

MRR Project

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Introduction

This project is about the diagnosis of breast cancer. Thanks to the dataset “Breast Cancer Wisconsin (Diagnostic) Data Set” from the computer sciences department at the University of Wisconsin, we will try to predict if a tumor is benign or malignant.

Imports

```
library("ggplot2")
library("MASS")
library("reshape2")
library("corrplot")
library("caret")
data <- read.csv('data.csv', header = TRUE)
```

Data exploration

Let's take a look at all the missing values of the dataset, if there's any, and clean the dataset:

```
##           diagnosis           radius_mean           texture_mean
##              0              0              0
##    perimeter_mean           area_mean           smoothness_mean
##              0              0              0
##    compactness_mean           concavity_mean           concave.points_mean
##              0              0              0
##    symmetry_mean fractal_dimension_mean           radius_se
##              0              0              0
##    texture_se           perimeter_se           area_se
##              0              0              0
##    smoothness_se           compactness_se           concavity_se
##              0              0              0
##    concave.points_se           symmetry_se           fractal_dimension_se
##              0              0              0
##    radius_worst           texture_worst           perimeter_worst
##              0              0              0
##    area_worst           smoothness_worst           compactness_worst
##              0              0              0
##    concavity_worst           concave.points_worst           symmetry_worst
```

```
##                                0                                0
## fractal_dimension_worst
##                                0
```

There's no missing values in this dataset. So now, we have 569 observations and 30 covariables to predict 1 target variable, which is the diagnosis.

Now, let's explain the covariables:

There are ten real-valued features computed for each cell nucleus:

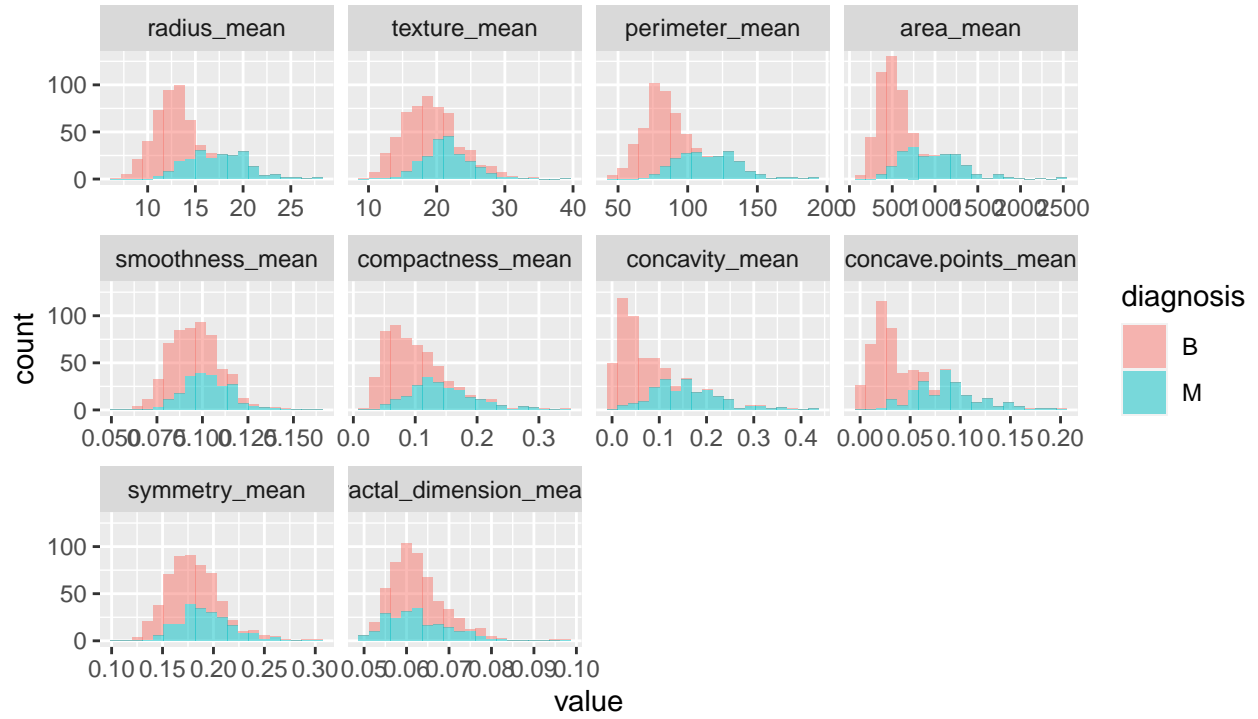
- a) radius (mean of distances from center to points on the perimeter)
- b) texture (standard deviation of gray-scale values)
- c) perimeter
- d) area
- e) smoothness (local variation in radius lengths)
- f) compactness ($\text{perimeter}^2 / \text{area} - 1.0$)
- g) concavity (severity of concave portions of the contour)
- h) concave points (number of concave portions of the contour)
- i) symmetry
- j) fractal dimension ("coastline approximation" - 1)

