

Supplemental material for the article: “Learning-to-Rank vs Ranking-to-Learn: Strategies for Regression Testing in Continuous Integration”

Antonia Bertolino
antonia.bertolino@isti.cnr.it
ISTI - CNR
Pisa, Italy

Antonio Guerriero
antonio.guerriero@unina.it
Università di Napoli Federico II
Napoli, Italy

Breno Miranda
bafm@cin.ufpe.br
Federal University of Pernambuco
Recife, Brazil

Roberto Pietrantuono
roberto.pietrantuono@unina.it
Università di Napoli Federico II
Napoli, Italy

Stefano Russo
stefano.russo@unina.it
Università di Napoli Federico II
Napoli, Italy

ACM Reference Format:

Antonia Bertolino, Antonio Guerriero, Breno Miranda, Roberto Pietrantuono, and Stefano Russo. 2020. Supplemental material for the article: “Learning-to-Rank vs Ranking-to-Learn: Strategies for Regression Testing in Continuous Integration”. In *ICSE 2020: 42nd International Conference on Software Engineering*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 6 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1122445.1122456>

A ONLINE SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

This appendix is available online for reviewers’ use at the following anonymized GitHub repository:

<https://github.com/icse20/RT-CL>.

Material for verifiability and replicability of the experiments is at the same repository.

The appendix contains: the settings of the prioritization algorithms; results for RQ1, RQ2 and RQ3 not presented in the main article for the sake of space.

A.1 Algorithm parameters

Table 1 reports the parameters setting of the experimented algorithms. In all the cases except two, the default parameters are adopted: for RankNet and LambdaMART, due to overfitting causing NaN occurrences in the ranking, we needed to lower the number of epochs and trees, respectively, until obtaining a valid result.

A.2 RQ1

Figures 1a-1f and 2a-2f report the *RPA* and *ranking time* boxplots for each subject.

Figures 3a-3f report the total training times (ms) per subject, in logarithmic scale.

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ICSE 2020, May 23–29, 2020, Seoul, South Korea

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<https://doi.org/10.1145/1122445.1122456>

Table 1: Algorithms parameters settings

Algorithm	Parameters		Library
KNN	k=4	SearchAlgorithm = LinearNNSearch	WEKA
RF	Tree=100	SplitCriterion = Information Gain Ratio	KNIME
L-MART	Tree=30	Leaf=10 shrinkage=0.001	Ranklib
MART	Tree=1000	Leaf=10 shrinkage=0.001	Ranklib
RankBoost	round = 300	tc=10	Ranklib
RankNet	Epoch=50 node=10	Layer=2 lr=0.00005	Ranklib
CA	randomRestarts=5	iterations=25 tolerance=0.001	Ranklib
RL	Layer=1 Neurons=12	solver=adam epsilon=1e-08 learning_rate_init=0.001	scikit-learn
RL-MLP	Layer=4 Neurons=12	solver=adam epsilon=1e-08 learning_rate_init=0.001	scikit-learn
RL-RF	Tree=100	SplitCriterion = Information Gain Ratio	KNIME

A.3 RQ2

Figures 4a-4f reports the T^2 Hotelling’s statistic used to summarize the trend of the code metrics, computed on a set of principal components able to explain at least the 95% of the original metrics variance.

A.4 RQ3

Table 2f reports, for each subject, the difference between the tests execution times taken from the 25%, 50% or 75% of the list of tests sorted according to the *optimal* ranking and those taken from the 25%, 50% or 75% of the list of tests sorted according to the *predicted* ranking. Similarly, the difference between the total number of failing tests considering the 25%, 50% or 75% of optimal and predicted ranking.

