Section 7.2.1. Improvements to this example include using `coef()` instead of `$coef`, and using the `predict` generic function, i.e., `predict(gb, data.frame(pop15=seq(20,48,by=1)))`. The two (dotted) lines described in the text actually do not show up on the plot. Furthermore, although it is instructional to create two basis functions `lhs()` and `rhs()`, the reader is not informed that `bs(pop15, degree=1, df=1, knot=35)` would be equivalent.

In conclusion, the book is quite suitable to serve for the practical component of an advanced undergraduate course in linear models to reasonably prepared students. A sequel on generalized linear models and extensions would be a natural next step!

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R Foundation News

by Bettina Grün

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Changes in R

by the R Core Team

User-visible changes

- box plots by `boxplot()` or `bxp()` now have the median line three times the normal line width

in order to distinguish it from the quartile ones.

- Unix-alike versions of R can now be used in UTF-8 locales on suitably equipped OSes. See the internationalization section below.