

Design and Analysis of Experiments for Cancer Patients:

Esophageal Cancer in Different Lifestyle Groups

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Introduction

Data from a case-control study of esophageal cancer in Ille-et-Vilaine, France

Data set in R (esoph)

4x4x6 Factorial Experiment

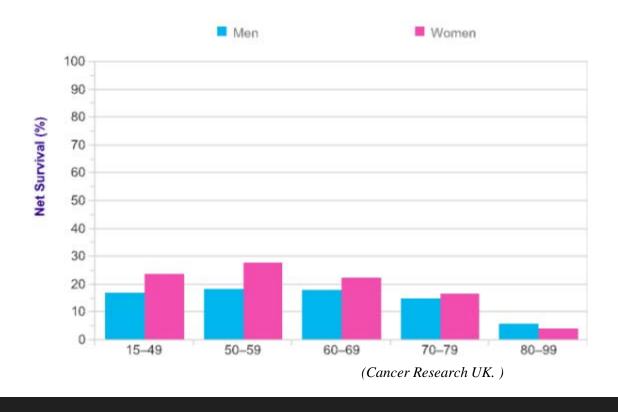
- 3 Levels: Daily Alcohol Use, Daily Tobacco Use, and Age group
- 88 total records
- 200 cancer cases
- 975 controls (no cases)

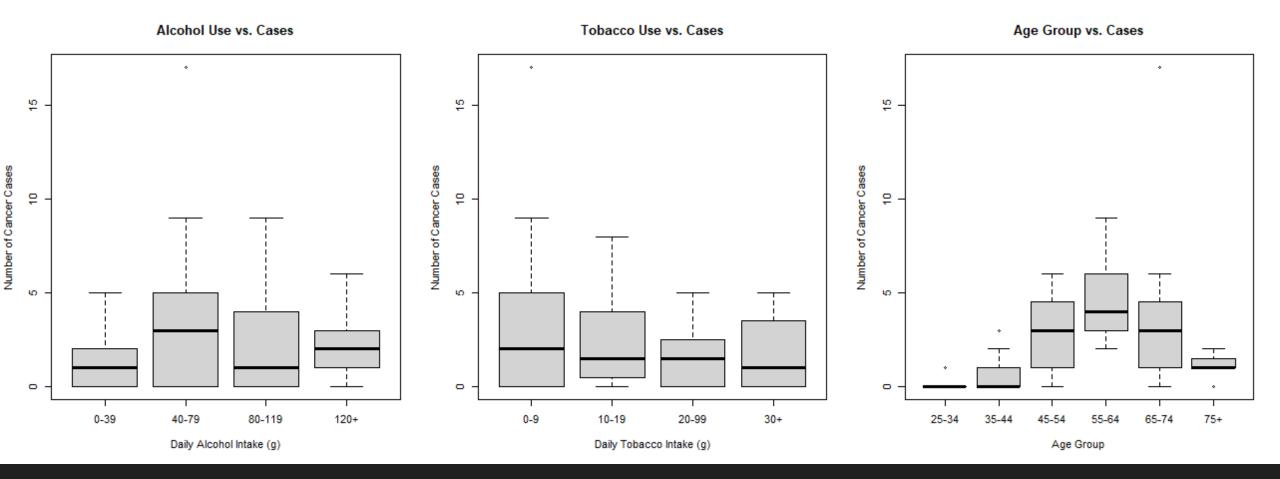
Response variable is number of esophageal (throat) cancer cases based on 3 factors of lifestyle: daily alcohol use, daily tobacco use, and age of patient

Experiment with three crossed factors

All analyses have been conducted using RStudio, using an overall significance level of 0.05 (95% confidence).

