

Are you moving predictably?

Miriam Wagner, Martin Breuer, Moritz Werthebach, Timo Bergerbusch, and
Walter Schikowski

RWTH Aachen, Templergraben 55, 52062 Aachen, Germany

Abstract. We analyze movements in the urban environment of the columbian city Medellín. Each movement is given as spatiotemporal pattern of with additional information about the reason, means of transportation and the corresponding person like the socio-economic status (strata), the age and gender. Since in most cases we do not have information about the actual socio-economic status of persons we firstly try different unsupervised approaches to find natural clusters. Due to bad results we introduce our preprocessing steps and switch to supervised learning. Decision trees and neural networks did neither match our performance expectations which leads to our conclusion that we need more data and information about the data in order to find a proper social stratification and to predict the given socio-economic status accurately.

Keywords: Data Mining · Clustering · Rapidminer · Cluster · Neural Nets

1 Introduction

Within the time of Industry 4.0 and various data sources the question arises, if one can define who we are by the data collected? In particular is it possible to determine the wealth of a person, only given movements of a single day? For this we considered the dataset stated in [1]. There we have a set of 124979 rows of movement data from various persons from a Columbian town, called Medellín. All the data was collected at a single day, with possibly multiple entries referring to the same person.

The data entries consist of data about the movement, like endpoints or length, and also some meta parameters like gender, age or the so-called strata of the person. The strata defines the socio-economic group, reflecting the affluence and therefore impose the ancillary costs.

Our goal is to ascertain if there is a correlation between the movements and the strata.

2 Preprocessing

In order to classify the given data into smaller test sets or mask different aspects, we have to perform some analysis.

We observe that even though we have 124979 individual lines defining a movement, there is one line defining a `NotANumber`-exception and therefore gets neglected for further usage.

We provide the `testDataGenerator` python script. Through flags and input arguments, the script is able to create all test sets considered by our clustering and neural net approaches.

We observe the following distribution over the whole dataset:

| strata | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Σ |
|--------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|----------|
| abs | 6963 | 52265 | 49404 | 8772 | 5536 | 2038 | 124978 |
| % | 5.57 | 41.82 | 39.53 | 7.02 | 4.43 | 1.63 | 100 |

We observe that there is an upper bound on equal distribution through strata 6. It has at most 2038 individual elements. Furthermore we have to make sure that two different data points, which belong to the very same person, are assigned to the same cluster. To do so we compute the value `ID` which identifies each person and can be used to combine movements that are considered to be from the same person, i. e. two movements correspond with the very same person, if and only if they are consecutive in the original dataset and have the same strata, age and gender. This approach is taken since the surveys are concatenated sequentially and it is unlikely, that multiple consecutive movements with same strata, age, gender belong to two different persons.

| strata | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Σ |
|--------|------|-------|-------|------|------|-----|----------|
| abs | 3153 | 23367 | 21418 | 3497 | 2083 | 595 | 54113 |
| % | 5.83 | 43.18 | 39.58 | 6.46 | 3.85 | 1.1 | 100 |

In Section 2.1 we introduce vectors representing single persons. Since strata 6 is the smallest strata with 595 persons, it limits the size of an equally distributed dataset where each data point coincides with one person.

2.1 Stratified Person Data

As stated before, instead of simple IDs for every person we expand the parsing by using a data encapsulating in a class called `Person`. This class stores the ID, the parameters defining a person, and all movements from that person.

Then we are able to compute the following vector, with 850 entries, for further

usage, that combines all movements of the person:

$$\underbrace{\#o_1, \dots, \#o_{413}, \#d_1, \dots, \#d_{413}}_{2 \cdot 413}, \underbrace{AM, MD, PM, MN}_4, \underbrace{\#r_1, \dots, \#r_7}_7, \\ \underbrace{\#MoT_1, \dots, \#MoT_7}_7, \underbrace{S_{Dest}, S_{Dist}, G, A, strata, strataGrouped}_6$$

with the following abbreviations ($1 \leq i \leq 413$, $1 \leq j \leq 7$):

| | |
|--|--|
| o_i : the i -th origin data point | MoT_j : the j -th mean of transportation |
| d_i : the i -th destination data point | S_{Dest} : sum of all durations |
| AM : movements at time stamp AM | S_{Dist} : sum of all distances |
| MD : movements at time stamp MD | G : the gender |
| PM : movements at time stamp PM | A : the age |
| MN : movements at time stamp MN | $strata$: the strata (used for comparison) |
| r_j : the j -th reason | $strataGrouped$: the aggregated stratas |

3 Predicting

3.1 Distance Measures

TODO (1 page)

3.2 Classification

TODO (5 pages)

3.3 Neural Net

For all the neural net computations we considered person vector data sets of different sizes (c.f. Section 2.1).

We do this, because results on the normal datasets had an unacceptable performance, since only single movements and not complete paths of individuals are considered. An example training and performance measure is given in Figure 1 where unprocessed data is used. The performance is measured using 10-fold cross validation, i. e. the data is split into 10 subsets where in each iteration exactly one data set is used as test set and the other 9 as training set. The average value of the accuracy values lead to the total accuracy value of the neural net.

accuracy: 59.76% +/- 2.20% (mikro: 59.76%)

| | true s_1 | true s_2 | true s_5 | true s_4 | true s_3 | true s_6 | class precision |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| pred. s_1 | 933 | 635 | 33 | 28 | 248 | 5 | 49.57% |
| pred. s_2 | 3417 | 31605 | 288 | 765 | 10603 | 70 | 67.61% |
| pred. s_5 | 67 | 291 | 2566 | 852 | 552 | 138 | 57.46% |
| pred. s_4 | 204 | 1039 | 774 | 2983 | 2392 | 253 | 39.02% |
| pred. s_3 | 2335 | 18617 | 1533 | 3866 | 35315 | 292 | 57.00% |
| pred. s_6 | 7 | 78 | 342 | 278 | 294 | 1280 | 56.16% |
| class recall | 13.40% | 60.47% | 46.35% | 34.01% | 71.48% | 62.81% | |

Fig. 1: An example of a neural net trained without person vector data.

