Q & A Labelling Problem

Introduction

This notebook aims to predict subjective labels for question-answer pairs using a dataset gathered from various StackExchange properties. The target labels are continuous and can have values in the range of [0,1]. To simplify the problem, we will convert the continuous target variable to a discrete variable for classification. The dataset is from kaggle competition, https://www.kaggle.com/competitions/google-quest-challenge/data.

To preprocess the text data, we used TfidfVectorizer to convert the text into a matrix of word frequencies. We then used truncated Singular Value Decomposition (SVD), an unsupervised learning method, to reduce the dimensionality of the data. Truncated SVD works by decomposing the matrix of word frequencies into a lower-dimensional representation that captures the most important latent features.

For supervised learning, we will use a RandomForestClassifier. We plan to optimize the model using cross-validation and randomized grid search to find the best hyperparameters. The evaluation metric for this competition is the mean column-wise Spearman's correlation coefficient, so we will use this metric to evaluate the performance of our model.

Keywords: classification, Spearman's correlation coefficient, TfidfVectorizer, TruncatedSVD, RandomForestClassifier, cross-validation, grid search.

Import necessary libraries

```
pip install scikit-bio==0.5.6
```

 $\begin{array}{l} ::: \{.\text{cell_guid=`b1076dfc-b9ad-4769-8c92-a6c4dae69d19'} _\text{uuid=`8f2839f25d086af736a60e9eeb907d3b93b6eexecution=`f'' iopub.execute_input'': "2023-04-04T00:30:44.431762Z'', "iopub.status.busy'': "2023-04-04T00:30:44.431331Z'', "iopub.status.idle'': "2023-04-04T00:30:46.547356Z'', "shell.execute_reply'': "2023-04-04T00:30:46.544661Z'', "shell.execute_reply.started'': "2023-04-04T00:30:44.431728Z'' \}'' \\ \text{trusted=`true' execution_count=1} \\ \end{array}$

```
import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore", category=FutureWarning)
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
import re, string
```

```
from time import time
  from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import TfidfVectorizer
  from sklearn.metrics import make_scorer
  from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, RandomizedSearchCV, cross_validate,
  from sklearn.decomposition import TruncatedSVD, NMF, PCA
  from sklearn.pipeline import make_pipeline, Pipeline
  from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
  from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder
  from sklearn.multioutput import MultiOutputClassifier
  from sklearn.preprocessing import OrdinalEncoder
  from sklearn.svm import SVC
  from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
  from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
  from sklearn.linear_model import RidgeClassifier, LogisticRegression
  from scipy.stats import randint, uniform
  from scipy.stats import spearmanr, SpearmanRConstantInputWarning
  import os
  for dirname, _, filenames in os.walk('/kaggle/input'):
      for filename in filenames:
          print(os.path.join(dirname, filename))
/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/sample_submission.csv
/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/train.csv
/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/test.csv
:::
  # Helper functions and Hyper params
  o_en = OrdinalEncoder()
  def spearmancoff(y_pred, y_true):
      y_pred = o_en.inverse_transform(y_pred)
      y_true = o_en.inverse_transform(y_true)
      y_pred = pd.DataFrame(y_pred)
      y_true = pd.DataFrame(y_true)
      with warnings.catch_warnings():
          warnings.filterwarnings('ignore', category=SpearmanRConstantInputWarning)
          corr = y_pred.corrwith(y_true, method='spearman').mean()
```

```
return corr
scorer = make_scorer(spearmancoff, greater_is_better=True)
re_tok = re.compile(f'([{string.punctuation}"""«»®´.º½½¡§££','])')
def tokenize(s):
    return re_tok.sub(r' \1 ', s).split()
def get_model(text_vect, model=LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000)):
    preprocess = ColumnTransformer(
            ("category", OneHotEncoder(dtype="int"), ["category"]),
            ("title", text_vect, "question_title"),
            ("question", text_vect, "question"),
            ("answer", text_vect, "answer"),
        ], remainder="drop")
    return Pipeline(
            ("preprocess", preprocess),
            ("model", MultiOutputClassifier(model)),
        ]
    )
```

