Project Report-Team 8

Advertisement Click-through Rate Prediction

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Preface

This project is aimed to train a prediction model to forecast the click-through rate for advertisements. A prediction and recommendation system will be implemented to predict the CTRs of potential users, which in turn will recommend the suggested targeting users based on the CTR predicted and the ideal CTR threshold. The excessive advertising to random users extensively means a waste of resources, which might be even likely to make users have a negative impression towards your products. Our prediction and recommendation system on the basis of the click probability will make it possible that the advertisements only target at the users who might be interested in the ads, thus maximizing the profit of the advertisers and saving the excessive resource which is wasted on useless advertising. Meanwhile, the users only receive the useful advertisements that have a relatively high possibility to attracts them, which is an efficient and pleasant experience to see the display advertising while surfing the Internet. It is a win-win procedure for both advertisers and users, and even for website platforms.

This project is to utilize the method and tools within data mining and machine learning field.

This project is made in fulfillment of the requirements in the course project of COEN 281: Pattern Recognition & Data Mining in Spring quarter, 2017, under the guidance and support of Prof. Ming-Hwa Wang.
Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Alibaba teams for collecting and sharing the information anonymously. Without their efforts, this project would not be possible. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Prof. Ming-Hwa Wang. It is his tremendous encouragement and support that makes this project materialized. We especially would like to take this as an opportunity to thank the support received from all the other people who have been instrumental in the successful complication of this project.
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Abstract

A advertisement click-through rate prediction and recommendation system is proposed in this document. The system is composed of three main part: data cleaning, prediction model training and front end recommendation system designing. One-hot approach is used to catch the useful features of the user data and advertisement data. After that, cleaned data is used to training the prediction model. In order to achieve as much as higher prediction accuracy, DeepFM algorithm is used after doing many literature review and comparison. Finally, a front end system is designed for advertiser and advertising platform to use. The system not only predicts the CTR of a certain advertisement for advertiser but also offer the information and percentage of the target user whose predicted CTR is higher than the threshold to advertiser.

The document describe the design procedure in details, including introduction, theoretical and literature review, hypothesis and goals of the system, methodology and concrete implementation of the predicted system and the result analysis and future scope of the projects.
1. Introduction

1.1 Objective

The project is aimed to design a prediction system to predict the click-through rate of a certain advertisement. An appropriate algorithm and predicted model will be used in the project. The system will be used by the advertiser to know the probability of the user clicking the advertisement and then make a decision of whether putting the advertisement on the certain website. Furthermore, the project will recommend the user whose predicted click rate is equal or higher than one certain threshold to the advertiser. This operation not only can let the advertiser get the profit maximization but also let the website reduce the useless advertisement by avoid recommending the advertisement with low CTR to someone users which will bring a better user experience to the users.

There are various advertisements in our daily life, some of them is useful and attractive to us, while other are useless for us and we will never click them. From the perspective of the user, it is disgusting that receiving many useless advertisement when surfing on the Internet. From the perspective of the advertiser, it is depressed that the given advertisement is not attractive and receive a extreme low click rate. Taking the above two aspects into consideration, our project is aimed to minimize the occurrence of these situation and achieve a win-win outcome.
1.2 What is the problem

In a normal Internet advertising environment, the relationship between websites, advertisers, users and advertising center is a bidirectional relationship. They cooperate with each other, but also intensely compete with each other. Websites attract users and provide advertising spaces. Advertisers provide advertisement and pay for it. Advertising center allocate advertising space to advertisement according to certain rules, and collect fees, and share with websites. Users browse and click the ad. This 4 in 1 system is the reason why most of websites and servers are free, and how tech companies (like Google, Facebook) earn money.

It is obviously, in this system, that advertisers play the important role. Therefore, how to make advertising more effective and greater propaganda became a hot topic now. It also spawned a new sub-discipline, computational advertising. We can say computational advertising is a very narrow area under machine learning. However, as it generates huge profits every year, this discipline has become very popular. Now computational advertising already has become frequent visitor to many academic conferences in computer science field as well as economic field.

We can simply separate computational advertising as display ads and search ads.
A display ad is an internet advertisement that appears as a picture or video, when a user browses a website. Its main purpose is brand promotion rather than directly facilitating transactions. This is because when users are browsing websites, usually they do not have a clear and specific purchase intention. It is not easy to stimulate their purchase desire. Hence, usually, display advertising comes with bright colors, lively pictures. It will attract the attention of the users and give them a certain impression. According to the current industry standards, as long as the advertising platform has performed an advertisement for a certain number of times, the advertiser will pay for a corresponding fee. This model is commonly referred as a CPM model.

