Machine Learning (online)

Coursework

2. Coursework resources

2.2. Part 2

As a reminder:

In the second part you will be presented with a regression problem. The aim would be to compare various models and techniques for their estimation to allow meaningful interpretation and competitive predictive performance. The latter should be assessed by appropriate experiments based on training and test datasets. In addition to linear regression, Tree based methods, Non-linear models or other suitable techniques can be used if you think they can provide improvement.

Description for Student Performance Dataset

Task:

Build a regression model for the variable G3 (final grade) without using the variables G1 and G2. Interpret the model and assess its predictive performance.

Source:

Paulo Cortez, University of Minho, Guimaraes, Portugal, http://www3.dsi.uminho.pt/pcortez

Data Set Information:

This data approach student achievement in secondary education of two Portuguese schools. The data attributes include student grades, demographic, social and school related features) and it was collected by using school reports and questionnaires.

Two datasets are provided regarding the performance in two distinct subjects: Mathematics (mat) and Portuguese language (por). In [Cortez and Silva, 2008], the two datasets were modeled under binary/five-level classification and regression tasks.

Important note: the target attribute G3 has a strong correlation with attributes G2 and G1. This occurs because G3 is the final year grade (issued at the 3rd period), while G1 and G2 correspond to the 1st and 2nd period grades. It is more difficult to predict G3 without G2 and G1, but such prediction is much more useful (see paper source for more details).

Attribute Information:

Attributes for both student-mat.csv (Math course) and student-por.csv (Portuguese language course) datasets:
1 school - student's school (binary: 'GP' - Gabriel Pereira or 'MS' - Mousinho da Silveira)
2 sex - student's sex (binary: 'F' - female or 'M' - male)
3 age - student's age (numeric: from 15 to 22)
4 address - student's home address type (binary: 'U' - urban or 'R' - rural)
5 famsize - family size (binary: 'LE3' - less or equal to 3 or 'GT3' - greater than 3)
6 Pstatus - parent's cohabitation status (binary: 'T' - living together or 'A' - apart)
7 Medu - mother's education (numeric: 0 - none, 1 - primary education (4th grade), 2 - 5th to 9th grade, 3 -“ secondary education or 4 - higher education)
8 Fedu - father's education (numeric: 0 - none, 1 - primary education (4th grade), 2 - 5th to 9th grade, 3 - secondary education or 4 - higher education)
9 Mjob - mother's job (nominal: 'teacher', 'health' care related, civil 'services' (e.g. administrative or police), 'at_home' or 'other')
10 Fjob - father's job (nominal: 'teacher', 'health' care related, civil 'services' (e.g. administrative or police), 'at_home' or 'other')
11 reason - reason to choose this school (nominal: close to 'home', school 'reputation', 'course' preference or 'other')
12 guardian - student's guardian (nominal: 'mother', 'father' or 'other')
13 traveltime - home to school travel time (numeric: 1 - <15 min., 2 - 15 to 30 min., 3 - 30 min. to 1 hour, or 4 - >1 hour)
14 studytime - weekly study time (numeric: 1 - <2 hours, 2 - 2 to 5 hours, 3 - 5 to 10 hours, or 4 - >10 hours)
15 failures - number of past class failures (numeric: n if 1<=n<3, else 4)
16 schoolsup - extra educational support (binary: yes or no)
17 famsup - family educational support (binary: yes or no)
18 paid - extra paid classes within the course subject (Math or Portuguese) (binary: yes or no)
19 activities - extra-curricular activities (binary: yes or no)
20 nursery - attended nursery school (binary: yes or no)
21 higher - wants to take higher education (binary: yes or no)
22 internet - Internet access at home (binary: yes or no)
23 romantic - with a romantic relationship (binary: yes or no)
24 famrel - quality of family relationships (numeric: from 1 - very bad to 5 - excellent)
25 freetime - free time after school (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high)
26 goout - going out with friends (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high)
27 Dalc - workday alcohol consumption (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high)
28 Walc - weekend alcohol consumption (numeric: from 1 - very low to 5 - very high)
29 health - current health status (numeric: from 1 - very bad to 5 - very good)
30 absences - number of school absences (numeric: from 0 to 93)
these grades are related with the course subject, Math or Portuguese:
31 G1 - first period grade (numeric: from 0 to 20)
31 G2 - second period grade (numeric: from 0 to 20)
32 G3 - final grade (numeric: from 0 to 20, output target)

Relevant Papers:

P. Cortez and A. Silva. Using Data Mining to Predict Secondary School Student Performance. In A. Brito and J. Teixeira Eds., Proceedings of 5th Future Business Technology Conference (FUBUTEC 2008) pp. 5-12, Porto, Portugal, April, 2008, EUROSIS, ISBN 978-9077381-39-7.

You can download this information .