

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Bc. Michal Todt
Advisor:	Petr Polák
Title of the thesis:	Estimating performance of classifiers from dataset properties

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Michal work on quite technical topic which he picked up by himself. Michal work on his thesis from the topic definition till the end very independently and great motivation. The thesis aims to investigate performance of different classifiers under given set of assumptions. Then Australian credit data are used to test the results. I am fond of presenting results which showed not to be very successful, because Michal does not try to hide anything and such process was set at the beginning of his work.

Contribution

Michal's work is original and clearly motivated to solve problems that economists have. Comparison of classifiers is important and brings new evidence to the fields using empirical simulation.

Methods

To my opinion, usage of simulation techniques in master thesis is rare at IES and I am glad Michal has the courage to do that and is transparent with his code in open source R software. Design and utilization of methods used in the thesis requires knowledge which is above advanced master level courses at IES.

Literature

Literature overview is sufficient, it covers all key-studies as well as up-to-date literature on classification and its importance in economics and finance. Michal uses proper referencing techniques and shows understanding of literature used.

Manuscript form

The thesis is well formatted and structured; yet in later parts of work the reader can get a bit lost. The manuscript could benefit from additional reading and reformulation of some statements. Additional remark is the form in which tables are presented. They could be enhanced by detailed notes which would make them self-sufficient and easier to understand. I also understand, that Michal uses outputs from different software, but these output could be better formatted to look alike. These comments would not change the substance of the thesis, which is of high quality, but make the presentation of it better.

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

As a supervisor, I am familiar with work in progress and I do not have any additional questions. I would suggest to stress out the initial motivation for such work at the defence.

I recommend the thesis for defence and for reasons stated above I suggest grade A.

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SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	27
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	17
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	94
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Polák

DATE OF EVALUATION: 11. 9. 2018



Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

Overall grading:

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F