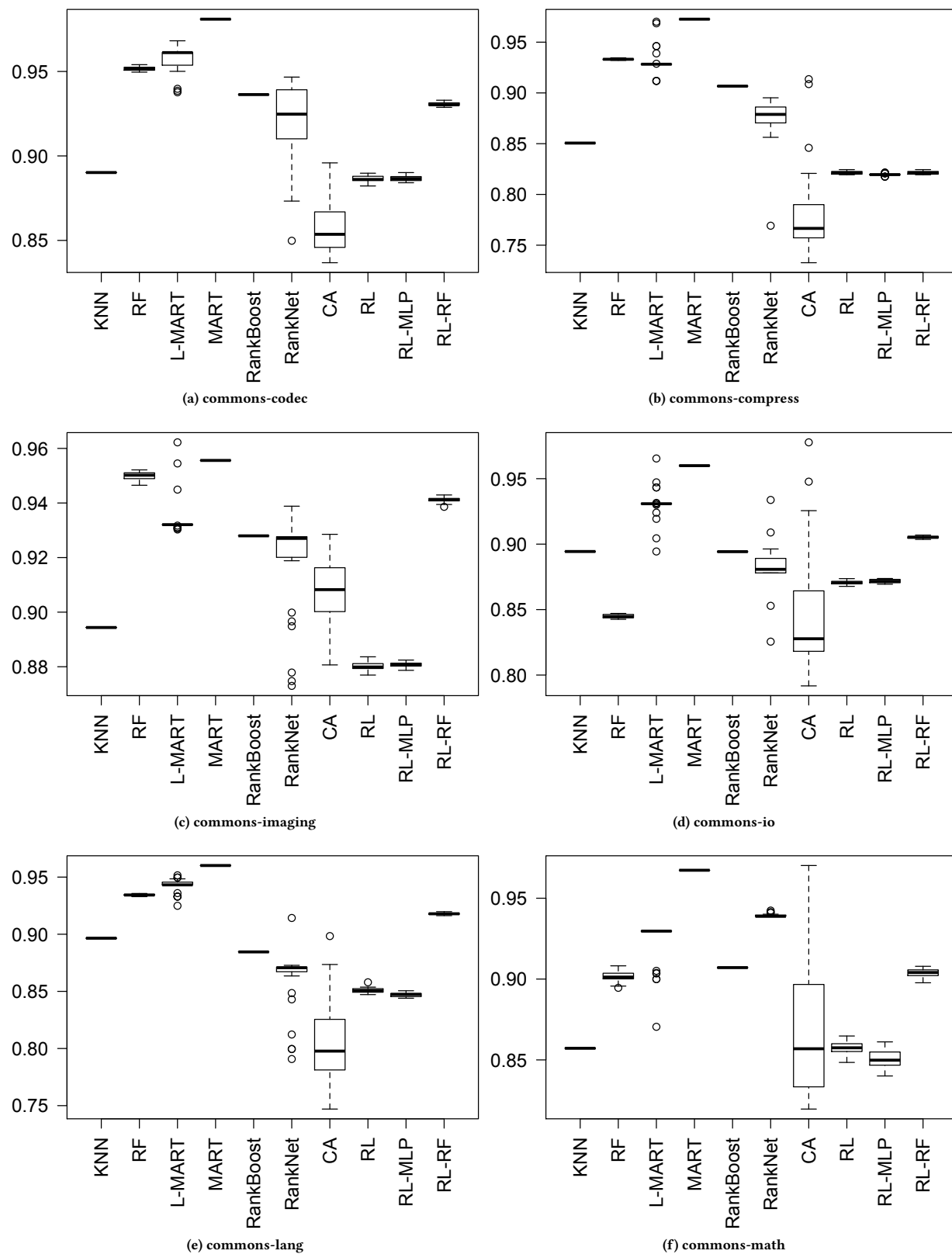


Figure 1: RPA

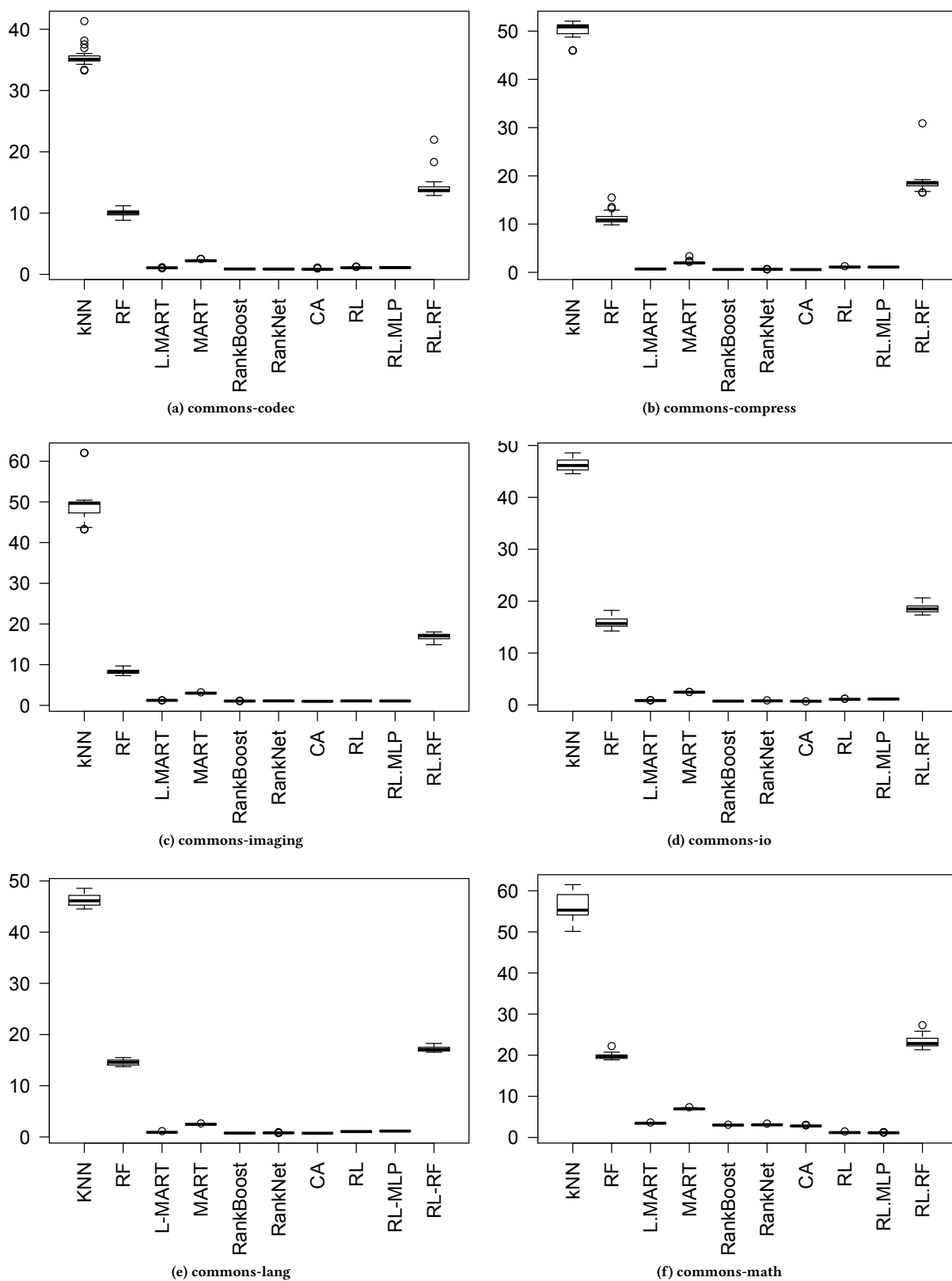


Figure 2: Ranking time