Oesophageal Cancer (C15), Five-Year Net Survival by Age, England, 2009-2013

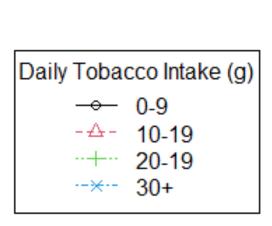


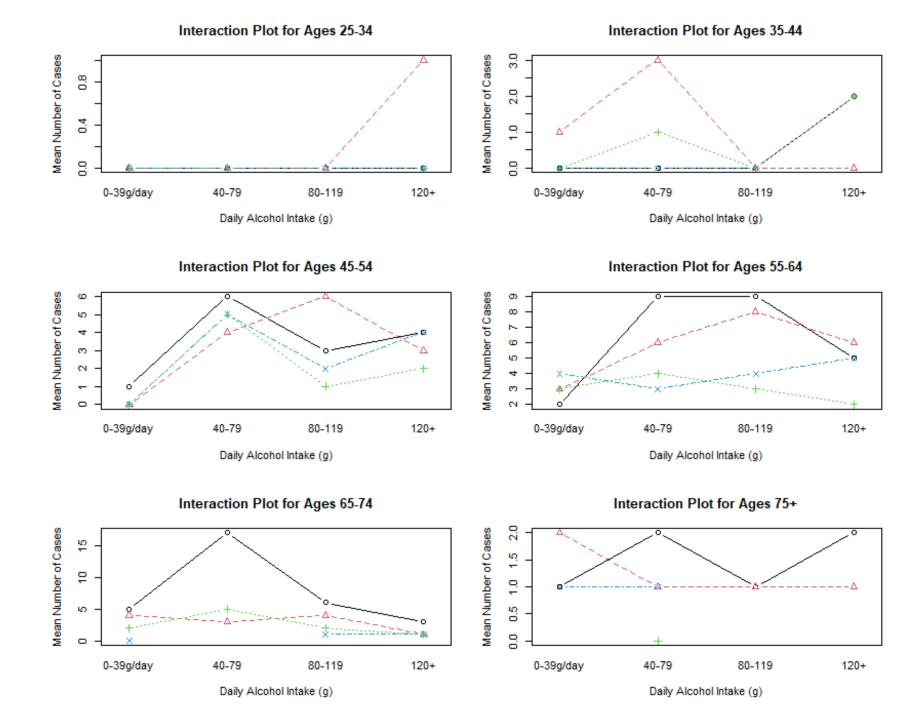


Box Plots
Show the number of esophageal cancer cases for each factor

Interactions

Plots for three-way interaction, age as the third factor





Two-way interaction model

Nonnegligible effects:

- Alcohol use (A)
- Tobacco use (B)
- ∘ Age (C)
- Interaction of Alcohol use and Age (AC)

Negligible interactions:

- Interaction of Alcohol and Tobacco uses (AB)
- Interaction of Tobacco use and Age (BC)

Model used for experiment:

Number of cases = Alcohol + Tobacco + Age + Interaction of Alcohol use and Age

Two-way Analysis of Variance Table

Factor	Degrees of Freedom	F value	Pr(>F)
Alcohol Use (fA)	3	6.5317	0.001173
Tobacco Use (fB)	3	5.2316	0.004120
Age group (fC)	5	20.1972	1.13e-09
fA:fB	9	1.3714	0.236083
fA:fC	15	2.3900	0.015714
fB:fC	15	1.8950	0.057106
Residuals	37		

Contrasts for Alcohol (Factor A)

Pairwise Contrasts using Tukey

- Two contrasts are significant at confidence level 95%, (0-39g/day) - (40-79) and (40-79g/day) - (120+).
- Number of cases decreases between (0-39g/day) - (40-79)
- Number of cases increases between (40-79g/day) - (120+).

```
contrast
                      lower.CL upper.CL t.ratio p.value
(0-39q/day) - (40-79)
                       -3.6141
                                 -0.839 -4.238
                                                 0.0004
(0-39g/day) - (80-119)
                       -2.2728
                                  0.610 -1.524
                                                 0.4297
(0-39g/day) - (120+)
                       -2.1406
                                  0.747 -1.275
                                                 0.5821
(40-79) - (80-119)
                       -0.0487
                                  2.839
                                         2.552
                                                 0.0619
(40-79) - (120+)
                        0.0883
                                  2.971
                                         2.803
                                                 0.0334
(80-119) - (120+)
                       -1.3582
                                  1.627
                                         0.238
                                                 0.9952
```

