# Non-Proportional-Odds-Modelle sind weitgehend verzichtbar: Sparsame Modellierung über Location-Shift-Ansätze 

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## Related Articles

1. Tutz, Gerhard \& Berger, Moritz (2017): Separating location and dispersion in ordinal regression models, Econometrics and Statistics 2, 131-148.
2. Tutz, Gerhard \& Berger, Moritz (2022): Sparser ordinal regression models based on parametric and additive location-shift approaches, International Statistical Review 90(2), 306-327.

## Cumulative Regression Models

## General representation

$$
P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x})=F\left(\eta_{r}(\boldsymbol{x})\right), \quad r=1, \ldots, k-1
$$

- $Y \in\{1, \ldots, k\}$ : ordinal response
- $\boldsymbol{x}$ : vector of covariates
- $F(\cdot)$ : cumulative distribution function
- $\eta_{r}(\cdot)$ : predictor function

Proportional odds model (McCullagh, 1980)

$$
\begin{aligned}
P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x}) & =\frac{\exp \left(\eta_{r}\right)}{1+\exp \left(\eta_{r}\right)}=\frac{\exp \left(\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)}{1+\exp \left(\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)} \quad \text { or equivalent } \\
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}\right) & =\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}
\end{aligned}
$$

- $\beta_{0 r}$ : category-specific intercepts
- $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ : regression coefficients


## Proportional Odds Model

## Interpretation of parameters

Define $\gamma(r \mid \boldsymbol{x})=P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x}) / P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x})$. Then the proportion of cumulative odds for two sets of covariates is given by

$$
\frac{\gamma(r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{\gamma(r \mid \tilde{\boldsymbol{x}})}=\exp \left((\boldsymbol{x}-\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)
$$

which does not depend on the category $r$.
In particular, $\exp \left(\beta_{j}\right)$ represents the factor by which the cumulative odds change, if $x_{j}$ increases by one unit

$$
\exp \left(\beta_{j}\right)=\frac{\gamma\left(r \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{j}+1, \ldots, x_{p}\right)}{\gamma\left(r \mid x_{1}, \ldots, x_{j}, \ldots, x_{p}\right)}
$$

which is the same for all odds.

## Category-Specific Effects

Non-proportional odds model

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}\right)=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}
$$

This general model usually provides a better fit to the data, but postulates that

$$
\beta_{01}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{1} \leq \ldots \leq \beta_{0, k-1}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{k-1}
$$

which is a strong restriction and may cause problems when estimating probabilities for future observations (Walker, 2016).

## Partial proportional odds model

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{w}, \boldsymbol{z})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{w}, \boldsymbol{z})}\right)=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{w}+\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}^{\boldsymbol{z}}
$$

The effects of $\boldsymbol{w}$ are global, while the effects of $\boldsymbol{z}$ are category-specific. In sociology, partial proportional odds models are also referred to as generalised ordered logit models (Williams, 2006).

## Location-Scale Model

A cumulative model that accounts for additional dispersion is given by

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}\right)=\frac{\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}}{\tau_{x}}, \quad r=1, \ldots, k-1
$$

where $\tau_{x}$ is a variance parameter, which may depend on $\boldsymbol{x}$.

- In social science the model is also known as heterogeneous choice model (Williams, 2010).

Shortcomings:

- model is highly non-linear
- model is not a member of the class of GLMs


## Location-Shift Models

An alternative extension of the proportional odds model assumes that the thresholds $\beta_{0}$ may change with an (additional) set of covariates $\boldsymbol{z}$. This yields the so-called location-shift model, which is given in closed form by

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z})}\right)=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}+(r-k / 2) \boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \quad r=1, \ldots, k-1 .
$$

- $\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}$ : location term
- $\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ : dispersion term
- $(r-k / 2)$ : scaling factor

Illustration for $k=6$


- $\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ positive: intervals are widened $\Rightarrow$ weaker dispersion
$\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ negative: intervals are shrunk $\Rightarrow$ stronger dispersion