A search ad is when users use search engines searching certain things, what advertisements they saw on the results pages. Search ads usually displayed in a similar format as search results, including headers, descriptions and hyperlinks. With the development of technology, search results have become more pluralistic. The form of search advertising is usually enriched with pictures, videos. Unlike the display ads, users usually have a clearer intention to purchase something when search on searching engine. And these intentions are usually veiled through query keywords. In order to precisely match the users’ search intention, advertisers have to submit keywords that they want to bid in advanced and the highest fees they are willing to pay. According to industry standard practice, the ad platform charges the advertiser only when the user clicked on an ad. This is CPC model.

In this proposal, we are going to mainly discuss search ads. The most popular charging model in search advertising is the click charging model, so accurately click forecasting plays a crucial role in advertising platform. This model often be called CTR.

Machine learning is the core of CTR, because the purpose of machine learning is prediction. However, as we all know, algorithms can only process abstract and elegant objects/data. In real life, our tasks are concrete, so our data are full of defects and noises. How to use abstract algorithms to solve concrete problems is the main question among all. Usually, we have two ways to predict in Machine Learning, regression and classification. Regression often is used to
handle classifying objects, like human faces, tables, bicycles. Classification is more likely to deal with numbers.

CTR is typically modeled as a classification problem. Given a user’s query terms, advertisements, user information and other contextual information. It predicts whether a click will occur.

This problem seems simple, but it is actually very complicated. The data of which ad user clicked are rare. Even high-quality advertisements only have few percent click rate. For such data, if the training set sample is unreasonable, or not so good, we lost many important information, which will lead to model invalidation. Currently, the only effective feature of click prediction is its historical click behavior. However, although this is a valid feature, is has brought many challenges to CTR prediction. If you rely too heavily on historical click behavior, it will bring a lot trouble. For those ads that have not been shown to users in history, even if they are high-quality ads themselves, or maybe they are too new, or not displayed due to mistakes in the previously used click model, these new ads will not have opportunities to show to users in the future. Thus, this will form a vicious circle and the CTR prediction model will not be improved by training. And CTR prediction model will gradually consolidate the prediction results into a small number of appeared data.

In order to solve this problem, we need to use online learning to achieve the balance of exploration and utilization. There has been a lot of useful work in this area, but there is still much room for development. For example, when doing online learning, user behavior is often regarded as a “random environment” and the characteristics of the user’s click are understood through exploration. However, this method ignores the change of the CTR prediction model, which will also lead to change in the ordering of advertisements. Thus, this will affect the advertisers' profits, prompt advertisers to change keywords and their bids, and even change the way advertisements are written. These changes in turn will affect the click prediction model itself, which affects the revenue of the advertising platform. Therefore, an ideal online learning method should detect user click behavior and advertiser behavior at the same time.
1.3 Why is this a project related to this class

The project focuses on processing history big data and training a prediction model to predict the ad click-through rates (CTR), which not only comes down to data mining but also is related to machine learning areas. As we all know, digital advertisement is a multi-millions industry in recent years, so click prediction models are central to most online advertising systems. How can the users’ purchase history be related to the advertisement click prediction? The most intuitive thought is that if someone purchase certain type of items more frequently, they are more likely to click the related advertisements shown in the website. Considering that more and more online advertisement systems allows advertisers to only bid and pay for measurable user responses, such as click on advertisements, so how to predict the click rate of certain advertisement accurately by analyzing user’s purchase record data is the most important point in this project.

Firstly, about the data mining, the project will preprocess the massive data and extract some useful features from these data. In order to obtain an optimal approach, various material and approaches used to extract features from user’s type behaviors, such as ipv for browsing, cart for adding to shopping cart, fav for favor, buy for buying this item, will be compared and then their advantages and disadvantages will be carefully discussed. After determining the useful features, a real-world advertising dataset collect from taobao users by Alibaba will be analyzed and be used to extract useful features. Then the output of the extracting process will be used to train the advertisement click prediction model.

Secondly, about the machine learning, one appropriate algorithm will be used to form a suitable prediction model. There are many parameters should be determined, such as the number of the hidden layers, format of the input data, values of various parameters of the model and so on. The useful features extracted from the extracting process will be used as the training data then to determine the most suitable values of these parameters. Each training data will go through the prediction model one by one and then get their prediction result. After that, the prediction result and actual CTR will be compared and the parameter of the prediction model will be adjusted according to the deviation between them. After the prediction model is trained, it will be used to
test some certain input data then obtain a total prediction error rate of the prediction model. If the accuracy of the prediction model is higher than other similar approaches, it demonstrates that the algorithm and the model we choose can be used in our real life. Otherwise, we will try other algorithm which maybe be more suitable for advertisement click rate and go through the training and testing process on more time.

