Forecasting Manufacturing Orders Using Social Media

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Forecasting Manufacturing	Orders Using Social Media		
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Abstract

Scholle IPN is a global manufacturing company that has experienced variability in their sales forecasts. In this project, we will demonstrate how Scholle IPN can leverage social media data to predict orders from their clients. We will introduce dimension reduction methods to account for the high dimensional nature of social media data. In addition, an ensemble model approach to sales forecasting will be used to generate the best sales forecasting model.

Keywords: Time Series, Machine Learning, sARIMA, Regression with ARIMA Errors, XGBoost, Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), Ensemble, Social Media, Linear Regression

Executive Summary

The executive summary is a maximum one page, double spaced summary of your report aimed at informing someone, who does not read the entire report, about your project. The executive summary is an extended version of the abstract with more space allocated to the key findings of the project and the conclusions and recommendations. You may want to write this section after writing the report.

Second Paragraph.

Third Paragraph.

NOTE: Like the abstract, do not use "#" or "##" symbols to start new sections in the executive summary section. Doing so will result in generating a table table of contents entry *prior* to the Introduction, which is not desirable.

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Introduction

Scholle IPN is a global manufacturing company based in Northlake, IL, with products focused primarily in bag-in-box packaging. The company is a pioneer in its industry by implementing a combination of qualitative observations and quantitative analyses in forecasting their products' sales. However, variability in these sales forecasts present challenges for Scholle IPN in raw material preparation, operational efficiency, and asset management.

Problem Statement

In this project, we will provide a forecasting solution to Scholle IPN using social media data. This project will primarily focus on one of Scholle IPN's main clients, Coca-Cola. Coca-Cola uses Scholle IPN's state-of-the art bags to store beverage products at quick service restaurant (QSR) partners worldwide. Since 2014, Coca-Cola has accounted for 95.68% of Scholle's syrup-related bag order shipments, so inaccurate forecasts of future orders could result in operational inefficiencies. Minimizing these operational inefficiencies is important to maintain Scholle's partnership with Coca-Cola. In order to solve this business problem, we will examine whether we can substantially improve Scholle IPN's Coca-Cola demand forecasts by using social media as the primary variable.

Research Purpose

The purpose of this research is to forecast Coca-Cola bag orders by utilizing social media data. When customer express their opinions in social media, businesses like Scholle IPN can gain valuable insights that can inform business decisions. For example, if a McDonald's promotion is generating discussion posts online, then Scholle IPN can potentially expect an increase in bag orders from Coca-Cola. In order to make these online discussions actionable, we must first take into account additional considerations. First, since social media posts are usually in the form of text, we will explore methods to convert text to numerical data. Second, we will need to explore different ways to reduce the dimension of social media variables to account for its high dimensionality. And finally, we will use these social media variables to forecast Coca-Cola bag orders using an ensemble approach. Below is a list of research objectives for this project:

- Convert text-based social media data to numerical data using natural language processing.
- Reduce the dimension of social media variables using different methods.
- Forecast Coca-Cola bag orders using an ensemble approach.

Variables and Scope

The scope of this forecasting project will be limited to predicting the future monthly bag orders for Coca-Cola in the United States and Canada. All variables will be aggregated or averaged at the monthly level. The forecasting window for this project will be 18 months for all models to accommodate Scholle's business needs. The main social media variables used to predict Coca-Cola bag orders will be collected from Twitter and Google Trends. For Twitter, we will focus our project on the following variables: tweet text, number of likes, number of retweets, and number of replies. For Google Trends, monthly trend values for selected topics will be extracted at the monthly level. Additional data retrieval rules were applied to ensure that Twitter and Google Trends data are from the United States and Canada (see Appendix A).

Writing Tips

- Develop an outline of what you are going to write for each section before you start writing
- Good writing follows a general format: introduction, body, and conclusion. This rule applies to the entire project, to each section, and to each paragraph
- Each paragraph presents only one idea and follows the MEAL rule
 - Main: start the paragraph with the *Main* idea
 - Explain the concepts and define the terms
 - Analyze the idea
 - Link: conclude the paragraph and *Link* it to the next paragraph
- Make sure to define any concepts or terms that reader might be unfamiliar with right before or after they are used

More info

And here's some other random info: the first paragraph after a chapter title or section head *shouldn't be* indented, because indents are to tell the reader that you're starting a new paragraph. Since that's obvious after a chapter or section title, proper typesetting doesn't add an indent there.

