



# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

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# Plan

## 1. Ordinal longitudinal data

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2. Analysis of longitudinal data - Marginal approach

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3. Global odds ratio as measure of association

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4. Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data
5. Application
6. Conclusion

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# Ordinal longitudinal data



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Would you say that your health is: Excellent, Good, Poor

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524 patients, randomized into two treatment groups (RT or RT+PCV) and observed at 9 occasions time.

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$\mathbf{X}=(\text{Treat}, \text{Time}, \text{Treat} \times \text{Time})'$

$\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_{01}, \dots, \beta_{0(K-1)}, \beta_{\text{Time}}, \beta_{\text{Treat}}, \beta_{\text{Treat} \times \text{Time}})'$

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- Gaussian outcome → large class of linear models
- Non Gaussian outcome → limited number of models, due to the lack of rich class of distributions

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- Gaussian outcome → large class of linear models
- Non Gaussian outcome → Complexity of the likelihood analysis

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(Liang and Zeger, 1986)

Generalized estimating equations

GEE

# Analysis of longitudinal data - GEE1

In GLM, score equation writes

$$S(\beta) = \sum_i \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta} v_i^{-1} (y_i - \mu_i) = 0, \text{ with } v_i = \text{Var}(Y_i)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} S(\beta) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \frac{\partial \mu_{ij}}{\partial \beta} v_{ij}^{-1} (y_{ij} - \mu_{ij}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}_i'}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}} V_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

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With  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_i = E(\mathbf{Y}_i)$  and  $V_i = \text{diag}(v_{i1}, \dots, v_{in_i})$

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→ Independence estimating equation

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Let  $R_i(\alpha)$  be a  $n_i \times n_i$  symmetric matrix which fullfills the condition to be a correlation matrix , and let  $\alpha$  be an unknown vector which fully characterizes  $R_i(\alpha)$ .

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Define,

$$V_i = A_i^{1/2}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) R_i(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) A_i^{1/2}(\boldsymbol{\beta})$$

in which  $A_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \text{diag} \{v_{ij}(\mu_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\beta}))\}$

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$\rightarrow V_i$  is the 'working' covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  and is function of the parameter vectors  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$



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Using the new definition of  $V_i$ , consistent estimates of the model parameters,  $\beta$ , can be obtained from the solution of the estimating equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = 0$$

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# Large sample properties

As  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\sqrt{N}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \approx N(\mathbf{0}, I_0^{-1} I_1 I_0^{-1})$

$$\text{With } I_0 = \sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} D_i$$

$$I_1 = \sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} \text{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_i) V_i^{-1} D_i$$

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$I_0^{-1} I_1 I_0^{-1}$  is the so-called 'sandwich' estimator

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In practice,  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_i)$  is replaced by

$$[\mathbf{Y}_i - \mu_i(\hat{\beta})][\mathbf{Y}_i - \mu_i(\hat{\beta})]'$$

$\Rightarrow I_0^{-1} I_1 I_0^{-1}$  : Robust estimator

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When  $R_i(\alpha)$  is the true correlation matrix of the  $\mathbf{Y}_i$ 's,

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = I_0^{-1}$$

$\Rightarrow I_0^{-1}$  : Naive estimator, model based estimator

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In practice,  $\alpha$  is replaced by an estimate

# Estimation of working correlation

Pearson residual to estimate  $\alpha$

Sensitive	$Corr(Y_{ij}, Y_{ik})$	Estimate
Independence	0	-
Exchangeable	$\alpha$	$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{n_i(n_i-1)} \sum_{j \neq k} e_{ij} e_{ik}$
AR(1)	$\alpha^t$	$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{n_i-1} \sum_{j \leq n_i-1} e_{ij} e_{i,j+1}$
Unstructured	$\alpha_{jk}$	$\hat{\alpha}_{jk} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N e_{ij} e_{ik}$

$$e_{ij} = \frac{y_{ij} - \mu_{ij}}{\sqrt{v(\mu_{ij})}}$$



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6. Update estimate for  $\beta$ :

$$\hat{\beta}^{(m+1)} = \hat{\beta}^{(m)} - \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \mu'_i}{\partial \beta} V_i^{-1} \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta} \right]^{-1} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \mu'_i}{\partial \beta} V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \mu_i) \right]^{-1}$$

