

ROC CURVE ANALYSIS USING SAS

Zheng Yao

Sr. Statistical Programmer

The Merck logo is located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It consists of the word "MERCK" in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a yellow-to-orange gradient and have a dark red outline. The background of the slide is a vibrant yellow with abstract, overlapping shapes in purple and blue on the left side. A stylized, multi-colored wave graphic is visible in the bottom left corner.

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	TP (a)	FP (b)
Negative	FN (c)	TN (d)

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

Cut Point Outcome	Golden Standard Outcome	
	Positive	Negative
Positive	60	20
Negative	40	80
Total	100	100

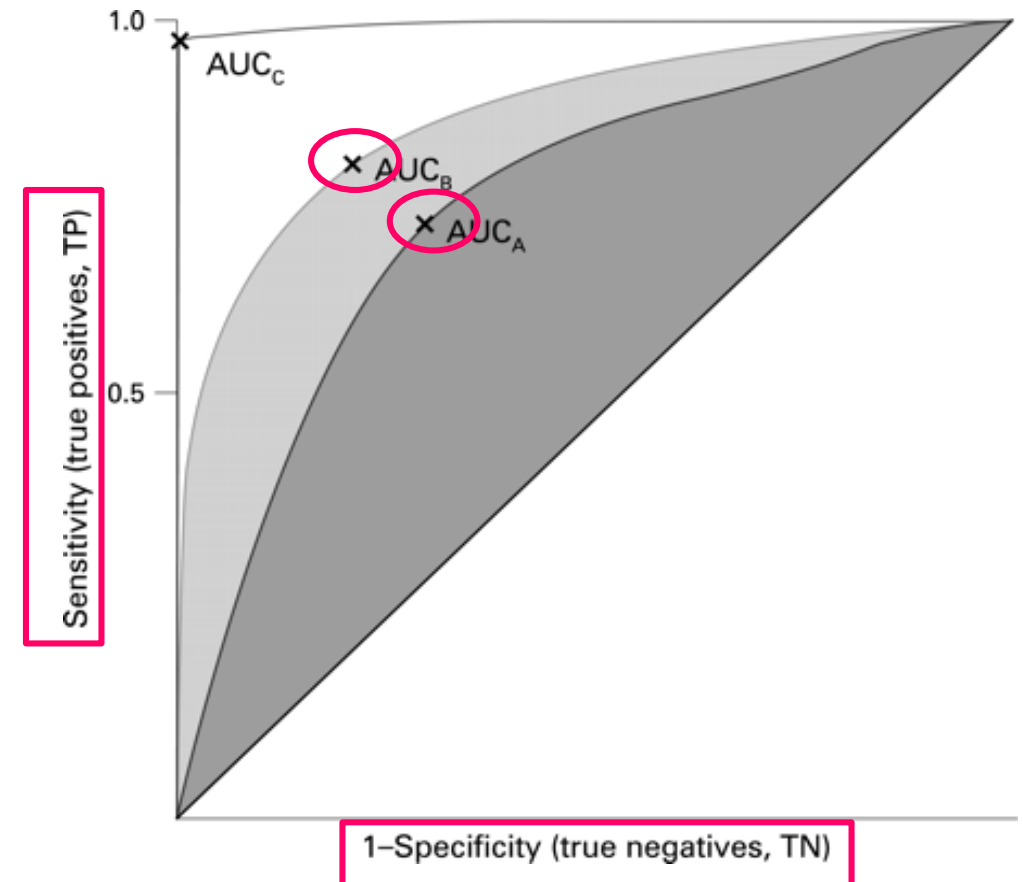
- **Sensitivity:** the proportion of positive observations that are measured as positive, i.e. true positive rate (TPR),

$$\text{Sensitivity} = a / (a + c)$$
- **Specificity:** the proportion of negative observations that are measured as negative, i.e. true negative (TNR),

$$\text{Specificity} = d / (b + d);$$
- **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	TP (a)	FP (b)	
Negative	FN (c)	TN (d)	

