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# Interpreting Interactions

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## 1 Introduction

Regression models are often used to explore associations between different variables, sometimes including interactions. Unfortunately, interactions are sometimes hard to interpret. Here we explain the interpretation of three different kinds of interactions

1. nominal (sometimes called categorical, or binary if there are only two categories) by nominal;
2. nominal by continuous; and
3. continuous by continuous.

Code examples in **STATA** and **R** using the birthweight dataset are provided.

## 2 Birthweight data

The birthweight data set `birthwt` can be found in the package `MASS` in R.

```
library(MASS)
data(birthwt)
birthwt$smoke <- factor(birthwt$smoke, 0:1, c("non-smoker", "smoker"))
birthwt$race <- factor(birthwt$race, 1:3, c("white", "black", "other"))
birthwt$nonwhite <- birthwt$race != "white"
birthwt$nonwhite <- factor(as.numeric(birthwt$nonwhite), 0:1, c("white", "nonwhite"))

head(birthwt[, c("bwt", "low", "smoke", "nonwhite", "age", "lwt")])

##      bwt low      smoke nonwhite age lwt
## 85 2523  0 non-smoker nonwhite  19 182
## 86 2551  0 non-smoker nonwhite  33 155
## 87 2557  0      smoker    white  20 105
## 88 2594  0      smoker    white  21 108
## 89 2600  0      smoker    white  18 107
## 91 2622  0 non-smoker nonwhite  21 124
```

In STATA, the dataset `lbw` can be loaded from the web directly.

```
. webuse lbw
(Hosmer & Lemeshow data)

. gen nonwhite = race != 1

. list bwt low smoke nonwhite age lwt in 1/5

+-----+
|  bwt  low      smoke  nonwhite  age  lwt |
+-----+
1. | 2523   0  nonsmoker         1   19  182 |
2. | 2551   0  nonsmoker         1   33  155 |
3. | 2557   0    smoker         0   20  105 |
4. | 2594   0    smoker         0   21  108 |
5. | 2600   0    smoker         0   18  107 |
+-----+
```

It should be noted that the R and STATA versions of the dataset are not exactly the same, and therefore the results shown below are slightly different. See [Appendix A](#) for a comparison.

### 3 Linear regression

#### 3.1 Nominal by nominal

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the mean difference between categories of one variable is the same, regardless of the value of the 2nd variable, and vice versa.

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the mean difference between categories of one variable differs according to the 2nd variable, and vice versa.

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives additional difference in means for non-reference levels of the two categorical variables.

**Interpretation** The reference category for `smoke` is non-smoking mothers, and for `nonwhite` is white mothers. Babies of smokers have on average -601.9g lower birthweights than non-smokers. Babies of non-white mothers have -604.2g lower birthweights than those of whites. However, the association with birthweight is not as strong as expected in non-white smokers, as they have on average 419.5g higher birthweights than would be expected considering the main effects only.

#### Interpretation for each group

**Non-smoking, white mothers** This is the reference group, with an average birthweight given by the intercept: 3428.7g.

**Smoking, white mothers** White mothers who smoke have babies with on average -601.9g lower birthweights than white mothers who do not smoke.

**Non-smoking, non-white mothers** Non-white mothers who do not smoke have babies with on average -604.2g lower birthweights than white mothers who do not smoke.

**Smoking, non-white mothers** Non-white mothers who do smoke have babies with on average  $-601.6 + -604.2 + 419.5 = -786.3$ g lower birthweights than white mothers who do not smoke.

```
m1 <- lm(bwt ~ smoke * nonwhite, data = birthwt)
summary(m1)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = bwt ~ smoke * nonwhite, data = birthwt)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2407.75  -416.85    31.25   483.25  1561.25
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)      3428.7     102.7   33.378 < 2e-16 ***
## smokesmoker       -601.9     139.6   -4.312 0.00002624 ***
## nonwhitenonwhite  -604.2     130.7   -4.622 0.00000712 ***
## smokesmoker:nonwhitenonwhite  419.5     217.1    1.932  0.0548 .
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 681.4 on 185 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.1408, Adjusted R-squared:  0.1268
## F-statistic: 10.1 on 3 and 185 DF, p-value: 0.000003393
```

```
. regress bwt i.smoke##i.nonwhite, noheader
```