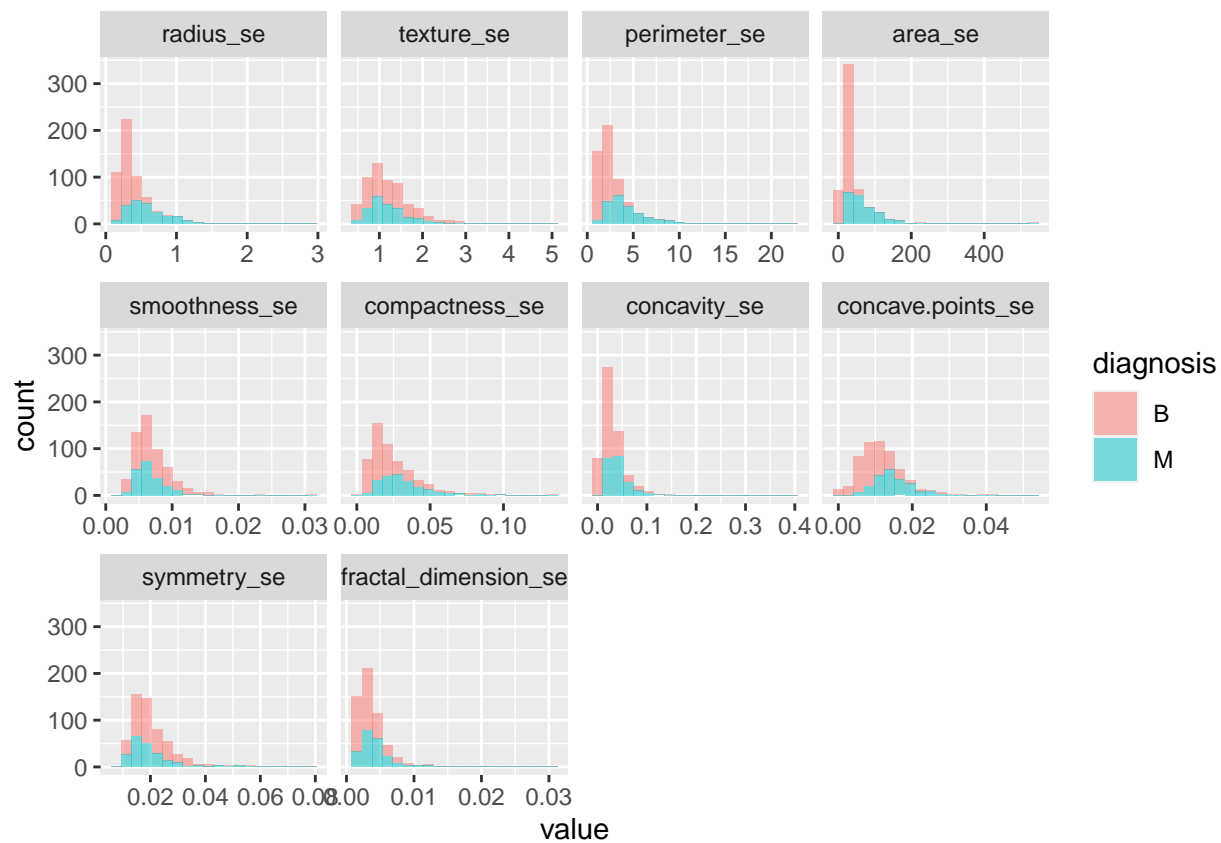
Then, the mean, the standard error and the "worst" or largest (mean of the three largest values) of these features were computed for each image, resulting in 30 features. For instance, field 3 is Mean Radius, field 13 is Radius SE, field 23 is Worst Radius.

