribution with  $n_1 + n_2 - 4$  degrees of freedom.

A 95% CI for  $\beta_1 - \beta_2$  is  $(b_1 - b_2) \pm t_{n_1+n_2-4, 0.025} \sqrt{\text{var}(b_1 - b_2)}$

To compute the preceding statistic we run two separate linear regressions on group 1 and 2.

For group 1,  $s_1$  is the root MSE and  $\sqrt{\text{var}(b_1)}$  is the standard error of the slope estimate.

$s_2$  and  $\text{var}(b_2)$  are similarly defined for group 2.

Substituting these values into the formulas from the previous slide gives the required test.

### 23. Comparing Linear Regression Slopes with Stata

```
* FramSBPbmiSex.log
*
* Regression of systolic blood pressure against
* body mass index for men and women in the
* Framingham Heart Study. (Levy 1999)
*
. use "c:\WDDtext\2.20.Framingham.dta", clear
. codebook sex {1}

sex ----- sex
      type: numeric (float)
      label: sex

      range: [1,2]          units: 1
unique values: 2          coded missing: 0 / 4699

      tabulation: Freq.  Numeric  Label
                  2049     1      Men
                  2650     2      Women
```

**{1}** The *codebook* command provides a summary of variables. *sex* takes numeric values 1 and 2 that denote men and women, respectively.



```
. regress sbp bmi if sex == 1 {2}
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	2047
Model	44504.0296	1	44504.0296	F( 1, 2045) =	121.09
Residual	751572.011	2045	367.516876	Prob > F =	0.0000
Total	796076.041	2046	389.088974	R-squared =	0.0559
				Adj R-squared =	0.0554
				Root MSE =	19.171

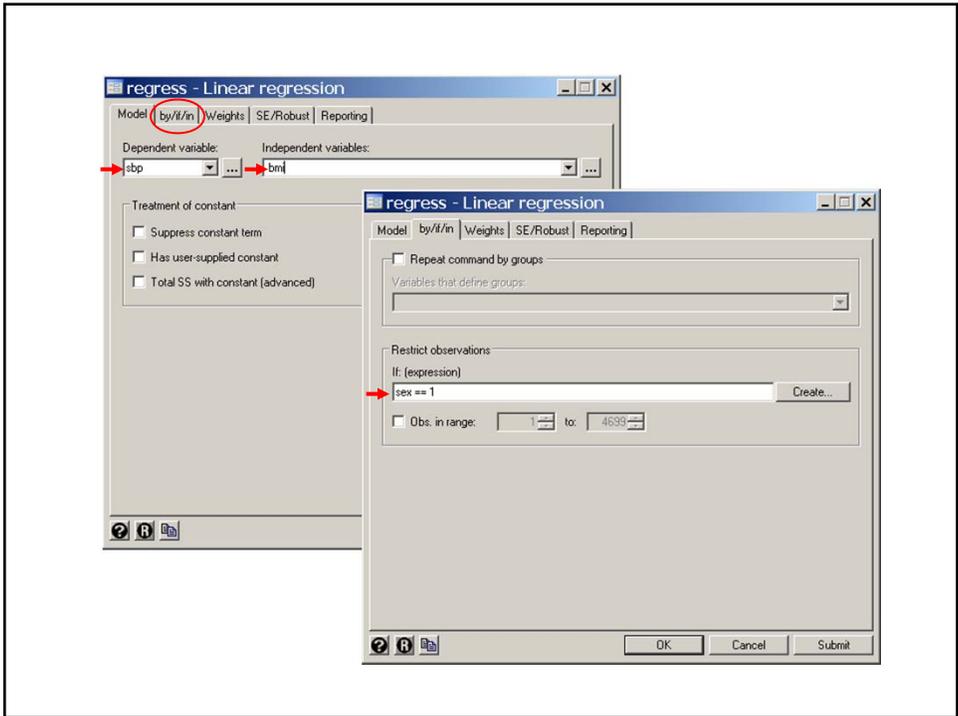
  

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
bmi	1.375953	.1250382	11.004	0.000	1.130738 1.621168
_cons	96.43061	3.272571	29.466	0.000	90.01269 102.8485

```
. predict yhatmen, xb  
(9 missing values generated)
```

Comment {2}

This command regresses *sbp* against *bmi* in men only. Note that Stata distinguishes between  $\alpha = 1$ , which assigns the value 1 to  $\alpha$ , and  $\alpha==1$  which is a logical expression that is true if the  $\alpha$  equals 1 and is false otherwise.



```
. regress sbp bmi if sex == 2
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 2643		
Model	229129.452	1	229129.452	F( 1, 2641)	=	428.48
Residual	1412279.85	2641	534.751932	Prob > F	=	0.0000
Total	1641409.31	2642	621.275286	R-squared	=	0.1396
				Adj R-squared	=	0.1393
				Root MSE	=	23.125

```
-----+-----
```

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	2.045966	.0988403	20.700	0.000	1.852154	2.239779
_cons	81.30435	2.548909	31.898	0.000	76.30629	86.30241

```
-----+-----
```

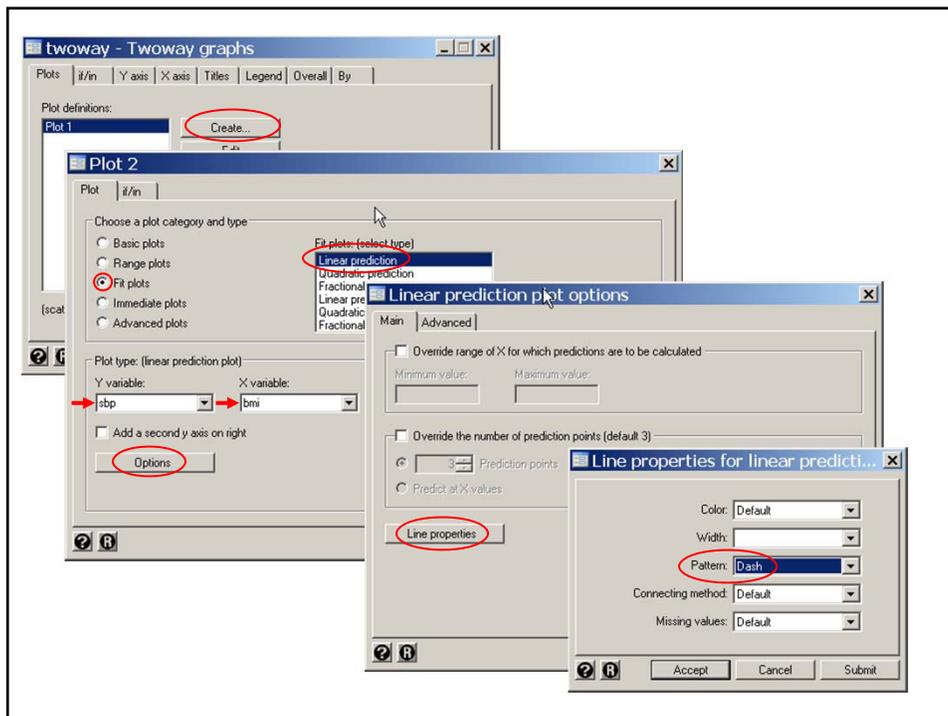
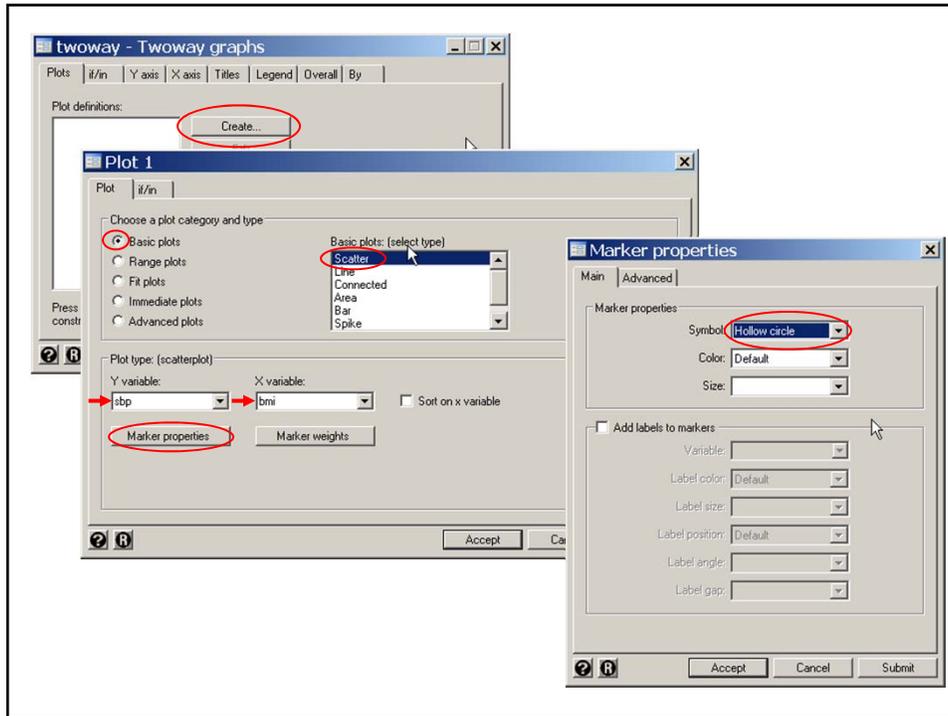
```
. predict yhatwom, xb
(9 missing values generated)
```

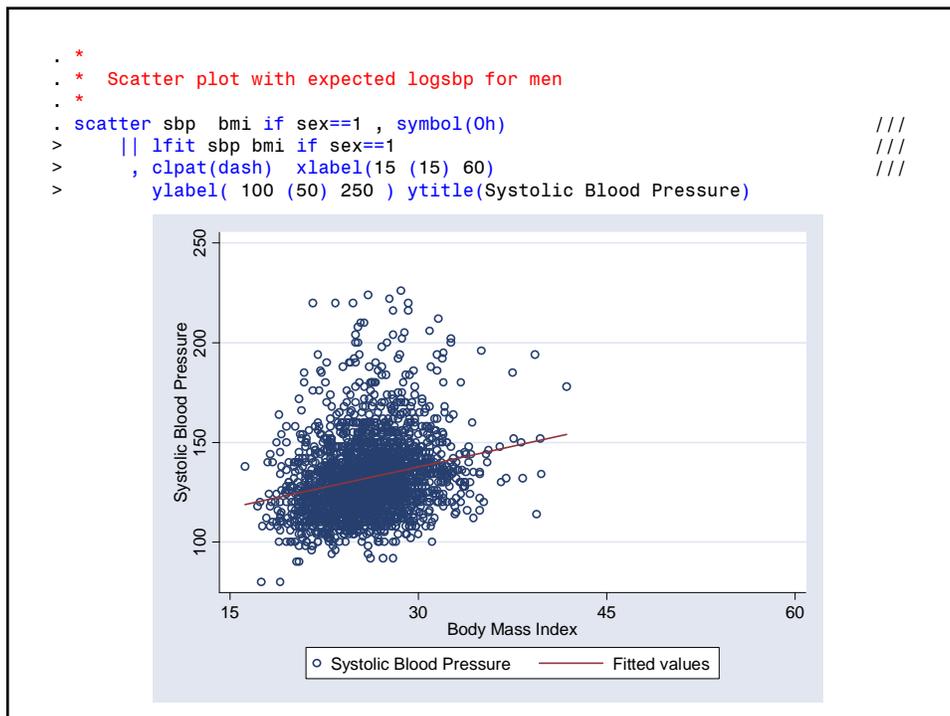
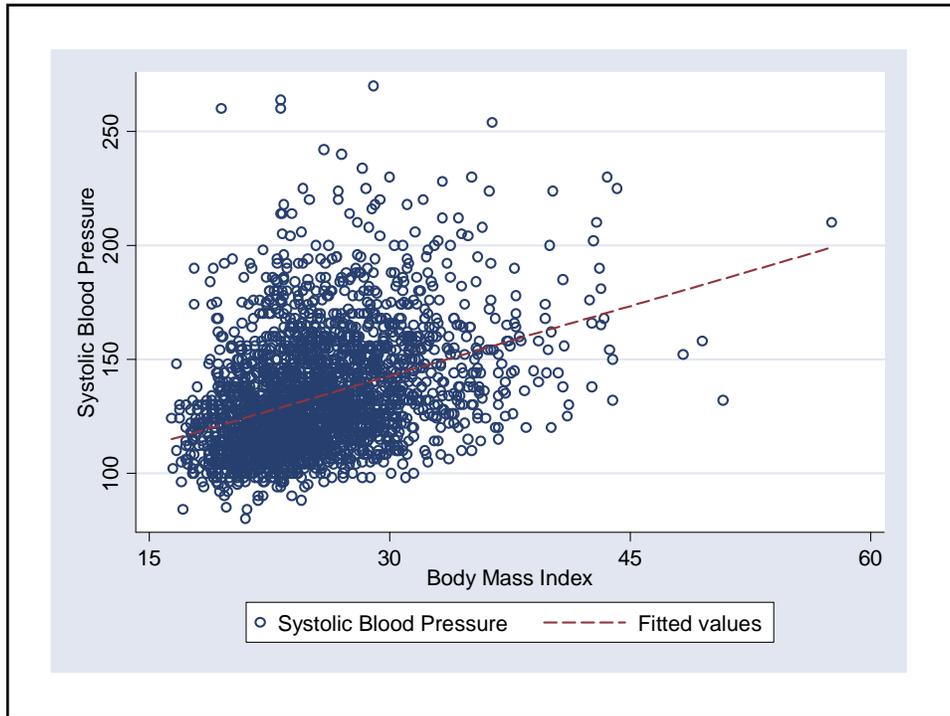
```
. sort bmi
```

```
. *
. * Scatter plot with expected sbp for women
. *
. scatter sbp bmi if sex==2 , symbol(Oh)           /// {1}
>   || lfit sbp bmi if sex==2                       ///
>   , lpattern(dash) xlabel(15 (15) 60)           /// {2}
>   ylabel( 100 (50) 250 ) ytitle(Systolic Blood Pressure)
```

**{1}** **symbol** specifies the marker symbol used to specify individual observations. **Oh** indicates that a hollow circle is to be used.

**{2}** **lpattern(dash)** specifies that a dashed line is to be drawn.





```
. scatter sbp bmi , symbol(Oh) color(gs10)           /// {1}
> || line yhatmen bmi if sex == 1, lwidth(medthick)  /// {2}
> || line yhatwom bmi, lwidth(medthick) lpattern(dash)  ///
> ||, by(sex) ytitle(Systolic Blood Pressure) xsize(8)  /// {3}
> ylabel( 100 (50) 250) ytick(75 (25) 225)           ///
> xtitle(Body Mass Index) xlabel( 15 (15) 60) xmtick(20 (5) 55)  ///
> legend(order(1 "Observed" 2 "Expected, Men" 3      /// {4}
>           "Expected, Women") rows(1))              {5}
```

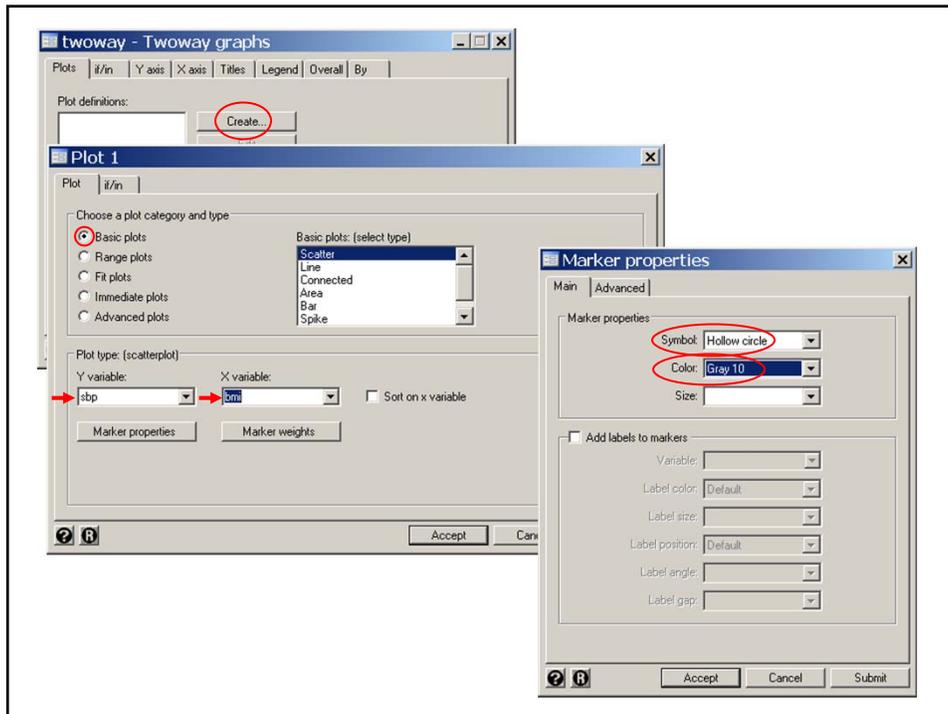
**{1} color** specifies the marker color used to specify individual observations. **gs10** indicates a gray is to be used. A gray scale of 0 is black; 16 is white.

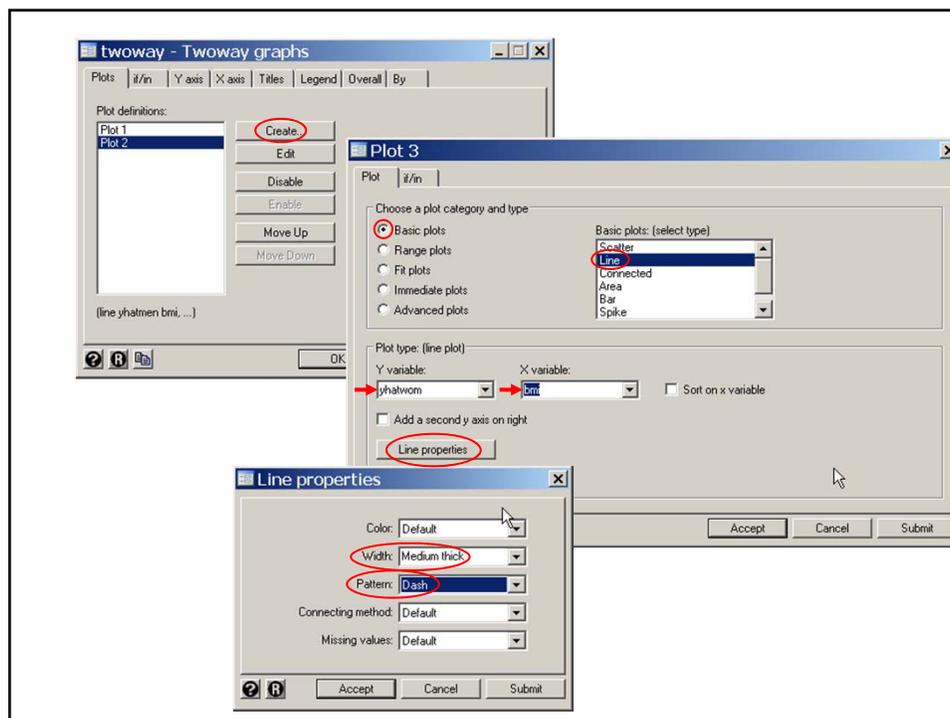
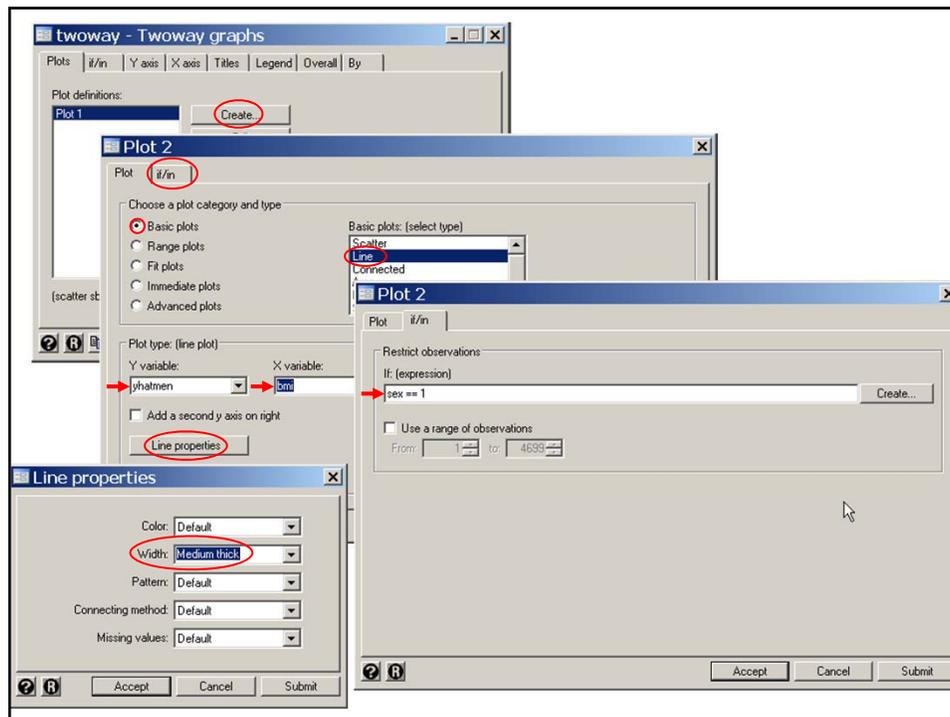
**{2} lwidth(medthick)** specifies width for the line

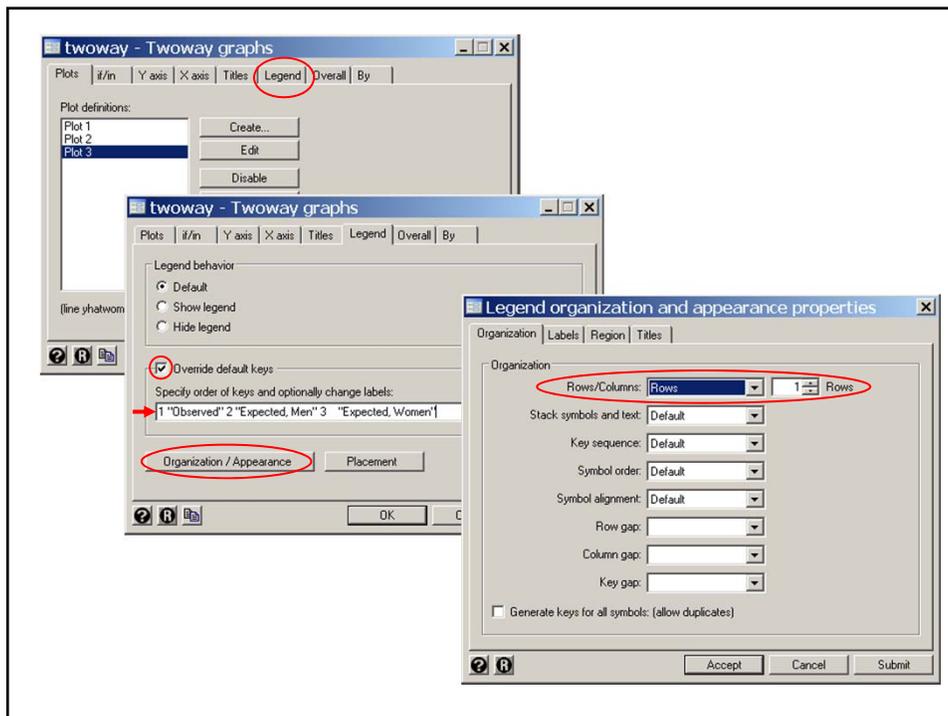
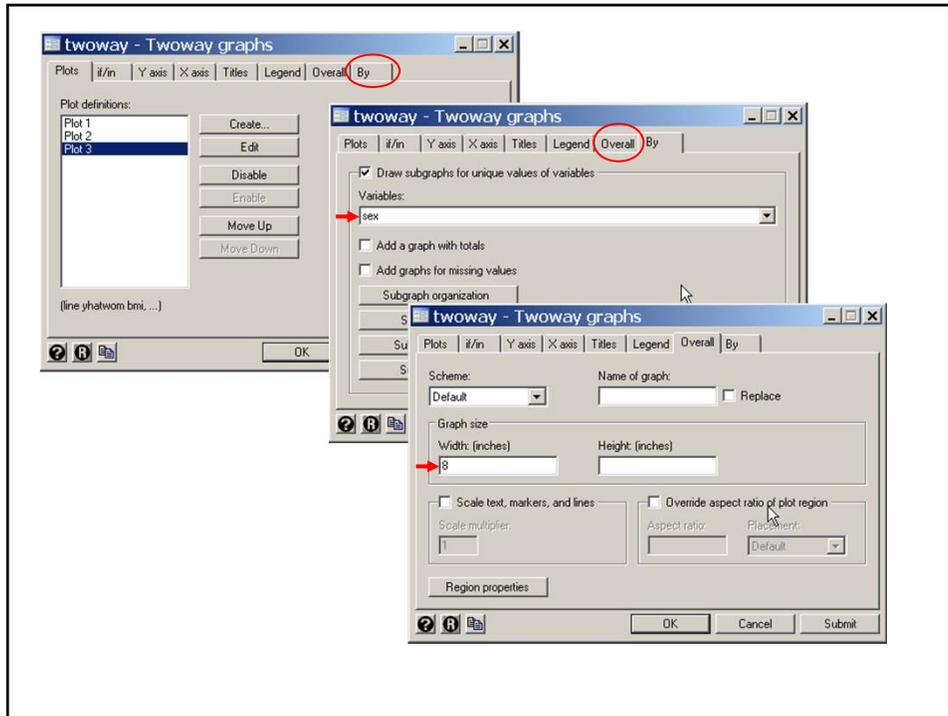
**{3} xsize** specifies the width of the graph in inches

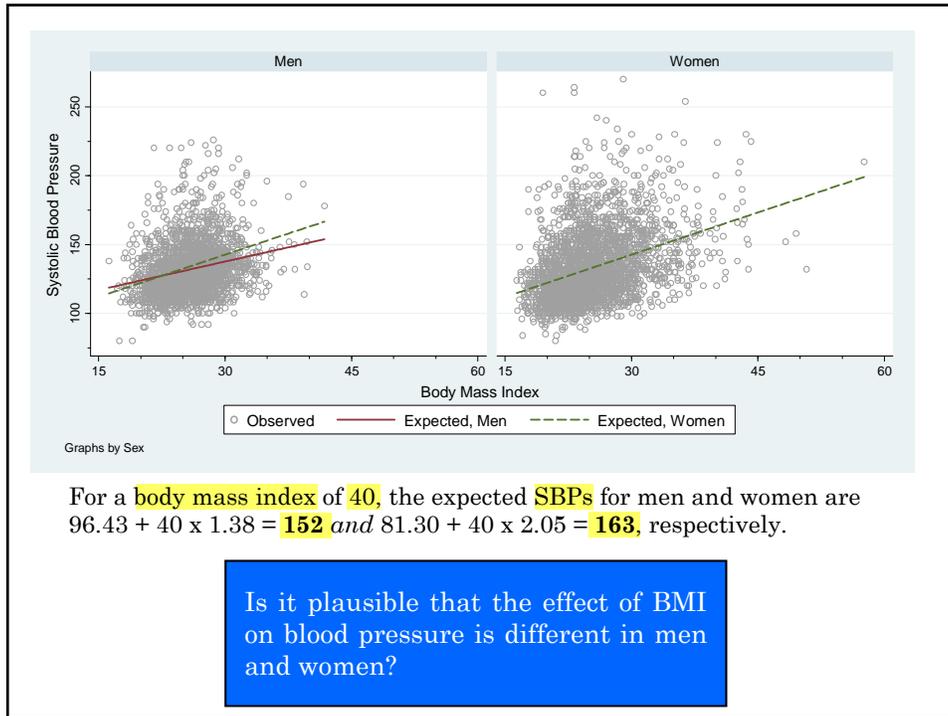
**{4} legend** controls the graph legend. **order** specifies the legend keys to be displayed and the labels assigned to these keys. The keys are indicated by the numbers 1, 2, 3, etc that are assigned in the order that they are defined.

**{5} rows(1)** specifies that we want the legend displayed in a single row









To test the equality of the slopes from the standard and experimental preparations, we note that

$$s^2 = (s_1^2(n_1 - 2) + s_2^2(n_2 - 2)) / (n_1 + n_2 - 4)$$

$$= \frac{367.52 \times (2047 - 2) + 534.75 \times (2643 - 2)}{2047 + 2643 - 4}$$

$$= 461.77$$

Men

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	44504.0296	1	44504.0296	Number of obs =	2047	
Residual	751572.011	2045	367.516876	F( 1, 2045) =	121.09	
Total	796076.041	2046	389.088974	Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.0559	
				Adj R-squared =	0.0554	
				Root MSE =	19.171	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	1.375953	.1250382	11.004	0.000	1.130738	1.621168
_cons	96.43061	3.272571	29.466	0.000	90.01269	102.8485

To test the equality of the slopes from the standard and experimental preparations, we note that

$$s^2 = (s_1^2(n_1 - 2) + s_2^2(n_2 - 2)) / (n_1 + n_2 - 4)$$

$$= \frac{367.52 \times (2047 - 2) + 534.75 \times (2643 - 2)}{2047 + 2643 - 4}$$

$$= 461.77$$

**Women**

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	229129.452	1	229129.452	Number of obs =	2643	
Residual	1412279.85	2641	534.751932	F( 1, 2641) =	428.48	
Total	1641409.31	2642	621.275286	Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.1396	
				Adj R-squared =	0.1393	
				Root MSE =	23.125	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	2.045966	.0988403	20.700	0.000	1.852154	2.239779
_cons	81.30435	2.548909	31.898	0.000	76.30629	86.30241

$$\sum_1 (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2 = s_1^2 / \text{var}(b_1) = 367.52 / 0.12504^2 = 23506$$

**Men**

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	44504.0296	1	44504.0296	Number of obs =	2047	
Residual	751572.011	2045	367.516876	F( 1, 2045) =	121.09	
Total	796076.041	2046	389.088974	Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.0559	
				Adj R-squared =	0.0554	
				Root MSE =	19.171	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	1.375953	.1250382	11.004	0.000	1.130738	1.621168
_cons	96.43061	3.272571	29.466	0.000	90.01269	102.8485

$$\sum_2 (x_{i2} - \bar{x}_2)^2 = s_2^2 / \text{var}(b_2) = 534.75 / 0.09884^2 = 54738$$

Women

Source	SS	df	MS	
Model	229129.452	1	229129.452	Number of obs = 2643
Residual	1412279.85	2641	534.751932	F( 1, 2641) = 428.48
Total	1641409.31	2642	621.275286	Prob > F = 0.0000
				R-squared = 0.1396
				Adj R-squared = 0.1393
				Root MSE = 23.125

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
bmi	2.045966	.0988403	20.700	0.000	1.852154 2.239779
_cons	81.30435	2.548909	31.898	0.000	76.30629 86.30241

$$\text{var}(b_1 - b_2) = s^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{\sum_1 (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2} + \frac{1}{\sum_2 (x_{i2} - \bar{x}_2)^2} \right\}$$

$$= 461.77 \times (1/23506 + 1/54738) = 0.02808$$

$$t = (1.3760 - 2.0460) / \sqrt{0.02808}$$

$$= -4.00 \text{ with } 4686 \text{ degrees of freedom. } P = 0.00006$$

$$= 2 \times \text{ttail}(4686, 4)$$

A 95% CI for  $b_1 - b_2$  is

$$1.3760 - 2.0460 \pm t_{4686, 0.025} \sqrt{0.02808}$$

$$= -0.67 \pm 1.96 \times 0.1676$$

$$= (-1.0, -0.34)$$

#### 24. Analyzing Subsets in Stata

The previous example illustrated how to restrict analyses to a subgroup such as men or women. This can be extended to more complex selections. Suppose that *sex* = 1 for males, 2 for females and that *age* = 1 for people < 10 years old,  
= 2 for people 10 to 19 years old, and  
= 3 for people  $\geq 20$  years old. Then

`sex==2 & age != 2` selects females who are not 10 to 19 years old. If there are no missing values this is equivalent to  
`sex==2 & (age==1 | age == 3)`  
`sex==1 | age==3` selects all men plus all women  $\geq 20$ .

Logical expressions may be used to define new variables (*generate* command), to drop records from the data set (*keep* or *drop* command) or to restrict the data used by analysis commands such as *regress*.

Logical expressions evaluate to 1 if true, 0 if false. Stata considers any non-zero value to be true.

Logical expressions may be used to keep or drop observations from the data. For example

```
. keep sex == 2 & age == 1
```

will keep young females and drop all other observations from memory

```
. drop sex == 2 | age == 1
```

will drop women and young people keeping males  $\geq 10$  years old.

```
. regress sbp bmi if age == 1 | age == 3
```

will regress *sbp* against *bmi* for people who are less than 10 or at least 20 years of age.

**24. What we have covered.**

- ❖ Distinction between a parameter and a statistic
- ❖ The normal distribution
- ❖ Inference from a known sample about an unknown target population
- ❖ Simple linear regression: Assessing simple relationships between two continuous variables
- ❖ Interpreting the output from a linear regression program. Analyzing data with Stata
- ❖ Plotting linear regression lines with confidence bands
- ❖ Making inferences from simple linear regression models
- ❖ Lowess regression and residual plots. How do you know you have the right model?
- ❖ Transforming data to improve model fit
- ❖ Comparing slopes from two independent linear regressions

**Cited References**

- Greene JW, Jr., Touchstone JC. Urinary estriol as an index of placental function. A study of 279 cases. *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 1963;85:1-9.
- Gross, C. P., G. F. Anderson, et al. (1999). "The relation between funding by the National Institutes of Health and the burden of disease." *N Engl J Med* 340(24): 1881-7.
- Levy D, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute., Center for Bio-Medical Communication. *50 Years of Discovery : Medical Milestones from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Framingham Heart Study*. Hackensack, N.J.: Center for Bio-Medical Communication Inc.; 1999.
- Rosner B. *Fundamentals of Biostatistics. 6th ed.* Belmont CA: Danbury 2006

**For additional references on these notes see.**

- Dupont WD. *Statistical Modeling for Biomedical Researchers: A Simple Introduction to the Analysis of Complex Data. 2nd ed.* Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press; 2009.

## II. MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION

- ❖ Extend simple linear regression to models with multiple covariates
- ❖ Meaning of parameters in a multiple linear regression model
- ❖ Exploratory data analysis
  - Density distribution sunflower plots for displaying high density bivariate data
  - Matrix scatterplots
- ❖ Additive models and models with interaction terms
- ❖ Building and interpreting complex linear models
- ❖ Stepwise methods of building regression models
- ❖ Model validation: Evaluating residuals, leverage and influence
- ❖ Goodness of model fit vs. model complexity: Using AIC and BIC to choose a good model.
- ❖ Restricted cubic splines: Using multiple linear regression to model non-linear relationships between continuous variables.
- ❖ Calculating 95% confidence bands for regression curves from restricted cubic spline models.

© William D. Dupont, 2010, 2011

Use of this file is restricted by a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike license. 

See <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses> for details.

### 1. The Model

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k x_{ik} + \varepsilon_i$$

where

$\alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$  are unknown parameters,

$x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$  are known variables,

$\varepsilon_i$  are **independently** distributed and has a **normal** distribution with mean **0** and standard deviation  **$\sigma$** , and

$y_i$  is the value of the response variable for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient.

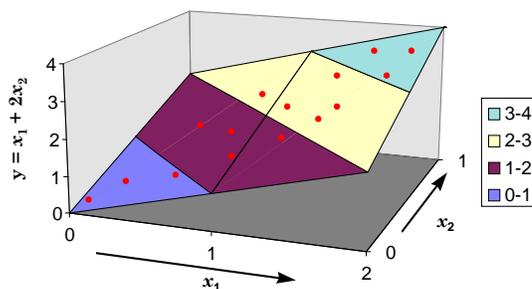
We usually assume that the patient's response  $y$  is causally related to the variables  $x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$  through the model. These latter variables are called **covariates** or **explanatory variables**;  $y$  is called the **dependent** or **response variable**.

## 2. Reasons for Multiple Linear Regression

### a) Adjusting for confounding variables

To investigate the effect of a variable on an outcome measure adjusted for the effects of other confounding variables.

- i)  $\beta_1$  estimates the rate of change of  $y_i$  with  $x_{i1}$  among patients with the same values of  $x_{i2}, x_{i3}, \dots, x_{ik}$ .
- ii) If  $y_i$  increases rapidly with  $x_{i1}$ , and  $x_{i1}$  and  $x_{i2}$  are highly correlated then the rate of increase of  $y_i$  with increasing  $x_{i1}$  when  $x_{i2}$  is held constant may be very different from this rate of increase when  $x_{i2}$  is not restrained.



**NOTE:** The model assumes that the rate of change of  $y_i$  with  $x_{i1}$  adjusted for  $x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$  is the same regardless of the values of these latter variables.

**b) Prediction**

To predict the value of  $y$  given  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$

**3. Estimating Parameters**

Let  $\hat{y}_i = a + b_1x_{i1} + b_2x_{i2} + \dots + b_kx_{ik}$  be the estimate of  $y_i$  given  $x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$ .

We estimate  $a, b_1, \dots, b_k$  by minimizing  $\sum (y - \hat{y})^2$

**4. Expected Response in the Multiple Model**

The expected value of both  $y_i$  and  $\hat{y}_i$  given her covariates is

$$E[y_i | \mathbf{x}_i] = E[\hat{y}_i | \mathbf{x}_i] = \alpha + \beta_1x_{i1} + \beta_2x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_kx_{ik}.$$

We estimate the expected value of  $y_i$  among subjects whose covariate values are identical to those of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient by  $\hat{y}_i$ . The equation

$$\hat{y}_i = a + b_1x_{i1} + b_2x_{i2} + \dots + b_kx_{ik}.$$

may be rewritten

$$\hat{y}_i = \bar{y} + b_1(x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1) + b_2(x_{i2} - \bar{x}_2) + \dots + b_k(x_{ik} - \bar{x}_k). \quad \{2.1\}$$

Thus,  $\hat{y}_i = \bar{y}$  when  $x_{i1} = \bar{x}_1, x_{i2} = \bar{x}_2, \dots$ , and  $x_{ik} = \bar{x}_k$ .

**5. Framingham Example: SBP, Age, BMI, Sex and Serum Cholesterol**

**a) Preliminary univariate analysis**

The Framingham data set contains data on 4,699 patients. On each patient we have the baseline values of the following variables:

*sbp* Systolic blood pressure in mm Hg.

*age* Age in years

*scl* Serum cholesterol in mg/100ml

*bmi* Body mass index in kg/m<sup>2</sup>

*sex*  $\begin{cases} 1 = \text{Men} \\ 2 = \text{Women} \end{cases}$

Follow-up information on coronary heart disease is also provided.

This data set is a subset of the 40 year data from the Framingham Heart Study that was conducted by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. Recruitment of patients started in 1948. At that time of the baseline exams there were no effective treatment for hypertension.

We first perform simple linear regressions of SBP on age, BMI, serum cholesterol.

```

. * FramSBPbmiMulti.log
. *
. * Framingham data set: Multiple regression analysis of the effect of bmi on
. * sbp (Levy 1999).
. *
. use "c:\WDDtext\2.20.Framingham.dta", clear
. regress sbp bmi

```

Source	SS	df	MS		Number of obs =
Model	262347.407	1	262347.407		4690
Residual	2176529.37	4688	464.276742		F( 1, 4688) = 565.07
Total	2438876.78	4689	520.127271		Prob > F = 0.0000
					R-squared = 0.1076
					Adj R-squared = 0.1074
					Root MSE = 21.547

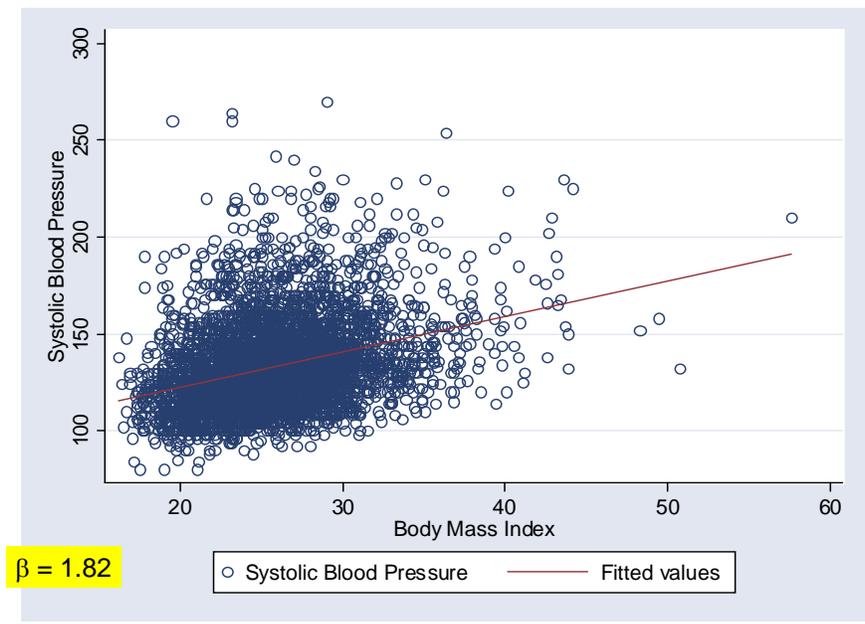
  

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
bmi	1.82675	.0768474	23.771	0.000	1.676093 1.977407
_cons	85.93592	1.9947	43.082	0.000	82.02537 89.84647

```

. scatter sbp bmi, symbol(Oh)
> || lfit sbp bmi, ytitle(Systolic Blood Pressure)

```



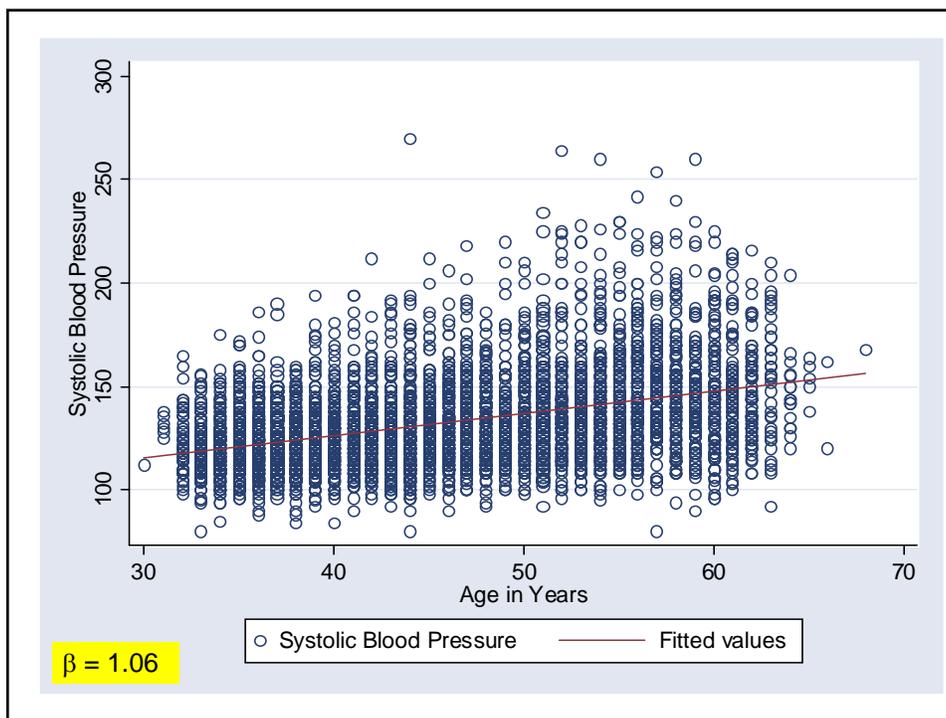
```

. regress sbp age

Source |      SS      df      MS                Number of obs =   4699
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
Model | 380213.315    1 380213.315          F( 1, 4697) = 865.99
Residual | 2062231.59 4697 439.052924          Prob > F      = 0.0000
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
Total | 2442444.90 4698 519.890358          R-squared     = 0.1557
                                           Adj R-squared = 0.1555
                                           Root MSE    = 20.954

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
sbp |      Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
age |  1.057829   .0359468    29.428  0.000   .9873561   1.128301
_cons | 84.06298   1.68302    49.948  0.000   80.76347   87.36249

. scatter sbp age, symbol(Oh)
> || lfit sbp age, ytitle(Systolic Blood Pressure)
    
```

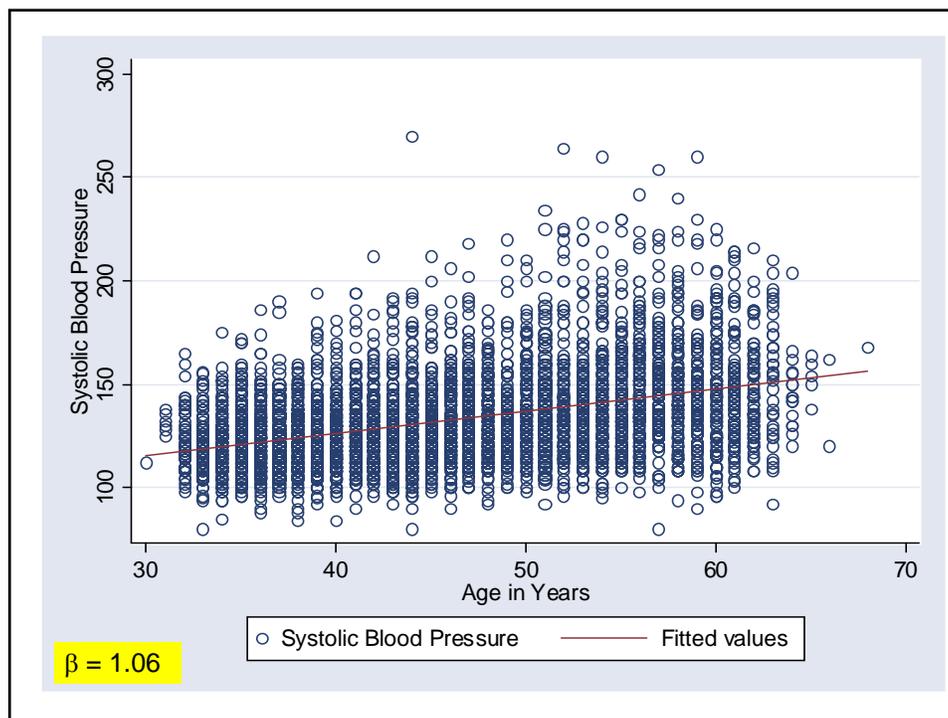


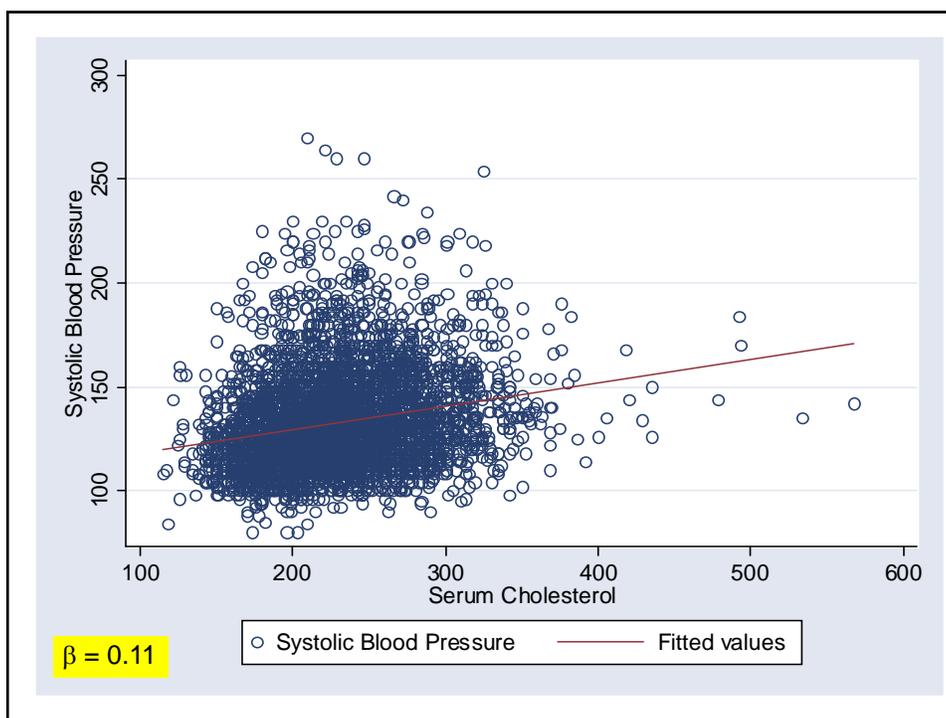


The univariate regressions show that *sbp* is related to *age* and *scl* as well as *bmi*. Although the statistical **significance** of the **slope coefficients** is overwhelming, the **R-squared** statistics are **low**. Hence, each of these risk factors individually only explain a modest proportion of the total variability in systolic blood pressure.

We would like better understanding of these relationships.

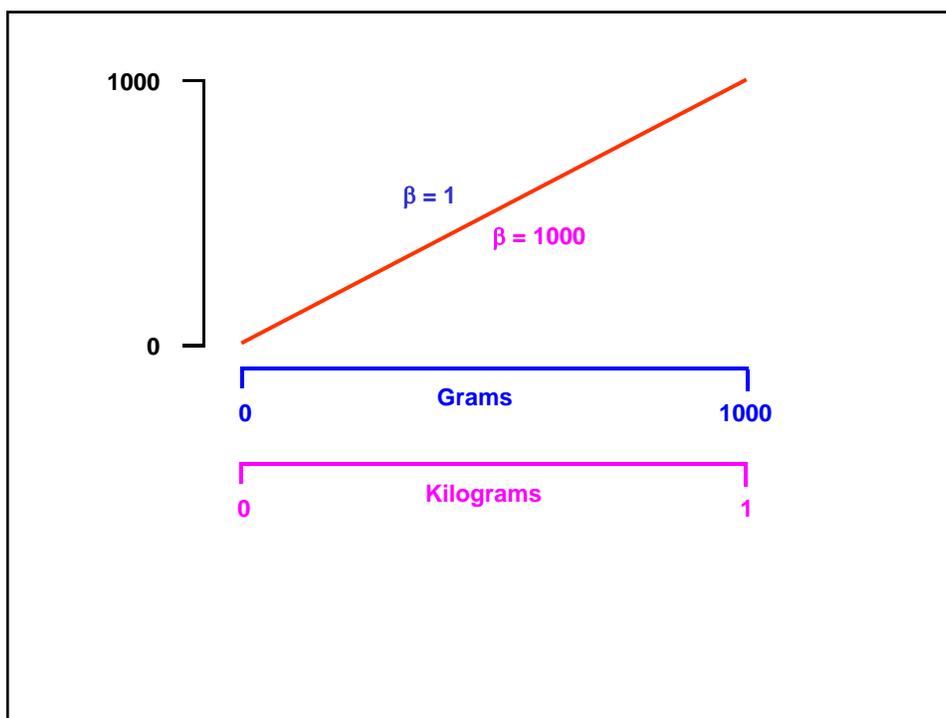
Note that the **importance of a parameter** depends not only on its **magnitude** but also on the **range** of the corresponding **covariate**. For example, the *scl* coefficient is only 0.11 as compared to 1.83 and 1.06 for *bmi* and *age*. However, the range of *scl* values is from 115 to 568 as compared to 16.2 - 57.6 for *bmi* and 30 - 68 for *age*. The large *scl* range increases the variation in *sbp* that is associated with *scl*.