	bwt	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
smoke						
smoker		-601.3654	139.5211	-4.31	0.000	-876.6224 -326.1084
1.nonwhite		-605.4401	130.685	-4.63	0.000	-863.2646 -347.6156
smoke#						
nonwhite						
smoker#1		420.1464	216.9997	1.94	0.054	-7.965728 848.2586
_cons		3428.75	102.6848	33.39	0.000	3226.166 3631.334

### 3.2 Nominal by continuous

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the slope of  $y$  over the continuous variable,  $x$  is the same regardless of the category of the nominal variable,  $z = 0$  or  $z = 1$ . That is, the regression lines for each group in  $z$  are parallel.

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the slope of  $y$  over  $x$  differs according to  $z = 0$  or  $z = 1$ . The regression lines for each group in  $z$  no longer are assumed to be parallel.

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives additional change in slope of  $y$  over  $x$  for the non-reference level of the nominal variable,  $z = 1$ . The slopes are given by:

$$z = 0: \hat{\beta}_x$$

$$z = 1: \hat{\beta}_x + \hat{\beta}_{x:z}$$

**Interpretation** For non-smokers, average birthweight increases by 27.7g per year of age of the mother. For smokers, the average birthweight actually decreases by -18.8g ( $27.73 + -46.57$ ) per year of age of the mother.

```
m2 <- lm(bwt ~ smoke * age, data = birthwt)
summary(m2)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = bwt ~ smoke * age, data = birthwt)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2189.27  -458.46    51.46   527.26  1521.39
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)    2406.06     292.19   8.235 3.18e-14 ***
## smokesmoker     798.17     484.34   1.648  0.1011
## age             27.73      12.15   2.283  0.0236 *
## smokesmoker:age -46.57      20.45  -2.278  0.0239 *
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
```

```
## Residual standard error: 709.3 on 185 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.06909, Adjusted R-squared: 0.054
## F-statistic: 4.577 on 3 and 185 DF, p-value: 0.004068
```

```
. regress bwt i.smoke#c.age, noheader
```

bwt	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
-----					
smoke					
smoker	797.9369	484.3249	1.65	0.101	-157.5731 1753.447
age	27.60058	12.14868	2.27	0.024	3.632806 51.56835
-----					
smoke#c.age					
smoker	-46.51558	20.44641	-2.28	0.024	-86.85368 -6.177479
-----					
_cons	2408.383	292.1796	8.24	0.000	1831.951 2984.815
-----					

**Tip** Note that the main effect of smoking here gives the mean difference between smokers and non-smokers for  $age = 0$ . It may be easier to interpret models with nominal by continuous interactions if you first center the continuous variable (at mean, median or other relevant value).

```
median(birthwt$age)

## [1] 23

birthwt$agec <- birthwt$age - 23
m2c <- lm(bwt ~ smoke * agec, data = birthwt)
summary(m2c)$coef

##           Estimate Std. Error  t value    Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  3043.87967    66.34054 45.882648 5.136217e-103
## smokesmoker   -272.97916   105.82868 -2.579444 1.067228e-02
## agec           27.73138    12.14910  2.282587 2.359245e-02
## smokesmoker:agec -46.57191    20.44711 -2.277677 2.388962e-02
```

```
. centile age
```

Variable	Obs	Percentile	Centile	-- Binom. Interp. -- [95% Conf. Interval]
age	189	50	23	21.50878 24

```
. gen agec = age - 23

. regress bwt i.smoke#c.agec, noheader
```

bwt	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
-----					
smoke					

smoker	-271.9214	105.825	-2.57	0.011	-480.7004	-63.14238
agec	27.60058	12.14868	2.27	0.024	3.632806	51.56835
smoke#c.agec						
smoker	-46.51558	20.44641	-2.28	0.024	-86.85368	-6.177479
_cons	3043.196	66.33825	45.87	0.000	2912.32	3174.073

### 3.3 Continuous by continuous

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the slope of  $y$  over the continuous variable  $x_1$  is the same regardless of  $x_2$  and vice versa.

