PREDICTIVE MODELLING

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- ■Predictive modeling is the problem of developing a model using historical data to make a prediction on new data where we do not have the answer.
- ■Predictive modeling can be described as the mathematical problem of approximating a mapping function (f) from input variables (X) to output variables (y).
- ■This is called the problem of function approximation.
- ■The job of the modeling algorithm is to find the best mapping function we can given the time and resources available.

CLASSIFICATION PREDICTIVE MODELLING

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- •Classification predictive modeling is the task of approximating a mapping function (f) from input variables (X) to discrete output variables (y).
- ■The output variables are often called labels or categories. The mapping function predicts the class or category for a given observation.
- ■For example, an email of text can be classified as belonging to one of two classes: "spam" and "not spam".

CLASSIFICATION PREDICTIVE MODELLING

- ■A classification problem requires that examples be classified into one of two or more classes.
- A classification can have real-valued or discrete input variables.
- ■A problem with two classes is often called a two-class or binary classification problem.
- ■A problem with more than two classes is often called a multi-class classification problem.
- ■A problem where an example is assigned multiple classes is called a multi-label classification problem.
- ■An algorithm that is capable of learning a classification predictive model is called a classification algorithm.

CLASSIFICATION PREDICTIVE MODELLING

- ■It is common for classification models to predict a continuous value as the probability of a given example belonging to each output class. The probabilities can be interpreted as the likelihood or confidence of a given example belonging to each class. A predicted probability can be converted into a class value by selecting the class label that has the highest probability.
- ■For example, a specific email of text may be assigned the probabilities of 0.1 as being "spam" and 0.9 as being "not spam". We can convert these probabilities to a class label by selecting the "not spam" label as it has the highest predicted likelihood.
- ■There are many ways to estimate the skill of a classification predictive model, but perhaps the most common is to calculate the classification accuracy.

- Regression predictive modeling is the task of approximating a mapping function (f) from input variables (X) to a continuous output variable (y).
- ■Regression is different from classification, which involves predicting a category or class label.

- ■Regression refers to predictive modeling problems that involve predicting a numeric value.
- ■It is different from classification that involves predicting a class label. Unlike classification, you cannot use classification accuracy to evaluate the predictions made by a regression model.
- ■Instead, you must use error metrics specifically designed for evaluating predictions made on regression problems.

- ■A continuous output variable is a real-value, such as an integer or floating point value. These are often quantities, such as amounts and sizes.
- ■For example, a house may be predicted to sell for a specific dollar value, perhaps in the range of 100,000to200,000.
- A regression problem requires the prediction of a quantity.
- ■A regression can have real-valued or discrete input variables.
- ■A problem with multiple input variables is often called a multivariate regression problem.
- ■A regression problem where input variables are ordered by time is called a time series forecasting problem.

- ■Regression predictive modeling are those problems that involve predicting a numeric value.
- ■Metrics for regression involve calculating an error score to summarize the predictive skill of a model.
- ■How to calculate and report mean squared error, root mean squared error, and mean absolute error.