CSE 450 – Case Study Performance Evaluation

Treat the questions in this evaluation like a professional document you would send to an executive team during a post-mortem. Write in complete sentences, using correct grammar and spelling.

**1. During this module, what are two key ideas you learned during this case study related to machine learning and data analysis?**

1. I learned that even though the machine learning model can be useful and powerful, the data and information uncovered through the model and data analysis can also lead to useful information.
2. Information can be buried in the data that might not come out until more digging.

**2. Choose one of your answers to the previous question and write a one-paragraph summary of that concept or idea as if you were teaching it to someone else.**

We know that correlation does not necessarily mean causation- meaning, some variables that correlate do not mean that one makes the other happen. But sometimes there can be other factors involved ‘in between the lines’ so to speak. If we measure multiple variables against a ‘time’ or ‘distance’ variable (in hypothetical datasets), it’s possible that some unknown event is occurring in time, or some unknown object is present at a certain distance that is affecting every variable, even if it is not inherently present in the data. For example, if we could plot dinosaur population over time, we would see a large drop in population when the meteor hit, but might not know the meteor was the cause. Many data sets might have been ‘hit with a meteor’ but we might not know that. Being willing to look deeper to see what trends and insights might be hiding can be good, even if there aren’t any extraneous causes influencing the data.

**3. If you had additional time to work on this case study, what is one thing that you would do to take things further?**

I would do a lot of feature engineering using the data as context compared with the current state of things - for example I would check the current Euribor interest rate and feature engineer a variable that would show how close past subscribers’ interest rates were to the current. There are more trends and information in the data that weren’t used that could be helpful if studied more and applied to the machine learning model.

**4. Aside from having to learn a new and/or difficult concept, what do you think was the biggest obstacle your team faced during this case study?**

Getting the model to work against the holdout sets was the biggest challenge in my opinion. That was difficult, but ultimately Eli and Connor were able to get that to work.

**5. What is the most insightful thing you learned from hearing about what the other teams did?**

I really didn’t learn as much as I think I could have from other teams. I think I learned that I need to talk to other teams more.

**6. What insights did you gather about learning in general from this module?**

I learned that sometimes you have to put things into practice to understand them well. Trial and error isn’t always the best, but in the process you do learn how to execute, and have an experience to critique and learn from. Being able to see my teammates work helped me see that other people had different approaches, and helped me gauge my work against theirs.

**7. Could these insights apply to spiritual learning? If so, how?**

I think they absolutely could, I realized that I don’t collaborate enough with other people about spiritual learning. I think it can be a tricky and touchy subject to work with others on, but I think if I was more vocal and inquisitive into what other people are learning, there could be an opportunity for mutual benefit.

**8. You should have received an email from the TEAMMATES web app for you to enter your personal and team evaluations for this module. (If not, you should email Brother Allred to fix this.) Before submitting this document, go complete the TEAMMATES online feedback survey. Did you complete the online TEAMMATES evaluation survey?**

Yes.