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the slope of  $y$  over the continuous variable  $x_1$  differs with respect to  $x_2$ , and vice versa.

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives the change in slope of  $y$  over  $x_1$  for each unit of  $x_2$ , and the change in slope of  $y$  over  $x_2$  for each unit of  $x_1$ . The actual slopes are given by:

**slope over  $x_1$ :**  $\hat{\beta}_{x_1} + x_2\hat{\beta}_{x_1:x_2}$

**slope over  $x_2$ :**  $\hat{\beta}_{x_2} + x_1\hat{\beta}_{x_1:x_2}$

**Interpretation** Average birthweight increases by on average 11.7g for every year of the mother's age, and 4.4g for each pound of the mother's weight. Increasing age and weight of the mother make these associations slight less pronounced (-0.3g per year of age and pound).

**Tip** Unless  $x_1 = 0$  and  $x_2 = 0$  are meaningful in your dataset, you may end up with strange values for the intercept or other main effect estimates. If this happens, try centering continuous variables. Don't forget that this will change the calculation of the predicted values:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_{(Intercept)} + \hat{\beta}_{agec}(age - 23) + \hat{\beta}_{lwtc}(lwt - 121) + \hat{\beta}_{agec:lwtc}(age - 23)(lwt - 121)$$

```
median(birthwt$lwt)

## [1] 121

birthwt$lwtc <- birthwt$lwt - 121
m3 <- lm(bwt ~ agec * lwtc, data = birthwt)
summary(m3)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = bwt ~ agec * lwtc, data = birthwt)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2258.87  -477.29   16.28   512.40  1824.01
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 2912.1115    54.8888  53.055 <2e-16 ***
## agec         11.7363     10.8076   1.086  0.279
```

```