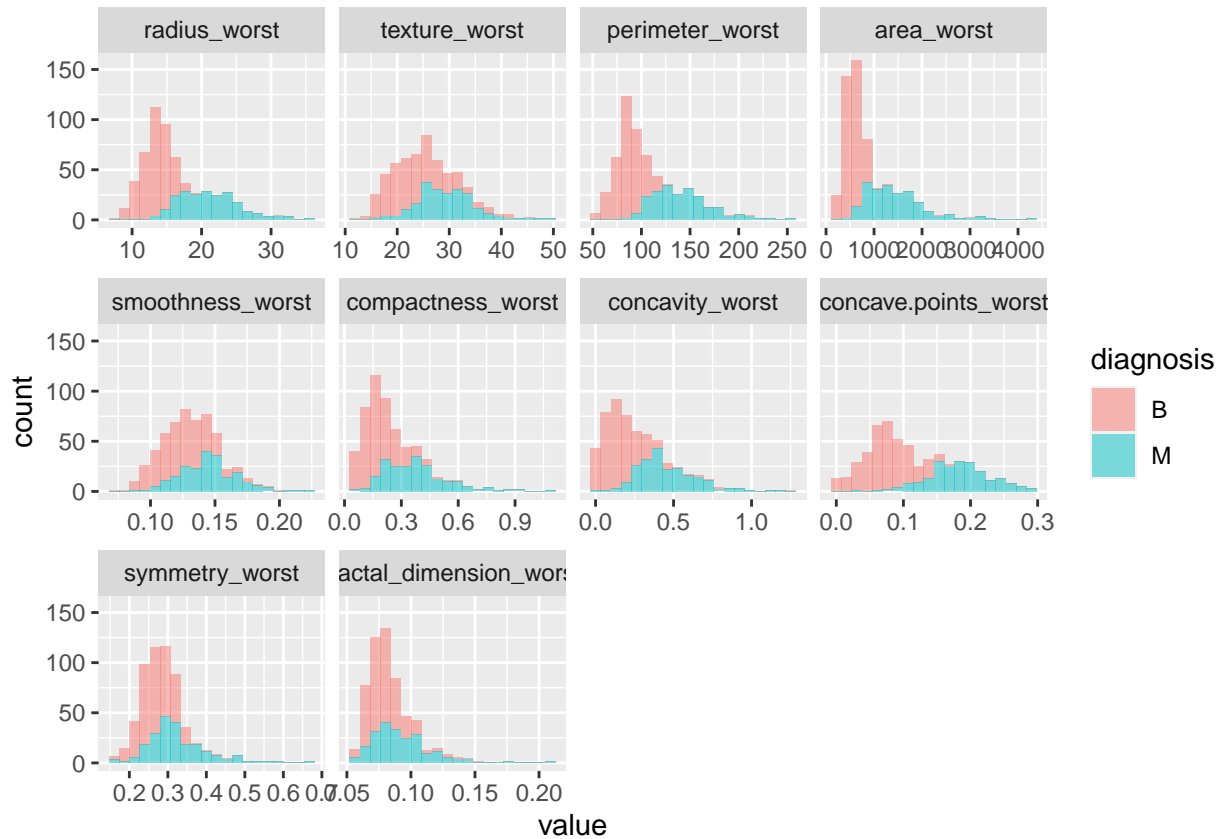
Description of the dataset

Data visualization

Let's now visualize the data to see if there's any outliers or if the data is normally distributed.