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- Misspecification of working correlation matrix can affect the efficiency of  $\hat{\beta}$
- Price to pay: correlation structure should not be interpreted

→ Solution : GEE2

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Scientific interest of GEE2 is on modeling

- the expectation of  $Y$  and
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- the expectation of  $Y$  and
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Let  $\gamma_{jk}$  denotes the pairwise association and assume that

$$\gamma = \gamma(\alpha)$$

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$\delta$  can be estimated by solving the set of equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i V_i^{-1} f_i = 0$$

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$$\text{With } D_i = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta} & 0 \\ \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial \beta} & \frac{\partial \eta_i}{\partial \alpha} \end{pmatrix}, V_i = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_i) & \text{cov}(\mathbf{Y}_i, \boldsymbol{\omega}_i) \\ \text{cov}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i, \mathbf{Y}_i) & \text{Var}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i) \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\text{and } f_i = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \\ \boldsymbol{\omega}_i - \boldsymbol{\eta}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

Consistency of  $\hat{\delta}$  depends on the correct specification of  $E[\mathbf{Y}_i]$ , and  $\gamma(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$

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Iterative weighted least squares formulation of Newton-Raphson process provides solution of GEE2 for  $\delta$

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$$\text{and } f_i = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \\ \boldsymbol{\omega}_i - \boldsymbol{\eta}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

Alternative solution, changing GEE2 in two GEE1

# Analysis of longitudinal data - GEE2

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i V_i^{-1} f_i = 0$$



$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \mu'_i}{\partial \beta} \text{Var}[\mathbf{Y}_i]^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mu_i) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \eta'_i}{\partial \alpha} \text{Var}[\omega_i]^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i) = 0$$



# Global odds ratio as measure of association

Measure of association between pairs of outcomes:

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Global odds ratio is an extension of the simple odds ratio for a  $2 \times 2$  contingency table

# Global odds ratio as measure of association

Measure of association between pairs of outcomes:

- Continuous variable : correlation coefficient
- Binary variable : odds ratio (OR)
- Ordinal variable: Global odds ratio (GOR)

It can be defined as the odds ratio of a  $2 \times 2$  table when adjacent rows and columns of a  $K \times K$  contingency table ( $K > 2$ ) are collapsed into a  $2 \times 2$  table

# Global odds ratio as measure of association

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- Continuous variable : correlation coefficient
- Binary variable : odds ratio (OR)
- Ordinal variable: Global odds ratio (GOR)

So, a  $K \times K$  table has  $(K - 1)^2$  global odds ratios

## Global odds ratio as measure of association - notation

For each subject  $i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, N$ ) and at each time  $t = 1, \dots, n_i$ , we have an ordinal outcome with  $K$  levels  $Z_{it} = k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$ .



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Consider the ordinal outcomes of the subject  $i$  at the two time occasions  $s$  and  $t$ ,  $Z_{is}$  and  $Z_{it}$ .

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Consider the ordinal outcomes of the subject  $i$  at the two time occasions  $s$  and  $t$ ,  $Z_{is}$  and  $Z_{it}$ .

$$\gamma_{itk} = P[Z_{it} \leq k | X_{it} = x_{it}] \text{ and}$$

$$F_{ijk}(s, t) = P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k]$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} = 1, Z_{it} = 1] & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & P[Z_{is} = 1, Z_{it} = K] \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ P[Z_{is} = K, Z_{it} = 1] & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & P[Z_{is} = K, Z_{it} = K] \end{bmatrix}$$

## Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

The joint probabilities of the outcomes of the subject  $i$  at occasions  $s$  and  $t$  can be arranged in a  $K \times K$  contingency table.