## Application - Eye Vision

Stuart's (1953) quality of right eye vision data:

|  | Vision Quality |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Highest (1) | 2 | 3 | Lowest (4) |
| Men | 1053 | 782 | 893 | 514 |
| Women | 1976 | 2256 | 2456 | 789 |

Parameter estimates and standard errors:

| Covariate | Proportional Odds Model |  | Location-Shift Model |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | estimate | std error | z value | estimate | std error | z value |
| Intercept1 | -0.905 | 0.034 | -26.613 | -0.721 | 0.037 | -19.397 |
| Intercept2 | 0.293 | 0.033 | 8.911 | 0.236 | 0.033 | 7.104 |
| Intercept3 | 2.005 | 0.039 | 50.398 | 1.710 | 0.045 | 37.563 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| gender (female) <br> location <br> dispersion | -0.038 | 0.038 | -1.003 | 0.042 | 0.038 | 1.109 |

- LR test $\left(H_{0}: \alpha=0\right)$ : 122.5 on $1 \mathrm{df} \Rightarrow$ dispersion effect present!
- $e^{-\hat{\alpha}}=0.70$ decreases odd for category 1
- $e^{\hat{\alpha}}=2.01$ increases odd for categories $\leq 3$


## Comparison - Eye Vision

Location effects, dispersion effects and deviances for 100 sub-samples of size 200 of the eye vision data, when estimating

- the locoation-scale model (x-axis)
- the location-shift model ( y -axis)

- relation between the parameters $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ non-linear!


## Hierarchy of Models

Let us consider the case when $\boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{z}$. Then, one has

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y \leq r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{P(Y>r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}\right)=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{\beta}+(r-k / 2) \boldsymbol{\alpha})=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}=\boldsymbol{\beta}+(r-k / 2) \boldsymbol{\alpha}$.
$\Rightarrow$ The location-shift model is equivalent to a category-specific model with constraints.

Because the proportional odds model is a submodel of the location-shift model, the following nested structure holds
proportional odds model $\subset$ location-shift model $\subset$ non proportional odds model
$\Rightarrow$ One can investigate if the models can be simplified by testing the sequence of nested models.

## Location-Shift and Partial Proportional Odds

Let $\boldsymbol{x}$ be partitioned into two subvectors $\boldsymbol{x}^{\top}=\left(\boldsymbol{w}^{\top}, \boldsymbol{z}^{\top}\right)$, such that $\boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}=\boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{w}+\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\boldsymbol{z}}$. Then one obtains

$$
\begin{aligned}
\eta_{r} & =\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}+(r-k / 2) \boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha} \\
& =\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{w}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{w}+\boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\boldsymbol{z}}+(r-k / 2) \boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha} \\
& =\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{w}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{w}+\boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}^{z},
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{r}^{z}=\boldsymbol{\beta}^{z}+(r-k / 2) \alpha$.
$\Rightarrow$ The location-shift model is a submodel of the partial proportional odds that allows for an easier interpretation of effects.

+ The proposed model is between the most general model and a model with global effects, in which the impact of a single variable is described by just two parameters (instead of one or $k-1$ ).


## Adjacent Categories Models

Location-shift version of the model

$$
\log \left(\frac{P(Y=r+1 \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{P(Y=r \mid \boldsymbol{x})}\right)=\beta_{0 r}+\boldsymbol{x}^{T} \boldsymbol{\beta}+(k / 2-r) \boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \quad r=1, \ldots, k-1 .
$$

- no ordering of intercepts has to be postulated!

Illustration for $k=6$
(1)
$2 \boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$

$\boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$


$-2 \boldsymbol{z}^{T} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$

- $\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ positive: tendency to middle categories
$\boldsymbol{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ negative: tendency to extreme categories


## Estimation and Implementation

Estimation and evaluation by embedding the model into the framework of multivariate generalized linear models (GLMs)