In a word, the above analysis shows that our project has a tight relationship with the knowledge point of the data mining and pattern recognition and has a very practical significance for the development of data mining area.

1.4 Why other approach is inadequate

Almost other approaches are just aimed to do the click-through rate prediction of the advertisement. Without practical applications, they cannot be used widely in the real-word. Also, many approaches used some complex algorithms to achieve the prediction function, so they need many time and many computer resource to get the prediction job done which means they are not practical enough to be used in the industrial circles. On the other hand, the complex algorithms and prediction models are hard to people to understand and follow which means they are not easier to do some improvement to them.

1.5 Why you think your approach is better

Our approach is a combination of prediction and recommendation model, which is easily to be applied in the industry area. The prediction of CTR is for the purpose of advertising more efficiently and effectively. Thus, the combination of prediction and recommendation is more practical. Additionally, the data source of our model is online shopping behavior and browsing record, which is easy to access because the website platform could provide it if advertiser would like to advertise on this platform.
1.6 Statement of the problem

The CTR prediction system was firstly invented by Google and used in its search advertising system. After noticed how much profits this business brought to Google, other companies start to join the market and share the big cake. And the ultimate example is Facebook. Several years ago, Facebook is about to bankrupt. Their revenue is lower and lower by quarter. However, with the advertising system, they somehow revived now. Except this, more and more big and small companies claimed that they have mastered the precise advertising target based on artificial intelligence. In fact, most of them talked about is CTR. And the application of CTR prediction also expanded from the initial search engine to display advertisements, recommendation advertisements.

1.7 Area or scope of investigation

This project is aimed to train a prediction model to forecast the click-through rate for advertisements. A prediction and recommendation system will be implemented to predict the CTRs of potential users, which in turn will recommend the suggested targeting users based on the CTR predicted and the ideal CTR threshold.

In this project, the personal history behavior data in real-world is utilized to train and test the prediction and recommendation system. The data is collected from Taobao users from Alibaba, which is consisted of random users from the website of Taobao during consecutive days. The whole raw data contains advertising information, user profile information, user behavior logs and advertising clicking information.

This project is about extracting key features from the known large scale database, and use these key features to predict the future tendency. Thus, the method and tools within data mining and machine learning field will be utilized. The primary algorithm applied in this project is DeepFM, which we regarded as the most suitable algorithm for our Model, in terms of our purpose and data composition.
This project is made in fulfillment of the requirements in the course project of COEN 281: Pattern Recognition & Data Mining in Spring quarter, 2017, with the guidance and support of Prof. Ming-Hwa Wang.
2. Theoretical bases and literature review

2.1 Definition of the problem

The "click forecasting" of ads is a very important technology module. Many search engines apply relevant technologies on search to click predictions and use relevance and historical click information to predict future click behavior. However, they have overlooked an important issue, that is, there are essential differences between online search and advertising. In the network search, the user actively submits a request for the purpose of finding relevant information. Therefore, as long as the information provided by the search engine is related to the request, the user is willing to view and click. However, few users actively "search" ads on search engines, and they are more passive in accepting recommendations. In this case, relevance is no longer the dominant factor in user clicks, and whether an advertisement can attract the user's attention and ultimately motivate their purchase desire is the key. This involves the category of advertising psychology. Only by understanding and satisfying the psychological needs of users can they effectively stimulate their click and purchase willingness. For example, some users are particularly fond of various offers provided by sellers, and some hope that goods will have quality and return guarantees, some hope good after-sales services, and some require high quality and high quality. For different users, the same advertising strategy (such as advertising words and presentation methods) clearly does not apply. A better way is to do psychological modeling for each user, and then vote for it, placing ads that best meet the user’s psychological needs and their presentation. However, modeling the user's psychology is more challenging than modeling the user's age, income, and hobbies, and requires in-depth research and support.

2.2 Theoretical background of the problem

The theoretical we are going to use is commonly accepted by industry. There are based on logistic regression, LR, factorization machine, FFM, PNN and DeepFM. The simplest and wildest used model in industry is logistic regression. This algorithm is easy to modify value, the result is arrange from 0 to 1 and because the model is simple, it can be updated more frequently.
Then, LR is also simply and effective, but the disadvantage of LR is also obviously. It is too simply. The characteristics in internal space are depended with each other. They have no relationship with each other. This is not correspond to facts. PLOY2 uses binomial formulas to build the model, but in real environment, data are usually sparse. If we apply these binomial formulas to these sparse data, we will get 0 in the end. Therefore, we imported factorization machine. FFM stands for field-aware factorization machine. It added field information to the former machine. Online advertisement is a multi-billion industry in the recently years. Most website just ask the advertiser to pay the fee only when the advertisement is clicked. In order to achieve win-win outcome for both advertising platform and advertiser, how to accurately predict the click-through rate become more and more significant advertising systems. If a certain advertising platform has more users, it will become more attractive for advertiser to let them decide to put the advertisement into this platform because all of the advertiser hope their advertisement will be noticed by more and more users. On the other hand, we consider that if a certain user have bought some items in the past, they are more likely to be interested in the similar or related items. So the target customer of the advertisement will be determined after we extract the certain features from all of the users. In the recent years, there are many researcher and approaches are proposed to solve and improve the click-through rate prediction of the advertisement, but there still be many aspects that should be improved and get done, so the project we plan to do is meaningful in the advertising field.

2.3 Related research to solve the problem and their advantages/disadvantages

In order to accomplish this project better, we did some research in the relevant field. There have been a lot of research carried out in developing the prediction models using data mining and machine learning for click-through rate forecast. This part talks about the researches which inspires us the most.

1) *Combining Behavioral and Social Network Data for Online Advertising*
Yahoo group conducted a research about combining behavioral and social network data for online advertising (A. Bagherjeiran, 2008). In this paper, they discovered the relationship between personal user behavior and the clicking behavior of their friends on social networks. It turns out that the possibility of a user to click ads is highly correlated with his/her friends’ click behavior.

It can be observed from Figure 2 (a) that friends are likely to see similar ads. It is also demonstrated in Figure 2 (a) that users without any social positioning method have similar enough behavior that they can use similar ads for targeting. Compared to analyzing the targeting users only, adding either their friends or random users will reduce the CTR versus targeting users only for a given reach. And the CTRs for adding friends is higher than adding random users. (shown in Figure 2 (b)) Figure 3 shows that if a user have friends who clicked the ads in the past, it means the possibility that this user will click the same ad in the future will increase. (A. Bagherjeiran, 2008)

These can be partially attributed to the fact that people usually declare their interests on social networking sites. (A. Bagherjeiran, 2008) Thus, the mutual interests can be found through the social connections. Moreover, people with the same interests are likely to be friends and they like to share interests with their friends in return. Therefore, the social networking sites render us an opportunity to take an insight into a user’s interests.
Figure 2 (a) the distribution of similarity between selected pairs of users (red) the IM graph and (black dashed) users paired randomly; (b) reach-CTR plots comparing the addition of random users and a user’s friends.

Figure 3 CTR of users with friends who clicked in the past.

Unlike other researches, this paper discovered the relationship between personal user behavior and the behavior of their friends on social networks, instead of just merely focusing on the user’s own past behavior. This research is valuable because it takes the social networking into account.
when predicting the advertisement CTR. It provides us a new perspective when considering the CTR impact factors if CTR prediction is needed.

However, predicting CTR based on the targeting user’s friends on social networking sites has its own limitations. The accuracy of this method is highly depend on which social networking sites that is used to find users’ friends. Twitter could be a good source for the social connection define, because lots of the friends relationship on Twitter is highly related to their interests. Not all the social connections on social networking sites are highly mutual-interest-friends-based. For example, a large portion of friends on Facebook are the people you know in real life, instead of the friends who share the same interest. They might be your classmate, relatives, and even people you just came across in campus and talks for a few minutes. Take LinkedIn as another example, LinkedIn friends are almost from workplace or alumni. The portion of friends can not reveal the same interest, so the CTR prediction from these people is not persuasive enough, unless your advertise is about education, career or other specific industry which has something to do with your social connection types.

2) Predicting Clicks: Estimating the Click-Through Rate for New Ads

The main task for search advertising system is to solve two problem. First, which advertisement should be displayed. Second, in what order should these advertisements be displayed. However, the number of advertisements which are on the waiting list to be displayed are much more than the number of advertisements which were already displayed. And the CTR will also decrease with the position of advertisement lower.

For example, when we use Google, a normal user will not go to the second page of Google search result page. Even on the first page, the CTR is also decreased. This means the lower the position, the less important the advertisement.
Figure 4 the CTR of an advertisement typically decreases with lower positioned ads

In order to max companies’ revenue, most of them will use a formula to calculate the position of their ads. $E_{\text{ad\,revenue}} = p_{\text{ad\,(click)}} \times \text{CPC}_{\text{ad}}$, in which $p$ is CTR (Click Through Rate), CPC is cost-per-click. Thus, to ideally order a set of ads, it is important to be able to accurately estimate the $p_{\text{(click)}}$ (CTR) for a given ad. And currently we already have a large advertisement inventory. With the time going on, new ads are adding, new search engines are implemented and new websites slots are available as well. Which advertisement should be put on which slot is critical. An incorrect ranking will strongly effect the revenue and user experience. Also advertiser satisfaction is also important to every tech companies.

