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Problem - Yearly lagging effect

Thu Le <thuhale@cs.wisc.edu> Sat, Sep 6, 2014 at 4:25 PM
To: Karl Rohe <karlrohe@stat.wisc.edu>

Hi prof.,

This is to give you a head up. I've been working on Fort McCoy dataset. I tried to overhaul my programming that can allow for mass-production, but it has not worked as I expected. This is mainly because I have not been able to find a good SQL server that runs on Mac OS and has adequate functionality like the Window one (even the $20 on Apple score)

Anyway, I just had the thought that I may have done it wrong. Previously, if the student takes the teacher's class in 2006, I used that student's 2006 FCAT for entry. However, as I just checked, the FCAT took place in Feb and March, which means that student's FCAT score in 2006 would be due to the classes that he/she took in 2005. I am redoing all the data now by retrograde the score by one year. For instance, use FCAT 2006 as entry for classes that student take in 2005.

One more thing, there are students who retake the FCAT at the end of the year. Let's say in 2006, the student took it in Feb and November. The score in Feb would be due to classes taken in 2005, and December 2006. However, in the FCAT file, there is no indication which one is February and which one is December. Although it might add noises, I am inclined to drop the higher score, and keep retrograding the score by a year to keep the algorithm consistent. This is because in my guess, the higher score would be the retaken one in December.

I strongly believe that new data would greatly improve the signals and p-values. I am going to the library to borrow a Window machine to work on this. Hopefully, things will come together.

Please **advise** if you think of anything that I should do differently.

~Thu