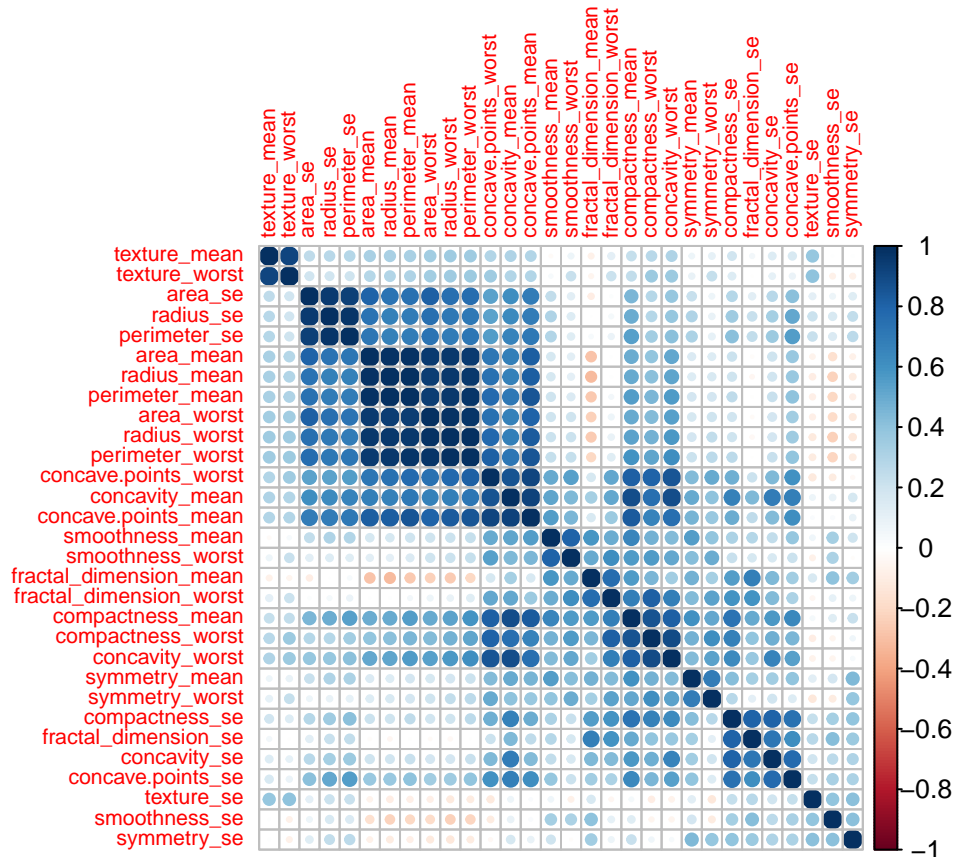






It looks like most of the features are normally distributed, and there seems to be no outliers. However, there's no clear separation between benign and malignant for most of the features except “concave.points_worst”, “perimeter_worst”, “radius_worst” and “concave.points_mean”. So a visualization of the values of these features is not enough.

Let's now look at the correlation plot :



We can see that there's a strong correlation between some features, which can be a problem for the model.

We can now try 3 different approaches, and we will apply the same methods on each of them in the future:

- No covariables deletion
- Covariables deletion by highest correlation
- Covariables deletion by PCA

No covariables deletion

We still use the same dataset.

Covariables deletion by highest correlation

If two covariables are highly correlated, (for instance, if the correlation is higher than 0.8), we will delete the one that has the highest mean of correlations with the others. We can use the function "findCorrelation" from the package "caret" to provide us the said covariables that we will delete.

```
## Compare row 7 and column 8 with corr 0.921
## Means: 0.571 vs 0.389 so flagging column 7
## Compare row 8 and column 6 with corr 0.831
## Means: 0.542 vs 0.377 so flagging column 8
## Compare row 6 and column 28 with corr 0.816
## Means: 0.524 vs 0.365 so flagging column 6
## Compare row 28 and column 27 with corr 0.855
```

```

## Means: 0.507 vs 0.354 so flagging column 28
## Compare row 27 and column 26 with corr 0.892
## Means: 0.457 vs 0.343 so flagging column 27
## Compare row 23 and column 21 with corr 0.994
## Means: 0.456 vs 0.333 so flagging column 23
## Compare row 21 and column 3 with corr 0.969
## Means: 0.422 vs 0.324 so flagging column 21
## Compare row 3 and column 24 with corr 0.942
## Means: 0.384 vs 0.316 so flagging column 3
## Compare row 26 and column 30 with corr 0.81
## Means: 0.4 vs 0.313 so flagging column 26
## Compare row 24 and column 1 with corr 0.941
## Means: 0.356 vs 0.302 so flagging column 24
## Compare row 1 and column 4 with corr 0.987
## Means: 0.308 vs 0.298 so flagging column 1
## Compare row 4 and column 14 with corr 0.8
## Means: 0.27 vs 0.297 so flagging column 14
## Compare row 13 and column 11 with corr 0.973
## Means: 0.316 vs 0.297 so flagging column 13
## Compare row 16 and column 17 with corr 0.801
## Means: 0.413 vs 0.291 so flagging column 16
## Compare row 5 and column 25 with corr 0.805
## Means: 0.326 vs 0.278 so flagging column 5
## Compare row 22 and column 2 with corr 0.912
## Means: 0.212 vs 0.278 so flagging column 2
## All correlations <= 0.8

## [1] "compactness_mean"      "concavity_mean"        "smoothness_mean"
## [4] "concavity_worst"       "compactness_worst"     "texture_worst"
## [7] "fractal_dimension_se"  "texture_mean"          "smoothness_worst"
## [10] "perimeter_worst"       "diagnosis"             "texture_se"
## [13] "smoothness_se"        "perimeter_se"          "area_mean"
## [16] "radius_mean"

