

# Risk Analysis of the Space Shuttle: Pre-Challenger Prediction of Failure

Arnaud Legrand

23 September 2018

In this document we reperform some of the analysis provided in *Risk Analysis of the Space Shuttle: Pre-Challenger Prediction of Failure* by *Siddhartha R. Dalal, Edward B. Fowlkes, Bruce Hoadley* published in *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Vol. 84, No. 408 (Dec., 1989), pp. 945-957 and available at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2290069>.

On the fourth page of this article, they indicate that the maximum likelihood estimates of the logistic regression using only temperature are:  $\hat{\alpha} = 5.085$  and  $\hat{\beta} = -0.1156$  and their asymptotic standard errors are  $s_{\hat{\alpha}} = 3.052$  and  $s_{\hat{\beta}} = 0.047$ . The Goodness of fit indicated for this model was  $G^2 = 18.086$  with 21 degrees of freedom. Our goal is to reproduce the computation behind these values and the Figure 4 of this article, possibly in a nicer looking way.

## Technical information on the computer on which the analysis is run

We will be using the R language using the ggplot2 library.

```
library(ggplot2)
sessionInfo()

## R version 3.5.1 (2018-07-02)
## Platform: x86_64-w64-mingw32/x64 (64-bit)
## Running under: Windows 7 x64 (build 7601) Service Pack 1
##
## Matrix products: default
##
## locale:
## [1] LC_COLLATE=French_France.1252  LC_CTYPE=French_France.1252
## [3] LC_MONETARY=French_France.1252 LC_NUMERIC=C
## [5] LC_TIME=French_France.1252
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats      graphics   grDevices  utils      datasets   methods    base
##
## other attached packages:
## [1] ggplot2_3.0.0
##
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
## [1] Rcpp_0.12.18      withr_2.1.2       crayon_1.3.4      digest_0.6.16
## [5] rprojroot_1.3-2   plyr_1.8.4       grid_3.5.1       gtable_0.2.0
## [9] backports_1.1.2   magrittr_1.5     evaluate_0.11    scales_1.0.0
## [13] pillar_1.3.0     rlang_0.2.2      stringi_1.1.7    lazyeval_0.2.1
## [17] rmarkdown_1.10    tools_3.5.1      stringr_1.3.1    munsell_0.5.0
## [21] yaml_2.2.0       compiler_3.5.1   colorspace_1.3-2  htmltools_0.3.6
## [25] knitr_1.20       tibble_1.4.2
```

Here are the available libraries

```

devtools::session_info()

## Session info -----
## setting value
## version R version 3.5.1 (2018-07-02)
## system x86_64, mingw32
## ui RTerm
## language (EN)
## collate French_France.1252
## tz Europe/Paris
## date 2018-10-10

## Packages -----
## package * version date      source
## backports 1.1.2  2017-12-13 CRAN (R 3.5.0)
## base      * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## colorspace 1.3-2   2016-12-14 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## compiler   3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## crayon     1.3.4   2017-09-16 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## datasets   * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## devtools    1.13.6  2018-06-27 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## digest      0.6.16  2018-08-22 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## evaluate    0.11   2018-07-17 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## ggplot2    * 3.0.0  2018-07-03 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## graphics   * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## grDevices  * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## grid       3.5.1   2018-07-02 local
## gtable     0.2.0   2016-02-26 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## htmltools   0.3.6   2017-04-28 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## knitr      1.20    2018-02-20 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## lazyeval    0.2.1   2017-10-29 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## magrittr    1.5     2014-11-22 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## memoise     1.1.0   2017-04-21 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## methods    * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## munsell    0.5.0   2018-06-12 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## pillar     1.3.0   2018-07-14 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## plyr       1.8.4   2016-06-08 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## Rcpp        0.12.18 2018-07-23 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## rlang       0.2.2   2018-08-16 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## rmarkdown   1.10    2018-06-11 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## rprojroot   1.3-2   2018-01-03 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## scales     1.0.0   2018-08-09 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## stats      * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## stringi     1.1.7   2018-03-12 CRAN (R 3.5.0)
## stringr     1.3.1   2018-05-10 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## tibble      1.4.2   2018-01-22 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## tools       3.5.1   2018-07-02 local
## utils      * 3.5.1  2018-07-02 local
## withr      2.1.2   2018-03-15 CRAN (R 3.5.1)
## yaml        2.2.0   2018-07-25 CRAN (R 3.5.1)

