Project 2: Supervised Learning

Building a Student Intervention System

1. Classification vs Regression

Your goal is to identify students who might need early intervention - which type of supervised machine learning problem is this, classification or regression? Why?

Answer: Whether a problem is a classification problem or a regression one is sometimes very subjective. However, it's common to treat a problem as a classification one when the output we are looking for is discrete and within a finite range, and a regression one when it's continuous and in an open range. In our case, we are trying to determine whether a student belongs to the "class" of need intervention or not. The output is therefore discrete/finite (0 or 1). So I would be more prone to treat this as a classification problem.

2. Exploring the Data

Let's go ahead and read in the student dataset first.

To execute a code cell, click inside it and press **Shift+Enter**.

```
In [2]: # Import libraries
%matplotlib inline
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
```

```
In [3]: # Read student data
    student_data = pd.read_csv("student-data.csv")
    print "Student data read successfully!"
    # Note: The last column 'passed' is the target/label, all other are feature column
```

Student data read successfully!

Now, can you find out the following facts about the dataset?

- Total number of students
- Number of students who passed
- Number of students who failed
- Graduation rate of the class (%)
- Number of features

Use the code block below to compute these values. Instructions/steps are marked using TODOs.

```
In [5]: # TODO: Compute desired values - replace each '?' with an appropriate expression/f
        from __future__ import division
        # student data.head()
        # student_data.describe()
        # colnames = list(student data.columns.values)
        n students = student data.shape[0]
        n features = student data.iloc[:, 0:-1].shape[1]
        n passed = student data[student data['passed'] == 'yes'].shape[0]
        n_failed = student_data[student_data['passed'] == 'no'].shape[0]
        grad_rate = (n_passed / n_students) * 100
        print "Total number of students: {}".format(n_students)
        print "Number of students who passed: {}".format(n_passed)
        print "Number of students who failed: {}".format(n_failed)
        print "Number of features: {}".format(n_features)
        print "Graduation rate of the class: {:.2f}%".format(grad_rate)
        Total number of students: 395
        Number of students who passed: 265
        Number of students who failed: 130
        Number of features: 30
        Graduation rate of the class: 67.09%
```

3. Preparing the Data

In this section, we will prepare the data for modeling, training and testing.

Identify feature and target columns

It is often the case that the data you obtain contains non-numeric features. This can be a problem, as most machine learning algorithms expect numeric data to perform computations with.

Let's first separate our data into feature and target columns, and see if any features are non-numeric.

Note: For this dataset, the last column ('passed') is the target or label we are trying to predict.

```
In [6]:
         # Extract feature (X) and target (y) columns
         feature_cols = list(student_data.columns[:-1]) # all columns but last are feature
         target col = student data.columns[-1] # last column is the target/label
         print "Feature column(s):-\n{}".format(feature cols)
         print "Target column: {}".format(target_col)
         X all = student data[feature cols] # feature values for all students
         y_all = student_data[target_col] # corresponding targets/labels
         print "\nFeature values:-"
         print X all.head() # print the first 5 rows
         Feature column(s):-
         ['school', 'sex', 'age', 'address', 'famsize', 'Pstatus', 'Medu', 'Fedu', 'Mjob'
         , 'Fjob', 'reason', 'guardian', 'traveltime', 'studytime', 'failures', 'schoolsu p', 'famsup', 'paid', 'activities', 'nursery', 'higher', 'internet', 'romantic', 'famrel', 'freetime', 'goout', 'Dalc', 'Walc', 'health', 'absences']
         Target column: passed
         Feature values:-
           school sex age address famsize Pstatus Medu Fedu
                                                                                      Fjob
                                                                           Mjob
         n
                GP
                     F
                         18
                                   U
                                           GT3
                                                    Α
                                                             4
                                                                    4 at home
                                                                                   teacher
                                                                    1 at_home
                                           GT3
                                                      Т
                                                             1
         1
                GP
                     F
                          17
                                    IJ
                                                                                     other
         2
                GP
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                                    U
                                           LE3
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                                                                    1
                                                                       at home
                                                                                     other
         3
                GP
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                                                                        health services
                                           GT3
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               GP
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                                   no
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         1
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                                                                                       1
             . . .
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                                               no
         2
                        yes
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                         yes
                                    no
                                               no
                                                                                  1
           absences
         0
                   6
         1
                   4
         2
                  10
         3
                   2
                   4
         4
         [5 rows x 30 columns]
```

Preprocess feature columns

As you can see, there are several non-numeric columns that need to be converted! Many of them are simply yes/no, e.g. internet. These can be reasonably converted into 1/0 (binary) values.