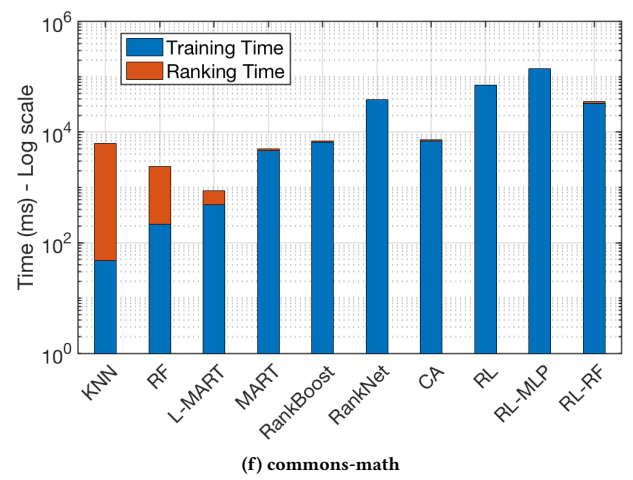
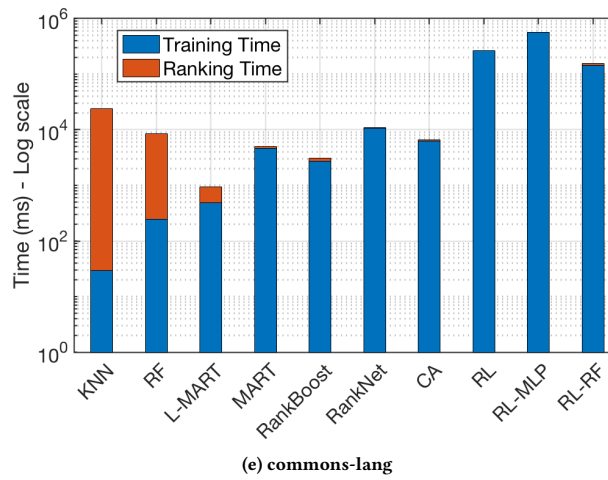
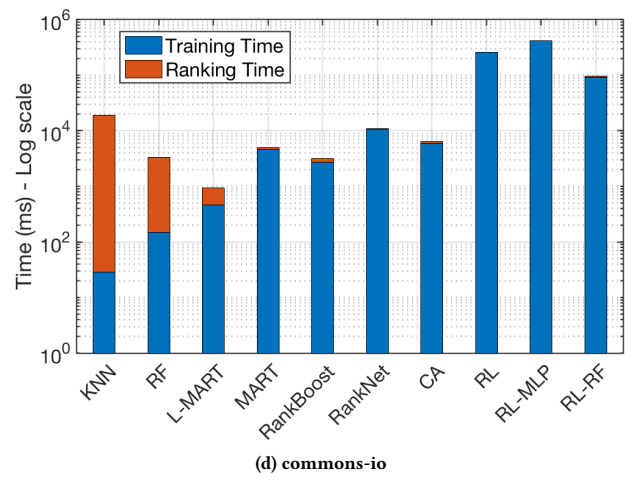