Load data

The training dataset are 6079 entries, while testsets are 476. The model will train on 10 features to predict 30 target variables. The 3 features, question title body and answer, are text data so we need to convert them to numeric before training.

```
train = pd.read_csv("/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/train.csv", low_memory=True)
test = pd.read_csv("/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/test.csv", low_memory=True)
subm = pd.read_csv("/kaggle/input/google-quest-challenge/sample_submission.csv", low_memory
train.shape, test.shape, subm.shape

((6079, 41), (476, 11), (476, 31))

target_cols = subm.columns[1:]
feat_cols = test.columns[1:]
target_cols, feat_cols
```

```
(Index(['question_asker_intent_understanding', 'question_body_critical',
        'question_conversational', 'question_expect_short_answer',
        'question_fact_seeking', 'question_has_commonly_accepted_answer',
        'question_interestingness_others', 'question_interestingness_self',
        'question multi intent', 'question not really a question',
        'question_opinion_seeking', 'question_type_choice',
        'question_type_compare', 'question_type_consequence',
        'question_type_definition', 'question_type_entity',
        'question_type_instructions', 'question_type_procedure',
        'question_type_reason_explanation', 'question_type_spelling',
        'question_well_written', 'answer_helpful',
        'answer_level_of_information', 'answer_plausible', 'answer_relevance',
        'answer_satisfaction', 'answer_type_instructions',
        'answer_type_procedure', 'answer_type_reason_explanation',
        'answer_well_written'],
      dtype='object'),
Index(['question_title', 'question_body', 'question_user_name',
        'question_user_page', 'answer', 'answer_user_name', 'answer_user_page',
        'url', 'category', 'host'],
      dtype='object'))
```

train.head(4)

	qa_id	question_title	question_body
0	0	What am I losing when using extension tubes in	After playing around with macro photograp
1	1	What is the distinction between a city and a s	I am trying to understand what kinds of pla
2	2	Maximum protusion length for through-hole comp	I'm working on a PCB that has through-hol
3	3	Can an affidavit be used in Beit Din?	An affidavit, from what i understand, is bas

EDA

There's no missing data in training features and targets. Target are all numeric value, while targets are object like text value.

```
print(train[train.isna().sum(axis=1) == 1])
print(train.info())
train.describe()
```

Empty DataFrame

Columns: [qa_id, question_title, question_body, question_user_name, question_user_page, answer Index: []

[0 rows x 41 columns]

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 6079 entries, 0 to 6078
Data columns (total 41 columns):

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	qa_id	6079 non-null	int64
1	question_title	6079 non-null	object
2	question_body	6079 non-null	object
3	question_user_name	6079 non-null	object
4	question_user_page	6079 non-null	object
5	answer	6079 non-null	object
6	answer_user_name	6079 non-null	object
7	answer_user_page	6079 non-null	object
8	url	6079 non-null	object
9	category	6079 non-null	object
10	host	6079 non-null	object
11	question_asker_intent_understanding	6079 non-null	float64
12	question_body_critical	6079 non-null	float64
13	question_conversational	6079 non-null	float64
14	question_expect_short_answer	6079 non-null	float64
15	question_fact_seeking	6079 non-null	float64
16	question_has_commonly_accepted_answer	6079 non-null	float64
17	question_interestingness_others	6079 non-null	float64
18	question_interestingness_self	6079 non-null	float64
19	question_multi_intent	6079 non-null	float64
20	question_not_really_a_question	6079 non-null	float64
21	question_opinion_seeking	6079 non-null	float64
22	question_type_choice	6079 non-null	float64
23	question_type_compare	6079 non-null	float64
24	question_type_consequence	6079 non-null	float64
25	question_type_definition	6079 non-null	float64
26	question_type_entity	6079 non-null	float64
27	question_type_instructions	6079 non-null	float64
28	question_type_procedure	6079 non-null	float64
29	question_type_reason_explanation	6079 non-null	float64
30	question_type_spelling	6079 non-null	float64
31	question_well_written	6079 non-null	float64
32	answer_helpful	6079 non-null	float64
33	answer_level_of_information	6079 non-null	float64

