

Q: Why linear regression can't use for classification?

A: Linear regression is primarily used for predicting a continuous dependent variable based on one or more independent variables. While it can technically be used for classification tasks, there are several reasons why it's not ideal:

1. Output Range:

Linear regression predictions can extend beyond the range [0,1], which is not suitable for binary classification tasks where the output is typically a probability between 0 and 1. For classification problems, we are often interested in predicting probabilities. Linear regression does not naturally provide probabilities as it is not bounded between 0 and 1.

2. Sensitive to Outliers:

Linear regression is sensitive to outliers. In classification tasks, especially those with imbalanced classes, this sensitivity can lead to skewed predictions.

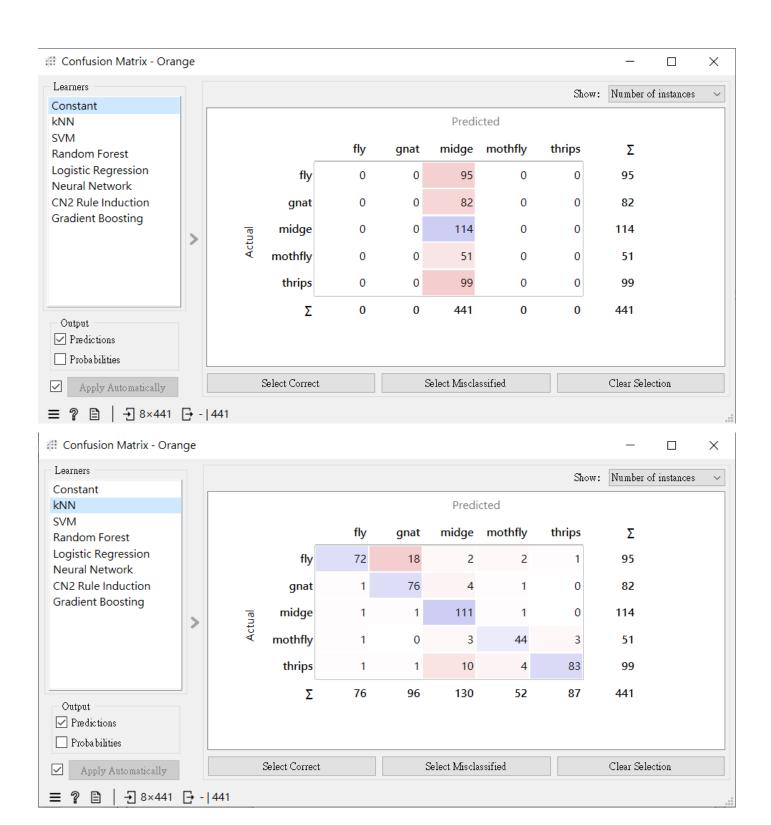
3. Assumption of Linearity:

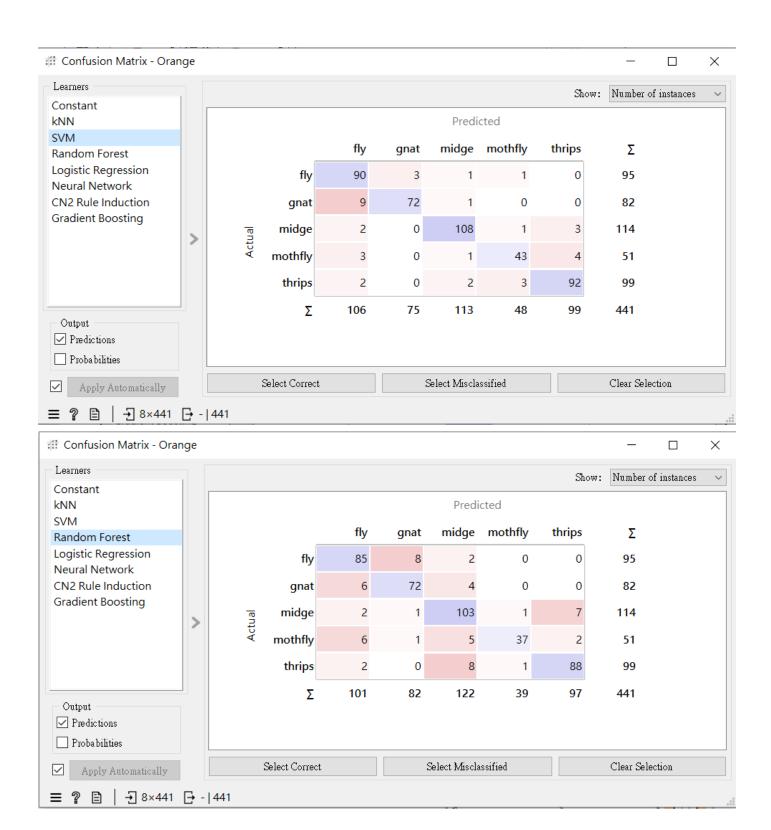
Linear regression assumes a linear relationship between the dependent and independent variables. In many classification tasks, this relationship is non-linear, which makes linear regression an ineffective tool.