```

## Loading and inspecting data

Let's start by reading data:

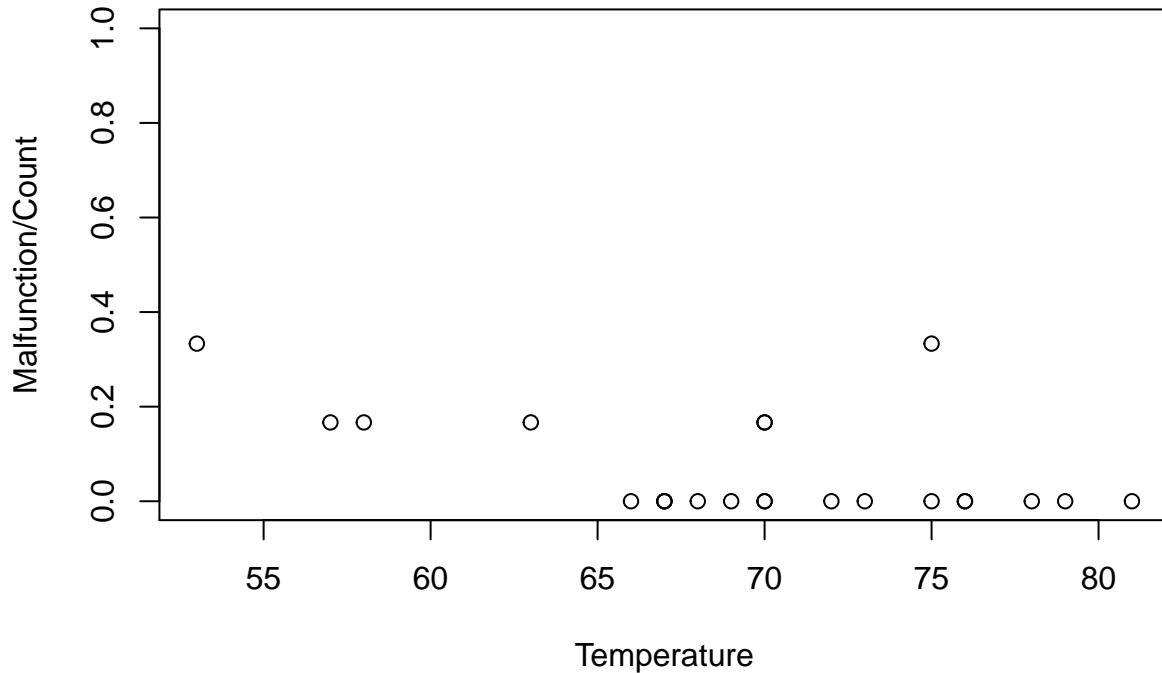
```
data = read.csv("https://app-learninglab.inria.fr/gitlab/moocrr-session1/moocrr-reproducibility-study/r/data
```

```
##           Date Count Temperature Pressure Malfunction
## 1  4/12/81      6        66       50          0
## 2 11/12/81      6        70       50          1
## 3  3/22/82      6        69       50          0
## 4 11/11/82      6        68       50          0
## 5  4/04/83      6        67       50          0
## 6  6/18/82      6        72       50          0
## 7  8/30/83      6        73      100          0
## 8 11/28/83      6        70      100          0
## 9  2/03/84      6        57      200          1
## 10 4/06/84      6        63      200          1
## 11 8/30/84      6        70      200          1
## 12 10/05/84     6        78      200          0
## 13 11/08/84     6        67      200          0
## 14 1/24/85      6        53      200          2
## 15 4/12/85      6        67      200          0
## 16 4/29/85      6        75      200          0
## 17 6/17/85      6        70      200          0
## 18 7/29/85      6        81      200          0
## 19 8/27/85      6        76      200          0
## 20 10/03/85     6        79      200          0
## 21 10/30/85     6        75      200          2
## 22 11/26/85     6        76      200          0
## 23 1/12/86      6        58      200          1
```

We know from our previous experience on this data set that filtering data is a really bad idea. We will therefore process it as such.