- Data: $\left(\mathrm{y}_{i}, \mathrm{x}_{i}, \mathrm{z}_{i}\right), i=1, \ldots, n$
- Distributional assumption: $\mathrm{y}_{i} \mid \mathrm{x}_{i}, \mathrm{z}_{i} \sim M\left(1, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{i}\right)$, with $\boldsymbol{\pi}_{i}^{\top}=\left(\pi_{i, 1}, \ldots, \pi_{i, k}\right)$
- General form: $g\left(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{i}\right)=\mathrm{X}_{i} \boldsymbol{\delta}$, with total parameter vector $\boldsymbol{\delta}$
- Application of ML estimation and inference for multivariate GLMs by representation of the model with specific design matrix $\mathrm{X}_{i}$
- Implemented in the R add-on package ordDisp (Berger, 2020), which internally calls function vglm() from R-package VGAM
- Easy handling (by argument xij) and quite fast computation


## Application 1: Retinopathy Status

We consider a 6-year followup study on diabetes and retinopathy status (Bender and Grouven, 1998).

- Ordinal outcome: Retinopathy (1: no retinopathy, 2: nonproliferative retinopathy, 3: advanced retinopathy or blind)
- Risk factors

Smoking (SM; 0: no, 1: yes)

- Diabetes duration (DIAB; in years)
- glycosylated hemoglobin (GH; in percent)
- diastolic blood pressure (BP; in mmHg )
- Available from the R-package catdata (Schauberger and Tutz, 2014)


## Application 1: Retinopathy Status

|  | Covariate | Proportional Odds Model |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | estimate | std error | z value |
| location effects | SM | -0.254 | 0.191 | -1.328 |
|  | DIAB | -0.139 | 0.013 | -10.368 |
|  | GH | -0.459 | 0.074 | -6.175 |
|  | BP | -0.072 | 0.013 | -5.357 |
| AIC |  |  | 916.14 |  |
| BIC |  | 942.65 |  |  |
| Deviance |  | 904.14 |  |  |

## Application 1: Retinopathy Status

|  | Covariate | Location-Shift Model |  |  | Location-Scale Model |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | estimate | std error | $z$ value | estimate | std error | $\boldsymbol{z}$ value |
| location effects | SM | -0.159 | 0.198 | -0.802 | -0.348 | 0.371 | -0.938 |
|  | DIAB | -0.148 | 0.014 | -10.524 | -0.108 | 0.102 | -1.066 |
|  | GH | -0.485 | 0.076 | -6.324 | -0.311 | 0.296 | -1.053 |
|  | BP | -0.071 | 0.014 | -5.204 | -0.051 | 0.047 | -1.092 |
| dispersion effects | SM | 0.491 | 0.235 | 2.087 | -0.256 | 0.150 | -1.707 |
|  | DIAB | -0.037 | 0.016 | -2.254 | 0.035 | 0.010 | 3.490 |
|  | GH | -0.101 | 0.092 | -1.099 | 0.043 | 0.053 | 0.805 |
|  | BP | -0.007 | 0.015 | -0.465 | -0.012 | 0.010 | -1.186 |
| AIC |  | 912.45 |  |  | 907.17 |  |  |
| BIC |  |  | 956.63 |  |  | 951.36 |  |
| Deviance |  |  |  |  |  | 887.17 |  |

## Application 1: Retinopathy Status

|  | Covariate | Non Proportional Odds Model |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | estimate | std error | z value |
|  | SM1 | -0.405 | 0.205 | -1.972 |
|  | SM2 | 0.086 | 0.254 | 0.340 |
|  | DIAB1 | -0.129 | 0.014 | -8.889 |
|  | DIAB2 | -0.166 | 0.018 | -9.264 |
|  | GH1 | -0.435 | 0.080 | -5.426 |
|  | GH2 | -0.535 | 0.097 | -5.470 |
|  | BP1 | -0.068 | 0.014 | -4.627 |
|  | BP2 | -0.075 | 0.017 | -4.432 |
| AIC |  |  | 912.45 |  |
| BIC |  |  | 956.63 |  |
| Deviance |  |  | 892.45 |  |

## Application 1: Retinopathy Status

Maybe the best solution?

|  | Covariate | Partial Proportional Odds Model |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | estimate | std error | z value |
|  | SM1 | -0.398 | 0.205 | -1.943 |
|  | SM2 | 0.062 | 0.249 | 0.249 |
|  | DIAB1 | -0.129 | 0.014 | -8.895 |
|  | DIAB2 | -0.165 | 0.017 | -9.467 |
|  | GH | -0.467 | 0.074 | -6.271 |
|  | BP | -0.071 | 0.013 | -5.228 |
| AIC |  | 909.77 |  |  |
| BIC |  | 945.12 |  |  |
| Deviance |  | 893.77 |  |  |

## Application 2: Safety in Naples

We consider data of a survey conducted in the metropolitan area of Naples, Italy.