Spacing and Markdown

Be careful with your spacing in *Markdown* documents. While white-space largely is ignored, it does at times give *Markdown* signals as to how to proceed. As a habit, try to keep everything left aligned whenever possible, especially as you type a new paragraph. In other

words, there is no need to indent basic text in the Rmd document (in fact, it might cause your text to do funny things if you do).

Line breaks

Make sure to add white space between lines if you'd like to start a new paragraph. Look at what happens below in the outputted document if you don't:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph. This should be a new paragraph.

Now for the correct way:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph.

This should be a new paragraph.

Background

Social Media Variables

For this forecasting project, we will focus on collecting social media data on relevant topics. These relevant topics are Coca-Cola, Pepsi, McDonald's, Taco Bell, and "jobs". Coca-Cola was selected because it is their product's demand that Scholle IPN is interested in forecasting. Pepsi was selected due to its position as the main competitor for Coca-Cola. Meanwhile, McDonald's and Taco Bell were chosen because they are the top quick service restaurant partners for Coca-Cola and Pepsi based on 2018 annual sales revenue. The topic 'jobs' was selected to gather job-related tweets intended to capture economic activity in the United States and Canada. Relationships between social media activity on these topics and the quantity of Coca-Cola bag ordered can be useful information for our forecasting models. Twitter data will be a combination of user-level tweets and company-level tweets, while Google Trend data will be a monthly trend value for our selected terms. User-level tweets are Twitter posts from regular online consumers tweeting about Coca-Cola, Pepsi, McDonald's, Taco Bell, and "jobs." Company-level tweets are Twitter posts by the official Twitter accounts of Coca-Cola, Pepsi, McDonald's, and Taco Bell. Meanwhile, Google Trends is a popularity measure for Coca-Cola and other relevant terms based on their search frequency over time.

Sentiment Analysis

One method of quantifying text-based social media data for our forecasting models is by implementing sentiment analysis. This is a technique in natural language processing that we will use for each tweet to generate a numerical value signifying whether consumers have a positive or negative outlook on Coca-Cola, Pepsi, McDonald's, Taco Bell, or jobs. We can then average sentiment scores by month for each relevant term, and use this as an additional predictor to forecast Coca-Cola bag orders. For this project, we will only calculate sentiment scores for user-generated tweets because we assume that tweets generated by the official company accounts are all positive. Prior to conducting sentiment analysis, text processing steps must be conducted on tweets. The following steps were conducted on the tweets:

- Remove stop words on tweets
- · Tokenize tweets
- Lemmatize tweets

The R package sentimentR was used to calculate sentiment scores for each tweet. This package takes into account additional information such as valence shifters and deamplifiers resulting in a more accurate sentiment score (see Appendix A). The sentiment scores for each selected term's collective tweets per month will be averaged at the monthly level to generate the monthly average sentiment variable.

Stationarity and Differencing

An important step to consider when forecasting is to remove trends and seasonality from variables in order to make it stationary. When time series data is stationary displaying a stable mean and stable variance over time, it is less likely to produce spurious relationships and misleading results. Statistical tests (KPSS test) were conducted on each variable to determine its stationarity (see Appendix A). After testing, it was determined that the dependent variable, monthly quantity of Coca-Cola bag orders, was stationary. This means that this variable requires no further transformations. However, the independent variables showed varying results and require additional processing. One way of transforming time series data to become stationary is the method of differencing. Differencing is the method of subtracting the value of the current time step from the value of previous time step(s). This method was applied to all social media variables to ensure that they were all stationary. The visual below demonstrates how the method of differencing is able to remove trends from the monthly total user tweets. The top half of the visual are time plots of the pre-differenced variables, while the bottom are time plots of the differenced variables.