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 **ROCONTRAST** 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;  
  rocontrast 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: $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \dots + \beta_nx_n$

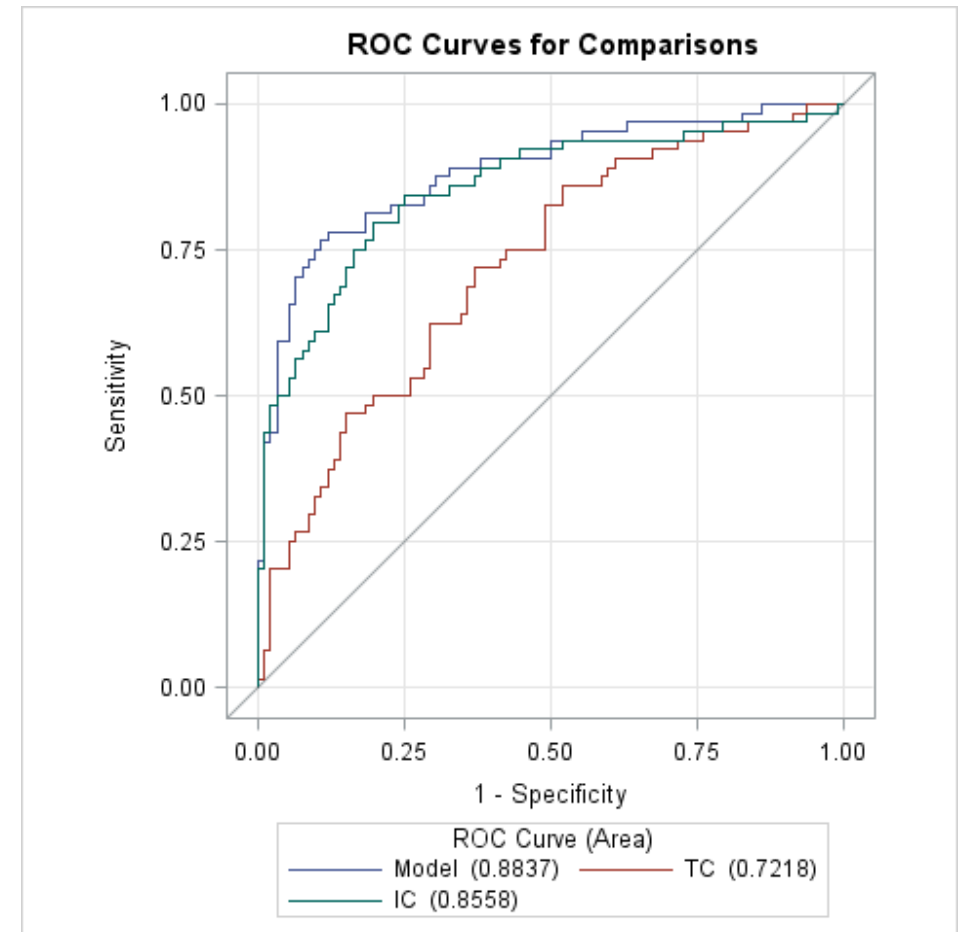
Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-3.9048	0.6434	36.8311	<.0001
TC	1	0.1104	0.0344	10.2640	0.0014
IC	1	0.1905	0.0364	27.3634	<.0001