```

Then, we only keep the covariables that are not in the list “corr_var”.

```

## [1] "diagnosis"              "perimeter_mean"
## [3] "concave.points_mean"    "symmetry_mean"
## [5] "fractal_dimension_mean" "radius_se"
## [7] "area_se"               "compactness_se"
## [9] "concavity_se"          "concave.points_se"
## [11] "symmetry_se"           "radius_worst"
## [13] "area_worst"            "concave.points_worst"
## [15] "symmetry_worst"        "fractal_dimension_worst"

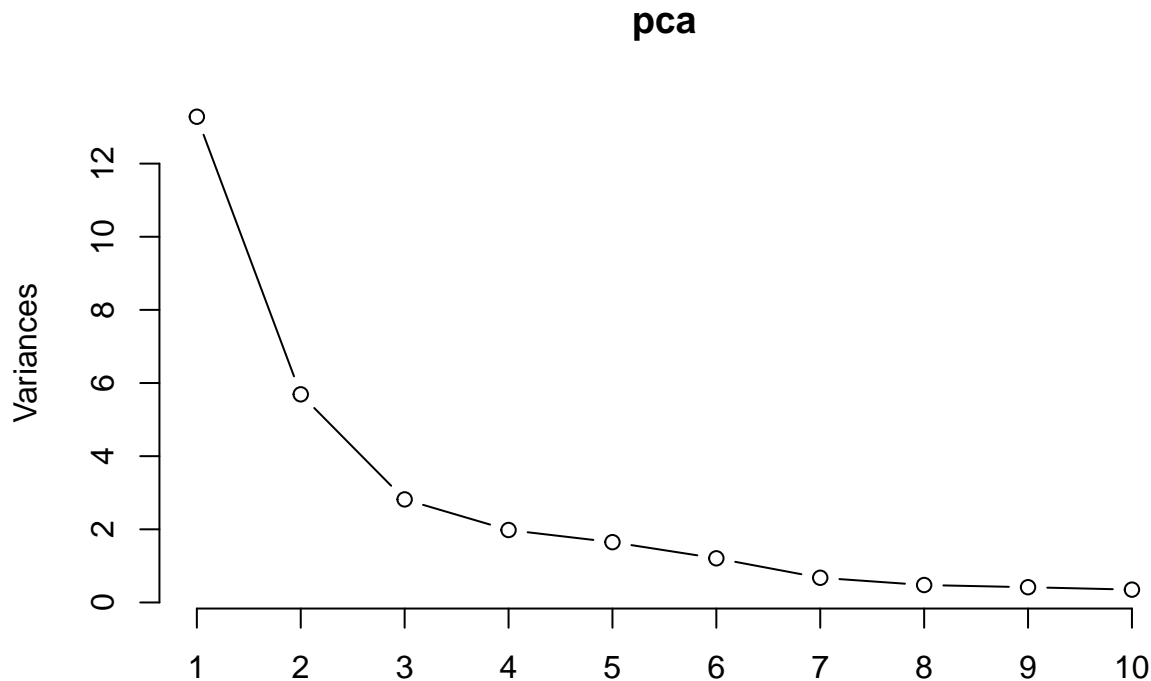
```

We now have a new dataset with less covariables, only 16. However, this approach is not perfect, because we only scan the correlation between two covariables once: there could still be high correlations between variables if 3 or more covariables were correlated together, and deleting more covariables could reduce too much information.

