

Download the data file “bpress.xls” from D2L. Import it into R. This data has four variables:

bp = blood pressure (diastolic measure)

weight = in kilograms

bsa = body surface area (sq meters)

dur = length of time person has been diagnosed with hypertension (in years)

pulse = beats per minute

stress = index of stress in individual’s life

age = age of individuals (in years)

Use R to answer the following questions. You will need to turn in a printout of your work in R and answers for each of the questions listed above.

1. Estimate a regression with bp_i as the dependent variable and the other six variables as independent variables. Without doing formal t-tests, note which variables seem to be significantly different than zero. (Check to see if the t-stat is close to 2.)
2. Estimate correlations between the different variables:
 - a. weight, bsa
 - b. weight, dur
 - c. weight, pulse
 - d. weight, stress
 - e. weight, age
 - f. bsa, dur
 - g. bsa, pulse
 - h. bsa, stress
 - i. bsa, age
 - j. dur, pulse
 - k. dur, stress
 - l. dur, age
 - m. pulse, stress
 - n. pulse, age
 - o. stress, age

Are any of these independent variables highly correlated with one another? For those that have a correlation > 0.6 , create scatterplots.

3. Calculate VIFs for each of the six independent variables.

4. Do you have any suggestions for how we should improve the model? Should we possibly drop a variable? If so, which one?
5. Re-estimate the model you suggested in (4). What happens to the coefficients of the remaining independent variables?