Quantifying crowd size with mobile phote and Twitter data - Final Report

Ogi Moore and Connor Smith

12/5/2016

Introduction

We elected to replicate the findings of Federico Botta, Helen Susannah Moat, and Tobias Preis's paper on Quantifying crowd size with mobile phone and *Twitter* data. In the paper, they look at a number of soccer games with a known attendence and known phone, internet and twitter acitivity; and they evaluate the similar phone and internet and twitter acitivty in comparison to a number of flights over a several week period.

Data Import

The data is in very good shape, but we do need to tell `R` that the timestamps are in-fact times, and not just generic strings.

```
san_siero.attendees = read.csv('./data/Attendees_San_Siro.csv')
san_siero.phone_data = read.csv('./data/San_Siro_Mobile_Phone_Data.csv')
san_siero.twitter_data = read.csv('./data/San_Siro_Twitter_Data.csv')
linate.data = read.csv('./data/Linate_Data.csv')
linate.flight_schedule = read.csv('./data/Linate_Flights_Schedule.csv')

# Converting to dates
san_siero.phone_data$Timestamp = as.Date(strptime(san_siero.phone_data$Timestamp,
                                                  "%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S"))
san_siero.twitter_data$Timestamp = as.Date(san_siero.twitter_data$Timestamp)
san_siero.attendees$Date = as.Date(san_siero.attendees$Date)
```

The soccer game raw data is comprised of 3 seperate files, so we need to merge them together based on the relevant timestamps.

```
san_siero.daily_data <- aggregate(san_siero.phone_data$Calls.and.SMS.Activity,
                                  by=list(Category=san_siero.phone_data$Timestamp),
                                  FUN=max)
san_siero.daily_data <- rename(san_siero.daily_data, c("x"="Calls.and.SMS.Activity"))
san_siero.daily_data$Internet.Activity = aggregate(san_siero.phone_data$Internet.Activity,
                                        by=list(Cateogry=san_siero.phone_data$Timestamp),
                                        FUN=max)$x
san_siero.daily_data$Twitter.Activity = san_siero.twitter_data$Twitter.Activity
san_siero.daily_data <- rename(san_siero.daily_data, c("Category"="Date"))
soccer_data <- merge(san_siero.daily_data, san_siero.attendees,
                                        by="Date")

kable(head(soccer_data),
            format='pandoc',
            caption='Soccer Game Data',
            centering=TRUE)
```

Table 1: Soccer Game Data

Date	Calls.and.SMS.Activity	Internet.Activity	Twitter.Activity	Attendees.at.San.Siro
2013-11-02	180.050	104.640	85	44261
2013-11-09	97.693	100.350	51	39775
2013-11-15	222.520	137.080	117	49000
2013-11-23	79.276	77.290	73	34848
2013-12-01	102.930	106.180	78	43607
2013-12-04	88.803	44.783	29	12714

Soccer Games Dataset

The authors performed a linear regression comparing calls and SMS activity, Internet activity, *Twitter* activity to the number of attendees. With `R` we are able to perform the same linear regression analysis with ease.

```
attendees_v_phone <- lm(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro ~ soccer_data$Calls.and.SMS.Activity)
attendees_v_internet <- lm(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro ~ soccer_data$Internet.Activity)
attendees_v_twitter <- lm(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro ~ soccer_data$Twitter.Activity)

lm_paper_results <- c(0.771, 0.937, 0.855)
lm_duplication_results <- c(round(summary(attendees_v_phone)$adj.r.squared, 3),
                                                    round(summary(attendees_v_internet)$adj.r.squar
                                                    round(summary(attendees_v_twitter)$adj.r.squared

lm_results <- data.frame(lm_paper_results,
                                                lm_duplication_results,
                                                row.names=c('Calls and SMS Data',
                                                            'Internet Activity',
                                                            'Twitter Activity'))

cor_paper_results <- c(0.927, 0.976, 0.924)
cor_duplication_results <- c(round(cor(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro,
                                                                    soccer_data$Calls.and.SMS.A
                                                                    method='spearman'), 3),
                                                    round(cor(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro,
                                                                    soccer_data$Internet.Activi
                                                                    method='spearman'), 3),
                                                    round(cor(soccer_data$Attendees.at.San.Siro,
                                                                    soccer_data$Twitter.Activi
                                                                    method='spearman'), 3))

cor_results <- data.frame(cor_paper_results,
                                                  cor_duplication_results,
                                                row.names=c('Calls and SMS Data',
                                                            'Internet Activity',
                                                            'Twitter Activity'))
```

```
kable(lm_results,
            format='pandoc',
            centering=TRUE,
            caption='Linear Regression R^2^ Values',
            col.names = c('Published Results', 'Duplication Results'))
```

Table 2: Linear Regression R^2 Values

	Published Results	Duplication Results
Calls and SMS Data	0.771	0.771
Internet Activity	0.937	0.937
Twitter Activity	0.855	0.855

```
kable(cor_results,
            format='pandoc',
            caption='Spearman Correlation Values',
            col.names = c('Published Results', 'Duplication Results'))
```