## lwtc          4.4237      1.7645      2.507      0.013 *
## agec:lwtc    -0.2992      0.3227     -0.927      0.355
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 719.4 on 185 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.04229, Adjusted R-squared:  0.02676
## F-statistic: 2.723 on 3 and 185 DF,  p-value: 0.04569
```

```
. centile lwt

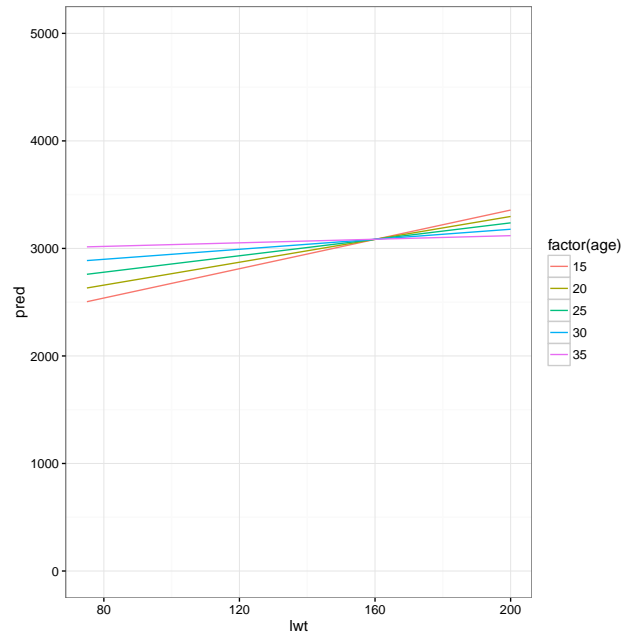
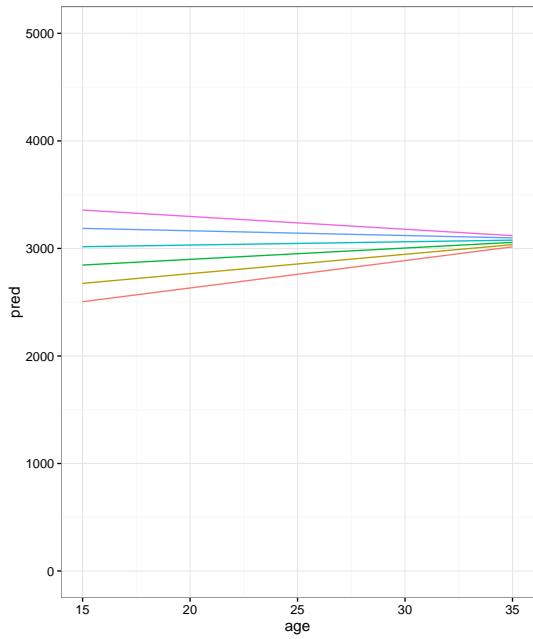
      Variable |      Obs  Percentile      Centile      -- Binom. Interp. --
      +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
      lwt |      189         50         121         120         128

. gen lwtc = lwt - 121

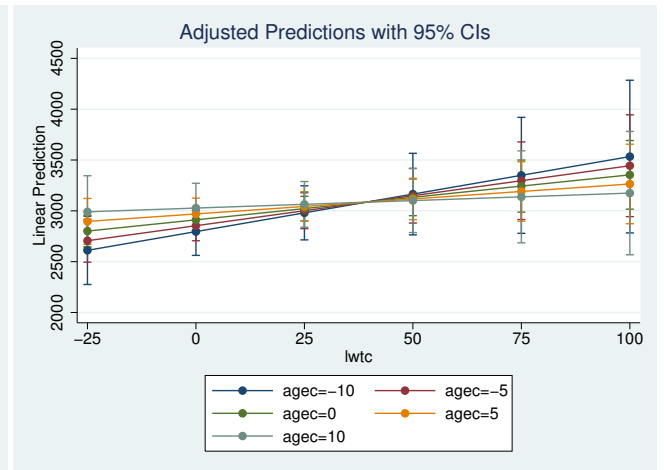
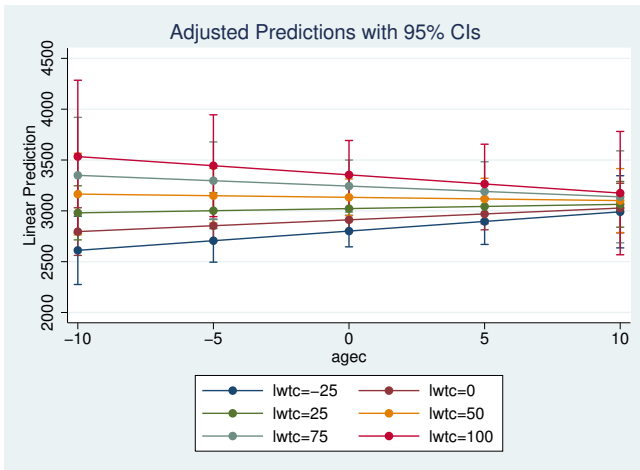
. regress bwt c.agec#c.lwtc, noheader
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
      bwt |      Coef.  Std. Err.      t    P>|t|      [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
      agec |      11.57163  10.80576      1.07  0.286     -9.746736     32.88999
      lwtc |       4.425356  1.764444      2.51  0.013      .9443383      7.906374
      |
      c.agec#|
      c.lwtc |      -.2953255  .3226567     -0.92  0.361     -.9318852      .3412342
      |
      _cons |      2911.685  54.88113     53.05  0.000     2803.411     3019.958
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

**Tip** Graph the predicted values in order to make sense of continuous by continuous interactions.

```
nd <- expand.grid(agec = seq(15, 35, 5) - 23, lwtc = seq(75, 200, 25) - 121)
nd$pred <- predict(m3, newdata = nd)
nd$age <- nd$agec + 23
nd$lwt <- nd$lwtc + 121
qplot(age, pred, data = nd, color = factor(lwt), geom = "line") + ylim(0, 5000)
qplot(lwt, pred, data = nd, color = factor(age), geom = "line") + ylim(0, 5000)
```