34	answer_plausible	6079 non-null	float64
35	answer_relevance	6079 non-null	float64
36	answer_satisfaction	6079 non-null	float64
37	answer_type_instructions	6079 non-null	float64
38	answer_type_procedure	6079 non-null	float64
39	answer_type_reason_explanation	6079 non-null	float64
40	answer_well_written	6079 non-null	float64

dtypes: float64(30), int64(1), object(10)

memory usage: 1.9+ MB

None

	qa_id	question_asker_intent_understanding	question_body_critical	question_conversation
count	6079.000000	6079.000000	6079.000000	6079.000000
mean	4829.665899	0.892663	0.595301	0.057301
std	2789.689555	0.132047	0.219470	0.182196
\min	0.000000	0.333333	0.333333	0.000000
25%	2389.000000	0.777778	0.444444	0.000000
50%	4847.000000	0.888889	0.555556	0.000000
75%	7222.000000	1.000000	0.777778	0.000000
max	9647.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000

```
print(train["question_title"][1])
print("-----")
print(train["question_body"][1])
print("-----")
print(train["answer"][1])
```

What is the distinction between a city and a sprawl/metroplex... between downtown and a comm-----

I am trying to understand what kinds of places the spam values on p 231 refer to in the 5th

Per p 15, a sprawl is a plex, a plex is a "metropolitan complex, short for metroplex". Per G

It might be helpful to look into the definition of spam zone:

(p.216) spam zone: An area flooded with invasive and/or viral AR advertising, causing noise.

Because a metroplex has so many marketing targets, it seems a safe assumption that marketers

```
print(train["question_title"][100])
print("----")
print(train["question_body"][100])
print("----")
print(train["answer"][100])
```

Where exactly is the London Shoreditch National Express Coach Stop?

For some reason the rubbish website shows that the Shoreditch stop is just off the Ivory Coa

The National Express website is presumably the one you mean, where it shows it off the Africa

However, if you look further down the page, it says:

```
London (Shoreditch)

Bethnal Green Rd (to Stansted Airport: Stop J

opp Overground Stn; or

from Stansted: Stop K)
```

Bethnal Green road on Google Maps clearly shows the road running west-east, with the Overgreen Hope that helps!

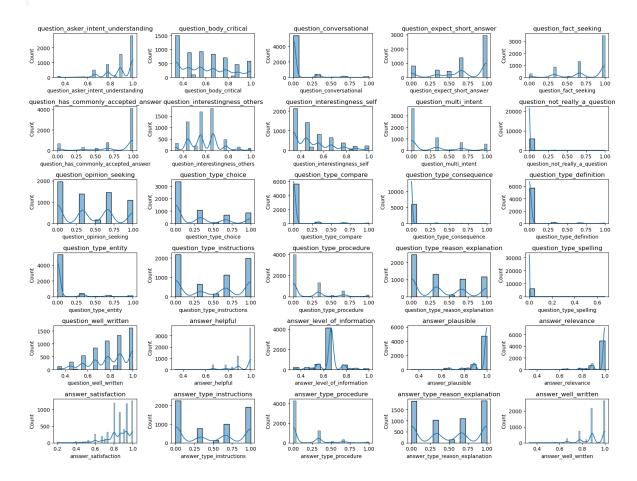
The plots show the distribution of each target variable. It seems like most of the target variables have a skewed distribution with the majority of the values at either extreme end (0 or 1). It is also noted that the range of target values varies from [0, 1] to [0.33, 1], and the number of classes ranges from 4 to 17. To simplify the problem, we suggest converting the continuous target variable to a discrete variable. This approach can be helpful in reducing the complexity of the problem and making it more interpretable. Overall, the plots provide a good understanding of the distribution of target variables.

```
fig, axs = plt.subplots(6, 5, figsize=(16, 12))
axs = axs.ravel()

for i, col in enumerate(target_cols):
```

```
sns.histplot(data=train, x=col, kde=True, ax=axs[i])
axs[i].set_title(col)

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

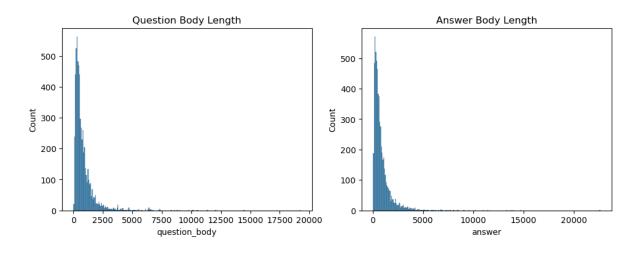


Text data are around 800 length. Some of them are empty but title indicates the question in this case.