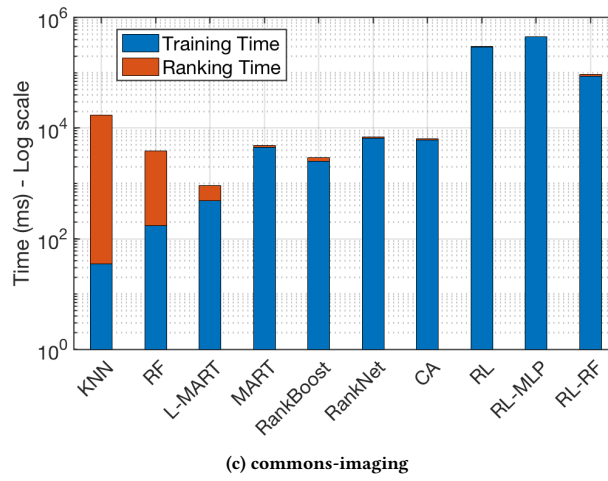
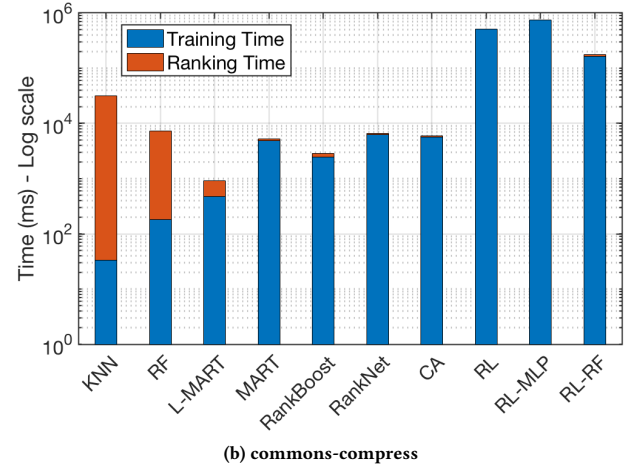