Dichotomizing this contingency table at  $(j, k)$  leads to the following collapsed  $2 \times 2$  contingency tables

# Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} = 1, Z_{it} = 1] & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & P[Z_{is} = 1, Z_{it} = K] \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ P[Z_{is} = K, Z_{it} = 1] & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & P[Z_{is} = K, Z_{it} = K] \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \succ k] \\ P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \succ k] \end{bmatrix}$$

# Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \succ k] \\ P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \succ k] \end{bmatrix}$$

# Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \succ k] \\ P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \succ k] \end{bmatrix}$$

The global odds ratio for subject  $i$  at occasion times  $s$  and  $t$ , at the cutpoint  $(j, k)$  is defined as

$$\Psi_{ijk}(s, t) = \frac{P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k]P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \succ k]}{P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \succ k]P[Z_{is} \succ j, Z_{it} \leq k]}$$



# Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} > k] \\ P[Z_{is} > j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} > j, Z_{it} > k] \end{bmatrix}$$

Using definition of  $F_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$ , the global odds ratio can be reexpressed as follow,

$$\Psi_{ijk}(s, t) = \frac{F_{ijk}(s, t) \{1 - \gamma_{isj} - \gamma_{itk} + F_{ijk}(s, t)\}}{\{\gamma_{isj} - F_{ijk}(s, t)\} \{\gamma_{itk} - F_{ijk}(s, t)\}}$$

# Global odds ratio as measure of association - definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} > k] \\ P[Z_{is} > j, Z_{it} \leq k] & P[Z_{is} > j, Z_{it} > k] \end{bmatrix}$$

Using definition of  $F_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$ , the global odds ratio can be reexpressed as follow,

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So,  $F_{ijk}(s, t)$  can be expressed in terms of  $\Psi_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$

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# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\beta$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\beta$

Let  $\mathbf{Y}_i = (\mathbf{Y}'_{i1}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}'_{in_i})'$  with  $\mathbf{Y}_{it} = (Y_{it1}, \dots, Y_{it,(K-1)})'$  where

$$Y_{itk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Z_{it} = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

## Estimation of $\beta$

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$$Y_{itk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Z_{it} = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_i = (\boldsymbol{\pi}'_{i1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\pi}'_{in_i})$  with  $\boldsymbol{\pi}'_{it} = (\pi_{it1}, \dots, \pi_{it,(K-1)})'$  where

$$\pi_{itk} = E[Y_{itk}] = P[Y_{itk} = 1]$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

First set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

First set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D'_i V_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\pi}_i(\boldsymbol{\beta})) = 0$$

with  $D'_i = d\boldsymbol{\pi}_i(\boldsymbol{\beta})/d\boldsymbol{\beta}$



# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

First set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\pi}_i(\boldsymbol{\beta})) = 0$$

$V_i$  is the 'working' covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{Y}_i$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

First set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{11i} & V_{12i} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{1n_i i} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ V_{n_i 1i} & V_{n_i 2i} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{n_i n_i i} \end{bmatrix}$$

$V_{tti}$  = covariance matrix at occasion time  $t$  for subject  $i$

$V_{sti}$  = covariance matrix at  $2 \neq$  occasions times for subject  $i$

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First set of estimating equations,

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$$\text{Var}(Y_{itj}) = P[Y_{itj} = 1](1 - P[Y_{itj} = 1])$$

$$\text{Cov}(Y_{isj}, Y_{itk}) = P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1] - P[Y_{isj} = 1]P[Y_{itk} = 1]$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

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$$\text{Var}(Y_{itj}) = P[Y_{itj} = 1](1 - P[Y_{itj} = 1])$$

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# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\alpha$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\alpha$

Let

$$\omega_i = [\omega_i(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})', \dots, \omega_i(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t})', \dots, \omega_i(\mathbf{n}_i - \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{n}_i)']'$$

with

$$\omega_i(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t})' = (\omega_{i11}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}), \omega_{i12}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}), \dots, \omega_{i1(K-1)}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}), \omega_{i21}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}), \dots, \omega_{i(K-1)(K-1)}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}))'$$

where

$$\omega_{ijk}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}) = I[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1] = Y_{isj}Y_{itk}$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\alpha$

Let

$$\eta_i = [\eta_i(1, 2)', \dots, \eta_i(s, t)', \dots, \eta_i(n_{i-1}, n_i)]'$$

with

$$\eta_i(s, t)' = (\eta_{i11}(s, t), \eta_{i12}(s, t), \dots, \eta_{i1,(K-1)}(s, t), \eta_{i21}(s, t), \dots, \eta_{i,(K-1),(K-1)}(s, t))'$$

where

$$\eta_{ijk}(s, t) = E[\omega_{ijk}(s, t)] = E[Y_{isj}Y_{itk}] = P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1]$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Estimation of  $\alpha$

