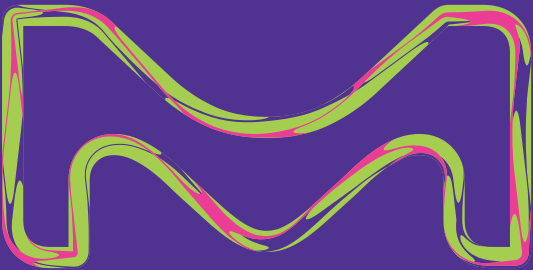


# ROC CURVE ANALYSIS USING SAS

**Zheng Yao**

**Sr. Statistical Programmer**



**MERCK**

# Outline

- **Background**
- **Examples:**
  - Accuracy assessment
  - Compare ROC curves
  - Cut-off point selection
- **Summary**

# Outline

- **Background**
- **Examples:**
  - Accuracy assessment
  - Compare ROC curves
  - Cut-off point selection
- **Summary**

# Background

- Biomarkers (e.g. PD-1/L1) draw lots of attention nowadays.
- It is often of interest to use biomarker for disease screening, diagnosis and prediction.
- The fundamental for use of biomarkers in clinical practice is the **accuracy** and the **optimal cut-off point selection**
- The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve is a procedure that can aid in the **accuracy assessment, ROC curve comparison and cut-off point selection**.

# Background

| Cut Point Outcome | Golden Standard Outcome |               |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|                   | Positive                | Negative      |
| Positive          | <b>TP (a)</b>           | FP (b)        |
| Negative          | FN (c)                  | <b>TN (d)</b> |

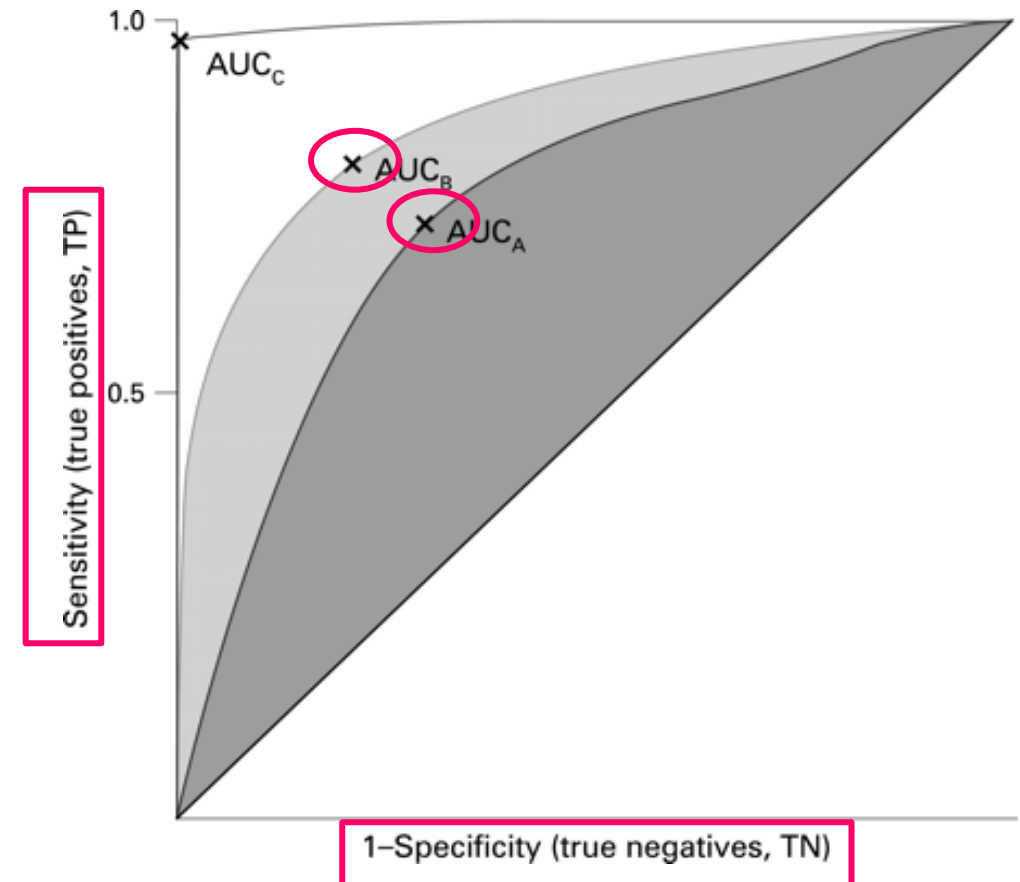
Note: **TP**=True Positive, **FP**=False Positive, **FN**=False Negative, and **TN**=True Negative.