```
. quietly: margins, at(agec = (-10(5)10) lwtc = (-25(25)100))
. marginsplot
Variables that uniquely identify margins: agec lwtc
. marginsplot, xdim(lwtc)
Variables that uniquely identify margins: agec lwtc
```





## 4 Logistic regression

The interpretations given in this section apply equally to

- logistic regression for binary outcomes ( $e^{\hat{\beta}}$  = odds ratio (OR)),
- poisson regression for count outcomes ( $e^{\hat{\beta}}$  = incidence rate ratio (IRR)),
- Cox proportional hazards regression for survival outcomes ( $e^{\hat{\beta}}$  = hazard ratio (HR)),
- and other regression models where relevant coefficients are interpreted as  $e^{\hat{\beta}}$ , not  $\hat{\beta}$ .

### 4.1 Nominal by nominal

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the odds ratio comparing categories of one variable is the same, regardless of the value of the 2nd variable, and vice versa.

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the odds ratio comparing categories of one variable differs according to the 2nd variable, and vice versa. An OR < 1 for the interaction, indicates the association is less strong than expected when considering only the main effects, while OR > 1 indicates the association is stronger than expected.

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives multiplicative effect of non-reference levels of the two categorical variables.

For nominal by nominal interactions, we examine the effects of two covariates simultaneously by multiplying the odds ratios. To see the effect of covariates  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , we multiply  $e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_1}}$  with  $e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_2}}$  to get  $e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_1}}e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_2}} = e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_1} + \hat{\beta}_{x_2}}$ . (Note that we can either a) first add the coefficients and then exponentiate, or b) first exponentiate to get odds ratios, and then multiply.) With interaction, we calculate the odds ratio as follows:

$$OR_{x_1, x_2} = e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_1}} e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_2}} e^{\hat{\beta}_{x_1:x_2}}$$

```
m4 <- glm(low ~ smoke * nonwhite, data = birthwt, family = binomial)
cbind("OR" = exp(coef(m4)), exp(confint(m4)))

## Waiting for profiling to be done...

##              OR      2.5 %      97.5 %
## (Intercept)  0.100000 0.03001716 0.2479494
## smokesmoker  5.757575 1.93948909 21.3664428
## nonwhitenonwhite 5.434782 1.91145601 19.6316716
## smokesmoker:nonwhitenonwhite 0.319579 0.06421315 1.3942648
```

**Interpretation** In this example, we look at the odds of having birthweight less than 2.5kg. Smokers have 5.76 higher odds of having a baby with low birthweight compared to non-smokers. Similarly, nonwhite mothers have a 5.43 higher odds of having a baby with low birthweight compared to white mothers. Nonwhite mothers who smoke however have a 10 times higher odds of having a baby with low birthweight than white mothers who do not smoke.

```
exp(coef(m4) ["smokesmoker"]) * exp(coef(m4) ["nonwhitenonwhite"]) *
  exp(coef(m4) ["smokesmoker:nonwhitenonwhite"])

## smokesmoker
##      9.999999
```

**STATA Tip** Note the use of the `coeflegend` option to find out what the coefficients are called, in case you want to use them in calculations.

```
. logistic low i.smoke##i.nonwhite

Logistic regression                               Number of obs =          189
                                                LR chi2(3)          =          16.97
                                                Prob > chi2         =          0.0007
Log likelihood = -108.84968                    Pseudo R2          =          0.0723

-----+-----
      low | Odds Ratio   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      smoke |
      smoker |   5.757576   3.444621     2.93  0.003    1.782321   18.59916
  1.nonwhite |   5.434783   3.153762     2.92  0.004    1.742756   16.94837
      |
      smoke# |
      nonwhite |
      smoker#1 |   .3195789   .2478524    -1.47  0.141    .069891   1.461286
      |
      _cons |           .1   .0524404    -4.39  0.000    .0357788   .2794949
-----+-----

. logistic, coeflegend

Logistic regression                               Number of obs =          189
                                                LR chi2(3)          =          16.97
                                                Prob > chi2         =          0.0007
Log likelihood = -108.84968                    Pseudo R2          =          0.0723