Code chunks

When you click the **Knit** button above a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded code chunks within the document. You can embed a code chunk as demonstrated below.

The sleep data is a built-in **R** dataset (Student-t (1908) *The probable error of the mean*. Biometrika, 6, 20). It shows the effect of two soporific drugs (increase in hours of sleep compared to control) on 10 patients.

Use the kable function to create quick, decent looking tables. Other packages for higher quality tables are xtable and stargazar. These are especially recommended for working with LATEX output.

	extra_sleep_drug1	extra_sleep_drug2
1	0.7	1.9
2	-1.6	0.8
3	-0.2	1.1
4	-1.2	0.1
5	-0.1	-0.1
6	3.4	4.4
7	3.7	5.5
8	0.8	1.6
9	0.0	4.6
10	2.0	3.4

Table 1: Sleep Data

Linked tables and List of Tables

We linked Table 1 above to the List of Tables section following the table of contents. For this to work properly, two steps are required.

- 1. The code chunk of the table must be given a label argument. ie; {r sleep, args}.
- Define a caption in the kable function (caption = "Sleep Data") call. The caption will be passed to the List of Tables section and is required for an entry to appear.

More than R: Other Languages

R Markdown supports the following languages:

```
names(knitr::knit_engines$get())
```

```
[1] "awk"
                                   "coffee"
                    "bash"
                                                  "gawk"
                                                                 "groovy"
                                   "mysql"
 [6] "haskell"
                    "lein"
                                                  "node"
                                                                 "octave"
[11] "perl"
                                                                 "sas"
                    "psql"
                                   "Rscript"
                                                  "ruby"
[16] "scala"
                    "sed"
                                   "sh"
                                                  "stata"
                                                                 "zsh"
[21] "highlight"
                                   "tikz"
                                                  "dot"
                                                                 "c"
                    "Rcpp"
[26] "fortran"
                    "fortran95"
                                   "asy"
                                                  "cat"
                                                                 "asis"
[31] "stan"
                    "block"
                                   "block2"
                                                  "js"
                                                                 "css"
[36] "sql"
                    "go"
                                   "python"
                                                  "julia"
                                                                 "sass"
[41] "scss"
                    "theorem"
                                   "lemma"
                                                  "corollary"
                                                                 "proposition"
                    "definition"
                                                  "exercise"
                                                                 "proof"
[46] "conjecture"
                                   "example"
[51] "remark"
                    "solution"
```

Of these, if you use python, first load reticulate.

```
library(reticulate)
pyPath <- py_discover_config()
use_python(pyPath$python_versions[1])</pre>
```

Create a conda environment to store packages, install, and load one.

```
conda_create("r-reticulate")
py_install("numpy")
numpy <- import("numpy")</pre>
```

Define a python code chunk with arguments and run code: {python, eval=FALSE, etc}

```
import numpy as np
print(np.reshape(np.arange(1,25), (4,3,2), "F"))
```

Please see the Reticulate: R interface to Python for more specifics.

Let's not forget about C++/Rcpp enables compilation of C++ into R functions.

```
#include <Rcpp.h>
using namespace Rcpp;
// [[Rcpp::export]]
NumericVector humanPercent(NumericVector x) {
  return x * 100;
}
```

```
humanPercent(x=0.0274)
```

Please see Rcpp for Seamless R and C++ Integration, which is a very mature project and provides many examples.

Including plots

You can also embed plots. For example, here is a way to use the base **R** graphics package to produce a plot using the built-in pressure dataset. In this case, the echo=FALSE parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent printing the code.

pressure data: Vapor Pressure of Mercury

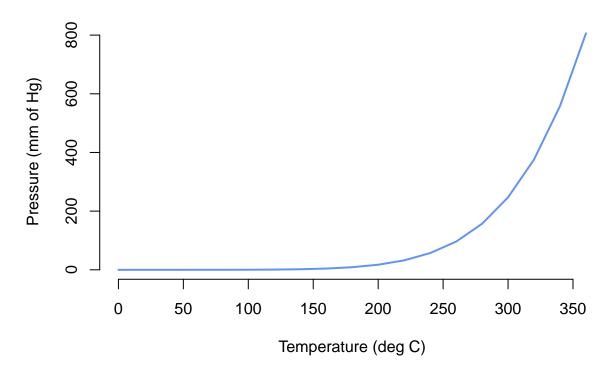


Figure 1: Pressure Plot

This is Figure 1: pressure data. Internally, we also labeled the code chunk pressureplot so we can call its contents and print them in the Appendix. see Appendix for the code that generated this plot. There are many arguments which govern the behavior of your code chunks. The creator of knitr has a many notes on this http://yihui.name/knitr/options/.