Contrasts for Tobacco (Factor B)

Pairwise Contrasts using Tukey

- Only two contrasts are significant at confidence level 95%, (0-9g/day) (20-29) and (0-9g/day) (30+).
- In both cases, number of cancer cases increases when patients who use 0-9g/day and 20-29 and 30+ g/day).

```
contrast
                     lower.CL upper.CL t.ratio p.value
(0-9g/day) - (10-19)
                       -0.515
                                  2.18 1.633
                                              0.3683
(0-9g/day) - (20-29)
                        0.495
                                  3.38
                                       3.550
                                              0.0041
(0-9q/day) - (30+)
                        0.168
                                  3.05
                                       2.949
                                              0.0228
(10-19) - (20-29)
                       -0.338
                                       2.021
                                              0.1915
(10-19) - (30+)
                       -0.666
                                  2.21 1.420
                                              0.4917
(20-29) - (30+)
                                 1.17 -0.576
                       -1.830
                                              0.9389
```

Contrasts for Age (Factor C)

Pairwise Contrasts using Tukey

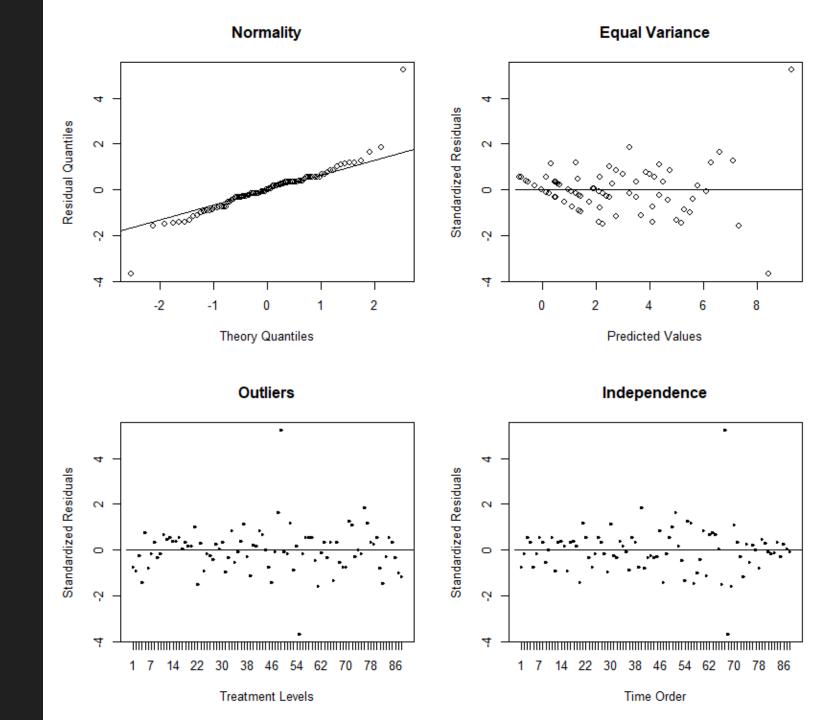
- Nine contrasts are significant at confidence level 95%, mostly between younger age groups and older:
 - · (25-34) (45-54)
 - · (25-34) (55-64)
 - · (25-34) (65-74)
 - · (35-44) (45-54)
 - · (35-44) (55-64)
 - · (35-44) (65-74)
 - (45-54) and (55-64)
 - · (55-64) (75+)
 - (65-74) and (75+)

```
lower.CL upper.CL t.ratio p.value
contrast
(25-34) - (35-44) -2.5300
                            1.3088 -0.936
                                           0.9355
                           -1.0036 -4.514
                  -4.7617
                                           0.0004
(25-34) - (45-54)
(25-34) - (55-64) -6.6367 -2.8786 -7.449
                                           <.0001
         (65-74) -5.8425 -2.0037 -6.014
                                           <.0001
                  -2.9501 1.3358 -1.108
                                           0.8762
(25-34) -
          (75+)
       - (45-54)
                  -4.1510
                           -0.3929 -3.557
                                           0.0091
          (55-64) -6.0260
                           -2.2679 -6.493
                                           <.0001
                  -5.2268
(35-44) - (65-74)
                           -1.3982 -5.091
                                           0.0001
          (75+)
                  -2.3440
                            1.9510 -0.269
                                           0.9998
          (55-64)
                  -3.7142
                           -0.0358 -2.999
                                           0.0432
         (65-74)
                  -2.9196
                            0.8385 -1.629
                                           0.5828
(45-54) - (75+)
                  -0.0425
                            4.1934
                                    2.883
                                           0.0580
(55-64) - (65-74)
                  -1.0446
                            2.7135
                                    1.307
                                           0.7803
(55-64) - (75+)
                  1.8325
                            6.0684
                                    5.488
                                            < .0001
(65-74) - (75+)
                   0.9685
                            5.2635
                                    4.269
                                           0.0009
```