- Ordinal outcome: Feeling safe on a 10-point scale
- Large categories refer to high safety
- Data of 2225 participants
- Covariates:
- Age
- Gender (0: male, 1: female)
- Residence (1: City of Naples, 2: District of Naples, 3: Other Campania, 4: Others Italia)
- Educational degree (1: compulsory school, 2: high school diploma, 3: Graduated-Bachelor degree, 4: Graduated-Master degree, 5: Post graduated)
- Available from the R-package CUB (lannario et al., 2015)


## Application 2: Safety in Naples

Fits of models with logistic link

|  | Deviance | df | Difference in <br> deviances | df | $p$-value |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cumulative models |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non proportional odds model | 9825.78 | 19935 |  |  |  |
| Location-shift model | 9899.67 | 19998 | 73.89 | 63 | 0.1640 |
| Proportional odds model | 9948.99 | 20007 | 49.32 | 9 | 0.0000 |
| Adjacent categories models |  |  |  |  |  |
| Model with category-specific effects | 9828.07 | 19935 |  |  |  |
| Location-shift model | 9902.43 | 19998 | 74.36 | 63 | 0.1549 |
| Model with global effects | 9959.00 | 20007 | 56.57 | 9 | 0.0000 |

- The full model with category-specific effects has 90 parameters, which reduces to 27 parameters in the location-shift model.


## Application 2: Safety in Naples

## Illustration of Location and Dispersion Effects



- Cumulative model (left) and adjacent categories model (right)


## Application 2: Safety in Naples

## Cumulative model with smooth effect of age




- A test if the smooth effect of age is needed yields a p-value of 0.046 .


## Application 3: Nuclear Energy

We consider data from the German Longitudinal Election Study (GLES), a long-term study of the German electoral process (Rattinger et al., 2014).

- Pre-election survey for the German federal election in 2017
- Ordinal outcome: Fear due to the use of nuclear energy on a 7-point scale
- Large categories refer to high fear
- Covariates
- Age
- Gender (0: female, 1: male)
- EastWest (1: East Germany/former GDR, 0: West Germany/former FRG)


## Application 3: Nuclear Energy

Fits of models with logistic link

|  | Deviance | df | Difference in <br> deviances | df | $p$-value |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cumulative models |  |  |  |  |  |
| Model with category-specific effects | 7499.61 | 12192 |  |  |  |
| Location-shift model | 7506.36 | 12204 | 6.75 | 12 | 0.873 |
| Model with global effects | 7544.60 | 12207 | 38.24 | 3 | 0.000 |
| Adjacent categories models |  |  |  |  |  |
| Model with category-specific effects | 7500.77 | 12192 |  |  |  |
| Location-shift model | 7508.72 | 12204 | 7.95 | 12 | 0.997 |
| Model with global effects | 7545.41 | 12207 | 36.69 | 3 | 0.000 |

- The full model with category-specific effects has 24 parameters, which reduces to 12 parameters in the location-shift model.


## Application 3: Nuclear Energy

Illustration of Location and Dispersion Effects


- Cumulative model (left) and adjacent categories model (right)


## Conclusion

The proposed location-shift model
... simultaneously accounts for location effects and dispersion effects (or tendencies to respond).
... enables an easy interpretation of effects in terms of log-odds.
... typically is sufficiently complex to approximate the underlying probability structure.
... is often a parsimonious alternative to the use of category-specific parameters.
... can be embedded into the framework of multivariate GLMs, which allows to use inference techniques and asymptotic results.

## Main References

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