R Markdown Tables, Graphics, References, and Labels

In addition to the tables that can be automatically generated from a data frame in **R** that you saw in [R Markdown Basics] using the kable function, you can also create tables using *pandoc*. (More information is available at http://pandoc.org/README.html#tables.) This might be useful if you don't have values specifically stored in **R**, but you'd like to display them in table form. Below is an example. Pay careful attention to the alignment in the table and hyphens to create the rows and columns.

Table 2: Correlation of Inheritance Factors for Parents and Child

Factors	Correlation between Parents & Child	Inherited
Education	-0.49	Yes
Socio-Economic Status	0.28	Slight
Income	0.08	No
Family Size	0.18	Slight

We can also create a link to the table like so: Table 2.

To create the link, place "Table \@ref(tab:sleep)", using the label argument defined in step 1. This can be helpful to reference in other parts of the document.

Inline code

If you'd like to put the results of your analysis directly into your discussion, add inline code like this:

The cos of 2π is "r cos(2*pi)".

The cos of 2π is 1.

Another example would be the direct calculation of the standard deviation:

The standard deviation of speed in cars is "r sd(cars\$speed)".

The standard deviation of speed in cars is 5.2876444.

One last neat feature is the use of the ifelse conditional statement which can be used to output text depending on the result of an \mathbf{R} calculation:

r ifelse(sd(cars\$speed) < 6, "The standard deviation is less than 6.", "The standard deviation is equal to or greater than 6.")

The standard deviation is less than 6.

Note the use of > here, which signifies a quotation environment that will be indented.

As you see with \$2 \pi\$ above, mathematics can be added by surrounding the mathematical text with dollar signs. More examples of this are in Math Examples.

Figures

If your capstone has a lot of figures, *R Markdown* might behave better for you than that other word processor. One perk is that it will automatically number the figures accordingly in each chapter. You'll also be able to create a label for each figure, add a caption, and then reference the figure in a way similar to what we saw with tables earlier. If you label your figures, you can move the figures around and *R Markdown* will automatically adjust the numbering for you. No need for you to remember! So that you don't have to get too far into LaTeX to do this, a couple **R** functions have been created for you to assist. You'll see their use below.

In the **R** chunk below, we will load in a picture stored as phoenix-logo.png in our main directory. We then give it the caption of "Phoenix logo", the label of "phoenixlogo", and specify that this is a figure. Make note of the different **R** chunk options that are given in the R Markdown file (not shown in the knitted document).

include_graphics(path = "figure/phoenix-logo.jpg")



Figure 2: Phoenix logo

Here is a reference to the Phoenix logo: Figure 2. Note the use of the fig: code here. By naming the **R** chunk that contains the figure, we can then reference that figure later as done in the first sentence here. We can also specify the caption for the figure via the R chunk option fig.cap.

Next, we will explore the use of the out.extra chunk option, which can be used to shrink or expand an image loaded from a file by specifying "scale= ". Here we use the mathematical graph stored in the "subdivision.pdf" file.

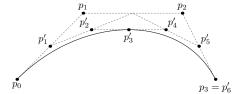


Figure 3: Subdiv. graph

Here is a reference to this image: Figure 3. Note that echo=FALSE is specified so that the **R** code is hidden in the document.

More Figure Stuff

Lastly, we will explore how to rotate and enlarge figures using the out.extra chunk option. (Currently this only works in the PDF version of the book.)

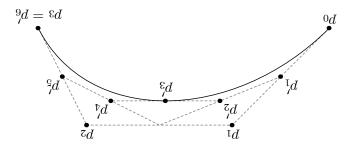


Figure 4: A Larger Figure, Flipped Upside Down

As another example, here is a reference: Figure 4.

Footnotes and Endnotes

You might want to footnote something.¹ The footnote will be in a smaller font and placed appropriately. Endnotes work in much the same way.

¹footnote text

Methodology

The methodology section may include the following subsections:

- Data
- Descriptive analyses
- Modeling Framework

Data

General description of the data and source(s). This includes limitations and delimitations; units of analysis; time window for aggregation and modeling (if applicable); and validation and development samples.

Let's revisit the work of E.W. Crampton's November 22, 1946 paper titled *The Growth of the Odontoblasts of the Incisor Tooth as a Criterion of the Vitamin C Intake of the Guinea Pig.* It is one of the data sets available within in the R statistical programming environment.

From the description file (?ToothGrowth):

The response is the length of odontoblasts (cells responsible for tooth growth) in 60 guinea pigs. Each animal received one of three dose levels of vitamin C (0.5, 1, and 2 mg/day) by one of two delivery methods, orange juice (OJ) or ascorbic acid (a form of vitamin C, coded VC).

Variables:

- len: numeric. Tooth length
- *supp*: *factor*. Supplement type (VC or OJ).
- dose: numeric. Dose in milligrams/day

data(ToothGrowth)

Descriptive analyses

Identification of the methodologies that would provide a view into the data. These may include highlighting the relationships that are important for the research, val-

idating assumptions with respect to important metrics, and providing evidence that substantiates the way data is analyzed.

Table 3: Tooth Growth

	len	supp	dose
1	4.2	VC	0.5
2	11.5	VC	0.5
3	7.3	VC	0.5
4	5.8	VC	0.5
5	6.4	VC	0.5
6	10.0	VC	0.5
7	11.2	VC	0.5
26	32.5	VC	2.0
27	26.7	VC	2.0
28	21.5	VC	2.0
29	23.3	VC	2.0
30	29.5	VC	2.0
31	15.2	OJ	0.5
32	21.5	OJ	0.5
33	17.6	OJ	0.5
34	9.7	OJ	0.5
53	22.4	OJ	2.0
54	24.5	OJ	2.0
55	24.8	OJ	2.0
56	30.9	OJ	2.0
57	26.4	OJ	2.0
58	27.3	OJ	2.0
59	29.4	OJ	2.0
60	23.0	OJ	2.0

Table: 3: Head, center, and tail of *Tooth Growth* data.

Modeling Framework

Justification of model(s) selected. Identification of dependent and independent variables, per model as well as variable transformations. Feature extraction (if applicable). Discussion of model(s) functional form. Assumptions of model(s) and ways of insuring that assumptions are observed or tested. Assessing model(s) performance and validation.

Transform dose into a factor. Only three dosage levels are present.

```
data(ToothGrowth)
colnames(ToothGrowth) <- c("length", "supplement", "dose")
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)</pre>
```

We are most interested in discovering which treatment leads to the optimal tooth growth. In this vein, we use aggregate function to transform our data and compute the average tooth length by both supplement type and dose size.

Table 4: Average tooth length

supplement	dose	length
OJ	0.5	13.23
VC	0.5	7.98
OJ	1	22.70
VC	1	16.77
OJ	2	26.06
VC	2	26.14

Math and Science notation

TEX is the best way to typeset mathematics. Donald Knuth designed TEX when he got frustrated at how long it was taking the typesetters to finish his book, which contained a lot of mathematics. One nice feature of *R Markdown* is its ability to read LATEX code directly.

Get around math mode's automatic italicizing in LaTeX by using the argument \$\mathrm{formula here}\$, with your formula inside the curly brackets. (Notice the use of the backticks here which enclose text that acts as code.)

So,
$$Fe_2^{2+}Cr_2O_4$$
 is written $\mathrm{mathrm}\{Fe_2^{2+}Cr_2O_4\}$ \$.