| Cut Point Outcome | Golden Standard Outcome |           |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
|                   | Positive                | Negative  |
| Positive          | <b>60</b>               | 20        |
| Negative          | 40                      | <b>80</b> |
| <b>Total</b>      | 100                     | 100       |

- **Sensitivity:** the proportion of positive observations that are measured as positive, i.e. true positive rate (TPR),  
**Sensitivity =  $a / (a + c)$**
- **Specificity:** the proportion of negative observations that are measured as negative, i.e. true negative (TNR),  
**Specificity =  $d / (b + d)$**
- **Youden's Index: (sensitivity + specificity) - 1**
  - Sensitivity =  $60 / (60 + 40) = 0.6$
  - Specificity =  $80 / (20 + 80) = 0.8$
  - Youden's Index = (sensitivity + specificity) - 1 =  $0.6 + 0.8 - 1 = 0.4$

# Background

- ROC(**R**eceiver-**O**perating **C**haracteristic) Curve: constructed with **sensitivity (FP)** on the vertical axis and **1-specificity (TP)** on the horizontal
- Area under curve (**AUC**): a measure of overall **accuracy**
- ROC curves comparison
- Cut-off point selection
  - Youden's Index:  $(\text{sensitivity} + \text{specificity}) - 1$



# Outline

- Background
- **Examples:**
  - **Accuracy assessment**
  - **Compare ROC curves**
  - **Cut-off point selection**
- Summary

# Compare ROC curves

- 156 cases of patients with positive PD-L1 expression were selected and treated with anti-PD-L1 agents (drug A).
- To explore the potential association between **PD-L1 expression** in tumor tissue and **anti-PD-L1 response** (i.e. BOR, PFS or OS)
- The **expression of PD-L1** was measured with two methods (**TC** and **IC**) for each case
- Best Overall Response (**BOR**) is used as the **predictive measure** according to (RECIST 1.1, 1). The BOR variable is coded as '1' and '0' (i.e. effective and noneffective) .

| BOR              |               |               |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| PD-L1 expression | Effective     | Non-effective |
| Positive         | <b>TP (a)</b> | FP (b)        |
| Negative         | FN (c)        | <b>TN (d)</b> |

| Obs | USUBJID | TC     | IC     | BOR |
|-----|---------|--------|--------|-----|
| 1   | 001     | 15.814 | 2.823  | 0   |
| 2   | 002     | 8.991  | 15.975 | 1   |
| 3   | 003     | 4.477  | 5.46   | 0   |
| 4   | 004     | 17.55  | 12.447 | 1   |
| 5   | 005     | 0.604  | 3.217  | 0   |

**NOTE:** Partial list output of the BOR dataset (obs=5) 

# Compare ROC curves

- **Is IC better than TC?**

# Compare ROC curves

## The PROC LOGISTIC procedure for ROC curve comparison

- **TC** and **IC** are both independent variables in the model statement.
- the **ROC** statement produces a ROC
- the **ROCCONTRAST** statement produces a significance test for the ROC curve.
- the **REFERENCE('TC')** statement means that TC is set as a reference when comparing with IC in the significance test.

```
proc logistic data = BOR;  
  model BOR(event='1') = TC IC;  
  roc"TC" TC;  
  roc"IC" IC;  
  roccontrast reference("TC")/estimate;  
run;
```

**Note.** Reference code for ROC curve comparison

# Compare ROC curves

## Results from Logistic model

- The significance test demonstrates that TC ( $p = 0.0014$ ) and IC ( $p < 0.0001$ ) are statistically significant for use in ROC curve.
- Logistic regression equation:  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_n x_n$

