

- Proposed title and abstract

Title

Show Me the Money: Forecasting Economic Aid with Machine Learning

Abstract

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) is the lead U.S. Government agency that works to end extreme global poverty in over 100 countries. Even though it is less than 1% of the federal budget, U.S. foreign assistance plays a critical role in promoting America's interests and improving the lives in the developing world. By forecasting future aid amounts using open data and machine learning techniques, countries can plan how to best spend the resources they receive. The hypothesis of whether foreign economic aid can be predicted using historical USAID and World Bank data is tested with Jupyter Notebook platform.

- Description of the presentation

To the author's knowledge, there is no known machine learning research in this domain. The presentation will present key research findings and ask for audience feedback to improve the research.

- Indicate whether you are submitting a 40-minute session or a 3-hour tutorial

40 minute session

- Suggested main topic and application area

Machine Learning

Finance Forecasting

Open Data in society

- Audience information: Who is the presentation is for?

The target audience is anyone interested in learning how machine learning methodologies used on the Jupyter Notebook platform can be leveraged in non-traditional fields such as foreign economic aid forecasting.

- What will they be able to take away?

The presentation will inspire audience members to think of new ways to use open data in society and to use data science for social good.

- What prerequisite knowledge do they need?

None - presentation will be geared for a non-technical audience, for any data practitioner or anyone interested in data for social good. Data sets will be included in presentation materials.

- For tutorial proposals: hardware installation, materials, and/or downloads attendees will need in advance

Not applicable - planning a 40 minute session

- Speaker(s): biography and hi-res headshot (minimum 1400 pixels wide; required)

Laura Kahn is pursuing a Master's degree in Data Science from Indiana University with a passion for using data and technology to solve humanitarian problems. Mrs. Kahn has been selected as a Student Ambassador for the Second International Conference on Food Security and Sustainability. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Textile Engineering and a Bachelors of Arts in Spanish from NC State University and is currently employed as an intellectual property specialist. She enjoys playing her saxophone, baking and traveling in her spare time.



Majid Khorrami is pursuing a Master's degree in Data Science from Indiana University. Majid holds a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from Mississippi State University, and is currently employed in the entertainment industry as an information architect. Majid does volunteer work teaching math to middle school students in his spare time and enjoys running, hiking and skiing.



- A video of the speaker (not required)
Not applicable
- Reimbursement needs for travel or other conference-related expenses (if you are self-employed, for example)
Not needed