Covariables deletion by PCA

We will now use the PCA method to reduce the number of covariables. We will use the function “prcomp” from the package “stats” to do so. Because each covariable has a different scale, we

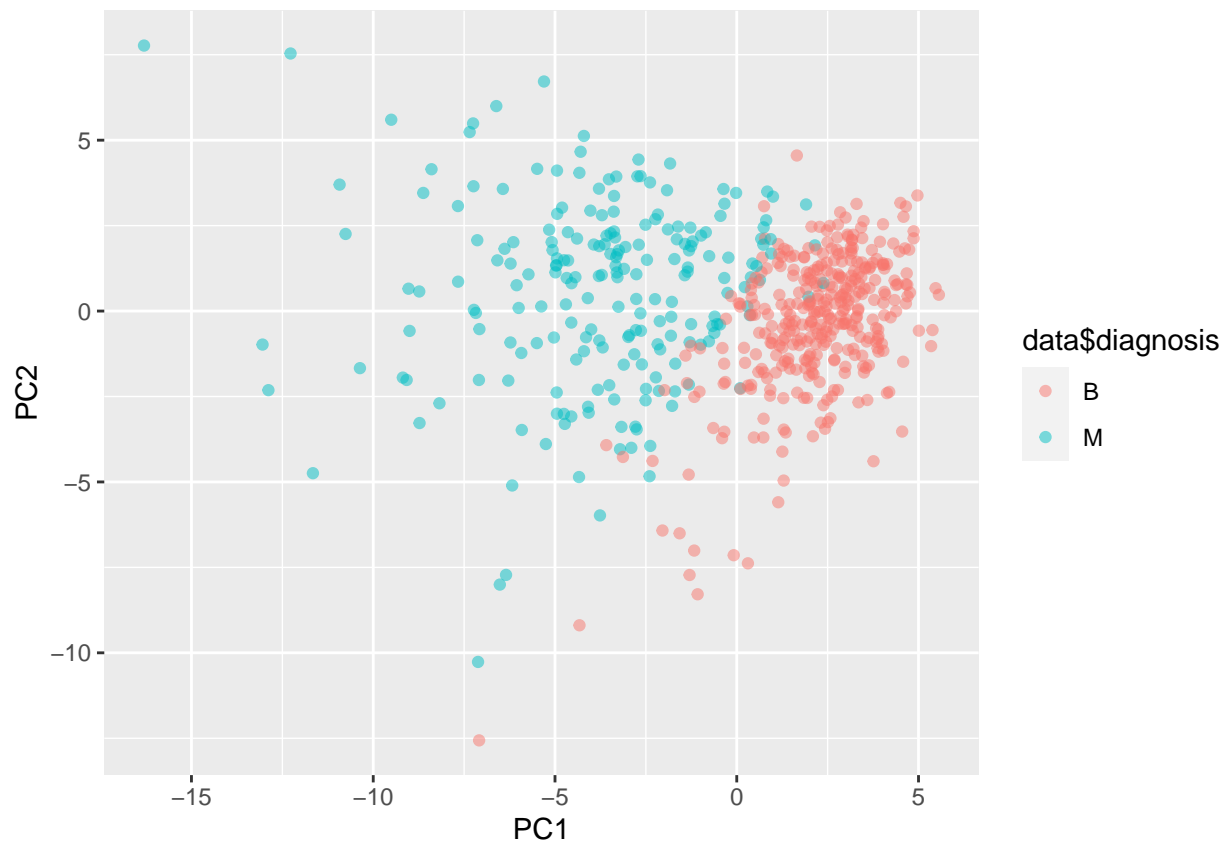
will use the parameters “center = TRUE” and “scale. = TRUE” to standardize the covariables.