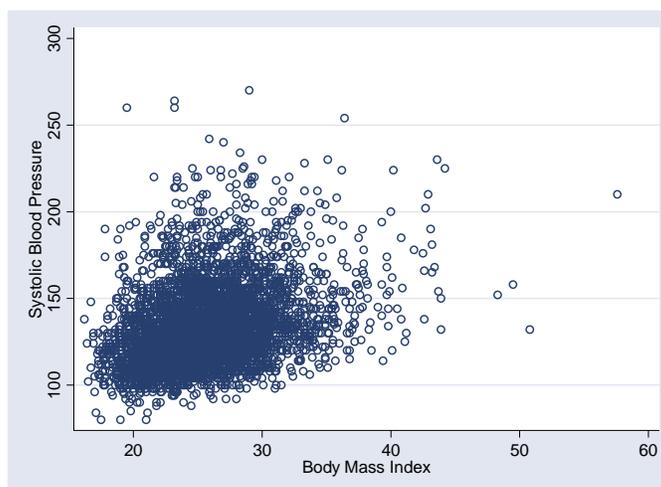
Changing the units of measurement of a covariate can have a dramatic effect on the size of the slope estimate, but no effect on its biologic meaning.

For example, suppose we regressed blood pressure against weight in grams. If we converted weight from grams to kilograms we would increase the magnitude of the slope parameter by 1,000 but would have no effect on the true relationship between blood pressure and weight.



### 6. Density Distribution Sunflower Plots

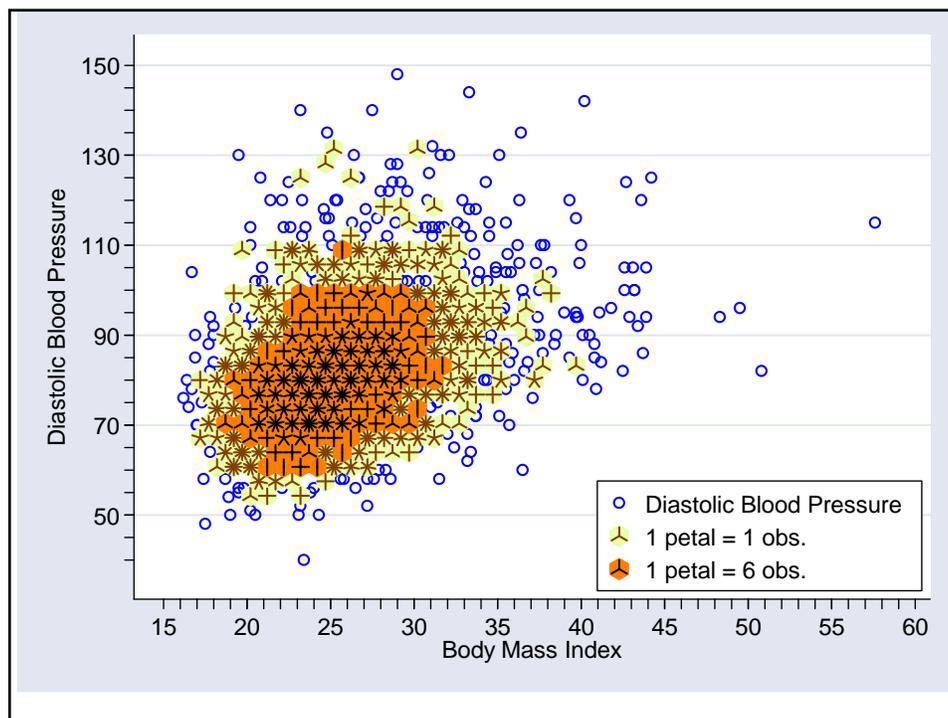
Scatterplots are a simple but informative tool for displaying the relationship between two variables. Their utility decreases when the density of observations makes it difficult to see individual observations.



A **density distribution sunflower plot** is an attempt to provide a better sense of a bivariate distribution when observations are densely packed.

Data points are represented in one of three ways depending on the density of observations.

- 1) **Low Density:**  
Small circles representing individual data points as in a conventional scatterplot.
- 2) **Medium Density:**  
light sunflowers.
- 3) **High Density:**  
dark sunflowers.



A sunflower is a number of short line segments radiating from a central point.

In a light sunflower each petal represents one observation.

In a dark sunflower, each petal represents  $k$  observations, where  $k$  is specified by the user.

The  $x$ - $y$  plane is divided into a lattice of hexagonal bins.

The user can control the bin width in the units of the  $x$ -axis and thresholds  $l$  and  $d$  that determine when light and dark sunflowers are drawn.

Whenever there are less than  $l$  data points in a bin the individual data points are depicted at their exact location.

When there are at least  $l$  but fewer than  $d$  data points in a bin they are depicted by a light sunflower.

When there are at least  $d$  observations in a bin they are depicted by a dark sunflower.

For more details see the Stata v8.2 online documentation on the sunflower command.

## 7. Creating Density Distribution Plots with Stata

```
. * FramSunflower.log
. *
. * Framingham data set: Exploratory analysis of sbp and bmi
. *
. set more on

. use "c:\WDDtext\2.20.Framingham.dta", clear

. * Graphics > Smoothing ... > Density-distribution sunflower plot
. sunflower sbp bmi {1}
Bin width = 1.15 {2}
Bin height = 11.8892 {3}
Bin aspect ratio = 8.95333
Max obs in a bin = 115
Light = 3 {4}
Dark = 13 {5}
X-center = 25.2
Y-center = 130
Petal weight = 9 {6}
```

{1} Create a sunflower plot of *sbp* by *bmi*. Let the program choose all default values. The resulting graph is given in the next slide.

{2} The default bin width is given in units of *x*. It is chosen to provide 40 bins across the graph.

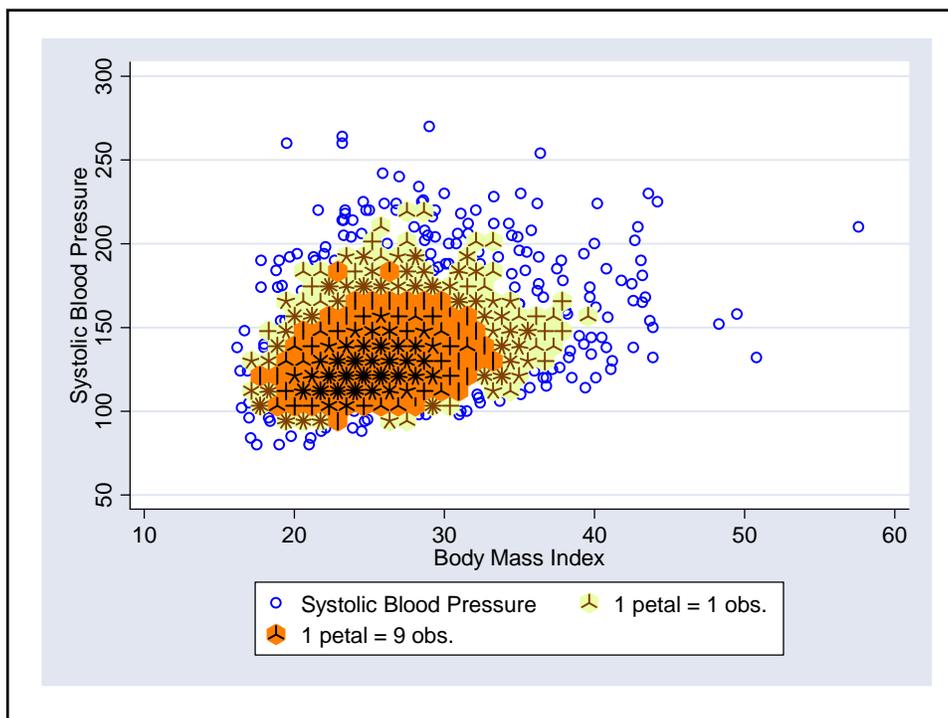
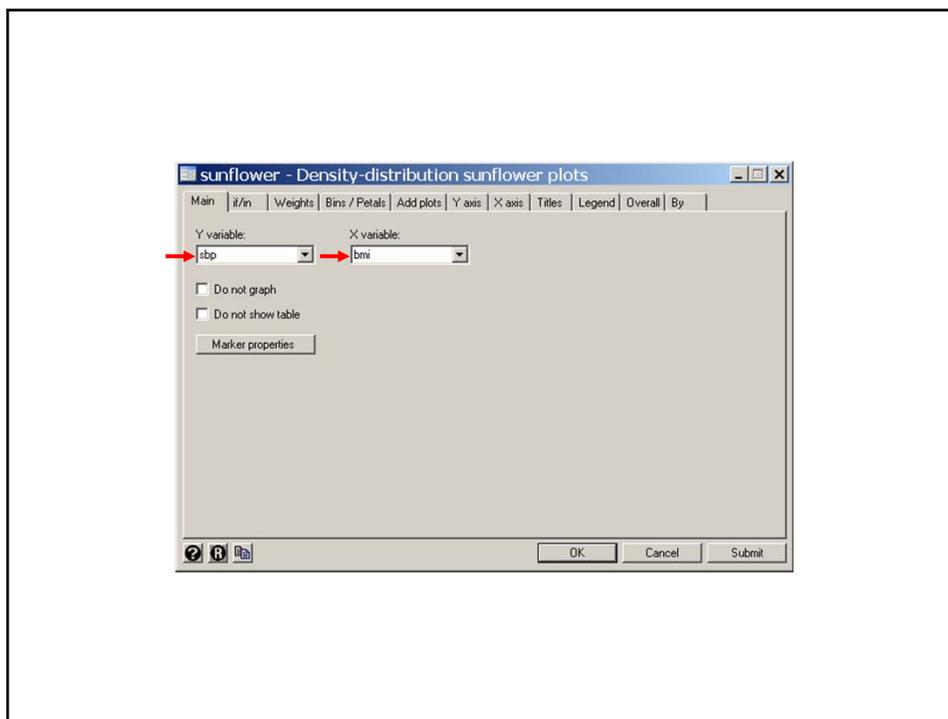
{3} The default bin height is given in units of *y*. It is chosen to make the bins regular hexagons on the graph.

{4} The default minimum number of observations in a light sunflower bin is 3

{5} The default minimum number of observations in a dark sunflower bin is 13

{6} The default petal weight for dark sunflowers is chosen so that the maximum number of petals in a dark sunflower is 14.

flower type	petal weight	No. of petals	No. of flowers	estimated obs.	actual obs.
none				171	171
light	1	3	20	60	60
light	1	4	11	44	44
light	1	5	11	55	55
light	1	6	8	48	48
light	1	7	9	63	63
light	1	8	5	40	40
light	1	9	7	63	63
light	1	10	4	40	40
light	1	11	3	33	33
light	1	12	4	48	48
dark	9	1	4	36	52
dark	9	2	21	378	381
dark	9	3	11	297	285
dark	9	4	14	504	497
dark	9	5	7	315	322
dark	9	6	4	216	214
dark	9	7	5	315	314
dark	9	8	4	288	296
dark	9	9	5	405	410
dark	9	10	3	270	269
dark	9	11	2	198	197
dark	9	12	4	432	445
dark	9	13	3	351	343
				4670	4690

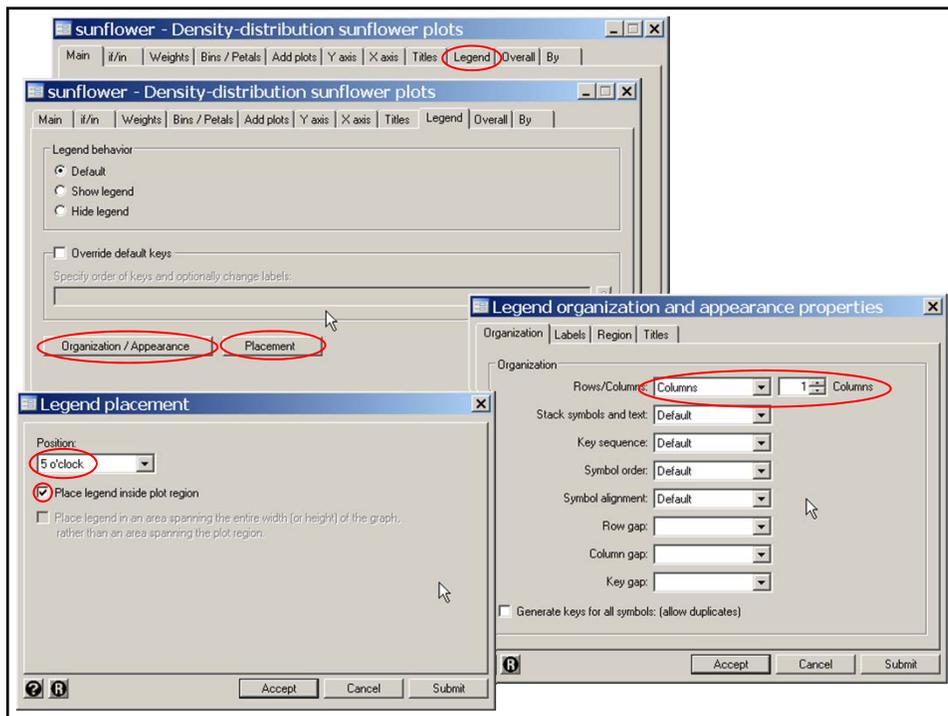
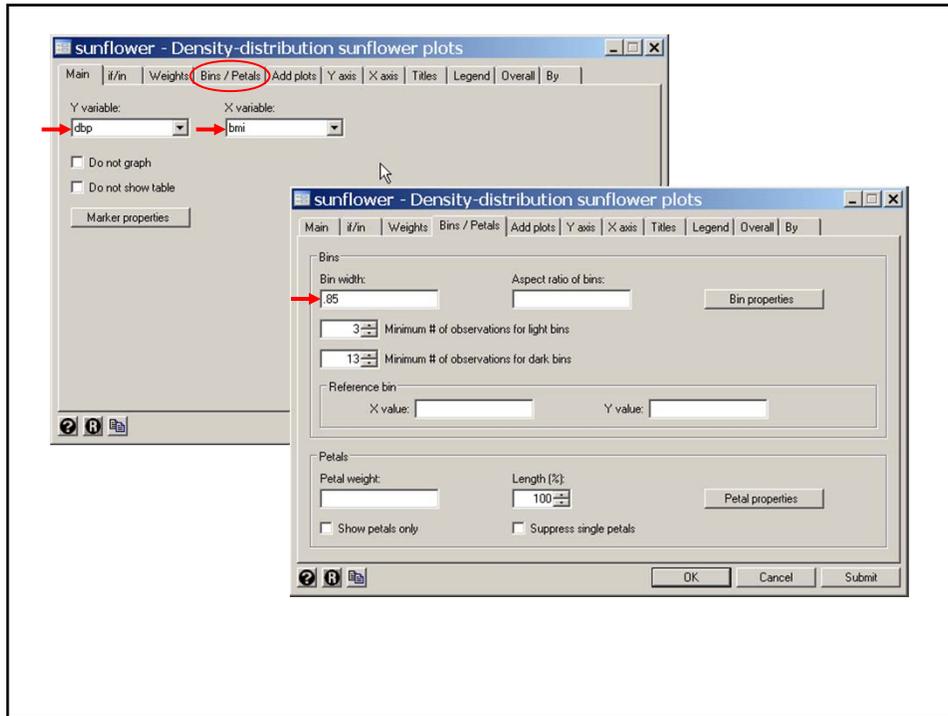


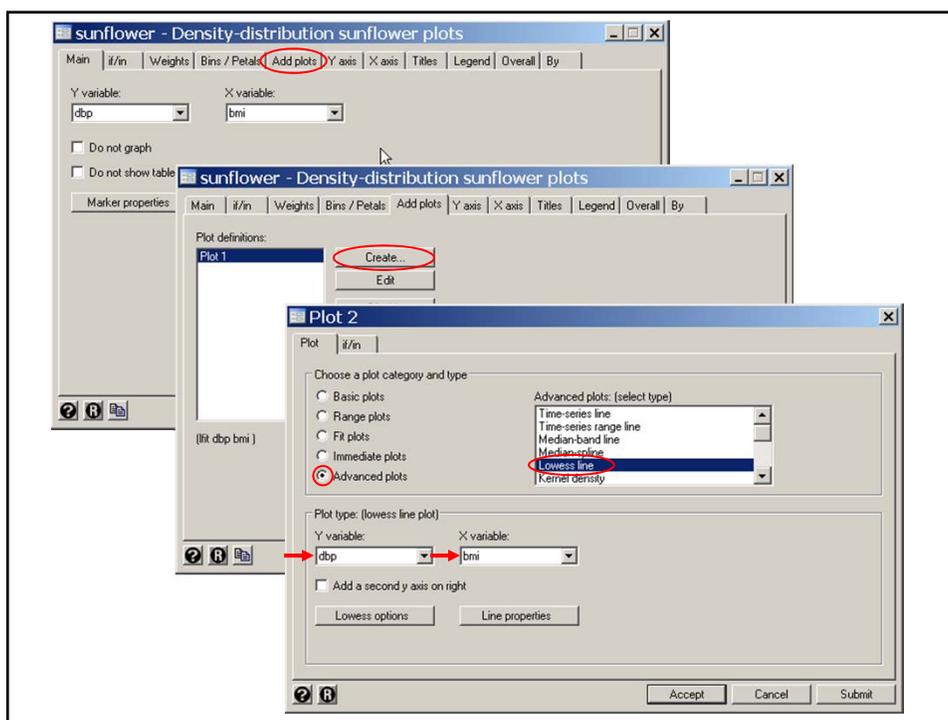
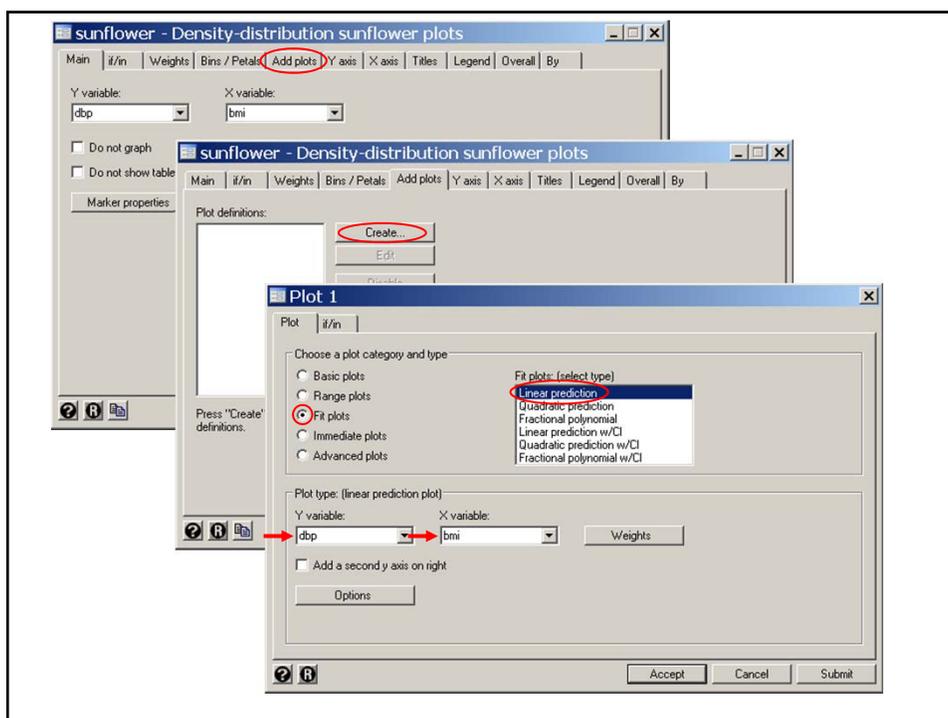
```
. more
. * Graphics > Smoothing ... > Density-distribution sunflower plot
. sunflower dbp bmi, binwidth(0.85)          /// {1}
>       ylabel(50 (20) 150, angle(0)) ytick(40 (5) 145)  ///
>       xlabel(20 (5) 55) xtick(16 (1) 58)              ///
>       legend(position(5) ring(0) cols(1))            /// {2}
>       addplot(lfit dbp bmi, color(green)             /// {3}
>               || lowess dbp bmi , bwidth(.2) color(cyan) )
Bin width      =      .85
Bin height     =     3.66924
Bin aspect ratio =     3.73842
Max obs in a bin =      59
Light          =       3
Dark          =      13
X-center      =     25.2
Y-center      =      80
Petal weight  =       5
```

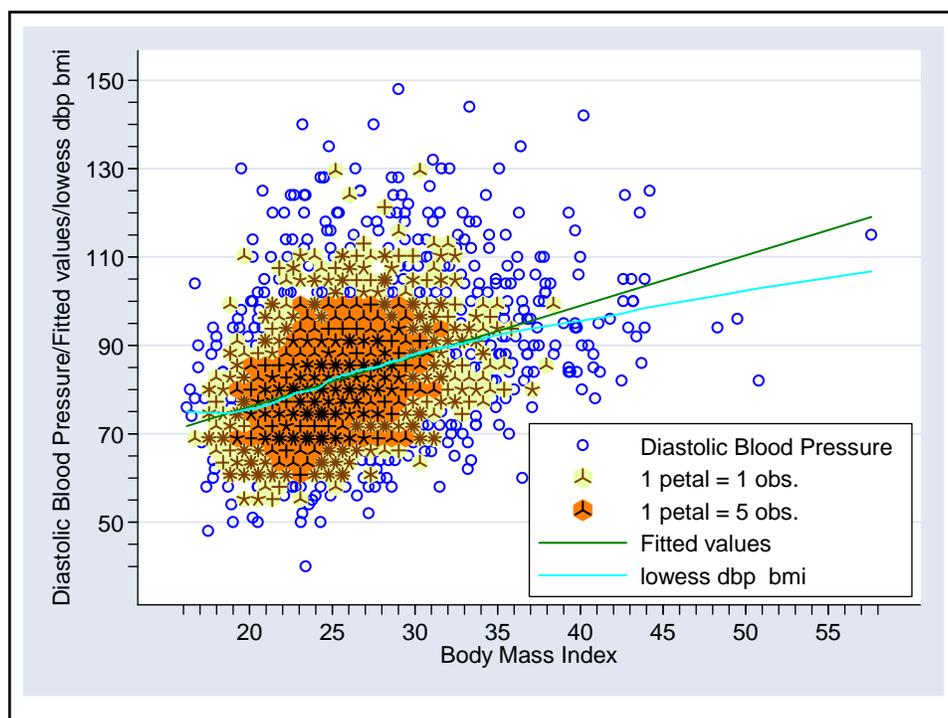
**{1}** *sunflower* accepts most standard graph options as well as special options that can control almost all aspects of the plot. Here *binwidth* specifies the bin width to be 0.85 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

**{2}** The *position* sub-option of the legend option specifies that the legend will be located at 5 o'clock. *ring(0)* causes the legend to be drawn within the graph region. *cols(1)* requires that the legend keys be in a single column.

**{3}** The *addplot* option allows us to overlay other graphs on top of the sunflower plot. Here we draw the linear regression and lowess regression curves.







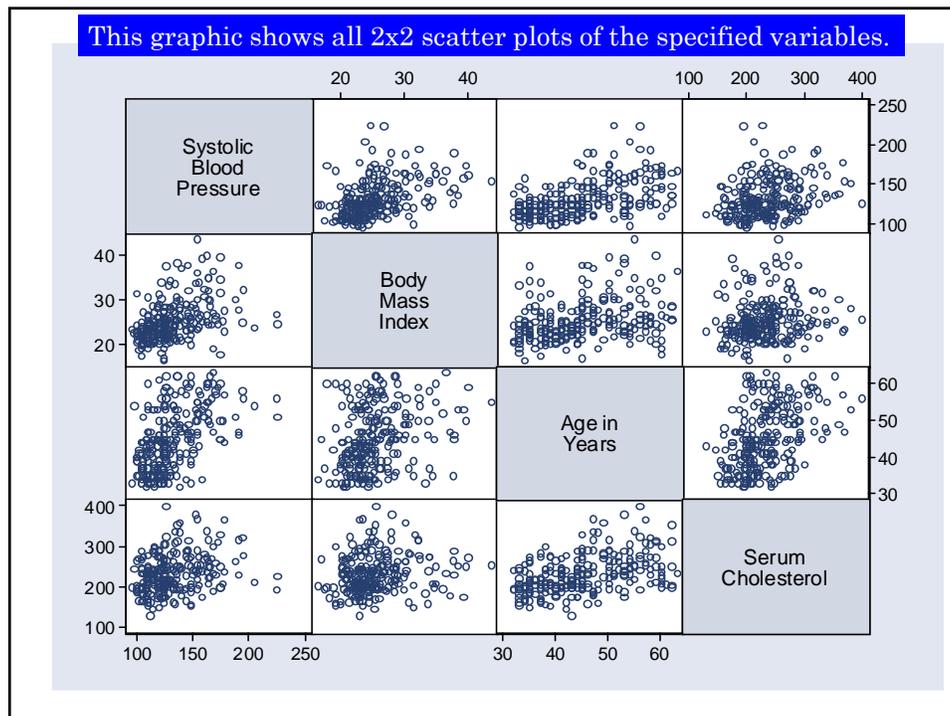
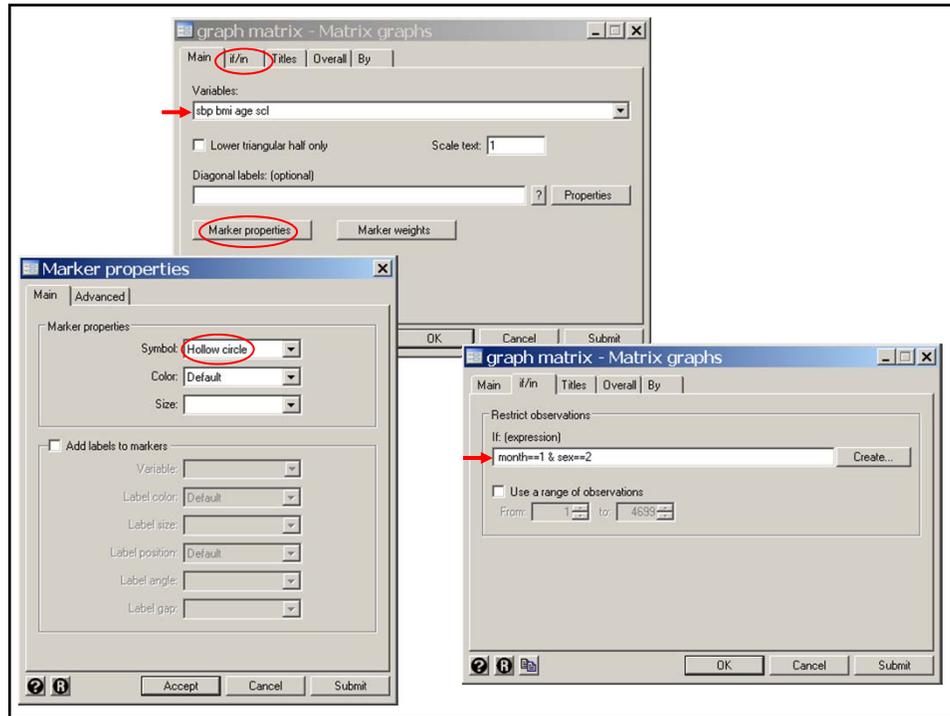
### 8. Scatterplot matrix graphs

Another useful exploratory graphic is the scatter plot matrix. Here we look at the combined marginal effects of *sbp*, *age*, *bmi* and *scl*. The graph is restricted to women recruited in January to reduce the number of data points.

*FramSBPbmiMulti.log* continues as follows

```
. * Graphics > Scatterplot matrix  
. graph matrix sbp bmi age scl if month==1 & sex==2 ,msymbol(oh) {1}
```

**{1}** The **matrix** option generates a matrix scatter plot for *sbp*, *bmi*, *age* and *scl*. The *if* clause restricts the graph to women (*sex*==2) who entered the study in January (*month*==1).  
*oh* specifies a small hollow circle as a plot symbol



### 9. Modeling interaction in the Framingham baseline data

The first model that comes to mind is

$$E[sbp_i | \mathbf{x}_i] = \alpha + \beta_1 \times bmi_i + \beta_2 \times age_i + \beta_3 \times scl_i + \beta_4 \times sex_i.$$

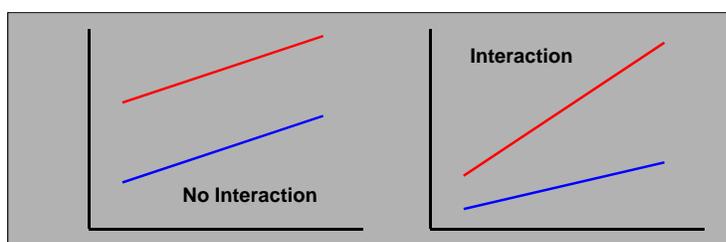
A potential **weakness** of this model is that it implies that the effects of the covariates on  $sbp_i$  are **additive**. To understand what this means, suppose we hold  $age$  and  $scl$  constant and look at  $bmi$  and  $sex$ . Then the model becomes

$$sbp = \text{constant} + bmi \times \beta_1 + \beta_4 \text{ for men, and}$$

$$sbp = \text{constant} + bmi \times \beta_1 + 2\beta_4 \text{ for women.}$$

The  $\beta_4$  parameter allows men and women with the same  $bmi$  to have different expected  $sbps$ .

However, the slope of the  $sbp$ - $bmi$  relationship for both men and women is  $\beta_1$ .



We know, however, that this slope is higher for women than for men. This is an example of what we call interaction in which the effect of one variate on the dependent variable is influenced by the value of a second covariate.

We need a more complex model to deal with interaction.

Let  $women = sex - 1$ .

Then  $women = \begin{cases} 1: & \text{if subject is female} \\ 0: & \text{if subject is male} \end{cases}$

Consider the model

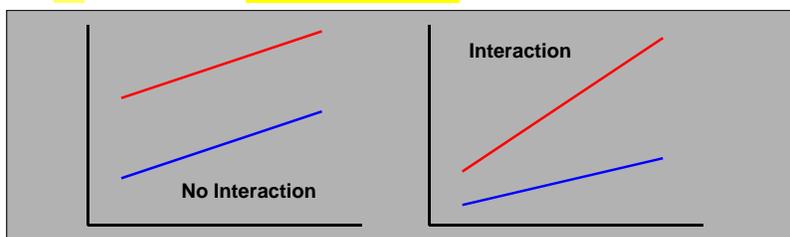
$$sbp = \beta_1 + bmi \times \beta_2 + women \times \beta_3 + bmi \times women \times \beta_4$$

This model reduces to

$$sbp = \beta_1 + bmi \times \beta_2 \text{ for men and}$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + bmi \times (\beta_2 + \beta_4) + \beta_3 \text{ for women.}$$

Hence  $\beta_4$  estimates the difference in slopes between men and women.



We use this approach to build an appropriate multivariate model for the Framingham data.

*FramSBPbmiMulti.log* continues as follows.

```
. *
. * Use multiple regression models with interaction terms to analyze
. * the effects of sbp, bmi, age and scl on sbp.
. *
. generate woman = sex - 1
. label define truth 0 "False" 1 "True"
. label values woman truth
. generate bmiwoman = bmi*woman
(9 missing values generated)
. generate agewoman = age*woman
. generate sclwoman = woman * scl
(33 missing values generated)
```

```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman bmiwoman agewoman sclwoman
```

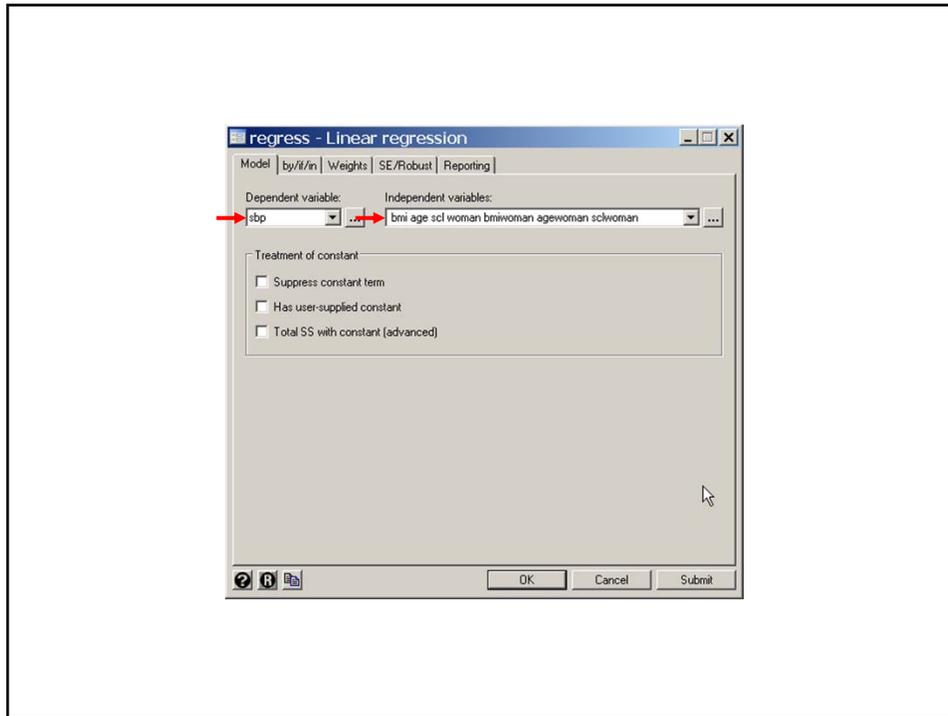
Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	596743.008	7	85249.0011	Number of obs =	4658	
Residual	1823322.50	4650	392.112365	F( 7, 4650) =	217.41	
				Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.2466 {1}	
				Adj R-squared =	0.2454	
				Root MSE =	19.802	
Total	2420065.50	4657	519.661908			

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	1.260872	.130925	9.630	0.000	1.004197	1.517547
age	.5170311	.0518617	9.969	0.000	.4153576	.6187047
scl	.0376262	.0105242	3.575	0.000	.0169938	.0582586
woman	-31.06614	5.29534	-5.867	0.000	-41.44751	-20.68476
bmiwoman	.141898	.1582655	0.897	0.370	-.1683775	.4521735
agewoman	.6658219	.0734669	9.063	0.000	.5217919	.8098519
sclwoman	-.0078668	.014045	-0.560	0.575	-.0354017	.0196682 {2}
_cons	67.22324	4.427304	15.184	0.000	58.54362	75.90285

**{1}** **R-squared** equals the square of the correlation coefficient between  $\hat{y}_i$  and  $y_i$ . It still equals  $\sum (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2 / \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2$  and hence can be interpreted as the proportion of the **variation** in  $y$  **explained** by the **model**.  
In the simple regression of  $sbp$  and  $bmi$  we had **R-squared = 0.11**. Thus, this multiple regression model explains more than twice the variation in  $sbp$  than did the simple model.

**{2}** The serum cholesterol-woman **interaction** coefficient, -0.0079, is five times **smaller** than the  $scl$  coefficient, and is not statistically significant. Lets drop it from the model and see what happens.



```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman bmiwoman agewoman
```

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	596619.993	6	99436.6655	Number of obs =	4658	
Residual	1823445.51	4651	392.054507	F( 6, 4651) =	253.63	
Total	2420065.50	4657	519.661908	Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.2465 {3}	
				Adj R-squared =	0.2456	
				Root MSE =	19.80	

	sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
bmi		1.269339	.1300398	9.761	0.000	1.014399	1.524278
age		.5182974	.0518086	10.004	0.000	.416728	.6198668
scl		.0332092	.0069687	4.765	0.000	.0195472	.0468712
woman		-32.18538	4.903474	-6.564	0.000	-41.79851	-22.57224
bmiwoman		.1323904	.157341	0.841	0.400	-.1760726	.4408534 {4}
agewoman		.656538	.0715675	9.174	0.000	.5162319	.7968442
_cons		67.94892	4.233177	16.052	0.000	59.64988	76.24795

**{3}** Dropping the *sclwoman* term has a **trivial effect** on the R-squared statistic and little effect on the model coefficients.

**{4}** The *bmiwoman* **interaction** term is also not significant and is an order of magnitude **smaller** than the *bmi* term. Lets drop it.

```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman agewoman
```

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	596342.421	5	119268.484	Number of obs =	4658	
Residual	1823723.08	4652	392.029897	F( 5, 4652) =	304.23	
Total	2420065.50	4657	519.661908	Prob > F =	0.0000	
				R-squared =	0.2464 {5}	
				Adj R-squared =	0.2456	
				Root MSE =	19.80	

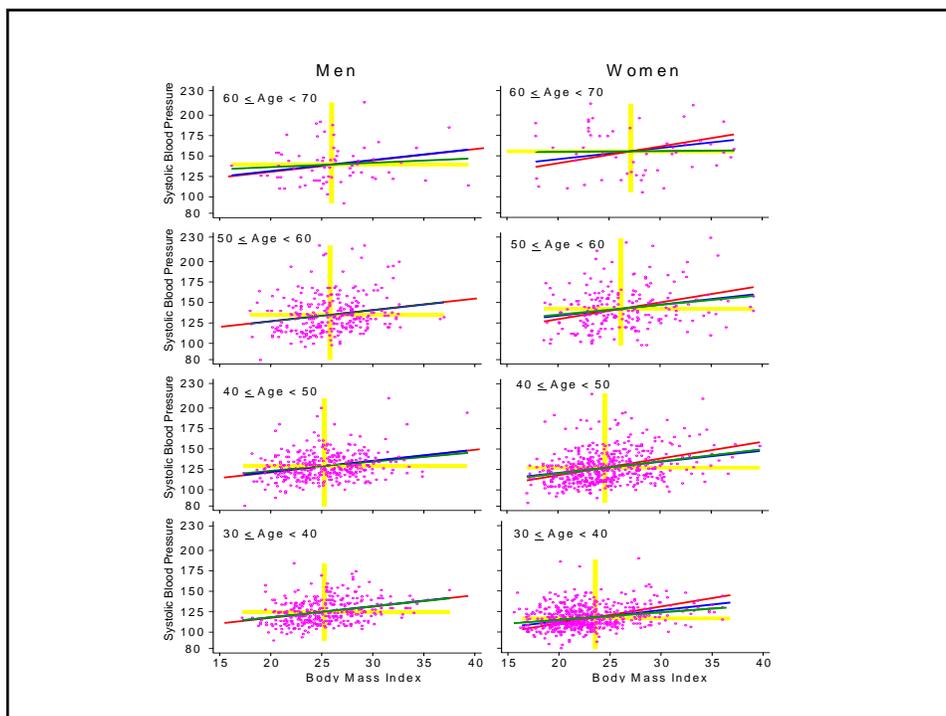
	sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
bmi		1.359621	.0734663	18.507	0.000	1.215592 1.50365
age		.5173521	.0517948	9.988	0.000	.4158098 .6188944
scl		.0327898	.0069506	4.718	0.000	.0191632 .0464163
woman		-29.14655	3.316662	-8.788	0.000	-35.64878 -22.64432
agewoman		.6646316	.0709159	9.372	0.000	.5256029 .8036603
_cons		65.74423	3.324712	19.774	0.000	59.22622 72.26224

{5} Dropping the preceding term reduces the R<sup>2</sup> value by 0.04%.  
The remaining terms are highly significant.

When we did simple linear regression of *sbp* against *bmi* for *men* and *women* we obtained slope estimates of 1.38 and 2.05 for men and women, respectively.

Our multivariate model gives a *single slope* estimate of 1.36 for both sexes, but finds that the effect of increasing age on *sbp* is twice as large in women than men. I.e. For *women* this slope is  $0.52 + 0.66 = 1.18$  while for *men* it is 0.52.

How reasonable is our model? One way to increase our intuitive understanding of the model is to plot separate simple linear regressions of *sbp* against *bmi* in groups of patients who are homogeneous with respect to the other variables in the model. The following graphic is restricted to patients with a serum cholesterol of  $\leq 225$  and subdivides patients by age and sex. In these graphs, two versions of the graph are given drawn to different scales. The second only shows the regression lines.

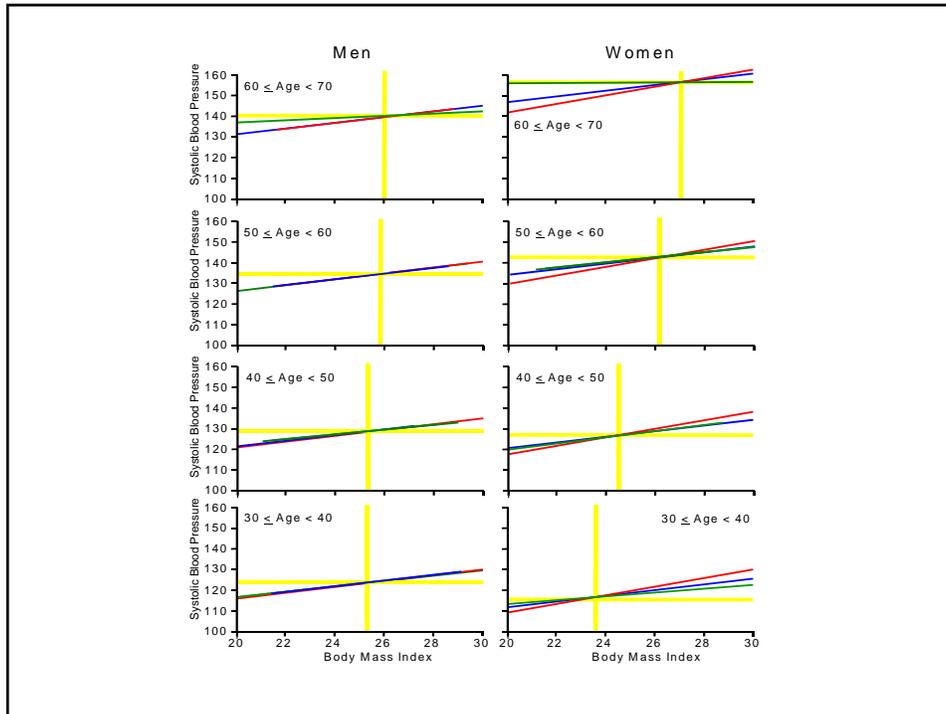


The **blue** lines have the slope from our **multiple regression model** of 1.36

The **red** lines have slopes 1.38 for men and 2.05 for women (the slopes of the **simple regressions** in men and women respectively).

The **green** lines have the slope of the **simple regression** for patients with the indicated **age** and gender.

The **yellow** lines mark the **mean sbp** and **bmi** for the indicated age-gender group.



For **men** the adjusted and unadjusted **slopes** are almost **identical** and are very close to the age restricted slope for all ages except 60 - 70.

However, for **women** the adjusted and unadjusted **slopes differ** appreciably. The adjusted slope is very close to the age restricted slopes in every case except age 60 - 70, where the adjusted slope is closer to the age restricted slope than is the unadjusted slope.

Thus, our model is a marked improvement over the simple model. The **single sbp-bmi** adjusted **slope** estimate appears **reasonable** except, for the oldest subjects.

Note that the mean *sbp* increases with age for both sexes, but increases more **rapidly** in **women** than in **men**.

The mean *bmi* does not vary appreciably with age in men but does increase with increasing age in women.

Thus **age** and **gender confound** the effect of *bmi* on *sbp*. Do you think that the age-gender interaction of *sbp* is real or is this driven by some other unknown confounding variable?

### 10. Automatic Methods of Model Selection

Analyses loose power when we include variables in the model that are neither confounders nor variables of interest. When a large number of potential confounders are available it can be useful to use an automatic model selection program.

#### a) Forward Selection

- i) Fit all simple linear models of  $y$  against each separate  $x$  variable. Select the variable with the greatest significance.
- ii) Fit all possible models with the variable(s) selected in the preceding step(s) and one other. Select as the next variable the one with the greatest significance among these models.
- iii) repeat step ii) to add additional variables, one variable at a time. Continue this process until none of the remaining variables have a significance level less than some threshold.

We next illustrate how this is done in Stata.

*FramSBPbmiMulti.log* continues as follows.

```

. *
. * Fit a model of sbp against bmi age scl and sex with
. * interaction terms. The variables woman, bmiwoman,
. * agewoman, and sclwoman have been previously defined.
. *
. * statistics > other > stepwise estimation
. stepwise, pe(.1): regress sbp bmi age scl woman bmiwoman agewoman sclwoman
                                     {1}

                                     begin with empty model
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding age                                     {2}
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding bmi                                     {3}
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding scl
p = 0.0001 < 0.1000 adding agewoman
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding woman

Source |          SS          df          MS          Number of obs = 4658
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
Model | 596342.421          5 119268.484          F( 5, 4652) = 304.23
Residual | 1823723.08        4652  392.029897          Prob > F = 0.0000
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
Total | 2420065.5        4657  519.661908          R-squared = 0.2464
                                          Adj R-squared = 0.2456
                                          Root MSE = 19.8

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
sbp |          Coef.      Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
age |   .5173521   .0517948     9.99  0.000     .4158098   .6188944
bmi |   1.359621   .0734663    18.51  0.000     1.215592   1.50365
scl |   .0327898   .0069506     4.72  0.000     .0191632   .0464163
agewoman | .6646316   .0709159     9.37  0.000     .5256029   .8036603
woman | -29.14655   3.316662    -8.79  0.000    -35.64878  -22.64432
 _cons | 65.74423   3.324712    19.77  0.000     59.22622   72.26224

```

**{1}** Fit a model using forward selection; *pe(.1)* means that the **P value** for entry is **0.1**. At each step new variables will only be considered for entry into the model if their **P value** after adjustment for previously entered variables is **<0.1**.

**{2}** In the first step the program considers the following models.

$$sbp = \beta_1 + bmi \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + scl \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + woman \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + bmiwoman \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + agewoman \times \beta_2$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + sclwoman \times \beta_2$$

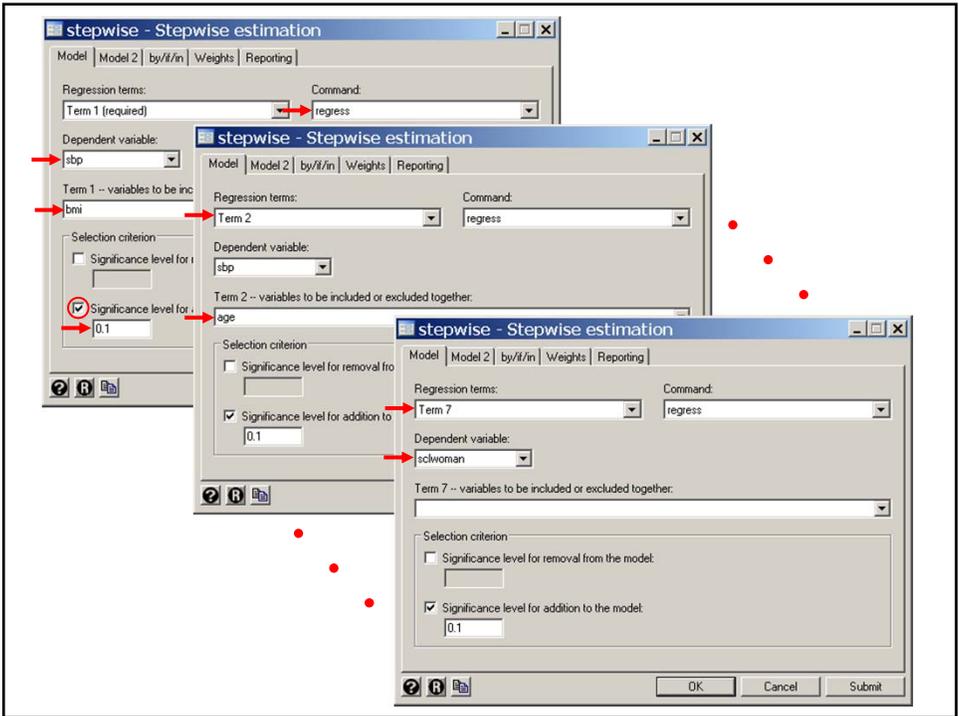
Of these models the one with **age** has the most **significant** slope parameter. The **P value** associated with this parameter is **<0.1**. Therefore we select **age** and go on to step 2.

**{3}** In step 2 we consider the models

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + bmi \times \beta_3$$

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + scl \times \beta_3$$

⋮

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + sclwoman \times \beta_3$$


The most significant new term in these models is *bmi*, which is selected. This process is continued until at the end of step 5 we have the model

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + bmi \times \beta_3 + scl \times \beta_4 + agewoman \times \beta_5 + woman \times \beta_6$$

In step 6 we consider the models

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + bmi \times \beta_3 + scl \times \beta_4 + agewoman \times \beta_5 + woman \times \beta_6 + bmiwoman \times \beta_7$$

and

$$sbp = \beta_1 + age \times \beta_2 + bmi \times \beta_3 + scl \times \beta_4 + agewoman \times \beta_5 + woman \times \beta_6 + schwoman \times \beta_7$$

However, neither of the *P* values for the  $\beta_7$  parameter estimates in these models are  $< 0.1$ . Therefore, neither of these terms are added to the model.

```

. *
. * Fit a model of sbp against bmi age scl and sex with
. * interaction terms. The variables woman, bmiwoman,
. * agewoman, and sclwoman have been previously defined.
. *
. * statistics > other > stepwise estimation
. stepwise, pe(.1): regress sbp bmi age scl woman bmiwoman agewoman sclwoman

                begin with empty model
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding age
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding bmi
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding scl
p = 0.0001 < 0.1000 adding agewoman
p = 0.0000 < 0.1000 adding woman

      Source |           SS          df           MS           Number of obs =      4658
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Model | 596342.421            5    119268.484           F( 5, 4652) =    304.23
      Residual | 1823723.08         4652     392.029897           Prob > F      =    0.0000
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total | 2420065.5          4657     519.661908           R-squared     =    0.2464
                                           Adj R-squared =    0.2456
                                           Root MSE    =    19.8

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      sbp |           Coef.      Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      age |   .5173521      .0517948      9.99  0.000     .4158098   .6188944
      bmi |   1.359621      .0734663     18.51  0.000     1.215592   1.50365
      scl |   .0327898      .0069506      4.72  0.000     .0191632   .0464163
      agewoman |   .6646316      .0709159      9.37  0.000     .5256029   .8036603
      woman |  -29.14655      3.316662     -8.79  0.000    -35.64878  -22.64432
      _cons |   65.74423      3.324712     19.77  0.000     59.22622   72.26224

```

b) **Backward Selection**

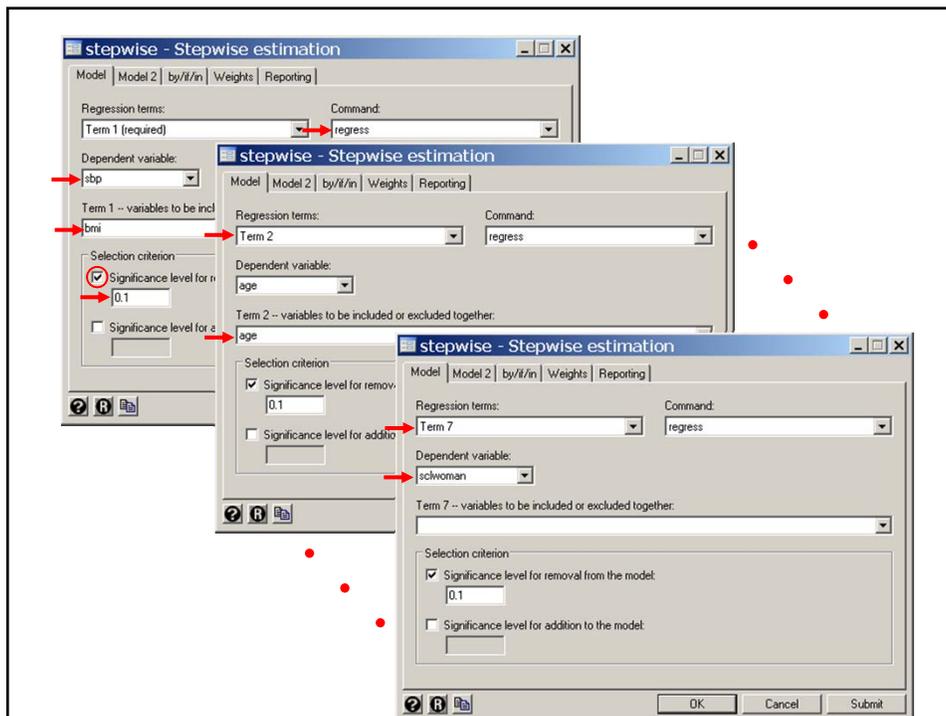
This method is similar to the forward method except that we start with **all the variables** and **eliminate** the variable with the least significance. The data is refit with the remaining variables and the process is repeated until all remaining variables have a significance level below some threshold.