Table 3: Spearman Correlation Values

	Published Results	Duplication Results
Calls and SMS Data	0.927	0.927
Internet Activity	0.976	0.976
Twitter Activity	0.924	0.924

Airport Dataset

In the airport dataset the authors took a different method to approximating the crowd size. They approximated the number of people at the airport based on the number of outgoing flights for two hours following a specific time, and the incoming flights for an hour leading up to a specific time. The raw data provides the number of flights arriving and departing the airport on an hour by hour basis over a 1 week period.

```
kable(head(linate.flight_schedule),
            format='pandoc',
            caption="Linate Flight Schedule Data",
            centering=TRUE)
```

Table 4: Linate Flight Schedule Data

Timestamp	Departures	Arrivals
2014-05-05 00:00:00	0	0
2014-05-05 01:00:00	0	0
2014-05-05 02:00:00	0	0
2014-05-05 03:00:00	0	0
2014-05-05 04:00:00	0	0
2014-05-05 05:00:00	0	0

The authors also provide a relative quantity of calls and SMS activity and internet activity, as well as Twitter activity

```
kable(head(linate.data),
            format='pandoc',
            caption='Linate Phone Data',
            centering=TRUE)
```

Table 5: Linate Phone Data

Timestamp	Calls.and.SMS.Activity	Internet.Activity	Twitter.Activity
2013-11-01 00:00:00	133.940	1599.8	0
2013-11-01 01:00:00	87.867	1247.0	0
2013-11-01 02:00:00	134.630	1210.1	0
2013-11-01 03:00:00	41.017	1159.6	0
2013-11-01 04:00:00	100.430	1575.1	2
2013-11-01 05:00:00	463.340	3730.6	0

The reader may notice here that the dates of the time-stamps do not match up (they are off by 6 months). The authors explain that the way they compensate for this is that they line up the days of the week from the flights data, and assume that the flight schedule remains fairly consistent week for week. They excluded November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, as well as December 30th and 31st.

As the authors decided to look at the number of incoming flights up to an hour before, and the number of departing flights for two hours following, this made for having to modify the raw data substantially. This was outside of our skill set in `R`, however we were able to make the modifications necessary in `Python`.

```
import csv
import datetime
converted_data = {}
days_to_skip = set(['2013-11-01', '2013-11-02', '2013-11-03', '2013-12-31', '2013-12-30'])
with open('./data/Linate_Flights_Schedule.csv') as csvfile:
    content = csv.reader(csvfile, delimiter=',')
    next(content, None)
    list_content = list(content)
    # Calculate the total number of relevant flights at any given time
    for index, row in enumerate(list_content):
        if row[0].split(' ')[0] in days_to_skip:
            continue
        total_flights = sum([int(row[1]), int(row[2])])
        try:
            total_flights += int(list_content[index+1][1])
        except IndexError:
            pass
        output_day = datetime.datetime.strptime(row[0].split(' ')[0],
                                                '%Y-%m-%d').strftime('%a')
        converted_data[' '.join([output_day, row[0].split(' ')[1]])] = total_flights

with open('./data/Linate_Data.csv') as csvfile:
    content = csv.reader(csvfile, delimiter=',')
    next(content, None)
    list_content = list(content)
    # Attach the number of flights to the mobile phone data point
    for row in list_content:
        date = row[0].split(' ')[0]
        time = row[0].split(' ')[1]
        day = datetime.datetime.strptime(date, '%Y-%m-%d').strftime('%a')
        row.append(converted_data[' '.join([day, time])])

# output the new data to a CSV file
with open('./data/Linate_wrangled.csv', 'w') as csvfile:
    wr = csv.writer(csvfile, delimiter=',', lineterminator='\n')
```

```
    wr.writerow(['Timestamp',
                 'Calls.and.SMS.Activity',
                 'Internet.Activity',
                 'Twitter.Activity',
                 'Flights'])
    wr.writerows([row for row in list_content])
```

Here, the python file generated a new csv file that we will import with `R` to do our analysis with.

```
linate_flight_data = read.csv('./data/Linate_wrangled.csv')
linate_flight_data$Timestamp = as.Date(strptime(linate_flight_data$Timestamp,
                                                "%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S"))
kable(head(linate_flight_data),
            format='pandoc',
            caption='Linate Flight Data Cleaned Up',
            centering=TRUE)
```

Table 6: Linate Flight Data Cleaned Up

Timestamp	Calls.and.SMS.Activity	Internet.Activity	Twitter.Activity	Flights
2013-11-01	133.940	1599.8	0	0
2013-11-01	87.867	1247.0	0	0
2013-11-01	134.630	1210.1	0	0
2013-11-01	41.017	1159.6	0	0
2013-11-01	100.430	1575.1	2	0
2013-11-01	463.340	3730.6	0	10