EDDA: Practice Assignment

Unless otherwise specified, tests should be performed using a level of 0.05.

Exercise Diet

To investigate the effect of 3 types of diet, 78 persons were divided randomly in 3 groups, the first group following diet 1, second group diet 2 and the third group diet 3. Next to some other characteristics, the weight was measured before diet and after 6 weeks of diet for each person in the study. The collected data is summarized in the data frame diet.txt with the following columns: person – participant number, gender – gender (1 = male, 0 = female), age – age (years), height – height (cm), preweight – weight before the diet (kg), diet – the type of diet followed, weight6weeks – weight after 6 weeks of diet (kg).

- a) By using only the columns preweight and weight6weeks, test the claim that the diet affects the weight loss. Give and check the assumptions of the test(s) applied.
- b) Compute and add to the data frame the variable weight.lost expressing the lost weight. Test the claim that the median lost weight is bigger than 3 kg.
- c) Using now weight.lost as response variable, apply one-way ANOVA to test whether type of diet has an effect on the lost weight. Do all three types diets lead to weight loss? Which diet was the best for losing weight?
- d) Use two-way ANOVA to investigate effect of the diet and gender (and possible interaction) on the lost weight. Is the Friedman test relevant here? Can it be at all applied?
- e) Apply appropriate model to investigate effect(s) of diet and height (and possibly their interaction) on the lost weight. Is the effect of height the same for all 3 types of diet?
- f) Which of the two approaches, the one from c) or from e), do you prefer? Why? For the preferred model, predict the lost weight for all three types of diet for an average person.
- g) Create the categorical (binary) variable lost.4kg expressing whether the lost weight is bigger than 4kg or not. (Hint: if a=c(1,-1,2), then a>0 = TRUE FALSE TRUE.)
 - Suppose now that we observed the variable lost.4kg instead of weight6weeks. Could we still test the hypothesis in b), c), d), e)? If yes, propose relevant models and perform relevant tests.