```
fig, axs = plt.subplots(ncols=2, figsize=(12, 4))
lens_quest = train.question_body.str.len()
sns.histplot(lens_quest, ax=axs[0])
axs[0].set_title("Question Body Length")
lens_ans = train.answer.str.len()
sns.histplot(lens_ans, ax=axs[1])
```

```
axs[1].set_title("Answer Body Length")
plt.show()

print("Question Body Length Stats: min = {}, mean = {}, max = {}, std = {}".format(
    lens_quest.min(), lens_quest.mean(), lens_quest.max(), lens_quest.std()))
print("Answer Body Length Stats: min = {}, mean = {}, max = {}, std = {}".format(
    lens_ans.min(), lens_ans.mean(), lens_ans.max(), lens_ans.std()))
```



Question Body Length Stats: min = 1, mean = 833.7604869221911, max = 19253, std = 1029.04698 Answer Body Length Stats: min = 21, mean = 839.3967757854911, max = 22636, std = 1017.388922

```
train[train.question_title.str.len() < 10]</pre>
```

qa_id question_title question_body question_user_name question_user_page answer answer_u

train[train.question_body.str.len() < 10]</pre>

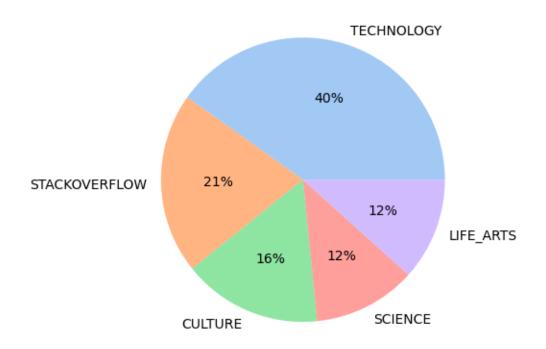
	qa_id	question_title	question_body	question_user_name	question_
1297	2044	Removing blanks from a column in Excel	\n	Mike	https://su
2748	4380	Removing blanks from a column in Excel	\n	Mike	https://su

train[train.answer.str.len() < 30].answer</pre>

```
3924 Not to my knowledge \n Name: answer, dtype: object
```

The category class disrubtion are as follows. Technology and Stackoverflow occupied 61%. This is because dataset is mostly from stackoverflow.

```
colors = sns.color_palette('pastel')[0:5]
plt.pie(train.category.value_counts(), labels=train.category.value_counts().index, colors=
plt.show()
```



```
train['host_type'] = train.host.apply(lambda x: x.split('.')[0])
test['host_type'] = test.host.apply(lambda x: x.split('.')[0])
print("Top Genre: ")
print(train.host_type.value_counts()[:5])
print("Lower Genre: ")
print(train.host_type.value_counts()[-5:])
```

Top Genre: stackoverflow 1253

```
english
                   229
superuser
                   227
electronics
                   221
serverfault
                   213
Name: host_type, dtype: int64
Lower Genre:
dsp
                 29
anime
                 21
cs
softwarerecs
                  8
                  2
robotics
Name: host_type, dtype: int64
```

Feature engineering

we use OrdinalEncoder to convert the continuous target variables into discrete variables with ordered numeric values based on the EDA results

However, this transformations have following disadvantages. * Can result in a loss of information since continuous values are being discretized, and the granularity of the original values is reduced * Assumes that the ordinal relationship between the categories is consistent across all target variables, which may not be true in this dataset.

```
train[target_cols] = o_en.fit_transform(train[target_cols])
```

Model building and evaluation

Prepare validation dataset

We make training/valication set by splitting traing data into 60% and 40% respectively. While training and evaluating model, we don't use test data for data leakage prevention. The training data are 3647 entries, while the validation set are 2432.

```
# For train
train["question"] = train["question_body"] + " xxusr " + train["question_user_name"]
train["answer"] = train["answer"] + " xxusr " + train["answer_user_name"]
# For test
test["question"] = test["question_body"] + " xxusr " + test["question_user_name"]
test["answer"] = test["answer"] + " xxusr " + test["answer_user_name"]
# Update feat columns
```

```
feat_cols = ["category", "question_title", "question", "answer"]
# Make sample for cross-validation test
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(train[feat_cols], train[target_cols],
X_train.shape, X_test.shape

((3647, 4), (2432, 4))
```

Make baseline model

The first baseline model is supervised model, LogisticRegression on thid vectorized text data. The category are onehot encoded, while other text data are thidvectorized. The evaluation metric is spearman coefficients.

