

GA & MISK ACADEMY DATA SCIENCE COURSE FINAL PROJECT

April, 2020

OVERVIEW

1. Project Background and Description

In this Machine Learning project, I will build a model to predict student performance of two secondary Portuguese schools. Two datasets are provided regarding the performance in two subjects: Mathematics (mat) and Portuguese language (por). The data was collected using school reports and questionnaires.

2. Dataset Source

Dataset available at :

<https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/student+performance>

3. Data Shape

The data consist of 1044 rows and 33 columns

(1044,33)

4. Data Dictionary

| | Variable | Description |
|---|----------|--|
| 1 | school | student's school (binary: 'GP' - Gabriel Pereira or 'MS' - Mousinho da Silveira) |
| 2 | sex | student's sex (binary: 'F' - female or 'M' - male) |

| | Variable | Description |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 3 | age | student's age (numeric: from 15 to 22) |
| 4 | address | student's home address type (binary: 'U' - urban or 'R' - rural) |
| 5 | famsize | family size (binary: 'LE3' - less or equal to 3 or 'GT3' - greater than 3) |
| 6 | Pstatus | parent's cohabitation status (binary: 'T' - living together or 'A' - apart) |
| 7 | Medu | mother's education (numeric: 0 - none, 1 - primary education (4th grade), 2 - 5th to 9th grade, 3-secondary education or 4 -higher education) |
| 8 | Fedu | father's education (numeric: 0 - none, 1 - primary education (4th grade), 2(5th to 9th grade), 3-secondary education or 4-higher education) |
| 9 | Mjob | mother's job (nominal: 'teacher', 'health' care related, civil 'services' (e.g. administrative or police), 'at_home' or 'other') |
| 10 | Fjob | father's job (nominal: 'teacher', 'health' care related, civil 'services' (e.g. administrative or police), 'at_home' or 'other') |
| 11 | reason | reason to choose this school (nominal: close to 'home', school 'reputation', 'course' preference or 'other') |
| 12 | guardian | student's guardian (nominal: 'mother', 'father' or 'other') |
| 13 | traveltime | home to school travel time (numeric: 1 - <15 min., 2 - 15 to 30 min., 3 - 30 min. to 1 hour, or 4 - >1 hour) |

| | Variable | Description |
|----|-----------------|--|
| 14 | studytime | weekly study time (numeric: 1 - <2 hours, 2 - 2 to 5 hours, 3 - 5 to 10 hours, or 4 - >10 hours) |
| 15 | failures | number of past class failures (numeric: n if $1 \leq n < 3$, else 4) |
| 16 | schoolsup | extra educational support (binary: yes or no) |
| 17 | famsup | family educational support (binary: yes or no) |
| 18 | paid | extra paid classes within the course subject (Math or Portuguese) (binary: yes or no) |
| 20 | nursery | attended nursery school (binary: yes or no) |
| 19 | activities | extra-curricular activities (binary: yes or no) |
| 21 | higher | wants to take higher education (binary: yes or no) |
| 22 | internet | Internet access at home (binary: yes or no) |
| 23 | romantic | with a romantic relationship (binary: yes or no) |
| 24 | famrel | quality of family relationships (numeric: from 1 - very bad to 5 - excellent) |
| 25 | freetime | free time after school (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high) |
| 26 | goout | going out with friends (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high) |
| 27 | Dalc | workday alcohol consumption (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high) |

| | Variable | Description |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 28 | Walc | weekend alcohol consumption (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high) |
| 29 | health | current health status (numeric: from 1 - very bad to 5 - very good) |
| 30 | absences | number of school absences (numeric: from 0 to 93) |
| 31 | G1 | first period grade (numeric: from 0 to 20) |
| 31 | G2 | second period grade (numeric: from 0 to 20) |
| 32 | G3 | final grade (numeric: from 0 to 20, output target) |

5. Implementation Plan

Step 1: Create a new blank notebook

Step 2: Explore and visualize the data

Step 3: Select the significant predictors for the model (features selection).

Step 4: Manipulating and transforming data- if needed (features engineering)

Step 5: Splitting the data

Step 6: Train the model

Step 7: Test the model

Step 8: Evaluate the model

Step 9: Draw conclusions

6. Assumptions of the model

1. Linearity: Y and X must have an approximately linear relationship.
2. Independence: Errors (residuals) ε_i and ε_j must be independent of one another for any $i \neq j$
3. Normality: The errors (residuals) follow a Normal distribution with mean 0.
4. Equality of Variances (Homoscedasticity of errors): The errors (residuals) should have a roughly consistent pattern, regardless of the value of X. (There should be no discernable relationship between X and the residuals.)