

MAS3907 - Big Data Analytics

Project - Predicting the natural logarithm of the Per Capita crime rate

Stephen Cole, Joseph Crone, Harry Johnston, Calum Doran

Academic year 2019/20

Contents

	1	1 Introduction		
	2	Exploratory Data Analysis		
		2.1	Relationship between response and predictor variables	3
		2.2	The predictor variables	3
	3	Least S	Squares Model	3
		3.1	Cross Validation	4
		3.2	Out-of-Sample Validation	4
	4	Subset	Selection	4
		4.1	Best Subset Selection	4
	5	Regula	arisation methods	6
		5.1	Ridge Regression	6
		5.2	The LASSO	7
	6	Dimen	sion reduction methods	8
		6.1	Principal Component Regression (PCR)	8
		6.2	Partial Least Squares	10
	7	Final N	Model	12
A	Vari	ables		13
В	Additional 1			14
C	Contribution to Projects			21

1 Introduction

In this report we will be analysing the **Boston** data-set, which concerns the value of housing in the Boston Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area in 1970, to build a model which predicts the natural logarithm of the per capita crime rate. However, we shall only be considering a random sample of size 400 from the full data-set, generated with seed 7045607 in R for fitting the model. The remaining portion of the data set will be used as test data for out-of-sample validation, to assess how well the given model is at predicting new values. A description of each variable can be found in Appendix A.

2 Exploratory Data Analysis

To ensure "fairness" in the variables we first need to put them on a common scale because some variables have readings over a greater range than others. This has been done by standardising them (taking away the overall mean and dividing by the standard deviation for each variable - shown below) to give each variable a mean of 0 and variance 1 in the data.

From now on in this report all the variables have been transformed in this manner. Hence, for prediction you would need to "un-standardise" them to get them on their original scale.

Figure 1: Means of our variables for our non-scaled Boston data

```
#Standard Deviations of unscaled data sqrt(sv)
| 1crim | zn | indus | chas | nox | rm | age | disf | rad | tax | ptratio | black | lstat | medv |
| 2.1615286 | 23.9698821 | 6.9365817 | 0.2512001 | 0.1163354 | 0.7047096 | 28.2952858 | 0.9217471 | 8.6146663 | 167.3228400 | 2.1977151 | 88.7594105 | 7.2394017 | 9.4413855
```

Figure 2: Standard Deviations of our non-scaled variables for our Boston data

Also, we need to consider the *dis* and *chas* variables as it is a ordered categorical variable with 4 and 2 levels respectively (numbered 1 to 4 and 0 to 1). They can either be treated as factors (with indicator variables) or just as a normal quantitative variable. We have decided on the latter as factors are not able to be scaled on R and we have to standardise our explanatory variables in order to perform regression. Therefore we treat our ordered categorical variables *disf* and *chas* as quantitative values as if they were continuous and scale them as above.

Before we start to build a model using this data we will need to look into the variables, as well as the relationship between them, in more depth.

```
1crim
                                                                                                                    age
-0.63466949
0.55833025
                                               0.70681504
-0.53107923
                                                                0.01846325
-0.03493407
                                                                                  0.79162498
-0.52172524
0.75452404
                                                                                                                                                       0.85707860
-0.30731648
            1.00000000
-0.50953039
                             -0.50953039
                                                                                                                                     -0.66852581
0.59437331
1crim
                                                                                                   -0.29889959
                              1.00000000
                                                                                                    0.31003792
indus
             0.70681504
                             -0.53107923
                                               1.00000000
                                                                 0.03230054
                                                                                                   -0.38992554
                                                                                                                    -0.63615909
                                                                                                                                     -0.71918487
                                                                                                                                                        0.56975644
            0.70081304
0.01846325
0.79162498
-0.29889959
                                 . 03493407
. 52172524
                                               0.03230054
0.75452404
-0.38992554
                                                                                  0.06087249
1.00000000
                                                                                                    0.09729327
-0.27580217
1.00000000
                                                                                                                    -0.08451994
-0.73409313
                                                                                                                                     -0.71918487
-0.06477838
-0.78563426
0.20882757
                                                                 1.00000000
                                                                                                                                                        0.02135836
nox
                              0.31003792
                                                                 0.09729327
                                                                                 -0.27580217
-0.73409313
                                                                                                                     0.23078350
rm
                                                                                                                                                        0.21149049
age
disf
            -0.63466949
                              0.55833025
                                               -0.63615909
                                                                -0.08451994
                                                                                                      .23078350
                                                                                                                     1.00000000
0.74433406
                                                                                                                                       0.74433406
                                                                                                                                                       -0.43642650
            -0.66852581
                              0.59437331
                                               -0.71918487
                                                                -0.06477838
                                                                                  -0.78563426
                                                                                                    0.20882757
                                                                                                                                       1.00000000
                                                                                                                                                       -0.46604229
rad
tax
                                                                                                                     0.43642650
             0.85707860
                              -0.30731648
                                               0.56975644
                                                                -0.02135836
                                                                                  0.62133699
                                                                                                    0.21149049
                                                                                                                                      -0.46604229
                                                                                                                                                        1.00000000
            0.81972051
0.39456912
-0.47839662
                              -0.31627996
-0.38626433
0.17598887
                                                                -0.05676726
-0.13227714
0.04328632
                                                                                  0.67879314
0.22769632
-0.40142594
                                                                                                                                                       0.90083733
0.45894831
-0.43314736
                                                                                                                     -0.49729277
-0.24532660
0.26753893
ptratio
black
                                                                                                    0.13886056
                                               -0.35421214
                                                                                                                                       0.32189685
1stat
             0.61265440
                              -0.41293834
                                               0.60742601
                                                                -0.03177035
                                                                                  0.58118660
                                                                                                    0.61693227
                                                                                                                     -0.60857851
                                                                                                                                      -0.51176570
                                                                                                                                                        0.49307669
medv
            -0.45774487
                              0.36971350
                                              -0.49948099
                                                                 0.15450214
                                                                                 -0.43101012
                                                                                                    0.71291311
                                                                                                                     0.38013301
                                                                                                                                      0.29716664
                                                                                                                                                       -0.39480888
             tax
0.81972051
                              ptratio
0.3945691
                                             black
-0.47839662
                                                                1stat
0.61265440
1crim
                                                                0.41293834
            -0.31627996
                              -0.3862643
                                              0.17598887
                                                                                0.3697135
-0.4994810
indus
             0.71348239
                              0.4146301
                                             -0.35421214
                                                                0.60742601
chas
            -0.05676726
                             -0.1322771
                                              0.04328632
                                                               -0.03177035
                                                                                 0.1545021
             0.67879314
                              0.2276963
                                              -0.40142594
                                                                0.58118660
                                                                                 0.4310101
            -0.29572894
-0.49729277
                             -0.4047944
-0.2453266
-0.2374221
                                                . 13886056
. 26753893
age
disf
            -0.53551684
                                              0.32189685
                                                               -0.51176570
                                                                                 0.2971666
rad
             0.90083733
                              0.4589483
                                              -0.43314736
                                                                0.49307669
                                                                                 0.3948089
tax
             1.00000000
                              0.4775422
                                             -0.43234634
                                                                0.55182562
                                                                                -0.4866820
                                             -0.43234034
-0.15872974
1.000000000
  tratio
             0.47754220
                              1.0000000
                                                               0.40084200
lstat
                                             -0.36033368 1.00000000
0.33897219 -0.74179084
medv
            -0.48668201 -0.5356023
```

Figure 3: Correlation matrix of variables of our Boston data

2.1 Relationship between response and predictor variables

From looking at the results above, we can generally deduce that the response variable, the logarithm of the crime rate, is positively correlated with indus, nox, rad, tax and lstat. It also appears to be negatively correlated with age, dis, black and medv.