```
tfidvect = TfidfVectorizer(tokenizer=tokenize, min_df=10, max_df=0.5)
cv_results = cross_validate(get_model(tfidvect), X_train, y_train, cv=2, scoring=scorer, r
print("Train score:", cv_results['train_score'].mean())
print("Val score:", cv_results['test_score'].mean())
```

Train score: 0.6883401067687964 Val score: 0.23259649215303468

Select dimensionally reduction

The second model train on dimension reduced text data, using unsupervised model as feature reduction. We compare 2 technique, NMF and TruncatedSVD for feature reduction on our dataset. We concluded to use TrunctedSVD due to its better performance on validation set.

The TruncatedSVD are matrix factorization technique, the following images shows what it does. The technique decomposes a matrix into two smaller matrices where the singular values of the original matrix are preserved for the most part

(source: Facebook Research: Fast Randomized SVD)

We just select most informative top rank features for training the model.

```
vect_with_tsvd = make_pipeline(tfidvect, TruncatedSVD(100))
vect_with_nmf = make_pipeline(tfidvect, NMF(100, init="nndsvd", max_iter=1000))

cv_results = cross_validate(get_model(vect_with_tsvd), X_train, y_train, cv=2, scoring=scorint("TSVD result")
print("Train score:", cv_results['train_score'].mean())
```

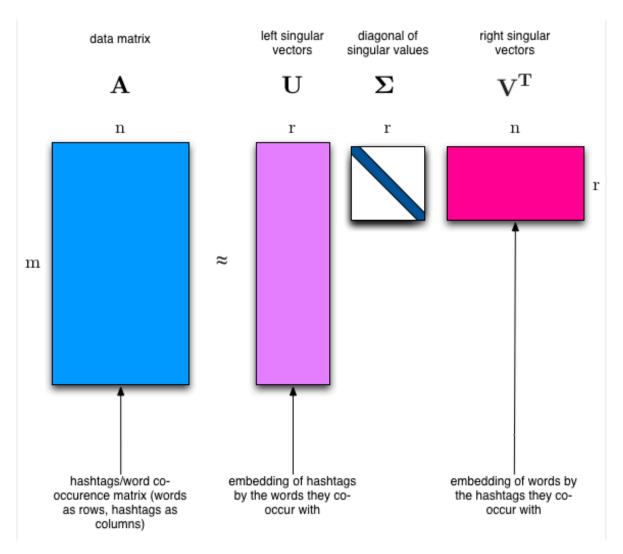


Figure 1: image.png

```
print("Val score:", cv_results['test_score'].mean())

cv_results = cross_validate(get_model(vect_with_nmf), X_train, y_train, cv=2, scoring=scor
print("\nNMF result")
print("Train score:", cv_results['train_score'].mean())
print("Val score:", cv_results['test_score'].mean())
```

TSVD result

Train score: 0.37877142458406565 Val score: 0.22703753689693956

NMF result

Train score: 0.2341134082804422 Val score: 0.20877898790329713

Compare supervised model

So far, we utilize LogisticRegression model but what about others? We compare other models and see its performance on validation set. he best performing model in terms of validation score is RandomForestClassifier with a validation score of 0.2487. The other models did not perform as well on the validation set, with scores ranging from 0.1638 to 0.2244. However, it's important to note that these are just initial results and we will want to fine-tune the hyperparameters of each model to see if we can improve their performance. After hyperparam tuning, we got the same result, RandomForestClassifier would fit better among others.

LogisticRegression

```
Train score: 0.3746594432006073
Val score: 0.22439113752622278
```

RidgeClassifier

Train score: 0.39495739486360976 Val score: 0.21705747065095193

RandomForestClassifier

Train score: 0.26414448837653753 Val score: 0.24878697944520262

KNeighborsClassifier

Train score: 0.21898184347364333 Val score: 0.16381965408360588

SVC

Train score: 0.37204223515540147 Val score: 0.21222970771971883

Hyper parameter tuning

After selecting model with hyperparam tuning, RandomForestClassifier would be good to go. We apply hyper parameter tuning using randomized grid search. The same search applied to find better hyper parameter for TfidVectorizer and TruncatedSVD beforehand.