Checking Assumptions of Model

Checking residuals in model are

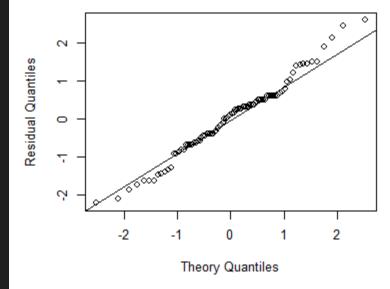
- Independent and identically distributed
- Have equal variance
- Normally distributed with a mean of zero
- Have no outliers > 3



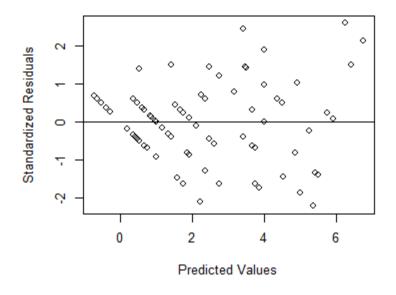
Removing Maximum Residual

Maximum standardized residual was found to be: 6.406573

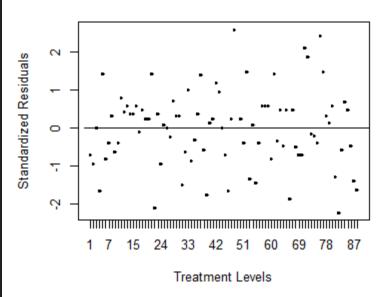
Normality Without Max Resid



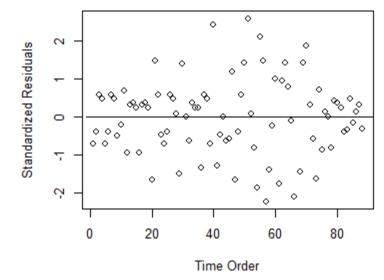
Equal Variance Without Max Resid



Equal Variance Without Max Resid



Independence Without Max Resid



Conclusion

The analysis of this experiment found there is sufficient evidence to support there is a statistically significant difference on the response from the different factors and interactions, and that there is sufficient evidence to support there is a statistically significant difference on the response from the different levels of each factor.

The motivations for the experiment are met and show any amount of alcohol or tobacco, as well as increased age, increases the risk of esophageal cancer.

References

Esophageal Cancer - Statistics. Cancer.Net. (2021, May 27). https://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/esophageal-cancer/statistics.

Esophageal cancer survival statistics. Cancer Research UK. (2020, April 7). https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/oesophageal-cancer/survival.

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