Other columns, like Mjob and Fjob, have more than two values, and are known as *categorical variables*. The recommended way to handle such a column is to create as many columns as possible values (e.g. Fjob_teacher, Fjob_other, Fjob_services, etc.), and assign a 1 to one of them and 0 to all others.

These generated columns are sometimes called *dummy variables*, and we will use the pandas.get_dummies() (http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/generated
/pandas.get_dummies.html?highlight=get_dummies#pandas.get_dummies) function to perform this transformation.

```
In [7]: student_data.iteritems()
Out[7]: <generator object iteritems at 0x10ad69960>
```

```
In [8]:
        # Preprocess feature columns
        def preprocess_features(X):
            outX = pd.DataFrame(index=X.index) # output dataframe, initially empty
            # Check each column
            for col, col_data in X.iteritems():
                # If data type is non-numeric, try to replace all yes/no values with 1/0
                if col data.dtype == object:
                    col data = col data.replace(['yes', 'no'], [1, 0])
                # Note: This should change the data type for yes/no columns to int
                # If still non-numeric, convert to one or more dummy variables
                if col_data.dtype == object:
                    col_data = pd.get_dummies(col_data, prefix=col) # e.g. 'school' => 's
                outX = outX.join(col data) # collect column(s) in output dataframe
            return outX
        X all = preprocess features(X all)
        print "Processed feature columns ({}):-\n{}".format(len(X_all.columns), list(X_all
        Processed feature columns (48):-
```

['school_GP', 'school_MS', 'sex_F', 'sex_M', 'age', 'address_R', 'address_U', 'f amsize_GT3', 'famsize_LE3', 'Pstatus_A', 'Pstatus_T', 'Medu', 'Fedu', 'Mjob_at_h ome', 'Mjob_health', 'Mjob_other', 'Mjob_services', 'Mjob_teacher', 'Fjob_at_home', 'Fjob_health', 'Fjob_other', 'Fjob_services', 'Fjob_teacher', 'reason_course', 'reason_home', 'reason_other', 'reason_reputation', 'guardian_father', 'guardian_mother', 'guardian_other', 'traveltime', 'studytime', 'failures', 'schoolsup', 'famsup', 'paid', 'activities', 'nursery', 'higher', 'internet', 'romantic', 'famrel', 'freetime', 'goout', 'Dalc', 'Walc', 'health', 'absences']

Split data into training and test sets

Test set: 95 samples

So far, we have converted all *categorical* features into numeric values. In this next step, we split the data (both features and corresponding labels) into training and test sets.

```
In [23]: from sklearn import cross_validation
    from sklearn import linear_model
    num_all = student_data.shape[0]  # same as len(student_data)
    num_train = 300  # about 75% of the data
    num_test = num_all - num_train

# TODO: Then, select features (X) and corresponding labels (y) for the training an
    # Note: Shuffle the data or randomly select samples to avoid any bias due to order
    X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_all, y_all,
    print "Training set: {} samples".format(X_train.shape[0])
    print "Test set: {} samples".format(X_test.shape[0])
    # Note: If you need a validation set, extract it from within training data

Training set: 300 samples
```

4. Training and Evaluating Models

Choose 3 supervised learning models that are available in scikit-learn, and appropriate for this problem. For each model:

- What are the general applications of this model? What are its strengths and weaknesses?
- Given what you know about the data so far, why did you choose this model to apply?
- Fit this model to the training data, try to predict labels (for both training and test sets), and measure
 the F₁ score. Repeat this process with different training set sizes (100, 200, 300), keeping test set
 constant.

Produce a table showing training time, prediction time, F₁ score on training set and F₁ score on test set, for each training set size.