You could also see these relationships using by plotting the respective variables (this can also be used to see the linearity of the relationship). These plots are shown in the additional information in Appendix B.

2.2 The predictor variables

It is also important that we look at any potential strong correlation between the predictor variables used in the initial model as this could lead to problems with multi-co linearity.

Using the correlation matrix above, most of these predictor variables are reasonably uncorrelated however there is several with a value of greater than 0.7 in modulus. This includes tax and rad which has a very high value (over 0.9) but when you look at the scatter plots this appears to be more due to a high extreme value. Therefore, for now, we will proceed to build a model based on these variables and the data.

3 Least Squares Model

We will begin by fitting the model via least squares using the lm function. We can then obtain a summary of the fitted model by passing the returned object to the summary function:

```
lm(formula = y \sim ., data = boston_data)
Residuals:
                1Q
                      Median
-1.55851 -0.55424 -0.02385 0.47902 2.52856
Coefficients:
< 2e-16 ***
                          0.0561771
0.0785974
0.0398165
             -0.2663419
                                       -4.741 2.99e-06 ***
indus
                                        0.830
                                                0.40731
              0.0652005
chas
                                                0.89433
              -0.0052923
                                       -0.133
                          0.0815975
0.0627794
              0.3800353
                                        4.657 4.41e-06
nox
rm
             -0.0645159
                                       -1.028
                                                0.30475
              -0.1437078
                          0.0697179
                                       -2.061
age
disf
             -0.1881279
                          0.0762045
                                       -2.469
                                                0.01399
                                       12.116
              1.2453262
                          0.1027847
                                                  2e-16
rad
              0.0007605
                           0.1154701
                                        0.007
                                                0.99475
                                       -2.248
-2.759
ptratio
              -0.1238606
                          0.0550888
                                                0.02512
                          0.0454454
              -0.1253831
                                                0.00607
b1ack
              0.2039757 0.0725053
0.0800056 0.0770380
              0.2039757
                                        2.813
1stat
                                                0.00516 **
                                        1.039
medv
                                                0.29968
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
Residual standard error: 0.7664 on 386 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.8784, Adjusted R-squared: 0.85
F-statistic: 214.4 on 13 and 386 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

Figure 4: Summary for least squares model

```
> mean(fit_raw$coefficients^2) #MSE of non-scaled variables of least squares
[1] 0.9966208
> mean(fit$residuals^2) #MSE of scaled variables for least squares
[1] 0.566863
```

Figure 5: The mean squared errors of both scaled and non-scaled variables for least squares estimate.

The table of p-values for the t-tests confirms our observations from the exploratory analysis; if we consider the explanatory variables one-at-a-time, there are several which would not be needed in a model containing all others. We see that we have a least squares model (remember the scaling in the variables if inputting values):

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.8294272 - 0.2663419 \times \textit{zn} + 0.0652005 \times \textit{indus} - 0.0052923 \times \textit{chas} \\ &+ 0.3800353 \times \textit{nox} - 0.0645159 \times \textit{rm} - 0.1437078 \times \textit{age} - 0.1881279 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 1.2453262 \times \textit{rad} + 0.0007605 \times \textit{tax} - 0.1238606 \times \textit{ptratio} - 0.1253831 \times \textit{black} \\ &+ 0.2039757 \times \textit{lstat} + 0.0800056 \times \textit{medv} \end{aligned}
```

3.1 Cross Validation

To get an assessment of the predictive performance of the least squares model, we can estimate the test error using cross validation. In this project we will consider 10-fold cross validation.

```
> cv_lsq_errors
[1] 0.4799388 0.6161233 0.6474747 0.4770355 0.5581088 0.9070497
[7] 0.5119569 0.6599446 0.6085279 0.7168907
```

Figure 6: Test error rates

This shows the test error rates based on each fold. We get the average MSE over the entire data set by averaging the 10 estimates from our 10 folds. To allow for the fact that the 10 estimates were computed using test sets (i.e. folds) of different sizes, we weight the estimates by the sizes of the folds.

```
> (lsq_final_mse = weighted.mean(cv_lsq_errors, w=fold_sizes))
[1] 0.6144559
```

Figure 7: Average MSE

3.2 Out-of-Sample Validation

As previously mentioned, we have extra data which we have assigned to be test data. Using a validation set approach, we can find the test error using data which was not used in the model building process. Using the predict function, the LSQ model and the test data, we can calculate the MSE for the test data.

```
> yhat_test = predict(fit, boston_data_test)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.6838521
> |
```

Figure 8: Output of the test error

4 Subset Selection

As it is clear that all the original predictor variables are not required in the final model, in order to make this as simple as possible, we will used several methods to try and discover the optimum number of variables needed and what these are.

4.1 Best Subset Selection

The first method of this type we will use is **Best Subset Selection**. This involves taking every possible combination of predictor variables and using the least squares method again to find the optimum model for each total number of variables, k (from which the "perfect" model can be chosen).

To choose this "perfect" model we can use a variety of methods including **adjusted** R^2 (aim to maximise), **Mallow's** C_p **statistic** and **Bayes Information Criterion**, **BIC** (both aiming to minimise).

The following is the output for the value of these methods for each number of variables, k. Then this is automatically used to pick the best number of variables (and hence the model) for each of the 3 methods. As you can see this gives different values for each.

Figure 9: Output for best subset selection using each method for accuracy

Below we can get a better view of how each value changes with the number of variables in order to choose the perfect number to have in the model. Therefore, we have decided to have 7 variables as that gives close to the optimum value for each of the 3 methods (R_{adj}^2 , C_p and BIC).

