Wrangle Report

Introduction

The purpose of this project is to put in practice what I learned in data wrangling data section from Udacity Data Analysis Nanodegree program. The dataset that is wrangled is the tweet archive of Twitter user <code>@dog_rates</code>, also known as <code>WeRateDogs</code>. WeRateDogs is a Twitter account that rates people's dogs with a humorous comment about the dog. These ratings almost always have a denominator of 10.

This report briefly describes my wrangling efforts.
Project details
The tasks of this project are as follows:
☐ Gathering data
☐ Assessing data
□ Cleaning data
Gathering data
The data for this project consist on three different dataset that were obtained as
following:
□ Twitter archive file(df_main): the twitter_archive_enhanced.csv was provided by
Udacity and downloaded manually.
□ The tweet image predictions(df_image): i.e., what breed of is present in each tweet
according to a neural network. This file (image_predictions.tsv) is hosted
on Udacity's servers and was downloaded programmatically using the
Requests library and URL information
☐ Twitter API & JSON(df_api): by using the tweet IDs in the WeRateDogs Twitter archive, I queried the Twitter API for each tweet's JSON data using
Python's Tweepy library and stored each tweet's entire set of JSON data
in a file called tweet_json.txt file. I read this .txt file line by line into a
pandas dataframe with tweet ID, favorite count, retweet count, followers
count, friends count, source, retweeted status and url.
Assessing data
Once the three tables were obtained I assessed the data as following:
\square Visually, I used two tools. One was by printing the three entire
dataframes separate in Jupyter Notebook and two by checking the csv
files in Excel.
☐ Programmatically, by using different methods (e.g. info, value_counts,
sample, duplicated, groupby, isnull, etc).

Then I separated the issues encountered in quality issues and tidiness issues. Key points to keep in mind for this process was that original ratings with images were wanted.

Cleaning data

This part of the data wrangling was divided in three parts: Define, code and test the code. These three steps were on each of the issues described in the assess section.

First and very helpful step was to create a copy of the three original dataframes. I wrote the codes to manipulate the copies. If there was an error, I could create a new copy from the original.

Whenever I made a mistake, I could create another copy of the dataframes and continue working on the cleaning part.

There were a couple of cleaning steps that were very challenging. One of them was in the image prediction table. I had to create a 'nested if' inside a function in order to capture the first true prediction of the type of dog. The original table had three predictions and confidence levels. I filtered this into one column for dog type and one column for confidence level.

Other interesting cleaning code was to melt the dog stages in one column instead of four columns as original presented in twitter archive.

One very challenging cleaning step was when I had to correct some numerators that were actual decimals. This issue was brought to my attention after the first Udacity review. Using Excel and visual assessment was not sufficient to verify those decimals. Therefore, I had to run a code in order to check those actual tweets (decimals numerators).

Conclusion

Data wrangling is a core skill that have very useful tools can handle data.

There are several advantages of this tool (as compared to e.g. Excel) that is used by many data analyst
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\square For gathering data there are several packages that help scraping data off
the web, that help using APIs to collect data (Tweepy for Twitter) or wptools for wikipedia
\square It is strong in dealing with big data (much better than Excel).
\square It can deal with a large variety of unstructured formats like JSON
, html or xml formats.
\square It is easy to document each single step and if needed re-run each single
step. Thus, one can leave a perfect audit trail (perfect for the accountant)
□ Handling, assessing, cleaning and visualizing of data is
possible programmatically using code.