The Stata command to use backward selection for our *sbp* example is

```
. * statistics > other > stepwise estimation  
. stepwise, pr(.1): regress sbp bmi age scl woman bmiwoman  
>      agewoman sclwoman,
```

Here **pr(.1)** means that the program will consider variables for **removal** from the model if their associated **P** value is  $\geq 0.1$ .

If you run this command in this example you will get the **same answer** as with the forward selection, which is reassuring. In general there is **no guarantee** that this will happen.



c) **Stepwise Selection**

This method is like the forward method except that at each step, previously selected variables whose significance has dropped below some threshold are dropped from the model.

Suppose:

$x_1$  is the best single predictor of  $y$

$x_2$  and  $x_3$  are chosen next and together predict  $y$  better than  $x_1$

Then it makes sense to keep  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  and drop  $x_1$  from the model.

In the Stata *stepwise* command this is done with the options -

```
,forward pe(.1) pr(.2)
```

which would consider new variables for selection with  $P < 0.1$  and previously selected variables for removal with  $P \geq 0.2$ .

11. **Pros and cons of automated model selection**

- i) Automatic selection methods are fast and easy to use.
- ii) They are best used when we have a small number of variables of primary interest and wish to explore the effects of potential confounding variables on our models.
- iii) They can be misleading when used for exploratory analyses in which the primary variables of interest are unknown and the number of potential covariates is large. In this case these methods can exaggerate the importance of a small number of variables due to multiple comparisons artifacts.
- iv) It is a good idea to use more than one method to see if you come up with the same model.
- v) Fitting models by hand may sometimes be worth the effort.

## 12. Residuals, Leverage, and Influence

### a) Residuals

The residual for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient is  $e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$

### b) Estimating the variance $\sigma^2$

We estimate  $\sigma^2$  by  $s^2 = \Sigma(y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 / (n - k - 1)$  {2.2}

which is denoted Mean Square for Error in most computer programs. In Stata it is the term in the *Residual row* and the *MS column*.  $k$  is the number of covariates in the model.

```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman agewoman
```

Source	SS	df	MS	
Model	596342.421	5	119268.484	Number of obs = 4658
Residual	1823723.08	4652	392.029897	F( 5, 4652) = 304.23
Total	2420065.50	4657	519.661908	Prob > F = 0.0000
				R-squared = 0.2464
				Adj R-squared = 0.2456
				Root MSE = 19.80

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
bmi	1.359621	.0734663	18.507	0.000	1.215592 1.50365
age	.5173521	.0517948	9.988	0.000	.4158098 .6188944
scl	.0327898	.0069506	4.718	0.000	.0191632 .0464163
woman	-29.14655	3.316662	-8.788	0.000	-35.64878 -22.64432
agewoman	.6646316	.0709159	9.372	0.000	.5256029 .8036603
_cons	65.74423	3.324712	19.774	0.000	59.22622 72.26224

c) **Leverage**

The leverage  $h_i$  of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient is a measure of her potential to influence the parameter estimates if the  $i^{\text{th}}$  residual is large.

$h_i$  has a complex formula involving the covariates  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  (but not the dependent variable  $y$ ).

In all cases  $0 < h_i < 1$ .

The larger  $h_i$  the greater the leverage.

The variance of  $\hat{y}_i$  is

$$\text{var}(\hat{y}_i) = h_i s^2.$$

Note that  $h_i = \text{var}(\hat{y}_i) / s^2$ .

Hence  $h_i$  can be defined as the variance of  $\hat{y}_i$  measured in units of  $s^2$ .

d) **Residual variance**

The variance of  $e_i$  is  $s^2(1-h_i)$

e) **Standardized and Studentized residual**

The standardized residual is  $r_i = e_i / (s\sqrt{1-h_i})$  {2.3}

The studentized residual is  $t_i = e_i / (s_{(i)}\sqrt{1-h_i})$  {2.4}

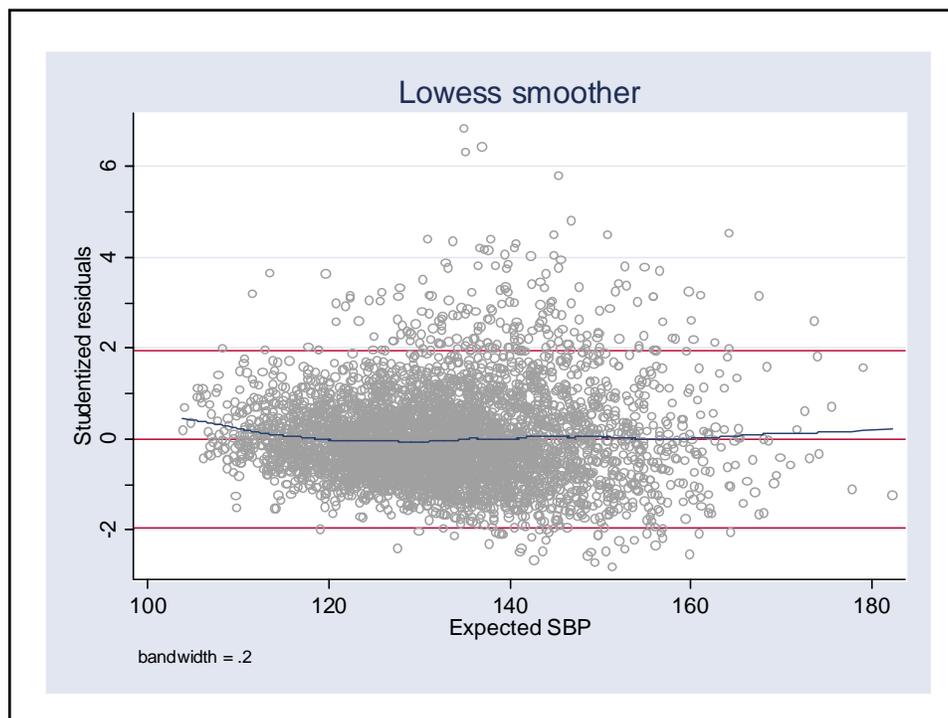
where  $s_{(i)}$  is the estimate of  $\sigma$  obtained from equation (2.2) with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  case deleted ( $t_i$  is also called the **jackknifed residual**).

It is often helpful to plot the studentized residual against its expected value. We do this in Stata as we continue the session recorded in *FramSBPbmiMulti.log*.

```
. predict yhat, xb
(41 missing values generated)

. predict res, rstudent

. * Statistics > Nonparametric analysis > Lowess smoothing
. lowess res yhat, bwidth(0.2) symbol(oh) color(gs10) lwidth(thick)   ///
>   yline(-1.96 0 1.96) ylabel(-2 (2) 6) ytick(-2 (1) 6)           ///
>   xlabel(100 (20) 180) xtitle(Expected SBP)
```



If our model fit perfectly, the **lowess** regression line would be **flat** and equal to **zero**, **95%** of the studentized residuals would lie between  **$\pm 2$**  and should be symmetric about zero. In this example the **residuals** are **skewed** but the regression **line** keeps close to **zero** except for very low values of expected SBP.

Thus, this graph **supports** the validity of the model with respect to the expected **SBP** values but **not** with respect to the **distribution** of the residuals. The very large sample size, however, should keep the non-normally distributed residuals from adversely affecting our conclusions.

**f) Influence**

The influence of a patient is the extent to which he determines the value of the regression coefficients.

**13. Cook's Distance: Detecting Multivariate Outliers**

One measure of influence is **Cook's distance**,  $D_i$ , which is a function of  $r_i$  and  $h_i$ . The removal of a patient with a  $D_i$  value greater than **1** shifts the parameter estimates outside the **50% confidence region** based on the entire data set.

Checking observations with a **Cook's distance** greater than **0.5** is worthwhile. Such observations should be double checked for errors. If they are valid you may need to discuss them explicitly in your paper.

It is possible for a multivariate outlier to have a major effect on the parameter estimates but not be an obvious outlier on a  $2 \times 2$  scatter plot.

#### 14. Cook's Distance in the SBP Regression Example

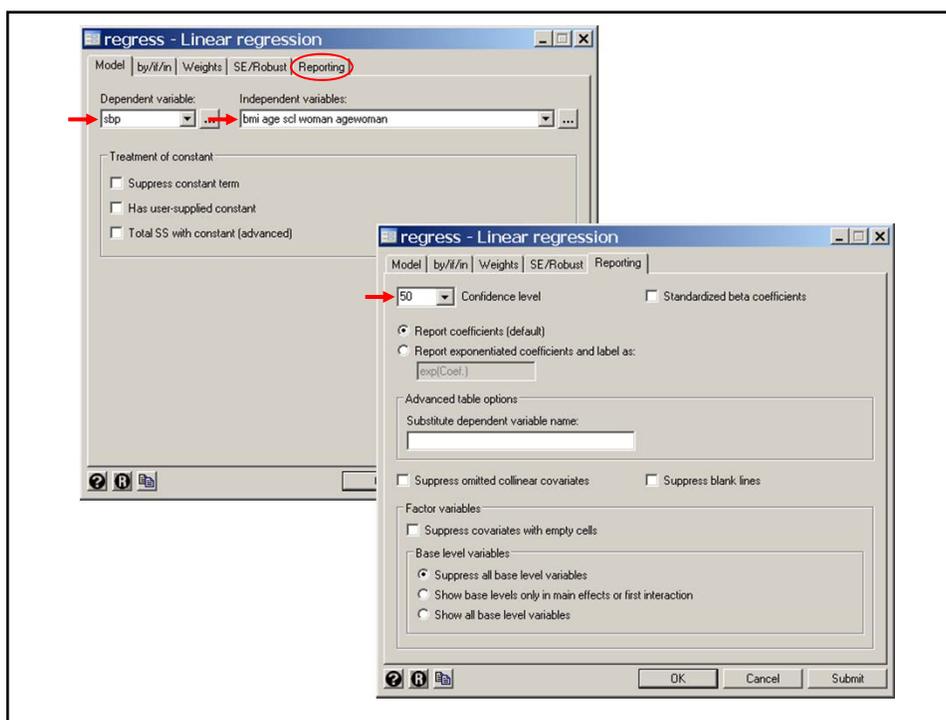
The Framingham data set is so large that no individual observation has an appreciable effect on the parameter estimates (the maximum Cook's distance is 0.009). We illustrate the influence of individual patients in a subset analysis of subjects with IDs from 2001 to 2050.

*FramSBPbmiMulti.log* continues as follows.

```
. *
. * Illustrate influence of individual data points on
. * the parameter estimates of a linear regression.
. *
. * Variables Manager (right click on variable to be dropped or kept)
. drop res
. * Data > Create or change data > Keep or drop observations
. keep if id > 2000 & id <= 2050
(4649 observations deleted)

. regress sbp bmi age scl woman agewoman, level(50)           {1}
```

{1} The *level(50)* option specifies that 50% confidence intervals will be given for the parameter estimates.



Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	7953.14639	5	1590.62928	Number of obs =	49	
Residual	32056.6903	43	745.504427	F( 5, 43) =	2.13	
Total	40009.8367	48	833.538265	Prob > F =	0.0796	
				R-squared =	0.1988	
				Adj R-squared =	0.1056	
				Root MSE =	27.304	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[50% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	.5163516	1.004381	0.514	0.610	-.1668667	1.19957
age	.0232767	.7929254	0.029	0.977	-.5161014	.5626547
scl	.0618257	.0884284	0.699	0.488	.0016733	.1219781
woman	-72.75275	46.5895	-1.562	0.126	-104.4447	-41.06079
agewoman	1.726515	1.018715	1.695	0.097	1.033546	2.419483
_cons	102.6837	46.23653	2.221	0.032	71.23184	134.1355

```

. predict res, rstudent
(1 missing value generated)

. predict cook, cooks
(1 missing value generated)
    
```

**{2}** Define *cook* to equal the Cook's distance for each data point.

```

. label variable res "Studentized Residual"
. label variable cook "Cook's Distance"
. scatter cook res, ylabel(0 (.1) .5) xlabel(-2 (1) 5)
    
```

The graph shows that we have **one enormous residual** with **great influence**. Note however that there are also **large** residuals with **little** influence.

The log file continues as follows:

```
. list cook res id bmi sbp if res > 2
```

	cook	res	id	bmi	sbp
46.	.	.	2046	25.6	118
48.	.06611	2.485642	2048	24.6	190
49.	.5121304	5.756579	2049	19.5	260

{1}

```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman agewoman if id ~= 2049, level(50)
```

{2}

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 48		
Model	6036.25249	5	1207.2505	F( 5, 42) =	2.83	
Residual	17918.7267	42	426.636349	Prob > F =	0.0273	
Total	23954.9792	47	509.680408	R-squared =	0.2520	
				Adj R-squared =	0.1629	
				Root MSE =	20.655	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[50% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	1.776421	.7907071	2.247	0.030	1.238443	2.314399
age	-.0069364	.599864	-0.012	0.991	-.4150694	.4011967
scl	.0568255	.066901	0.849	0.400	.0113077	.1023433
woman	-42.87799	35.62457	-1.204	0.235	-67.1161	-18.63989
agewoman	.9782689	.7815332	1.252	0.218	.4465325	1.510005
_cons	73.63212	35.33972	2.084	0.043	49.58782	97.67642

{3}

{1} The patient with the large Cook's D has ID 2049.

{2} We repeat the linear regression excluding this patient.

{3} **Excluding** this one patient increases the *bmi* coefficient from **0.516** to **1.78**, which exceeds the upper bound of the 50% confidence interval for *bmi* from the initial regression.

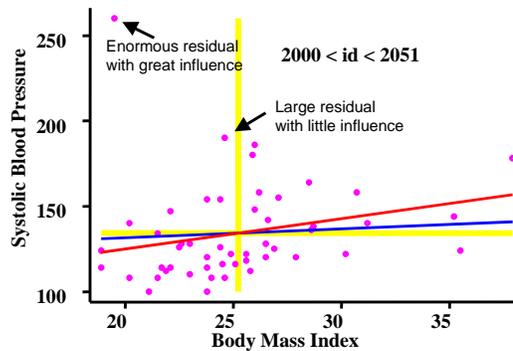
```
. regress sbp bmi age scl woman agewoman, level(50)
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 49		
Model	7953.14639	5	1590.62928	F( 5, 43) =	2.13	
Residual	32056.6903	43	745.504427	Prob > F =	0.0796	
Total	40009.8367	48	833.538265	R-squared =	0.1988	
				Adj R-squared =	0.1056	
				Root MSE =	27.304	

sbp	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[50% Conf. Interval]	
bmi	.5163516	1.004381	0.514	0.610	-.1668667	1.19957
age	.0232767	.7929254	0.029	0.977	-.5161014	.5626547
scl	.0618257	.0884284	0.699	0.488	.0016733	.1219781
woman	-72.75275	46.5895	-1.562	0.126	-104.4447	-41.06079
agewoman	1.726515	1.018715	1.695	0.097	1.033546	2.419483
_cons	102.6837	46.23653	2.221	0.032	71.23184	134.1355

The following graph shows a scatter plot of *sbp* by *bmi* for these 50 patients. The red and blue lines have slopes of 1.78 and 0.516, respectively (the lines are drawn through the mean *sbp* and *bmi* values). Patients 2048 and 2049 are indicated by arrows. The influence of patient 2048 is greatly reduced by the fact that his *bmi* of 24.6 is near the mean *bmi*. The influence of patient 2049 is not only affected by her large residual but also by her low *bmi* that exerts leverage on the regression slope.



### 15. Least Squares Estimation

In simple linear regression we have introduced the concept of estimating parameters by the method of least squares.

- ❖ We chose a model of the form  $E(y_i) = \alpha + \beta x_i$ .
- ❖ We estimated  $\alpha$  by  $a$  and  $\beta$  by  $b$  letting  
 $\hat{y} = a + bx$  and then choosing  $a$  and  $b$  so as to minimize  
the sum of squared residuals  $\Sigma(y - \hat{y})^2$

This approach works well for linear regression. It is ineffective for some other regression methods

Another approach which can be very useful is  
**maximum likelihood estimation**

### 16. Maximum Likelihood Estimation

In simple linear regression we observed pairs of observations

$$\{(y_i, x_i) : i = 1, 2, \dots, n\} \text{ and fit the model } E(y_i) = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

We calculate the likelihood function

$$L(\alpha, \beta | \{(y_i, x_i) : i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}) \quad \{1\}$$

which is the probability of obtaining  
the observed data given the specified value of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

The maximum likelihood estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are those values  
of these parameters that maximize equation {1}

In linear regression the maximum likelihood and least squares  
estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are identical.

## 17. Information Criteria for Assessing Statistical Models

We seek models that

- ❖ fit the data well
- ❖ are simple
- ❖ will be useful for future data

Increasing the number of parameters will

- ❖ improve the fit to the current data
- ❖ increase model complexity
- ❖ may exaggerate findings

We often must choose between a number of competing models. We seek measures of model fit that take into account both how well the data fit the model and the complexity of the model.

Suppose we have a model with  $k$  parameters and  $n$  observations. Let  $L$  be the maximum value of the likelihood function for this model. Then

### Akaike's Information Criteria

$$\text{AIC} = -2 \log_e L + 2k$$

Schwarz's **Bayesian Information Criteria**

$$\text{BIC} = -2 \log_e L + k \log_e n$$

Models with lower values of AIC or BIC are usually preferred over models with higher values of these statistics.

Models that fit well will have higher values of  $L$  and hence lower values of  $-2 \log_e L$ .

Smaller models have smaller values of  $k$  and hence give lower AIC and BIC values. For studies with more than 8 patients, BIC gives a higher penalty per parameter than AIC.

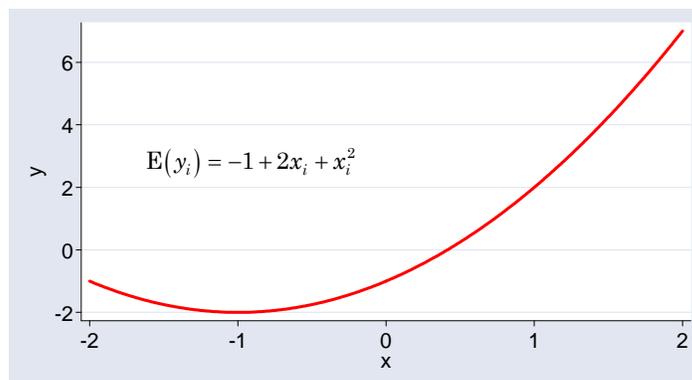
There are theoretical justifications for both methods. Neither is clearly better than the other.

### 18. Using Multiple Linear Regression for Non-linear Models

Multiple linear regression can be used to build simple non-linear models.

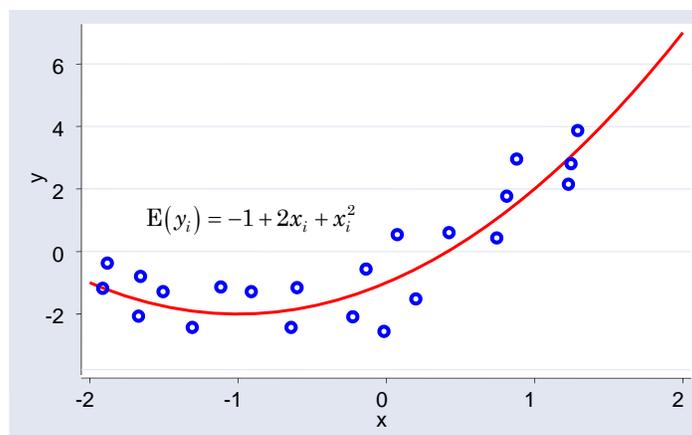
For example, suppose that there was a quadratic relationship between an independent variable  $x$  and the expected value of  $y$ . Then we could use the model

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta_1 x_i + \beta_2 x_i^2 + \varepsilon_i \quad \{2.5\}$$



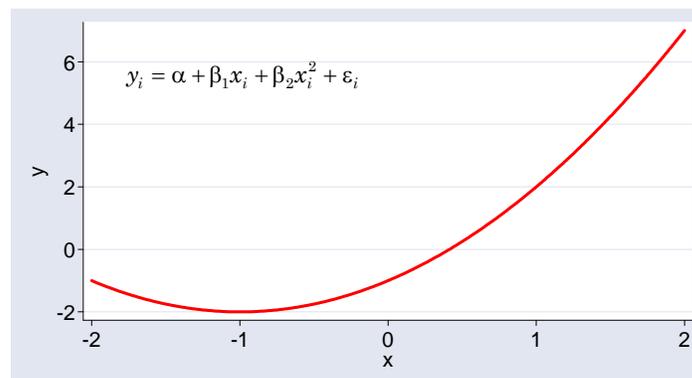
The preceding models  $E(y_i)$  as a non-linear function of  $x_i$ . It is fine when correct but performs poorly for many non-linear models where the  $x$ - $y$  relationship is not quadratic.

Extrapolating from this model is particularly problematic.



Note that {2.5} is a linear function of the parameters. Hence, it is a multiple linear regression model even though it is non-linear in  $x_i$

We seek a more flexible approach to building non-linear regression models using multiple linear regression models.



### 19. Restricted Cubic Splines

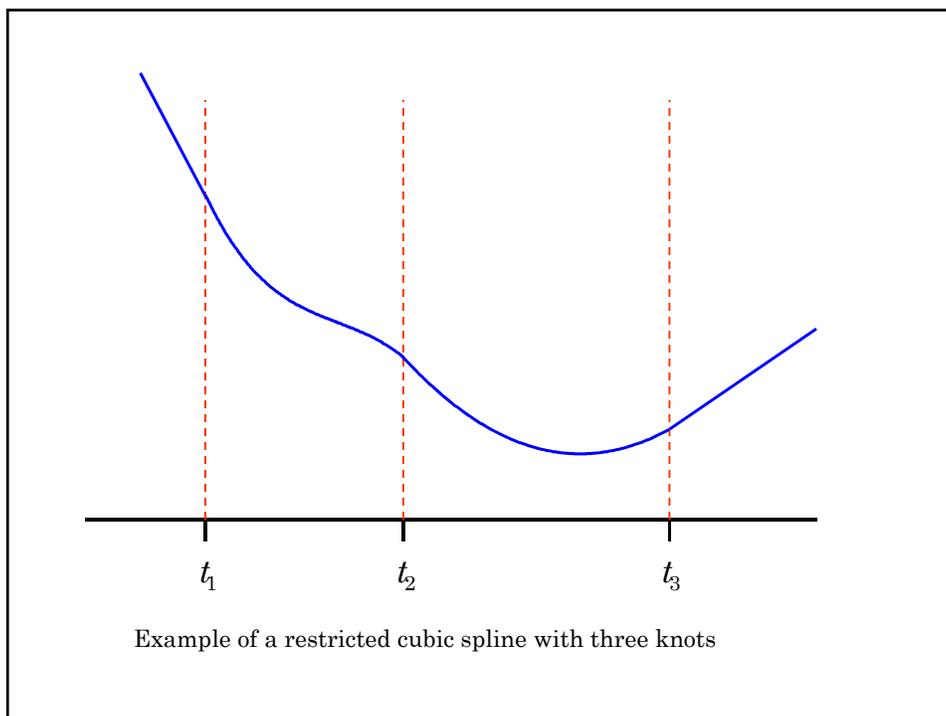
We wish to model  $y_i$  as a function of  $x_i$  using a flexible non-linear model. In a **restricted cubic spline model** we introduce  $k$  knots on the  $x$ -axis located at  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k$ . We select a model of the expected value of  $y$  that

is linear before  $t_1$  and after  $t_k$ .

consists of piecewise cubic polynomials between adjacent knots (i.e. of the form  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ )

is continuous and smooth at each knot. (More technically, its first and second derivatives are continuous at each knot.)

An example of a restricted cubic spline with three knots is given on the next slide.



Given  $x$  and  $k$  knots, a restricted cubic spline can be defined by

$$y = \alpha + x_1\beta_1 + x_2\beta_2 + \dots + x_{k-1}\beta_{k-1}$$

for suitably defined values of  $x_i$

These covariates are functions of  $x$  and the knots but are independent of  $y$ .

$x_1 = x$  and hence the hypothesis  $\beta_2 = \beta_3 = \dots = \beta_{k-1} = 0$  tests the linear hypothesis.

If  $x$  is less than the first knot then  $x_2 = x_3 = \dots = x_{k-1} = 0$   
This fact will prove useful in survival analyses when calculating relative risks.

Programs to calculate  $x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}$  are available in Stata, R and other statistical software packages. The functional definitions of these terms are not pretty (see Harrell 2001), but this is of little concern given programs that will calculate them for you.

Users can specify the knot values. However, it is often reasonable to let your program choose them for you.

Harrell (2001) recommends placing knots at the quantiles of the  $x$  variable given in the following table

Number of knots $k$	Knot locations expressed in quantiles of the $x$ variable						
3	0.1	0.5	0.9				
4	0.05	0.35	0.65	0.95			
5	0.05	0.275	0.5	0.725	0.95		
6	0.05	0.23	0.41	0.59	0.77	0.95	
7	0.025	0.1833	0.3417	0.5	0.6583	0.817	0.975

The basic idea of this table is to place  $t_1$  and  $t_k$  near the extreme values of  $x$  and to space the remaining knots so that the proportion of observations between knots remains constant.

When there are fewer than 100 data points Harrell recommends replacing the smallest and largest knots by the fifth smallest and fifth largest observation, respectively.

The choice of number of knots involves a trade-off between model flexibility and number of parameters. Stone (1986) has found that more than 5 knots are rarely needed to obtain a good fit.

Five knots is a good choice when there are at least 100 data points.

Using fewer knots makes sense when there are fewer data points

It is important to always do a residual plot or, at a minimum, plot the observed and expected values to ensure that you have obtained a good fit.

The linear fits beyond the largest and smallest knots usually tracks the data well, but is not guaranteed to do so.

**20. Example: the SUPPORT Study**

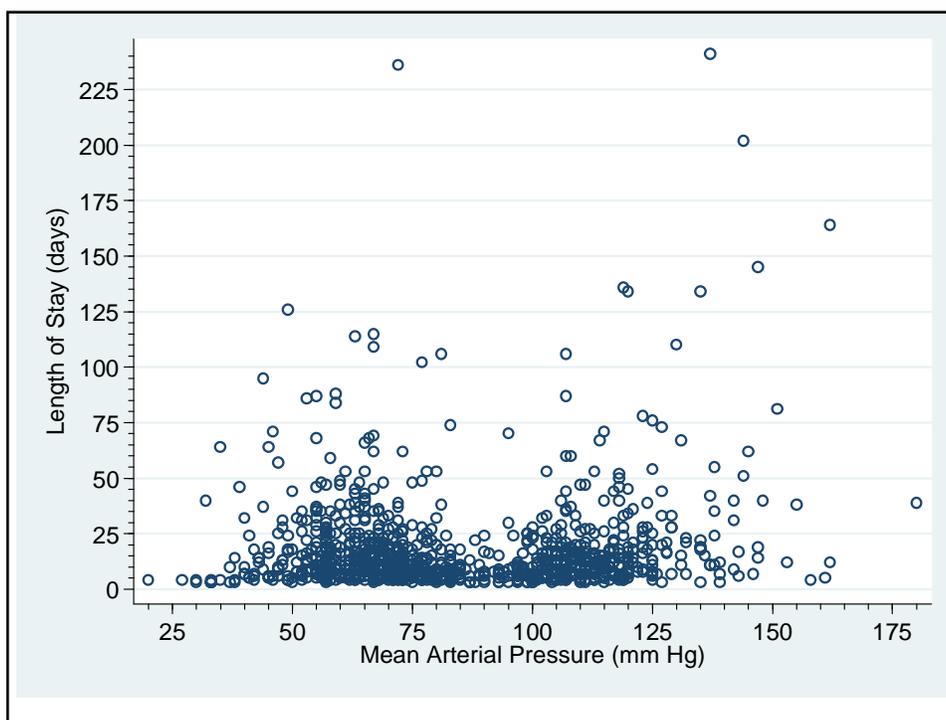
A prospective observational study of hospitalized patients

Lynn & Knauss: "Background for SUPPORT."  
*J Clin Epidemiol* 1990; 43: 1S - 4S.

A random sample of data from 996 subjects in this study is available. See

3.25.2.SUPPORT.dta

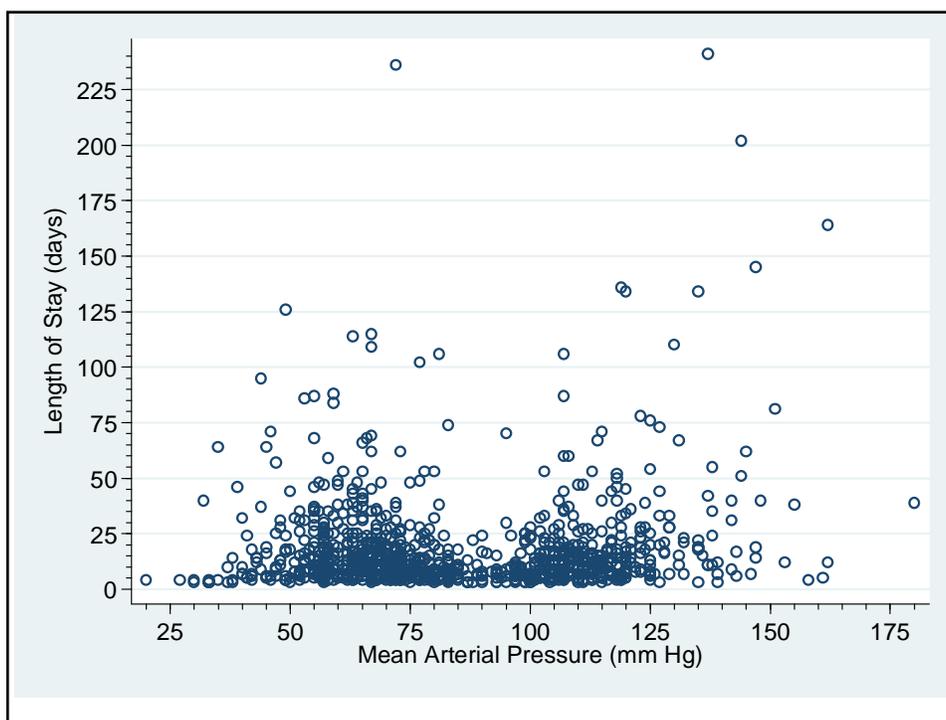
los = length of stay in days.  
map = baseline mean arterial pressure  
fate =  $\begin{cases} 1: \text{Patient died in hospital} \\ 0: \text{Patient discharged alive} \end{cases}$



### 21. Fitting a Restricted Cubic Spline with Stata

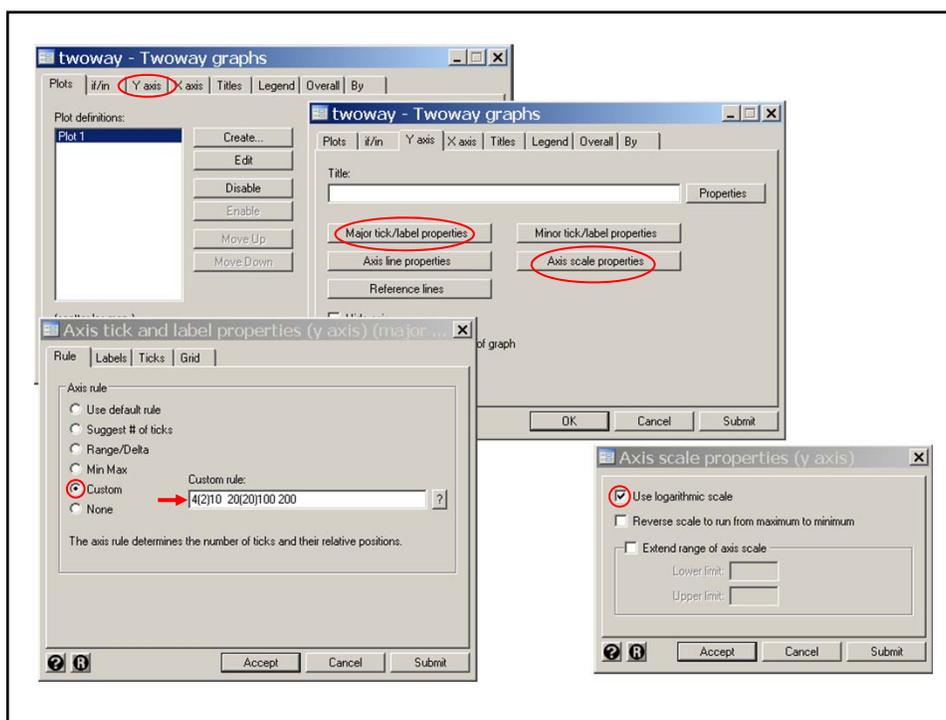
```
. * SupportLinearRCS.log
. *
. * Draw scatter plots of length-of-stay (LOS) by mean arterial
. * pressure (MAP) and log LOS by MAP for the SUPPORT Study data
. * (Lynn & Knauss, 1990).
. *
. use "C:\WDDtext\3.25.2.SUPPORT.dta" , replace
. scatter los map, symbol(Oh) xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(20 (5) 180) /// {1}
> ylabel(0(25)225, angle(0)) ymtick(5(5)240)
```

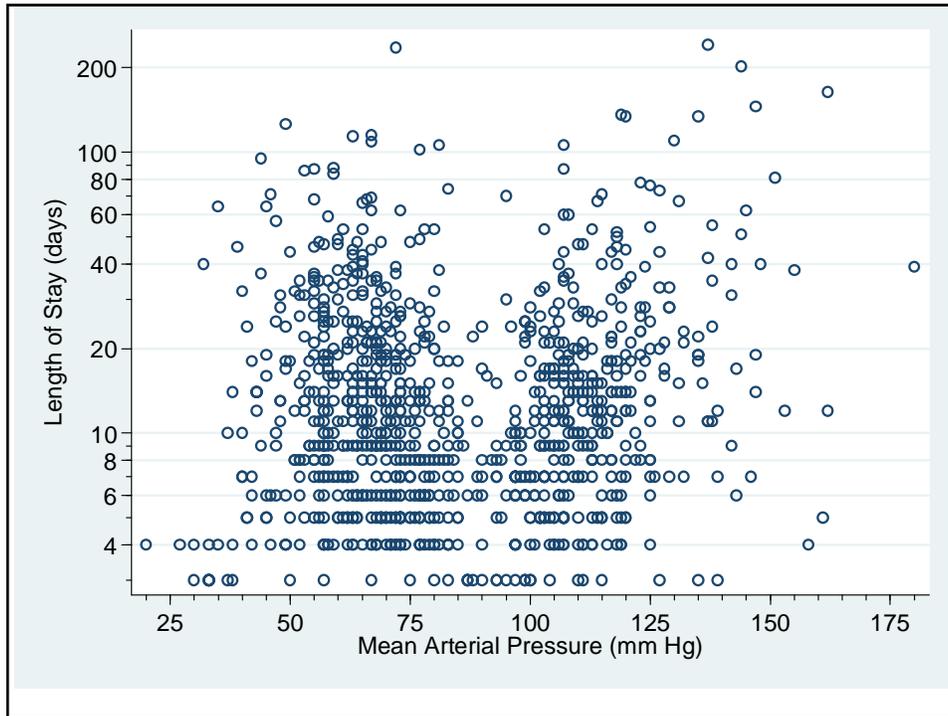
{1} Length of stay is highly skewed.



```
. scatter los map, symbol(Oh) xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(20 (5) 180) ///  
> yscale(log) ylabel(4(2)10 20(20)100 200, angle(0)) /// {2}  
> ymtick(3(1)9 30(10)90)
```

{2} Plotting log LOS makes the distribution of this variable more normal. The *yscale(log)* option does this transformation.





```

. *
. * Regress log LOS against MAP using RCS models with
. * 5 knots at their default locations. Overlay the expected
. * log LOS from these models on a scatter plot of log LOS by MAP.
. *
. * Data > Create... > Other variable-creation... > linear and cubic...
mk spline _Smap = map, cubic displayknots {1}
    
```

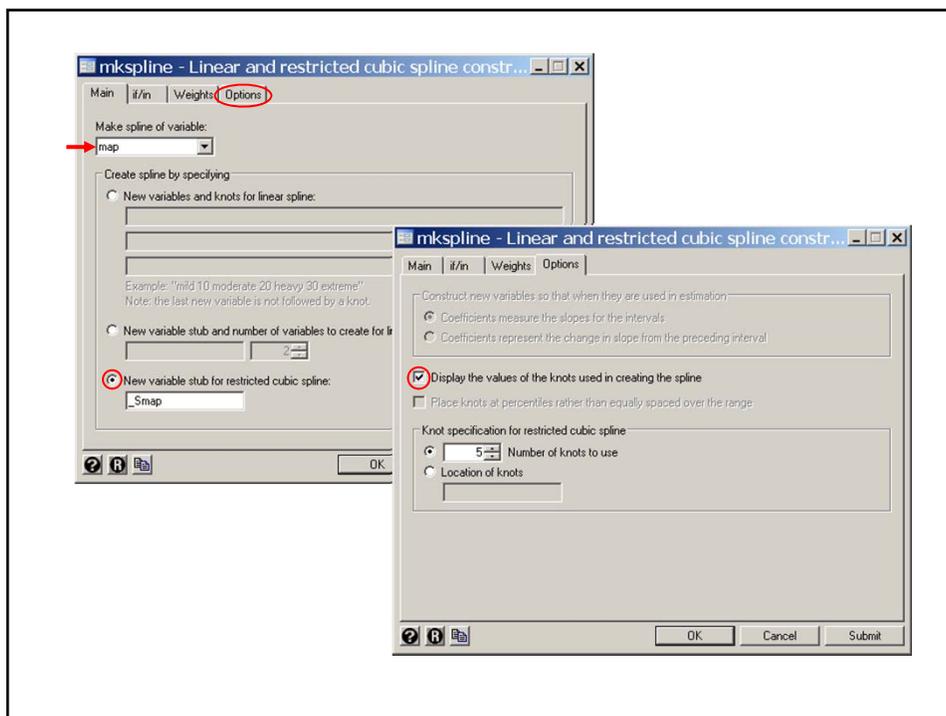
	knot1	knot2	knot3	knot4	knot5
map	47	66	78	106	129

**{1}** The **mk spline** command generates either linear or restricted cubic spline covariates. The **cubic** option specifies that restricted cubic spline covariates are to be created. This command generates these covariates for the variable **map**. By default, 5 knots are used at their default locations. Following Harrell's recommendation the computer places them at the 5th, 27.5th, 50th, 72.5th and 95th percentiles of **map**. The values of these knots are listed.

The 4 spline covariates associated with these 5 knots are named

- \_Smap1**
- \_Smap2**
- \_Smap3**
- \_Smap4**

These names are obtained by concatenating the name **\_Smap** given before the equal sign with the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4.



```

. summarize _Smap1 _Smap2 _Smap3 _Smap4 {2}

```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
_Smap1	996	85.31727	26.83566	20	180
_Smap2	996	20.06288	27.34701	0	185.6341
_Smap3	996	7.197497	11.96808	0	89.57169
_Smap4	996	3.121013	5.96452	0	48.20881

**{2}** **\_Smap1** is identical to **map**. The other spline covariates take non-negative values.

```

. generate log_los = log(los)
. regress log_los _S*

```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 996		
Model	60.9019393	4	15.2254848	F( 4, 991)	=	24.70
Residual	610.872879	991	.616420665	Prob > F	=	0.0000
Total	671.774818	995	.675150571	R-squared	=	0.0907
				Adj R-squared	=	0.0870
				Root MSE	=	.78512

log_los	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_Smap1	.0296009	.0059566	4.97	0.000	.017912	.0412899
_Smap2	-.3317922	.0496932	-6.68	0.000	-.4293081	-.2342762
_Smap3	1.263893	.1942993	6.50	0.000	.8826076	1.645178
_Smap4	-1.124065	.1890722	-5.95	0.000	-1.495092	-.7530367
_cons	1.03603	.3250107	3.19	0.001	.3982422	1.673819

**{3}** This command regresses **log\_los** against all variables that start with the characters **\_S**. The only variables with these names are the spline covariates. An equivalent way of running this regression would be

```
regress log_los _Smap1 _Smap2 _Smap3 _Smap4
```

```

. generate log_los = log(los)
. regress log_los _S*

```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 996		
Model	60.9019393	4	15.2254848	F( 4, 991)	=	24.70
Residual	610.872879	991	.616420665	Prob > F	=	0.0000
Total	671.774818	995	.675150571	R-squared	=	0.0907
				Adj R-squared	=	0.0870
				Root MSE	=	.78512

log_los	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_Smap1	.0296009	.0059566	4.97	0.000	.017912	.0412899
_Smap2	-.3317922	.0496932	-6.68	0.000	-.4293081	-.2342762
_Smap3	1.263893	.1942993	6.50	0.000	.8826076	1.645178
_Smap4	-1.124065	.1890722	-5.95	0.000	-1.495092	-.7530367
_cons	1.03603	.3250107	3.19	0.001	.3982422	1.673819

**{4}** This F statistic tests the null hypothesis that the coefficients associated with the parameters of the spline covariates are simultaneously zero. In other words, it tests the hypothesis that length of stay is unaffected by MAP. It is significant with  $P < 0.00005$ .

```
* Statistics > Postestimation > Reports and statistics
. estat ic
```

Model	Obs	ll(null)	ll(model)	df	AIC	BIC
.	996	-1217.138	-1169.811	5	2349.623	2374.141

Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note

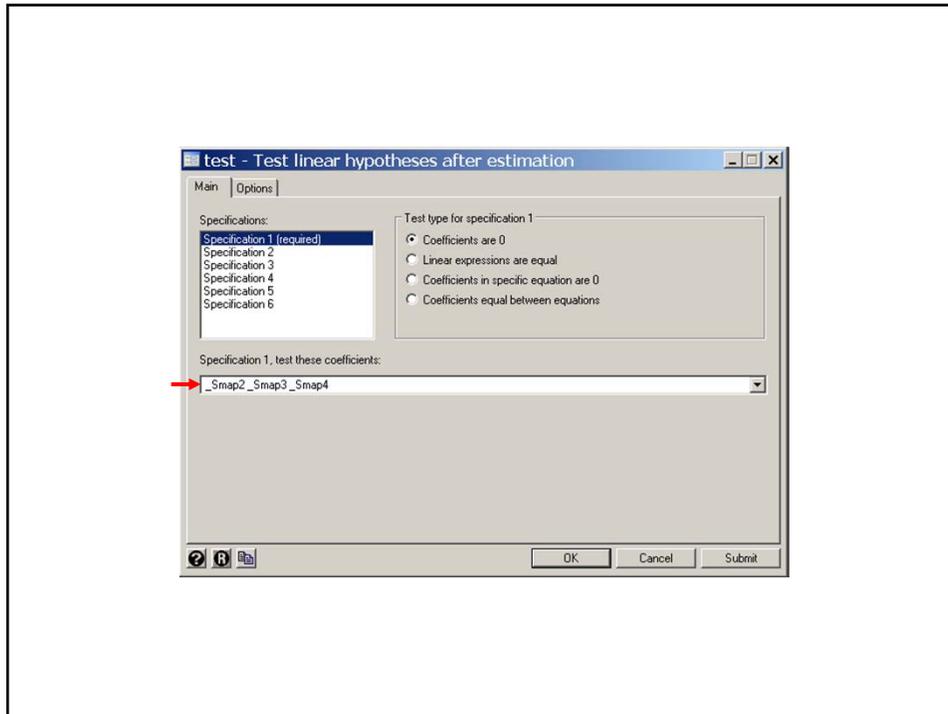
**{5}** Calculate the AIC and BIC for this model.

```
* Statistics > Postestimation > Tests > Test linear hypotheses
. test _Smap2 _Smap3 _Smap4
```

```
( 1) _Smap2 = 0
( 2) _Smap3 = 0
( 3) _Smap4 = 0
```

F( 3, 991) = 30.09  
Prob > F = 0.0000

**{6}** Test the null hypothesis that there is a linear relationship between **map** and **log\_los**. Since **\_Smap1 = map**, this is done by testing the null hypothesis that the coefficients associated with **\_Smap2**, **\_Smap3** and **\_Smap4** are all simultaneously zero. This test is significant with  $P < 0.00005$ .



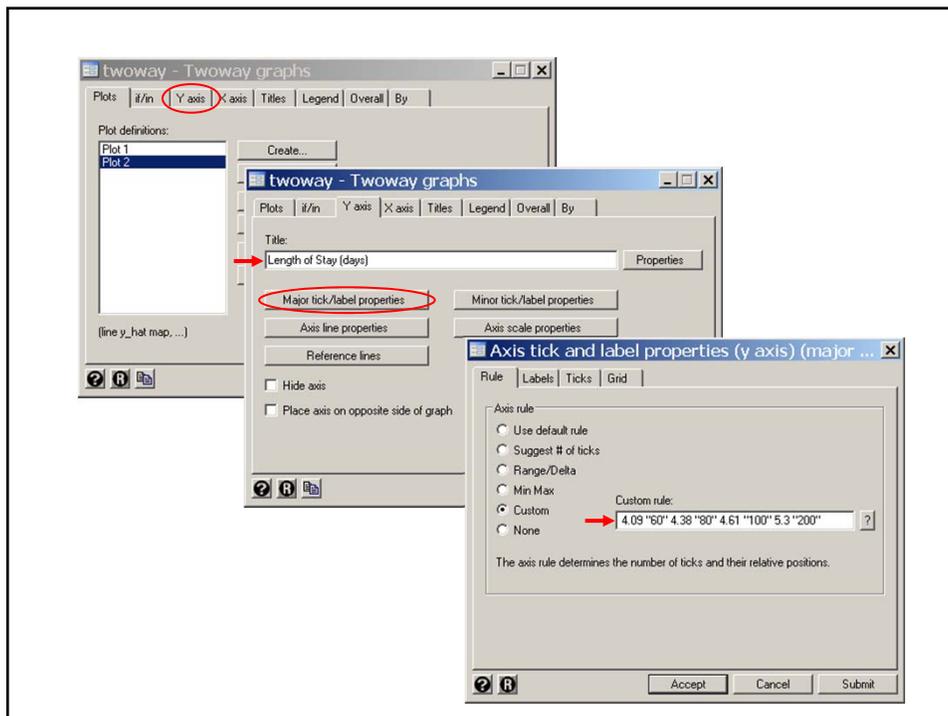
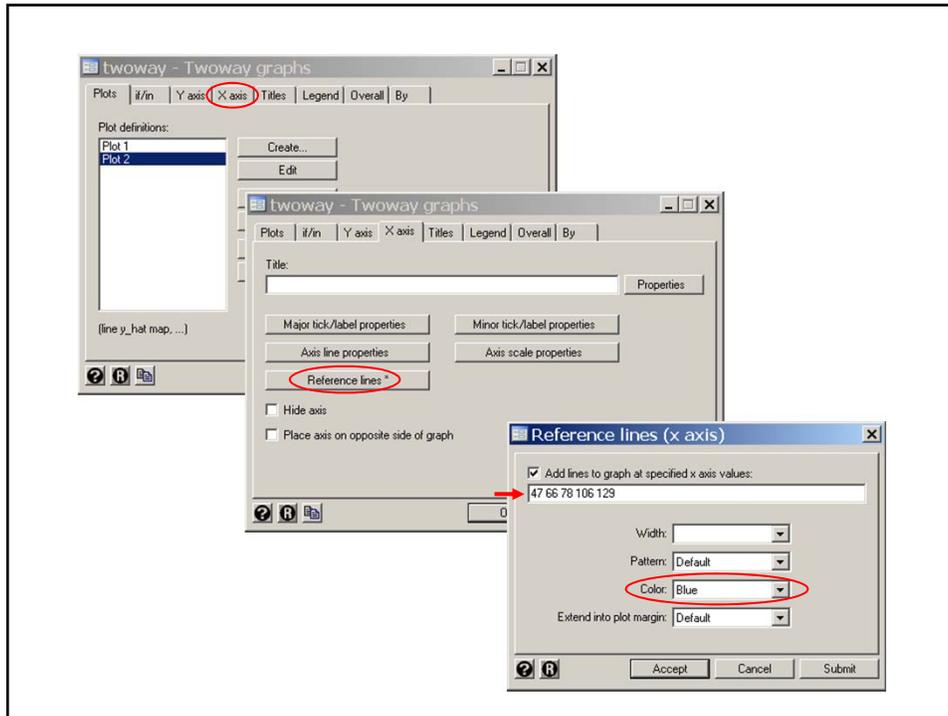
**{7}** **y\_hat** is the estimated expected value of **log\_los** under this model.

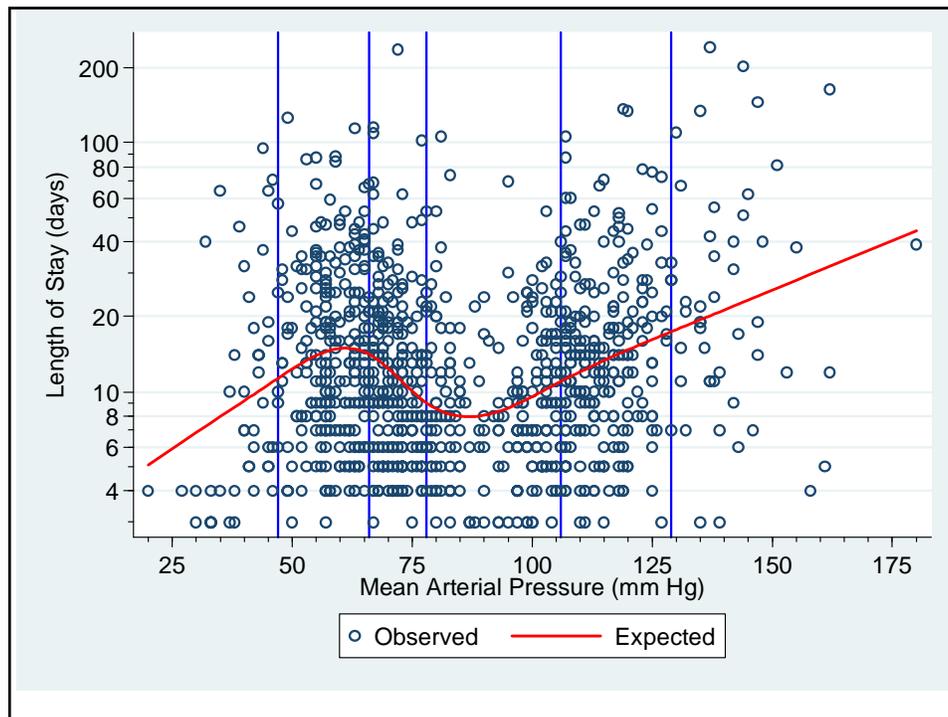
```
. predict y_hat5, xb {7}
. scatter log_los map, symbol(Oh) /// {8}
> || line y_hat5 map, color(red) lwidth(medthick) ///
> , xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(20 (5) 180) ///
> xline(47 66 78 106 129, lcolor(blue)) /// {9}
> ylabel(1.39 "4" 1.79 "6" 2.08 "8" 2.3 "10" 3 "20" /// {10}
> 3.69 "40" 4.09 "60" 4.38 "80" 4.61 "100" 5.3 "200", angle(0)) ///
> ymtick(1.1 1.39 1.61 1.79 1.95 2.08 2.2 3.4 3.91 4.25 4.5) ///
> ylabel(Length of Stay (days)) ///
> legend(order(1 "Observed" 2 "Expected"))
```

**{8}** Graph a scatterplot of **log\_los** vs. **map** together with a line plot of the expected **log\_los** vs. **map**.

**{9}** This **xline** option draws vertical lines at each of the five knots. The **lcolor** suboption colors these lines blue.

**{10}** The units of the *y*-axis is length of stay. This **ylabel** option places the label 4 at the *y*-axis value 1.39 = log(4), 6 at the value 1.79 = log(6), etc.