-----+-----
      low | Odds Ratio   Legend
-----+-----
      smoke |
      smoker |   5.757576   _b[1.smoke]
  1.nonwhite |   5.434783   _b[1.nonwhite]
      |
      smoke# |
      nonwhite |
      smoker#1 |   .3195789   _b[1.smoke#1.nonwhite]
      |
      _cons |           .1   _b[_cons]
-----+-----

. di exp(_b[1.smoke]) * exp(_b[1.nonwhite]) * exp(_b[1.smoke#1.nonwhite])
10

. * or equivalently:
.
. di exp(_b[1.smoke] + _b[1.nonwhite] + _b[1.smoke#1.nonwhite])
10
```

## 4.2 Nominal by continuous

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the odds ratio increases the same amount per unit of the continuous variable,  $x$ , is the same regardless of the category of the nominal variable,  $z = 0$  or  $z = 1$ .

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the change in odds ratio over the continuous variable differs according the value of  $z$

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives additional change in odds for the non-reference level of the nominal variable,  $z = 1$ . The ORs are given by:

$$z = 0: e^{\beta x}$$

$$z = 1: e^{\beta x} e^{\beta_{xz}}$$

**Interpretation** In this example, the odds of having a baby with low birthweight decreases by a factor of 0.92 per every year of the mother's age if the mother doesn't smoke, and by a factor of  $0.92 * 1.08 = 0.99$  for every year if she does smoke.

```
m5 <- glm(low ~ smoke * agec, data = birthwt, family = binomial)
cbind("OR" = exp(coef(m5)), exp(confint(m5)))
```

```
## Waiting for profiling to be done...
```

```
##           OR      2.5 %    97.5 %
## (Intercept) 0.3324575 0.2115932 0.5048132
## smokesmoker 2.0492797 1.0889112 3.8894061
## agec        0.9204617 0.8382765 1.0009474
## smokesmoker:agec 1.0758199 0.9474313 1.2256759
```

```
. logistic low i.smoke#c.agec, coef
```

```
Logistic regression           Number of obs =          189
                               LR chi2(3)      =           8.66
                               Prob > chi2     =          0.0342
Log likelihood = -113.00535     Pseudo R2      =          0.0369
```

