

Gaiasavers - Ocean group

2020

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Background and motivation

This semester, we're participating in a data science challenge. The goal of this project is to learn data science, including the fields of data visualisation, data preprocessing and model comparison.

This is also great thing since we're learning how to work as a group of six. Especially learning tools such as Github, which is the first time for some of the members of the groupe.

Data and problem description

The goal of this project is to classify plankton (7 different types of plankton!) based on photographs using machine learning. So we have a bank of 10752 images of plankton to train our algorithm on. We also have some previously extracted data of these photographs at disposal. So it's a classification problem using pictures (pixel matrices) or feature with no restriction on model.

Approach chosen

For the feature **preprocessing**, we are using selectKBest as a feature selection tool to choose what feature to use & PCA to project feature if possible to increase score and to reduce execution time. We remove outliers using Local Outlier Factor. We are also extracting features from raw data images (for now only a perimeter).

To work on these images, we need a classifier optimized for our set of datas. We compare the performances of several classifier on our datas to keep the best models. With these classifiers, we are able to create a more effective models called a Voting classifier which is able to make all of our submodels work at the same time and vote on each data to classify it.

We have to collect datas on our algorithm. To achieve this with we have a thew different graphs such as the learning curve showing the score based on the quantity of datas to work with, the confusion matrix and the clustering of the data.

Brief description of the classes

The **preprocessing** team goal is to process data before it is used for training. So the main goal is to increase score on the models, we can also try to reduce execution time. We also extract data from raw-data set images, instead of working on the preprocessed data. We will draw the features we find relevant from data, in order to get a better score.

The **selection** team has to find the best classifier to work on the data preprocessed by the preprocessing team. Their objective is also to use the chosen classifier with the best hyperparameters

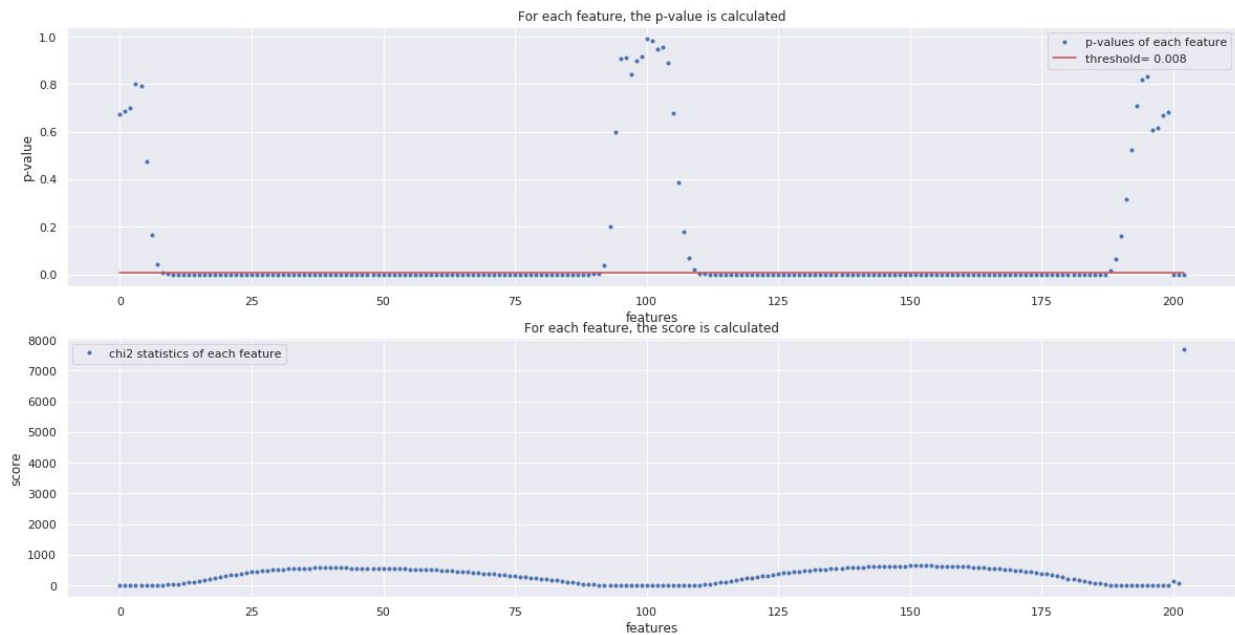
The **visualisation** team must produce interesting graphs and models, to be able to extract valuable information from the algorithm or the results.

Algorithm description

SelectKBest algorithm selects the best features of the preprocessed data. We have around 200 features and our goal is to reduce the number of these to keep only relevant features.

How does it work ?

We use χ^2 function. It gives a statistical score for each feature, depending of the data. It is a statistical test that estimates the probability for a difference between data to be random or not. The function gives a score to each feature, and the function SelectKBest will select the k features with the best score.



This graph shows the score for each features. Under the threshold (the red line), there are 165 features. So we use the SelectKBest function with (chi-2, 165) as parameters.

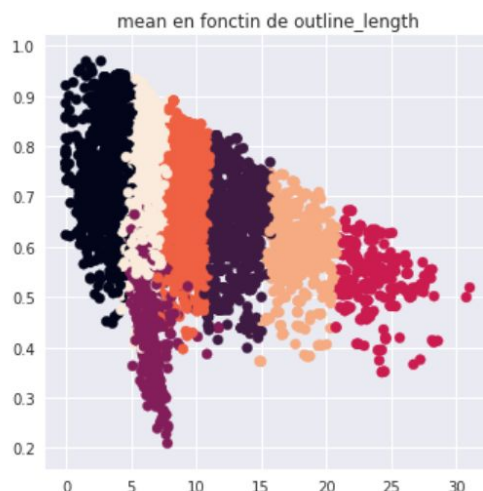
[ALGO & REFERENCE PAGE]

https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/generated/sklearn.feature_selection.chi2.html#sklearn.feature_selection.chi2

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Clustering

The goal of the clustering of the data, is to be able to see different patterns in the data to ease the prediction of the model to hopefully get a smaller error rate, which means a better score. To do this we use Kmeans.



Here we have the clustering of the data (mean as a function of outline_length), when we actually looked at the labels in the 7 different clusters, we saw that the purple cluster was able to identify the 90% limacina plankton, with an error rate of 7%. This is something that we can use later on to be able to get a better score.

Model selection

Now that data has been preprocessed, we have to **find the best classifier** for our problem. Firstly we looked on SKlearn on all the classifier we could use.

6 models captured our attention : Perceptron, GaussianNB, KNeighbors, AdaBoost, DecisionTree and RandomForest.

It is possible to set these models with their best parameters to work on our set of data by using a library named GridSearchCV which will search the best hyperparameters for us.

We proceeded to **compare their respective performances** on our set of datas using cross-validation.

We divided our datas into two separated sets : a **training set** of datas, and a **testing set** of datas. The objective is to train our models on the training set, then, to test their performances on the testing set, this is very important to avoid overfitting.

Modèle	Performances
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Perceptron	0.2589
GaussianNB	0.4357
Kneighbors	0.6837
DecisionTree	0.5913
RandomForest	0.8220

The **performance** value evaluate the **rate for successful predictions** on the datas of the model. As we can see GaussianNB, KNeighbors and RandomForest are the best models.

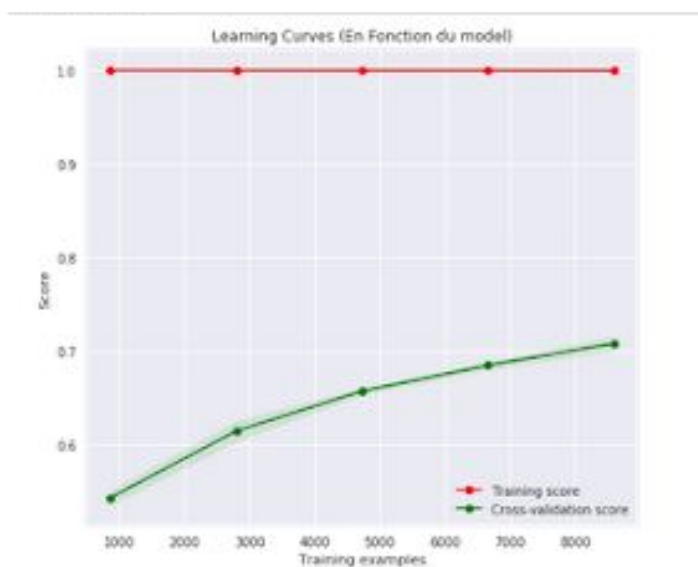
As our models have low performances, we tried **a voting system** where our best models would be set as voters. For each evaluation on the datas, each voter would give a prediction, the prediction with the highest vote would be the one chose by the model.

Modèle	Performances
Voting	0.2589

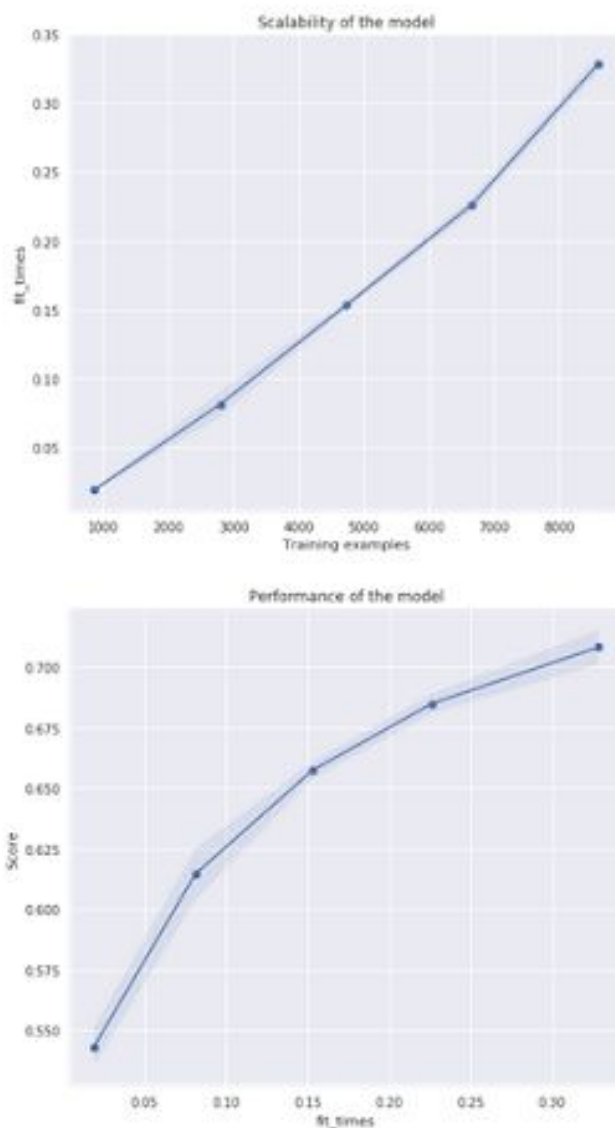
This model has **mediocre** performances. Even if it certainly has high potential, this one might be hard to use to set its parameters. We realised that it was harder than juste put all the model we wanted in the voting classifier. So we chose to focus ourself on finding the best parameter for the RandomForestClassifier than try to understand how the voting classifier works.

Graphs

The learning curve graphs shows the score (training score and cross-validation score) of the model as a function of the size of the training set.



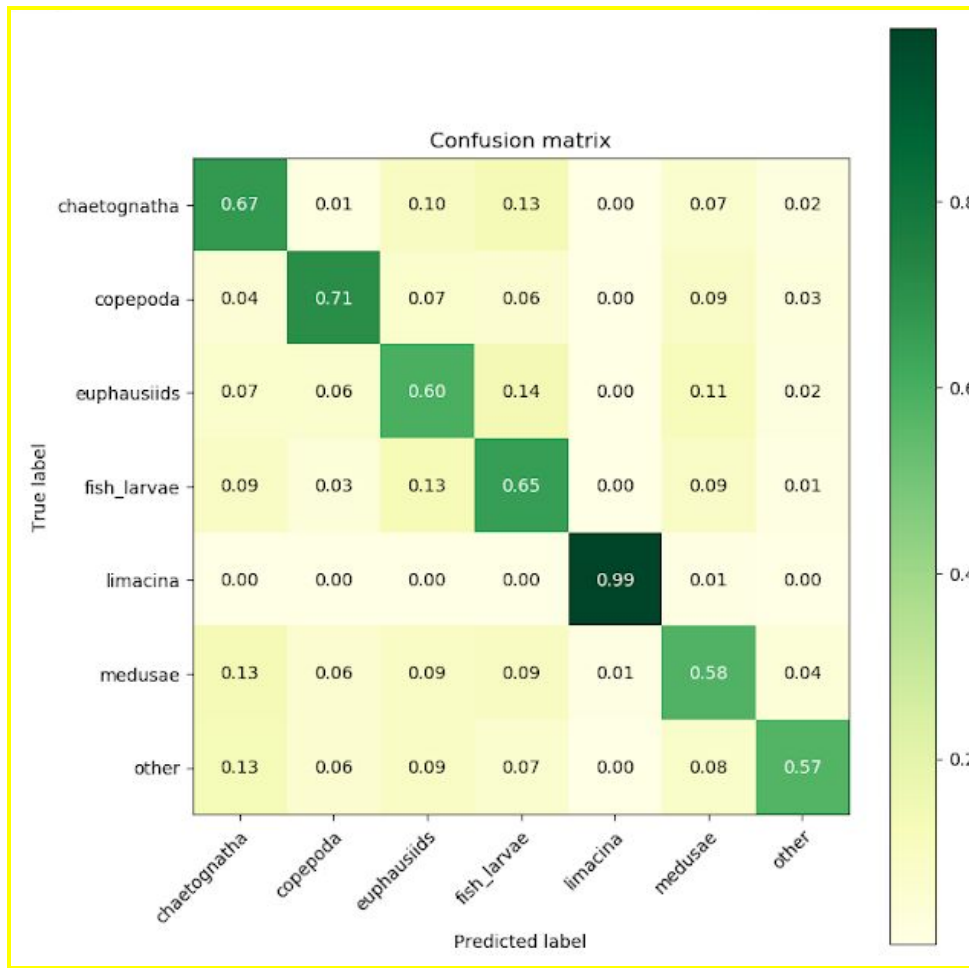
We also have 2 other graphs: one that shows the time of execution as a function of the training set, and the other the score as a function of the time of execution.



One of the best advantage of RandomForest is that it's hard to overfit. So during the research of the best parametres we also looked on which size of data we need to use for the best training. We realised that we can use the all data set without overfit.

Confusion Matrix

We can also make a confusion matrix showing the performances of our models on the different datas.



Our model has already decent performances.