Introduction to Logistic Regression

In an effort to increase recycling, an environmental research organization tested out deposit amounts from 0 cents to 50 cents. Each item was then recorded as whether or not it was recycled (yes=1, no=0).

The data appeared as follows:



Terminology

• Odds =
$$\frac{p}{1-p}$$

- If we say the odds of getting a job offer before graduation for college students is 3. That means that it is 3 times more likely for a student to graduate from college with a job offer than it is for a student to graduate from college without a job offer. (Another way of saying it would be to say the probability of a job offer is 75%).
- If we say that the odds of getting a job offer before graduation for college students is 0.5, then that would mean that it is half as likely for a student to graduate from a college with a job offer than to not graduate with a job offer. (Another way of saying it would be to say that the probability of a job offer is 33.3%)

A logistic regression will allow us to test this relationship:

$$log\left(\frac{P(Returned)}{P(Not \ Returned)}\right) = -1.00730 + 0.07054(Deposit)$$

e^{0.07054}=1.0731

A logistic regression reveals that there is a significant association between deposit amount and recycling (OR=1.0731, p = 0.004).

As deposit amount increases by 1 cent, the odds that a bottle is returned is expected to increase by a factor of 1.0731.

Another way of expressing the same equation is:

$$P(Returned) = \frac{\exp(-1.00730 + 0.07054(Deposit))}{1 + \exp(-1.00730 + 0.07054(Deposit))}$$

Which graphically looks like:



Now suppose we want to see how material type (plastic or aluminum) seems to relates to the likelihood it is recycled, in addition to deposit amount.

A new model is run with material type and deposit amount as predictors and with whether it was recycled as the response variable.

The output is as follows:

Coefficients	5:									
	Estimate	Std.	Error	z value	Pr(> z)					
(Intercept)	-0.28241	0.	50344	-0.561	0.574830					
deposit	0.07621	0.	02011	3.789	0.000151	***				
sizeplastic	-0.50520	0.	50700	-0.996	0.319033					
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$$\log\left(\frac{P(Returned)}{P(Not Returned)}\right) = -0.28241 + 0.07621(Deposit) - 0.50520(Plastic)$$

Again another way of expressing the same equation is:

 $P(Returned) = \frac{\exp\left(-0.28241 + 0.07621(Deposit) - 0.50520(Plastic)\right)}{1 + \exp\left(-0.28241 + 0.07621(Deposit) - 0.50520(Plastic)\right)}$

Which graphically looks like:



