

RMIT
Computer Science & IT, School of Science
COSC 2670 — Practical Data Science
Assignment 2: Data Modelling and Presentation
Due: Midday, Thursday 18 May (week 11)
This assignment is worth 35% of your overall mark.

Introduction

This assignment focuses on *data modelling*, a core step in the data science process. You will need to develop and implement appropriate steps, in IPython, to complete the corresponding tasks.

This assignment is intended to give you practical experience with the typical 5th and 6th steps of the data science process: *data modelling*, and *presentation and automation*.

The “Practical Data Science” blackboard contains further announcements and a discussion board for this assignment. Please be sure to check these on a regular basis – it is your responsibility to stay informed with regards to any announcements or changes. Login through <https://learninghub.rmit.edu.au>.

Teaching Servers

Three CSIT teaching servers are available for your use:

`(titan|saturn|jupiter).csit.rmit.edu.au`.

Details for how to access these servers are available in “Tute/Lab 01” under the **Learning Resources/Tutorials** section of the course BlackBoard.

You are encouraged to develop your code on these machines. If you choose to develop your code elsewhere, it is your responsibility to ensure that your assignment submission can be successfully run using the version of IPython installed on `(titan|saturn|jupiter).csit.rmit.edu.au`, as this is where your code will be run for marking purposes.

Important: You are required to make regular backups of all of your work. This is good practice, no matter where you are developing your assignment solutions.

Assignment Teams

This assignment should be carried out in groups of *two*. It is up to you to form a team.

Once you have formed your team, you should register using the form at:

<https://goo.gl/forms/KQixgtipMcTX5Wxa2>.

Important: you must register your team by 11 May at the latest (one week before the assignment is due).

If you are a postgraduate student and have strong reasons for needing to complete the assignment individually, you may apply to do so by sending an email to the lecturer, explaining your reasons. However, bear in mind that the requirements and available marks will be the same as for pairs, so you are strongly advised to work in a team.

Plagiarism

RMIT University takes plagiarism very seriously. All assignments will be checked with plagiarism-detection software; any student found to have plagiarised will be subject to disciplinary action as described in the course guide. Plagiarism includes submitting code that is not your own or submitting text that is not your own. Allowing others to copy your work is also plagiarism. All plagiarism will be penalised; there are no exceptions and no excuses. For further information, please see the *Academic Integrity* information at <http://www1.rmit.edu.au/academicintegrity>.

General Requirements

This section contains information about the general requirements that your assignment must meet. *Please read all requirements carefully before you start.*

- You *must* do all modelling in IPython.
- You *must* include a plain text file called “readme.txt” with your submission. This file should include your name(s) (if you are a group of two) and student ID(s), and instructions for how to execute your submitted script files. This is important as *automation* is part of the 6th step of data science process, and will be assessed strictly.
- Parts of this assignment will include a written report, this *must* be in *PDF* format.
- Please ensure that your submission follows the file naming rules specified in the tasks below. File names are case sensitive, i.e. if it is specified that the file name is **gryphon**, then that is exactly the file name you should submit; **Gryphon**, **GRYPHON**, **griffin**, and anything else but **gryphon** will be rejected.

Task 1: Data Retrieving (3%)

This assignment will focus on data modelling, and you can choose to focus on one approach: *Classification* or *Clustering*.

For this assignment, you need to select **one** suitable dataset, from the following options:

1. Find and then analyse your own data set, in a domain that is of interest to you. If you choose this option, you will need to:
 - include a detailed description of the data, and each attribute of it, including the type, the range of possible values, whether it contains any missing values/errors
 - submit a copy of the dataset, to allow the assessment of your modelling result.
2. Select one data set from the UCI Repository: <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>. Choose one dataset from either the *Classification* or *Clustering* task.

UCI Machine Learning Repository

Abalone Data Set

Download: [Data Folder](#), [Data Set Description](#)

Abstract: Predict the age of abalone from physical measurements

Data Set Characteristics:	Multi-class	Number of Instances:	4177	Area:	Life
Attribute Characteristics:	Categorical, Integer, Real	Number of Attributes:	8	Date Donated:	1995-12-01
Associated Tasks:	Classification	Missing Values?	No	Number of Web Hits:	445482

Source:

Data comes from an original (non-machine-learning) study:
Warwick J. Nash, Tracy L. Sellers, Simon R. Tibbo, Andrew J. Cawthron and Wae B. Ford (1994)
"The Population Biology of Abalone (*L. Helix*), species in Tasmania I. Blacklip Abalone (*L. rubra*) from the North Coast and Islands of Bass Strait",
Sea Fisheries Division, Technical Report No. 48 (ISSN 1034-3288)

Original Owners of Database:
Marine Resources Division
Marine Research Laboratories - Tasmania
Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries, Tasmania
GPO Box 619F, Hobart, Tasmania 7201, Australia

Figure 1: Example of the Abalone data set with instructions: where to download the data, the types of the attributes in the data, and the suitable task(s) of this data.