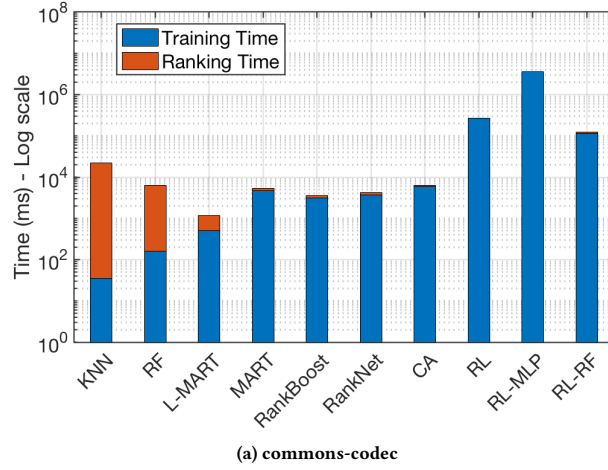
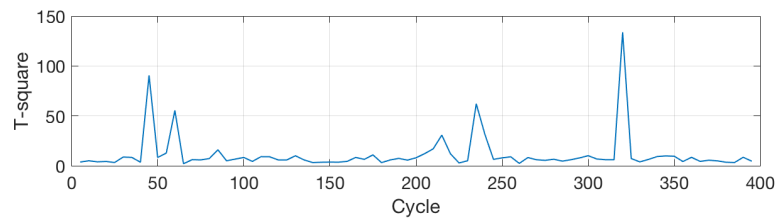
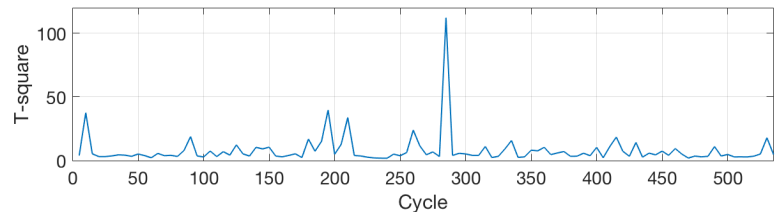