```
}
  search = RandomizedSearchCV(
      model, param_distributions=param_distributions,
      cv=2, scoring=scorer, n_iter=10, n_jobs=-1, verbose=1, return_train_score=True,
  )
  search.fit(X_train, y_train)
  print("train score: ", search.cv_results_['mean_train_score'][search.best_index_])
  print("valid score: ", search.best_score_)
  print("test score: ", spearmancoff(search.best_estimator_.predict(X_test), y_test))
Fitting 2 folds for each of 10 candidates, totalling 20 fits
train score: 0.40687088857092957
valid score: 0.2612837822749815
test score: 0.27884287368395144
  search.best_estimator_
  estimator = RandomForestClassifier(max depth=10,
                                      max_features='sqrt',
                                     min_samples_leaf=40,
                                     min_samples_split=5,
                                     n_estimators=150)
```

Compare model performance with/without TruncatedSVD

We compare our model performance with/without unsupervised method. The model with TruncatedSVD results seems to fit better than model without.

```
cv_results = cross_validate(get_model(text_vect, estimator), X_train, y_train, cv=2, scori
print("Model with TruncatedSVD")
print("Train score:", cv_results['train_score'].mean())
print("Val score:", cv_results['test_score'].mean())

cv_results = cross_validate(get_model(tfidvect, estimator), X_train, y_train, cv=2, scorin
print("\nModel without TruncatedSVD")
print("Train score:", cv_results['train_score'].mean())
print("Val score:", cv_results['test_score'].mean())
```

Model with TruncatedSVD

Train score: 0.40585555689568453 Val score: 0.25071130284884546

Model without TruncatedSVD Train score: 0.307640553239409 Val score: 0.24189600774773976

Final submission

The following code makes submission file for competition.

_					
	qa_id	${\tt question_asker_intent_understanding}$	question_body_critical	question_conversational	ques
0	39	8.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
1	46	8.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
2	70	8.0	5.0	0.0	4.0
3	132	8.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
4	200	8.0	0.0	0.0	4.0

Discussion

Result

The final submission score would be about 0.25 in terms of spearman metric.

Pros/Cons for using TruncatedSVD

One interesting finding is feature reduction are preventing overfitting. It makes sense since it generalize the data if data is not noisy nor irrelevant. It can also reduce training and inference time due to its less dimentionality.

For pros * Fast and simple when reduing dimensionality * Prevent overfitting * Reduce training and inference time

For cons * Work poorly on non-linear relationship features

Limitation of our approach

There are some limitations in our approach.

- The same hyperparameters may not be suitable for all text transformations, such as title
 and answer texts, and different hyperparameters may be needed for different vectorizations.
- Text conversion would make difficult to find relationship between feature and response directly. As a result, outlier would exist but we can't find it easily.
- More precise grid search, like finding better param to model and text vectorizer at the same time, would be better finding strategy
- Order encoder may dismiss some relationship between feature and target, but not its not obvious because vectorized data can't be interpretable.

Summary

This notebook makes model to predict subjective labels for QA paris using dataset from kaggle. The dataset consists of questions and its answers, along with subjective labels and indicating the degree of agree/disagreements. The target are discrete so the proble is framed as classification task.

The text processing steps involve using the TfidfVectorizer to convert the text data into vectorized numerical data, and the TruncatedSVD algorithm to reduce the dimensionality of the resulting feature matrix. The random forest classifier is used for supervised learning, and the hyperparameters of the model are optimized using cross-validation and randomized grid search.

The final submission achieves a Spearman correlation of about 0.25. While this is not the highest score in the competition, it demonstrates the effectiveness of the approach in predicting subjective labels.

Regerence

- [This project's repo]https://github.com/Akitsuyoshi/unsupervised_ml_app
- https://www.kaggle.com/competitions/google-quest-challenge/data
- https://www.python-graph-gallery.com/25-histogram-with-several-variables-seaborn
- https://machinelearningmastery.com/multi-output-regression-models-with-python/

- $\bullet \ \, \text{https://towardsdatascience.com/column$ $transformer-meets-natural-language-processing-da1f116dd69f} \\$
- $\bullet \ \, https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/compose.html\#columntransformer-for-heterogeneous-data \\$
- https://www.kaggle.com/code/jhoward/nb-svm-strong-linear-baseline
- $\bullet \ \ https://www.kaggle.com/code/codename007/start-from-here-quest-complete-eda-fe$
- https://github.com/fastai/course-nlp/blob/master/2-svd-nmf-topic-modeling.ipynb