The authors tried to find a model, which will estimate the CTR through historical data, but for new ads it will also predict their CTR. They used estimated terms, ads, order and external feature model. They found that an ad is clicked or not based on two main factors. 1) the probability it has been viewed; 2) the probability that it is clicked on. And they also found that it is irrelevant with the position where the ads on.
Therefore, they simplifying their assumptions and get the following formula:

\[ p(\text{click} | \text{ad, pos}) = p(\text{click} | \text{ad, seen})p(\text{seen} | \text{pos}) \]

So, the number of views of an ad is the number of times it was clicked, plus the number of times it was estimated to have been seen but not clicked. CTR of the ad is just the time user clicks divided by the times of views. And from figure 5, we could find that no matter the advertisement at what position at left column, it almost shares the same view probability with main contents.

The Dataset they used includes landing page, bid term, title, body, display URL, click, views. This contains the final products’ quality, price, the quality of advertisements, and so on. They randomly placed 70% of the advertisers in the training set, 10% in the validation set, and 20% in
the test set. Since authors’ goal is to get a value, they used logistic regression to do prediction, which will always cast a value between 0 and 1:

\[
CTR = \frac{1}{(1+e^{-(z)})}
\]

\[
Z = \sum_{i=0}^{i} w_i f_i (ad)
\]

where \(f_i (ad)\) is the value of the \(i^{th}\) feature for the ad, and \(w_i\) is the learned weight for that feature. And then, they started to add different features.

First, they added terms. Some terms are related, some are not. With the related terms, the final prediction is improved almost 20% from the baseline. The relate terms are like shoes and red shoes, wine and beer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>MSE (x 1e-3)</th>
<th>KL Divrg. (x 1e-2)</th>
<th>% Imprv.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline (CTR)</td>
<td>4.79</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term CTR</td>
<td>4.37</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>13.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related term CTRs</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>19.67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secondly, they added ads quality, but we only notice 1% improvement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>MSE (x 1e-3)</th>
<th>KL Divrg. (x 1e-2)</th>
<th>% Imprv.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Related term CTRs</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>19.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Ad Quality</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>23.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Ad Quality without unigrams</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>20.72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Then, they also want to see how CTR will be affected by the originally terms.
As the results in table 3, authors found the result above is closer to entropy of the terms.

Finally, they wondered whether external sources of data will affect the results as well. However, they didn’t see a huge improvement from this feature. This probably is because there is an overlap between these features.

### Table 4 search engine data results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>MSE</th>
<th>KL Diverg.</th>
<th>% Improv.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline (CTR)</td>
<td>4.79</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Search Data</td>
<td>4.68</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>3.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTRs &amp; AQ &amp; OS</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>28.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Search Data</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>29.47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) A novel click model and its applications to online advertising

Zeyuan Allen Zhu had proposed a General Click Model based on Bayesian network to learn and achieve the advertisement click-through rate prediction. The paper not only proposed the above prediction model but also employed a expectation propagation method to obtain approximate Bayesian inference. In the paper, it is assumed that the users will browse one certain website by the following order: top to bottom, and it also assume that the buying probabilities between the website address based on a list of attributes. The biggest difference between this paper and other related research is that this paper took the regular attributes such as position and relevance into consideration and also took the newly-designed local hour and user agent into consideration. this paper achieved three goals. Firstly, the approach trained the prediction model based on multiple
features and its Bayesian inference calculated the each feature’s influence to the final prediction click-through rate. Secondly, this approach proposed some newly-designed features which also have an significant influence on the final predicting accuracy, such as local hour and user agent. Thirdly, they said that almost all of the prediction model proposed by other researcher can be reduced to their prediction model by doing small change, such as using different parameter or change the number of the parameters.

This paper have an examination hypothesis which assumed that because general users almost will not click the advertisement if it is at the lower ranks, so if one certain advertisement is clicked then it must be examined and relevant which means that the higher the URL is ranked in the advertisement is at, the higher probability that the advertisement will be clicked. In order to get a more accurate prediction rate, the paper gave some probability of the binary click event C. Then the paper proposed a cascade model which is different to the cascade model in [2]. In [2], it assume that users examines the website address from the top to bottom and whether it is clicked depends on the relevance of all of the website address shown above. However, the cascade model in this paper assume that there is at most

![Diagram](image)

Figure 6 (a) the user graph of GCM with continuous random variables Ri, Ai, Bi (b) the Bayesian network of GCM.
Figure 6 show the flowchart of the user behavior and the outer Bayesian network of the predicted model, separately. As we can see from these two figures, after examining website address $U_i$, the user will see the relevance $R_i$ and then to make a decision whether to click it or not. Otherwise, the user will examine the next website address $U_{i+1}$ again. Except the outer model, the prediction model also includes the inner model which separate all of the specific features into two major parts, one is user-specific features, another is advertiser-specific features.