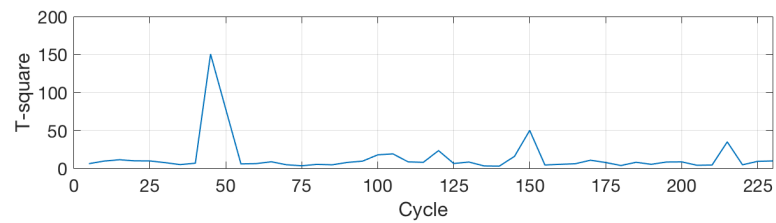
Figure 3: Training time



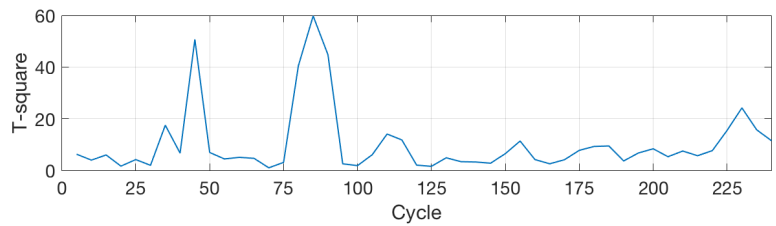
(a) commons-codec



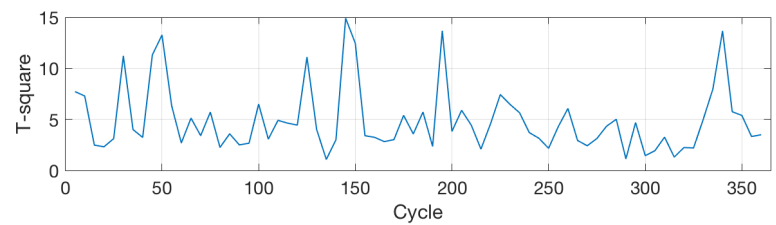
(b) commons-compress



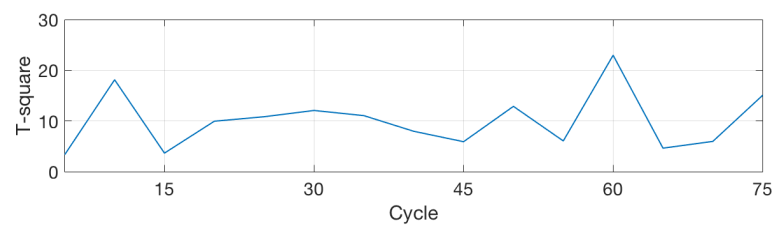
(c) commons-imaging



(d) commons-io



(e) commons-lang



(f) commons-math

Table 2: Optimal-predicted difference of tests execution times (s), averaged over all the commits and subjects, and of total number of failing tests, averaged over subjects