```

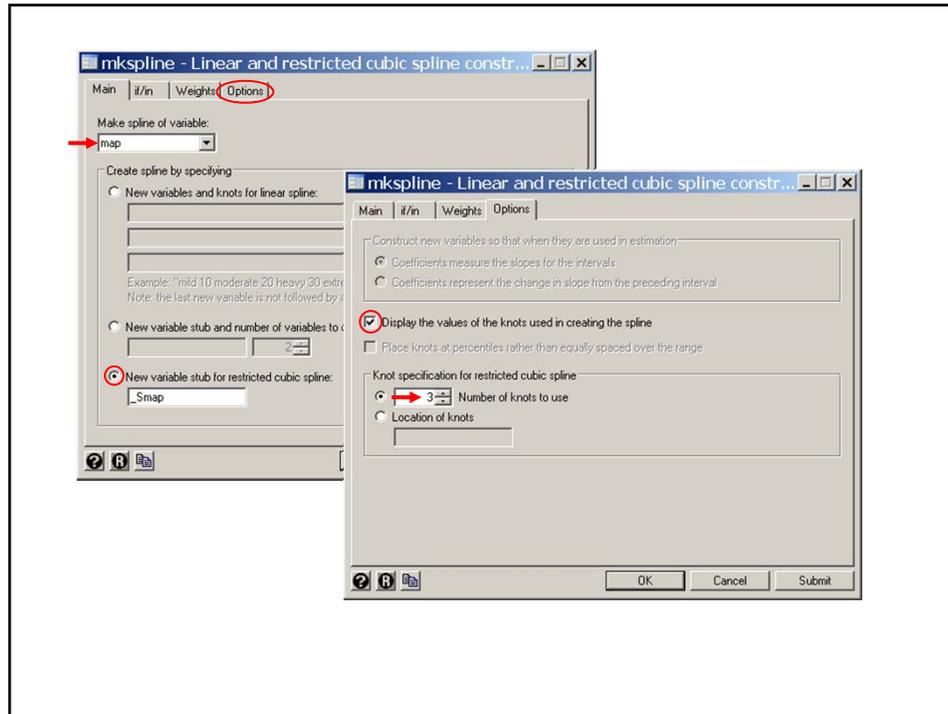
. *
. * Plot expected LOS for models with 3, 4, 6 and 7 knots.
. * Use the default knot locations. Calculate AIC and BIC for each model.
. *
. * Variables Manager
. drop _S*

. * Data > Create... > Other variable-creation... > linear and cubic...
. mkspline _Smap = map, nknots(3) cubic displayknots {11}

-----+-----
      |      knot1      knot2      knot3
      |      55        78        120
      |
map |

```

**{11}** Define 2 spline covariates associated with 3 knots at their default locations. The **nknots** option specifies the number of knots.



```

. regress log_los _S*

      Source |           SS       df       MS                Number of obs =   996
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Model |   23.8065057         2   11.9032528                F( 2, 993) =   18.24
      Residual |  647.968313       993   .652536065                Prob > F      =   0.0000
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total |  671.774818       995   .675150571                R-squared     =   0.0354
                                                Adj R-squared =   0.0335
                                                Root MSE    =   .8078

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      log_los |           Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      _Smap1 |   -.0110138     .0027449    -4.01   0.000    - .0164002   -.0056274
      _Smap2 |    .0226496     .004248    5.33   0.000     .0143135    .0309858
      _cons |    3.124095     .1827706   17.09   0.000     2.765435    3.482756
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----

. predict y_hat3, xb

. estat ic

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Model |   Obs   ll(null)   ll(model)   df       AIC       BIC
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      . |   996  -1217.138  -1199.17    3       2404.34  2419.051
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note
    
```

```

. drop _S*

. mkspline _Smap = map, nknots(4) cubic displayknots

-----+-----
      |      knot1      knot2      knot3      knot4
-----+-----
map |      47        69        100        129

. regress log_los _S*

      Source |      SS      df      MS              Number of obs =   996
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Model | 40.8276008      3 13.6092003          F( 3, 992) = 21.40
      Residual | 630.947217    992  .636035501          Prob > F      = 0.0000
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total | 671.774818    995  .675150571          R-squared     = 0.0608
                                          Adj R-squared = 0.0579
                                          Root MSE    = .79752

-----+-----
log_los |      Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
  _Smap1 | .0060744    .004387       1.38  0.166    - .0025343   .0146832
  _Smap2 | -.0533119   .0155968     -3.42  0.001    - .0839184  -.0227054
  _Smap3 | .1509453    .0342118      4.41  0.000     .0838095   .2180812
  _cons  | 2.180462    .2600792      8.38  0.000     1.670093   2.69083

. predict y_hat4, xb

```

```

. estat ic

-----+-----
      Model |      Obs   ll(null)   ll(model)      df          AIC          BIC
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      .    |      996  -1217.138  -1185.913       4      2379.827      2399.442
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
                        Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note

. drop _S*

. mkspline _Smap = map, nknots(6) cubic displayknots

-----+-----
      |      knot1      knot2      knot3      knot4      knot5      knot6
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
map |      47        63        73        93       108.69       129

```

```
. regress log_los _S*
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 996		
Model	62.1303583	5	12.4260717	F( 5, 990) = 20.18		
Residual	609.64446	990	.615802485	Prob > F = 0.0000		
				R-squared = 0.0925		
				Adj R-squared = 0.0879		
				Root MSE = .78473		

```
-----
```

log_los	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_Smap1	.03099	.006904	4.49	0.000	.0174418	.0445382
_Smap2	-.3837563	.0874071	-4.39	0.000	-.5552809	-.2122318
_Smap3	1.111961	.3834093	2.90	0.004	.3595729	1.864349
_Smap4	-.5873248	.4457995	-1.32	0.188	-1.462145	.2874957
_Smap5	-.4824613	.2991149	-1.61	0.107	-1.069433	.1045108
_cons	.9745223	.3623654	2.69	0.007	.2634297	1.685615

```
-----
```

```
. predict y_hat6, xb
```

```
. estat ic
```

Model	Obs	ll(null)	ll(model)	df	AIC	BIC
.	996	-1217.138	-1168.809	6	2349.618	2379.04

Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note

```
. drop _S*
```

```
. mkspline _Smap = map, nknots(7) cubic displayknots
```

	knot1	knot2	knot3	knot4	- knot5	knot6	knot7
map	41	60	69	78	101.3251	113	138.075

```
. regress log_los _S*
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs = 996		
Model	62.5237582	6	10.4206264	F( 6, 989) = 16.92		
Residual	609.25106	989	.616027361	Prob > F = 0.0000		
				R-squared = 0.0931		
				Adj R-squared = 0.0876		
				Root MSE = .78487		

```
-----
```

log_los	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_Smap1	.0389453	.0092924	4.19	0.000	.0207101	.0571804
_Smap2	-.3778786	.12678	-2.98	0.003	-.6266673	-.12909
_Smap3	.9316267	.8933099	1.04	0.297	-.8213739	2.684627
_Smap4	.1269005	1.58931	0.08	0.936	-2.991907	3.245708
_Smap5	-.7282771	1.034745	-0.70	0.482	-2.758824	1.30227
_Smap6	-.3479716	.4841835	-0.72	0.473	-1.298117	.6021733
_cons	.6461153	.4496715	1.44	0.151	-.2363046	1.528535

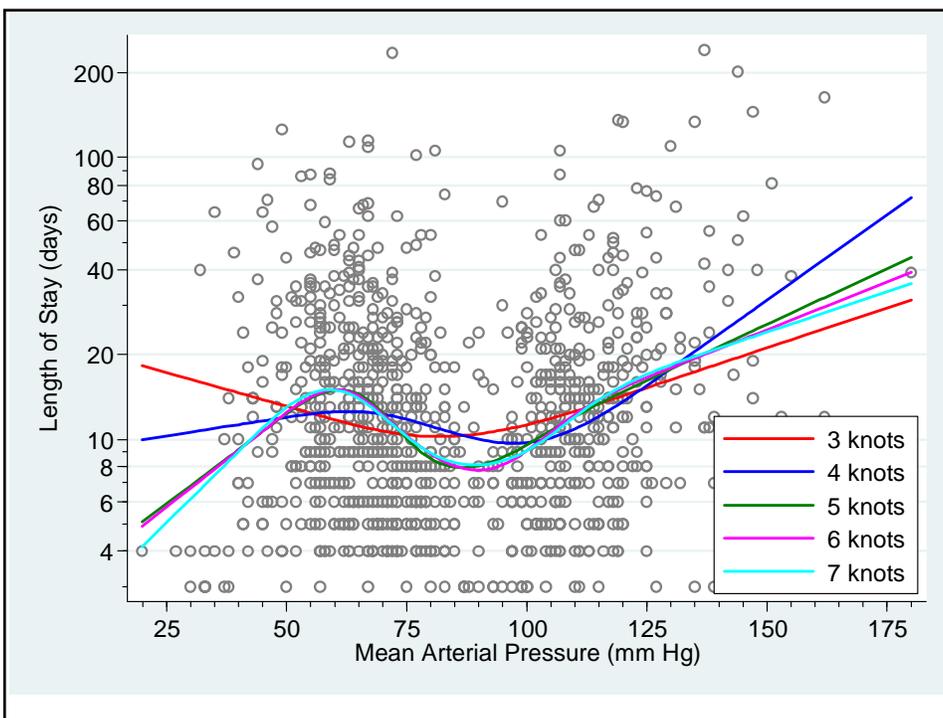
```
-----
```

```

. predict y_hat7, xb
. estat ic
-----+-----
Model |   Obs   ll(null)   ll(model)   df       AIC       BIC
-----+-----
.     |   996  -1217.138  -1168.487    7   2350.975  2385.301
-----+-----
Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note

.
. twoway scatter log_los map, symbol(Oh) color(gray)          ///
>   || line y_hat3 map, color(red) lwidth(medthick)          ///
>   || line y_hat4 map, color(blue) lwidth(medthick)         ///
>   || line y_hat5 map, color(green) lwidth(medthick)        ///
>   || line y_hat6 map, color(magenta) lwidth(medthick)      ///
>   || line y_hat7 map, color(cyan) lwidth(medthick)         ///
>   , xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(20 (5) 180)                 ///
>   ylabel(1.39 "4" 1.79 "6" 2.08 "8" 2.3 "10" 3 "20"        ///
>   3.69 "40" 4.09 "60" 4.38 "80" 4.61 "100" 5.3 "200", angle(0) ///
>   ymtick(1.1 1.39 1.61 1.79 1.95 2.08 2.2 3.4 3.91 4.25 4.5) ///
>   ytitle(Length of Stay (days)) legend(ring(0) position(4) col(1) ///
>   order(2 "3 knots" 3 "4 knots" 4 "5 knots" 5 "6 knots" 6 "7 knots"))

```



Restricted cubic spline models of log length-of-stay by mean arterial pressure

Knots	AIC	BIC
3	2,404.340	2,419.051
4	2,379.827	2,399.442
5	2,349.623	2,374.141
6	2,349.618	2,379.040
7	2,350.975	2,385.301

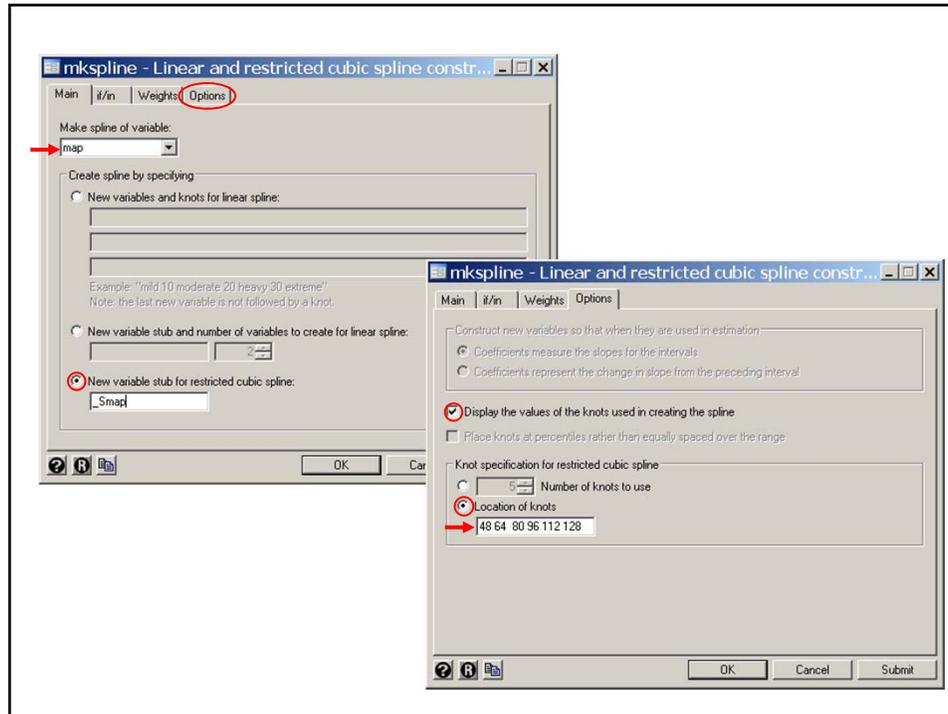
- ❖ Models with AIC values within 1 or 2 of the minimum deserve consideration.
- ❖ Models with AIC values > 10 above the minimum may be discarded.
- ❖ Clearly the 3 and 4 knot models provide a poor fit.
- ❖ I have decided to use the 6 knot model but 5 or 7 knots would also be fine. Note that the 6 knot model lies between the 5 and 7 knot model,
- ❖ We have lots of observation and few parameters so the number of knots is not too important.

```
. *
. * Plot expected LOS for the 6 knot model together with 95%
. * confidence bands. Use evenly spaced knot locations.
. *
. drop _S*

. * Data > Create... > Other variable-creation... > linear and cubic...
. mkspline _Smap = map, knots(48 64 80 96 112 128) /// {12}
> cubic displayknots
```



**{12}** Define 5 spline covariates associated with 6 knots at evenly spaced locations. The knots option specifies the knot locations



```

. regress log_los _S*
. predict y_hat, xb
. predict se, stdp
. generate lb = y_hat - invttail(_N-6, 0.025)*se
. generate ub = y_hat + invttail(_N-6, 0.025)*se

. twoway rarea lb ub map, color(yellow)
  || scatter log_los map, symbol(Oh) color(blue)
  || line y_hat map, color(red) lwidth(medthick)
  , xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(20 (5) 180)
  xline(48(16)128, lcolor(gray))
  ylabel(1.39 "4" 1.79 "6" 2.08 "8" 2.3 "10" 3 "20"
  3.69 "40" 4.09 "60" 4.38 "80" 4.61 "100" 5.3 "200", angle(0))
  ymtick(1.1 1.39 1.61 1.79 1.95 2.08 2.2 3.4 3.91 4.25 4.5)
  subtitle("Evenly" "Spaced" "Knots", ring(0) position(10))
  ytitle(Length of Stay (days)) legend(off)

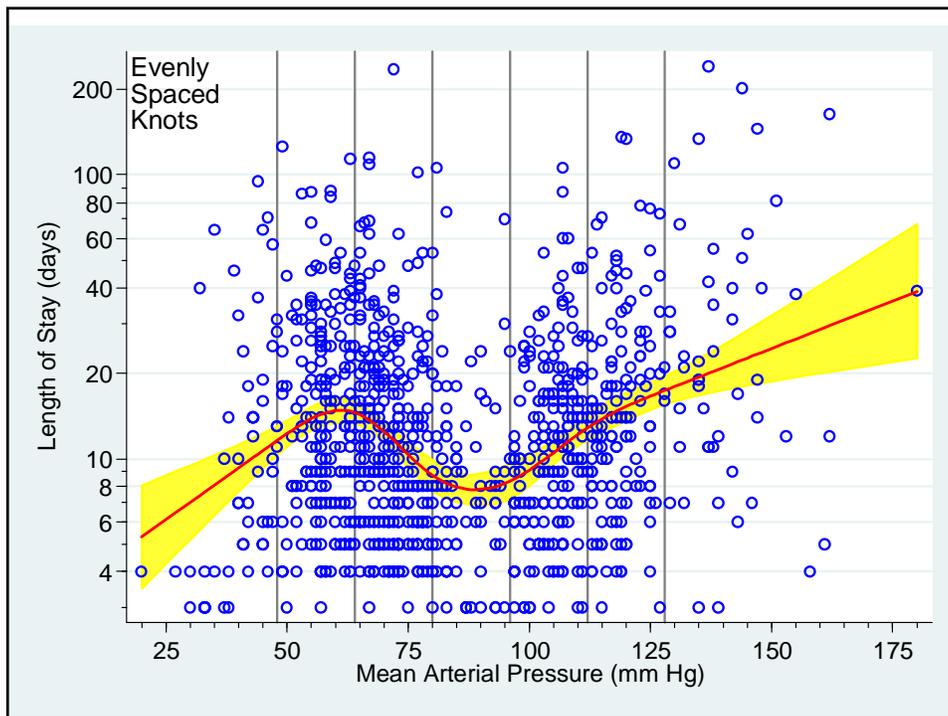
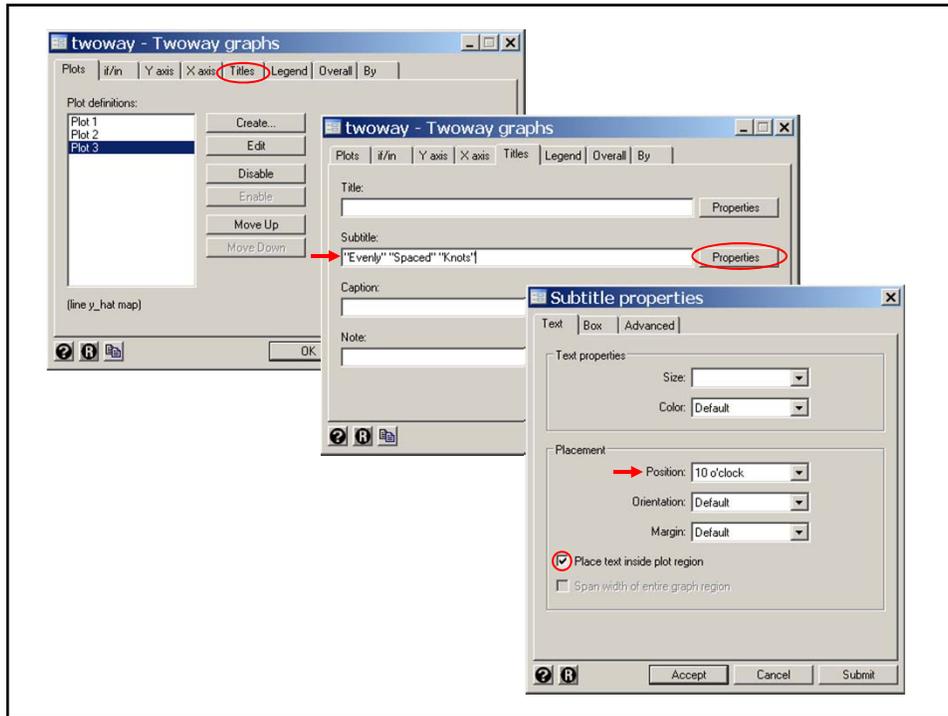
```

**{15}** Add a subtitle inside the graph at the 10 o'clock position. Placing the words in separate quotes causes them to be printed on separate lines.

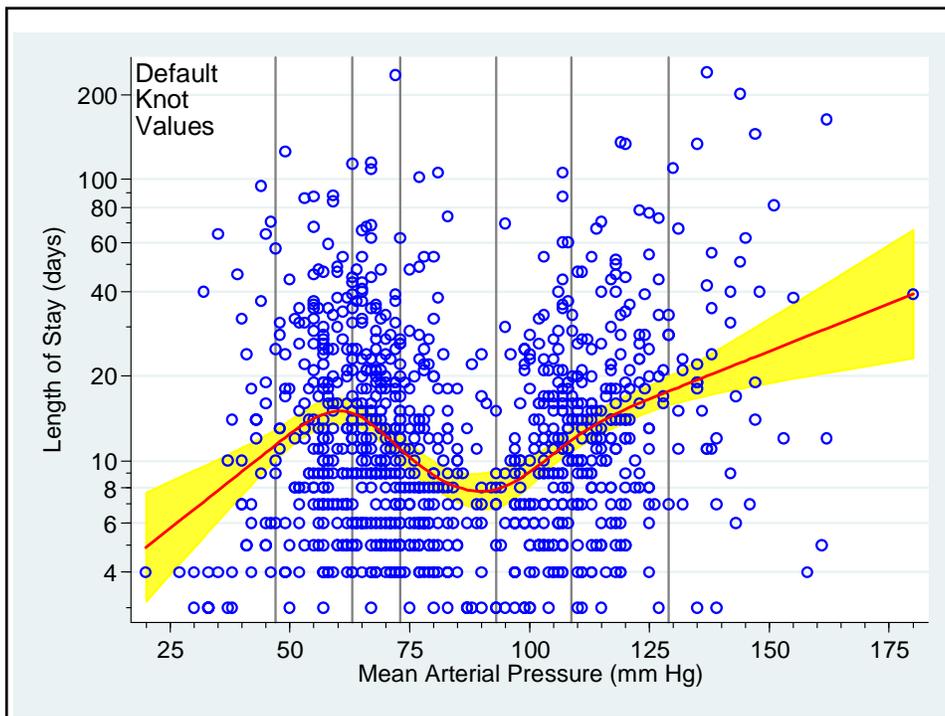
{Output Omitted}

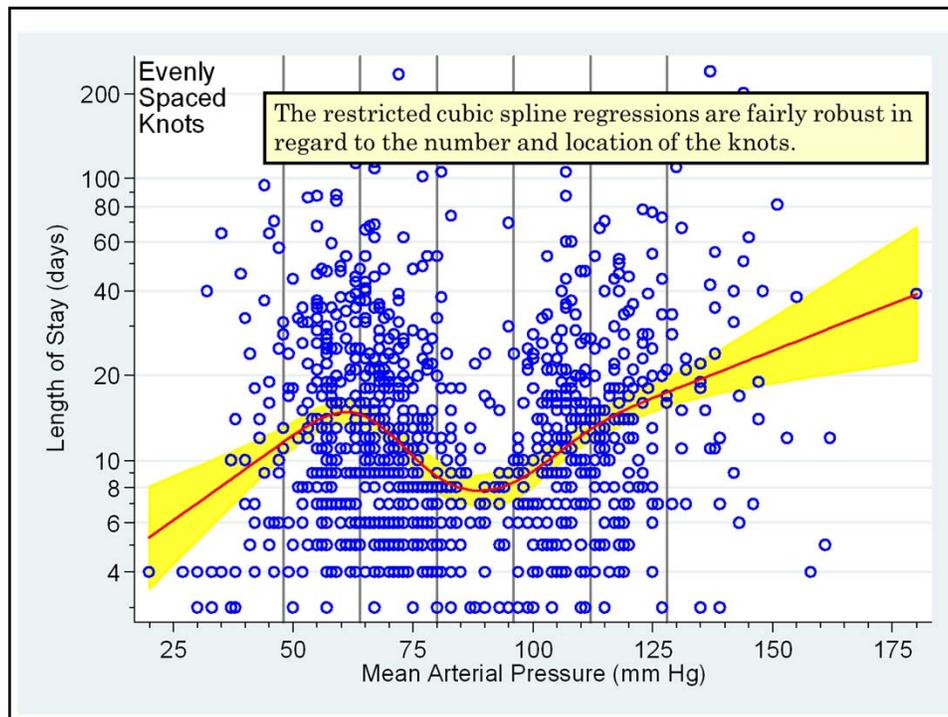
**{13}**  $\_N-6$  = the number of observations minus the number of parameters = 990 = the degrees of freedom of the MSE  $s^2$ . **lb** is the lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for  $y\_hat$ .

**{14}** This plot adds the 95% confidence region for the regression curve.



```
. *  
. * Replot 6 knot model with default knot spacing.  
. *  
. drop _S* y_hat se lb ub  
  
. mkspline _Smap = map, nknots(6) cubic  
  
. regress log_los _S*                                     {Output Omitted}  
  
. predict y_hat, xb  
  
. predict se, stdp  
  
. generate lb = y_hat - invttail(_N-6, 0.025)*se  
  
. generate ub = y_hat + invttail(_N-6, 0.025)*se  
  
. twoway rarea lb ub map , color(yellow)                ///  
  || scatter log_los map, symbol(Oh) color(blue)        ///  
  || line y_hat map, color(red) lwidth(medthick)        ///  
  , xlabel( 25 (25) 175) xmtick( 20 (5) 180)            ///  
  ylabel( 1.39 "4" 1.79 "6" 2.08 "8" 2.3 "10" 3 "20"    ///  
        3.69 "40" 4.09 "60" 4.38 "80" 4.61 "100" 5.3 "200", angle(0)) ///  
  ymtick( 1.1 1.39 1.61 1.79 1.95 2.08 2.2 3.4 3.91 4.25 4.5) ///  
  xline( 47 63 73 93 108.69 129, lcolor(gray))          ///  
  ytitle( Length of Stay (days))                       ///  
  subtitle( "Default" "Knot" "Values"                   ///  
    , ring(0) position(10) legend(off)
```





```

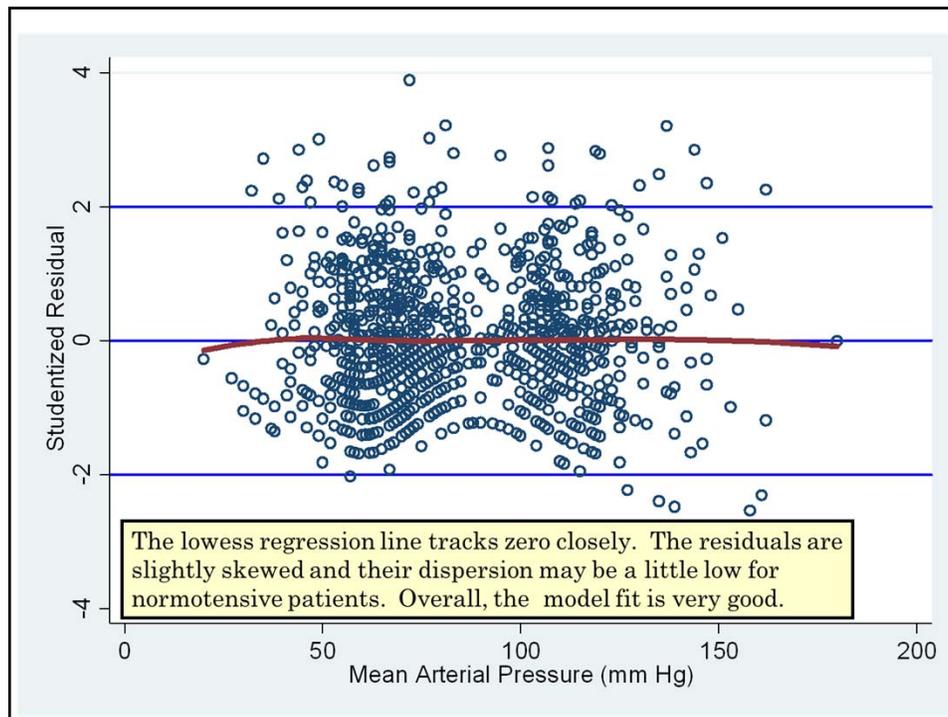
. predict rstudent, rstudent
. generate big = abs(rstudent)>2
. * Statistics > Summaries, tables and tests > Tables > One-way tables
. tabulate big

      big |      Freq.      Percent      Cum.
-----+-----
       0 |         949         95.28         95.28
       1 |          47          4.72         100.00
-----+-----
      Total |         996        100.00

. *
. * Draw a scatter plot of the studentized residuals against MAP
. * Overlay the associated lowess regression curve on this graph.
. *
. twoway scatter rstudent map, symbol(Oh)          ///
>     || lowess rstudent map, lwidth(thick)       ///
>     , ytitle(Studentized Residual) yline(-2 0 2, lcolor(blue)) legend(off)

```

Note that 4.72% of the studentized residuals are greater than 2.



```

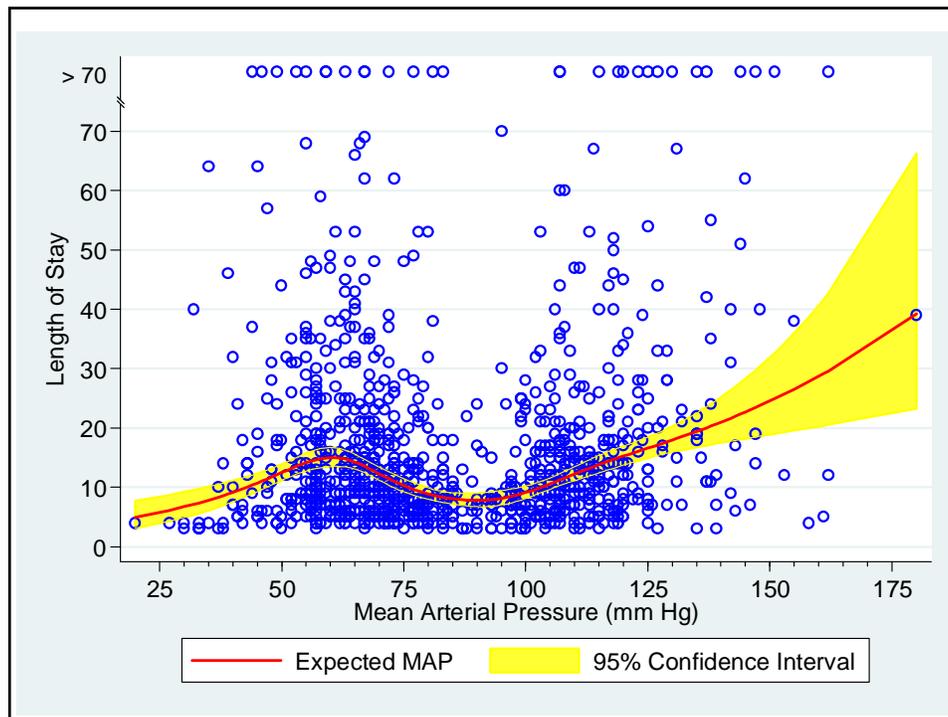
. *
. * Plot expected LOS against MAP on a linear scale.
. * Truncate LOS > 70.
. *
. generate e_los = exp(y_hat)
. generate lb_los = exp(lb)
. generate ub_los = exp(ub)
. generate truncated_los = los

. * Data > Create or change data > Create new variable
. replace truncated_los = 80 if los > 70
(29 real changes made)

. twoway rarea lb_los ub_los map , color(yellow)          ///
>   || scatter truncated_los map , symbol(Oh) color(blue)  ///
>   || line e_los map , color(red) lwidth(medthick)        ///
>   || rline lb_los ub_los map , color(yellow)             /// {16}
>   lwidth(thin thin)                                     ///
> , xlabel(25 (25) 175) xmtick(30 (5) 170)              ///
> ylabel(0 (10) 70) ytitle(Length of Stay)              ///
> legend(order(3 "Expected MAP"                          ///
>   1 "95% Confidence Interval") rows(1))

```

{15} The scatter plot is so dense that it often obscures the 95% confidence band. Plotting the outline of this band on top of the scatter plot makes it easier to see.



## 22. What we have covered.

- ❖ Extend simple linear regression to models with multiple covariates
- ❖ Meaning of parameters in a multiple linear regression model
- ❖ Exploratory data analysis
  - Density distribution sunflower plots for displaying high density bivariate data
  - Matrix scatterplots
- ❖ Additive models and models with interaction terms
- ❖ Building and interpreting complex linear models
- ❖ Stepwise methods of building regression models
- ❖ Model validation: Evaluating residuals, leverage and influence
- ❖ Goodness of model fit vs. model complexity: Using AIC and BIC to choose a good model.
- ❖ Restricted cubic splines: Using multiple linear regression to model non-linear relationships between continuous variables.
- ❖ Calculating 95% confidence bands for regression curves from restricted cubic spline models.

**Cited References**

Levy D, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute., Center for Bio-Medical Communication. *50 Years of Discovery : Medical Milestones from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Framingham Heart Study.* Hackensack, N.J.: Center for Bio-Medical Communication Inc.; 1999.

Knaus,W.A., Harrell, F.E., Jr., Lynn, J., Goldman, L., Phillips, R.S., Connors, A.F., Jr. et al. The SUPPORT prognostic model. Objective estimates of survival for seriously ill hospitalized adults. Study to understand prognoses and preferences for outcomes and risks of treatments. *Ann Intern Med.* 1995; 122:191-203.

**For additional references on these notes see.**

Dupont WD. *Statistical Modeling for Biomedical Researchers: A Simple Introduction to the Analysis of Complex Data.* 2nd ed. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press; 2009.

### III. INTRODUCTION TO LOGISTIC REGRESSION

- ❖ Simple logistic regression: Assessing the effect of a continuous variable on a dichotomous outcome
- ❖ How logistic regression parameters affect the probability of an event
- ❖ Probability, odds and odds ratios
- ❖ Generalized linear models: The relationship between linear and logistic regression
- ❖ Confidence intervals for proportions
- ❖ Plotting probability of death with 95% confidence bands as a function of a continuous risk factor
- ❖ Review of classic 2x2 case-control studies
- ❖ Analyzing case-control studies with logistic regression

© William D. Dupont, 2010,2011

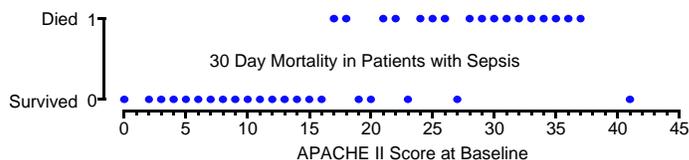
Use of this file is restricted by a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike license. See <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses> for details.



## 1. Simple Logistic Regression

### a) Example: APACHE II Score and Mortality in Sepsis

The following figure shows 30 day mortality in a sample of septic patients as a function of their baseline APACHE II Score. Patients are coded as 1 or 0 depending on whether they are dead or alive in 30 days, respectively.



We wish to predict death from baseline APACHE II score in these patients.

Let  $\pi(x)$  be the probability that a patient with score  $x$  will die.

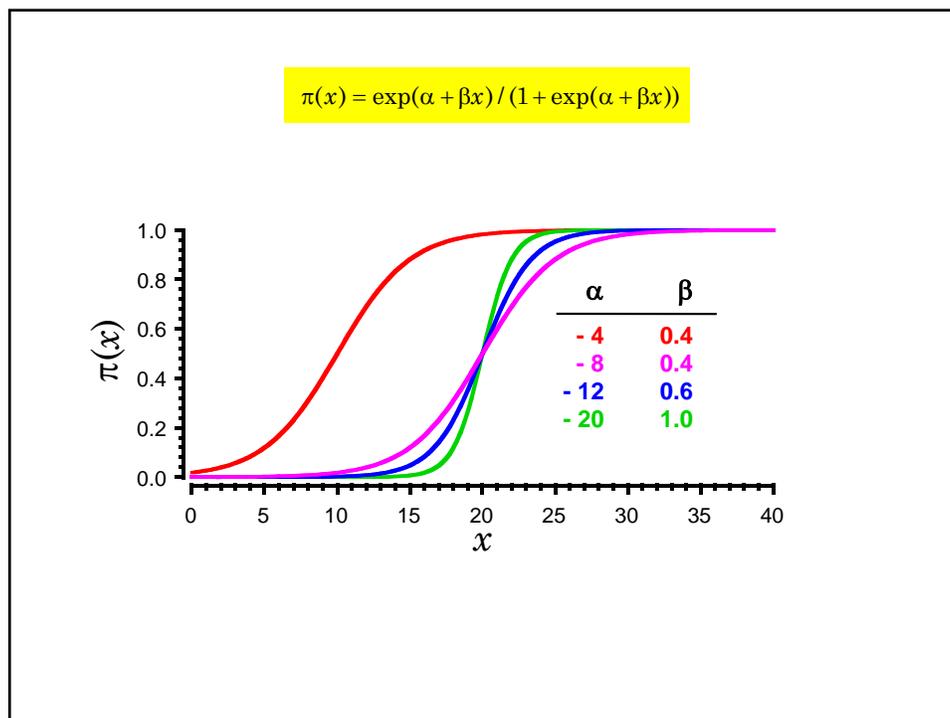
Note that linear regression would not work well here since it could produce probabilities less than zero or greater than one.

**b) Sigmoidal family of logistic regression curves**

**Logistic regression** fits probability functions of the following form:

$$\pi(x) = \exp(\alpha + \beta x) / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x)) \quad \{3.1\}$$

This equation describes a family of sigmoidal curves, three examples of which are given below.



**c) Parameter values and the shape of the regression curve**

For now assume that  $\beta > 0$ .

For negative values of  $x$ ,  $\exp(\alpha + \beta x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$   
 and hence  $\pi(x) \rightarrow 0 / (1 + 0) = 0$

For very large values of  $x$ ,  $\exp(\alpha + \beta x) \rightarrow \infty$  and hence  
 $\pi(x) \rightarrow \infty / (1 + \infty) = 1$

When  $x = -\alpha / \beta$ ,  $\alpha + \beta x = 0$  and hence  $\pi(x) = 1 / (1 + 1) = 0.5$

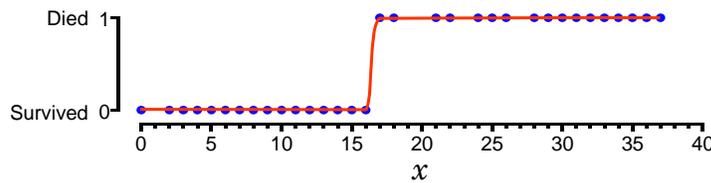
The slope of  $\pi(x)$  when  $\pi(x) = .5$  is  $\beta/4$ .

Thus  $\beta$  controls how fast  $\pi(x)$  rises from 0 to 1.

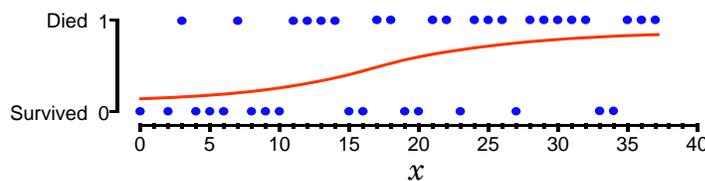
For given  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha$  controls where the 50% survival point is located.

We wish to choose the best curve to fit the data.

Data that has a sharp survival cut off point between patients who live or die should have a large value of  $\beta$ .



Data with a lengthy transition from survival to death should have a low value of  $\beta$ .



d) The **probability of death** under the logistic model

This probability is

$$\pi(x) = \exp(\alpha + \beta x) / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x))$$

Hence  $1 - \pi(x)$  = probability of survival

$$= \frac{1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x) - \exp(\alpha + \beta x)}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x)}$$

$= 1 / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x))$  , and the **odds of death** is

$$\pi(x) / (1 - \pi(x)) = \exp(\alpha + \beta x)$$

The **log odds of death** equals

$$\log(\pi(x) / (1 - \pi(x))) = \alpha + \beta x \quad \{3.2\}$$

e) The **logit function**

For any number  $\pi$  between 0 and 1 the logit function is defined by

$$\text{logit}(\pi) = \log(\pi / (1 - \pi))$$

$$\text{Let } d_i = \begin{cases} 1: i^{\text{th}} \text{ patient dies} \\ 0: i^{\text{th}} \text{ patient lives} \end{cases}$$

$x_i$  be the APACHE II score of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient

Then the expected value of  $d_i$  is

$$E(d_i) = \pi(x_i)$$

Thus we can rewrite the **logistic regression equation** {3.1} as

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + \beta x_i \quad \{3.3\}$$

## 2. The Binomial Distribution

Let

$m$  be the number of people at risk of death

$d$  be the number of deaths

$\pi$  be the probability that any patient dies.

The death of one patient has no effect on any other.

Then  $d$  has a **binomial distribution** with

parameters  $m$  and  $\pi$ ,

mean  $m\pi$ , and

variance  $m\pi(1-\pi)$ .

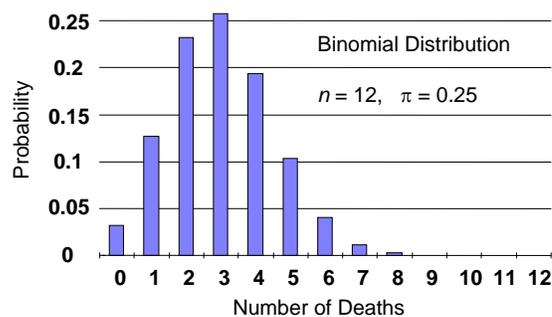
Pr[ $d$  deaths]

$$= \frac{m!}{(m-d)!d!} \pi^d (1-\pi)^{(m-d)} \quad : d = 0, 1, \dots, m \quad \{3.4\}$$

The population mean of any random variable  $x$  is also equal to its expected value and is written  $E(x)$ . Hence

$$E(d) = \pi m \quad \text{and} \quad E(d/m) = \pi$$

For  $m = 12$  and  $\pi = 0.25$  this distribution is as follows.



A special case of the binomial distribution is when  $m = 1$ , which is called a **Bernoulli distribution**.

In this case we can have 0 or 1 deaths with probability  $1-\pi$  and  $\pi$ , respectively.

The complete logistic regression model for the sepsis data is specified as follows

$d_i$  has a binomial distribution with 0 or 1 failures and probability of failure  $\pi(x_i) = E(d_i)$

$E(d_i)$  is determined by  $\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + \beta x_i$

### 3. Generalized Linear Models

Logistic regression is an example of a **generalized linear model**. These models are defined by three attributes: The distribution of the model's **random component**, its **linear predictor**, and its **link function**. For logistic regression these are defined as follows.

a) **The random component**

$d_i$  is the **random component** of the model. In logistic regression,  $d_i$  has a binomial distribution obtained from  $m_i$  trials with mean  $E(d_i)$ . (In the sepsis example,  $m_i = 1$  for all  $i$ .)

Stata refers to the distribution of the random component as the **distributional family**.

b) **The linear predictor**

$\alpha + x_i\beta$  is called the **linear predictor**

c) **The link function**

$E(d_i)$  is related to the linear predictor through a **link function**. Logistic regression uses a logit link function

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + x_i\beta$$

4. Contrast Between Logistic and Linear Regression

In linear regression, the expected value of  $y_i$  given  $x_i$  is

$$E(y_i) = \alpha + \beta x_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$y_i$  has a normal distribution with standard deviation  $\sigma$ .

$y_i$  is the **random component** of the model, which has a **normal distribution**.

$\alpha + \beta x_i$  is the **linear predictor**.

The **link function** is the identity function  $E(y_i) = I(E(y_i))$ .

5. Maximum Likelihood Estimation

In linear regression we used the method of **least squares** to estimate regression coefficients.

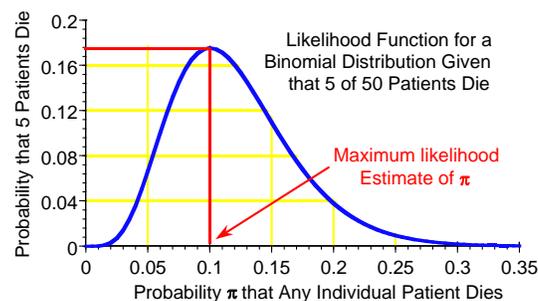
In generalized linear models we use another approach called **maximum likelihood estimation**.

Suppose that 5 of 50 AIDS patients die in one year. We wish to estimate  $\pi$ , the probability of death for these patients.

We assume that the number of deaths has a binomial distribution obtained from  $m=50$  patients with probability of death  $\pi$  for each patient.

Let  $L(\pi | d = 5)$  be the probability of the observed outcome (5) given different values of  $\pi$ .

$L(\pi | d = 5)$  is called a **likelihood function** and looks like this.



The **maximum likelihood estimate** of  $\pi$  is the value of  $\pi$  that assigns the greatest probability to the observed outcome.

In this example,  $\hat{\pi} = 0.1$

Note that if  $\pi = \hat{\pi} = 0.1$  that  $E(d) = 50 \times 0.1 = 5 = d$

Thus, in this example, the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\pi$  is that value that sets the expected number of deaths equal to the observed number of deaths.

In general, maximum likelihood estimates do not have simple closed solutions, but must be **solved interactively** using numerical methods. This, however, is not a serious drawback given ubiquitous and powerful desktop computers.

#### a) Variance of maximum likelihood parameter estimates

It can be shown that when a maximum likelihood estimate is based on **large number** of patients, its variance is approximately equal to

$-1/C$ , where  $C$  is the expected **curvature** of the likelihood surface at  $\hat{\pi}$

## 6. Logistic Regression with glm

### a) Example: APACHE II score and mortal outcome

```
. * 4.11.Sepsis.log
. *
. * Simple logistic regression of mortal status at 30 days (fate) against
. * baseline APACHE II score (apache) in a random sample of septic patients
. *
. use C:\\WDDtext\\4.11.Sepsis.dta, clear
. summarize fate apache
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
fate	38	.4473684	.5038966	0	1
apache	38	19.55263	11.30343	0	41

```
. codebook
apache ----- APACHE II Score at Baseline
      type: numeric (byte)
      range: [0,41]
      unique values: 38
      mean: 19.5526
      std. dev: 11.3034
      percentiles: 10% 25% 50% 75% 90%
                   4 10 19.5 29 35

fate ----- Mortal Status at 30 Days
      type: numeric (byte)
      label: fate
      range: [0,1]
      unique values: 2
      tabulation: Freq. Numeric Label
                  21 0 Alive
                  17 1 Dead
```

```

. glm fate apache, family(binomial) link(logit) {1}

Iteration 0:  log likelihood = -15.398485
Iteration 1:  log likelihood = -14.9578
Iteration 2:  log likelihood = -14.956086
Iteration 3:  log likelihood = -14.956085

Generalized linear models                No. of obs   =       38
Optimization   : ML: Newton-Raphson      Residual df  =       36
                                                    Scale param  =        1
Deviance       = 29.91217061              (1/df) Deviance = .8308936
Pearson        = 66.34190718              (1/df) Pearson = 1.842831

Variance function: V(u) = u*(1-u)        [Bernoulli]    {2}
Link function   : g(u) = ln(u/(1-u))     [Logit]
Standard errors : OIM

Log likelihood  = -14.95608531            AIC           = .8924255
BIC             = -101.0409311

-----+-----
      fate |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|      [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
  apache |   .2012365   .0608998     3.304  0.001   .0818752   .3205979
   _cons |  -4.347807   1.371609    -3.170  0.002  -7.036111  -1.659503
-----+-----

. predict logodds, xb {3}
. generate prob = exp(logodds)/(1 + exp(logodds)) {4}
. list apache fate logodds prob in 1/3 {5}

```

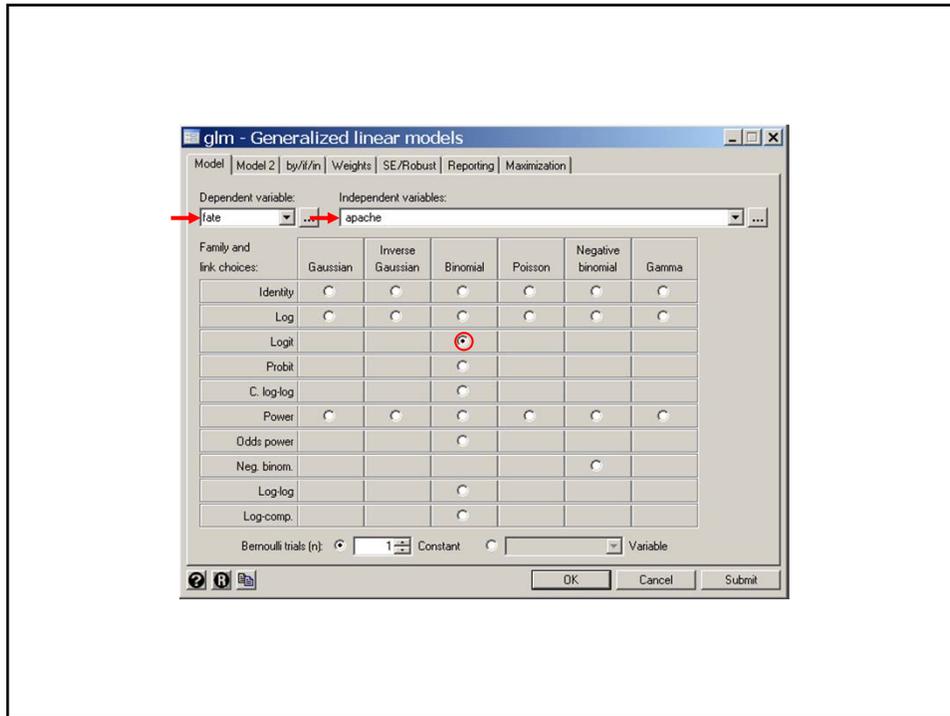
**{1}** This *glm* command regresses *fate* against *apache* using a generalized linear model. The *family* and *link* options specify that the **random component** of the model is **binomial** and the **link function** is **logit**. In other words, a **logistic** model is to be used.

**{2}** When there is only one patient per record Stata refers to the binomial distribution as a **Bernoulli** distribution. Along with the **logit** link function this implies a **logistic** regression model.

**{3}** The *xb* option of the *predict* command specifies that the **linear predictor** will be evaluated for each patient and stored in a variable named *logodds*.  
Recall that *predict* is a **post estimation** command whose meaning is determined by the latest estimation command, which in this example is *glm*.

**{4}** *prob* equals the estimated **probability** that a patient will **die**. It is calculated using the equation  
$$\pi(x) = \exp(\alpha + \beta x) / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x))$$

**{5}** The *in* modifier specifies that the first through third record are to be listed.

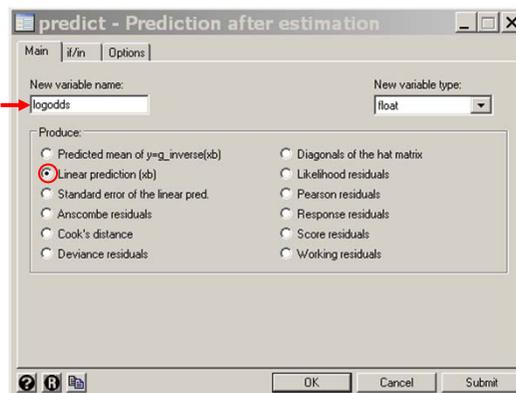


```
. predict logodds, xb
```

{3}

{3} The *xb* option of the *predict* command specifies that the **linear predictor** will be evaluated for each patient and stored in a variable named *logodds*.