About the algorithm, this prediction model used the expectation propagation method which was introduced in [5] and drawn the following results:

![Figure 7](image1)

*Figure 7 the log-likelihood of different models on the advertisement dataset with different query frequencies[1]*

![Figure 8](image2)

*Figure 8 (a) Actual vs predicted CTR for GCM and DBN (b) Actual vs predicted CTR for cascade and CCM[1]*

As we can see from figure 8 (a) and (b), the line of the points($x_i, y_i$) looks like $y = x$ which demonstrate that the predicted CTR and actual CTR has a higher similarity and the prediction
model proposed in this paper have a satisfying prediction accuracy. In order to have a more straightforward view of the proposed prediction model, figure 9 gives the comparison of the actual CTR and predicted CTR including the prediction models based on GCM, DBN and CCM. Figure 9 shows that the prediction model proposed in this paper have the closest result to the actual CTR which means it has the best performance within these three approaches.

![Figure 9 comparisons of the predicted and actual CTR with different local hours on the advertisement dataset.](image)

The advantage of this approach is that the prediction model is based on all possible features and taking all of the possible influence into consideration which helps the prediction model have a better generalization and finally achieve a better prediction accuracy, especially for the tail queries.

The disadvantage of this approach is that it only introduced two newly-designed features in the model, but it just considered the ad blocks and ignore user click behaviors in other blocks. In other words, this simplification of this model may sacrifice some useful information in other blocks. For example, we image there is one user firstly is interested in the organic search block and he click the relevant advertisement but feel disappointed, then he will go away and change to make a click on another related advertisement. When encountering this situation, this model will lose many important information without taking the later click behavior into consideration.
4) Field-weighted Factorization Machines for Click-Through Rate Prediction in Display Advertising

Researchers in Oath, TouchPal, LinkedIn, Alibaba and UC Berkeley proposed a new algorithm called Field-weight Factorization Machine to predict CTR. In this paper, they noticed that the interaction of features have some influence to the prediction, whereas other algorithms considered little about the interaction of features.

![Figure 10 heat map of interaction of feature](image)

We can see from the Figure 10 that some fields have strong interaction and some fields have little even no interaction. This observation indicated that algorithms people used may not represent the real situation, which means they cannot get a precise prediction.

Based on this observation, this paper proposed a new algorithm: Field-weight Factorization Machine. Field-weight Factorization Machine come from Field-aware Factorization Machine. They measure the interaction of features use formula listed below:

\[ x_i x_j \langle \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{v}_j \rangle r_{F(i), F(j)} \]
Then they add this formula to the formula of Field-aware Factorization Machine and got this formula:

$$\Phi_{FwFM}(x) = w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i w_i + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=i+1}^{m} x_i x_j (v_i, v_j) r_{F(i), F(j)}$$

It has additional part to represent the influence of interaction of features.

This paper used data collected by Criteo to do the experiments. They implement the algorithm in TensorFlow, which is shown in Figure 11.

![Figure 11 implementation of FwFM in TensorFlow](image-url)
The paper used different data and different model to this experiment. They indicate that FwFM had better performance than Logistic Regression, Factorization Machines and Poly2. However, FwFMs is not good as FFMs. The paper admit this fact, but found that FFMs are more vulnerable to overfitting than FwFMs.

In this research, the paper discover the strength of interaction of features. Unlike other research, they take the interaction of features into consideration, and give it a weight.

In real world, the interaction of features do affect the CTR of advertising. That is, this paper catch the important part of the CTR problem that other researchers did not noticed. And the experiments do validate the correctness of this algorithm.

However, because of the consideration of features interactions, the complexity of the model is much higher than other model. This may cause bad capacity and has much more time consumption. Also, to calculate the strength of feature interaction, we need to handle the data first. For a CTR problems, the data source may be in a huge number and has enormous fields. The data handling process may need much more time and people, whereas the result is sometimes not as good as FFMs.
5) Algorithms to predict CTR

In addition to the algorithms used in the above papers, there are many other ways to predict CTR.