Let's visually inspect how temperature affects malfunction:

```
plot(data=data, Malfunction/Count ~ Temperature, ylim=c(0,1))
```



## Logistic regression

Let's assume O-rings independently fail with the same probability which solely depends on temperature. A logistic regression should allow us to estimate the influence of temperature.

```
logistic_reg = glm(data=data, Malfunction/Count ~ Temperature, weights=Count,
                    family=binomial(link='logit'))
summary(logistic_reg)

##
## Call:
## glm(formula = Malfunction/Count ~ Temperature, family = binomial(link = "logit"),
##      data = data, weights = Count)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min        1Q    Median        3Q       Max
## -0.95227 -0.78299 -0.54117 -0.04379  2.65152
##
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept) 5.08498   3.05247  1.666   0.0957 .
## Temperature -0.11560   0.04702 -2.458   0.0140 *
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
```

```

## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
## Null deviance: 24.230 on 22 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 18.086 on 21 degrees of freedom
## AIC: 35.647
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 5

```

The maximum likelihood estimator of the intercept and of Temperature are thus  $\hat{\alpha} = 5.0850$  and  $\hat{\beta} = -0.1156$  and their standard errors are  $s_{\hat{\alpha}} = 3.052$  and  $s_{\hat{\beta}} = 0.04702$ . The Residual deviance corresponds to the Goodness of fit  $G^2 = 18.086$  with 21 degrees of freedom. I have therefore managed to replicate the results of the Dalal *et al.* article.

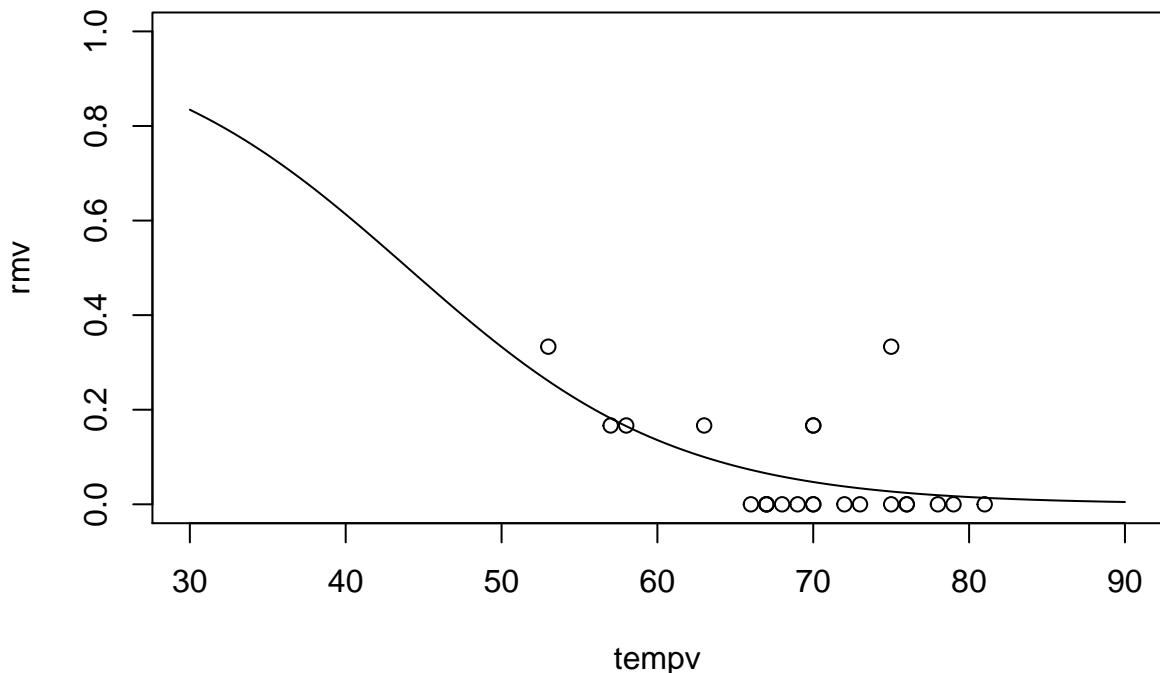
## Predicting failure probability

The temperature when launching the shuttle was 31°F. Let's try to estimate the failure probability for such temperature using our model :

```

# shuttle=shuttle[shuttle$r!=0,]
tempv = seq(from=30, to=90, by = .5)
rmv <- predict(logistic_reg,list(Temperature=tempv),type="response")
plot(tempv,rmv,type="l",ylim=c(0,1))
points(data=data, Malfunction/Count ~ Temperature)