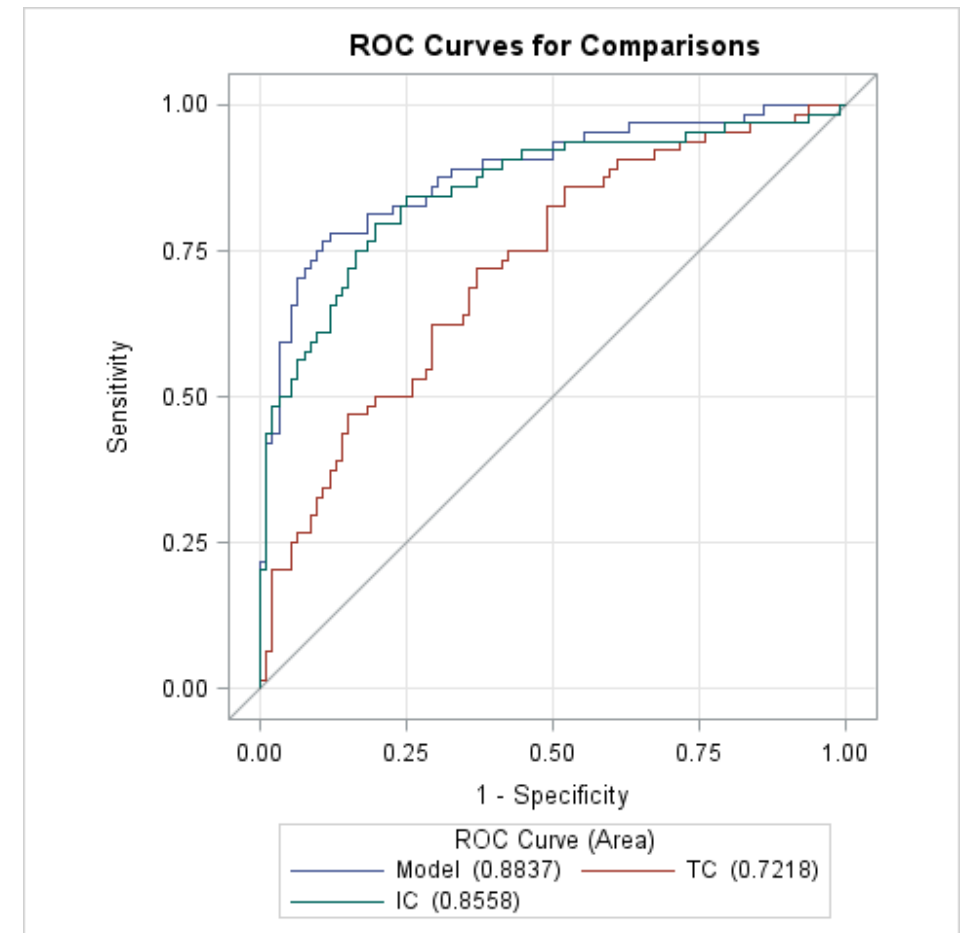
| Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates |    |          |                |                 |            |
|------------------------------------------|----|----------|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Parameter                                | DF | Estimate | Standard Error | Wald Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| Intercept                                | 1  | -3.9048  | 0.6434         | 36.8311         | <.0001     |
| TC                                       | 1  | 0.1104   | 0.0344         | 10.2640         | 0.0014     |
| IC                                       | 1  | 0.1905   | 0.0364         | 27.3634         | <.0001     |

# Compare ROC curves

## AUC statistical test and ROC curve

- **ROC Curve:** all of three ROC curves are above the diagonal line.
- **AUC:** all of three 95% CIs do not contain 0.5. Therefore, we can conclude that all these three AUC are significantly better than chance.

| ROC Association Statistics |              |                |                            |                  |        |        |  |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------|--------|--|
| ROC Model                  | Mann-Whitney |                |                            | Somers' D (Gini) | Gamma  | Tau-a  |  |
|                            | Area         | Standard Error | 95% Wald Confidence Limits |                  |        |        |  |
| Model                      | 0.8837       | 0.0285         | 0.8277 0.9396              | 0.7673           | 0.7673 | 0.3737 |  |
| TC                         | 0.7218       | 0.0410         | 0.6414 0.8022              | 0.4436           | 0.4436 | 0.2160 |  |
| IC                         | 0.8558       | 0.0324         | 0.7923 0.9193              | 0.7116           | 0.7116 | 0.3466 |  |