The command below does what you'd expect: it forces the current line/paragraph to not indent. See below and examples of commonly used symbols:

Exponent or Superscript written as x^2 becomes x^2

Subscript written as x_1 \$ becomes x_1

Infinity written as \$\infty\$ becomes ∞

alpha written as α

beta written as $\theta \$

delta written as $\Delta \theta \delta$

epsilon written as ϵ

sigma written $\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x)$ becomes $\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x)$

Math Examples

An Ordinary Least Squares model, from *Introductory Econometrics*, *6th edition* by Jeffrey M. Wooldridge, page 27.

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

An infinite distributed lag (IDL) time series model, by Wooldridge, page 633.

$$y_t = \alpha + \delta_0 z_t + \delta_1 z_{t-1} + \delta_2 z_{t-2} \dots + \varepsilon_t$$

A vector autoregressive (VAR) model, by Wooldridge, page 657.

$$y_t = \delta_0 + \alpha_1 y_{t-1} + \gamma_1 z_{t-1} + \alpha_2 y_{t-2} + \gamma_2 z_{t-2} \dots,$$

Determinant of a square matrix:

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} c_0 & c_1 & c_2 & \dots & c_n \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_{n+1} \\ c_2 & c_3 & c_4 & \dots & c_{n+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ c_n & c_{n+1} & c_{n+2} & \dots & c_{2n} \end{vmatrix} > 0$$

A regularization problem solved by Jerome Friedman, Trevor Hastie, Rob Tibshirani and Noah Simon, implemented in the R package glmnet.

$$\min_{\beta_0,\beta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i l(y_i, \beta_0 + \beta^T x_i) + \lambda \left[(1-\alpha) ||\beta||_2^2 / 2 + \alpha ||\beta||_1 \right]$$

From Lapidus and Pindar, Numerical Solution of Partial Differential Equations in Science and Engineering, page 54.

$$\int_{t} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{3} T_{j} \left(\frac{d\phi_{j}}{dt} + k\phi_{j} \right) - kT_{e} \right\} w_{i}(t) dt = 0, \qquad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

From Lapidus and Pindar, page 145.

$$\int_{-1}^{1} \int_{-1}^{1} \int_{-1}^{1} f(\xi, \eta, \zeta) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i} w_{j} w_{k} f(\xi, \eta, \zeta).$$

Additional R Markdown and bookdown resources

- Bookdown Online Book https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/
- Markdown Info Sheet https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/wiki/ Markdown-Cheatsheet
- R Markdown Reference Guide https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf

Findings

Should be organized as follows:

- Results of descriptive analyses
- Modeling results
- Results of model performance and validation

Results of descriptive analyses

Table 5: Summary of ToothGrowth data

supplement	dose
OJ:30	0.5:20
VC:30	1:20
NA	2:20
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA
	OJ:30 VC:30 NA NA NA

Table 5 above contains summary statistics of the *Tooth Growth* data.

While the code is not displayed to create the graph below (echo=FALSE), it is displayed in the Appendix by referencing the boxplot chunk name.

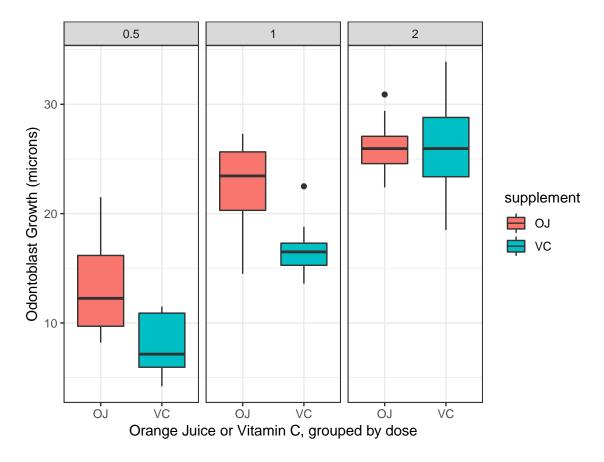


Figure 5: Avg. length by supplement and dose

Figure 5 was created with the ggplot2 package. We can visually compare the average tooth growth by supplement and dose.

Modeling results

First, use a t.test() to test *if* dosage leads to growth of incisor length. From the results below, it appears every test rejects the null hypothesis.