Being a careful data scientist, you know that it is vital to thoroughly check any available data before starting to analyse it. Please ensure you understand the data you selected, including the meaning of each attribute. For datasets from the UCI repository, you can obtain this information from the corresponding web page under the sections *Data Set Information* and *Attribute Information*.

Task 2: Data Exploration (5%)

Explore the selected data, carrying out the following tasks:

- Explore each column, using appropriate descriptive statistics and graphs (if appropriate), e.g. the distribution of a numerical attribute, the proportion of each value of a categorical attribute. Format each graph carefully, and use it in your final report. You need to include appropriate labels on the x-axis and y-axis, a title, and a legend. The fonts should be sized for good readability. Components of the graphs should be coloured appropriately, if applicable.
- Explore the relationship between all pairs of attributes (or at least 10 pairs of attributes, if there are more in the data), and show their relationship in an appropriate graph.

Task 2: Data Modelling (11%)

Model the data by treating it as **either** a *Classification* or *Clustering* Task, depending on which dataset you previously selected.

You must choose **two** models within the particular Task category (i.e. two Classification models, or two Clustering models), and carry out the following steps for *each* model:

- Select the appropriate model (e.g. *DecisionTree* for classification) from *sklearn*.
- If you choose to do a *Classification* Task,
 - Split the data into *training* set and the *test* set.
 - Train the model by selecting appropriate values for each parameter in the model.
 - * You need to *show* how do you choose this value, and *justify* why you choose it (for example, k in the *KNearestNeighbor* model).
 - Test the accuracy of the model on the *test* set, and report the performance of the model in the following terms:
 - * Confusion Matrix
 - * Classification Error Rate
 - * Precision
 - * Recall
 - * F1-Score
- If you choose to do a *Clustering* Task,
 - Train the model by selecting appropriate values for each parameter in the model.
 - * *Show* how do you choose this value, and *justify* why you choose it (for example, k in the k -means model).
 - Evaluate the performance of the clustering model by:
 - * Checking the clustering results against the true observation labels

- * Constructing a “confusion matrix” to analyse the meaning of each cluster by looking at the majority of observations in the cluster. (You can do this by using a pen and a piece of paper, as we did in Practical Exercise 3 in Tute/Lab 06 (week7); if you prefer, you can also explore how to do this step directly in IPython.)

After you have built two Classification models, or two Clustering models, on your data, the next step is to *compare* the models. You need to include the results of this comparison, including a recommendation of which model should be used, in your report (see next section).

Task 3: Report (16%)

Your report should be saved in a file called `report.pdf`, and must be in PDF format. Remember to clearly cite any sources (including books, research papers, course notes, etc.) that you referred to while designing aspects of your programs.

Your report must have the following structure:

- A cover page, including
 - Title
 - Author (your name(s))
 - Affiliations
 - Contact details
 - Date of report
- Table of Content
- An abstract/executive summary
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- References

Please revisit p. 51-57 in the Week1 lecture slides.

Optional Extension: Additional Model (Up to 3.5% bonus marks)

ONLY attempt this section if you have completed all previous sections of the assignment.

In the previous sections you chose to analyse your data using either two Clustering or two Classification models. In this bonus section, you should learn about and then apply a *third* model within the area same grouping.

Include your analysis of the data using this third model, and also compare the performance of this model with your previous two. Explain your results in your report. Also include your additional IPython code as part of your assignment submission.

What to Submit, When, and How

The assignment is due at

Midday, Thursday 18 May (week 11).

Assignments submitted after this time will be subject to standard late submission penalties.

There are three files you need to submit:

- The *readme.txt* file.
- Script file containing your python commands.
- Your *report.pdf* file.

They must be submitted as ONE single zip file, named as your student number (for example, 1234567.zip if your student ID is s1234567). The zip file must be submitted in Blackboard:

Assessment tasks/Assignment 2/Assignment 2 Submission.

Please do NOT submit other unnecessary files.