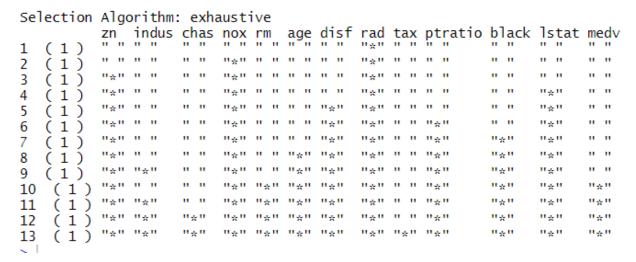


Figure 10: Which variables to use for each total number

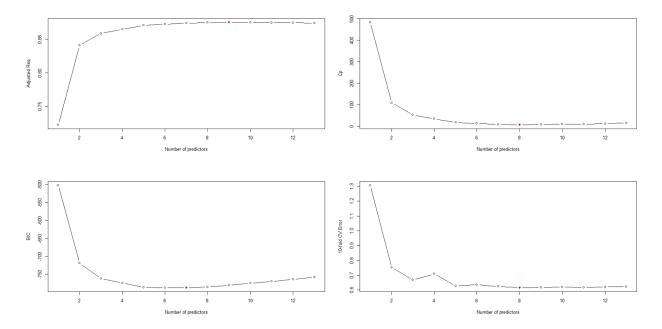


Figure 11: Graphs for each method, including cross-validation.

We find that we have the following fitted model using 7 explanatory variables:

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.8294272 - 0.2900970 \times \textit{zn} + 0.4369694 \times \textit{nox} - 0.2655847 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 1.2445161 \times \textit{rad} - 0.1248727 \times \textit{ptratio} - 0.1079895 \times \textit{black} + 0.2363643 \times \textit{lstat} \end{aligned}
```

4.1.1 Cross-validation

Again we will focus on 10-fold cross validation. We will need to repeat the procedure for all the models and then compare the average MSE for each of these models, and find the one minimising the test error.

```
> bss_mse
[1] 1.3061835 0.7519041 0.6683897 0.7082830 0.6280319 0.6345905 0.6244488 0.6155674 0.6174723 0.6191997 0.6180251 0.6210629 0.6216705
> (best_cv = which.min(bss_mse))
[1] 8
```

Figure 12: Output for cross validation

Here we see that model 8 has the lowest test error with an error of 0.6155674. This is slightly higher than the test error of the least squares model which was 0.6144559. These result are shown graphically above in figure 11.

4.1.2 Out-of-Sample Validation

```
> #Out of sample for Best subset
> yhat_test = predict(bss_tmp_fit, boston_data_test)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.6977663
> |
```

Figure 13: Performing out-of-sample validation using the validation set approach.

5 Regularisation methods

This method works by smoothing the least squares function $L(\underline{\beta})$ to make sure that it has a unique minimum. This results in shrinking the estimates for the regression coefficients towards zero. We shall consider two regularisation methods - **ridge regression** and the **LASSO**.

We only want to shrink the coefficients of the explanatory variables, excluding the intercept, which is a measure of the mean response. Shrinkage methods lead to non-trivial relationships between the scale of the regression coefficients and the explanatory variables.

5.1 Ridge Regression

The ridge regression estimator $\underline{\hat{\beta}_1^r}$ is not an unbiased estimator for $\underline{\beta}_1$ when $\lambda>0$. However, it can be used regardless of the relative sizes of n and p. For $\lambda>0$, ridge regression will give a unique solution.

Ridge regression produces a different estimate $\underline{\hat{\beta}_1^r}$ for every value of λ , which we regard as the tuning parameter and select a good value. We use cross validation, evaluate the error over a grid of values for $\hat{\lambda}$ and choose the value which minimises the error. This process can be shown in Appendix B - Figure B.4

For our values of our tuning parameter, we shall choose a grid that ranges from $\hat{\lambda}=10^5$ (lots of shrinkage) to $\hat{\lambda}=10^{-3}$ (very little shrinkage). From the program list we see that we obtain the following coefficient with the corresponding tuning parameter:

```
#Some examples of coefficients for different levels of shrinkage

betal_hat[,1] #Lots of shrinkage
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf rad tax ptratio black lstat
.294272e-01 - 2.465697e-05 3.374267e-05 6.501369e-07 3.683696e-05 - 1.409403e-05 - 3.09616le-05 - 3.218198e-05 3.958314e-05 3.804513e-05 1.745400e-05 - 2.238739e-05 2.906908e-05

**RedV**
2.129902e-05

betal_hat[,75] #Some shrinkage
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf rad tax ptratio black lstat
1.829427190 - 0.261993861 0.041374519 0.005604361 0.376310685 - 0.043965372 - 0.145608838 - 0.197022741 0.994386742 0.21208766 - 0.088748368 - 0.140328715 0.209888910 0.70879123

**Examples of coefficients for different levels of shrinkage
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not tax ptratio black lstat medy
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not last not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not last not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not last not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not last not least squares estimate
(Intercept) zn indus chas nox rm age disf not last not last not last now rm age disf not last not not last not
```

Figure 14: Examples of ridge regression coefficients with different levels of shrinkage.

This shows that increasing the tuning parameter shrinks the regression coefficient towards 0. This can be plotted to show how the coefficients shrink with varying $\hat{\lambda}$, shown in Appendix B - Figure B.5. From looking at the graph, we can clearly see that all regression coefficients are essentially 0 when log $\hat{\lambda}$ is around 6.

As previously mentioned, we need to find a good value for the tuning parameter that minimises the error which is done by cross-validation. This is accomplished from the following:

```
> #Extracting the value of lambda which corresponds to the minimum
> (lambda_min = ridge_cv_fit$lambda.min)
[1] 0.04977024
> #The tuning parameter which is the minimum.
> (i=which(ridge_cv_fit$lambda == ridge_cv_fit$lambda.min))
[1] 79
> #Corresponding mean MSE
> ridge_cv_fit$cvm[i]
[1] 0.6199296
> |
```

Figure 15: Finding a good value of $\hat{\lambda}$ which minimises the error

We see that the 79^{th} point of our cross-validation ridge regression fit has the value which minimises the error, resulting in a mean MSE of 0.6199296 shown in Figure 14. We choose our tuning parameter to be 0.04977024 and we find that the coefficients for this regression is:

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.8294271897 - 0.2677136275 \times \textit{zn} + 0.0458406365 \times \textit{indus} + 0.0004068605 \times \textit{chas} \\ &+ 0.3807799386 \times \textit{nox} - 0.0548999412 \times \textit{rm} - 0.1424292146 \times \textit{age} - 0.1925059818 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 1.1148724598 \times \textit{rad} + 0.1185417718 \times \textit{tax} - 0.1070468379 \times \textit{ptratio} - 0.1328564108 \times \textit{black} \\ &+ 0.2101482417 \times \textit{lstat} + 0.0833100559 \times \textit{medv} \end{aligned}
```

Compared with our least squares solution in Section 3, we can see that most variables have shrunk towards 0, most notably *indus*, *chas*, *rm and ptratio*, which is at least 13% smaller. However, *indus and chas* are 30% and 92% smaller respectively and has shrunk more significantly in comparison to the least squares estimate.