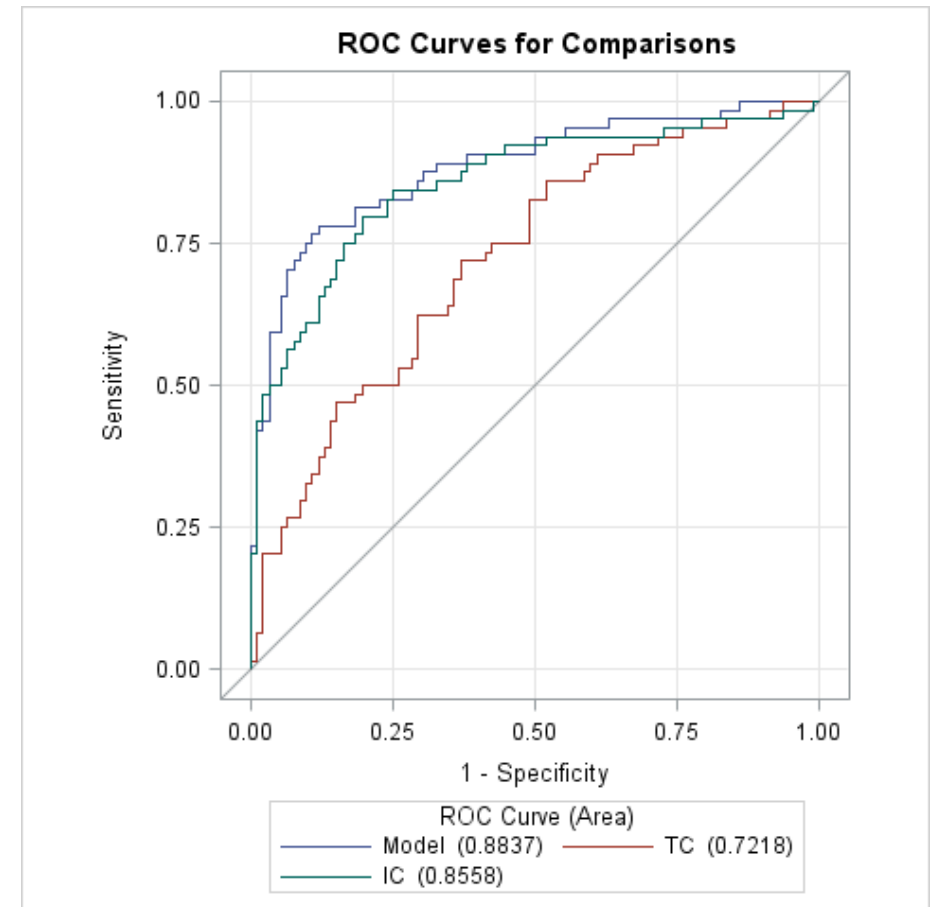
# Compare ROC curves

## ROC comparison test

- IC vs. TC ( $p=0.0116$ ). Therefore, the AUC of IC (0.8558) is statistically larger than that of TC (0.7218).
- the PD-L1 scoring methodology of IC is better than TC.

| ROC Contrast Estimation and Testing Results by Row |          |                |                            |        |            |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------------------|--------|------------|------------|
| Contrast                                           | Estimate | Standard Error | 95% Wald Confidence Limits |        | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| Model - TC                                         | 0.1619   | 0.0405         | 0.0825                     | 0.2412 | 15.9746    | <.0001     |
| IC - TC                                            | 0.1340   | 0.0531         | 0.0300                     | 0.2380 | 6.3740     | 0.0116     |

**Note.**



# Outline

- Background
- **Examples:**
  - Accuracy assessment
  - Compare ROC curves
  - **Cut-off point selection**
- Summary

# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## The PROC LOGISTIC procedure for ROC curve analysis