Note: You need to produce 3 such tables - one for each model.

What are the general applications of this model? What are its strengths and weaknesses?

Answer:

- Logistic Regression: Logistic regression is used widely for tackling classification problems. The strength of the model is that it is relatively cheap to train and test. The problem with Logistic Regression is that it converges to any decision boundary that can divide the training examples into positive and negative classes and therefore generally not as "optimized" as SVM.
- Adaboost: Adaboost is a very popular ensemble method that works well on most classifiers. It's
 strengh is in that it doesn't require its base learner to have strong predicting power to get good
 results and is less likely to overfit. The downside of Adaboost is that it may try too hard to correctly
 classify the training examples so may not be the best choise for dealing with noisy data.
- SVM: Similar to Logistic Regression, SVM has now become probably the most popular classification algorithm due to its ability to maximize the margin of the label classes. SVM is in many way similar to Logistic Regression. However, its cost function is defined slightly differently to that of Logistic Regression, to maximize the margin which makes SVM relatively more "robust" compared to Logristic Regression. The downside of SVM is that it's relatively more expensive to train.

Given what you know about the data so far, why did you choose this model to apply?

Answer:

• Logistic Regression:

- 1. It's a relatively simpler model which gives me an idea of sort of the lower bound of my accuracy.
- 2. The fact that it may not be a very sophisticated model makes it the perfect candidate as a weak learner, which later can be fed into my boosting algorithm.
- 3. It's relatively cheaper to train so since this project is under a budget, it may turn out that it's good enough comparing to other more computationally expensive models and being the perfect choice for our task.

• Adaboost:

- 1. Boosting generally works very well with very simple base learners, and with simple base learners and reasonable number of estimators, it's generally not very expensive to train.
- 2. It's less likely to overfit.

• SVM:

- 1. SVM generally works very well as a standalone classifier, given it's nature.
- It's generally considered a "better" version of Logistic Regression. Knowing the lower bound, I'd like to experiment and compare their results and see how they differ from each other.

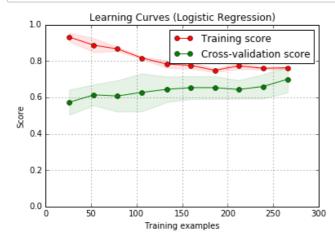
```
In [24]: # Train a model
         import time
         def train classifier(clf, X train, y train):
             print "Training {}...".format(clf.__class__.__name__)
             start = time.time()
             clf.fit(X_train, y_train)
             end = time.time()
             print "Done!\nTraining time (secs): {:.3f}".format(end - start)
         # TODO: Choose a model, import it and instantiate an object
         clf = linear_model.LogisticRegression(penalty='12', solver='lbfgs')
         # Fit model to training data
         train_classifier(clf, X_train, y_train) # note: using entire training set here
         print clf # you can inspect the learned model by printing it
         Training LogisticRegression...
         Training time (secs): 0.025
         LogisticRegression(C=1.0, class_weight=None, dual=False, fit_intercept=True,
                   intercept scaling=1, max iter=100, multi class='ovr', n jobs=1,
                   penalty='12', random state=None, solver='lbfgs', tol=0.0001,
                   verbose=0, warm_start=False)
In [25]: # Predict on training set and compute F1 score
         from sklearn.metrics import f1 score
         def predict_labels(clf, features, target):
             print "Predicting labels using {}...".format(clf.__class__.__name__)
             start = time.time()
             y pred = clf.predict(features)
             end = time.time()
             print "Done!\nPrediction time (secs): {:.3f}".format(end - start)
             return f1_score(target.values, y_pred, pos_label='yes')
         train_f1_score = predict_labels(clf, X_train, y_train)
         print "F1 score for training set: {}".format(train_f1_score)
         Predicting labels using LogisticRegression...
         Prediction time (secs): 0.000
         F1 score for training set: 0.833723653396
In [26]: # Predict on test data
         print "F1 score for test set: {}".format(predict_labels(clf, X_test, y_test))
         Predicting labels using LogisticRegression...
         Prediction time (secs): 0.001
         F1 score for test set: 0.746268656716
```

```
In [27]:
         # Train and predict using different training set sizes
         def train_predict(clf, X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test):
             print "-----
             print "Training set size: {}".format(len(X_train))
             train_classifier(clf, X_train, y_train)
             print "F1 score for training set: {}".format(predict_labels(clf, X_train, y_tr
             print "F1 score for test set: {}".format(predict labels(clf, X test, y test))
         # TODO: Run the helper function above for desired subsets of training data
         # Note: Keep the test set constant
         # Make the training set smaller while using the same test set as before
         ## |Training set| = 300
         train_predict(clf, X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
         ## |Training set | = 200
         X_tr200, X_t200, y_tr200, y_t200 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
         train_predict(clf, X_tr200, y_tr200, X_test, y_test)
         ## |Training set| = 100
         X_tr100, X_t100, y_tr100, y_t100 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
         train_predict(clf, X_tr100, y_tr100, X_test, y_test)
```