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where

$$\eta_{ijk}(s, t) = E[\omega_{ijk}(s, t)] = E[Y_{isj}Y_{itk}] = P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1]$$



# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Second set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N C_i' W_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\alpha, \beta)) = 0$$

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Second set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N C_i' W_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\alpha, \beta)) = 0$$

with  $C_i' = \frac{\partial \eta_i(\alpha)}{\partial \alpha}$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Second set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N C_i' W_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\alpha, \beta)) = 0$$

$W_i$  is the 'working' covariance matrix of  $\omega_i$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Second set of estimating equations,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N C_i' W_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\alpha, \beta)) = 0$$

$$W_i = \begin{bmatrix} W_{i12} & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & W_{i23} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & W_{i,(n_i-1),n_i} \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, N$$

where  $W_{ist}$  ( $s = 1, \dots, n_i$  and  $t = 2, \dots, n_i; s < t$ ) is a  $(K - 1)^2 \times (K - 1)^2$  matrix that need to be specified.

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

Second set of estimating equations,

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$$W_i = \begin{bmatrix} W_{i12} & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & W_{i23} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & W_{i,(n_i-1),n_i} \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$\text{Var}(\omega_{ijk}(s, t)) = P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1][1 - P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1]]$$

$$\text{Cov}[\omega_{ijk}(s, t), \omega_{iuv}(s, t)] = -P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1]P[Y_{isu} = 1, Y_{itv} = 1] \text{ for } j \neq u \text{ and } k \neq v$$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

In conclusion, the estimation of  $(\beta, \alpha)$  is obtained from

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N C_i' W_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\alpha, \beta)) = 0$$

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But where is the global odds ratio?

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

$$\Psi_{ijk}(s, t) = \frac{F_{ijk}(s, t)\{1 - \gamma_{isj} - \gamma_{itk} + F_{ijk}(s, t)\}}{\{\gamma_{isj} - F_{ijk}(s, t)\}\{\gamma_{itk} - F_{ijk}(s, t)\}}$$



# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

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Using this definition,  $F_{ijk}(s, t) = P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k]$  can be expressed in terms of  $\Psi_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

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Using this definition,  $F_{ijk}(s, t) = P[Z_{is} \leq j, Z_{it} \leq k]$  can be expressed in terms of  $\Psi_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$

$$P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1] = F_{ijk}(s, t) - F_{ij, k-1}(s, t) - F_{i, j-1, k}(s, t) + F_{i, j-1, k-1}(s, t)$$

Then,  $P[Y_{isj} = 1, Y_{itk} = 1]$  is function of  $\Psi_{ijk}(s, t)$ ,  $\gamma_{isj}$  and  $\gamma_{itk}$

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

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How to solve this set of equations?

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

$$\sum_{i=1}^N D_i' V_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) = 0$$

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How to solve this set of equations?

→ Fisher-scoring type algorithm

# Analysis of ordinal longitudinal data

A Fisher-scoring type algorithm may be used to obtain  $(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\alpha})$

$$\hat{\beta}^{(m+1)} = \hat{\beta}^{(m)} - \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{D}'_i \hat{V}_i^{-1} \hat{D}'_i \right]^{-1} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{D}'_i \hat{V}_i^{-1} (Y_i - \pi_i(\beta)) \right]^{-1}$$

and

$$\hat{\alpha}^{(m+1)} = \hat{\alpha}^{(m)} - \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{C}'_i \hat{W}_i^{-1} \hat{C}'_i \right]^{-1} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{C}'_i \hat{W}_i^{-1} (\omega_i - \eta_i(\hat{\beta}^{(m+1)}, \hat{\alpha}^{(m)})) \right]^{-1}$$