We can use the predict function, shown in the program list in Appendix B - Figure B.3, to find a prediction at our new set of explanatory variables with our tuning parameter. We obtain the following results:

$i^{th}row$	\hat{y} value
410	2.3581811
52	-2.4282134
87	-2.1371956
376	1.9339514
	•••

The table to the left shows how the different values of our explanatory variables in the i^{th} row affects our predicted value for our response variable \hat{y} . A larger set of predicted values can be seen in Appendix B - Figure B.6

An issue with ridge regression is that is will always contain all the explanatory variables, 13 variables in this case. This is due to shrinking the coefficients but does is never equal to 0. This makes our interpretation of the fitted model very difficult. However, we are only concerned with predicting the values so it is not so much an issue in that respect. If the amount of subsets was an issue, we can just simply remove the variables that are close to 0. On the other hand, if reducing subsets was the goal then the LASSO method, which we shall discuss next, would be the ideal tool for model building using a shrinking method.

5.1.1 Out-of-Sample Validation

```
> #Out of sample for Ridge
> yhat_test = predict.glmnet(ridge_fit, X1_test, s = lambda_min)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.6842727
> |
```

Figure 16: Performing out-of-sample validation using the validation set approach.

5.2 The LASSO

Similar to the ridge regression model, we will be using a range from 10^5 to 10^{-3} for our tuning parameter. We will also use the glmnet function to perform the LASSO. Below we see how we obtain different coefficients using different tuning parameters.

From this we see that when a tuning parameter of $\lambda=10^5$ is used, the coefficients all shrink to zero. Also, when the tuning parameter is $\lambda=10^{-3}$ all coefficients are non-zero. We can see the effect of varying the tuning parameter λ has on the coefficients, shown in Appendix - Figure B.9. From this graph we see that when $\log\lambda\approx 1$, all coefficients shrink to zero.

We now need to find the value of the tuning parameter that minimises the error. We can achieve this using the following function.

Figure 17: Examples of LASSO coefficients with different levels of shrinkage.

```
> (lambda_min = lasso_cv_fit$lambda.min)
[1] 0.00367838
> (i = which(lasso_cv_fit$lambda == lasso_cv_fit$lambda.min))
[1] 93
> lasso_cv_fit$cvm[i]
[1] 0.5991631
> |
```

Figure 18: Finding a good value of $\hat{\lambda}$ which minimises the error

```
We see that the 93^{rd} point of our cross-validation LASSO fit has the value which minimises the error, we can also find the mean MSE for that particular value of the tuning parameter. The value of this tuning parameter is 0.5991631. Using this we can find the coefficients of the fitted model and also see which explanatory values drop out of the model.
```

```
(Intercept) -0.82942719
          -0.26061455
zn
indus
           0.06263766
chas
           0.38281362
nox
          -0.04910525
rm
          -0.14073802
age
disf
          -0.19326884
           1.23975952
rad
ptratio
          -0.11734337
           0.12016095
black
           0.19561037
Istat
medv
           0.05524359
```

Here we have the values of the coefficients if we use the value of the tuning parameter which minimises the error. We also see that the explanatory variables chas and tax have been dropped from the model.

Figure 19: Regression coefficients for LASSO model.

5.2.1 Out-of-Sample Validation

```
> #Out of sample for LASSO
> yhat_test = predict.glmnet(lasso_fit, X1_test, s = lambda_min)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.6745852
> |
```

Figure 20: Performing out-of-sample validation using the validation set approach.

6 Dimension reduction methods

This method involves controlling the variance of our estimators for the regression coefficients. Rather than regressing on our explanatory variables, we shall regress on m < p linear transformations of them, each of which is a good predictor for a response.

6.1 Principal Component Regression (PCR)

We first need to standardise the explanatory variables onto a common scale as there are variables with a large variance relative to others. If our variables are not scaled then they will dominate the first few

principal components, resulting in the domination of the principal component regression. This can be seen on the program list in Appendix B- Figure B.11

By running the program list we can extract the loading matrix and examine the directions our new variables represent:

Figure 21: Loading matrix of standardised explanatory variables

The first PC is essentially a contrast of *zn*, *rm*, *age*, *disf*, *black* and *medv* with *indus*, *nox*, *rad*, *tax*, *ptratio* and *lstat*. The second PC could be interpreted as the value of owner-occupied homes with lots of rooms per dwelling that takes into account the mean distance to the five Boston employment centres and the amount of teachers in the area.

The attribute **explvar** gives the proportion of variation of the standardised explanatory variables that is explained by each of the PCs.

Figure 22: Regression coefficients $\underline{\theta}_1$ for the transformed explanatory variables and cumulative proportion of variation explained by PCs.

From looking at Figure 19, we can see that if we used the first 3 PCs then 70.03% of the variation in our explanatory variables would be explained and 83.07% of the variation in our response would be explained. If we used all PCs then we would have the same \mathbb{R}^2 as our least squares shown in Figure 4, which also contains all the explanatory variables.

To reduce the number of dimensions, we need to choose a number, m, of PCs such that m < 13. In order to achieve this, we use cross-validation with 10 folds, which can be seen on the program list previously mentioned. We can then extract the MSE of each number of PCs and obtain the following:

```
        SMSEP(pcr_cv_fit)
        (Intercept)
        1 comps
        2 comps
        3 comps
        4 comps
        5 comps
        6 comps
        7 comps
        8 comps
        9 comps
        10 comps
        11 comps
        12 comps
        13 comps

        CV
        4.684
        1.159
        1.006
        0.8078
        0.7943
        0.8076
        0.7874
        0.790
        0.6526
        0.6457
        0.6372
        0.6456
        0.6471
        0.6157

        adjcv
        4.684
        1.158
        1.004
        0.8058
        0.7919
        0.8067
        0.7859
        0.789
        0.6507
        0.6439
        0.6335
        0.6428
        0.6446
        0.6130
```

Figure 23: Mean Squared Errors of each number of PCs.

□ Pot Zoom

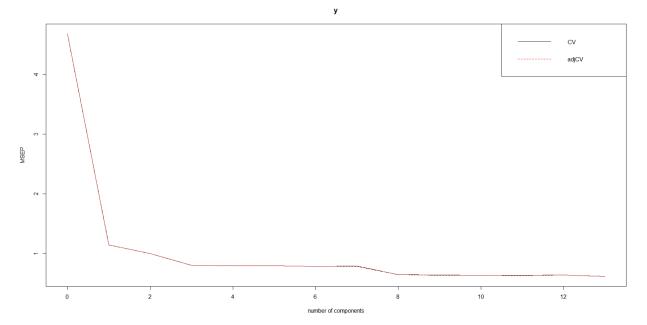


Figure 24: Plot of the MSE of each number of PCs.