Training set size: 300 Training LogisticRegression... Training time (secs): 0.028 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for training set: 0.833723653396 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for test set: 0.746268656716 Training set size: 200 Training LogisticRegression... Training time (secs): 0.023 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for training set: 0.82222222222 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for test set: 0.738461538462 Training set size: 100 Training LogisticRegression... Training time (secs): 0.029 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for training set: 0.873015873016 Predicting labels using LogisticRegression... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.000 F1 score for test set: 0.694214876033

```
In [28]:
         import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
         from sklearn import cross_validation
         from sklearn.learning curve import learning curve
         def plot_learning_curve(estimator, title, X, y, ylim=None, cv=None,
                                 n_jobs=1, train_sizes=np.linspace(.1, 1.0, 5)):
             Generate a simple plot of the test and traning learning curve.
             Parameters
             estimator : object type that implements the "fit" and "predict" methods
                 An object of that type which is cloned for each validation.
             title : string
                 Title for the chart.
             X : array-like, shape (n_samples, n_features)
                 Training vector, where n_samples is the number of samples and
                 n features is the number of features.
             y : array-like, shape (n_samples) or (n_samples, n_features), optional
                 Target relative to X for classification or regression;
                 None for unsupervised learning.
             ylim : tuple, shape (ymin, ymax), optional
                 Defines minimum and maximum yvalues plotted.
             cv : integer, cross-validation generator, optional
                 If an integer is passed, it is the number of folds (defaults to 3).
                 Specific cross-validation objects can be passed, see
                 sklearn.cross_validation module for the list of possible objects
             n_jobs : integer, optional
                 Number of jobs to run in parallel (default 1).
             plt.figure()
             plt.title(title)
             if ylim is not None:
                 plt.ylim(*ylim)
             plt.xlabel("Training examples")
             plt.ylabel("Score")
             train sizes, train scores, test scores = learning curve(estimator, X, y, cv=cv
             train_scores_mean = np.mean(train_scores, axis=1)
             train_scores_std = np.std(train_scores, axis=1)
             test scores mean = np.mean(test scores, axis=1)
             test scores std = np.std(test scores, axis=1)
             plt.grid()
             plt.fill between(train sizes, train scores mean - train scores std,
                              train_scores_mean + train_scores_std, alpha=0.1,
                              color="r")
             plt.fill between(train sizes, test scores mean - test scores std,
                              test_scores_mean + test_scores_std, alpha=0.1, color="g")
             plt.plot(train_sizes, train_scores_mean, 'o-', color="r",
                      label="Training score")
             plt.plot(train_sizes, test_scores_mean, 'o-', color="g",
                      label="Cross-validation score")
             plt.legend(loc="best")
             return plt
```

In [29]: # Logistic Regression Learning Curve
 title = "Learning Curves (Logistic Regression)"
 plot_learning_curve(clf, title, X_train, y_train, cv=9, n_jobs=1, ylim=(0, 1), tra
 plt.show()