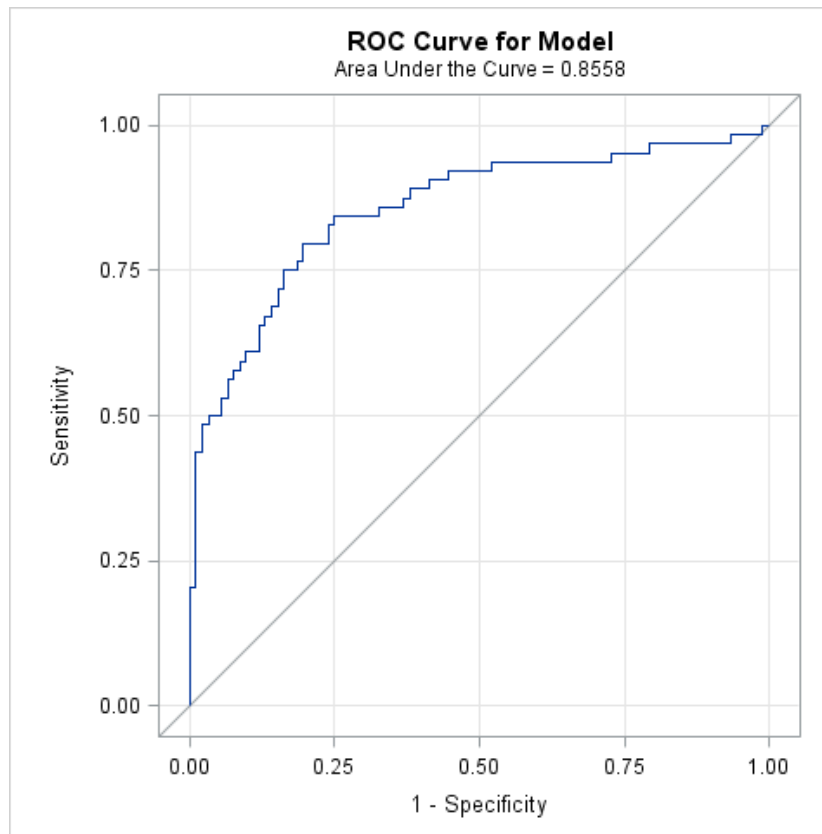
- The **OUTROC=** option creates a dataset containing sensitivity and specificity data which here is called **ROCDATA**.
- The **ROC** statement produces a ROC
- the **ROCONTRAST** statement produces a significance test for the ROC curve.
- The **PREDICTED=** option creates a dataset containing estimated event probabilities (i.e. pred) for each subject.

```
proc logistic data = BOR;  
  model BOR(event='1') = IC/outroc=rocdata;  
  output out=pred predicted=pred;  
  roc "BOR";  
  rocontrast;  
run;
```

# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## The ROC curve

- The diagonal line, from (0,0) to (1,1), is indicative of an independent variable that discriminates no different from guessing (50/50 chance).
- The **AUC** is 0.8558 as compared to that of the diagonal line which is always 0.5.



# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## AUC statistical test

- The **95% confidence interval** (0.6414, 0.8022) does not contain 0.5, therefore our AUC is significantly better than chance.
- A **Chi-square test** provides a p-value ( $p < .0001$ ) associated with the null hypothesis (AUC =0.5).

| ROC Association Statistics |              |                |                            |        |                  |        |        |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|
| ROC Model                  | Mann-Whitney |                |                            |        | Somers' D (Gini) | Gamma  | Tau-a  |
|                            | Area         | Standard Error | 95% Wald Confidence Limits |        |                  |        |        |
| Model                      | 0.8558       | 0.0324         | 0.7923                     | 0.9193 | 0.7116           | 0.7116 | 0.3466 |
| BOR                        | 0.5000       | 0              | 0.5000                     | 0.5000 | 0                | .      | 0      |

| ROC Contrast Test Results |    |            |            |
|---------------------------|----|------------|------------|
| Contrast                  | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| Reference = Model         | 1  | 120.4840   | <.0001     |

**Note.** If the 95% confidence interval does not include 0.5, then we can conclude that ROC curve is statistically significant.

# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## The model's intercept and regression coefficients

- Partial output from the PROC LOGISTIC procedure
- Logistic regression equation:  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \dots + \beta_nx_n$

| Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates |    |          |                |                 |            |
|------------------------------------------|----|----------|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Parameter                                | DF | Estimate | Standard Error | Wald Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| Intercept                                | 1  | -2.6197  | 0.4261         | 37.8058         | <.0001     |
| IC                                       | 1  | 0.1880   | 0.0342         | 30.1969         | <.0001     |

**NOTE:** The model's **intercept** (-1.6866) and **regression coefficients** (0.1122) are needed for computing the cutoff point.