➢ PLOY 2
The advantages of LR are simple and efficient. The disadvantages are obvious. It is too simple. It considers the features in the feature space are independent of each other. There is no crossover or combinational relationship. This is inconsistent with the reality. For example, it predicts whether or not a certain t-shirt will be clicked. If you click, you may click in most areas of the country in the summer, but in the combined seasons, such as in autumn, people in the northern cities may not need them at all. So this is reflected in the different characteristics of the data feature dimension. Therefore, to model the nonlinear relationships is essential to accurately describe the complex internal relationships. PLOY2 is a complex internal relationship that models such features through the binomial combination of features. The binomial part is as follows:

\[ \phi_{\text{Pol}y2}(w, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j_1=1}^{n} \sum_{j_2=j_1+1}^{n} w_{h(j_1, j_2)} x_{j_1} x_{j_2} \]

However, there is a major problem with PLOY2. In an actual scenario, most of the features are sparse, that is, most feature values are 0. Binomial combination of these sparse features will find that most of the last feature values are 0. When the gradient is updated, if most of the features are 0, the gradient is not updated. Therefore, the PLOY2 method cannot solve the problem of modeling more complex linear relationships in such scenes. (PLOY, 2000)

➢ FNN
The figure below describe the FNN architecture.
The underlying network is initialized by FM. The elements of W are initialized by the low-dimensional continuous space vector representation in FM:

$$z_i = W^i_0 \cdot \mathbf{x}[\text{start}_i : \text{end}_i] = (w_i, v_1^i, v_2^i, \ldots, v^K_i)$$

The low-dimensional continuous space vector that constitutes W is represented by FM on the data set in advance. During the training process, the model updates the FM layer parameters through BP. There is no difference between the other steps and the common MLP. Here, the emphasis is on how to intervene in the bottom layer.

➢ PNN

PNN mainly adds an inner/outer to the deep learning network.

The product layer is used to model the relationship before the model is set (Qu, 2016). As shown in the figure below, the product layer part Z is weight * feature, and the P part weight*I(feature_i, feature_j) is used to model the binomial relationship:
PNN is divided into inner product layer and outer product layer based on the product layer function, the difference is as follows:

Figure 14 relationship between each layer in PNN algorithm

Figure 15 differences between Inner Product Operation and Outer Product Operation
Similar to FM, after the network is constructed, embedding the input data results in a low-dimensional continuous vector representation. And then calculate the inner product or outer product of any two features. It is easy to find out that the size of this feature will become much larger (secondary order of magnitude), especially in sparse space. Similar to the problems encountered by PLOY2, it becomes difficult to train. Inspired by FM, this matrix can be transformed into a matrix. It is decomposed into a small matrix and its transpose is multiplied to represent the low-dimensional continuous vector space to reduce the model:

\[
W^p \odot \mathbf{p} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \theta_i^p \theta_j^p (\mathbf{f}_i, \mathbf{f}_j) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} \delta_i^p, \sum_{i=1}^{N} \delta_i^p \right)
\]

### 2.4 Your solution to solve this problem

To solve this problem, we decide to utilize the behavior logs of users data to predict the CTR for the advertisements. What we need is the information of user and his/her behavior logs which are on a certain website, for example, a shopping website. And also the features of the advertising is needed. By figuring out the similarities and connections between the targeting advertisements’ features and the key features generated from the users’ history behavior, we can predict the CTRs. According to the predicted CTR, the advertisers are able to choose the targeting advertisement readers who have a relatively high probability to click their ads.

The Algorithm used to calculate CTR in this project is DeepFM, which we regarded as the most suitable and proper method considering our purpose and data source composition. The DeepFM algorithm will be discussed detailedly in section 5.2.

### 2.5 Where your solution different from others

DeepFM combines WDL (Wide & Deep) with PNN (Product-based Neural Network). In original Wide and Deep, the part of Wide used only Logistic Regression. PNN expand Wide and Deep by using non-linear model. DeepFM simplify the working of feature handling by combining FM (Factorization Machine) and NN (Neural Network).
DeepFM can reduce work in Feature Engineering, comparing with Wide and Deep, and it can utilize Deep Component to create higher dimension model. By reduction jobs in Feature Engineering, we can save time and energy and focus more on the algorithm part.

2.6 Why your solution is better

User behavior in shopping website can represent the interest of the users. For advertisers who want to sell product (including service), interest of users is really important. A electronic game company like Electronic Art cannot advertising to users who never play electronic games since Electronic Art has little chance to sell product to these users. That is, our solution can have a precise prediction based on user behavior.

As for the algorithm, we use DeepFM, which combine Neural Network with Factorization Machine. DeepFM could reduce work in Feature Engineering. This will give us more time to focus on parameters choosing and model optimization.
3. Hypothesis and Goals

3.1 Multiple Hypothesis

Initially, the primary goals of this project is to train a prediction model to predict the Ad click-through rates (CTR) based on the key features which are collected and analyzed based on the online-shopping history and browse record of the users pool. According to the predicted CTR of a certain user, the advertiser can easily aim at the targeting users who have the relatively high probability to click the advertisements.

