

Statistical Methods for Data Science

Mini Project 5

Consider the prostate cancer dataset available on eLearning. It consists of data on 97 men with advanced prostate cancer. Following is a description of the variables:

| header | name | description |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|
| subject | ID | 1 to 97 |
| psa | PSA level | Serum prostate-specific antigen level (mg/ml) |
| cancervol | Cancer Volume | Estimate of prostate cancer volume (cc) |
| weight | Weight | prostate weight (gm) |
| age | Age | Age of patient (years) |
| benpros | Benign prostatic hyperplasia | Amount of benign prostatic hyperplasia (cm ²) |
| vesinv | Seminal vesicle invasion | Presence (1) or absence (0) of seminal vesicle invasion |
| capspen | Capsular penetration | Degree of capsular penetration (cm) |
| gleason | Gleason score | Pathologically determined grade of disease (6, 7 or 8) |

Build a “reasonably good” linear model for these data by taking PSA level as the response variable. Carefully justify all the choices you make in building the model. Be sure to verify the model assumptions and also to distinguish between quantitative and qualitative variables. Use the final model to predict the PSA level for a patient whose predictors are at the sample means of the variables.

Instructions:

- Due date: Thursday, April 20.
- Total points = 25.
- Submit a typed report.
- You can work on the project either individually or in a group of no more than two students. In case of the latter, submit only one report for the group, and include a description of the contribution of each member.
- Do a good job.
- You must use the following template for your report:

Mini Project #

Name

Names of group members (if applicable)

Contribution of each group member

Section 1. Answers to the specific questions asked.

Section 2: R code. Your code must be annotated. No points may be given if a brief look at the code does not tell us what it is doing.