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	



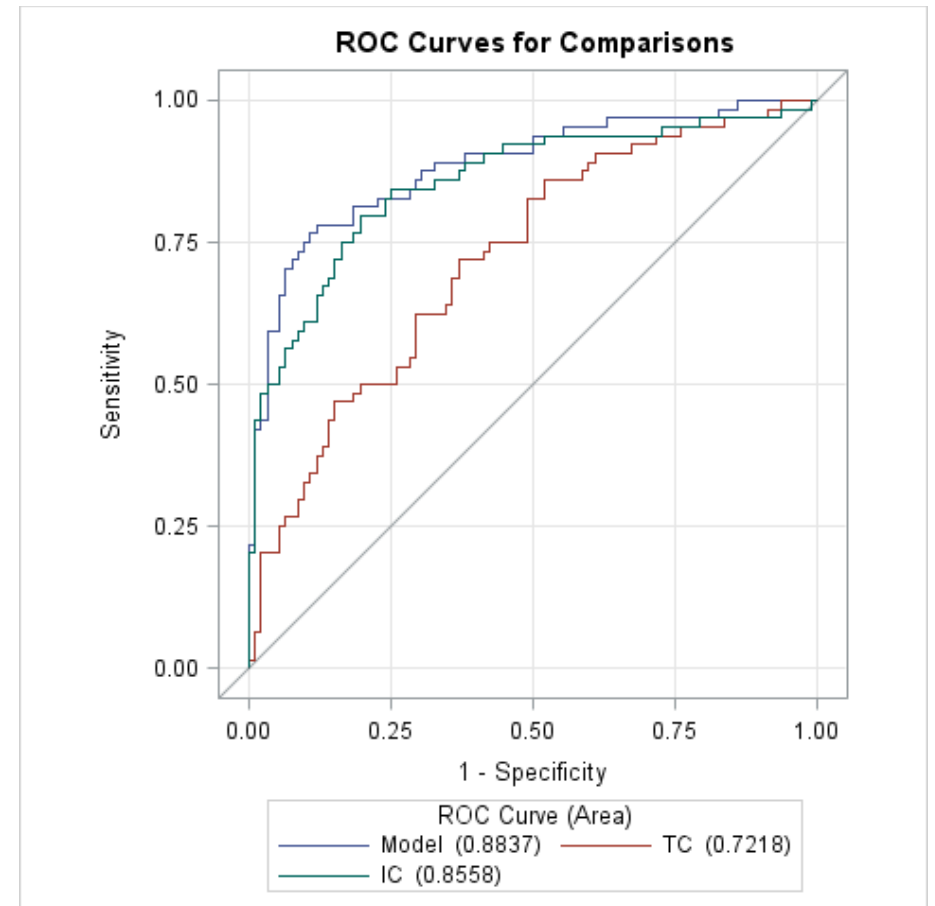
Compare ROC curves

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

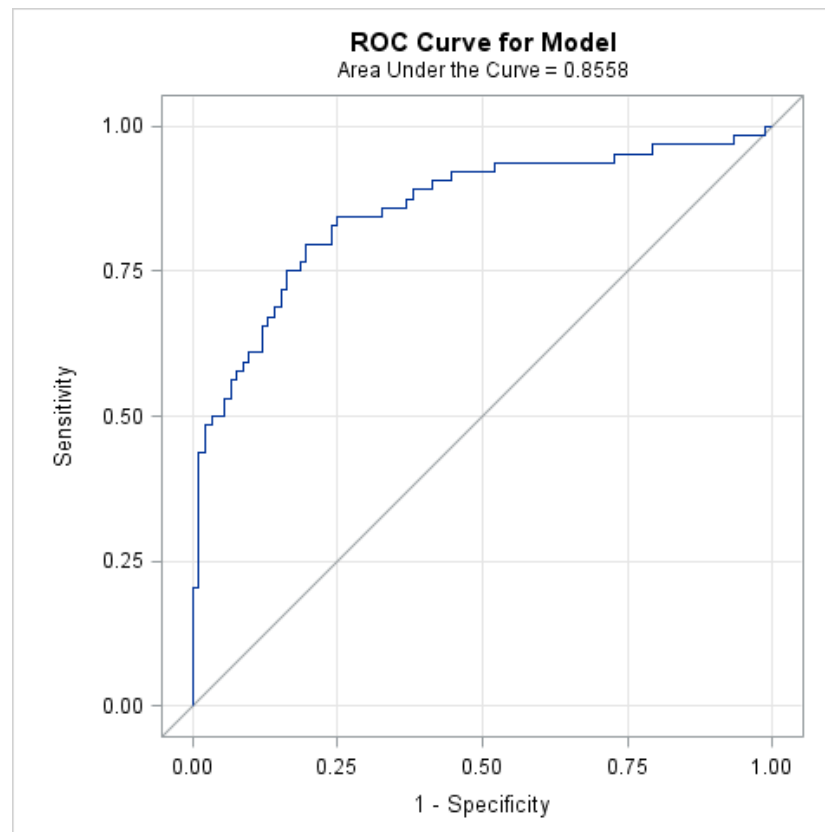
- The **OUTROC=** option creates a dataset containing sensitivity and specificity data which here is called **ROCDATA**.
- The **ROC** statement produces a ROC
- the **ROCONTRAST** statement produces a significance test for the ROC curve.
- The **PREDICTED=** option creates a dataset containing *estimated 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.