Table 6: t-test results

Name	Method	Pvalue	Tstat
Test 0.5-1	Welch Two Sample t-test	1.00e-07	-6.476648
Test 0.5-2	Welch Two Sample t-test	0.00e+00	-11.799046
Test 1-2	Welch Two Sample t-test	1.91e-05	-4.900484

Table 6

Results of model performance and validation

Next, subset the ToothGrowth data into separate data sets defined by supplement dose of 0.5, 1, and 2 mg. This allow us to controlling for dose increases of *economic* significance.

Subset tooth data into a separate data.frame for each dosage level. Then Execute the t.test() function for the dosage of 0.5 mg and display the results.

```
dose05 <- ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose == 0.5, ]
dose1 <- ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose == 1, ]
dose2 <- ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose == 2, ]

test4 <- t.test(length ~ supplement, data = dose05)
test5 <- t.test(length ~ supplement, data = dose1)
test6 <- t.test(length ~ supplement, data = dose2)</pre>
```

Place the results of the analysis directly into your content with *inline code* functions:

With a very low p-value of 0.0064 and a corresponding t-statistic of 3.1697, it appears that at low doses, *Orange Juice* is the preferable delivery mechanism to *Vitamin C* for Ascorbic Acid delivery.

The p-value and t-statistic above have been directly extracted from the model object and printed inline. using the 'r foo' syntax with quotes(') replaced by back-ticks (').

Conclusion

This section includes a concise summary of the findings. Your summary might be organized by the research objectives or hypotheses. Make sure you address the extent to which research objectives are achieved, and if they are not achieved, explain why. Make sure to interpret your findings in a way that acknowledges the limitations of the research. That is, do not extrapolate the insights derived from your research to situations you have not examined.

While increasing dosage leads to larger incisor length, the choice of delivery mechanism between Orange Juice and Vitamin C does not seem to make a difference. However, at very low levels, Orange Juice appears more effective, displaying higher average growth.

Recommendations

Includes guidelines as to ways in which your results should or could be used in practice. You may discuss other uses of your results, if there are any. The ways to extend your analysis and the benefits of doing so might be included in this section as well.

Appendix A

The First Appendix

This first appendix includes all of the R chunks of code that were hidden throughout the document (using the include = FALSE chunk tag) to help with readibility and/or setup.

In section:

In section:

Appendix B

A Second Appendix, for example

References

- There are a variety of tools available for creating a bibliography database (stored with the .bib extension). In addition to BibTeX suggested below, you may want to consider using the free and easy-to-use tool called Zotero.
- R Markdown uses pandoc (http://pandoc.org/) to build its bibliographies. To cite references in your thesis (after creating your bibliography database), place the reference name inside square brackets and precede it by the "at" symbol. For example, here's a reference to a book about worrying: (Molina & Borkovec, 1994). This Molina1994 entry appears in a file called thesis.bib in the bib folder. This bibliography database file was created by a program called BibTeX. You can call this file something else if you like (look at the YAML header in the main .Rmd file) and, by default, is to placed in the bib folder.

Additional Tips

- The sooner you start compiling your bibliography for something as large as a capstone, the better. Typing in source after source is mind-numbing enough; do you really want to do it for hours on end at the last minute?
- The cite key (a citation's label) needs to be unique from the other entries.
- When you have more than one author or editor, you need to separate each author's name by the word "and" e.g. Author = {Noble, Sam and Youngberg, Jessica},

Example output generated from bib file

- Angel, E. (2000). *Interactive computer graphics : A top-down approach with opengl.* Boston, MA: Addison Wesley Longman.
- Angel, E. (2001a). *Batch-file computer graphics : A bottom-up approach with quicktime*. Boston, MA: Wesley Addison Longman.
- Angel, E. (2001b). *Test second book by angel*. Boston, MA: Wesley Addison Longman.
- Molina, S. T., & Borkovec, T. D. (1994). The Penn State worry questionnaire: Psychometric properties and associated characteristics. In G. C. L. Davey & F. Tallis (Eds.), *Worrying: Perspectives on theory, assessment and treatment* (pp. 265–283). New York:

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