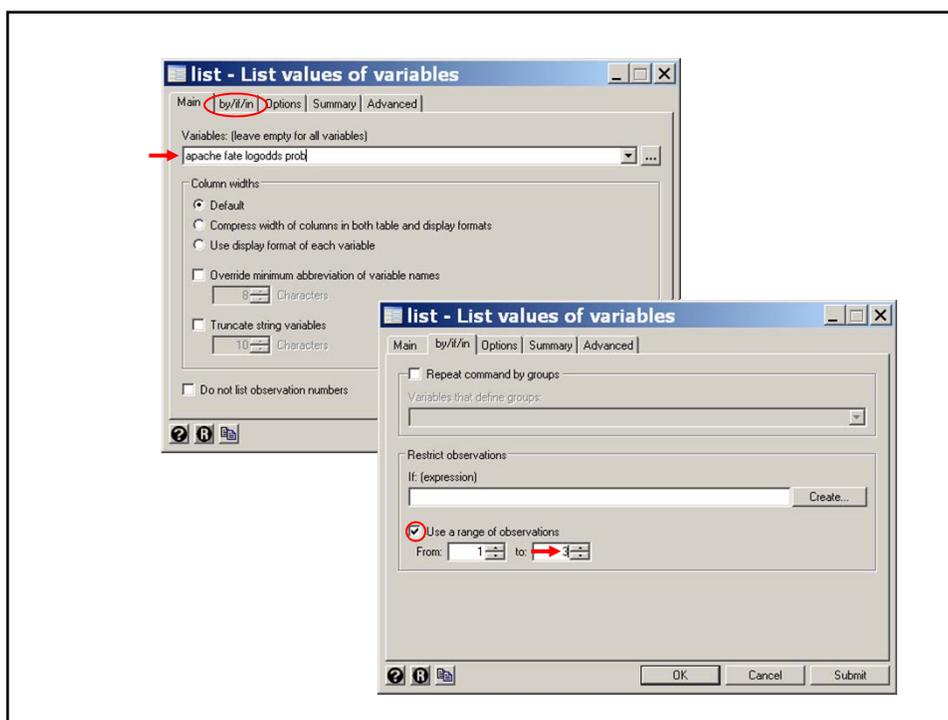
Recall that *predict* is a **post estimation** command whose meaning is determined by the latest estimation command, which in this example is *glm*.



```
. generate prob = exp(logodds)/(1 + exp(logodds)) {4}  
. * Data > Describe data > List data  
. list apache fate logodds prob in 1/3 {5}
```

{4} *prob* equals the estimated **probability** that a patient will **die**. It is calculated using equation 3.1.

{5} The *in* modifier specifies that the first through third record are to be listed.



	apache	fate	logodds	prob	
1.	16	Alive	-1.128022	.2445263	{6}
2.	25	Dead	.6831065	.6644317	
3.	19	Alive	-.5243126	.3718444	

```

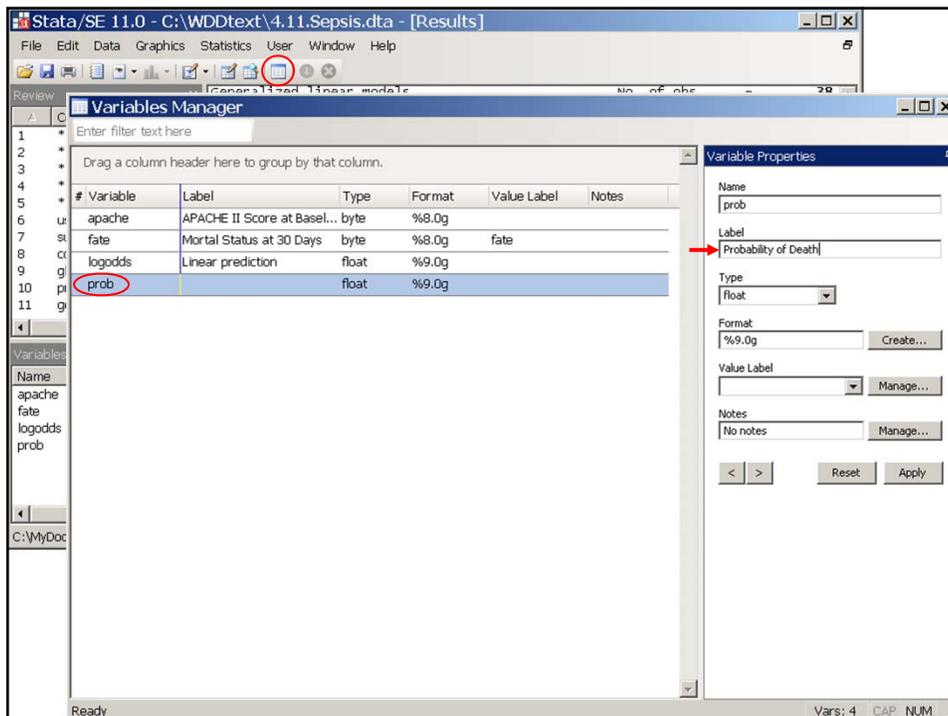
. sort apache
. * Variables Manager
. label variable prob "Probability of Death"
    
```

**{7}** Assign the label *Probability of Death* to the variable *prob*.

**{6}** The first patient has an APACHE II score of 16. Hence the estimated linear predictor for this patient is  $logodds = \alpha + x_i \beta = \_cons + 16 \times apache = -4.3478 + 16 \times 0.2012 = -1.1286$ . The second patient has  $apache = 25$  giving  $logodds = -4.3478 + 25 \times 0.2012 = 0.6831$ .

For the first patient

$$\begin{aligned}
 prob &= \exp(\alpha + \beta x) / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x)) \\
 &= \exp(logodds) / (1 + \exp(logodds)) \\
 &= \exp(-1.128) / (1 + \exp(-1.128)) = 0.2445
 \end{aligned}$$



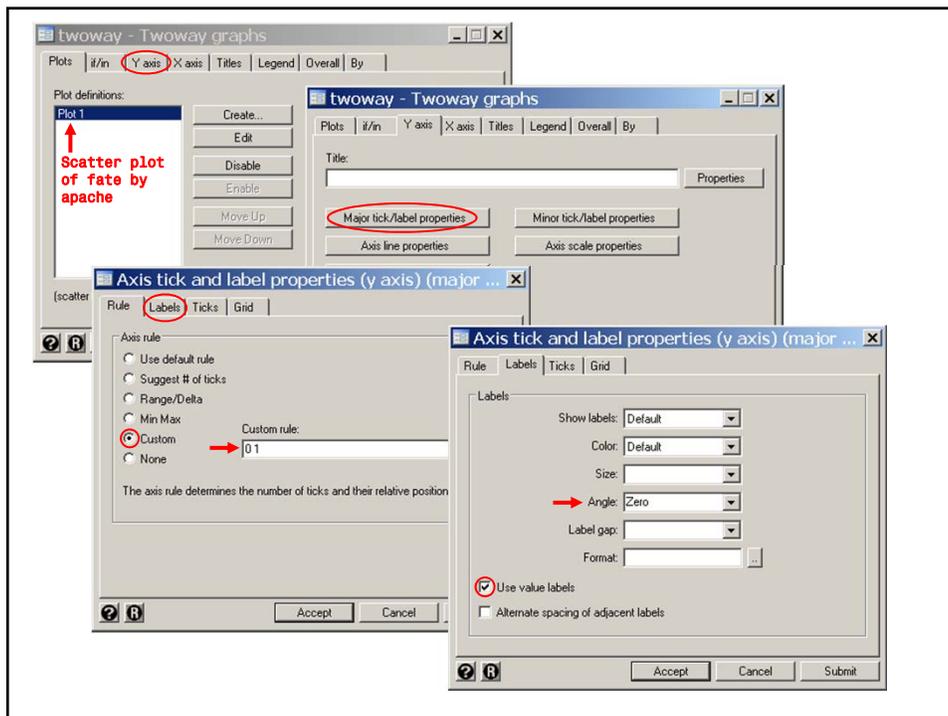
```
. scatter fate apache
> , ylabel(0 1, value label angle(0) yscale(titlegap(-8)) /// {8,9}
> || line prob apache, yaxis(2) xlabel(0(10)40) {10}
```

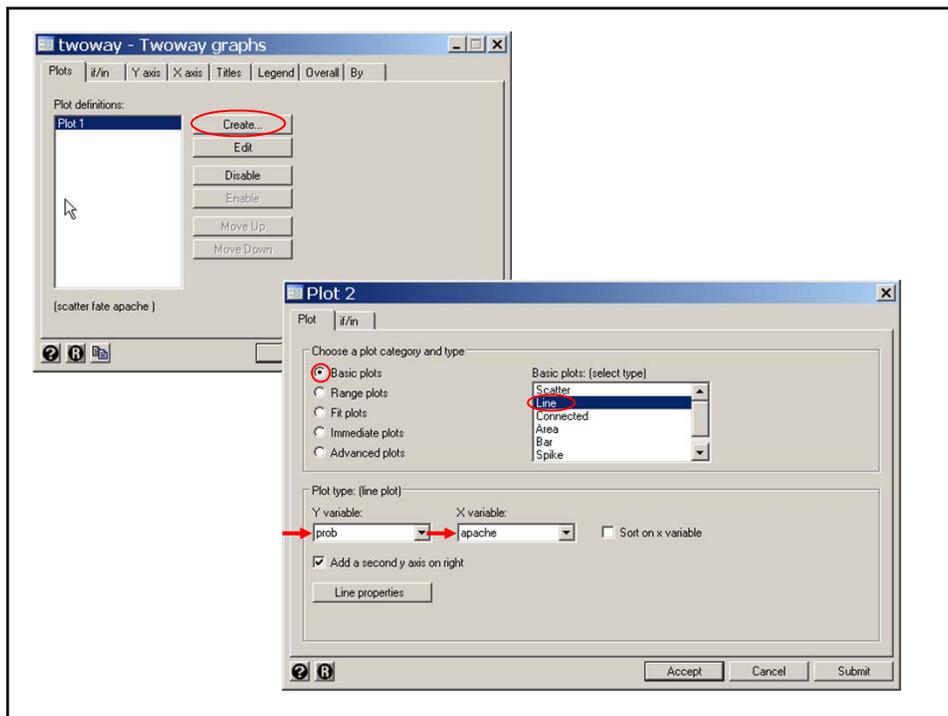
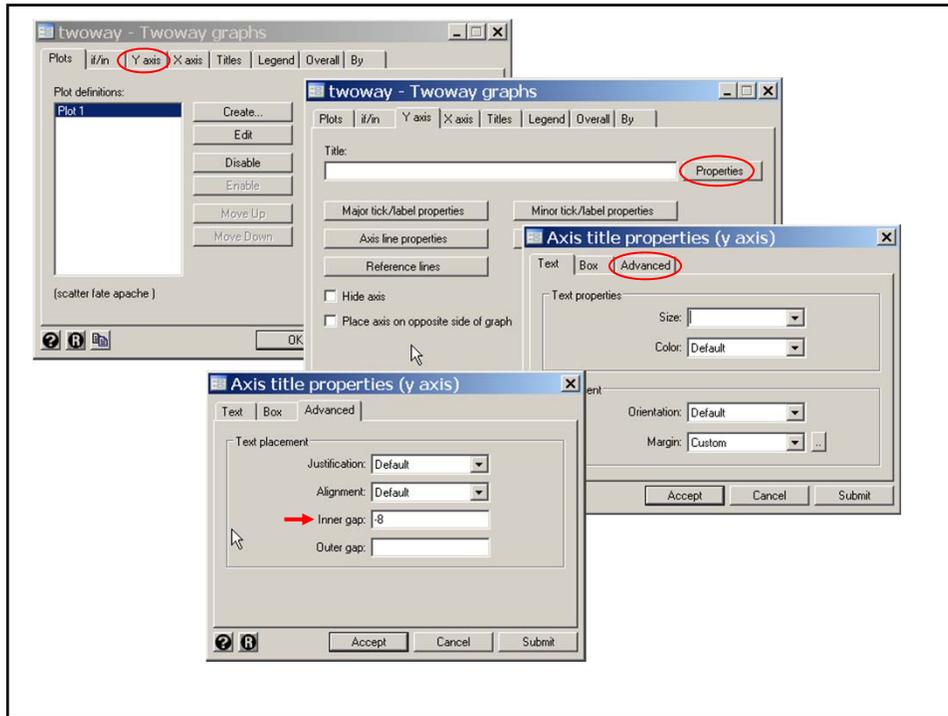
**{8}** **value label** and **angle** are suboptions of the **ylabel** option. The labels for the y-axis are at 0 and 1. **value label** indicates that the value labels of *fate* are to be used. That is, *Alive* and *Dead*.

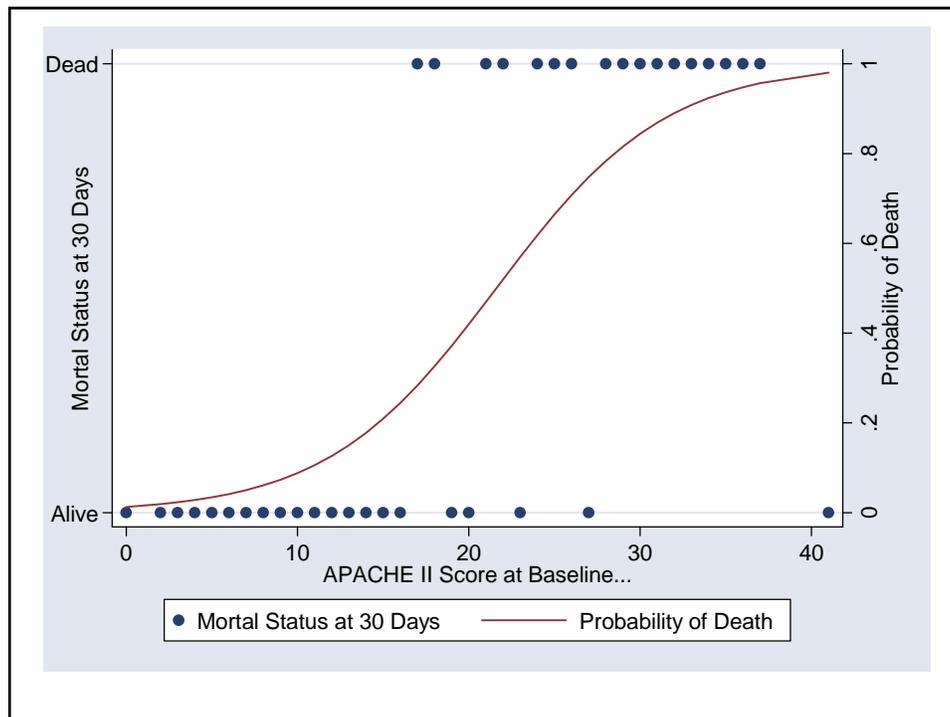
**angle** specifies the angle at which the labels are written; an angle of 0 means that the labels will be written parallel to the x-axis.

**{9}** **yscale(titlegap(-8))** specifies how close the title of the y-axis is to the axis itself. The default, **titlegap(0)** would place the title just to the left of the labels *Dead* and *Alive*.

**{10}** **yaxis(2)** indicates that the y-axis for the graph of *prob* vs. *apache* is to be drawn on the right.







## 7. Odds Ratios and the Logistic Regression Model

### a) Odds ratio associated with a unit increase in $x$

The log odds that patients with APACHE II scores of  $x$  and  $x + 1$  will die are

$$\text{logit}(\pi(x)) = \alpha + \beta x \quad \{3.5\}$$

and

$$\text{logit}(\pi(x + 1)) = \alpha + \beta(x + 1) = \alpha + \beta x + \beta \quad \{3.6\}$$

respectively.

subtracting {3.5} from {3.6} gives  $\beta = \text{logit}(\pi(x + 1)) - \text{logit}(\pi(x))$

$$\beta = \text{logit}(\pi(x+1)) - \text{logit}(\pi(x))$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\pi(x+1)}{1-\pi(x+1)}\right) - \log\left(\frac{\pi(x)}{1-\pi(x)}\right)$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\pi(x+1)/(1-\pi(x+1))}{\pi(x)/(1-\pi(x))}\right)$$

and hence

$\exp(\beta)$  is the **odds ratio for death** associated with a unit increase in  $x$ .

A property of logistic regression is that this **ratio** remains **constant** for all values of  $x$ .

### 8. 95% Confidence Intervals for Odds Ratio Estimates

In our sepsis example the parameter estimate for *apache* ( $\beta$ ) was **0.2012** with a standard error of **0.0609**. Therefore, the odds ratio for death associated with a unit rise in APACHE II score is

$$\exp(0.2012) = 1.223$$

with a 95% confidence interval of  $\exp(0.2012 \pm 1.96 * 0.0609)$

$$(1.223\exp(-1.96 \times 0.0609), 1.223\exp(1.96 \times 0.0609))$$

$$= (1.09, 1.38).$$

**9. 95% Confidence Interval for  $\pi[x]$**

Let  $\sigma_{\hat{\alpha}}^2$  and  $\sigma_{\hat{\beta}}^2$  denote the variance of  $\hat{\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$ .

Let  $\sigma_{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}}$  denote the covariance between  $\hat{\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$ .

Then it can be shown that the standard error of is

$$\text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x] = \sqrt{\sigma_{\hat{\alpha}}^2 + 2x\sigma_{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} + x^2\sigma_{\hat{\beta}}^2}$$

A 95% confidence interval for  $\alpha + \beta x$  is

$$\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x \pm 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]$$

A 95% confidence interval for  $\alpha + \beta x$  is

$$\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x \pm 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]$$

Hence, a 95% confidence interval for  $\pi[x]$  is  
 $(\hat{\pi}_L[x], \hat{\pi}_U[x])$ , where

$$\hat{\pi}_L[x] = \frac{\exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x - 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]]}{1 + \exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x - 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]}}$$

and

$$\hat{\pi}_U[x] = \frac{\exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x + 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]]}{1 + \exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x + 1.96 \times \text{se}[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x]}}$$

### 10. 95% Confidence Intervals for Proportions

It is useful to be able to estimate a 95% confidence interval for the proportion  $d_i/m_i$  in the sepsis study.

Let  $d$  be the number of deaths that occur in  $m$  patients,  
 $\pi$  be the probability that an individual dies..

Then  $d/m$  has mean  $\pi$  and standard error  $s(\pi) = \sqrt{\pi(1-\pi)/m}$

Estimating  $\pi$  by  $\hat{\pi} = d/m$  gives  $s(\hat{\pi}) = \sqrt{\hat{\pi}(1-\hat{\pi})/m}$   
as the estimated standard error of  $\hat{\pi}$

The distribution of  $\hat{\pi}$  is approximately normal as long as  $\hat{\pi}$  is not too close to 0 or 1 and  $m$  is fairly large. This approximation gives a Wald 95% confidence interval for  $\pi$  of

$$\hat{\pi} \pm 1.96s(\hat{\pi})$$

This estimate works poorly when  $\hat{\pi}$  is near 0 or 1. Note that it is possible for this confidence interval to contain values that are less than 0 or greater than 1.

The  $100(1-\alpha)\%$  Wald Confidence interval is

$$\hat{\pi} \pm z_{\alpha/2} s(\hat{\pi}) \quad (\text{recall that } z_{.025} = 1.96)$$

This interval consists of all  $\pi$  for which

$$-z_{\alpha/2} \leq (\hat{\pi} - \pi) / s(\hat{\pi}) \leq z_{\alpha/2}$$

### Wilson Confidence Interval for a Proportion.

A better  $100(1-\alpha)\%$  confidence interval due to Wilson is given by all values of  $\pi$  for which

$$-z_{\alpha/2} \leq (\hat{\pi} - \pi) / s(\pi) \leq z_{\alpha/2} \quad \{3.7\}$$

This interval differs from the Wald Interval in that the denominator is  $s(\pi)$  rather than  $s(\hat{\pi})$ . This makes a big difference when  $\pi$  is near 0 or 1.

Equation {3.7} can be rewritten as a complex but unedifying function of  $d$ ,  $m$  and  $z_{\alpha/2}$

```

. * proportions.log
. *
. * Illustrate Wald, Wilson and exact confidence intervals
. *
. use proportions.dta
. list

+-----+
| fate  patients |
+-----+
1. |      0      10 |
2. |      1      10 |
+-----+

```

Here is data on 20 patients grouped into two records with 10 patients per record. Half of these patients live (fate = 0) and the other half die (fate = 1).

```

* Statistics > Summaries, tables ... > Summary ... > Confidence intervals
. ci fate [freq = patients], binomial wald {1}

Variable |      Obs      Mean   Std. Err.   -- Binomial Wald ---
          |          |          |          |   [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
fate     |      20      .5     .1118034   .2808694   .7191306

. ci fate [freq = patients], binomial wilson {2}

Variable |      Obs      Mean   Std. Err.   ----- Wilson -----
          |          |          |          |   [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
fate     |      20      .5     .1118034   .299298    .700702

```

**{1}** This **ci** command calculated confidence intervals for the proportion of patients who die (fate = 1). **[freq=patients]** ensures that each record contributes the number of patients indicated by the *patients* variable. (Without this command modifier, each record would count as a single observation.)

**binomial** specifies that fate is a dichotomous variable. It must be specified whenever Wald or Wilson confidence intervals are required. **wald** indicates that Wald confidence intervals are to be calculated.

**{2}** **wilson** indicates that Wilson confidence intervals are to be calculated.

These confidence intervals are quite close to each other.

```
. replace patients = 18 in 1  
(1 real change made)
```

```
. replace patients = 2 in 2  
(1 real change made)
```

```
. list
```

```
-----+-----  
| fate  patients |  
-----+-----  
1. |      0      18 |  
2. |      1       2 |  
-----+-----
```

Suppose that the mortality rate is 10%

```
. ci fate [freq = patients], binomial wald
```

```
Variable |      Obs      Mean  Std. Err.      -- Binomial Wald ---  
          |          |          |          |      [95% Conf. Interval]  
-----+-----  
fate |      20      .1    .067082          0    .2314784*
```

(\*) The Wald interval was clipped at the lower endpoint

```
. ci fate [freq = patients], binomial wilson
```

```
Variable |      Obs      Mean  Std. Err.      ----- Wilson -----  
          |          |          |          |      [95% Conf. Interval]  
-----+-----  
fate |      20      .1    .067082      .0278665    .3010336
```

The Wald interval is much narrower than the Wilson and would extend below zero if Stata did not clip it at zero.

```
. return list {3}

scalars:
      r(ub) = .3010336452284873
      r(lb) = .0278664812137682
      r(se) = .0670820393249937
      r(mean) = .1
      r(N) = 20

. display r(ub) {4}
.30103365
```

**{3}** Stata commands store most of their output were they can be used by other commands. This feature greatly extends the power and flexibility of this software. The **return list** command lists some of these values.

**{4}** This **display** command displays the upper bound of the confidence interval calculated by the last **ci** command.

Baseline APACHE II Score	Number of Patients	Number of Deaths	Baseline APACHE II Score	Number of Patients	Number of Deaths
0	1	0	20	13	6
2	1	0	21	17	9
3	4	1	22	14	12
4	11	0	23	13	7
5	9	3	24	11	8
6	14	3	25	12	8
7	12	4	26	6	2
8	22	5	27	7	5
9	33	3	28	3	1
10	19	6	29	7	4
11	31	5	30	5	4
12	17	5	31	3	3
13	32	13	32	3	3
14	25	7	33	1	1
15	18	7	34	1	1
16	24	8	35	1	1
17	27	8	36	1	1
18	19	13	37	1	1
19	15	7	41	1	0

**Example:** APACHE II Score & Mortality in Sepsis

The Ibuprofen and Sepsis Trial contained 454 patients with known baseline APACHE II scores (Bernard et al. 1997). The 30 day mortal outcome for these patients is summarized on the right.

### 11. Logistic Regression with Grouped Response Data

Suppose that there are  $m_i$  patients with covariate  $x_i$ .

Let  $d_i$  be the number of deaths in these  $m_i$  patients.

Then  $d_i$  has a **binomial distribution** with mean  $m_i\pi(x_i)$  and hence  $E(d_i/m_i) = \pi(x_i)$ .

Thus the logistic model becomes

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i/m_i)) = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

```
. * 4.18.Sepsis.Wilson.log
. *
. * Simple logistic regression of mortality against APACHE score in the
. * Ibuprofen in Sepsis study (Bernard et al. 1997). There are two
. * records in 4.18.Sepsis.Weighted.dta for each observed APACHE score.
. * apache = an APACHE II score at baseline
. * fate = 0 or 1 indicating patients who were alive or dead after
. *       30 days, respectively
. * n = number of study subjects with a given fate and APACHE score.
. *
. use 4.18.Sepsis.Weighted.dta, clear

. list if apache==6 | apache==7
```

```
+-----+
| apache  fate  n |
+-----+
11. |      6    0  11 |
12. |      6    1   3 |
13. |      7    0   8 |
14. |      7    1   4 |
+-----+
```

We need to calculate the observed mortality rate and its associated confidence interval for each APACHE score.

There were 37 distinct scores.

We could issue 47 distinct `ci` commands and transcribe the confidence intervals back into Stata.

This would be tedious. Fortunately it is unnecessary.

```
. *  
. * Collapse data to one record per APACHE score.  
. * Calculate observed mortality rate for each score and its  
. * Wilson 95% confidence interval.  
. *  
. * Statistics > Other > Collect statistics for a command across a by list  
. statsby, by(apache): ci fate [freq=n], binomial wilson {1}  
(running ci on estimation sample)  
  
      command: ci fate [fweight= n], binomial wilson  
      ub: r(ub)  
      lb: r(lb)  
      se: r(se)  
      mean: r(mean)  
      N: r(N)  
      by: apache  
  
Statsby groups  
-----+--- 1 ---+--- 2 ---+--- 3 ---+--- 4 ---+--- 5  
.....
```

**{1}** The **statsby** command can be used in combination with most other Stata commands. It executes the command to the right of the colon for each unique combination of values of the variable(s) specified by the **by** option. This command executes

```
      ci fate [freq=n], binomial wilson
```

separately for each unique value of **apache**. The data in memory is replaced by new data with one record for each distinct value of **apache**. Output from each command is also stored with the indicated variable names.

```
. list if apache==6 | apache==7
```

	apache	ub	lb	se	mean	N
6.	6	.4758923	.0757139	.1096642	.2142857	14
7.	7	.6093779	.1381201	.1360828	.3333333	12

{2}

```
. generate patients = N
```

```
. generate p = mean
```

```
. generate deaths = p*patients
```

{3}

{2} There is now only one record for each value of **apache**. The variables **N** and **mean** store the number of patients with the specified value of **apache** and their associated mortality rate, respectively. **ub** and **lb** give the Wilson 95% confidence interval for this rate.

**N.B.** All other variables that are not specified by the **by** option are lost. Do not use this command with data that you value and have not saved!

{3} **deaths** give the number of patients with the indicated value of **apache** who die.

```
. * Statistics > Generalized linear models > Generalized linear models (GLM)
. glm deaths apache, family(binomial patients) link(logit) {1}
```

```

Generalized linear models          No. of obs   =      38
Optimization      : ML: Newton-Raphson          Residual df =      36
                                                Scale param =       1
Deviance          =  84.36705142                (1/df) Deviance =  2.343529
Pearson          =  46.72842945                 (1/df) Pearson  =  1.298012
```

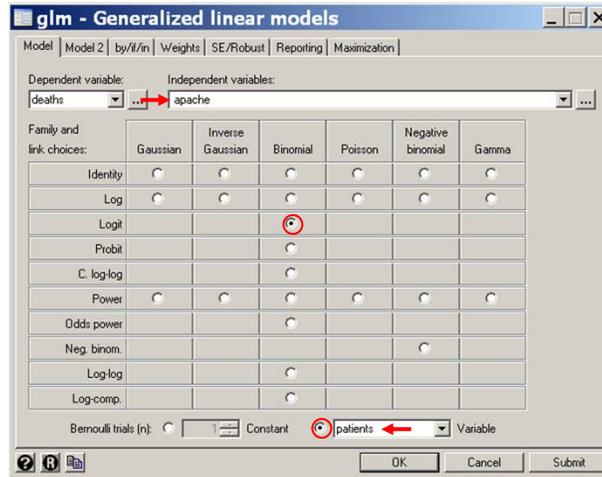
```
Variance function: V(u) = u*(1-u/patients)      [Binomial]
Link function      : g(u) = ln(u/(patients-u))   [Logit]
Standard errors   : OIM
```

```
Log likelihood    = -60.93390578                AIC           =  3.312311
BIC               = -46.58605033
```

deaths	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
apache	.1156272	.0159997	7.23	0.000	.0842684	.146986
_cons	-2.290327	.2765283	-8.28	0.000	-2.832313	-1.748342

**{1}** Regress **deaths** against **apache** score. The **binomial** random component and **logit** link function specify that **logistic** regression is to be used.

**family(binomial patients)** indicates that each observation describes the outcomes of multiple patients with the same apache score; **patients** records the number of subjects with each score; **deaths** records the number of deaths observed in these subjects.



```
. predict logodds, xb {2}
. generate e_prob = exp(logodds)/(1+exp(logodds))
. label variable e_prob "Expected Mortality at 30 Days"
```

**{2}** The linear predictor is  $logodds = -2.2903 +$

$11.5621 * apache$   
\* Calculate 95% confidence region for e\_prob

```
. predict stderr, stdp
. generate lodds_lb = logodds - 1.96*stderr
. generate lodds_ub = logodds + 1.96*stderr
. generate prob_lb = exp(lodds_lb)/(1+exp(lodds_lb))
. generate prob_ub = exp(lodds_ub)/(1+exp(lodds_ub))
. label variable p "Observed Mortality Rate"
. * Data > Describe data > List data
. list p e_prob prob_lb prob_ub ci95lb ci95ub apache if apache == 20
```

```
+-----+
|      p      e_prob  prob_lb  prob_ub      lb      ub  apache |
+-----+
20. | .4615385  .505554  .4462291  .564723  .2320607  .708562    20 |
+-----+
```

```

> twoway rarea prob_ub prob_lb apache, color(yellow)          ///
>     || scatter p apache, color(blue)                       ///
>     || rcap ub lb apache, color(blue)                     /// {3}
>     || line e_prob apache, yaxis(2) clwidth(medthick) color(red)  ///
>     , ylabel(0(.2)1,labcolor(blue) angle(0))              /// {4}
>     ytick(0(.1)1, tlcOLOR(blue))                          /// {5}
>     ylabel(0(.2)1, axis(2) labcolor(red) angle(0))        /// {6}
>     ytick(0(.1)1, axis(2) tlcOLOR(red))                  ///
>     xlabel(0(5)40) xtick(0(1)40)                          ///
>     ytitle(,axis(2) color(red))                            ///
>     ytitle(Observed Mortality Rate, color(blue))          ///
>     legend(order(1 "95% CI from model" 2 3 "95% CI from this obs." 4))

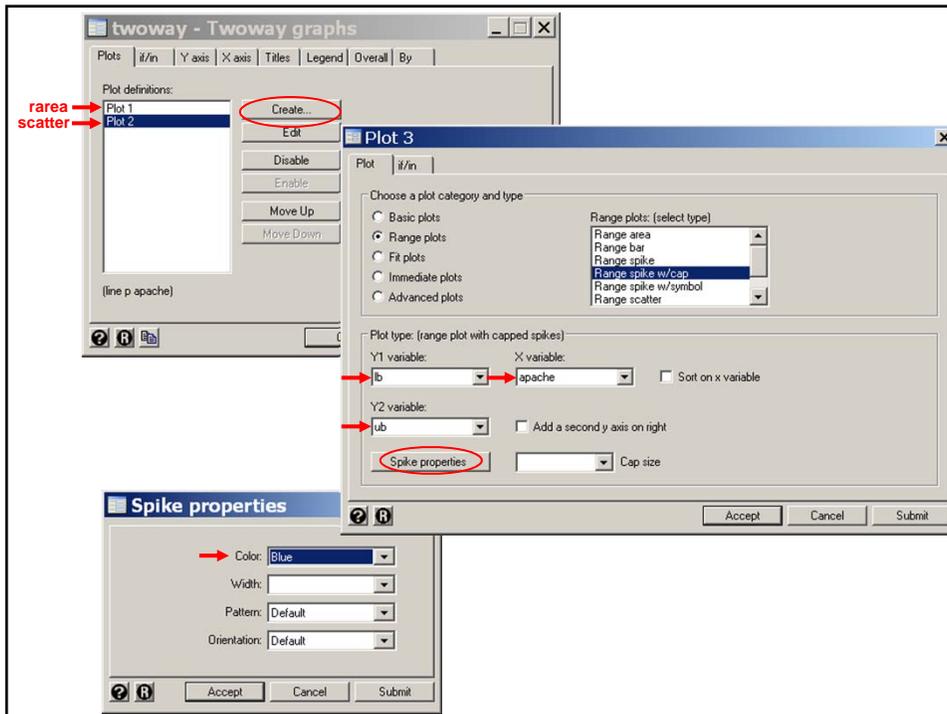
```

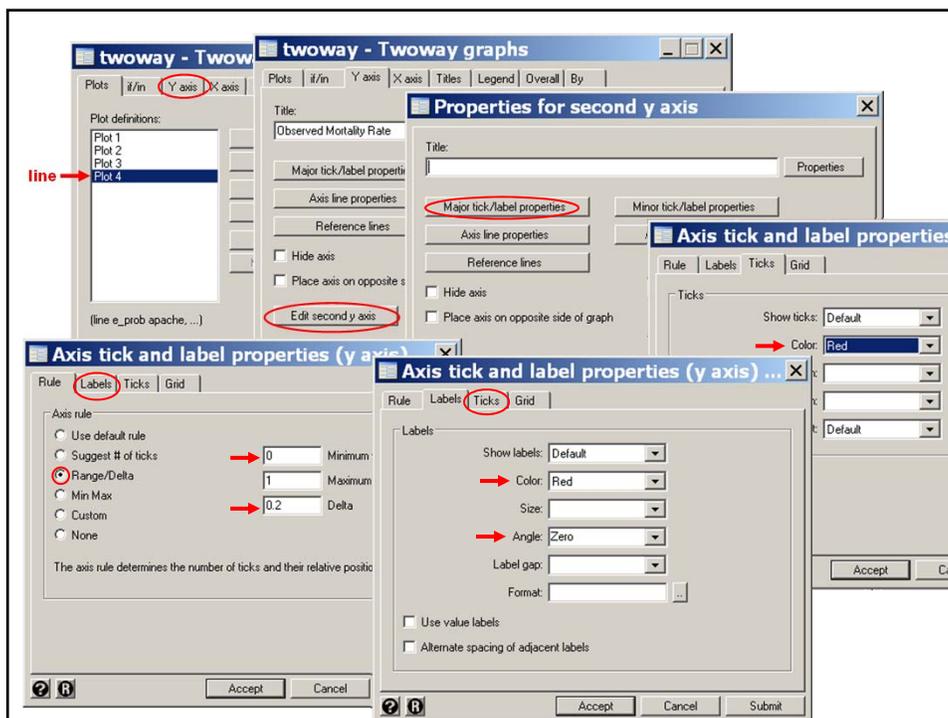
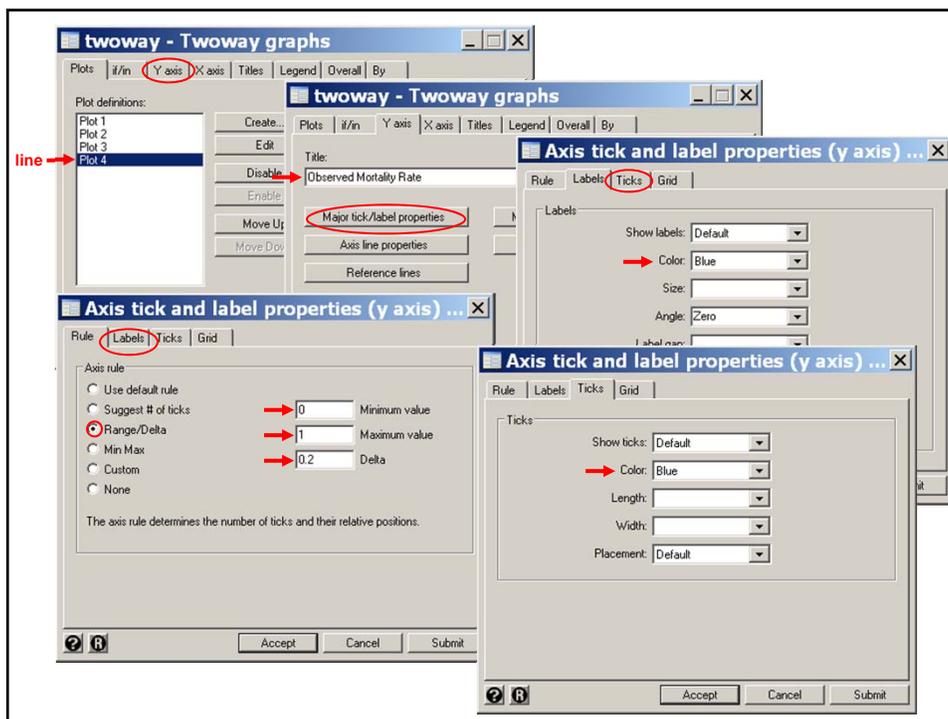
**{3}** `rcap` plots capped rods (error bars) joining the values of `ub` and `lb` for each value of `apache`.

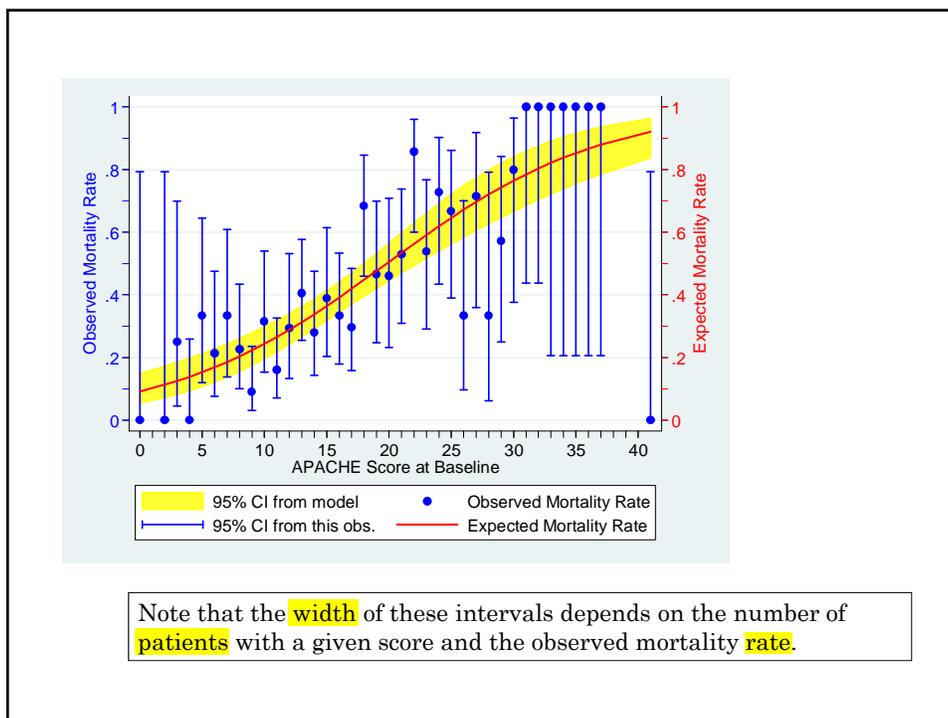
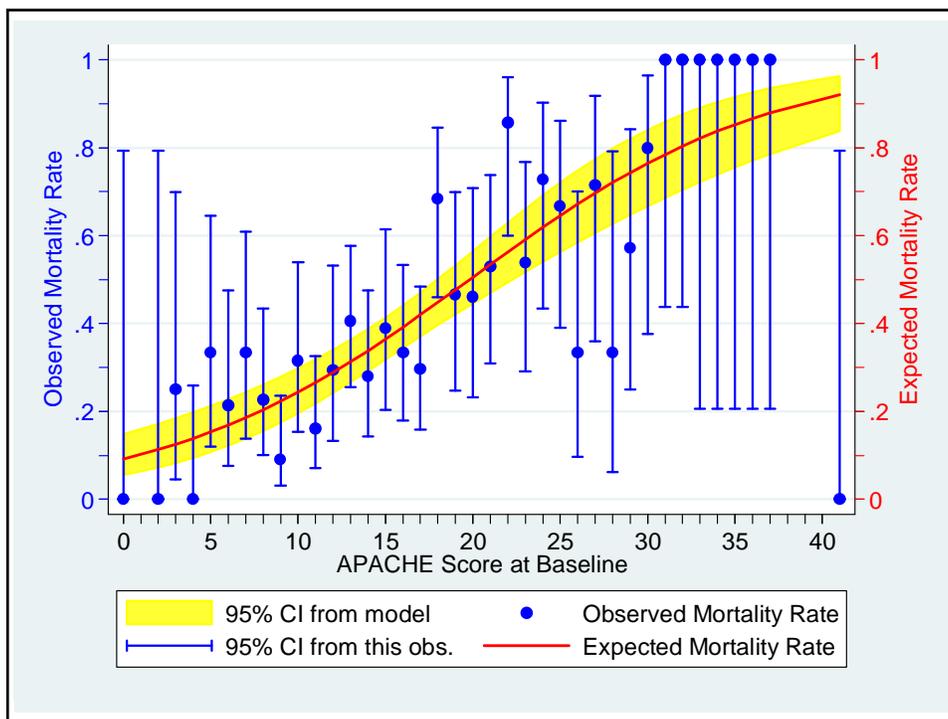
**{4}** This graph will have two *y*-axes: a left-axis for the observed mortality rate and a right-axis for the expected morbidity rate. Here we color the default (left) axis blue to match the blue scatterplot of observed mortality rates.

**{5}** Also, color the tick lines blue on the left axis.

**{6}** The `axis(2)` suboption indicates that this `ylabel` option refers to the right axis. It is colored red to match the expected mortality curve.







The **blue** error bars in the regression graph give 95% confidence intervals that are derived from the observed mortality rates at each separate APACHE II score. These confidence intervals are not given for scores with zero or 100% mortality. The **yellow shaded region** gives 95% confidence intervals for the expected mortality that are derived from the entire logistic regression.

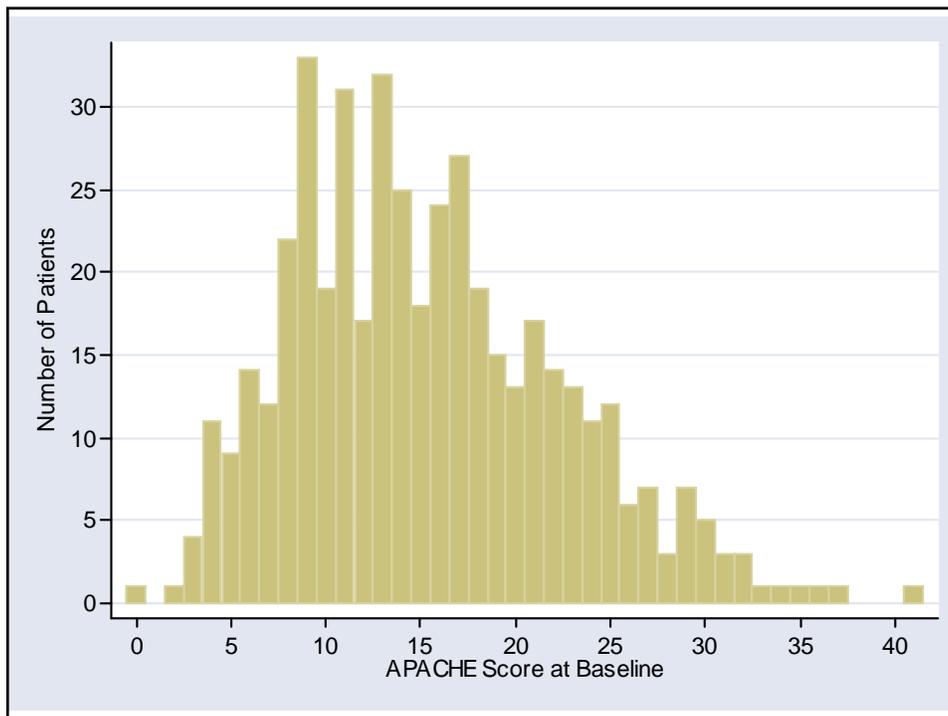
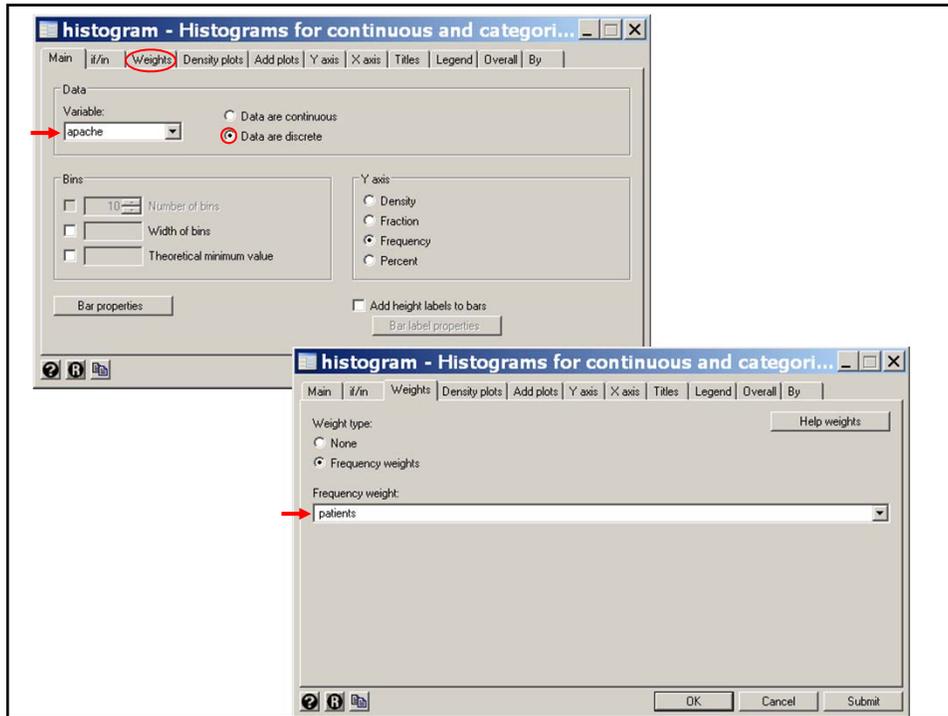
Overall, the fit appears quite good, although the regression curve comes close to the ends of the confidence intervals for some scores and is just outside when the APACHE score equals 18.

```
*  
* Graph number of patients with different APACHE II scores  
*  
. * Graphics > Histogram  
. histogram apache [freq=patients], discrete frequency xlabel(0(5)40) /// {4}  
> ylabel(0(5)30, angle(0)) ytitle(Number of Patients)  
(start=0, width=1)
```

**{4}** This command produces a histogram of the patient APACHE II scores.

**discrete** specifies that the data have a discrete number of values. It produces one bar per value unless **width** is also specified.

**frequency** specifies that the y-axis is to be **number of patients** rather than proportion of patients.



**12. Simple 2x2 Case-Control Studies**

**a) Example: Esophageal Cancer and Alcohol**

Breslow & Day, Vol. I (1980) give the following results from the Ille-et-Vilaine case-control study of **esophageal cancer** and **alcohol** (Tuyns et al. 1977) .

**Cases** were **200** men diagnosed with esophageal cancer in regional hospitals between 1/1/1972 and 4/30/1974.

**Controls** were **775** men drawn from electoral lists in each commune.

Esophageal Cancer	Daily Alcohol Consumption		
	$\geq 80g$	$< 80g$	Total
Yes (Cases)	96	104	200
No (Controls)	109	666	775
Total	205	770	975

**b) Review of Classical Case-Control Theory**

Let  $m_i$  = number of cases ( $i = 1$ ) or controls ( $i = 0$ )

$d_i$  = number of cases ( $i = 1$ ) or controls ( $i = 0$ ) who are heavy drinkers.

Then the observed **prevalence** of heavy **drinkers** is

$$d_0/m_0 = 109/775 \text{ for } \text{controls} \text{ and}$$

$$d_1/m_1 = 96/200 \text{ for } \text{cases}.$$

The observed **prevalence** of moderate or **non-drinkers** is

$$(m_0 - d_0)/m_0 = 666/775 \text{ for } \text{controls} \text{ and}$$

$$(m_1 - d_1)/m_1 = 104/200 \text{ for } \text{cases}.$$

The observed **odds** that a case or control will be a heavy drinker is

$$(d_i / m_i) / [(m_i - d_i) / m_i] = d_i / (m_i - d_i) \\ = 109/666 \text{ and } 96/104 \text{ for } \text{controls} \text{ and } \text{cases}, \text{ respectively.}$$

The observed **odds ratio** for heavy drinking in cases relative to controls is

$$\hat{\psi} = \frac{d_1 / (m_1 - d_1)}{d_0 / (m_0 - d_0)} = \frac{96 / 104}{109 / 666} = 5.64$$

If the cases and controls are a representative sample from their respective underlying populations then

1.  $\hat{\psi}$  is an **unbiased** estimate of the **true odds ratio** for heavy drinking in cases relative to controls in the underlying population.
2. This true odds ratio also **equals** the true odds ratio for esophageal **cancer in heavy** drinkers relative to **moderate** drinkers.

Case-control studies would be pointless if this were not true.

Since esophageal cancer is rare  $\hat{\psi}$  also estimates the **relative risk** of esophageal cancer in heavy drinkers relative to moderate drinkers.

**Woolf's** estimate of the **standard error** of the **log odds ratio** is

$$se_{\log(\hat{\psi})} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{d_0} + \frac{1}{m_0 - d_0} + \frac{1}{d_1} + \frac{1}{m_1 - d_1}}$$

and the distribution of  $\log(\hat{\psi})$  is approximately normal.

Hence, if we let

$$\hat{\psi}_L = \hat{\psi} \exp[-1.96 se_{\log(\hat{\psi})}]$$

and

$$\hat{\psi}_U = \hat{\psi} \exp[1.96 se_{\log(\hat{\psi})}]$$

then  $(\hat{\psi}_L, \hat{\psi}_U)$  is a **95% confidence interval for  $\psi$** .

### 13. Logistic Regression Models for 2x2 Contingency Tables

Consider the logistic regression model

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i / m_i)) = \alpha + \beta x_i \quad \{3.9\}$$

where  $E(d_i / m_i) = \pi_i =$  Probability of being a heavy **drinker** for cases ( $i = 1$ ) and controls ( $i = 0$ ).

$$\text{and } x_i = \begin{cases} 1 = \text{cases} \\ 0 = \text{for controls} \end{cases}$$

Then {3.9} can be rewritten

$$\text{logit}(\pi_i) = \log(\pi_i / (1 - \pi_i)) = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

Hence

$$\log(\pi_1 / (1 - \pi_1)) = \alpha + \beta x_1 = \alpha + \beta$$

$$\log(\pi_0 / (1 - \pi_0)) = \alpha + \beta x_0 = \alpha$$

since  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_0 = 0$ .

Subtracting these two equations gives

$$\log(\pi_1 / (1 - \pi_1)) - \log(\pi_0 / (1 - \pi_0)) = \beta$$

$$\log \left[ \frac{\pi_1 / (1 - \pi_1)}{\pi_0 / (1 - \pi_0)} \right] = \log(\psi) = \beta \quad \text{and hence the true odds ratio } \psi = e^\beta$$

#### a) Estimating relative risks from the model coefficients

Our primary interest is in  $\beta$ . Given an estimate  $\hat{\beta}$  of  $\beta$  then  $\hat{\psi} = e^{\hat{\beta}}$

#### b) Nuisance parameters

$\alpha$  is called a **nuisance parameter**. This is one that is required by the model but is not used to calculate interesting statistics.

