

CSC411 Fall 2017

Assignment 1 Report

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In this assignment, we use the dataset of Boston Housing data.

1 Q1: Learning basics of regression in Python

1.1 Data loading

Here, we use function in `sklearn.datasets()` to read Boston Housing data.

```
def load_data():  
    boston = datasets.load_boston()  
    X = boston.data  
    y = boston.target  
    features = boston.feature_names  
    return X, y, features
```

In the return variables, X is several lines of data on each feature, y is the target value for each line of data, $features$ contains the names of all the features.

1.2 Data summarization

The input dataset has the following properties:

- number of data points: 506
- dimensions: 13
- features: ['CRIM' 'ZN' 'INDUS' 'CHAS' 'NOX' 'RM' 'AGE' 'DIS' 'RAD' 'TAX' 'PTRATIO' 'B' 'LSTAT']
- Mean house price: 22.5328063241
- Standard deviation of house price: 9.18801154528

1.3 Feature visualization

Data distribution on each feature is shown in Figure1.

1.4 Data division

To divide training data set and test data set, in Q1, we use function `numpy.random.choice()` to implement function `split_data(X, y, training_ratio = 0.2)`.

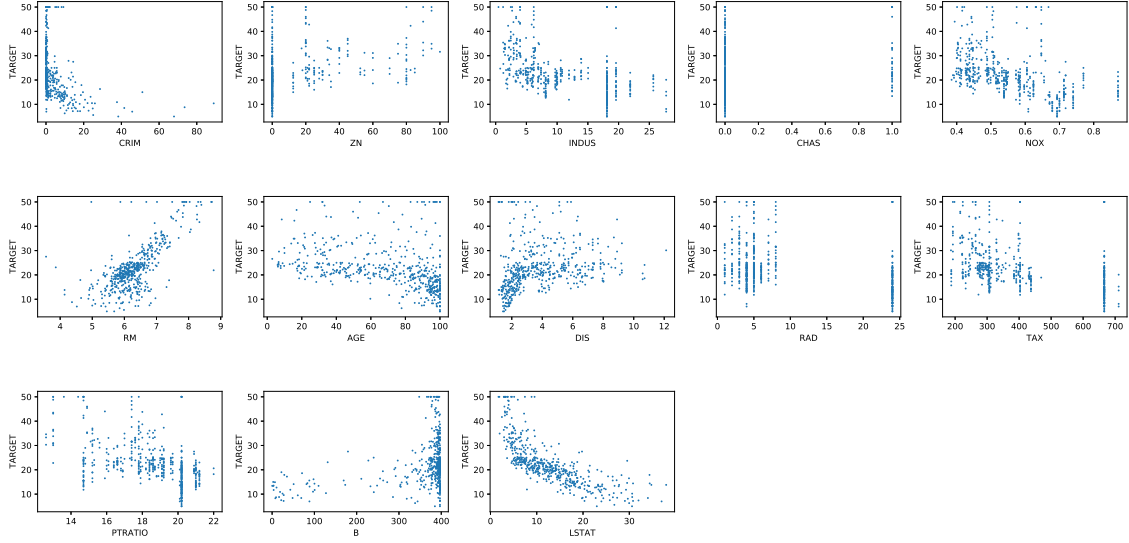


Figure 1: Data points against target for each feature

```
def split_data(X, y, training_ratio = 0.2):
    test_chosen = np.random.choice(len(X), int(len(X) * training_ratio))
    .....
    return training_set_x, test_set_x, training_set_y, test_set_y
```

In the function, we split X and y into $training_set_x$, $test_set_x$, $training_set_y$, $test_set_y$ according to $training_ratio$ for future usage.

1.5 Linear regression

To solve linear regression problem and get the weightes w , we use `numpy.linalg.solve()` on the formula:

$$X^T X w^* = X^T y \quad (1)$$

1.6 Feature weights

After the calculation, we can get the weight on each feature as shown in Table1

Here, we take the feature 'INDUS' (proportion of non-retail business acres per town) as an analysis example. Shown in Table1, we can see feature 'INDUS' has a weight of 0.056336470652065491. As a positive weight, the sign means that it has a positive influence in the target, the housing price. In general ideas, people like to live in the areas with more shops, which means that house price could be higher. That just fits the result.

1.7 Model test

We use 20% of the data as test data to just the fitness of the model. Here are some results of different metrics:

- MSE: 18.268879264780917
- MAE: 3.1172529292203892

Feature	Weight	Mean
CRIM	41.795688882257188	3.5937607114624512
ZN	-0.13159561392787489	11.363636363636363
INDUS	0.056336470652065491	11.136778656126481
CHAS	0.033639549287715828	0.069169960474308304
NOX	3.7698365450326135	0.55469505928853757
RM	-19.35371695539391	6.2846343873517787
AGE	3.1091523339672826	68.574901185770756
DIS	0.010472276182880488	3.7950426877470358
RAD	-1.5681353658907364	9.5494071146245059
TAX	0.33065329716511299	408.23715415019763
PTRATIO	-0.011395113448445227	18.455533596837945
B	-0.97967928714208496	356.67403162055342
LSTAT	0.0096343495439206173	12.653063241106722

Table 1: Feature weights

- R2: 0.75025578036036022

These numbers could change due to different training-test dataset division.

1.8 Feature selection

To choose the most significant feature, weight of the features are a good metrics. However, due to the different magnitudes of weights, we decide to multiply weight and mean for each feature and use it as the influence on the target. It is shown as Figure2.

Feature	Influence
CRIM	150.2037046136
ZN	-1.4954047037
INDUS	0.6274068039
CHAS	0.0023268463
NOX	2.0911097059
RM	-121.6310351009
AGE	213.2098140733
DIS	0.0397427352
RAD	-14.9747630197
TAX	134.9849610451
PTRATIO	-0.2103028991
B	-349.4261610401
LSTAT	0.1219040341

Table 2: Feature weights

From the table, we can see that the feature 'B' has the largest absolute value, which means 'B' predicts the price best.