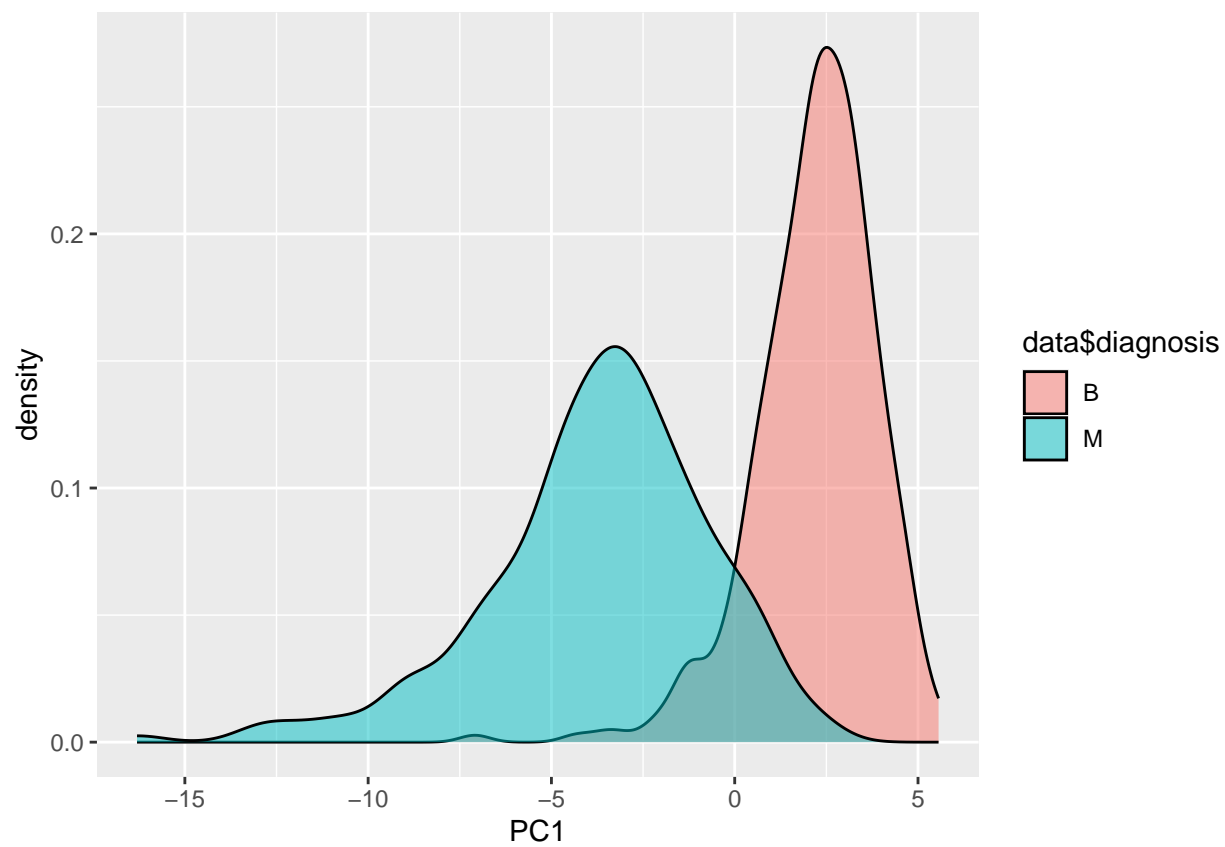
```
## Importance of components:
##          PC1      PC2      PC3      PC4      PC5      PC6      PC7
## Standard deviation  3.6444 2.3857 1.67867 1.40735 1.28403 1.09880 0.82172
## Proportion of Variance 0.4427 0.1897 0.09393 0.06602 0.05496 0.04025 0.02251
## Cumulative Proportion 0.4427 0.6324 0.72636 0.79239 0.84734 0.88759 0.91010
##          PC8      PC9      PC10     PC11     PC12     PC13     PC14
## Standard deviation  0.69037 0.6457 0.59219 0.5421 0.51104 0.49128 0.39624
## Proportion of Variance 0.01589 0.0139 0.01169 0.0098 0.00871 0.00805 0.00523
## Cumulative Proportion 0.92598 0.9399 0.95157 0.9614 0.97007 0.97812 0.98335
##          PC15     PC16     PC17     PC18     PC19     PC20     PC21
## Standard deviation  0.30681 0.28260 0.24372 0.22939 0.22244 0.17652 0.1731
## Proportion of Variance 0.00314 0.00266 0.00198 0.00175 0.00165 0.00104 0.0010
## Cumulative Proportion 0.98649 0.98915 0.99113 0.99288 0.99453 0.99557 0.9966
##          PC22     PC23     PC24     PC25     PC26     PC27     PC28
## Standard deviation  0.16565 0.15602 0.1344 0.12442 0.09043 0.08307 0.03987
## Proportion of Variance 0.00091 0.00081 0.0006 0.00052 0.00027 0.00023 0.00005
## Cumulative Proportion 0.99749 0.99830 0.9989 0.99942 0.99969 0.99992 0.99997
##          PC29     PC30
## Standard deviation  0.02736 0.01153
## Proportion of Variance 0.00002 0.00000
## Cumulative Proportion 1.00000 1.00000
```