### 14. Analyzing Case-Control Data with Stata

The Ille-et-Vilaine data may be analyzed as follows:

```
* esoph_ca_cc1.log
.*
.*
.* Logistic regression analysis of Illes-et-Vilaine
.* 2x2 case-control data.
.*
.*
.* Enter 2x2 table by hand with editor
.*
```

```

. edit {1}

. list

      cancer  alcohol  patients
1.         0         0        666
2.         1         0        104
3.         0         1        109
4.         1         1         96

. label define yesno 0 "No" 1 "Yes" {2}

. label values cancer yesno {3}

. label define dose 0 "< 80g" 1 ">= 80g"

. label values alcohol dose

. list {4}

      cancer  alcohol  patients
1.        No    < 80g    666
2.         Yes    < 80g    104
3.         No    >= 80g    109
4.         Yes    >= 80g     96

```

**{1}** Press the **Editor** button to access Stata's spreadsheet-like editor. **Enter** three variables named *cancer*, *alcohol* and *patients* as shown in the following *list* command.

**{2}** The *cancer* variable takes the value **0** for **controls** and **1** for **cases**. To define these values we first define a value **label** called *yesno* that links **0** with "No" and **1** with "Yes".

**{3}** We then use the *label values* command to link the variable *cancer* with the values label *yesno*. Multiple variables can be assigned to the same values label.

**{4}** The *list* command now gives the value labels of the *cancer* and *alcohol* variables instead of their numeric values. The **numeric values** are still **available** for use in estimation commands.

```

. *
. * Calculate the odds ratio for esophageal cancer
. * associated with heavy drinking.
. *
. * Statistics > Epidemiology... > Tables... > Case-control odds ratio
. cc cancer alcohol [freq=patients], woolf

```

	alcohol		Total	Proportion Exposed
	Exposed	Unexposed		
Cases	96	104	200	0.4800
Controls	109	666	775	0.1406
Total	205	770	975	0.2103
	Point estimate		[95% Conf. Interval]	
Odds ratio	5.640085		4.000589	7.951467 (Woolf)
Attr. frac. ex.	.8226977		.7500368	.8742371 (Woolf)
Attr. frac. pop	.3948949			

chi2(1) = 110.26 Pr>chi2 = 0.0000

**{5}** Perform a **classical** case-control **analysis** of the data in the 2x2 table defined by *cancer* and *alcohol*. `[freq=patients]` gives the number of patients who have the specified values of *cancer* and *alcohol*. The **woolf** option specifies that the 95% confidence interval for the odds ratio is to be calculated using Woolf's method.

We could have entered one record per patient giving

- 666 records with cancer = 0 and alcohol = 0,
- 104 records with cancer = 1 and alcohol = 0,
- 109 records with cancer = 0 and alcohol = 1, and
- 96 records with cancer = 1 and alcohol = 1.

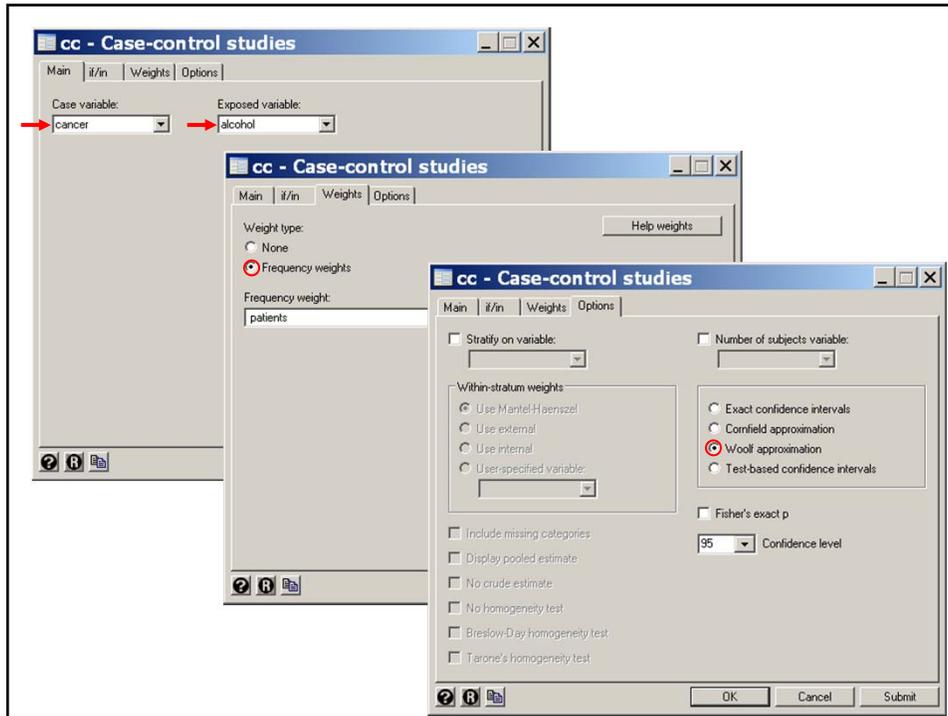
Then the command

```
cc cancer alcohol, woolf
```

would have given exactly the same results as those shown in this example.

**N.B.** We need to use the `[freq=patients]` command modifier whenever each record represents multiple patients. This will also be true in logistic regression and other commands.

**{6}** The estimated **odds ratio** is  $\frac{96/104}{109/666} = 5.64$



```

. *
. * Now calculate the same odds ratio using logistic regression
. *
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression
. logit alcohol cancer [freq=patients] {7}

Logistic regression                Number of obs   =       975
                                   LR chi2(1)         =       96.43
                                   Prob > chi2         =       0.0000
Log likelihood = -453.2224          Pseudo R2      =       0.0962

-----+-----
      alcohol |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      cancer |   1.729899   .1752366     9.87  0.000    1.386442    2.073356
      _cons  |  -1.809942   .1033238    -17.52  0.000   -2.012453   -1.607431
-----+-----

```

{7} This is the analogous **logit** command for simple logistic regression. If we had entered the data as

cancer	heavy	patients
0	109	775
1	96	200

Then we would have achieved the same analysis with the command  
`glm heavy cancer, family(binomial patients) link(logit)`

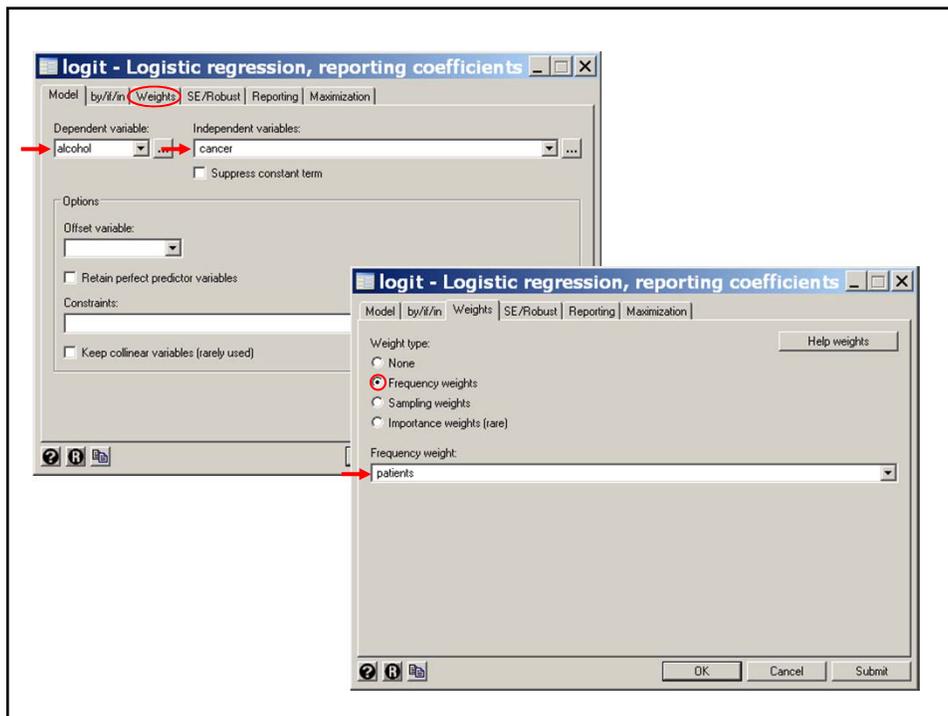
Both of these commands fit the model

$$\text{logit}(E(\text{alcohol})) = \alpha + \text{cancer} * \beta$$

giving  $\beta = 1.73$  = the **log odds ratio** of being a heavy drinker in cancer patients relative to controls. The **standard error** of  $\beta$  is **0.1752**

The **odds ratio** is  $\exp(1.73) = 5.64$ .

The **95% confidence interval** for the odds ratio is  $\exp(1.73 \pm 1.96 * 0.1752) = (4.00, 7.95)$

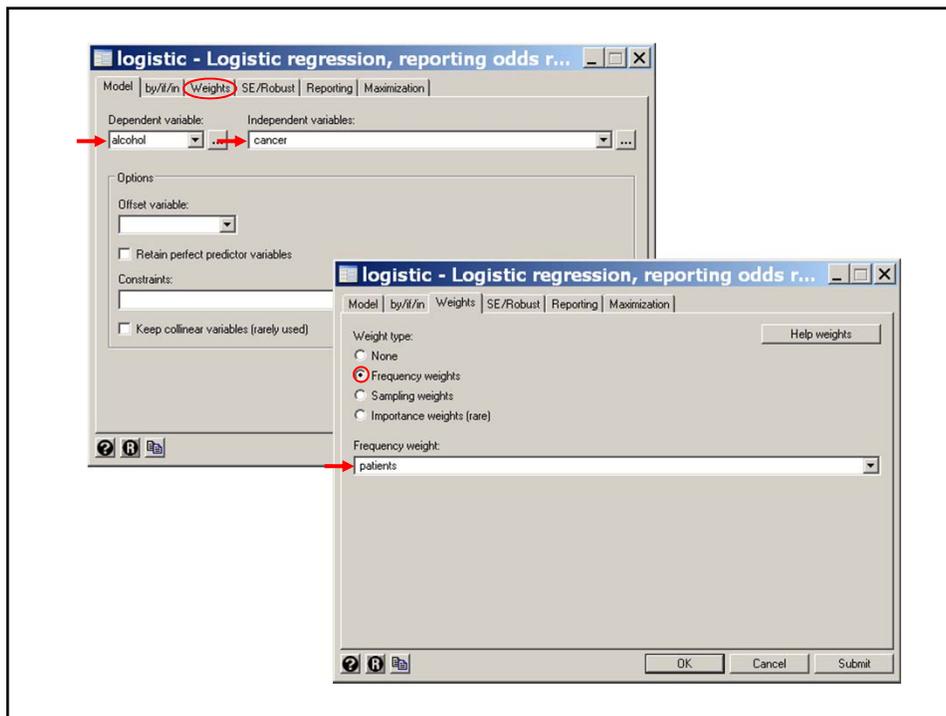


```
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic alcohol cancer [freq=patients] {8}

Logistic regression                               No. of obs =
975
      LR chi2(1) =    96.43
      Prob > chi2 =    0.0000
Log likelihood =  -453.2224      Pseudo R2 =    0.0962
```

alcohol	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
cancer	5.640085	.9883491	9.87	0.000	4.000589 7.951467

{8} The *logistic* command calculates the odds ratio and its confidence interval directly.



**a) Logistic and classical estimates of the 95% CI of the OR**

The 95% confidence interval is

$$(5.64\exp(-1.96 \times 0.1752), 5.64\exp(1.96 \times 0.1752)) = (4.00, 7.95).$$

The classical limits using Woolf's method is

$$(5.64\exp(-1.96 \times s), 5.64\exp(1.96 \times s)) = (4.00, 7.95),$$

where  $s^2 = 1/96 + 1/109 + 1/104 + 1/666 = 0.0307 = (0.1752)^2$ .

Hence Logistic regression is in exact agreement with classical methods in this simple case.

In Stata the command

```
cc cancer alcohol [freq=patients], woolf
```

gives us Woolf's 95% confidence interval for the odds ratio. We will cover how to calculate confidence intervals using *glm* in the next chapter.

**15. Regressing Disease Against Exposure**

The simplest explanation of simple logistic regression is the one given above. Unfortunately, it does not generalize to multiple logistic regression where we are considering several risk factors at once. In order to make the next chapter easier to understand, let us return to simple logistic regression one more time.

Suppose we have a population who either are or are not exposed to some risk factor.

Let  $\pi_j$  denote the true probability of disease in exposed ( $j = 1$ ) and unexposed ( $j = 0$ ) people.

We conduct a case-control study in which we select a representative sample of diseased (case) and healthy (control) subjects from the underlying population. That is, the selection is done in such a way that the probability that an individual is selected is unaffected by her exposure status.

Let  $m_j$  be the number of study subject who are ( $j = 1$ ) or are not ( $j = 0$ ) exposed,

$d_j$  be the number of cases who are ( $j = 1$ ) or are not ( $j = 0$ ) exposed,

$x_j = j$  denote exposure status, and

$\pi_j$  be the probability that a study subject is a case given that she is ( $j=1$ ) or is not ( $j=0$ ) exposed.

Consider the model

$$\text{logit}(E(d_j / m_j)) = \alpha + \beta x_j$$

This is a legitimate logistic regression model with  $E(d_j / m_j) = \pi_j$ . It can be shown, however, that this model can be rewritten as

$$\text{logit}(\pi'_j) = \alpha' + \beta x_j$$

where  $\alpha'$  is a **different constant**. However, since  $\alpha'$  cancels out in the odds ratio calculation,  $\beta$  estimates the **log odds ratio** for disease in **exposed** vs. **unexposed** members of the population as well as in our case-control sample.

Thus in building logistic regression models it makes sense to regress **disease against exposure** even though we have no estimate of the probability of disease in the underlying population.

## 16. What we have covered

- ❖ Simple logistic regression: Assessing the effect of a continuous variable on a dichotomous outcome
- ❖ How logistic regression parameters affect the probability of an event
  - $\pi(x) = \exp(\alpha + \beta x) / (1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta x))$
  - $\exp(\beta)$  is the odds ratio for death associated with a unit increase in  $x$ .
- ❖ Probability, odds and odds ratios
- ❖ Generalized linear models: The relationship between linear and logistic regression  $\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + x_i \beta$
- ❖ Wald and Wilson confidence intervals for proportions
- ❖ Plotting probability of death with 95% confidence bands as a function of a continuous risk factor
- ❖ Review of classic 2x2 case-control studies
- ❖ Analyzing case-control studies with logistic regression

**Cited References**

- Bernard, G. R., et al. (1997). The effects of ibuprofen on the physiology and survival of patients with sepsis. The Ibuprofen in Sepsis Study Group. *N Engl J Med* 336: 912-8.
- Breslow, N. E. and N. E. Day (1980). *Statistical Methods in Cancer Research: Vol. 1 - The Analysis of Case-Control Studies*. Lyon, France, IARC Scientific Publications.
- Tuyns, A. J., G. Pequignot, et al. (1977). Le cancer de L'oesophage en Ile-et-Vilaine en fonction des niveau de consommation d'alcool et de tabac. Des risques qui se multiplient. *Bull Cancer* 64: 45-60.

**For additional references on these notes see.**

Dupont WD. *Statistical Modeling for Biomedical Researchers: A Simple Introduction to the Analysis of Complex Data. 2nd ed.* Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press; 2009.

#### IV. MULTIPLE LOGISTIC REGRESSION

- ❖ Extend simple logistic regression to models with multiple covariates
- ❖ Similarity between multiple linear and multiple logistic regression
- ❖ Multiple 2x2 tables and the Mantel-Haenszel test
  - Estimating an odds ratio that is adjusted for a confounding variable
- ❖ Using logistic regression as an alternative to the Mantel-Haenszel test
- ❖ Using indicator covariates to model categorical variables
- ❖ Making inferences about odds ratios derived from multiple parameters
- ❖ Analyzing complex data with logistic regression
  - Multiplicative models
  - Models with interaction
- ❖ Assessing model fit
  - Testing the change in model deviance in nested models
  - Evaluating residuals and influence
- ❖ Using restricted cubic splines in logistic regression models
  - Plotting the probability of an outcome with confidence bands
  - Plotting odds ratios and confidence bands

© William D. Dupont, 2010, 2011

Use of this file is restricted by a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike license. 

See <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses> for details.

#### 1. The Model

If the data is organized as one record per patient then the model is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k x_{ik} \quad \{4.1\}$$

where

$x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$  are covariates from the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient

$\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$  are unknown parameters

$$d_i = \begin{cases} 1: & i^{\text{th}} \text{ patient suffers event of interest} \\ 0: & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If the data is organized as **one record** per unique **combination** of covariate values then the model is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_i / m_i)) = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k x_{ik} \quad \{4.2\}$$

where  $m_i$  is the number of patients with covariate values  $x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}$  and  $d_i$  is the number of events among these  $m_i$  subjects.

$d_i$  is assumed to have a binomial distribution obtained from  $m_i$  dichotomous trials with probability of success  $\pi(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik})$  on each trial.

Thus, the only difference between simple and multiple logistic regression is that the **linear predictor** is now  $\alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k x_{ik}$ . As in simple logistic regression, the model has a **logit link function**; the **random component**,  $d_i / m_i$  has a binomial distribution.

## 2. Mantel-Haenszel Test of a Common Odds Ratio

The following data is from the **Ille-et-Vilaine** study of **esophageal cancer** and **alcohol** by Tuyns et al. (1977). This data is published in Appendix I of Breslow and Day Vol. I, who also provide an excellent and extensive discussion of this data set.

Age	Cancer	Daily Alcohol Consumption			
		≥ 80g	<80g		
25-34	Yes	1	0	1	100.00%
	No	9	106	115	7.83%
		10	106	116	8.62%
35-44	Yes	4	5	9	44.44%
	No	26	164	190	13.68%
		30	169	199	15.08%
45-54	Yes	25	21	46	54.35%
	No	29	138	167	17.37%
		54	159	213	25.35%
55-64	Yes	42	34	76	55.26%
	No	27	139	166	16.27%
		69	173	242	28.51%
65-74	Yes	19	36	55	34.55%
	No	18	88	106	16.98%
		37	124	161	22.98%

**a) Confounding Variables**

A **confounding variable** is one that is associated with both the disease and exposure of interest but which is not, in itself, a focus of our investigation.

Note mild evidence that age confounds the effect of alcohol on cancer risk.

**b) Age-adjusted odds ratios**

The following log file show how to calculate the common odds ratio for esophageal cancer associated with heavy alcohol use in five age strata. It thus calculates an **age-adjusted** odds ratio for esophageal cancer among heavy and light drinkers of similar age.

### 3. Deriving the Mantel-Haenszel test with Stata

```
* 5.5.EsophagealCa.log
. *
. * Calculate the Mantel-Haenszel age-adjusted odds ratio from
. * the Ille-et-Vilaine study of esophageal cancer and alcohol
. * (Breslow & Day 1980, Tuyns 1977).
. *
. use C:\WDDtext\5.5.EsophagealCa.dta, clear

. codebook age cancer heavy

age ----- Age (years)
      type: numeric (float)
      label: age
      range: [1,6]
units: 1
      unique values: 6      coded missing: 0 / 192
      tabulation: Freq.  Numeric  Label
                  32       1  25-34
                  32       2  35-44
                  32       3  45-54
                  32       4  55-64
                  32       5  65-74
                  32       6  >= 75
```

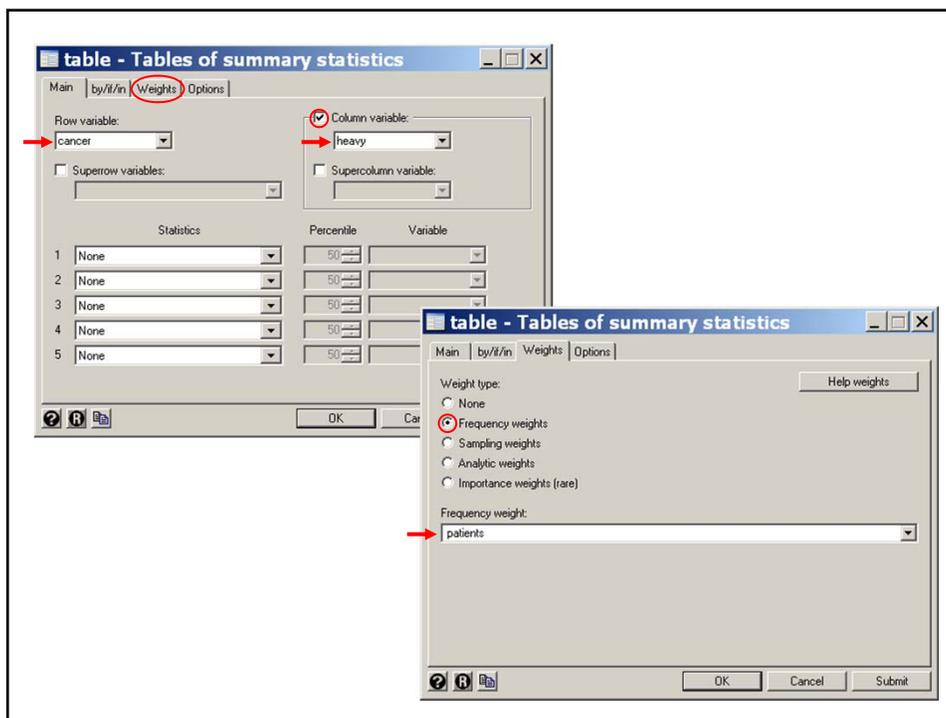
```
cancer ----- Esophageal Cancer
      type: numeric (float)
      label: yesno
      range: [0,1]
units: 1
      unique values: 2      coded missing: 0 / 192
      tabulation: Freq.  Numeric  Label
                  96       0  No
                  96       1  Yes

heavy ----- Heavy Alcohol Consumption
      type: numeric (float)
      label: heavy
      range: [0,1]
units: 1
      unique values:      coded missing: 0 / 192
      tabulation: Freq.  Numeric  Label
                  96       0  < 80 gm
                  96       1  >= 80 gm
```

```
. * Statistics > Summaries... > Tables > Table of summary statistics (table).  
table heavy cancer [freq=patients] {1}
```

Esophagea l Cancer	Heavy Alcohol Consumption	
	< 80 gm	>= 80 gm
No	666	104
Yes	109	96

{1} This **table** command gives 2x2 cross-tables of *heavy* by *cancer*, and confirms that *EsophagealCancer.dta* is the correct data set.



```
. table cancer heavy [freq=patients], by(age)
```

Age (years) and Esophagea l Cancer		Heavy Alcohol Consumption	
		< 80 gm	>= 80 gm
25-34	No	106	9
	Yes		1
35-44	No	164	26
	Yes	5	4
45-54	No	138	29
	Yes	21	25
55-64	No	139	27
	Yes	34	42
65-74	No	88	18
	Yes	36	19
>= 75	No	31	
	Yes	8	5

The image shows two screenshots of the STATA 'Tables of summary statistics' dialog box. The top screenshot shows the 'Weights' tab with 'cancer' as the row variable, 'age' as the superrow variable, and 'heavy' as the column variable. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Weights' tab with 'patients' selected as the frequency weight.

```

. * Statistics > Epidemiology... > Tables... > Case-control odds ratio
. cc heavy cancer [freq=patients], by(age)

```

Age (years)	OR	[95% Conf. Interval]		M-H Weight
25-34	.	0	.	0 (exact)
35-44	5.046154	.9268664	24.86538	.6532663 (exact)
45-54	5.665025	2.632894	12.16536	2.859155 (exact)
55-64	6.359477	3.299319	12.28473	3.793388 (exact)
65-74	2.580247	1.131489	5.857261	4.024845 (exact)
>= 75	.	4.388738	.	0 (exact)
Crude	5.640085	3.937435	8.061794	(exact)
M-H combined	5.157623	3.562131	7.467743	

Test of homogeneity (Tarone)    chi2(5) =    9.30    Pr>chi2 = 0.0977

Test that combined OR = 1:  
Mantel-Haenszel chi2(1) =    85.01  
Pr>chi2 =    0.0000

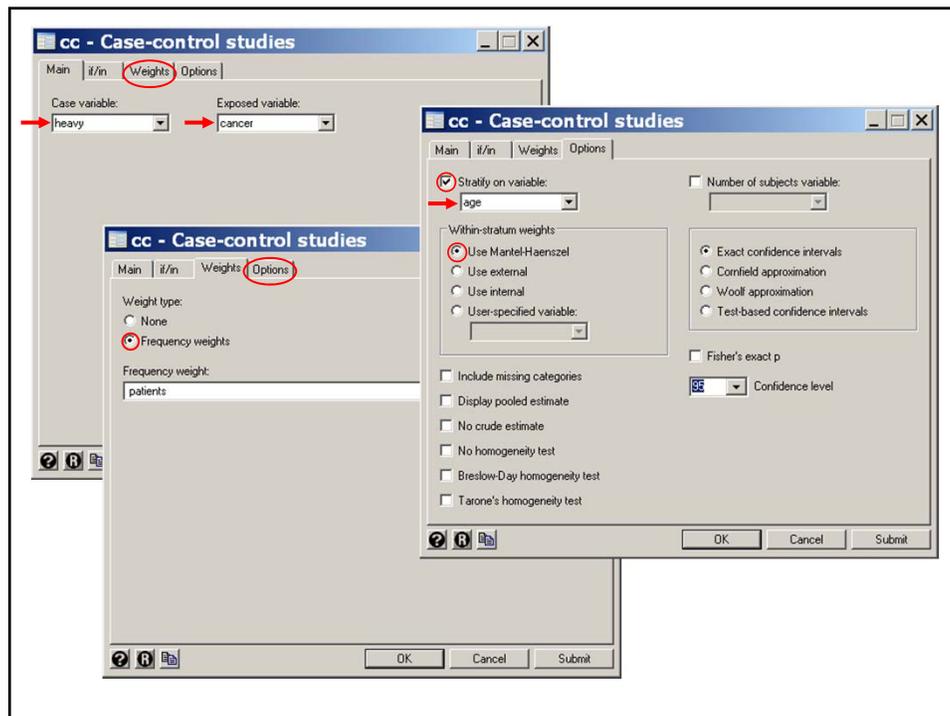
**{2}** The *by(age)* option causes **odds ratios** to be calculated for each **age strata**. No estimate is given for the youngest strata because there were no moderate drinking cases. No estimate is given for the oldest strata because there were no heavy drinking controls.

**{3}** The **crude** odds ratio is **5.64** which we derived in the last chapter. This odds ratio is obtained by ignoring the age strata. The **exact 95% confidence interval** consists of all values of the odds ratio that **cannot be rejected** at the  $P = 0.05$  level of statistical significance (see text, Section 1.4.7). The derivation of this interval uses a rather complex iterative formula (Dupont and Plummer 1999).

**{4}** The **Mantel-Haenszel (M-H)** estimate of the **common odds ratio** within all age strata is **5.16**. This is an **age-adjusted** estimate. It is slightly lower than the crude estimate, and is consistent with a mild confounding of age and drinking habits on the risk of esophageal cancer.

{5} The M-H estimate is only reasonable if the data is consistent with the hypothesis that the alcohol-cancer odds ratio does not vary with age. The **test for homogeneity** tests the null hypothesis that all age strata share a common odds ratio. This test is not significant, which suggests that the M-H estimate may be reasonable.

{6} The test of the **null hypotheses** that the odds ratio equals 1 is highly **significant**. Hence the association between heavy alcohol consumption and esophageal cancer can not be explained by chance. The argument for a **causal** relationship is strengthened by the **magnitude** of the **odds ratio**.



#### 4. Effect Modifiers and Confounding Variables

##### a) Test of homogeneity of odds ratios

In the previous example the **test for homogeneity** of the odds ratio was **not significant** (see comment 5). Of course, lack of significance does not prove the null hypotheses, and it is **prudent** to look at the odds ratios from the **individual age strata**. In the preceding Stata output these values are fairly similar for all strata except ages **65-74**, where the odds ratio drops to **2.6**. This may be due to chance, or perhaps, to a **hardy survivor** effect. You must use your clinical judgment in deciding what to report.

**Effect Modifier:** A variable that influences the effect of a risk factor on the outcome variable.

The key differences between confounding variables and effect modifiers are:

- i) Confounding variables are **not of primary interest** in our study while effect modifiers are.
- ii) A variable is an important effect modifier if there is a **meaningful interaction** between it and the exposure of interest on the risk of the event under study.

#### 5. Logistic Regression For Multiple 2x2 Contingency Tables

##### a) Estimating the common relative risk from the parameter estimates

Let

$m_{jk}$  be the number of **subjects** in the  $j^{\text{th}}$  age strata who are ( $k = 1$ ) or are not ( $k = 0$ ) heavy drinkers.

$d_{jk}$  be the number of **cancers** among these  $m_{jk}$  subjects.

$x_k$  =  $k = 1$  or 0 depending on their drinking status.

$\pi_{jk}$  be the probability that someone in the  $j^{\text{th}}$  age strata who does ( $k = 1$ ) or doesn't ( $k = 0$ ) drink heavily develops cancer.

Consider the logistic regression model

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{jk} / m_{jk})) = \alpha_j + x_k \beta \quad \{4.3\}$$

where  $d_{jk}$  has a **binomial** distribution obtained from  $m_{jk}$  independent trials with probability of success with  $\pi_{jk}$  on each trial.

Then for any age strata  $j$ ,  $E(d_{jk} / m_{jk}) = \pi_{jk}$  and

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{j0} / m_{j0})) = \text{logit}(\pi_{j0}) = \log(\pi_{j0} / (1 - \pi_{j0})) = \alpha_j \quad \{4.4\}$$

Similarly

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{j1} / m_{j1})) = \log(\pi_{j1} / (1 - \pi_{j1})) = \alpha_j + \beta \quad \{4.5\}$$

Subtracting equation {4.4} from equation {4.5} gives that

$$\log(\pi_{j1} / (1 - \pi_{j1})) - \log(\pi_{j0} / (1 - \pi_{j0})) = \beta \quad \text{or}$$

$$\log\left(\frac{\pi_{j1} / (1 - \pi_{j1})}{\pi_{j0} / (1 - \pi_{j0})}\right) = \log \psi = \beta$$

Hence, this model implies that the **odds ratio** for cancer is the **same** in all strata and equals **exp( $\beta$ )**.

This is an **age-adjusted** estimate of the cancer odds ratio

In practice we fit model {4.1} by defining indicator covariates

$$z_j = \begin{cases} 1: & \text{if subjects are from the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ age strata} \\ 0: & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then {4.3} becomes

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{jk} / m_{jk})) = z_1 \alpha_1 + z_2 \alpha_2 + z_3 \alpha_3 + z_4 \alpha_4 + z_5 \alpha_5 + z_6 \alpha_6 + x_k \beta$$

Note that this model places **no restraints** of the effect of **age** on the odds of cancer and only requires that the within strata odds ratio be constant.

For example, a moderate drinker from the 3<sup>rd</sup> age stratum has log odds

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{3,0} / m_{3,0})) = \alpha_3$$

While a moderate drinker from the first age stratum has

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{1,0} / m_{1,0})) = \alpha_1$$

Hence the log odds ratio for stratum 3 versus stratum 1 is  $\alpha_3 - \alpha_1$ , which can be estimated independently of the cancer risk associated with age strata 2, 4, 5 and 6.

An equivalent model is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{jk} / m_{jk})) = \alpha + z_2\alpha_2 + z_3\alpha_3 + z_4\alpha_4 + z_5\alpha_5 + z_6\alpha_6 + x_k\beta \quad \{4.6\}$$

For this model, a moderate drinker from the 3<sup>rd</sup> age stratum has log odds

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{3,0} / m_{3,0})) = \alpha + \alpha_3$$

While a moderate drinker from the first age stratum has

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{1,0} / m_{1,0})) = \alpha$$

Hence the log odds ratio for stratum 3 versus stratum 1 is

$$(\alpha + \alpha_3) - \alpha = \alpha_3$$

This is slightly preferable to our previous formulation in that it involves one parameter rather than 2.

An alternative model that we could have used is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{jk} / m_{jk})) = \text{age} \times \alpha + x_k \beta$$

However, this model imposes a **linear relationship** between **age** and the log odds for **cancer**. That is, the log odds ratio

for age stratum 2 vs stratum 1 is  $2\alpha - \alpha = \alpha$

for age stratum 3 vs stratum 1 is  $3\alpha - \alpha = 2\alpha$

⋮

for age stratum 6 vs stratum 1 is  $6\alpha - \alpha = 5\alpha$

## 6. Analyzing Multiple 2x2 Contingency Tables

```
. * 5.9.EsophagealCa.ClassVersion.log
. *
. * Calculate age-adjusted odds ratio from the Ille-et-Vilaine study
. * of esophageal cancer and alcohol using logistic regression.
. *
. use C:\WDDtext\5.5.EsophagealCa.dta, clear
. *
. * First, define indicator variables for the age strata 2 through 6
. *
```

```

. generate age2 = 0

. replace age2 = 1 if age == 2
(32 real changes made)

. generate age3 = 0

. replace age3 = 1 if age == 3
(32 real changes made)

. generate age4 = 0

. replace age4 = 1 if age == 4
(32 real changes made)

. generate age5 = 0

. replace age5 = 1 if age == 5
(32 real changes made)

. generate age6 = 0

. replace age6 = 1 if age == 6
(32 real changes made)

```

```

. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression
. logit cancer age2 age3 age4 age5 age6 heavy [freq=patients] {1}

Logistic regression                               No. of obs    =      975
                                                    LR chi2(6)    =    200.57
                                                    Prob > chi2   =     0.0000
Log likelihood = -394.46094                          Pseudo R2    =     0.2027

-----+-----
cancer |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
age2   |   1.542294   1.065895     1.45  0.148    - .546822     3.63141
age3   |   3.198762   1.02314     3.13  0.002    1.193445     5.204079
age4   |   3.71349    1.018531     3.65  0.000    1.717207     5.709774
age5   |   3.966882   1.023072     3.88  0.000    1.961698     5.972066
age6   |   3.96219    1.065024     3.72  0.000    1.87478      6.049599
heavy  |   1.66989    .1896018     8.81  0.000    1.298277     2.041503 {2}
_cons  |  -5.054348   1.009422    -5.01  0.000   -7.032778    -3.075917
-----+-----

```

The results of this logistic regression are similar to those obtained from the Mantel-Haenszel test. The age-adjusted odds ratio from this latter test was **5.16** as compared to **5.31** from logistic regression.

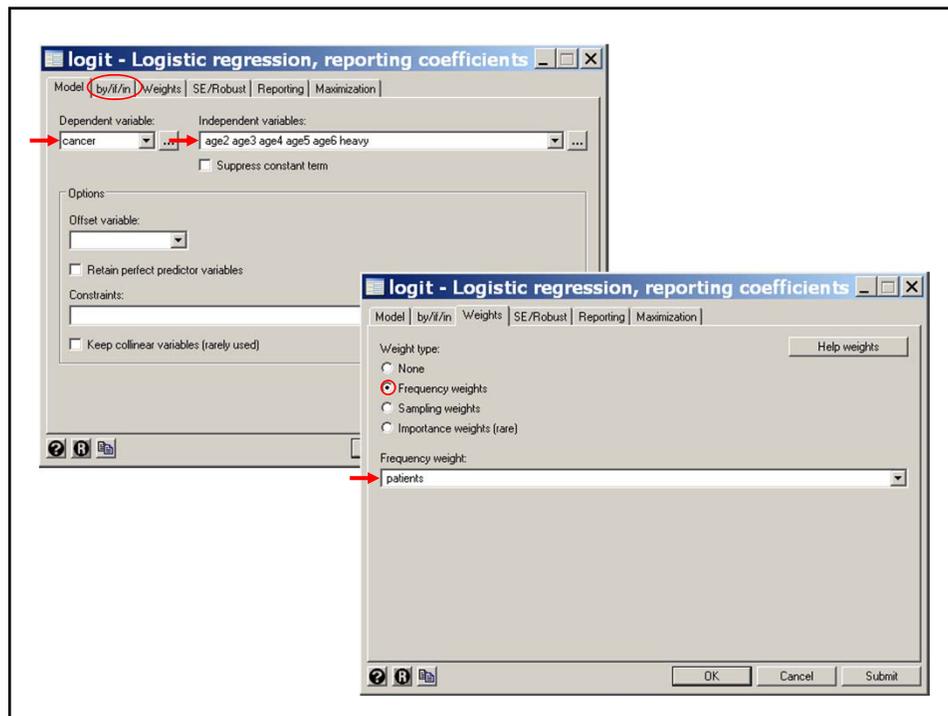
**{1}** By default, Stata adds a constant term to the model. Hence, this command uses model {4.6}.

The *coef* option specifies that the model parameter estimates are to be listed as follows.

**{2}** The parameter estimate associated with *heavy* is 1.67 with a standard error of 0.1896. A 95% confidence interval for this interval is  $1.67 \pm 1.96 \times 0.1896 = [1.30, 2.04]$ .

The age-adjusted estimated odds ratio for cancer in heavy drinkers relative to moderate drinkers is

$$\psi = \exp(1.67) = 5.31 \quad \text{with a 95\% confidence interval} \\ [\exp(1.30), \exp(2.04)] = [3.66, 7.70].$$



```

. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer age2 age3 age4 age5 age6 heavy
> [freq=patients]
    
```

Logistic regression

No. of obs	=	975
LR chi2(6)	=	200.57
Prob > chi2	=	0.0000
Pseudo R2	=	0.2027

Log likelihood = -394.46094

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
age2	4.675303	4.983382	1.45	0.148	.5787862 37.76602
age3	24.50217	25.06914	3.13	0.002	3.298423 182.0131
age4	40.99664	41.75634	3.65	0.000	5.56895 301.8028
age5	52.81958	54.03823	3.88	0.000	7.777389 392.3155
age6	52.57232	55.99081	3.72	0.000	6.519386 423.9432
heavy	5.311584	1.007086	8.81	0.000	3.662981 7.702174

**{3}** Without the *coef* option logistic does not output the constant parameter and exponentiates the other coefficients. This usually saves hand computation.

Note that the age adjusted odds ratio for heavy drinking is 5.31 with a 95% confidence interval of [3.7 – 7.7].

The image shows two screenshots of the Stata 'logistic' dialog box. The top screenshot shows the 'Weights' tab selected, with 'patients' entered in the 'Frequency weight' field. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Weights' tab with 'Frequency weights' selected as the weight type.

### 7. Handling Categorical Variables in Stata

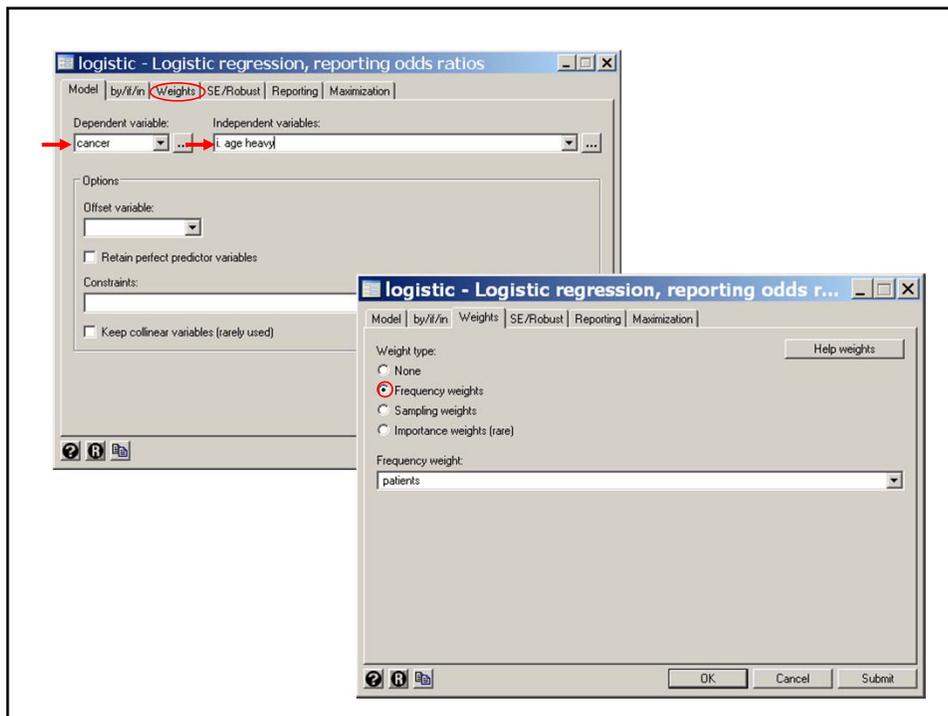
In the preceding example, age is a **categorical** variable taking 6 values that is recorded as 5 separate **indicator** variables. It is very common to recode categorical variables in this way to avoid **forcing a linear relationship** on the effect of a variable on the response outcome. In the preceding example we did the recoding by hand. It can also be done much faster using the **i.varname** syntax. We illustrate this by repeating the preceding analysis of model {4.3}.

```
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer i.age heavy [freq=patients] {1}

Logistic regression                               No. of obs   =       975
                                                    LR chi2(6)   =     200.57
                                                    Prob > chi2  =       0.0000
Log likelihood = -394.46094                       Pseudo R2   =       0.2027
```

**{1}** *i.age* indicates that *age* is to be recoded as five indicator variables (one for each value of *age*). These variables are named *2.age*, *3.age*, *4.age*, *5.age*, and *6.age*. By default the smallest value of *age* is not assigned a separate indicator variable and a constant term is included in the model giving

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{jk} | m_{jk})) = \alpha + \alpha_j + x_k \beta; j = 2, \dots, 6; k = 0, 1$$



cancer	Odds Ratio.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
age						
2	4.675303	4.983382	1.45	0.148	.5787862	37.76602
3	24.50217	25.06914	3.13	0.002	3.298423	182.0131
4	40.99664	41.75634	3.65	0.000	5.56895	301.8028
5	52.81958	54.03823	3.88	0.000	7.111389	392.3155
6	52.57232	55.99081	3.72	0.000	6.519386	423.9432
heavy	5.311584	1.007086	8.81	0.000	3.662981	7.702174 {2}

{2} Note that the odds ratio estimate for *heavy* = **5.31** is the same as in the earlier analysis where the indicator variables were explicitly defined.

### 8. Example: Effect of Dose of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk

The Ille-et-Vilaine data set provides four different **levels** of consumption for both **alcohol** and **tobacco**. To investigate the joint effects of dose and alcohol on esophageal cancer risk we first tabulate the raw data.

```
. * 5.11.1.EsophagealCa.ClassVersion.log
. *
. * Estimate age-adjusted risk of esophageal cancer due to dose of alcohol.
. *
. use C:\WDDtext\5.5.EsophagealCa.dta, clear
. *
. * Show frequency tables of effect of dose of alcohol on esophageal cancer.
. *
```

```

. * Statistics > Summaries... > Tables > Two-way tables with measures...
. tabulate cancer alcohol [freq=patients] , column {1}
    
```

Key

	frequency	column percentage
--	-----------	-------------------

Esophageal Cancer	Alcohol (gm/day)				Total
	0-39	40-79	80-119	>= 120	
No	386 93.01	280 78.87	87 63.04	22 32.84	775 79.49
Yes	29 6.99	75 21.13	51 36.96	45 67.16	200 20.51
Total	415 100.00	355 100.00	138 100.00	67 100.00	975 100.00

**{1}** The **tabulate** command produces one- and two-way frequency tables. The **column** option produces percentages of observations in each column.

The screenshot shows the 'tabulate2 - Two-way tables' dialog box in Stata. The 'Row variable' is 'cancer' and the 'Column variable' is 'alcohol'. The 'Weights' tab is active, with 'Frequency weights' selected. The 'Frequency weight' dropdown is set to 'patients'. The 'Cell contents' section has 'Within-column relative frequencies' checked. The 'Advanced' tab is also visible.

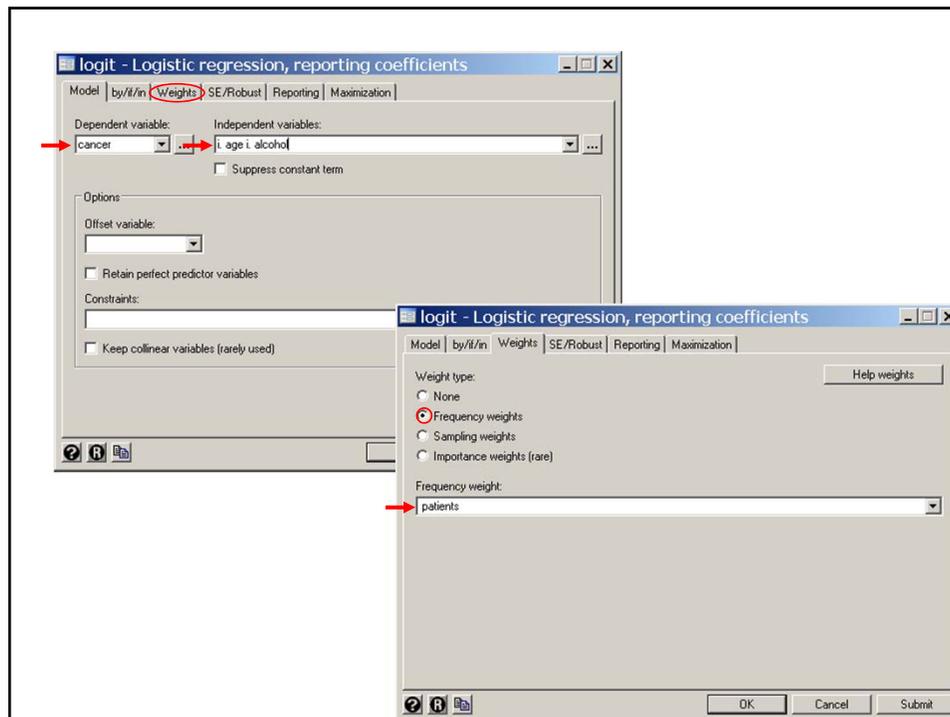
```

. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression
. logit cancer i.age i.alcohol [freq=patients]

Logit estimates                               No. of obs   =    975
                                              LR chi2(8)   =   274.07
                                              Prob > chi2  =    0.0000
Log likelihood = -363.7080768                Pseudo R2   =    0.2649
    
```

cancer	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
-----						
age						
2	1.631112	1.080013	1.51	0.131	-.4856742 3.747899	
3	3.425834	1.038937	3.30	0.001	1.389555 5.462114	
4	3.943447	1.034622	3.81	0.000	1.915624 5.971269	
5	4.356767	1.041336	4.18	0.000	2.315786 6.397747	
6	4.424219	1.0914	4.05	0.000	2.285115 6.563324	
-----						
alcohol						
2	1.43431	.2447858	5.86	0.000	.9545384 1.914081 {2}	
3	2.00711	.2776153	7.23	0.000	1.462994 2.551226	
4	3.680012	.3763372	9.78	0.000	2.942405 4.417619	
-----						
_cons	-6.147181	1.041877	-5.90	0.000	-8.189223 -4.10514	
-----						

**{2}** The parameter estimates of *2.alcohol*, *3.alcohol* and *4.alcohol* estimate the log-odds ratio for cancer associated with alcohol doses of **40-79 gm/day**, **80-119 gm/day** and **120+ gm/day**, respectively. These log-odds ratios are derived with respect to people who drank **0-39 grams** a day. They are all adjusted for age. All of these statistics are significantly different from zero ( $P < 0.0005$ ).



```

. * Statistics > Postestimation > Linear combinations of estimates
. lincom 3.alcohol - 2.alcohol, or {3}

( 1) - [cancer] 2.alcohol + [cancer]3.alcohol = 0.0

-----+-----
cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
( 1) |   1.773226   .4159625     2.44   0.015     1.119669   2.808268

```

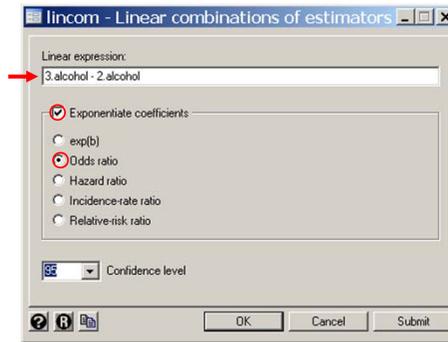
**{3}** In general, **lincom** calculates any **linear combination** of parameter estimates, tests the **null hypothesis** that the true value of this combination equals zero, and gives a **95% confidence interval** for this estimate.

The *or* option exponentiates the linear combination and calculates the corresponding confidence interval.

In this example  $3.alcohol - 2.alcohol$  equals the log-odds ratio for cancer associated with drinking 8-119 gm/day compared to 40-79 gm/day.  $3.alcohol - 2.alcohol = 2.001 - 1.434 = 0.573$ , which is significantly different from zero with  $P = 0.015$ . The corresponding odds ratio is

$\exp[0.573] = 1.77$ . The 95% confidence interval for this difference is (1.1 – 2.8).

Note that the null hypothesis that a **log-odds ratio** equals **zero** is equivalent to the null hypothesis that the corresponding **odds ratio** equals **one**.



```
. lincom 4.alcohol - 3.alcohol, or
```

```
( 1) [cancer]3.alcohol + [cancer]4.alcohol = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)	5.327606	1.95176	4.57	0.000	2.598339 10.92367

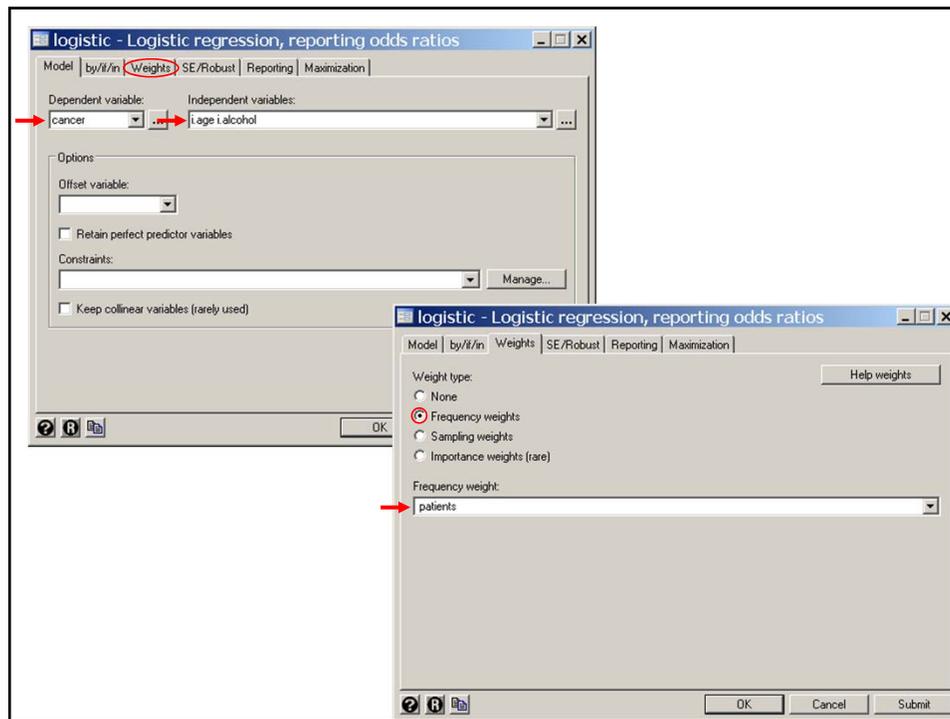
```
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logitc cancer i.age i.alcohol [freq=patients] {4}
```

```
Logit estimates                               No. of obs   =    975
                                              LR chi2(8)   =   274.07
                                              Prob > chi2  =    0.0000
                                              Pseudo R2   =    0.2649
```

```
Log likelihood = -363.7080768
```

	cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
age						
	2	5.109555	5.518386	1.51	0.131	.6152822 42.43183
	3	30.74829	31.94554	3.30	0.001	4.013065 235.5949
	4	51.59613	53.3825	3.81	0.000	6.791178 392.0027
	5	78.00451	81.22889	4.18	0.000	10.13289 600.4908
	6	83.44761	91.07472	4.05	0.000	9.826812 708.623
alcohol						
	2	4.196747	1.027304	5.86	0.000	2.597471 6.780704
	3	7.441782	2.065953	7.23	0.000	4.318873 12.82282
	4	39.64687	14.92059	9.78	0.000	18.96139 82.8987

{4} logistic directly calculate the age adjusted odds ratio and 95% confidence interval for alcohol level 2 vs. level 1, level 3 vs. level 1 and level 4 vs. level 1.



By default, Stata includes a constant term in its regression models.

For this reason, when we convert a categorical variable into a number of indicator covariates we always have to leave one of the categories out to avoid **multicollinearity**.

For example, let

$$sex = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for men} \\ 2 & \text{for women} \end{cases} \quad 1.sex = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for men} \\ 0 & \text{for women} \end{cases} \quad 2.sex = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for men} \\ 1 & \text{for women} \end{cases}$$

Then the linear predictor  $\alpha + \beta_1 1.sex + \beta_2 2.sex$  takes the values

$$\alpha + \beta_1 \text{ for men and } \alpha + \beta_2 \text{ for women.}$$

This gives us three parameters to model the effects of two sexes. To obtain uniquely defined parameter estimates we must use one of the following models:

$$\beta_1 1.sex + \beta_2 2.sex$$

$$\alpha + \beta_2 2.sex$$

or

$$\alpha + \beta_1 1.sex$$

By default, the Stata syntax `i.varname` defines indicator covariates for all but the smallest value of `varname`.

If `varname` takes the values 1, 3, 5 and 10 and we want indicator covariates defined for each of these values except 5 we can use the syntax

`ib5.varname`

5.11.EsophagealCa.ClassVersion.log continues as follows.