```
-----+-----
           low |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
           smoke |
           smoker |   .7174884   .3237495     2.22  0.027   .0829511   1.352026
           agec  |  -.0828798   .0449925    -1.84  0.065  -.1710635   .0053039
           |
smoke#c.agec |
           smoker |   .0730831   .0653439     1.12  0.263  -.0549886   .2011548
           |
           _cons |  -1.101243   .2206746    -4.99  0.000  -1.533758  -.668729
-----+-----
```

## 4.3 Continuous by continuous

**Without interaction** With only main effects, we assume that the change in OR over the continuous variable  $x_1$  is the same regardless of  $x_2$  and vice versa.

**With interaction** Including an interaction term, we assume that the change in OR over the continuous variable  $x_1$  differs with respect to  $x_2$ , and vice versa.

**Interpretation of Interaction Coefficient** The interaction term gives the change in OR over  $x_1$  for each unit of  $x_2$ , and the change in slope of  $y$  over  $x_2$  for each unit of  $x_1$ . The actual slopes are given by:

**slope over  $x_1$ :**  $e^{\beta_{x_1} + x_2 \beta_{x_1:x_2}}$

**slope over  $x_2$ :**  $e^{\beta_{x_2} + x_1 \beta_{x_1:x_2}}$

**Interpretation** The odds ratios considering an interaction between age and weight are *very* slightly lower (99.9% of the odds ratio considering only main effects [99.7 - 1.002%] per year of age and pound in weight), but this difference is not statistically significant.

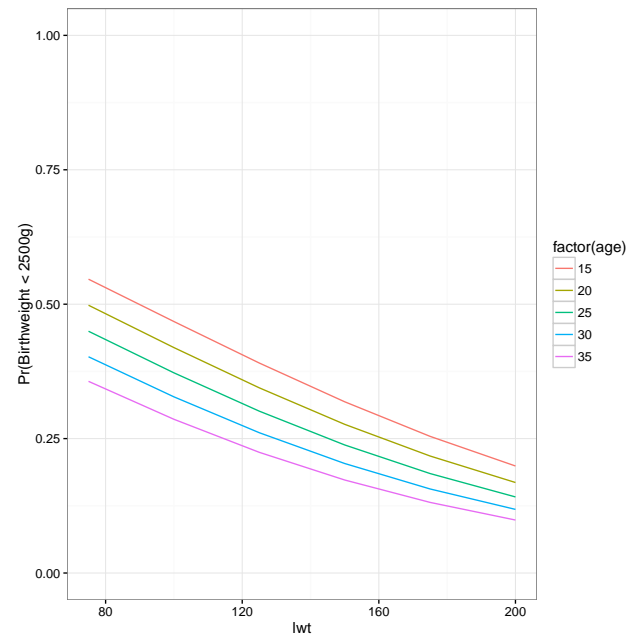
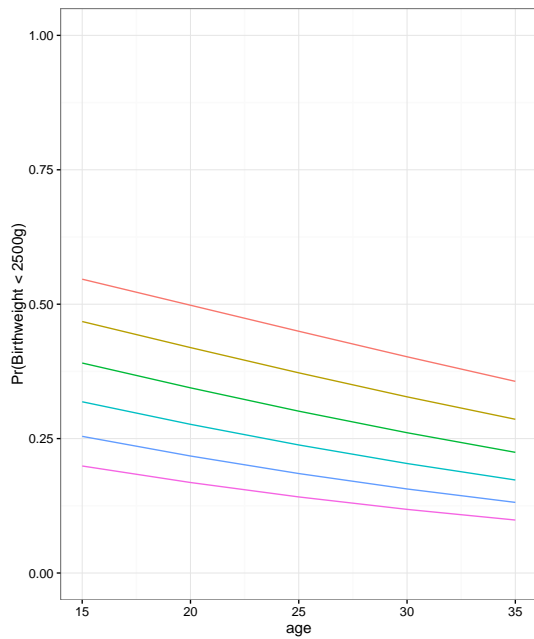
**Tip** Plotting predicted odds ratios or probabilities for these models will make the models easier to understand.

```
m6 <- glm(low ~ agec * lwtc, data = birthwt, family = binomial)
cbind("OR" = exp(coef(m6)), exp(confint(m6)))

## Waiting for profiling to be done...

##              OR      2.5 %    97.5 %
## (Intercept) 0.4907450 0.3535745 0.6731492
## agec        0.9611041 0.8986580 1.0242901
## lwtc        0.9873092 0.9745634 0.9987438
## agec:lwtc   0.9999823 0.9974573 1.0022256
```

```
nd <- expand.grid(agec = seq(15, 35, 5) - 23, lwtc = seq(75, 200, 25) - 121)
nd$pred <- predict(m6, newdata = nd, type = "response")
nd$age <- nd$agec + 23
nd$lwt <- nd$lwtc + 121
qplot(age, pred, data = nd, color = factor(lwt), geom = "line") +
  ylim(0, 1) + ylab("Pr(Birthweight < 2500g)")
qplot(lwt, pred, data = nd, color = factor(age), geom = "line") +
  ylim(0, 1) + ylab("Pr(Birthweight < 2500g)")
```



```
. logistic low c.agec##c.lwtc, coef

Logistic regression
Log likelihood = -113.56918

Number of obs = 189
LR chi2(3) = 7.53
Prob > chi2 = 0.0567
Pseudo R2 = 0.0321

-----+-----
      low |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-----+-----
      agec |  -.0396806   .0332111    -1.19   0.232    - .1047733   .0254118
      lwtc |  -.0127505   .0062141    -2.05   0.040    - .0249298  -.0005711
-----+-----
      c.agec# |
      c.lwtc |  -.0000202   .0011979    -0.02   0.987    - .002368   .0023275
-----+-----
      _cons |  -.7117894   .1638335    -4.34   0.000    -1.032897  -.3906816
-----+-----