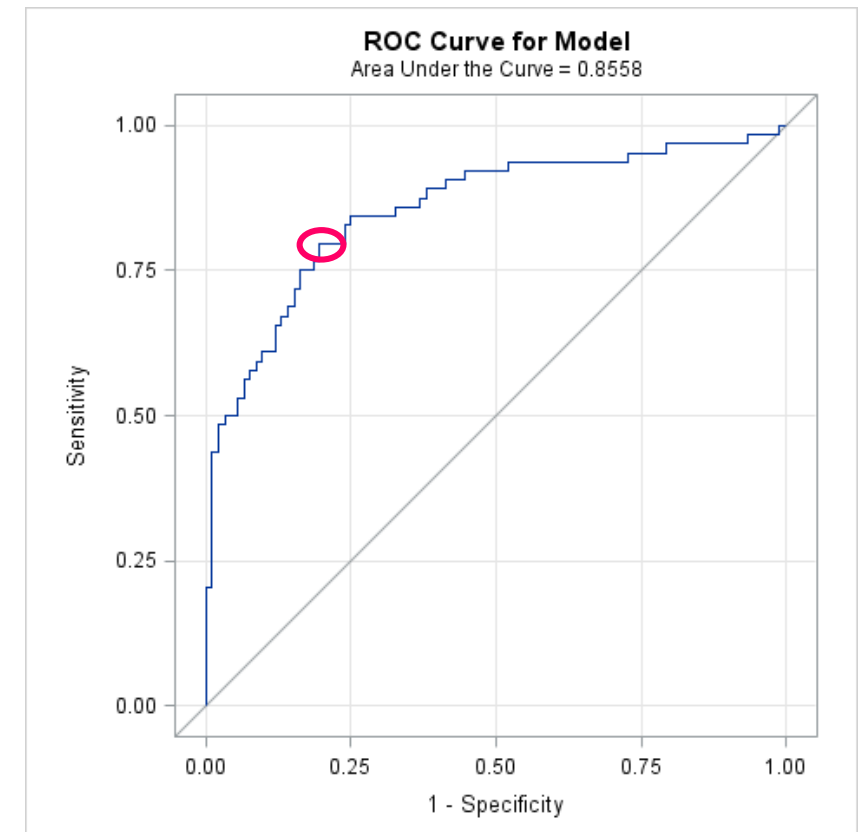
Select a rational cut-off point in ROC curve analysis

Determine an optimal PD-L1 cutoff point for BOR

- Logistic regression equation: $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \dots + \beta_nx_n$
- $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \text{intercept} + \text{slope}(X) = -2.6197 + 0.1880 * \text{cutoff}$

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: $\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \dots + \beta_nx_n$
- $\text{logit} = \text{intercept} + \text{slope}(X) = -2.6197 + 0.1880 \cdot \text{cutoff}$

```
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: $\text{logit} = \text{intercept} + \text{slope}(x)$.

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