```
. logistic cancer i.age ib2.alcohol [freq=patients] {5}
Logistic regression               Number of obs   =       975
                                LR chi2(8)      =       262.07
                                Prob > chi2     =       0.0000
Log likelihood = -363.70808       Pseudo R2     =       0.2649
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
age						
2	5.109555	5.518386	1.51	0.131	.6152822	42.43183
3	30.74829	31.94554	3.30	0.001	4.013065	235.5949
4	51.59613	53.3825	3.81	0.000	6.791178	392.0027
5	78.00451	81.22889	4.18	0.000	10.13289	600.4908
6	83.44761	91.07472	4.05	0.000	9.826812	708.623
alcohol						
1	.2382798	.0583275	-5.86	0.000	.1474773	.3849898
3	1.773226	.4159625	2.44	0.015	1.119669	2.808268 {6}
4	9.447049	3.239241	6.55	0.000	4.824284	18.49948

**{5}** `ib2.alcohol` instructs Stata to include indicator covariates for each value of `alcohol` except `alcohol = 2`. This makes an alcohol value of 2 the baseline for odds ratios associated with this variable.

**{6}** The odds ratio for level 3 drinkers compared to level 1 drinkers is 1.77, which is identical to the odds ratio obtained from the earlier `lincom` statement.

### 9. Making Inferences About Odds Ratio Derived from Multiple Parameters

In more complex multiple logistic regression models we need to make inferences about **odds ratios** that are estimated from **multiple parameters**.

A simple example was given in the preceding example where the log odds ratio for cancer associated with alcohol level 3 compared to alcohol level 2 was of the form

$$\beta_3 - \beta_2$$

To derive confidence intervals and perform hypothesis tests we need to be able to compute the standard errors of weighted sums of parameter estimates.

### 10. Estimating The Standard of Error of a Weighted Sum of Regression Coefficients

Suppose that we have a model with  $q$  parameters.

Let  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q$  be estimates of parameters  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_q$

Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_q$  be a set of known weights and let

$$f = \sum c_i b_i$$

For example, in the preceding logistic regression model there are **5 age** parameters (*2.age, 3.age, ..., 6.age*), **three alcohol** parameters (*2.alcohol, 3.alcohol, 4.alcohol*) and **one constant** parameter for a total of  $q = 9$  parameters. Let us rename these parameters so that  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$  represent *2.alcohol* and *3.alcohol*, respectively.

Let

$$c_3 = 1, c_2 = -1, \text{ and } c_1 = c_4 = c_5 = \dots = c_9 = 0$$

Then  $f = b_3 - b_2 = 2.0071 - 1.4343 = 0.5728$

And  $\exp(f) = \exp(0.5728) = 1.773$  is the odds ratio of level 3 drinkers relative to level 2 drinkers.

Let  $s_{jj}$  be the estimated variance of  $b_j$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, q$  and let  $s_{ij}$  be the covariance of  $b_i$  and  $b_j$  for any  $i \neq j$ .

Then the variance of  $f$  equals:

$$s_f^2 = \sum_{i=1}^q \sum_{j=1}^q c_i c_j s_{ij} \quad \{4.6\}$$

For large studies the 95% confidence interval for  $f$  is

$$f \pm 1.96 * \sqrt{s_f^2} = f \pm 1.96 s_f$$

When  $f$  estimates a **log-odds** ratio then the corresponding **odds ratio** is estimated by **exp( $f$ )** with 95% confidence interval  $[\exp(f - 1.96s_f), \exp(f + 1.96s_f)]$

### 11. The Estimated Variance-Covariance Matrix

The estimates of  $s_{ij}$  are written in a square array

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_{11}, & s_{12} & \dots, & s_{1q} \\ s_{21}, & s_{22} & \dots, & s_{2q} \\ \cdot & & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & & \cdot \\ s_{q1}, & s_{q2}, & \dots, & s_{qq} \end{bmatrix}$$

which is called the estimated variance-covariance matrix.

In our example comparing level 3 drinkers to level 2 drinkers

$$s_f^2 = s_{33} + s_{22} - 2s_{23}$$

which gives  $s_f = 0.2346$ ; this is the standard error of  $3.alcohol - 2.alcohol$  given in the preceding example.

**a) Estimating the Variance-Covariance Matrix with Stata**

You can obtain the **variance-covariance matrix** in Stata using the **estat vce** post estimation command. However, the **lincom** command is so powerful and flexible that we will usually not need to do this explicitly. If you are working with other statistical packages you may need to calculate equation {4.6} explicitly

**12. Example: Effect of Dose of Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

```
. * 5.12.EsophagealCa.ClassVersion.do
. *
. * Estimate age-adjusted risk of esophageal cancer due to dose of tobacco.
. *
. use C:\WDDtext\5.5.EsophagealCa.dta, clear
. * Statistics > Summaries... > Tables > Two-way tables with measures...
. tabulate cancer tobacco [freq=patients] , column
```

Key		Tobacco (gm/day)				Total
frequency	column percentage	0-9	10-19	20-29	>= 30	
Esophageal Cancer						
No		447 85.14	178 75.42	99 75.00	51 62.20	775 79.49
Yes		78 14.86	58 24.58	33 25.00	31 37.80	200 20.51
Total		525 100.00	236 100.00	132 100.00	82 100.00	975 100.00

```

. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logit cancer i.age i.tobacco [freq=patients]

Logit regression                               No. of obs   =    975
                                                LR chi2(8)   =   157.68
                                                Prob > chi2  =    0.000
                                                Pseudo R2   =    0.1594

Log likelihood = -415.90235
-----
cancer | Odds Ratio  Std. Err.   z   P>|z|   [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
age |
  2 | 6.035932   6.433686   1.69  0.092   .7472235   48.75713
  3 | 36.20831   37.10835   3.50  0.000   4.857896   269.8785
  4 | 61.79318   63.10432   4.04  0.000   8.349838   457.3019
  5 | 83.56952   85.86437   4.31  0.000   11.15506   626.0713
  6 | 60.45383   64.52449   3.84  0.000   7.462882   489.7124
tobacco |
  2 | 1.835482   .3781838   2.95  0.003   1.225655   2.748731 {1}
  3 | 1.945172   .487733    2.65  0.008   1.189947   3.179717
  4 | 5.706139   1.725688   5.76  0.000   3.154398   10.3221
-----

```

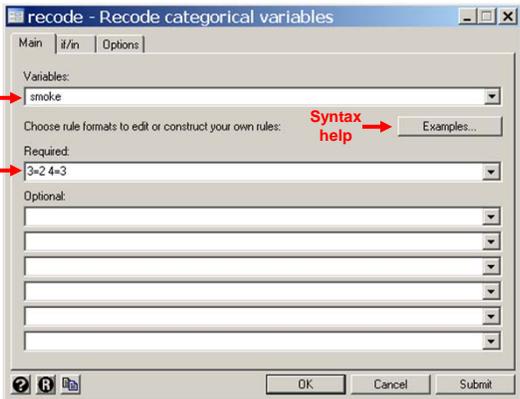
**{1}** Note how **similar** the log-odds ratios for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> levels of tobacco exposure. If we had assigned a single parameter for **tobacco** we would have badly **overestimated** the odds ratio between levels 2 and 3, and badly **underestimated** the odds ratio between levels 1 and 2 and between levels 3 and 4.

```

. generate smoke = tobacco

. * Data > Create... > Other variable-transformation... > Recode categorical...
. recode smoke 3=2 4=3 {2}
(96 changes made)

```



**{2}** We want to **combine** the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> levels of tobacco exposure. We do this by defining a new variable called **smoke** that is identical to **tobacco** and then using the **recode** statement, which in this example changes values of **smoke** = 3 to **smoke** = 2, and values of **smoke** = 4 to **smoke** = 3.

```

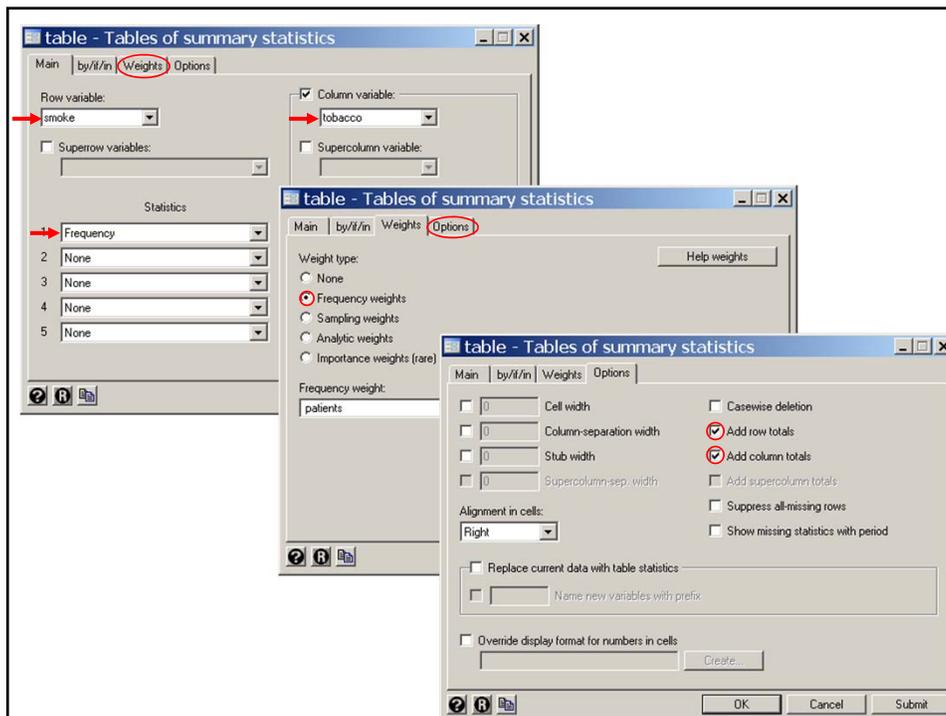
. label variable smoke "Smoking (gm/day)"
. label define smoke 1 "0-9" 2 "10-29" 3 ">= 30"
. label values smoke smoke

. * Statistics > Summaries... > Tables > Table of summary statistics (table).
. table smoke tobacco [freq=patients], row col {3}

```

Smoking (gm/day)	Tobacco (gm/day)				Total
	0-9	10-19	20-29	>= 30	
0-9	525				525
10-29		236	132		368
>= 30				82	82
Total	525	236	132	82	975

{3} This **table** statement shows that the previous *recode* statement worked.



```

. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer i.age i.smoke [freq=patients]

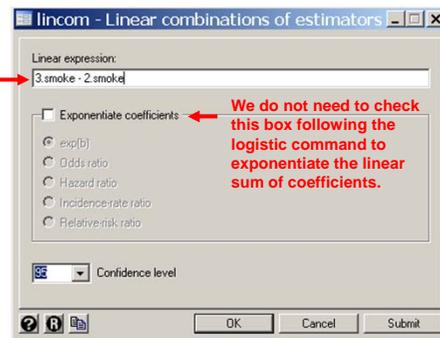
Logistic regression                               Number of obs   =       975
                                                  LR chi2(7)      =      157.64
                                                  Prob > chi2     =       0.0000
Log likelihood = -415.92589                       Pseudo R2      =       0.1593
-----+-----
      cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|    [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      age    |
      2     |   6.037092   6.434914     1.69  0.092    .7473691   48.76637
      3     |   36.2117    37.11182     3.50  0.000    4.85835   269.9038
      4     |   61.79965   63.11096     4.04  0.000    8.350705  457.3503
      5     |   83.52177   85.81492     4.31  0.000   11.14879  625.7078
      6     |   60.25337   64.30389     3.84  0.000    7.439742  487.9831
      smoke  |
      2     |   1.873669   .3421356     3.44  0.001    1.309972   2.679933 {4}
      3     |   5.704954   1.725242     5.76  0.000    3.153836   10.31965
-----+-----
. lincom 3.smoke - 2.smoke                               {5}

( 1) - [cancer]2.smoke + [cancer]3.smoke = 0
-----+-----
      cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|    [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      (1)    |   3.044803   .9116935     3.72  0.000    1.693118   5.475593

```

{4} There is a marked trend of **increasing** cancer risk with **increasing** dose of tobacco. Men who smoked 10-29 grams a day had **1.87** times the cancer risk of men who smoked less. Men who smoked more than 29 gm/day had **5.7** times the cancer risk of men who smoked less than 10 grams a day.

{5} The **odds ratio** for  $\geq 30$  gm/day of tobacco relative to 10-29 gm/day is **3.04** and is highly **significant**.



**The next question is how do alcohol and tobacco interact on esophageal cancer risk?**

```
. * 5.20.EsophagealCa.ClassVersionlog
.*
.* Regress esophageal cancers against age and dose of alcohol
.* and tobacco using a multiplicative model.
.*
. use 5.5.EsophagealCa.dta, clear
. sort tobacco

. * Statistics > Summaries... > Tables > Two-way tables with measures...
. by tobacco: tabulate cancer alcohol [freq=patients]
> , column {1}
```

```
-> tobacco= 0-9
Esophageal | Alcohol (gm/day)
Cancer     | 0-39  40-79  80-119  >= 120 | Total
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      No   | 252   145    42      8      | 447
           | 96.55 81.01  68.85  33.33 | 85.14
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Yes   | 9     34     19     16     | 78
           | 3.45  18.99 31.15  66.67 | 14.86
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total | 261   179    61     24     | 525
           | 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 | 100.00
```

**{1}** *by tobacco*: produces separate frequency tables for each value of *tobacco*. The data set must first be **sorted** by *tobacco*.

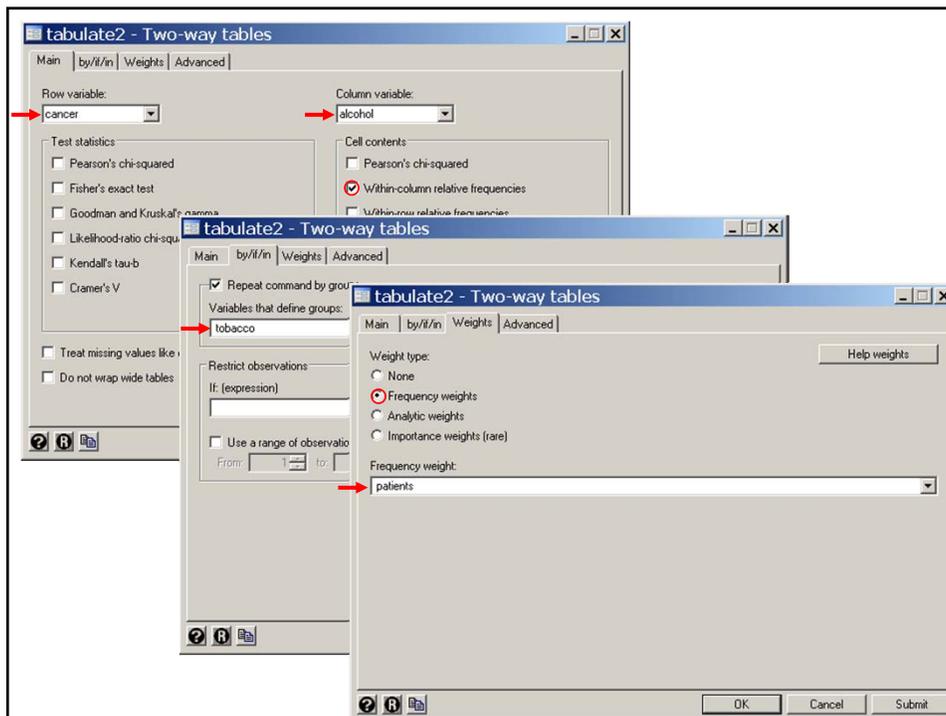
```
-> tobacco= 10-19
Esophageal | Alcohol (gm/day)
Cancer     | 0-39  40-79  80-119  >= 120 | Total
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      No   | 74    68     30      6      | 178
           | 88.10 80.00  61.22  33.33 | 75.42
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Yes   | 10    17     19     12     | 58
           | 11.90 20.00  38.78  66.67 | 24.58
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total | 84    85     49     18     | 236
           | 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 | 100.00
```

```
-> tobacco= 20-29
Esophageal | Alcohol (gm/day)
Cancer     | 0-39  40-79  80-119  >= 120 | Total
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      No   | 37    47     10      5      | 99
           | 88.10 75.81  62.50  41.67 | 75.00
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Yes   | 5     15     6       7      | 33
           | 11.90 24.19  37.50  58.33 | 25.00
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
      Total | 42    62     16     12     | 132
           | 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 | 100.00
```

```
-> tobacco= >= 30
Esophageal | Alcohol (gm/day)
Cancer     | 0-39  40-79  80-119  >= 120 | Total
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
          No |      23    20     5     3 |    51
          | 82.14  68.97  41.67  23.08 | 62.20
-----+-----+-----+-----+
          Yes |      5     9     7    10 |    31
          | 17.86  31.03  58.33  76.92 | 37.80
-----+-----+-----+-----+
        Total |      28    29    12    13 |    82
          | 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 | 100.00
```

These tables show that the proportion of study subjects with cancer increases dramatically with increasing alcohol consumption for every level of tobacco consumption.

The proportion of cases also increases with increasing tobacco consumption for most levels of alcohol.



### 13. Multiplicative Model of Effect of Smoking and Alcohol on Esophageal Cancer Risk

Suppose that subjects either were or were not exposed to alcohol and tobacco and we did not include age in our model. Consider the model

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{ij} / m_{ij})) = \alpha + x_i \beta_1 + y_j \beta_2$$

$$\text{where } i = \begin{cases} 1: & \text{if patient drank} \\ 0: & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$j = \begin{cases} 1: & \text{if patient smoked} \\ 0: & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$x_i = i$$

$$y_j = j$$

$m_{ij}$  is the number of subjects with drinking status  $i$  and smoking status  $j$ .

$d_{ij}$  is the number of cancers with drinking status  $i$  and smoking status  $j$ .

$\alpha$ ,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are model parameters.

Thus the **log-odds** of a **drinker** with smoking status  **$j$**  is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{1j} / m_{1j})) = \alpha + \beta_1 + y_j \beta_2 \quad \{4.7\}$$

The **log-odds** of a **non-drinker** with smoking status  **$j$**  is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{0j} / m_{0j})) = \alpha + y_j \beta_2$$

Subtracting equation {4.8} from {4.7} gives that {4.8}

$$\log\left(\frac{\pi_{1j} / (1 - \pi_{1j})}{\pi_{0j} / (1 - \pi_{0j})}\right) = \beta_1$$

where  $\pi_{ij}$  is the probability that someone with drinking status  $i$  and smoking status  $j$  develops cancer.

In other words,  $\exp(\beta_1)$  is the odds ratio for **cancer** in **drinkers** compared to non-drinkers **adjusted** for **smoking**.

Note that this implies that the relative risk of drinking is the same in smokers and non-smokers.

By an identical argument,  $\exp(\beta_2)$  is the **odds ratio** for **cancer** in **smokers** compared to non-smokers **adjusted** for **drinking**.

For people who both drink and smoke the model is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{11} / m_{11})) = \alpha + \beta_1 + \beta_2 \quad \{4.9\}$$

while for people who neither drink nor smoke the model is

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{00} / m_{00})) = \alpha \quad \{4.10\}$$

Subtracting {4.9} from {4.10} give that the log-odds ratio for people who both **smoke** and **drink** relative to those who do neither is  $\beta_1 + \beta_2$ , and the corresponding **odds ratio** is  $\exp(\beta_1) \times \exp(\beta_2)$ .

Thus our model implies that the **odds ratio** of having both risk factors equals the **product** of the individual **odds ratio** for drinking and smoking.

It is for this reason that this is called a **multiplicative model**.

The multiplicative assumption is a very strong one that is often not justified. Let us see how it works with the Ille-et-Vilaine data set.

```
. *
. * Regress cancer against age, alcohol and smoke.
. * Use a multiplicative model
. *
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer i.age i.alcohol i.smoke [freq=patients] {1}
```

Logistic regression	Number of obs	=	975
	LR chi2(10)	=	285.55
	Prob > chi2	=	0.0000
Log likelihood = -351.96823	Pseudo R2	=	0.2886

**{1}** This command fits a model with a constant parameter, **5 age** parameters **3 alcohol** parameters and **two tobacco** parameters. No parameter is given for the lowest strata associated with *age*, *alcohol* or *smoke*.

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
age						
2	7.262526	8.017757	1.80	0.073	.834391	63.21291
3	43.65627	46.62635	3.54	0.000	5.381893	354.1263
4	76.3655	81.33339	4.07	0.000	9.469377	615.8472
5	133.7632	143.9793	4.55	0.000	16.22277	1102.93
6	124.4262	139.5094	4.30	0.000	13.82058	1120.205
alcohol						
2	4.213304	1.05191	5.76	0.000	2.582905	6.872854 {2}
3	7.222005	2.053957	6.95	0.000	4.135936	12.61077
4	36.7912	14.17012	9.36	0.000	17.29434	78.26794
smoke						
2	1.592701	.3200884	2.32	0.021	1.074154	2.361577
3	5.159309	1.775207	4.77	0.000	2.628521	10.12679

{2} The odds ratio for level 2 drinkers relative to level 1 drinkers adjusted for age and smoking is 4.21.

```
. lincom 2.alcohol + 2.smoke
( 1) [cancer]2.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
(1)	6.710535	2.110331	6.05	0.000	3.623022	12.4292 {3}

```
. lincom 3.alcohol + 2.smoke
( 1) [cancer]3.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
(1)	11.5025	3.877641	7.25	0.000	5.940747	22.27118

```
. lincom 4.alcohol + 2.smoke
( 1) [cancer]4.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
(1)	58.59739	25.19568	9.47	0.000	25.22777	136.1061

**{3}** The cancer log-odds for a man in, say, the third age strata who is a level 2 drinker and level 2 smoker is

$$\_cons + 3.age + 2.alcohol + 2.smoke$$

The cancer log-odds for a man in the same age strata who is a level 1 drinker and level 1 smoker is

$$\_cons + 3.age$$

Subtracting these two log-odds and exponentiating gives that the odds ratio for men who are **both** level 2 drinkers and level 2 smokers relative to those who are level 1 drinkers and level 1 smokers is **6.71**.

```
. lincom 2.alcohol + 3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]2.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke = 0
```

	cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)		21.73774	9.508636	7.04	0.000	9.223106 51.23319

```
. lincom 3.alcohol + 3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]3.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke = 0
```

	cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)		37.26056	17.06685	7.90	0.000	15.18324 91.43957

```
. lincom 4.alcohol + 3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]4.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke = 0
```

	cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)		189.8171	100.9788	9.86	0.000	66.91353 538.4643

The preceding analyses are summarized in the following table.

Note that the multiplicative assumption holds.

E.g.  $36.8 \times 5.16 = 190$

**Table 4.1. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Multiplicative Model -- Adjusted to Age

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0-9 gm		10-29 gm		30gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI
0-39 gm	1.0*		1.59	(1.1 - 2.4)	5.16	(2.6 - 10)
40-79 gm	4.21	(2.6 - 6.9)	6.71	(3.6 - 12)	21.7	(9.2 - 51)
80-119 gm	7.22	(4.1 - 13)	11.5	(5.9 - 22)	37.3	(15 - 91)
120 gm.	36.8	(17 - 78)	58.6	(25 - 140)	190	(67 - 540)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

This model suggests that combined heavy alcohol and tobacco consumption has an enormous effect on the risk of esophageal cancer.

To determine if this is real or a model artifact we need to look at a model that permits the cancer risk associated with combined risk factors to deviate from the multiplicative model.

#### 14. Modeling the Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Cancer Risk with Interaction

Let us first return to the simple example where people either do or do not drink or smoke and where we do not adjust for age. Our multiplicative model was

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{ij} / m_{ij})) = \alpha + x_i\beta_1 + y_j\beta_2 \quad \{4.11\}$$

We allow alcohol and tobacco to have a synergistic effect on cancer odds by including a fourth parameter as follows

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{ij} / m_{ij})) = \alpha + x_i\beta_1 + y_j\beta_2 + x_i y_j \beta_3 \quad \{4.12\}$$

Then  $\beta_3$  only enters the model for people who both smoke and drink. By the usual arguments...

$\beta_1$  is the log odds ratio for cancer associated with **alcohol among non-smokers**,

$\beta_2$  is the log odds ratio for cancer associated with **smoking among non-drinkers**,

$\beta_1 + \beta_3$  is the log odds ratio for cancer associated with **alcohol among smokers**,

$\beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3$  is the log odds ratio for cancer associated with people who **smoke and drink** *compared* to those who are both **non-smokers and non-drinkers**.

We now apply this interpretation to the esophageal cancer data.  
*5.20.EsophagelaCa.ClassVersion.log* continues as follows:

```
. *  
. * Regress cancer against age, alcohol and smoke.  
. * Include alcohol-smoke interaction terms.  
. *  
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)  
. logistic cancer i.age alcohol##smoke [freq=patients], {1}  
  
Logistic regression                Number of obs   =       975  
                                   LR chi2(16)      =       290.90  
                                   Prob > chi2       =       0.0000  
Log likelihood = -349.29335         Pseudo R2      =       0.2940
```

A separate parameter is fitted for each of these variables. In addition, the model specifies 5 parameters for the 5 age indicator variables and a constant parameter.

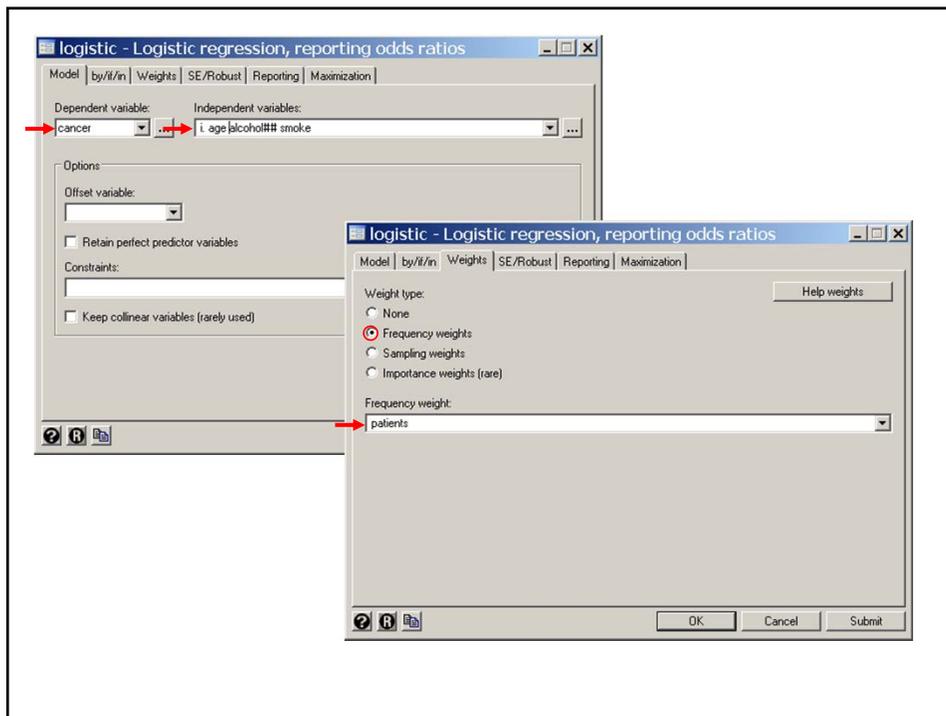
**{1}** The syntax *alcohol##smoke* defines the following categorical values:

```
2.alcohol = 1 if alcohol = 2, and = 0 otherwise  
3.alcohol = 1 if alcohol = 3, and = 0 otherwise  
4.alcohol = 1 if alcohol = 4, and = 0 otherwise  
2.smoke   = 1 if smoke = 2,   and = 0 otherwise  
3.smoke   = 1 if smoke = 3,   and = 0 otherwise
```

```
alcohol#smoke  
2 2 = 2.alcohol x 2.smoke  
2 3 = 2.alcohol x 3.smoke  
3 2 = 3.alcohol x 2.smoke  
3 3 = 3.alcohol x 3.smoke  
4 2 = 4.alcohol x 2.smoke  
4 3 = 4.alcohol x 3.smoke
```

	cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
age							
2		6.697614	7.41052	1.72	0.086	.7657997	58.57673
3		40.1626	42.67457	3.48	0.001	5.004744	322.3011
4		69.55115	73.73699	4.00	0.000	8.707117	555.5642
5		123.0645	131.6754	4.50	0.000	15.11374	1002.06
6		118.8368	133.2538	4.26	0.000	13.19724	1070.086
alcohol							
2		7.554406	3.043769	5.02	0.000	3.429574	16.64028
3		12.71358	5.825002	5.55	0.000	5.179306	31.20788
4		65.07188	39.54145	6.87	0.000	19.7767	214.108
smoke							
2		3.800862	1.703912	2.98	0.003	1.578671	9.151084
3		8.651205	5.569301	3.35	0.001	2.449667	30.55247
alcohol# smoke							
2 2		.3251915	.1746668	-2.09	0.036	.1134859	.9318294
2 3		.5033299	.4154539	-0.83	0.406	.0998302	2.53772
3 2		.3341452	.2008274	-1.82	0.068	.1028839	1.085233
3 3		.657279	.6598915	-0.42	0.676	.0918681	4.702563
4 2		.3731549	.301804	-1.22	0.223	.076462	1.821095
4 3		.3489097	.4210291	-0.87	0.383	.032777	3.714132

The highlighted odds ratios show age adjusted risks of drinking among level 1 smokers and smoking among level 1 drinkers

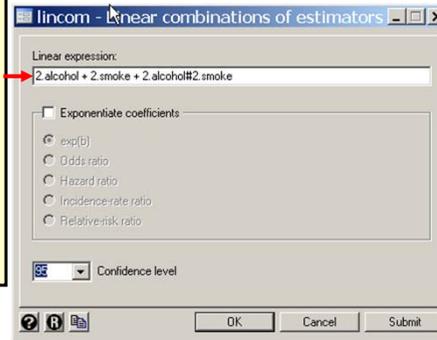


```
. lincom 2.alcohol + 2.smoke + 2.alcohol#2.smoke {2}
( 1) [cancer]2.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke + [cancer]2.alcohol#2.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)	9.337306	3.826162	5.45	0.000	4.182379 20.84586

{2} This statement calculates the odds ratio for men in the second strata of *alcohol* and *smoke* relative to men in the first strata of both of these variables. This odds ratio of **9.33** is adjusted for age.

*2.alcohol#2.smoke* represents the parameter associated with the product of the covariates *2.alcohol* and *2.smoke*.



```
. lincom 2.alcohol + 3.smoke + 2.alcohol#3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]2.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke + [cancer]2.alcohol#3.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)	32.89498	19.73769	5.82	0.000	10.14824 106.6274

```
. lincom 3.alcohol + 2.smoke + 3.alcohol#2.smoke
( 1) [cancer]3.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke + [cancer]3.alcohol#2.smoke = 0
```

cancer	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
(1)	16.14675	7.152595	6.28	0.000	6.776802 38.47207

```

. lincom 3.alcohol + 3.smoke + 3.alcohol#3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]3.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke + [cancer]3.alcohol#3.smoke = 0
-----+-----
cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
(1) |    72.29267    57.80896     5.35  0.000    15.08098    346.5446

. lincom 4.alcohol + 2.smoke + 4.alcohol#2.smoke
( 1) [cancer]4.alcohol + [cancer]2.smoke + [cancer]4.alcohol#2.smoke = 0
-----+-----
cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
(1) |    92.29212    53.97508     7.74  0.000    29.33307    290.3833

. lincom 4.alcohol + 3.smoke + 4.alcohol#3.smoke
( 1) [cancer]4.alcohol + [cancer]3.smoke + [cancer]4.alcohol#3.smoke = 0
-----+-----
cancer | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
(1) |   196.4188    189.1684     5.48  0.000    29.74417   1297.072

```

The following table summarizes the results of this analysis

**Table 4.2. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Model with all 2-Way Interaction Terms -- Adjusted for Age

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0 – 9 gm		10 – 29 gm		≥ 30 gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval
0 – 39 gm	1.0*		3.8	(1.6 – 9.2)	8.65	(2.4 – 31)
40 – 79 gm	7.55	(3.4 – 17)	9.34	(4.2 – 21)	32.9	(10 – 110)
80 – 119 gm	12.7	(5.2 – 31)	16.1	(6.8 – 38)	72.3	(15 – 350)
≥ 120 gm	65.1	(20 – 210)	92.3	(29 – 290)	196	(30 – 1300)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are quite **consistent**, and both indicate a dramatic increase in risk with increased drinking and smoking. Note that the **confidence intervals** are **wide**, particularly for the most heavily exposed subjects. The confidence intervals are **wider** in Table 4.2 because they are derived from a model with **more parameters**.

Which model is better?

**Table 4.1. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Multiplicative Model -- Adjusted to Age

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0-9 gm		10-29 gm		30gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI
0-39 gm	1.0*		1.59	(1.1 - 2.4)	5.16	(2.6 - 10)
40-79 gm	4.21	(2.6 - 6.9)	6.71	(3.6 - 12)	21.7	(9.2 - 51)
80-119 gm	7.22	(4.1 - 13)	11.5	(5.9 - 22)	37.3	(15 - 91)
120 gm.	36.8	(17 - 78)	58.6	(25 - 140)	190	(67 - 540)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

### 15. Model Fitting: Nested Models and Model Deviance

A model is said to be **nested** within a second model if the first model is a special case of the second.

For example, the **multiplicative model** {4.11} discussed before was

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{ij} / m_{ij})) = \alpha + x_i\beta_1 + y_j\beta_2$$

while model {4.12} contained an **interaction term** and was

$$\text{logit}(E(d_{ij} / m_{ij})) = \alpha + x_i\beta_1 + y_j\beta_2 + x_i y_j \beta_3$$

Model {4.11} is **nested** within model {4.12} since model {4.11} is a special case of model {4.12} with  $\beta_3 = 0$ .

The model **Deviance**  $D$  is a statistic derived from the likelihood function that measures goodness of fit of the data to a specific model. Let  **$\log(L)$**  denote the **maximum** value of the **log likelihood function**. Then the deviance is given by

$$D = K - 2\log(L) \quad \{4.13\}$$

for some constant  $K$  that is independent of the model parameters.

If the model is correct then for large sample sizes  $D$  has a  $\chi^2$  distribution with degrees of freedom equal to the number of observations minus the number of parameters. Regardless of the true model,  $D$  is a non-negative number. **Large** values of  **$D$**  indicate **poor** model **fit**; a **perfect** fit has  **$D = 0$** .

Suppose that  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are deviances from two models with model 1 nested in model 2. Then it can be shown that if model 1 is true then  $\Delta D = D_1 - D_2$  has an approximately  $\chi^2$  distribution with the number of degrees of freedom equal to the number of parameters in model 2 minus the number of parameters in model 1.

Equivalently,  $\Delta D = D_1 - D_2$

$$= K - 2\log(L_1) - (K - 2\log(L_2)) = 2(\log(L_2) - \log(L_1))$$

We use the reduction in deviance as a guide to building reasonable models for our data.

For example, in the multiplicative model of alcohol and tobacco levels analyzed above the log likelihood was

$$\log(L) = -351.96823$$

```
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer i.age i.alcohol i.smoke [freq=patients]

Logistic regression                               Number of obs   =           975
                                                    LR chi2(10)     =           285.55
                                                    Prob > chi2     =            0.0000
Log likelihood = -351.96823                       Pseudo R2       =            0.2886
```

The corresponding model with the 6 interaction terms has a log likelihood of

$$\log(L) = -349.29335$$

```
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic cancer i.age alcohol##smoke [freq=patients],

Logistic regression                               Number of obs   =           975
                                                    LR chi2(16)     =           290.90
                                                    Prob > chi2     =            0.0000
Log likelihood = -349.29335                       Pseudo R2       =            0.2940
```

For example, in the multiplicative model of alcohol and tobacco levels analyzed above the log likelihood was

$$\log(L_1) = -351.96823$$

The corresponding model with the 6 interaction terms has a log likelihood of

$$\log(L_2) = -349.29335$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta D &= 2(\log(L_2) - \log(L_1)) \\ &= 2(-349.29335 + 351.96823) \\ &= 5.35\end{aligned}$$

Since there are **6** more parameters in the interactive model than the multiplicative model, has a  $\chi^2$  distribution with 6 degrees of freedom under the independent model. We calculate the P value in Stata with the command

```
display chi2tail(6, 5.34976)
```

which gives  $P = .50$ .

Thus there is **no statistical evidence** to suggest that the multiplicative model is false, or that any meaningful improvement in the model fit can be obtained by adding interaction terms to the model.

So what results should we publish – **Table 4.1 or 4.2?**

In general, I am guided by **deviance** reduction statistics when deciding whether to include variables that may, or may not be true **confounders**, but that are not intrinsically of interest.

If I am interested in the joint effects of 2 or more variables, I usually **include** the **interaction term** unless the inclusion of the interaction parameter has almost no effect on the resulting relative risk estimates.

There are no **hard and fast guidelines** to model building other than that it is best not to include uninteresting variables in the model that have a trivial effect on the model deviance.

I think I personally would go with Table 4.2 over 4.1 in spite of the lack of evidence of interaction. The odds ratio for both **≥120 gm alcohol** and **≥30 gm tobacco** is **so large** that I would worry that we were being misled by not taking into account a small but real interaction term.

It would also be acceptable to say that we analyzed the data both ways, found no evidence of interaction, got comparable results and were presenting the multiplicative model results only.

**Table 4.1. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Multiplicative Model -- Adjusted to Age

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0-9 gm		10-29 gm		30gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI
0-39 gm	1.0*		1.59	(1.1 - 2.4)	<b>5.16</b>	(2.6 - 10)
40-79 gm	4.21	(2.6 - 6.9)	6.71	(3.6 - 12)	21.7	(9.2 - 51)
80-119 gm	7.22	(4.1 - 13)	11.5	(5.9 - 22)	37.3	(15 - 91)
120 gm.	<b>36.8</b>	(17 - 78)	58.6	(25 - 140)	<b>190</b>	(67 - 540)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

**Table 4.2. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Model with all 2-Way Interaction Terms -- Adjusted for Age

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0 – 9 gm		10 – 29 gm		≥ 30 gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval
0 – 39 gm	1.0*		3.8	(1.6 – 9.2)	8.65	(2.4 – 31)
40 – 79 gm	7.55	(3.4 – 17)	9.34	(4.2 – 21)	32.9	(10 – 110)
80 – 119 gm	12.7	(5.2 – 31)	16.1	(6.8 – 38)	72.3	(15 – 350)
≥ 120 gm	65.1	(20 – 210)	92.3	(29 – 290)	196	(30 – 1300)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

## 16. Influence Analysis for Logistic Regression

Consider a logistic regression model with

- $J$  distinct covariate patterns
- $d_j$  events occur among  $n_j$  patients with the covariate pattern  $x_{j1}, x_{j2}, \dots, x_{jq}$ .

Let  $\pi_j = \pi[x_{j1}, x_{j2}, \dots, x_{jq}]$  denote the probability that a patient with the  $j^{\text{th}}$  pattern of covariate values suffers an event.

Then  $d_j$  has a **binomial** distribution with

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{expected value } n_j \pi_j \\ &\text{standard error } \sqrt{n_j \pi_j (1 - \pi_j)} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(d_j - n_j \pi_j) / \sqrt{n_j \pi_j (1 - \pi_j)}$$

will have a **mean** of 0 and a **standard error** of 1.

$$\text{Let } \hat{\pi}_j = \frac{\exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{j2} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_q x_{jq}]}{1 + \exp[\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{j2} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_q x_{jq}]}$$

be the estimate of  $\pi_j$  obtained by substituting the maximum likelihood parameter estimates into the logistic probability function.

Then the **residual** for the  $j^{\text{th}}$  covariate pattern is  $d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j$

The **Pearson residual** is  $r_{j(\text{Pearson})} = (d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j) / \sqrt{n_j \hat{\pi}_j (1 - \hat{\pi}_j)}$

which should have a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 1 if the model is correct and if  $\sqrt{n_j \hat{\pi}_j (1 - \hat{\pi}_j)}$  is a good estimate of the standard error of  $d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j$ .

The **leverage**  $h_j$  is analogous to leverage in linear regression.

It measures to potential of a covariate pattern to influence our parameter estimates if the associated residual is large.

For our purposes we can define  $h_j$  by the formula

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j] &= n_j \hat{\pi}_j (1 - \hat{\pi}_j) (1 - h_j) \\ &\cong \text{var}[d_j - n_j \pi_j] (1 - h_j) \end{aligned}$$

In other words,  $100(1-h_j)$  is the percent reduction in the variance of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  residual due to the fact that the estimate of  $n_j \hat{\pi}_j$  is pulled towards  $d_j$ .

The value of  $h_j$  lies between 0 and 1.

When  $h_j$  is very **small**  $d_j$  has almost **no effect** on its estimated expected value  $n_j \hat{\pi}_j$ .

When  $h_j$  is close to 1, then  $d_j \cong n_j \hat{\pi}_j$ . This implies that both the residual  $d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j$  and its variance will be close to zero.

The **standardized Pearson residual** for the  $j^{\text{th}}$  covariate pattern is the residual divided by its standard error. That is,

$$r_{sj} = \frac{d_j - n_j \hat{\pi}_j}{\sqrt{n_j \hat{\pi}_j (1 - \hat{\pi}_j) (1 - h_j)}} = \frac{r_{j(Pearson)}}{\sqrt{1 - h_j}}$$

This residual is analogous to the studentized residual for linear regression.

$r_{sj}$  has mean 0 and standard error 1  
is not necessarily normally distributed when  $n_j$  is small.

The square of the standardized Pearson residual is denoted

$$\Delta X_j^2 = r_{sj}^2 = r_{j(Pearson)}^2 / (1 - h_j)$$

We will use the critical value  $(z_{0.025})^2 = 1.96^2 = 3.84$  as a very rough guide to identifying large values of  $\Delta X_j^2$ .

**Approximately 95% of these squared residuals should be less than 3.84 if the logistic regression model is correct.**

The  $\Delta \hat{\beta}_j$  **influence statistic** is a measure of the influence of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  covariate pattern on all of the parameter estimates taken together. It equals  $\Delta \hat{\beta}_j = r_{sj}^2 h_j / (1 - h_j)$

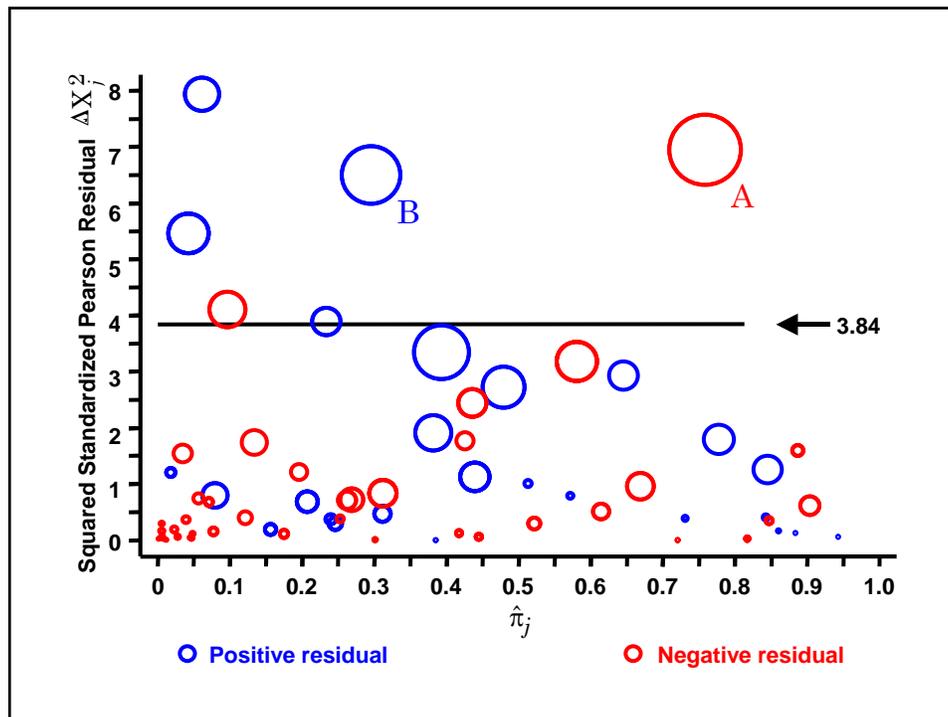
Note that  $\Delta \hat{\beta}_j$  increases with both the magnitude of the standardized residual and the size of the leverage.

It is analogous to **Cook's distance** for linear regression.

Covariate patterns associated with large values of  $\Delta X_j^2$  and  $\Delta \hat{\beta}_j$  merit special attention.

The following plot is for our model of alcohol and tobacco dose with interaction terms and plots  $\Delta X_j^2$  against  $\hat{\pi}_j$

The area of the circles is proportional to  $\Delta \hat{\beta}_j$



There are 68 unique covariate patterns in this data set.  
5% of 68 equals 3.4  
There are 6 residuals greater than 3.84.

There are 2 large squared residuals with high influence.

---

**Residual A** is associated with patients who are age 55 – 64 and consume, on a daily basis, at least 120 gm of alcohol 0 – 9 gm of tobacco.

**Residual B** is associated with patients who are age 55 – 64 and consume, on a daily basis, 0 – 39 gm of alcohol and at least 30 gm of tobacco.

---

The  $\Delta\beta_j$  influence statistics associated with residuals A and B are 6.16 and 4.15, respectively.

**NOTE:**

In linear regression observations with high influence are due to a single patient and we have the option of deleting the patient

In logistic regression covariate patterns with high influence indicate poor model fit. However, we usually do not have the option of deleting the pattern if it represents a sizable number of patients.

Daily Drug Consumption		Complete Data		Deleted Covariate Pattern			
				A†		B‡	
Tobacco	Alcohol	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	Odds Ratio	Percent Change from Complete Data	Odds Ratio	Percent Change from Complete Data
0 – 9 gm	0 – 39 gm	1.0*		1.0*		1.0*	
0 – 9 gm	40 – 79 gm	7.55	(3.4 – 17)	7.53	-0.26%	7.70	2.0%
0 – 9 gm	80 – 119 gm	12.7	(5.2 – 31)	12.6	-0.79%	13.0	2.4%
0 – 9 gm	≥ 120 gm.	65.1	(20 – 210)	274	321%	66.8	2.6%
10 – 29 gm	0 – 39 gm	3.80	(1.6 – 9.2)	3.77	-0.79%	3.86	1.6%
10 – 29 gm	40 – 79 gm	9.34	(4.2 – 21)	9.30	-0.43%	9.53	2.0%
10 – 29 gm	80 – 119 gm	16.1	(6.8 – 38)	16.0	-0.62%	16.6	3.1%
10 – 29 gm	≥ 120 gm.	92.3	(29 – 290)	95.4	3.4%	94.0	1.8%
≥ 30 gm	0 – 39 gm	8.65	(2.4 – 31)	8.66	0.12%	1.88	-78%
≥ 30 gm	40 – 79 gm	32.9	(10 – 110)	33.7	2.4%	33.5	1.8%
≥ 30 gm	80 – 119 gm	72.3	(15 – 350)	73.0	0.97%	74.2	2.6%
≥ 30 gm	≥ 120 gm.	196	(30 – 1300)	198	1.02%	203	3.6%

\* Denominator of odds ratios  
† Patients age 55 – 64 who drink at least 120 gm a day and smoke 0 – 9 gm a day deleted  
‡ Patients age 55 – 64 who drink 0 – 39 gm a day and smoke at least 30 gm a day deleted

**Table 4.1. Effect of Alcohol and Tobacco on Esophageal Cancer Risk**

Daily Alcohol Consumption	Daily Tobacco Consumption					
	0-9 gm		10-29 gm		30gm	
	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI	Odds Ratio	95% CI
<b>Multiplicative Model -- Adjusted to Age</b>						
0-39 gm	1.0*		1.59	(1.1 - 2.4)	5.16	(2.6 - 10)
40-79 gm	4.21	(2.6 - 6.9)	6.71	(3.6 - 12)	21.7	(9.2 - 51)
80-119 gm	7.22	(4.1 - 13)	11.5	(5.9 - 22)	37.3	(15 - 91)
120 gm.	36.8	(17 - 78)	58.6	(25 - 140)	190	(67 - 540)
<b>Model with all 2-Way Interaction Terms -- Adjusted for Age</b>						
0 - 39 gm	1.0*		3.8	(1.6 - 9.2)	8.65	(2.4 - 31)
40 - 79 gm	7.55	(3.4 - 17)	9.34	(4.2 - 21)	32.9	(10 - 110)
80 - 119 gm	12.7	(5.2 - 31)	16.1	(6.8 - 38)	72.3	(15 - 350)
≥120 gm	65.1	(20 - 210)	92.3	(29 - 290)	196	(30 - 1300)

\* Denominator of odds ratios

### 17. What is the best model?

We have 975 patients,  
200 cases,  
68 unique covariate patterns  
17 parameters in the interactive model.

Over-fitting is certainly a concern

Still the effect of dose of tobacco and alcohol on risk is very marked, which makes the interactive model tempting to use.

It is a pity that age, alcohol and tobacco were categorized before we received this data. It is always a mistake to throw such data away.

If we had the continuous data we could fit a cubic spline model with 1 constant parameter

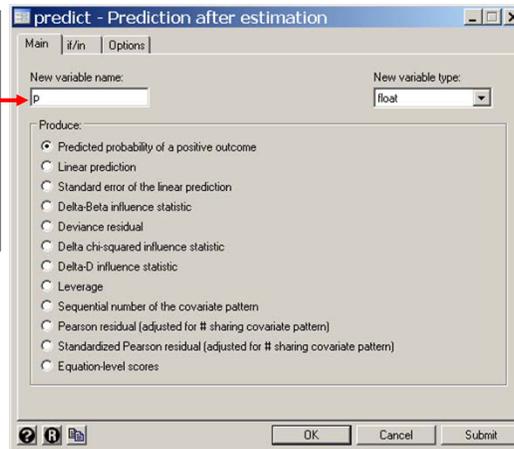
6 spline parameters: 2 each for age alcohol and tobacco  
4 interaction parameters for a total of  
11 parameters, which would be more reasonable.

### 18. Residual analysis with Stata

5.20. *EsophagelaCa.ClassVersion.log* continues as follows

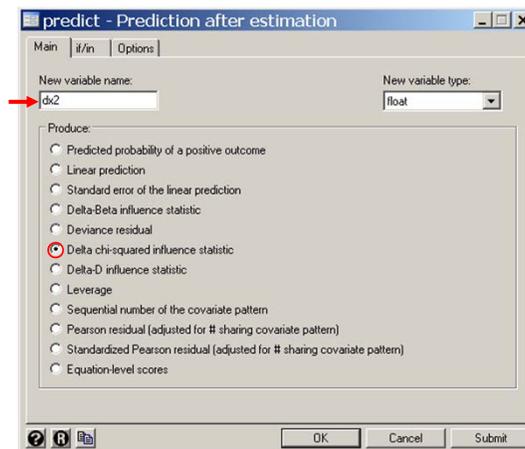
```
. *
. * Perform residual analysis
. *
. * Statistics > Postestimation > Predictions, residuals, etc.
. predict p, p
```

{1} The **p** option in this **predict** command defines the variable **p** to equal  $\hat{\eta}$ . In this and the next two **predict** commands the name of the newly defined variable is the same as the command option.