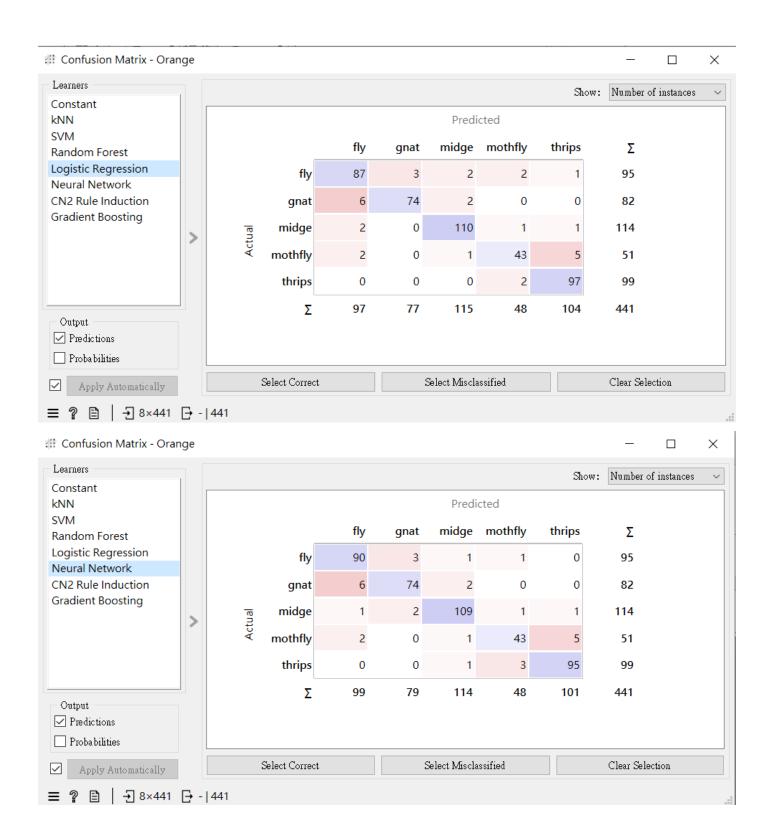
4. Loss Function:

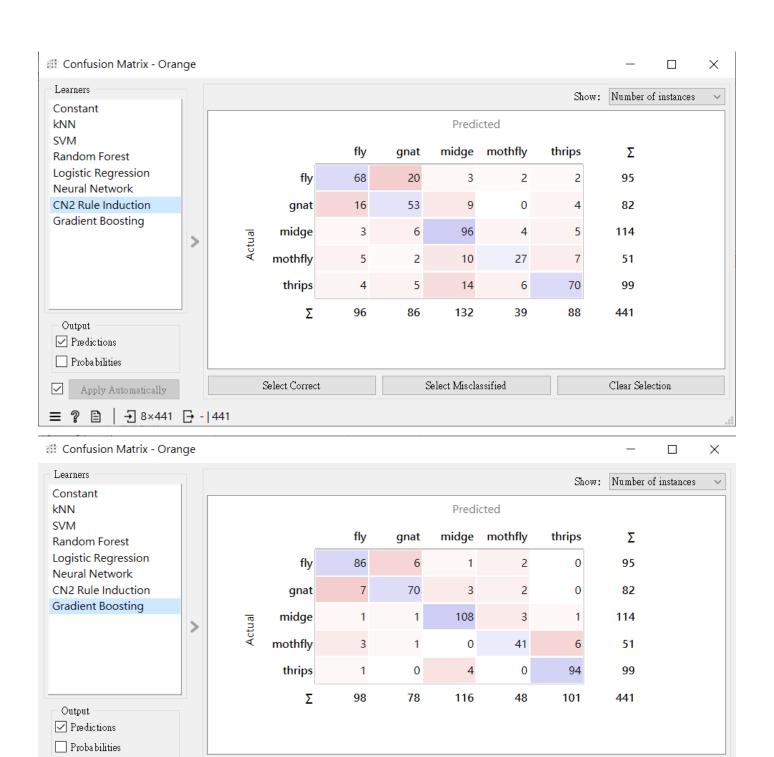
The loss function used in linear regression (mean squared error) is not the best choice for classification problems. Classification tasks are better served by loss functions that focus on probabilities and class separations, like cross-entropy.

Other methods like logistic regression, which is specifically designed for classification problems, are preferred. Logistic regression provides outputs between 0 and 1, interprets these outputs as probabilities, and uses a loss function suited for binary outcomes.









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