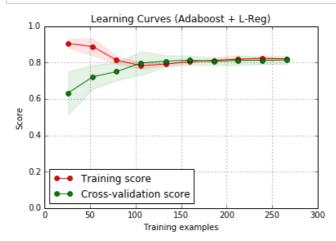


Logistic Regression

	Training set size			
	100	200	300	
Training time (secs)	0.029	0.023	0.028	
Prediction time (secs)	0.000	0.000	0.000	
F1 score for training set	0.873015873016	0.82222222222	0.833723653396	
F1 score for test set	0.694214876033	0.738461538462	0.746268656716	

```
In [30]: # TODO: Train and predict using two other models
         from sklearn import grid_search
         from sklearn.ensemble import AdaBoostClassifier
         from sklearn.metrics import make scorer
         # Adaboost + L-regression
         f1 scorer = make scorer(f1 score, pos label='yes')
         parameters = {"n estimators": range(1, 5)}
         ens clf = AdaBoostClassifier(base estimator=clf, learning rate=1.0, algorithm='SAM
         ens gs = grid search.GridSearchCV(ens clf, parameters, scoring=f1 scorer)
         ens_gs.fit(X_train, y_train)
         y_pred = ens_gs.predict(X_test)
         print ens_gs.best_params_
         ## |Training set| = 300
         train_predict(ens_gs, X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
         ## |Training set | = 200
         X_tr200, X_t200, y_tr200, y_t200 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
         train_predict(ens_gs, X_tr200, y_tr200, X_test, y_test)
         ## |Training set | = 100
         X_tr100, X_t100, y_tr100, y_t100 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
         train_predict(ens_gs, X_tr100, y_tr100, X_test, y_test)
         {'n_estimators': 4}
         Training set size: 300
         Training GridSearchCV...
         Training time (secs): 0.363
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Prediction time (secs): 0.001
         F1 score for training set: 0.822269807281
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Done!
         Prediction time (secs): 0.001
         F1 score for test set: 0.824324324324
         Training set size: 200
         Training GridSearchCV...
         Training time (secs): 0.272
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Prediction time (secs): 0.000
         F1 score for training set: 0.798701298701
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Done!
         Prediction time (secs): 0.000
         F1 score for test set: 0.828947368421
         Training set size: 100
         Training GridSearchCV...
         Donel
         Training time (secs): 0.283
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Prediction time (secs): 0.002
         F1 score for training set: 0.840579710145
         Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...
         Done!
         Prediction time (secs): 0.002
         F1 score for test set: 0.825174825175
```

In [18]: title = "Learning Curves (Adaboost + L-Reg)"
 plot_learning_curve(ens_gs, title, X_train, y_train, cv=9, n_jobs=1, ylim=(0, 1),
 plt.show()



L-Reg AdaBoosted

	Training set size			
	100	200	300	
Training time (secs)	0.389	0.272	0.363	
Prediction time (secs)	0.001	0.000	0.001	
F1 score for training set	0.840579710145	0.798701298701	0.822269807281	
F1 score for test set	0.825174825175	0.828947368421	0.824324324324	

```
In [31]: # SVM
    from sklearn import svm
    parameters = {'kernel':('linear', 'rbf'), 'C':[1, 10]}
    svc = svm.SVC()
    svc_gs = grid_search.GridSearchCV(svc, parameters, cv=9, scoring=f1_scorer)
    svc_gs.fit(X_train, y_train)
    y_pred = svc_gs.predict(X_test)

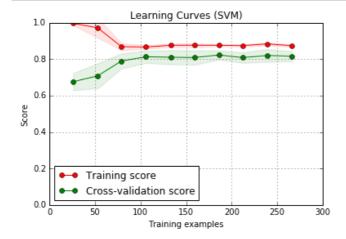
## |Training set| = 300
    train_predict(svc_gs, X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)

## |Training set| = 200
    X_tr200, X_t200, y_tr200, y_t200 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
    train_predict(svc_gs, X_tr200, y_tr200, X_test, y_test)

## |Training set| = 100
    X_tr100, X_t100, y_tr100, y_t100 = cross_validation.train_test_split(X_train, y_tr
    train_predict(svc_gs, X_tr100, y_t100, X_test, y_test)
```