```
. predict dx2, dx2
(57 missing values generated)
```

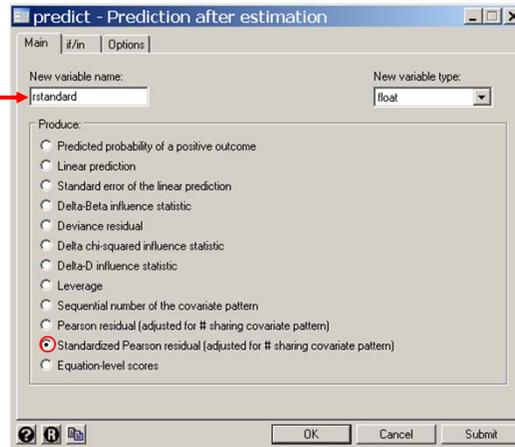
{2} Define the variable **dx2** to equal  $\Delta X_j^2$ . All records with the **same** covariate **pattern** are given the **same** value of **dx2**.



```
. predict rstandard, rstandard
(57 missing values generated)
```

{3}

{3} Define *rstandard* to equal the **standardized Pearson residual**  $r_{sj}$ .



```
. generate dx2_pos = dx2 if rstandard >= 0
(137 missing values generated)
```

{4}

```
. generate dx2_neg = dx2 if rstandard < 0
(112 missing values generated)
```

```
. label variable dx2_pos "Positive residual"
```

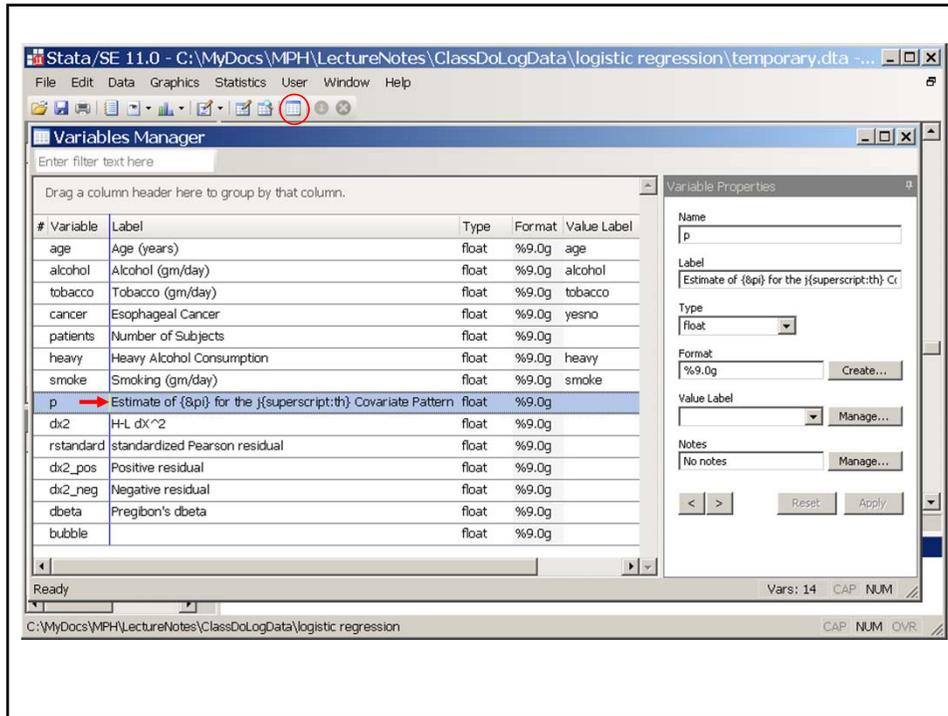
```
. label variable dx2_neg "Negative residual"
```

```
. label variable p //
"Estimate of  $\pi_j$  for the  $j^{\text{th}}$  Covariate Pattern"
```

{5}

{4} We are going to draw a scatterplot of  $\Delta X_j^2$  against  $\hat{\pi}_j$ . We would like to **color code** the plotting symbols to indicate if the residual is **positive** or **negative**. This command defines *dx2\_pos* to equal  $\Delta X_j^2$  if and only if  $r_{sj}$  is non-negative. The next command defines *dx2\_neg* to equal  $\Delta X_j^2$  if  $r_{sj}$  is negative.

{5} Greek letters, superscripts, italics, etc can be entered in variable labels. `{&pi}` enters the letter  $\pi$  into the label. `{superscript:th}` writes the letters "th" as a superscript.



```
. predict dbeta, dbeta
(57 missing values generated)
```

{5}

predict - Prediction after estimation

Main | if/n | Options

New variable name: dbeta

New variable type: float

Produce:

- Predicted probability of a positive outcome
- Linear prediction
- Standard error of the linear prediction
- Delta-Beta influence statistic
- Deviance residual
- Delta chi-squared influence statistic
- Delta-D influence statistic
- Leverage
- Sequential number of the covariate pattern
- Pearson residual (adjusted for # sharing covariate pattern)
- Standardized Pearson residual (adjusted for # sharing covariate pattern)
- Equation-level scores

OK Cancel Submit

{5} Define the variable *dbeta* to equal  $\Delta\beta_j$ . The values of *dx2*, *dbeta* and *rstandard* are affected by the **number** of **subjects** with a given covariate pattern, and the number of **events** that occur to these subjects. They are **not** affected by the **number** of **records** used to record this information.

Hence, it makes no difference whether there is one record per patient or just two records specifying the number of subjects with the specified covariate pattern who did, or did not, suffer the event of interest.

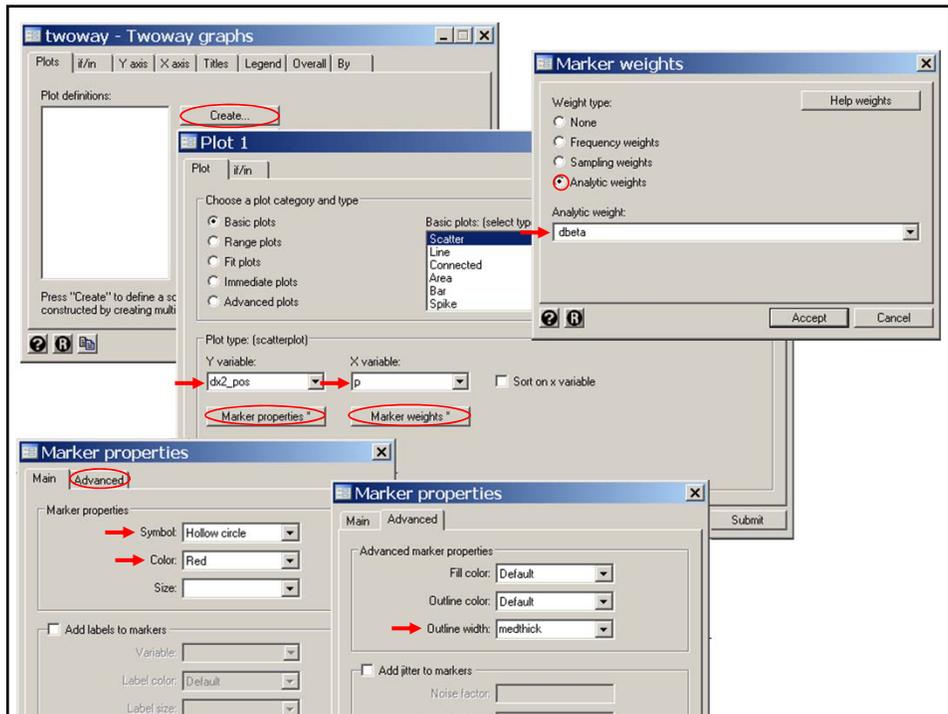
```

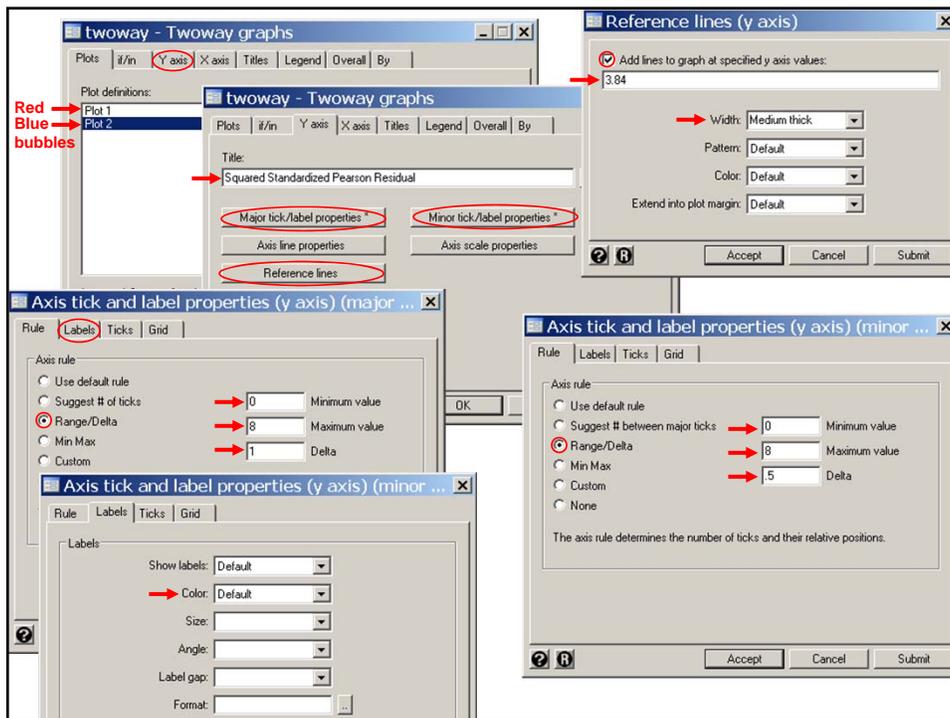
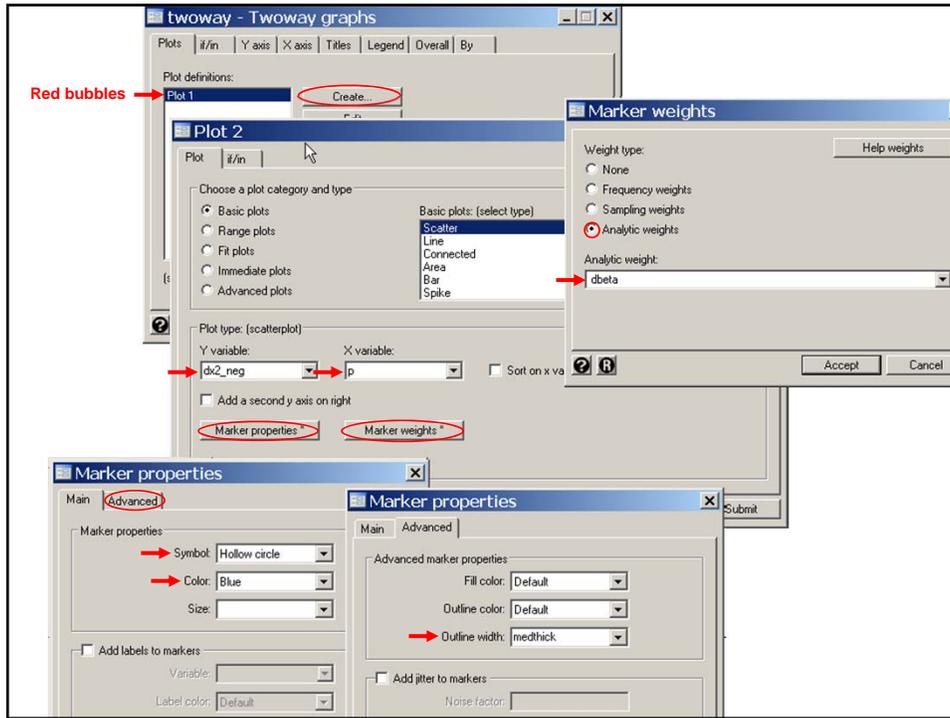
> scatter dx2_pos p [weight=dbeta] // {6}
> , msymbol(Oh) mlwidth(medthick) mcolor(red) // {7}
> || scatter dx2_neg p [weight=dbeta] //
> , msymbol(Oh) mlwidth(medthick) mcolor(blue) //
> ||, ylabel(0(1)8, angle(0)) //
> ymtick(0(.5)8) yline(3.84, lwidth(medthick)) //
> xlabel(0(.1)1) xmtick(0(.05)1) //
> ytitle("Squared Standardized Pearson Residual") xscale(titlegap(2))
(analytic weights assumed)
(analytic weights assumed)

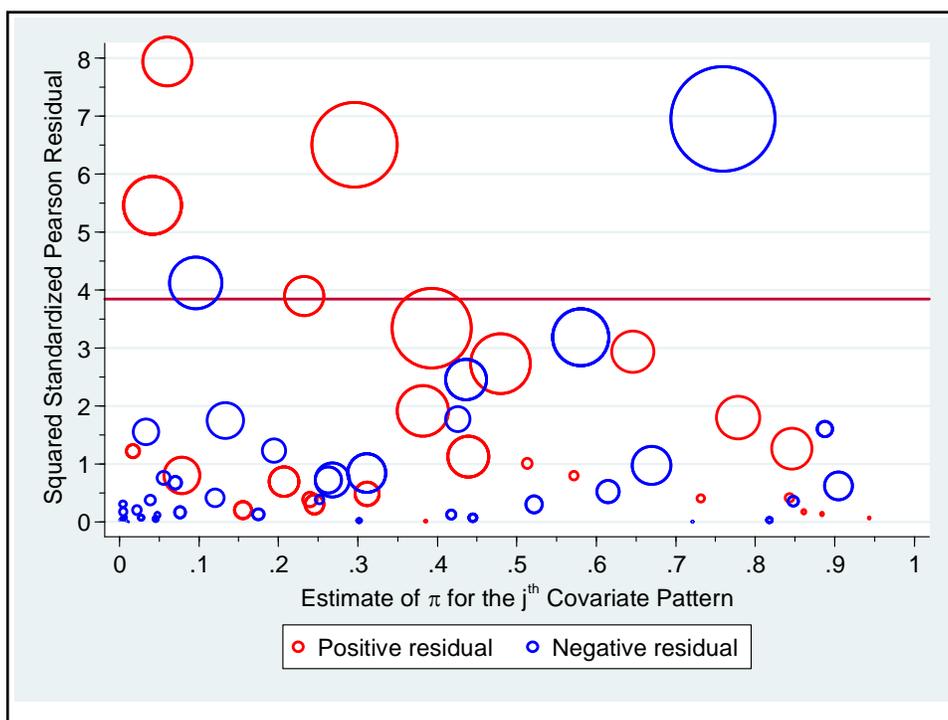
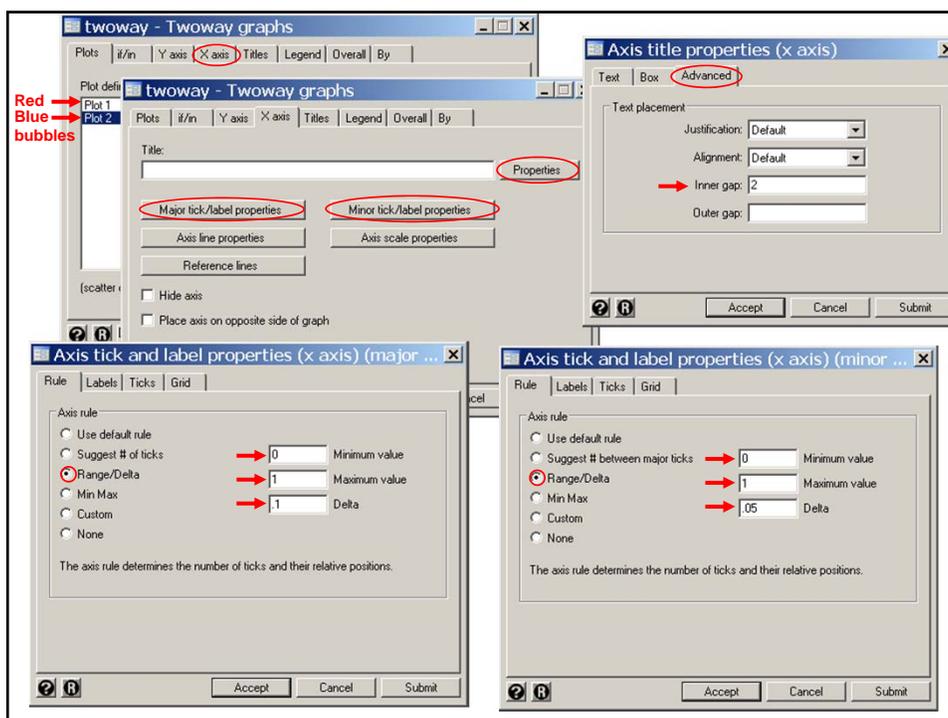
```

{6} This graph produces a scatterplot of  $\Delta X_j^2$  against  $\hat{\pi}_j$ , that is shown in the next slide. The `[weight=dbeta]` command modifier causes the plotting symbols to be circles whose **area** is **proportional** to the variable `dbeta`. We plot both `dx2_pos` and `dx2_neg` against `p` in order to be able to assign **different colors** to values of  $\Delta X_j^2$  that are associated with positive or negative residuals.

{7} `mlwidth` defines the width of the marker lines. This is, the width of the circles. `mcolor` defines the marker color.







### 19. Restricted Cubic Splines and Logistic Regression

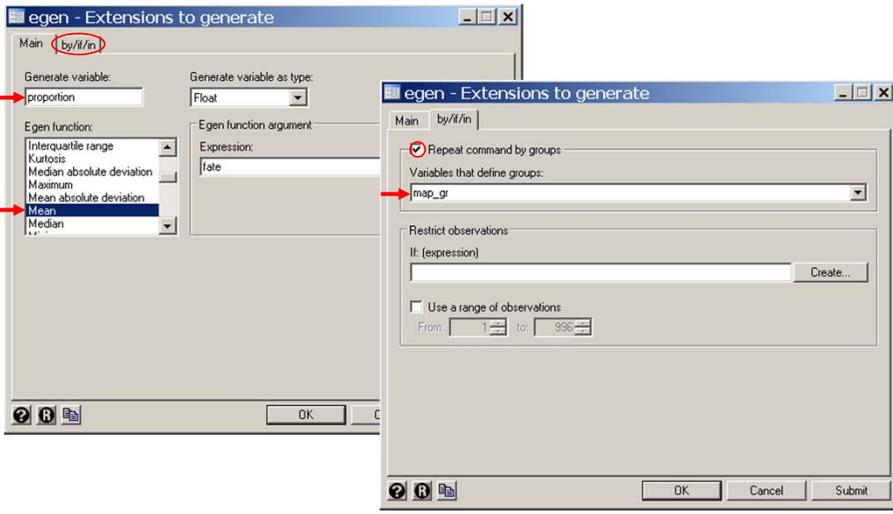
In the following example we use restricted cubic splines to model the effect of baseline MAP on hospital mortality in the SUPPORT data set.

```
. * SUPPORTlogisticRCS.log
. *
. * Regress mortal status at discharge against MAP
. * in the SUPPORT data set (Knaus et al. 1995).
. *
. use "C:\WDDtext\3.25.2.SUPPORT.dta" , replace

. *
. * Calculate the proportion of patients who die in hospital
. * stratified by MAP.
. *
. generate map_gr = round(map,5) {1}
. sort map_gr
. label variable map_gr "Mean Arterial Pressure (mm Hg)"
. * Data > Create or change data > Create new variable (extended)
. by map_gr: egen proportion = mean(fate) {2}
```

**{1}** `round(map, 5)` rounds *map* to the nearest integer divisible by 5.

**{2}** This command defines *proportion* to equal the average value of *fate* over all records with the same value of *map\_gr*. Since *fate* is a zero-one indicator variable, *proportion* will be equal to the proportion of patients with the same value of *map\_gr* who die (have *fate* = 1). This command requires that the data set be sorted by the *by* variable (*map\_gr*).



```

. generate rate = 100*proportion
. label variable rate "Observed In-Hospital Mortality Rate (%)"
. generate deaths = map_gr if fate
(747 missing values generated)

```

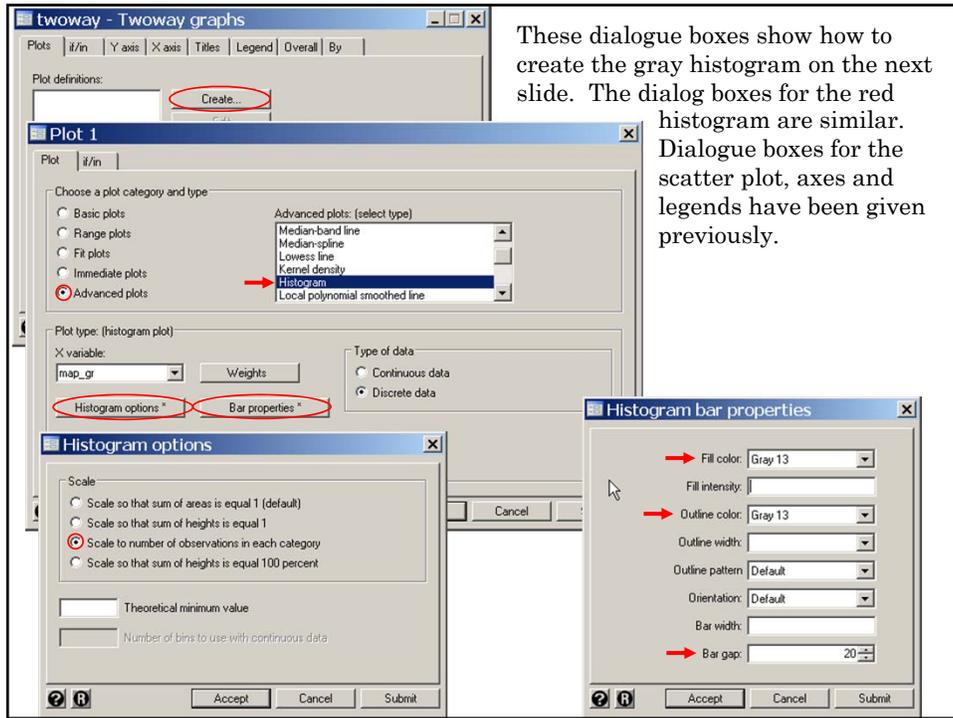
```

. *
. * Draw an exploratory graph showing the number of patients,
. * the number of deaths and the mortality rate for each MAP.
. *
. twoway histogram map_gr, discrete frequency color(gs13) gap(20) /// {3}
> || histogram deaths, discrete frequency color(red) gap(20) /// {4}
> || scatter rate map_gr, yaxis(2) symbol(Oh) color(blue) ///
> , xlabel(20 (20) 180) ylabel(0(10)100, angle(0)) ///
> xmtick(25 (5) 175) ylabel(0 (10) 100, angle(0) labcolor(blue) axis(2)) ///
> ylabel(0 (10) 100, angle(0) labcolor(blue) axis(2)) ///
> legend(order(1 "Total" 2 "Deaths" 3 "Mortality Rate" ) ///
> rows(1))

```

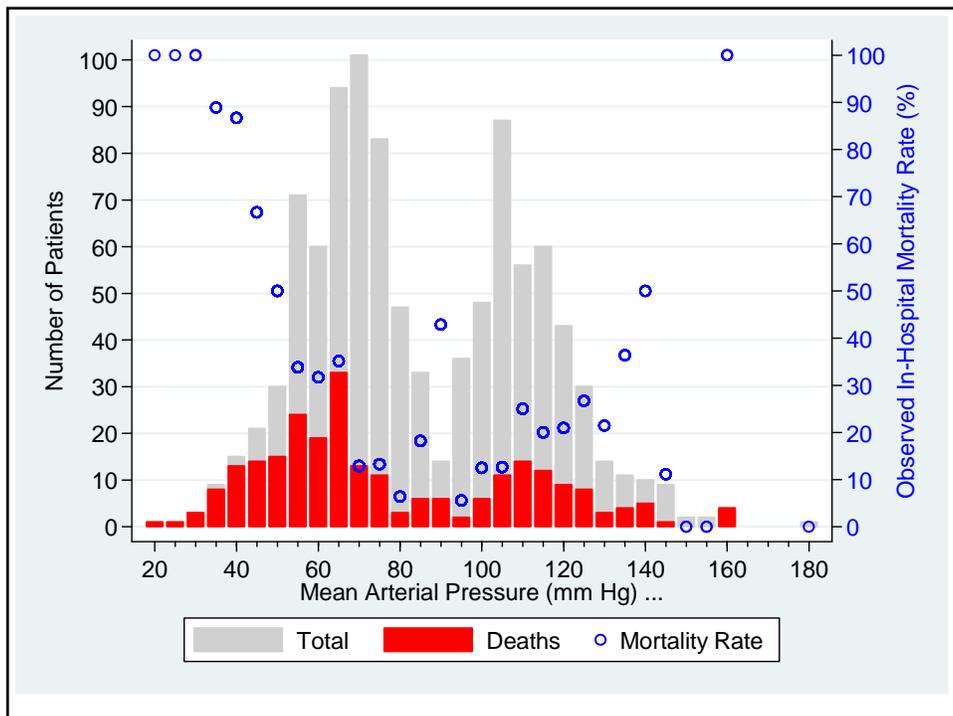
**{3}** The command `twoway histogram map_gr` produces a histogram of the variable `map_gr`. The `discrete` option specifies that a bar is to be drawn for each distinct value of `map_gr`; `frequency` specifies that the y-axis will be the number of patients at each value of `map_gr`; `color(gs13)` specifies that the bars are to be light gray and `gap(20)` reduces the bar width by 20% to provide separation between adjacent bars.

**{4}** This line of this command overlays a histogram of the number of in-hospital deaths on the histogram of the total number of patients.



The image shows a series of overlapping SPSS dialog boxes for creating a histogram. The top window is 'twoway - Twoway graphs'. Below it is 'Plot 1', where 'Advanced plots' is selected and 'Histogram' is chosen from the 'Advanced plots' list. Below that is 'Histogram options', where 'Scale to number of observations in each category' is selected. To the right is 'Histogram bar properties', where 'Fill color' and 'Outline color' are both set to 'Gray 13'. Red arrows point to the 'Create...' button in the top window, the 'Histogram' option in the 'Plot 1' window, the 'Histogram options' and 'Bar properties' windows, and the 'Fill color' and 'Bar gap' fields in the 'Histogram bar properties' window.

These dialogue boxes show how to create the gray histogram on the next slide. The dialog boxes for the red histogram are similar. Dialogue boxes for the scatter plot, axes and legends have been given previously.



```

. *
. * Regress in-hospital mortality against MAP using simple
. * logistic regression.
. *
. * Statistics > Binary outcomes > Logistic regression (reporting odds ratios)
. logistic fate map {5}

Logistic regression                               Number of obs   =       996
                                                  LR chi2(1)      =       29.66
                                                  Prob > chi2     =       0.0000
Log likelihood = -545.25721                    Pseudo R2      =       0.0265

-----+-----
      fate | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      map |   .9845924   .0028997   -5.27  0.000   .9789254   .9902922

. * Statistics > Postestimation > Manage estimation results > Store in memory
. estimates store simple {6}

```

**{5}** This command regresses *fate* against *map* using simple logistic regression.

**{6}** This command stores parameter estimates and other statistics from the most recent regression command. These statistics are stored under the name *simple*. We will use this information later to calculate the change in model deviance.



```

. predict p,p {7}
. label variable p "Probability of In-Hospital Death"
. line p map, ylabel(0(.1)1, angle(0)) xlabel(20(20)180)

```

**{7}** The *p* option of this predict command defines *p* equal to the predicted probability of in-hospital death under the model. That is

$$p = \exp[\alpha + \beta \times \text{map}_i] / (1 + \exp[\alpha + \beta \times \text{map}_i]) = \text{logit}^{-1}[\alpha + \beta \times \text{map}_i]$$

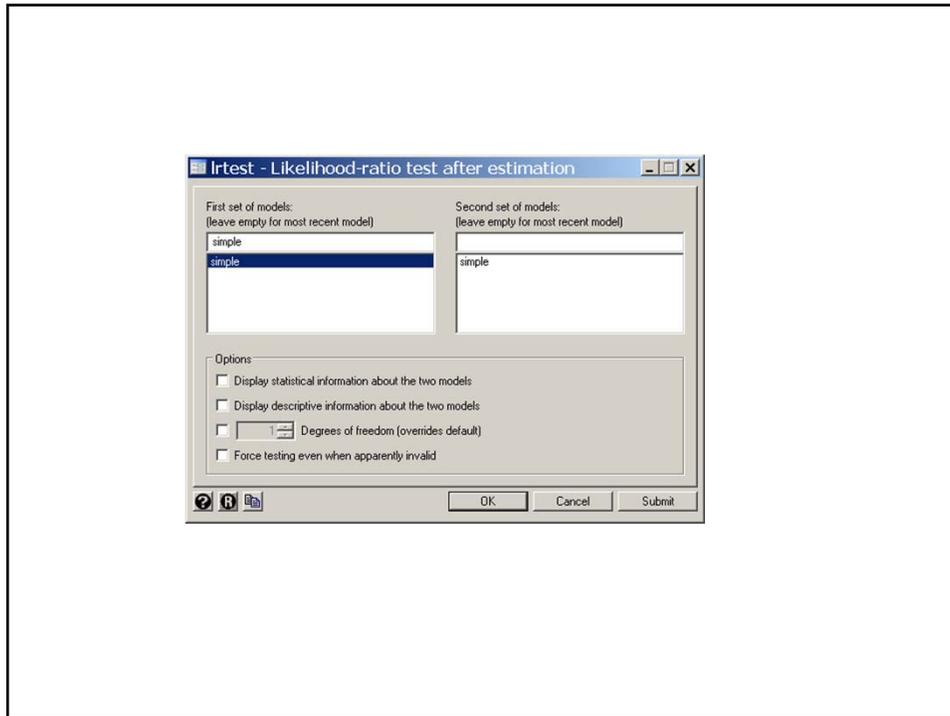


**{8}** Regress *fate* against MAP using a 5-knot RCS logistic regression model.

**{9}** Testing the null hypothesis that mortality is unrelated to MAP under this model is equivalent to testing the null hypothesis that all of the parameters associated with the spline covariates are zero. The likelihood ratio  $\chi^2$  statistic to test this hypothesis equals 122.86. It has four degrees of freedom and is highly significant  $P < 0.00005$ .

```
. *  
. * Test null hypotheses that the logit of the probability of  
. * in-hospital death is a linear function of MAP.  
. *  
. * Statistics > Postestimation > Tests > Likelihood-ratio test  
. lrtest simple . {10}  
  
Likelihood-ratio test                LR chi2(3) =    93.20  
(Assumption: simple nested in .)     Prob > chi2 =    0.0000
```

**{10}** This *lrtest* command calculates the likelihood ratio test of the null hypothesis that there is a linear relationship between the log odds of in-hospital death and baseline MAP. This is equivalent to testing the null hypothesis that  $_{Sm}ap2 = _{Sm}ap3 = _{Sm}ap4 = 0$ . The *lrtest* command calculates the change in model deviance between two nested models. In this command, *simple* is the name of the model output saved by the previous *estimates store* command (see Comment 6). The period (.) refers to the estimates from the most recently executed regression command. The user must insure that the two models specified by this command are nested. The change in model deviance equals 93.2. Under the null hypothesis that the simple logistic regression model is correct this statistic will have an approximately chi-squared distribution with three degrees of freedom. The  $P$  value associated with this statistic is (much) less than 0.00005.



```
. display 2*(545.25721 -498.65571) {11}
93.203
```

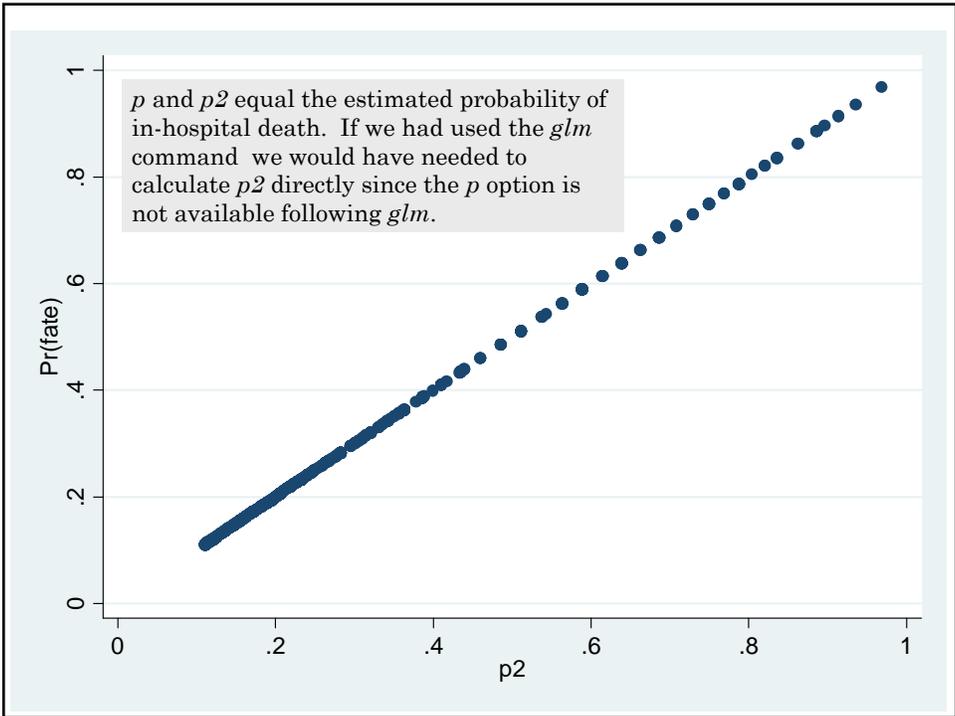
**{11}** Here we calculate the change in model deviance by hand from the maximum values of the log likelihood functions of the two models under consideration. Note that this gives the same answer as the preceding *lrtest* command.

**N.B.** We can always test the validity of a simple logistic regression model by running a RCS model with  $k$  knots and then testing the null hypothesis of whether the second through  $k-1^{th}$  spline covariate parameters are simultaneously zero. In other words, we test the null hypothesis that the simple logistic regression model is valid by testing the null hypothesis that the second through  $k-1^{th}$  spline covariate parameters are simultaneously zero.

If we run a three-knot model then testing whether the second spline covariate parameter is zero is equivalent to testing the validity of the simple logistic regression model.

```
. *  
. * Plot the estimated probability of death against MAP together  
. * with the 95% confidence interval for this curve. Overlay  
. * the MAP-specific observed mortality rates.  
. *  
. predict p,p {12}  
. predict logodds, xb  
. predict stderr, stdp  
. generate p2 = exp(logodds)/(1+exp(logodds))  
. *  
. * The values of p and p2 are identical.  
. *  
. scatter p p2
```

{12} The variable  $p$  is the estimated probability of in-hospital death from model our 5-knot RCS model.

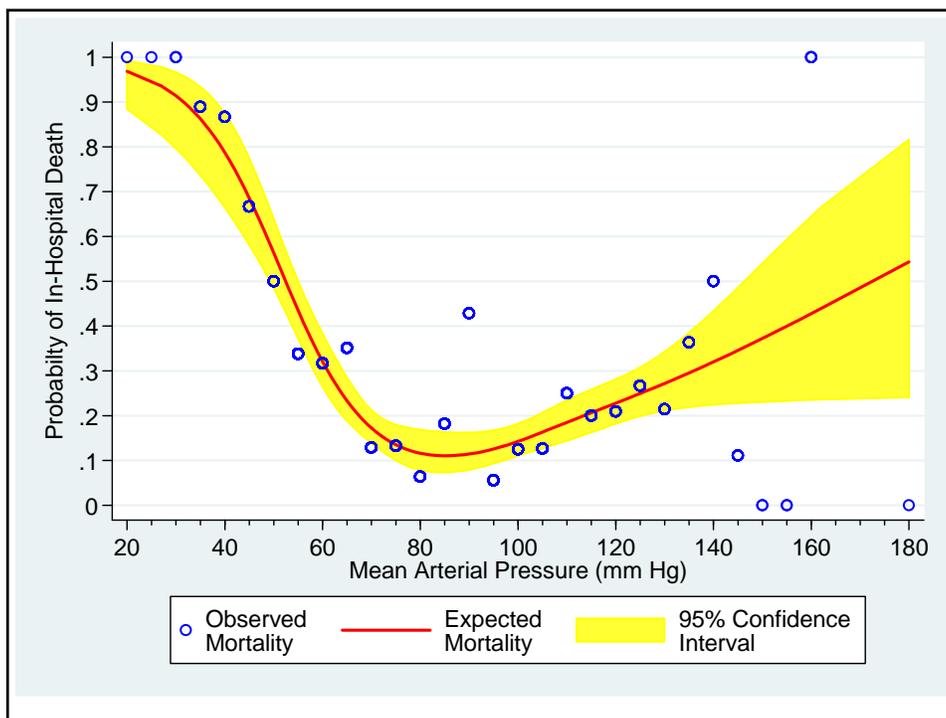


```

. generate lodds_lb = logodds - 1.96*stderr
. generate lodds_ub = logodds + 1.96*stderr
. generate ub_p = exp(lodds_ub)/(1+exp(lodds_ub))
. generate lb_p = exp(lodds_lb)/(1+exp(lodds_lb))
. twoway rarea lb_p ub_p map, color(yellow)
|| line p map, lwidth(medthick) color(red)
> || scatter proportion map_gr, symbol(Oh) color(blue)
> , ylabel(0(.1)1, angle(0)) xlabel(20 (20) 180)
> xmtick(25(5)175) ytitle(Probability of In-Hospital Death)
> legend(order(3 "Observed" "Mortality" 2 "Expected" "Mortality"
> 1 "95% Confidence" "Interval") rows(1))

```

**{13}** The variables *lb\_p* and *ub\_p* are the lower and upper 95% confidence bounds for *p*, respectively.



```

. *
. * Determine the spline covariates at MAP = 90
. *
. list _S* if map == 90                                     {14}

+-----+
| _Smap1   _Smap2   _Smap3   _Smap4 |
+-----+
575. |    90  11.82436  2.055919  .2569899 |
581. |    90  11.82436  2.055919  .2569899 |
+-----+

. *
. * Let or1 = _Smap1 minus the value of _Smap1 at 90.
. * Define or2, or3 and or3 in a similar fashion.
. *
. generate or1 = _Smap1 - 90
. generate or2 = _Smap2 - 11.82436
. generate or3 = _Smap3 - 2.055919
. generate or4 = _Smap4 - .2569899

```

**{14}** List the values of the spline covariates for the seven patients in the data set with a baseline MAP of 90. Only one or these identical lines of output are shown here.

**N.B.**  $\text{logodds}[map] = \alpha + \beta_1 map + \beta_2 \_Smap2(map) + \dots + \beta_4 \_Smap4(map)$   
 $\text{logodds}[90] = \alpha + \beta_1 \times 90 + \beta_2 \_Smap2(90) + \dots + \beta_4 \_Smap4(90)$   
 $\text{logodds}[map] - \text{logodds}[90] = \beta_1 or1 + \beta_2 or2 + \beta_3 or3 + \beta_4 or4$   
 $\exp[\text{logodds}[map] - \text{logodds}[90]] = \text{odds ratio of a patient with MAP} = map$   
 compared to a patient with a MAP = 90 by the usual argument.

```

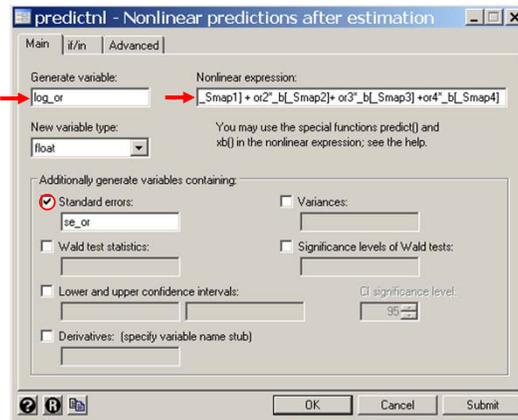
. *
. * Calculate the log odds ratio for in-hospital death
. * relative to patients with MAP = 90.
. *
. * Statistics > Postestimation > Nonlinear predictions
. predictnl log_or = or1*_b[_Smap1] + or2*_b[_Smap2]          ///      {15}
> + or3*_b[_Smap3] + or4*_b[_Smap4], se(se_or)              {16}

```

**{15}** Define *log\_or* to be the mortal log odds ratio for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  patient in comparison to patients with a MAP of 90. The parameter estimates from the most recent regression command may be used in *generate* commands and are named *\_b[varname]*. For example, in this RCS model  $\_b[_Smap2] = \hat{\beta}_2 = 1.17328$ ;  $or2 = \_Smap2 - 11.82436$ .

The command *predictnl* may be used to estimate non-linear functions of the parameter estimates. It is also very useful for calculating linear combinations of these estimates as is illustrated here.

**{16}** The option *se(se\_or)* calculates a new variable called *se\_or* which equals the standard error of the log odds ratio.



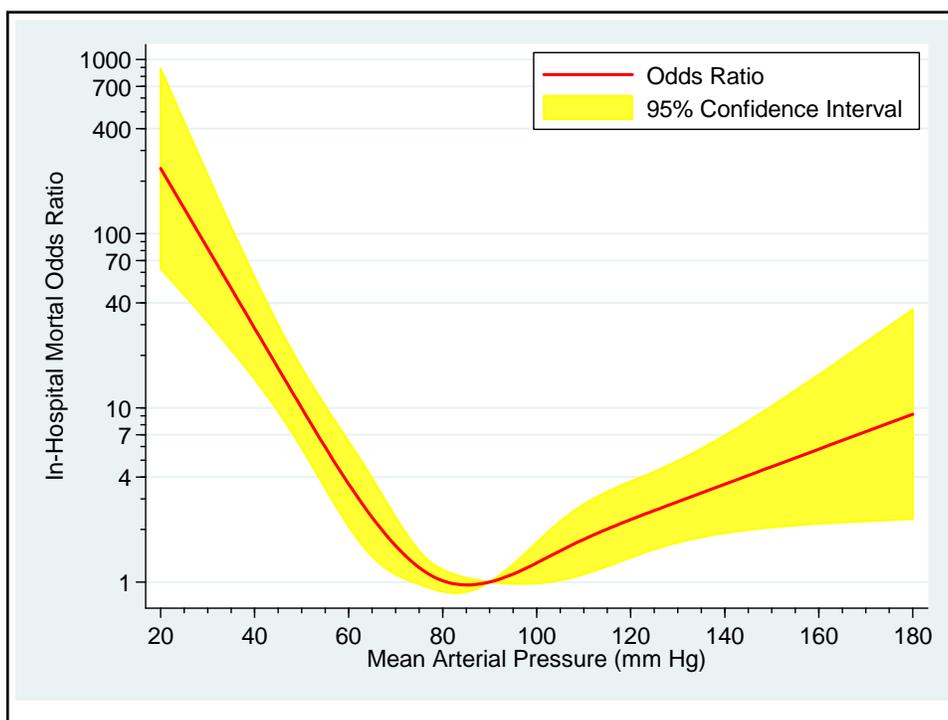
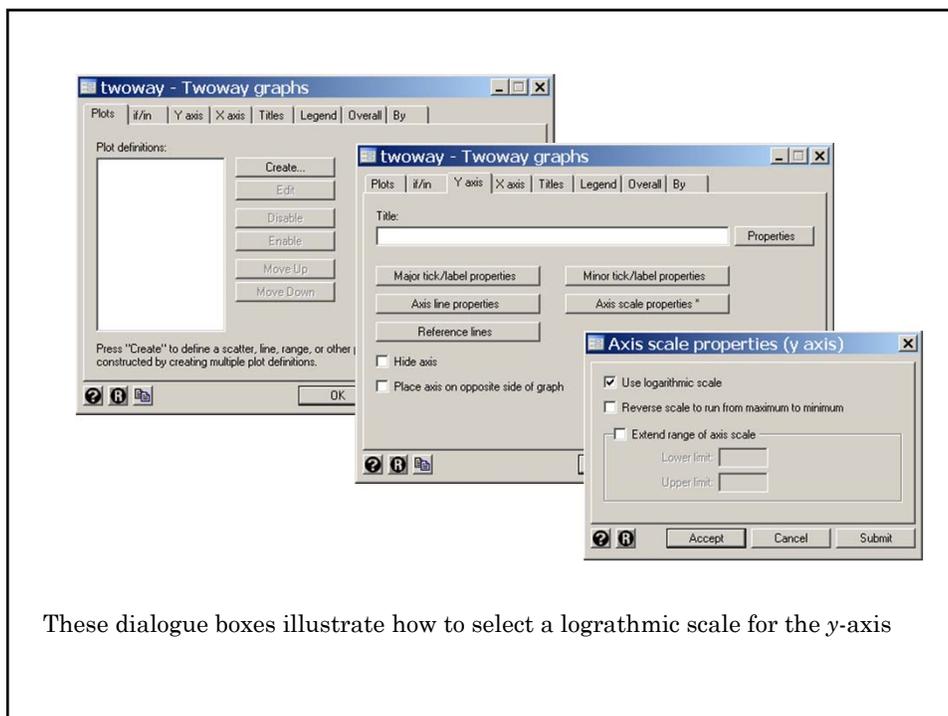
```
. generate lb_log_or = log_or - 1.96*se_or  
. generate ub_log_or = log_or + 1.96*se_or  
. generate or = exp(log_or) {17}  
. generate lb_or = exp(lb_log_or) {18}  
. generate ub_or = exp(ub_log_or)
```

**{17}** The variable *or* equals the odds ratio for in-hospital death for each patient relative to that for a patient with MAP = 90.

**{18}** The variables *lb\_or* and *ub\_or* equal the lower and upper bounds of the 95% confidence interval for this odds ratio

```
. twoway rarea lb_or ub_or map, color(yellow) ///  
> || line or map, lwidth(medthick) color(red) ///  
> , ylabel(1 (3) 10 40(30)100 400(300)1000, angle(0)) ///  
> ymtick(2(1)10 20(10)100 200(100)900) yscale(log) /// {19}  
> xlabel(20 (20) 180) xmtick(25 (5) 175) ///  
> ytitle(In-Hospital Mortal Odds Ratio) ///  
> legend(ring(0) position(2) order(2 "Odds Ratio" ///  
> 1 "95% Confidence Interval") cols(1))
```

**{19}** *yscale(log)* plots the *y*-axis on a logarithmic scale.



## 20. Frequency Matched Case-Control Studies

We often have access to many more potential control patients than case patients for case-control studies. If the distribution of some important **confounding** variable, such as age, differs markedly between cases and control, we may wish to adjust for this variable when designing the study. One way to do this is through **frequency matching**. The cases and potential controls are stratified into a number of groups based on, say, age. We then randomly **select** from each stratum the **same** number of **controls** as there are **cases** in the stratum. The data can then be analyzed by logistic regression with a classification variable to indicate the strata (see the analysis of the esophageal cancer and alcohol data in this chapter, Section 5 and 6).

It is important, however, to **keep the strata fairly large** if logistic regression is to be used for the analysis. Otherwise the estimates of the parameters of real interest may be seriously biased. Breslow and Day (Vol. I, p. 251-253) recommend that the strata be large enough so that each stratum contains at least **10 cases** and **10 control**. Even strata this large can lead to appreciable bias if the odds ratio being estimated is greater than 2.

### a) Conditional logistic regression analysis

Sometimes there are **more than one** important **confounders** that we would like to adjust for in the design of our study.

In this case, we typically **match** each **case patient** to one or more **controls** with the same values of the confounding variables. This approach is often quite reasonable. However, it usually leads to strata (matched pairs or sets of patients) that are too small to be analyzed accurately with logistic regression. In this case, an alternate technique called **conditional logistic regression** should be used. This technique is discussed in Breslow and Day, Vol. I. In Stata, the **clogit** command may be used to implement these analyses.

## 21. What we have covered

- ❖ Extend simple logistic regression to models with multiple covariates
- ❖ Similarity between multiple linear and multiple logistic regression
$$\text{logit}(E(d_i)) = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k x_{ik}$$
- ❖ Multiple 2x2 tables and the Mantel-Haenszel test
  - Estimating an odds ratio that is adjusted for a confounding variable
- ❖ Using logistic regression as an alternative to the Mantel-Haenszel test
- ❖ Using indicator covariates to model categorical variables
  - i.varname* notation in Stata
  - ib#varname* notation in Stata
- ❖ Making inferences about odds ratios derived from multiple parameters
  - The Stata *lincom* command
- ❖ Analyzing complex data with logistic regression
  - Multiplicative models
  - Models with interaction
- ❖ Assessing model fit
  - Testing the change in model deviance in nested models
  - Evaluating residuals and influence
- ❖ Using restricted cubic splines in logistic regression models
  - Plotting the probability of an outcome with confidence bands
  - Plotting odds ratios and confidence bands
  - The Stata *predictnl* command

## Cited References

- Breslow, N. E. and N. E. Day (1980). *Statistical Methods in Cancer Research: Vol. 1 - The Analysis of Case-Control Studies*. Lyon, France, IARC Scientific Publications.
- Knaus, W.A., Harrell, F.E., Jr., Lynn, J., Goldman, L., Phillips, R.S., Connors, A.F., Jr. et al. The SUPPORT prognostic model. Objective estimates of survival for seriously ill hospitalized adults. Study to understand prognoses and preferences for outcomes and risks of treatments. *Ann Intern Med.* 1995; 122:191-203.
- Tuyns, A. J., G. Pequignot, et al. (1977). Le cancer de L'oesophage en Ile-et-Vilaine en fonction des niveau de consommation d'alcool et de tabac. Des risques qui se multiplient. *Bull Cancer* 64: 45-60.

**For additional references on these notes see.**

Dupont WD. *Statistical Modeling for Biomedical Researchers: A Simple Introduction to the Analysis of Complex Data*. 2nd ed. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press; 2009.