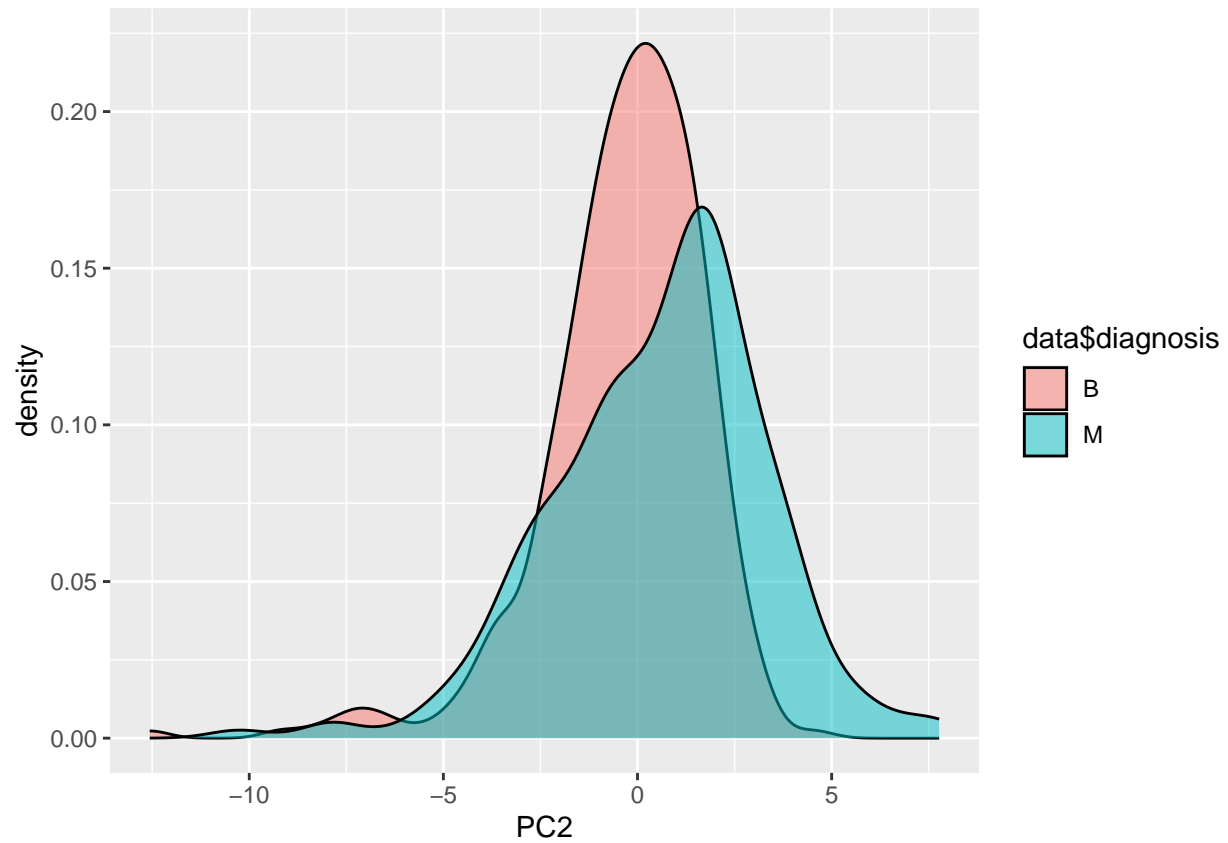
Let’s arbitrarily choose to keep enough covariables to explain at least 99% of the variance. According to the summary, we need to keep 17 covariables to do so (99.11% of the variance explained).

Though, 17 covariables means 17 dimensions, which is too much to visualize. So we can also choose to keep only 2 covariables, which will allow us to visualize the data. Together, they explain 63.24% of the variance.



Visually, we can see that there's a clear separation between benign and malignant tumors, but only thanks to the first principal component. Let's draw their respective distributions:





With the first PC1, we can see that the means of the distributions are far enough from each other to be able to separate them. However, with the second PC2, the means are too close to each other, so we can't separate them with this principal component. And given that the following principal components explain even less variance, we can't use them to separate the distributions either.