```

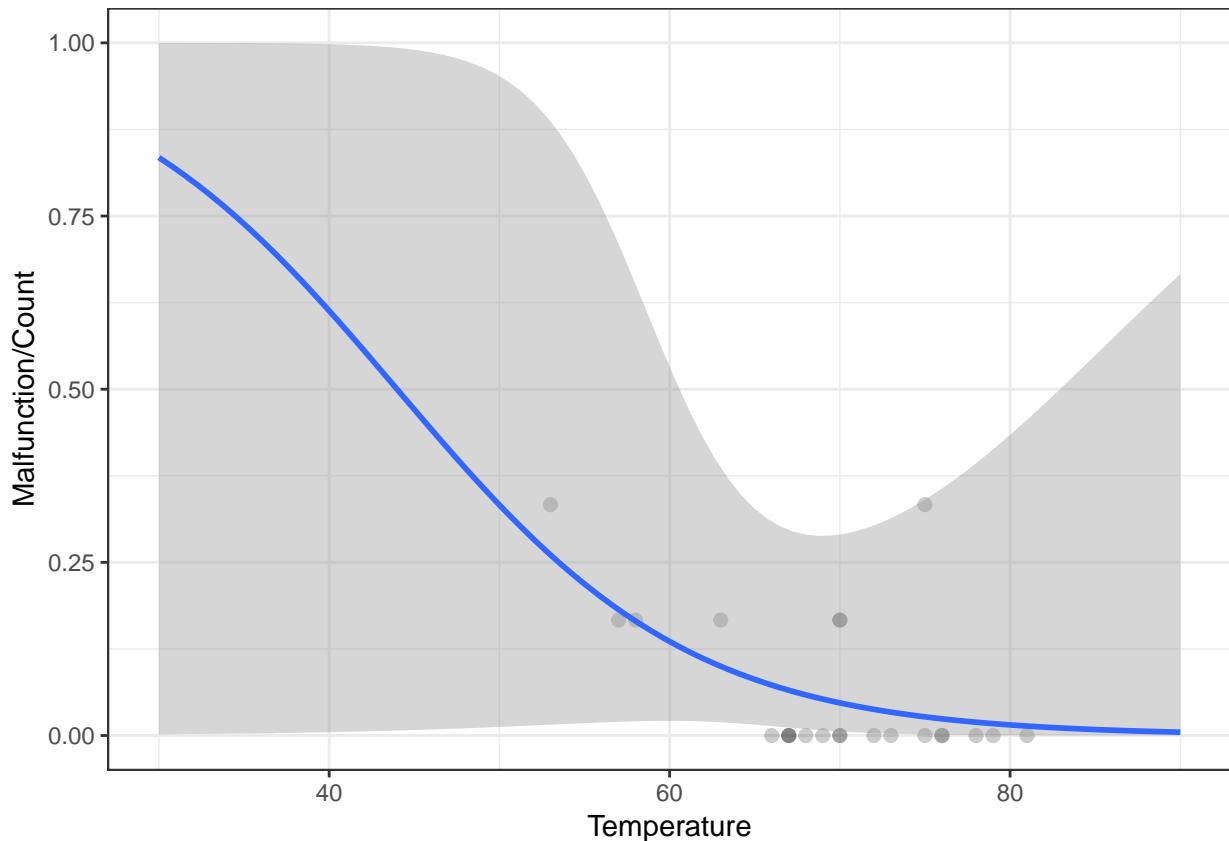


This figure is very similar to the Figure 4 of Dalal *et al.* I have managed to replicate the Figure 4 of the Dalal *et al.* article.

Let's try to plot confidence intervals although I am not sure exactly how they are computed.

```
ggplot(data, aes(y=Malfunction/Count, x=Temperature)) + geom_point(alpha=.2, size = 2) +  
  geom_smooth(method = "glm", method.args = list(family = "binomial"), fullrange=T) +  
  xlim(30,90) + ylim(0,1) + theme_bw()
```

```
## Warning in eval(family$initialize): non-integer #successes in a binomial  
## glm!
```



No confidence region was given in the original article. **Let's hope this confidence region estimation is correct.**