In the following we consider 3 neural nets $\mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2$ and \mathcal{N}_3 , all having 4 hidden layers, 50 epochs and 10 iterations. As an example of other strata aggregation we combine the stratas 1–2, 3–4 and 5–6 together and call them \mathcal{N}_i^* , for $i \in \{5, 10, 20\}$. This builds a superset of the original stratas and since the stratas themselves are logically connected this task should be easier to fulfill.

For each neural net we are using equally distributed data sets with 100, 200 and the maximal amount of 595 individuals per strata which are provided by the `testDataGenerator` from Section 2. For every neural net and every set size we performed 5 independent runs and calculated the average over those accuracy values in order to have a sophisticated, comparable statements.

| Name | # Neurons | AG | Set size | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----|----------|-------|-------|
| | | | 100 | 200 | 595 |
| \mathcal{N}_5 | 5 | ✗ | 60.03 | 59.92 | 60.18 |
| \mathcal{N}_5^* | 5 | ✓ | 87.6 | 89.7 | 71.05 |
| \mathcal{N}_{10} | 10 | ✗ | 75.83 | 73.54 | 69.56 |
| \mathcal{N}_{10}^* | 10 | ✓ | 92.93 | 93.48 | 74.58 |
| \mathcal{N}_{20} | 20 | ✗ | 75.45 | 71.14 | 61.87 |
| \mathcal{N}_{20}^* | 20 | ✓ | 92.87 | 94.4 | 78.32 |

Fig. 2: The accuracy values of the neural nets. (See excel-spreadsheet)

The size of larger nets in terms of neurons is counter-productive, since if we take 50 neurons per layer we have $14 \cdot 50^4 \cdot 6 \approx 525.000.000$ synapses for which the input data set would be too small to have sufficient training.

4 Observations

As an overall result we get, that we can not determine the strata based on the information we have. Using various datasets (c.f. Section 2), we witnessed that having equally distributed datasets lead to an overall higher accuracy. This rules

out the bias observed in the original data, where strata 2 and 3 are very dominant (c.f. Section 2), but also reduces the set size from originally 124978 to $6 * 2038 = 12228$ entries equally distributed over all stratas.

During clustering we observed, that using a different distance measure formula would not lead to a huge difference. Also, we detected that reducing the numbers of clusters leads to better results, which reduces the significance of result that could be stated.

Using a different neural net architecture will most likely not chance the accuracy value drastically. As stated, more complex nets need more training data, which is restricted as mentioned above.

What we can observe is, that using the stratified vectors, we are able to increase the performance and accuracy, but still have no sufficient predictions. Therefore we see that the more data we have the higher the variance within the stratas themselves is. We cannot draw some kind of lines to distinguish between different entries. Datapoints, which were outliers in the smaller sets, are now not considered to be outliers, because of large numbers having the same characteristics. So the lines, we were able to draw for smaller datasets, are blurring and create some kind of transition phase.

5 Discussion

Regarding the results, of not predicting the strata and also not observing any meaningful clusters throughout the data in given and stratified form, we thought about various aspects having an impact on the movement. We state 4 main influencing aspects, explaining the variance throughout the data.

5.1 Representativity of the day

The day the data was collected on (c.f. Section 1) is not mentioned. Therefore we can not infer that it is representative. The people asked to enter their movement could have a exceptional day, like a vacation day, a doctors appointment or a broken car and therefore behave different from a usual day.

Also the day itself is not mentioned, so we don't have information if it was even a working day or a weekend. This influences the behavior drastically.

5.2 People living over/under standards

5.3 Individuality of lifestyle

Obviously, people are individual in their way of life. So there are people, with enough money to buy for example a car, but refuse to in order to reduce CO₂ emission, or simply don't like driving. On the other end of the spectrum, some people, who have little money still own and drive a car daily in order to go to work, since they can't afford an other apartment.

One can think of multitude scenarios, of people behaving different, cause by their individuality.

5.4 Inverse behavior in a strata

As an example, take a look at the strata 6, which denotes the richest people considered. There we have inter alia two groups:

1. Group Hard working people, laboring 60+ hours per week to earn their money. One can imagine that they have to move quite a lot since they are always busy.
2. Group People, who are rich just by birth, which don't have the necessity to work or move at all. They could possibly stay home and don't have to leave at all.

Those two groups are completely opposite, but still belong to the same strata. Now also considering strata one, we can find the exact same movement behavior in there as well. Within the poorest there are people that are wandering around the town via feet or bike, since they have no objective, like work. Also there are people, who don't move at all, because of the same reason.

So we can see that based on the information we have it is very unlikely to have a precise correlation between the given data and the strata. However given more information about the previously mentioned aspects and more entries in general there could be some kind of correlation to be found.

Future work could include a component analysis of the decision tree and neural network in order to ascertain the influencing parts and therefore improve the data gathering. Also one could use different network visualization tools in order to infer their own patterns. An example would be to take the origin (destination) sectors as nodes, an edge if there is a movement, directed or undirected, and a different thickness or color gradient based on the number of this edge being taken.

Overall we can conclude that with the data we got we are not able to find a correlation.

References

1. Lotero, Laura, et al. "Rich do not rise early: spatio-temporal patterns in the mobility networks of different socio-economic classes." *Royal Society open science* 3.10 (2016): 150654.
2. Hudson, Rex A. *Colombia: A country study*. Government Printing Office, 2010.