From looking at the results, we can see that there is an elbow at three components; can be seen more clearly on figure 21. This suggests that once the first three PCs are used as regressors, little is gained by adding more. So we select m=3, giving a model which uses the first three PCs as our transformed explanatory variables. The MSE for this model was 0.8078.

We then obtain the following regression coefficients in our model:

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.82942719 - 0.08868202 \times zn + 0.28685393 \times \textit{indus} - 0.02487406 \times \textit{chas} \\ &+ 0.31989741 \times \textit{nox} + 0.11608856 \times \textit{rm} - 0.23197528 \times \textit{age} - 0.28370905 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 0.42112783 \times \textit{rad} + 0.40998626 \times \textit{tax} + 0.08589480 \times \textit{ptratio} - 0.33583298 \times \textit{black} \\ &+ 0.11523748 \times \textit{lstat} - 0.02937981 \times \textit{medv} \end{aligned}
```

In this model, the coefficients for *zn*, *chas*, *ptratio* and *medv* are very close to 0, and so do not have a significant impact on the response. This model can be used to predict the value of *lcrim* by simply inputting the values of the explanatory variables.

The issue with PCR is that there is no guarantee that the directions in which our explanatory variables are most effective in explaining the variation in our response.

6.1.1 Out-of-Sample Validation

```
> #Out of sample for PCR
> yhat_test = predict(pcr_cv_fit, boston_data_test, ncomp = 3)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.8750313
> |
```

Figure 25: Performing out-of-sample validation using the validation set approach.

6.2 Partial Least Squares

We can use the PLS method which considers the direction that explains the variation in the response variable as well as the explanatory variables. The program list to carry out PLS can be found in Appendix B - Figure B.13

The components themselves have now changed, for example the first PC is now the negative of the first using the PCR method, however the amount of the variation explained in X has now decreased with the first 3 components explaining 65.99% compared to over 70% in the previous section.

Figure 26: Components and the variation explained

Figure 27: Variation explained in response (y) and explanatory (X)

The big improvement with this method is the proportion of the response variable that is explained. This is now at 86.71% for 3 components compared to 83% for PCR. Hence, this means that the PLS method allows you to use fewer components, reducing the dimension, for greater variation explained.

Figure 28: MSE for each number of PCs

In order to choose the number of PCs to use for this model we will use cross validation, as before, to find the optimum value. Using these values and the plot below we can see that the MSE stabilises after 3 PCs and therefore these will be used in our model.

This gives a value for the MSE of 0.6689 however this cannot be compared directly to the value for PCR earlier because we did not use the same subsets of variables during cross validation.

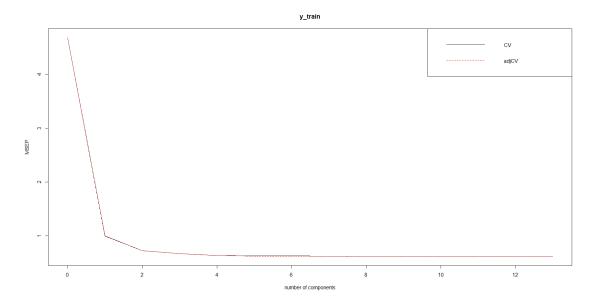


Figure 29: Plot of component number against the MSE

The following model is therefore produced:

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.82942719 - 0.190529803 \times \textit{zn} + 0.051757064 \times \textit{indus} - 0.002752944 \times \textit{chas} \\ &+ 0.356237206 \times \textit{nox} + 0.005132704 \times \textit{rm} - 0.125400241 \times \textit{age} - 0.163561447 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 0.829790998 \times \textit{rad} + 0.480158534 \times \textit{tax} - 0.034835706 \times \textit{ptratio} - 0.163207837 \times \textit{black} \\ &+ 0.186364905 \times \textit{lstat} - 0.046128195 \times \textit{medv} \end{aligned}
```

In this model, the coefficients for *chas*, *rm*, *ptratio* and *medv* are very close to 0, and so do not have a significant impact on the response. This model is quite similar in terms of effect of explanatory variables, i.e. *chas* makes little difference to response in both models, but the coefficients are significantly different.

6.2.1 Out-of-Sample Validation

```
> #Out of sample for PLS
> yhat_test = predict(plsr_cv_fit, boston_data_test, ncomp = 2)
> test_error = mean((boston_data_test$y_test - yhat_test)^2)
> test_error
[1] 0.8041665
> |
```

Figure 30: Performing out-of-sample validation using the validation set approach.

7 Final Model

Now that we have produced a range of models using various methods, we now need to decide on the best option for a final model to explain the natural logarithm of the per capita crime rate in the Boston area. To decide on this, we can use the simplicity of the model, as well as, the MSE value obtained by cross validation from each method (even though some of these can't be compared directly due to the different fold index used for the dimension reduction methods) and the validation set approach using the remaining data that was not used in the sample.

Looking at the out-of-sample validation for the best subset selection method we see that the prediction is worse than the least squares model, with the least squares model having a test error of 0.6838521 and the best subset model having a slightly higher 0.6977663. Looking at the ridge regression and LASSO model we see that prediction is about the same as the least squares model, although the LASSO model is marginally better, with the test error being 0.6842727 and 0.6745852 respectively. The PCR and PLS model performed significantly worse than the least squares model with test errors of 0.8750313 and 0.8041665.

Out of all the model options we chose the LASSO model, explained in detail in Section 5.2, as this has the smallest MSE value. It also has the lowest has out-of-sample validation test error with a value of 0.6745852. The method is useful for both variable selection, shrinkage and prediction. Therefore our final model is:

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{lcrim} &= -0.82942719 - 0.26061455 \times \textit{zn} + 0.06263766 \times \textit{indus} \\ &+ 0.38281368 \times \textit{nox} - 0.04910525 \times \textit{rm} - 0.14073802 \times \textit{age} - 0.19326884 \times \textit{disf} \\ &+ 1.23975952 \times \textit{rad} - 0.11734337 \times \textit{ptratio} + 0.12016095 \times \textit{black} \\ &+ 0.19561037 \times \textit{lstat} + 0.0.05524359 \times \textit{medv} \end{aligned}
```

This model has removed *chas* and *tax* (which were the first to be removed under subset selection). Using this we can see that the crime rate increases when: *indus*, *nox*, *rad*, *black*, *lstat* and *medv* increase and/or *zn*, *rm*, *disf* and *ptratio* decrease. We see that the most significant variable is *rad* showing us that the index of accessibility to radial highways has the most impact on per capita crime rate in the Boston area

Appendix A

Variables

- *lcrim* (y) per capita crime rate by town.
- zn proportion of residential land zoned for lots over 25,000 sq.ft.
- *indus* proportion of non-retail business acres per town.
- chas Charles River dummy variable (= 1 if tract bounds river; 0 otherwise).
- nox nitrogen oxides concentration (parts per 10 million).
- rm average number of rooms per dwelling.
- age proportion of owner-occupied units built prior to 1940.
- *dis* weighted mean of distances to five Boston employment centres.
- rad index of accessibility to radial highways.
- *tax* full-value property-tax rate per \$10,000.
- *ptratio* pupil-teacher ratio by town.
- **black** $1000(Bk 0.63)^2$ where Bk is the proportion of blacks by town.
- *lstat* lower status of the population (percent).
- *medv* median value of owner-occupied homes in \$1000s

Appendix B

Additional

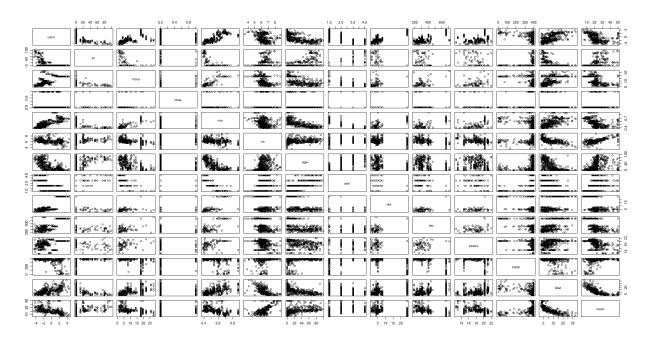


Figure B.1: Scatter plot matrix

```
    Exploratory Analysis.R ×
    Multivariable regression.R* ×

                Summary(TILL)
    26
27
28
29
30
               #Best subset selection; using least squares
bss = regsubsets(y~.,data = boston_data,method = "exhaustive",nvmax=13)
bss_summary = summary(bss)
               bss_summary
              names(bss_summary)
bss_summary$adjr2 #Adjr2 values
bss_summary$cp #Cp statistic of each component
bss_summary$bic #BIC values
    31
32
33
34
35
36
               \label{lem:best_adjr2} \begin{array}{ll} best\_adjr2 = which.max(bss\_summary\$adjr2) & \#Need & highest & adjR^2 & value; & 9 & components \\ best\_cp = which.min(bss\_summary\$cp) & \#Smallest & Cp & and & BIC; & 8 & components \\ best\_bic = which.min(bss\_summary\$bic) & \#7 & components \\ \end{array}
     37
     39
    40
41
                best_adjr2 #Components needed for highest adjR2
best_cp #Components needed for lowest CP
                                           #lowest BIC
    42
                best_bic
              par(mfrow=c(1,3))
plot(1:13,bss_summary$adjr2, xlab="Number of predictors",ylab="Adjusted R_squared",type="b")
points(best_adjr2,bss_summary$adjr2[best_adjr2],col="red",pch=16)
plot(1:13,bss_summary$cp, xlab="Number of predictors",ylab="Cp",type="b")
points(best_cp,bss_summary$cp[best_cp],col="red",pch=16)
plot(1:13,bss_summary$bic, xlab="Number of predictors",ylab="BIC",type="b")
points(best_bic,bss_summary$bic[best_bic],col="red",pch=16)
#Very little difference between M7 to M13 for adjr2 and cp
#choose 7 predictors
coef(bss,7)
    44
45
    46
47
    48
    50
51
    52
53
    54
               (Top Level) ±
```

Figure B.2: Program list for Best Subset Selection

```
## cross-validation
## flo-fold cross validation
## flo-fold cross validat
```

Figure B.3: Program list for Best Subset Selection cross-validation

```
1 library("glmnet")
        set.seed(7045607)
sampid = sample(dim(Boston)[1],400)
BostonNew = Boston[sampid,]
       K1_raw = as.matrix(BostonNew[,2:14])
x1 = scale(X1_raw) # Standardised explanantory variables
y = BostonNew$lcrim # response variable
boston_data = data.frame(y,x1) #Matrix of response and explanatory variables
11
12
13
14
         grid = 10/seq(5,-3,length=100) #Grid of values for the tuning parameter ridge_fit = glmnet(x1,y,alpha=0,standardize = FALSE, lambda = grid) #alpha=0 means we are doing ridge reg #Forcing the function to use values lambda=10/5 (lots of shrinkage) to lambda=10/(-3) (very little shrinkage).
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
         #Ridge regression coefficients
betal_hat = coef(ridge_fit)
         #Some examples of coefficients for different levels of shrinkage
betal_hat[,1] #Lots of shrinkage
betal_hat[,75] #Some shrinkage
betal_hat[,100] #Very little shrinkage. Very similar to that of least squares estimate
         par(mfrow=c(1,1))
         #plot to show how estimated coefficients vary with lambda
plot(ridge_fit,xvar="lambda",col=1:13,label=TRUE) #number at top are number of coeff that are non-zero.
         #Using cross-validation to choose appropriate value for tuning parameter ridge_cv_fit = cv.glmnet(x1,y,a1pha=0,standardize = FALSE,lambda=grid, foldid = fold_index) #k=10 folds with the same index plot(ridge_cv_fit) #mean MSE plotted with error bars which covers the mean +- 1 Standard error
29
30
         #Extracting the value of lambda which corresponds to the minimum (lambda_min = ridge_cv_fit$lambda.min)
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
         #The tuning parameter which is the minimum.
(i=which(ridge_cv_fit$lambda == ridge_cv_fit$lambda.min))
        #Corresponding mean MSE
ridge_cv_fit$cvm[i]
#Regression coefficients where s argument is used for tuning parameter
coef(ridge_fit, s=lambda_min)
predict(ridge_fit, newx = as.matrix(x1), s=lambda_min)
```

Figure B.4: Program list for Ridge Regression

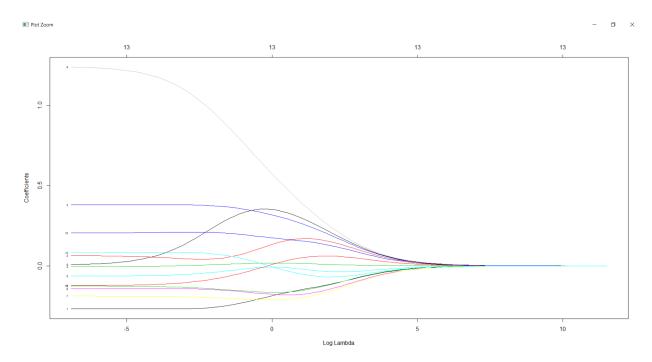


Figure B.5: Plot of the estimated ridge regression coefficients with varying $\hat{\lambda}$

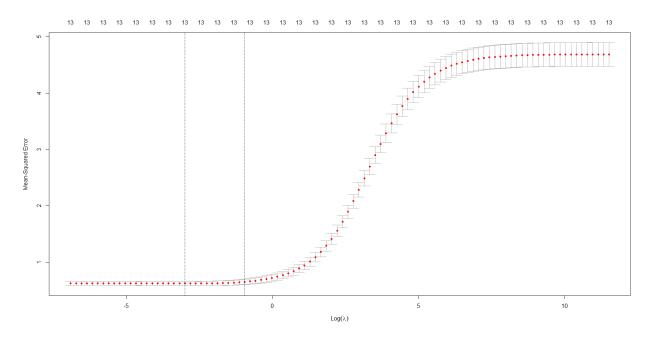


Figure B.6: Cross-validation scores for our sample of the Boston data, using ridge regression