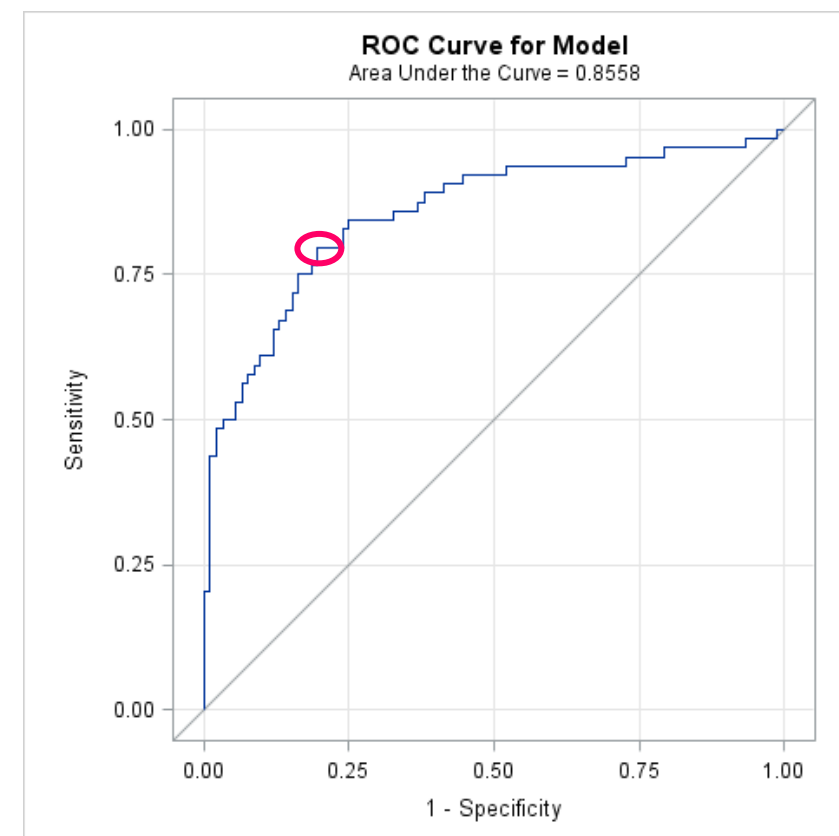
# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## Determine an optimal PD-L1 cutoff point for BOR

- Logistic regression equation:  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_n x_n$
- $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \text{intercept} + \text{slope}(X) = -2.6197 + 0.1880 * \text{cutoff}$

| Obs | Probability Level | No. of Correctly Predicted Events | No. of Correctly Predicted Nonevents | No. of Nonevents Predicted as Events | No. of Events Predicted as Nonevents | Sensitivity | 1 - Specificity |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1   | 0.93930           | 1                                 | 92                                   | 0                                    | 63                                   | 0.015625    | 0.000000        |
| 2   | 0.93369           | 1                                 | 91                                   | 1                                    | 63                                   | 0.015625    | 0.010870        |
| 3   | 0.87087           | 2                                 | 91                                   | 1                                    | 62                                   | 0.031250    | 0.010870        |
| 4   | 0.85808           | 3                                 | 91                                   | 1                                    | 61                                   | 0.046875    | 0.010870        |
| 5   | 0.84359           | 4                                 | 91                                   | 1                                    | 60                                   | 0.062500    | 0.010870        |

**Note:** Partial list output of the *rocdata* dataset



# Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

## Determine an optimal cutoff point for BOR

- Logistic regression equation:  $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_n x_n$
- logit = **intercept** + **slope**(X) = **-2.6197** + **0.1880**\***cutoff**

```
data rocdata2(keep=cutoff prob Sensitivity Specificity
Youden);
set rocdata;
  logit=log(_prob_/(1-_prob_));
  cutoff=(logit+2.6197)/0.1880;

  prob=_prob_;
  Sensitivity = _SENSIT_;
  Specificity = 1-_1MSPEC_;
  Youden= _SENSIT_+ (1-_1MSPEC_)-1;
run;
```

**Note.** The cutoff variable is formed by re-arranging logistic regression model to solve for X. The model is: logit = intercept + slope(x).

| Obs | cutoff | prob    | Sensitivity | Specificity | Youden |
|-----|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| 1   | 10.38  | 0.37240 | 0.797       | 0.804       | 0.601  |
| 2   | 7.62   | 0.30321 | 0.844       | 0.750       | 0.594  |
| 3   | 9.18   | 0.34148 | 0.797       | 0.793       | 0.590  |
| 4   | 7.98   | 0.31185 | 0.828       | 0.761       | 0.589  |
| 5   | 12.54  | 0.43045 | 0.750       | 0.837       | 0.587  |

**Note.** Partial output of cutoff value and Youden Index by sorting the dataset in **descending** Youden. A large Youden may be one criteria for deciding an appropriate cutoff score.

# Outline

- Background
- Examples:
  - Accuracy assessment
  - Compare ROC curves
  - Cut-off point selection
- **Summary**
  - ***Accuracy assessment***
  - ***ROC curve comparison***
  - ***Cut-off point selection***

**BACK UP SLIDES**