Training set size: 300 Training GridSearchCV... Training time (secs): 4.282 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Prediction time (secs): 0.005 F1 score for training set: 0.858387799564 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.002 F1 score for test set: 0.846153846154 Training set size: 200 Training GridSearchCV... Done! Training time (secs): 3.920 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.002 F1 score for training set: 0.853242320819 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.001 F1 score for test set: 0.83660130719 _____ Training set size: 100 Training GridSearchCV... Done! Training time (secs): 0.382 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.001 F1 score for training set: 0.890510948905 Predicting labels using GridSearchCV... Done! Prediction time (secs): 0.001 F1 score for test set: 0.859154929577

In [21]: title = "Learning Curves (SVM)"
 plot_learning_curve(svc_gs, title, X_train, y_train, cv=9, n_jobs=1, ylim=(0, 1),
 plt.show()



SVM

	Training set size			
	100	200	300	
Training time (secs)	0.382	3.920	4.282	
Prediction time (secs)	0.001	0.001	0.002	
F1 score for training set	0.890510948905	0.853242320819	0.858387799564	
F1 score for test set	0.859154929577	0.83660130719	0.846153846154	

5. Choosing the Best Model

- Based on the experiments you performed earlier, in 1-2 paragraphs explain to the board of supervisors what single model you chose as the best model. Which model is generally the most appropriate based on the available data, limited resources, cost, and performance?
- In 1-2 paragraphs explain to the board of supervisors in layman's terms how the final model chosen is supposed to work (for example if you chose a Decision Tree or Support Vector Machine, how does it make a prediction).
- Fine-tune the model. Use Gridsearch with at least one important parameter tuned and with at least 3 settings. Use the entire training set for this.
- What is the model's final F₁ score?

Based on the experiments you performed earlier, in 1-2 paragraphs explain to the board of supervisors what single model you chose as the best model. Which model is generally the most appropriate based on the available data, limited resources, cost, and performance?

Answer: Based on the experiments, I'd consider the Boosted Logistic Regression as the most suitable one for our task, for the following reasons:

- 1. It's reasonably cheap (computationally) to train (compared to SVM) and very cheap to test (not instance-based). The boosting part only uses three 4 estimators to achieve this.
- 2. It dosesn't need a lot of data to train. If you look at the training curve, you'll see it goes up extremely fast in terms of accuracy (F1 score, that is), for the cross-validation set.
- 3. It's an eager learner algorithm which means it doesn't take up much memory (space). The only things it needs to store in the memory are the learned parameters.

In 1-2 paragraphs explain to the board of supervisors in layman's terms how the final model chosen is supposed to work (for example if you chose a Decision Tree or Support Vector Machine, how does it make a prediction).

Answer:

The learning algorithm is an ensemble method, which means it consists of a bunch of algorithms and gather their "wisdoms" to make the prediction. You can think of each prediction as a committee decision. Say now we have a student and we want to know if he/she is more likely to pass or fail. Each committee member would then "inspects" the students information and then form an opinion about him/her. For example, based on each committee member's past experience (by looking into the training data) one committee member might think anyone who has a full time job may be more likely to fail and the other committee member might think anyone has more failures in their record is more likely to fail and so on and so forth. And in the end, the committee will have a discussion and decide whether they should put this student in the pass bucket or the fail bucket.

The alorithm also has an iterative nature, which means before the committee starts making decisions, they would use the training data (where we already know who've passed and who've failed), pretending that they don't know the results, to see how well their decision process works. During this revision process, each time they'd most likely put some students in right buckt and some in the wrong bucket. They'd then look at those students in the wrong bucket and see if they should change their own rules, for example, maybe having a full time doesn't really say much about whether a student would pass or not.

What is the model's final F1 score?

Answer: F1 = 0.84

```
Training set size: 300
Training GridSearchCV...

Done!
Training time (secs): 26.259
Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...

Done!
Prediction time (secs): 0.001
F1 score for training set: 0.818763326226
Predicting labels using GridSearchCV...

Done!
Prediction time (secs): 0.000
F1 score for test set: 0.84
{'n_estimators': 3, 'learning_rate': 1.200000000000002, 'algorithm': 'SAMME.R'}
```

```
In [ ]:
```