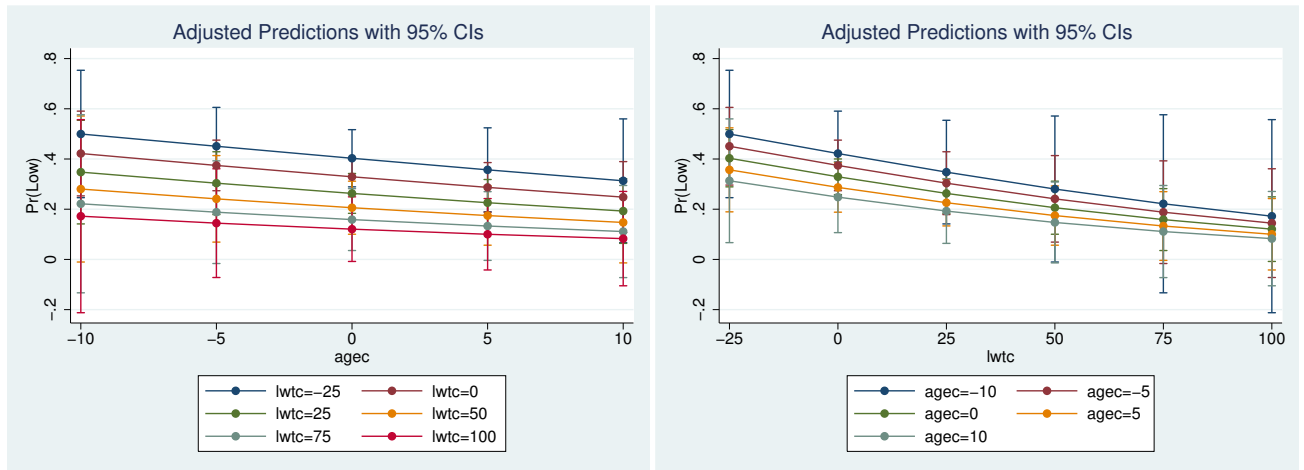
. quietly: margins, at(agec = (-10(5)10) lwtc = (-25(25)100))

. marginsplot

Variables that uniquely identify margins: agec lwtc

. marginsplot, xdim(lwtc)

Variables that uniquely identify margins: agec lwtc
```



## Versions

1.0 Original version

## R version and packages used to generate this report

R version: R version 3.4.0 (2017-04-21)

Base packages: stats, graphics, grDevices, utils, datasets, methods, base

Other packages: MASS, ggplot2, knitr

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## A Comparison of R and STATA Datasets

There are a few small differences in lwt and bwt between the two versions of the dataset we use here, which led to slight differences in the model results.

```
data.r <- birthwt[, c("age", "lwt", "bwt", "race", "smoke")]
data.stata <- read.csv("lbw_stata.csv")

summary(data.r$age - data.stata$age)

##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##      0      0      0      0      0      0

summary(data.r$lwt - data.stata$lwt)

##      Min.  1st Qu.  Median    Mean  3rd Qu.    Max.
## -1.000000  0.000000  0.000000 -0.005291  0.000000  0.000000

data.r[data.r$lwt - data.stata$lwt != 0, ]

##      age lwt  bwt  race      smoke
## 76   20 105 2450 other non-smoker

data.stata[data.r$lwt - data.stata$lwt != 0, ]

##      age lwt  bwt  race      smoke
## 182  20 106 2450 other nonsmoker

summary(data.r$bwt - data.stata$bwt)

##      Min.  1st Qu.  Median    Mean  3rd Qu.    Max.
## -14.0000  0.0000  0.0000  0.3016  0.0000  69.0000

data.r[data.r$bwt - data.stata$bwt != 0, "bwt"]

## [1] 2751 3062 3062 3544 2410

data.stata[data.r$bwt - data.stata$bwt != 0, "bwt"]

## [1] 2750 3076 3076 3475 2395

table(data.r$race, data.stata$race, useNA = "ifany")

##
##           black other white
## white         0    0   96
## black        26    0    0
## other         0   67    0

table(data.r$smoke, data.stata$smoke, useNA = "ifany")

##
##           nonsmoker smoker
## non-smoker       115     0
## smoker           0     74
```