```
> predict(ridge_fit, newx = as.matrix(x1), s=lambda_min)
                     33 -0.9872337
                                           475 1.9757167
410 2.3581811
                     175 -1.5118614
                                           183 -1.9735461
52
    -2.4282134
                     400 2.5095958
                                           82
                                               -2.6394810
87
    -2.1371956
                                           417 2.8198854
                     79 -1.9599667
376
     1.9339514
                     465 1.6452313
                                           346 -2.5977618
280 -2.2257063
493 -0.6833196
                     34 -1.3638391
98 -2.3593631
472 1.3447380
71 -2.6556972
                                           127 -0.8584402
                     170 -0.4892896
                                               -2.2717848
4
    -2.6221071
                                           86
                     271 -2.3170417
                                           305 -2.1048578
30
    -1.6257229
                     380 2.2339098
                                               2.3823749
164 -0.7231525
                                           363
                     260 -0.8562579
499 -0.9023909
                                           303
                                              -2.3154006
                     292 -3.5835642
   -3.7917516
                                                2.0649062
56
                                           337
                     132 -0.9118761
158 -0.5980470
                                           501 -0.8284244
                     345 -2.7638532
140 -0.7331431
                                           404
                                                2.2740298
                     454 2.2242161
422
     2.3502017
                                           434
                                                2.6080501
                     89 -2.1676318
372
     2.1404216
                                           240 -2.4232638
                     194 -3.6742391
471 1.5725267
267
    -0.7010826
                                           329 -2.1588485
202 -3.4531400
                                                0.4853180
                                           155
                     348 -3.6443038
90
    -2.2379571
                                                2.7514542
                                           420
                     403 2.2923004
234 -1.2448997
                                           177
                                                1.6136903
                     504 -1.8779079
252 -2.5300308
                                           188 -2.3317420
                     273 -2.4199192
381 1.9994734
                                                0.4233811
                                           151
                     436 2.8973640
162 -0.6965231
                                           448
                                                2.3144387
                     192 -2.6538636
262 -0.8319441
                                               -2.6801692
                                           73
                     129 -0.8377784
226 -1.1983584
                                           320 -1.5718701
                          2.4164478
                     467
374 2.7308056
                                           411 2.3170598
                     409
                          2.3426148
43 -2.6808657
                                           351 -3.5815304
                     159 -0.5989522
   -2.4446429
247
                                           27
                                               -1.4952068
                     36 -1.7191912
421 2.3464703
                                           152
                                                0.4990392
                     386 2.6238887
221 -1.0936840
                                           370
                                               1.9074467
                     11 -1.3741276
231 -1.0771226
                                           26
                                               -1.3662104
                     78
                         -1.8481731
93
    -2.2926970
                                           466 1.7004400
                     165 -0.5482916
    -1.8913044
76
                     99 -2.5053135
364 2.4488136
                                           215 -1.3853595
    2.2783360
478
                                           128 -0.7508415
433
     2.0183400
                                           459 2.1366793
                     184 -1.9371582
201 -3.9827382
                                           340 -1.8757781
                     481 1.1786706
19
    -1.6649506
                     265 -0.8295436
                                           10 -1.4414874
112 -1.1724772
                                           146 1.0652919
                     55
                         -3.2382890
126 -1.2733612
                     102 -1.6814570
                                           15 -1.6691099
344 -2.6107115
                     392 2.3041770
385 2.8351158
                                           291 -3.6445259
     3.0180786
446
                                           479
                                               1.9846751
463
     1.9208379
                     40 -3.5859239
317 -1.2909457
                                           336 -2.1752341
480
     1.8492188
                                                2.0532743
                                           423
246 -2.0074114
                     432 2.3142984
                                           138 -0.8685269
338 -1.9836179
                     274 -2.4746682
                                           186 -1.8342133
299 -3.3333152
                     169 -0.4221236
                                           355 -3.8098886
70
    -2.6111818
                     8
                         -1.2866201
                                           157
                                               0.8834355
                         -1.2515587
                     31
                                           302
                                              -2.2449638
                                           235 -1.1676388
```

Figure B.7: Large sample of our predicted values for Ridge regression

```
1 library(glmnet)
       load('Boston.RData')
 3
4
5
6
7
     ## Set the seed using one of your group members login ID
set.seed(7045607)
# Randomly sample 400 rows from the 506 rows in the full data
sampid = sample(dim(Boston)[1], 400)
traindata = Boston[sampid, ]
testdata = Boston[-sampid, ]
9
11
12
      #set the response variable
y_train = traindata$1crim
y_test = testdata$1crim
13
14
15
16
      #create matrix with the rest of the data
X1_raw_train = traindata[,2:14]
X1_raw_train = as.matrix(X1_raw_train)
X1_train = scale(X1_raw_train)
19
20
       X1_raw_test = testdata[,2:14]
X1_raw_test = as.matrix(X1_raw_test)
X1_test = scale(X1_raw_test)
23
24
25
26
27
28
       #data frame with response and data
boston_data_train = data.frame(y_train, X1_train)
boston_data_test = data.frame(y_test, X1_test)
29
30
31
32
       beta1_hat = coef(lasso_fit)
       grid[1]
betal_hat[,1]
grid[75]
betal_hat[,75]
grid[100]
betal_hat[,100]
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
       plot(lasso_fit, xvar="lambda", col=1:13, label=T)
      lasso\_cv\_fit = cv.glmnet(X1\_train, y\_train, alpha=1, standardize=F, lambda = grid, foldid = fold\_index) \\ plot(lasso\_cv\_fit)
       (lambda_min = lasso_cv_fit$lambda.min)
(i = which(lasso_cv_fit$lambda == lasso_cv_fit$lambda.min))
lasso_cv_fit$cvm[i]
47 (i = which(lasso_cv_fit$lampua
48 lasso_cv_fit$cvm[i]
49
50 coef(lasso_fit, s=lambda_min)
```

Figure B.8: Program list for LASSO.

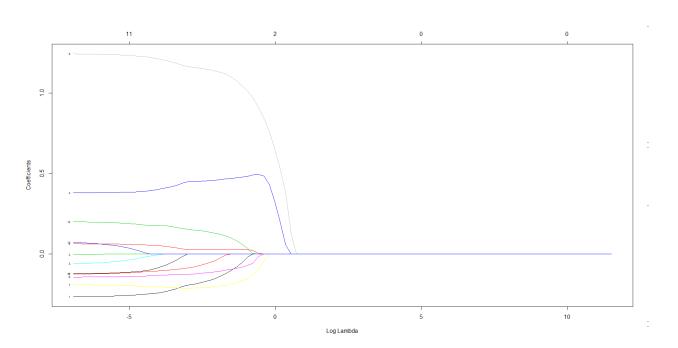


Figure B.9: Plot of the estimated LASSO regression coefficients with varying $\hat{\lambda}$

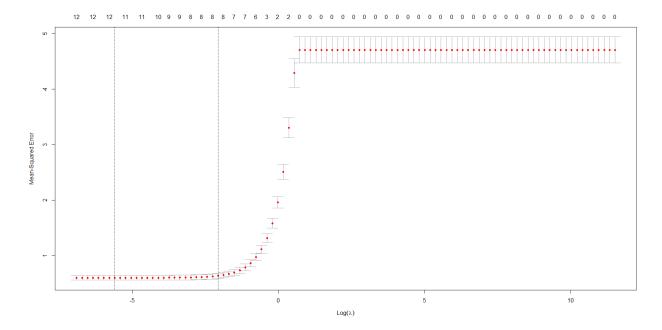


Figure B.10: Cross-validation scores for our sample of the Boston data, using LASSO.