# Large sample properties

As  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $N^{1/2}[(\hat{\beta} - \beta)', (\hat{\alpha} - \alpha)'] \approx N(\mathbf{0}, V_{\beta, \alpha})$ , with

$$V_{\beta, \alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11}^{-1} & 0 \\ B_{21} & B_{22}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma'_{12} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11}^{-1} & B'_{21} \\ 0 & B_{22}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Where

$$B_{11} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{D}'_i V_i^{-1} \mathbf{D}'_i$$

$$B_{22} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{C}'_i W_i^{-1} \mathbf{C}'_i$$

$$B_{12} = B_{22}^{-1} \left\{ N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{C}'_i W_i^{-1} (-d\mathbf{w}_i/d\beta) \right\} B_{11}^{-1}$$



# Large sample properties

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Where

$$\Sigma_{11} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{D}'_i V_i^{-1} \{Var(\mathbf{Y}_i)\} V_i^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i$$

$$\Sigma_{22} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{C}'_i W_i^{-1} \{Var(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i)\} W_i^{-1} \mathbf{C}_i$$

$$\Sigma_{12} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{D}'_i V_i^{-1} \{Cov(\mathbf{Y}_i, \boldsymbol{\omega}_i)\} W_i^{-1} \mathbf{C}_i$$

# Large sample properties

The 'robust' asymptotic covariance matrix of  $N^{1/2}(\hat{\beta} - \beta)$  is

$$V_{\beta} = (B_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{11} B_{11}^{-1})$$

# Large sample properties

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The 'robust' asymptotic covariance matrix of  $N^{1/2}(\hat{\alpha} - \alpha)$  is

$$V_{\alpha} = (B_{21} \Sigma_{11} B_{21}' + B_{22}^{-1} \Sigma'_{12} B_{21}' + B_{21} \Sigma_{12} B_{22}^{-1} + B_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{22} B_{22}^{-1})$$

# Large sample properties

The 'naive' asymptotic covariance matrix of  $N^{1/2}(\hat{\beta} - \beta)$  is

$$V_{\beta} = B_{11}^{-1}$$

# Large sample properties

The 'naive' asymptotic covariance matrix of  $N^{1/2}(\hat{\beta} - \beta)$  is

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The 'naive' asymptotic covariance matrix of  $N^{1/2}(\hat{\alpha} - \alpha)$  is

$$V_{\alpha} = (B_{21}\Sigma_{11}B'_{21} + B_{22}^{-1}\Sigma'_{12}B'_{21} + B_{21}\Sigma_{12}B_{22}^{-1} + B_{22}^{-1})$$

## Application - GEE2 - Visual impairment

Data from the Wisconsin Epidemiologic Study of Diabetic

$N = 720$  patients

$Y =$  Severity of diabetic retinopathy (none, mild, moderate, proliferative)

$X =$  (Gender (0=male, 1=female), Dose of insulin (/day))

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Association between eyes		
Covariates	Estimates (SD)	P-value
int	0.60	
Gender (0=male, 1=female)	-0.861 (0.35)	0.01
Dose of insulin	-0.807 (0.335)	0.02

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Gender and dose of insulin per day were significantly related to the association between eyes



## Application - GEE2 - Visual impairment

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Gender (0=male, 1=female)	-0.861 (0.35)	0.01
Dose of insulin	-0.807 (0.335)	0.02

Males and subjects who take fewer doses of insulin per day have greater association between eyes than their counterparts

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# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal

What happens when ordinal variable is treated as continuous or categorical?

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal
- Treatment of missing values

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal
- Treatment of missing values

Longitudinal analysis or competing risk?

- Administrative reasons, patient's refusal, ...missing not planned
- Death, data no more collected after disease progression,...

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal
- Treatment of missing values

Longitudinal analysis or competing risk?

- Administrative reasons, patient's refusal, ...missing not planned
- Death, data no more collected after disease progression,...

In some situations, patients are not able to go until the last planned timepoint. Are the assumptions of models treating missing data still valid?

# Further perspectives

Application to longitudinal analysis of quality of life data:

- Continuous VS. Categorical VS. Ordinal
- Treatment of missing values

Longitudinal analysis or competing risk?

- Administrative reasons, patient's refusal, ...missing not planned
- Death, data no more collected after disease progression,...

→ Theory of competing risk



# References

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**Thank you for your attention**