(a) commons-codec								(b) commons-compress							
Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios							Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios						
	25%		50%		75%				25%		50%		75%		
	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time		Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures		
KNN	0.2846	0.0000	0.5775	0.0000	0.9354	0.0000		KNN	0.2951	0.0000	0.7672	0.0000	1.7559	0.0000	
RF	0.0196	0.0000	0.1166	0.0000	0.3651	0.0000		RF	0.0386	-5.2000	0.4788	-1.2000	1.3699	0.0000	
L-MART	0.0298	0.0000	0.3240	0.0000	0.6993	0.0000		L-MART	0.0366	-6.8000	0.2798	-4.8000	0.7783	-0.8000	
MART	0.0103	0.0000	0.0680	0.0000	0.0205	0.0000		MART	0.0120	0.0000	0.0136	0.0000	0.0819	0.0000	
RankBoost	0.2944	0.0000	0.5288	0.0000	0.5511	0.0000		RankBoost	0.2848	0.0000	0.9204	0.0000	1.1516	0.0000	
RankNet	0.2633	0.0000	0.4158	0.0000	0.5592	0.0000		RankNet	0.3164	-4.0000	0.8582	-1.6000	1.2750	-0.4000	
CA	0.6300	-5.4000	0.8352	0.0000	0.8903	0.0000		CA	0.8784	0.0000	1.4143	-4.2000	1.7709	-3.0000	
RL	0.2967	-1.0000	0.5357	0.0000	0.6005	0.0000		RL	0.6250	-15.5000	1.1784	-12.2000	1.6203	-8.4000	
RL-MLP	0.2707	-1.0000	0.5257	0.0000	0.5641	0.0000		RL-MLP	0.6521	-17.4000	1.2036	-13.3000	1.6207	-6.2000	
RL-RF	0.0510	-1.0000	0.2363	-1.0000	0.5359	-1.0000		RL-RF	0.0311	-22.0000	0.6720	-10.8000	1.8496	-5.8000	
(c) commons-imaging								(d) commons-io							
Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios							Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios						
	25%		50%		75%				25%		50%		75%		
	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time		Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures		
KNN	0.9200	0.0000	0.9884	0.0000	4.0614	0.0000		KNN	1.5958	-2.0000	4.9703	-2.0000	15.9193	-2.0000	
RF	0.0814	0.0000	0.6912	0.0000	3.8510	0.0000		RF	5.3489	-1.0000	12.7569	-0.8000	16.5187	-0.3000	
L-MART	0.4546	0.0000	1.3764	0.0000	1.9815	0.0000		L-MART	0.6970	-2.0000	2.4218	-2.0000	8.9455	-1.9000	
MART	0.0664	-2.0000	0.0188	0.0000	0.1173	0.0000		MART	0.0170	-4.0000	0.2378	-2.0000	0.1483	-2.0000	
RankBoost	1.0048	0.0000	1.5274	0.0000	2.1156	0.0000		RankBoost	8.0699	-2.0000	9.7164	-1.0000	10.3045	-1.0000	
RankNet	1.2028	0.0000	2.1866	0.0000	3.3407	0.0000		RankNet	4.2097	-0.4000	8.0319	-0.4000	9.1499	-0.3000	
CA	1.0650	-1.2000	2.6108	0.0000	3.6653	0.0000		CA	10.3991	-2.2000	13.5966	-0.7000	14.8289	-0.5000	
RL	1.7687	-1.4000	3.3307	-0.6000	4.6458	-0.1000		RL	5.4701	-3.0000	9.6149	-2.8000	13.5486	-1.3000	
RL-MLP	1.7952	-1.5000	3.4279	-1.0000	4.7758	-0.7000		RL-MLP	5.0147	-3.2000	9.6170	-3.0000	13.4622	-0.6000	
RL-RF	0.0529	-1.2000	1.7756	0.0000	5.0547	0.0000		RL-RF	3.1774	-6.0000	9.3008	-6.0000	16.6132	-3.0000	
(e) commons-lang								(f) commons-math							
Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios							Algorithms	Time-constrained scenarios						
	25%		50%		75%				25%		50%		75%		
	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures	Time		Failures	Time	Failures	Time	Failures		
KNN	0.0564	-4.0000	0.5346	-4.0000	2.1290	0.0000		KNN	0.1643	-6.0000	2.1354	-6.0000	4.4231	-6.0000	
RF	0.0109	-3.6000	0.2227	-3.6000	1.4451	0.0000		RF	0.1120	-6.0000	1.3305	-6.0000	2.9984	-6.0000	
L-MART	0.1703	-4.0000	1.1242	-4.0000	1.7714	-2.0000		L-MART	0.0826	-6.0000	0.4000	-6.0000	0.5274	-6.0000	
MART	0.0115	-6.0000	0.0244	-2.0000	0.0605	-2.0000		MART	0.0150		0.0177	-6.0000	0.0250	-6.0000	
RankBoost	0.4790	0.0000	1.6340	0.0000	2.0571	0.0000		RankBoost	0.3496	-6.0000	0.8658	-6.0000	3.2967	-6.0000	
RankNet	0.1823	0.0000	0.8609	0.0000	0.9708	0.0000		RankNet	0.1544	-6.0000	2.5655	-6.0000	2.4697	-6.0000	
CA	0.9939	-6.0000	1.5273	-1.4000	1.6984	-1.0000		CA	1.0478		1.4488	-6.0000	2.0388	-6.0000	
RL	0.5868	-3.0000	1.1955	-1.5000	1.6581	-0.7000		RL	2.5887	-7.4000	5.1019	-4.5000	6.9543	-2.8000	
RL-MLP	0.6391	-2.8000	1.1720	-2.0000	1.6530	-0.9000		RL-MLP	2.2968	-6.8000	5.0432	-4.6000	6.9328	-3.4000	
RL-RF	0.0281	-4.0000	0.3530	-4.0000	1.8433	0.0000		RL-RF	0.1372	-9.0000	1.4215	-5.4000	4.8902	-4.3000	