```
install.packages("pls")

library("pls")

set.seed(7045607)

sampid = sample(dim(Boston)[1],400)

BostonNew = Boston(sampid.]

Xl_raw = as.matrix(BostonNew[,2:14])

xl = scale(Xl_raw) # Standardised explanantory variables

y = BostonNewSlcrim # response variable

boston_data = data.frame(y,xl) #Matrix of response and explanatory variables

fit = lm(y~.,data = boston_data)

summary(fit) #Some explanatory variables are not significant when considered individually

#Principal Components regression

pcr_fit = pcr(y~.,data=boston_data,scale = FALSE)

pcr_load = loadings(pcr_fit)

c = unclass(pcr_load)

c #attr - proportion of variation of the standardised explanatory variables X1 that is explained by each of the PCs.

pr_yload = Yloadings(pcr_fit)

thetal_hat = unclass(pcr_load)

thetal_hat #comp 4,5,7,11 are close to 0 which suggests that this is a dimension in which X1 shows variation not strongly associated

#With the response

summary(pcr_fit) #cumulative proportion of variation in X1 explained by different numbers of PCs

pcr_vo_fit = pcr(y~.,data=boston_data,scale=FALSE,validation="CV")

MSEP(pcr_cv_fit)

plot(pcr_cv_fit, plottype = "validation", legend = "topright",val.type="MSEP") #Elbow at three components

coef(pcr_fit, intercept = TRUE, ncomp=3)

predict(pcr_fit, newdata=X1,ncomp=3)
```

Figure B.11: Program list for PCR

```
> coet(pcr_fit, intercept = TRUE, ncomp=3)
  , 3 comps
(Intercept) -0.82942719
            -0.08868202
zn
indus
             0.28685393
            -0.02487406
chas
             0.31989741
nox
rm
             0.11608856
            -0.23197528
age
disf
            -0.28370905
             0.42112783
rad
             0.40998626
tax
             0.08589480
ptratio
black
             -0.33583298
             0.11523748
lstat
medv
            -0.02937981
```

Figure B.12: Regression coefficients for PCR for 3 components

```
1 library(pls)
2 #load dataset
3 load('Boston.RData')
     ## Set the seed using one of your group members login ID
set.seed(7045607)
# Randomly sample 400 rows from the 506 rows in the full data
 4
 6
      sampid = sample(dim(Boston)[1], 400)
 8
     traindata = Boston[sampid,
testdata = Boston[-sampid,
10
     #set the response variable
y_train = traindata$lcrim
y_test = testdata$lcrim
11
12
13
14
15
      #create matrix with the rest of the data
     X1_raw_train = traindata[,2:14]
X1_raw_train = as.matrix(X1_raw_train)
16
17
     X1_train = scale(X1_raw_train)
19
     X1_raw_test = testdata[,2:14]
X1_raw_test = as.matrix(X1_raw_test)
X1_test = scale(X1_raw_test)
20
21
23
24
      #data frame with response and data
boston_data_train = data.frame(y_train, X1_train)
boston_data_test = data.frame(y_test, X1_test)
25
27
28
     #fit the model using PLS
     plsr_fit = plsr(y_train ~ ., data = boston_data_train, scale=FALSE) #examine the directions defined by the PLS
29
30
31
32
      plsr_load = loadings(plsr_fit)
#print the directions
33
      (C = unclass(plsr_load))
34
35
36
      summary(plsr_fit)
      #extract the coefficients of the transformed variables
      plsr_yload = Yloadings(plsr_fit)
38
39
      #print the coefficients
      (theta1_hat = unclass(plsr_yload))
40
41
42
      #fit model, applying 10-fold cross validations
      plsr_cv_fit = plsr(y_train \sim ., data = boston_data_train, scale=FALSE, validation="CV") #plot the cross validation scores
43
44
45
      plot(plsr_cv_fit, plottype = "validation", legend = "topright", val.type = "MSEP")
46
     #corresponding MSE values
MSEP(plsr_cv_fit)
47
48
50
     coef(plsr_fit, intercept=T, ncomp=3)
```

Figure B.13: Program list for PLS

```
(Intercept) -0.829427190
         -0.190529803
0.051757064
zn
indus
             -0.002752944
0.356237206
chas
nox
rm
               0.005132704
              -0.125400241
age
dīsf
             -0.163561447
              0.829790998
rad
               0.480158534
tax
ptratio
              -0.034835706
              -0.163207837
b1ack
lstat
               0.186364905
medv
               0.046128195
```

Figure B.14: Coefficients for PLS model using 3 PCs

Appendix C

Contribution to Projects

- Stephen Cole Section 1, Section 2 (Code), Section 3 (Code), Section 4 (Code), Section 5 intro (Write-up), Section 5.1 (Code and Write-up), Section 6 intro (Write up), Section 6.1 (Code and Write-up).
- Calum Doran Section 1, Section 3.2 (Code and Write up), Section 4.1.2, Section 5.1.1, Section 5.2 (Code and Write up), Section 5.2.1, Section 6.1.1, Section 6.2 (Code), Section 6.2.1, Section 7.
- **Joseph Crone** Section 3 (Write-up), Section 3.1 (Code and Write-up), Section 4.1.1 (Code and Write-up), Section 7
- Harry Johnston Section 2 (Write-up), Section 6.2 (Write-up), Section 7.