The basic hypothesis of our model is that whether a user click on an advertisement is related to the user’s history behavior and it can be predicted from the user’s past behavior. To a certain extent, For a certain user, the probability to click on an advertisement will increase if the targeting advertisement is more related to his/her interests. The interests is demonstrated by the key features generated from user’s history behavior. In another word, the stronger connection with the user’s key features, the higher CTR the targeting advertisement will generate.

3.2 Positive/Negative Hypothesis

Our project will provide a recommendation system which demonstrates the potential targeting user group based on the CTR calculated. If the CTR of a certain user based on our algorithm is more than a threshold, the system will tender a positive recommendation, which means this user has high level of possibility to click your Ad and it is recommended to target him/her, and vice versa.

Additionally, given adequate potential users and sufficient history information, our recommendation system can also operate at the custom CTR that advertisers select themselves on the basis of their own demand if needed, which means the system will provide a list of targeting users based on particular desired CTRs of advertisers. If the system returns an excess of
negative recommendations and just a small portion of users reach the CTR threshold, it is recommended to either change the users’ pool or advertising platform, or change the methodology or key features of your advertisements.
4. Methodology

4.1 How to generate/collect input data

4.1.1 Data Resource

We use real-world advertising dataset collect from taobao users by Alibaba. The data is formed by randomly sampled 1140000 users from the website of Taobao for 8 days advertising display and click. The whole raw data contains advertising information, user profile information, user behavior logs and advertising clicking information.

4.1.2 Feature Engineering

When working on this problem, we can’t just use raw data to predict the probability. Raw data are in a status of chaos and contains many useless data. Thus we need to handle these data to get clean data as input by using feature engineering.

Feature attempts to create additional relevant features from the existing raw features in the data, and to increase the predictive power of the learning algorithm. The process of feature engineering is:

1) Brainstorming or Testing features;
2) Deciding what features to create;
3) Creating features;
4) Checking how the features working with model;
5) Improving features if needed;
6) Go back to brainstorming/creating more features until done.

By doing these process multiple times, we define the data set as:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>raw_sample</td>
<td>raw training samples</td>
<td>User ID, Ad ID, nonclk, clk, timestamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ad_feature</td>
<td>Ad’s basic information</td>
<td>Ad ID, campaign ID, Cate ID, Brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user_profile</td>
<td>User profile</td>
<td>User ID, age, gender, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raw_behavior_log</td>
<td>User behavior log</td>
<td>User ID, btag, cate, brand, timestamp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The descriptions of these features are:

1) raw_sample:
   *User ID*: ID for user (int);
   
   *time_stamp*: timestamp (Bigint, 1494032110 stands for 2017-05-06 08:55:10);
   
   *Ad ID*: ad group id (int);
   
   *pid*: scenario;
   
   *noclk*: 1 for not click, 0 for click;
   
   *clk*: 1 for click, 0 for not click;

2) ad_feature:
   *Ad ID*: ad group id (int);
   
   *campaign_id*: campaign id;
cate_id: category id;

Brand: brand id;

advertiser_id: advertiser id;

price: the price of item;

One of the ad ID correspond to an item, an item belong to a category, an item belongs to a brand.

3) User_profile:
User ID: ID for user (int);

cms_segid: Micro group ID;

cms_group_id: cms_group_id

final_gender_code:  1 for male, 2 for female;

age_level: age level of users;

pvalue_level: consumption grade, 1: low, 2: mid, 3: high;

shopping_level: shopping depth, 1: shadow user, 2: moderate user, 3: depth user;

new_user_class_level: City level;

occupation: Is he/she a college student? 1 for yes, 2 for no;

4) Raw_behavior_log:
User ID: id for users;

time_stamp: timestamp (BigInt, 1494032110 stands for 2017-05-06 08:55:10);

btag: type for behavior, including follow four: ipv for browsing, cart for adding to shopping cart, fav for favor, buy for buying this item.
\textit{cate}: category ID;

\textit{brand}: brand ID;

Here if we use user ID and timestamp as primary key, we will find a lot of duplicate records. This is because the behavior of different types of the data are collected from different departments and when packaged together, there are small deviations (i.e. the same two timestamps may be two different times with a relatively small difference).

4.1.3 One-Hot Encoding

In digital circuits, one-hot is a group of bits among which the legal combinations of values are only those with a single high (1) bit and all the others low (0).

One-Hot encoding transforms categorical features to a format that works better with classification and regression algorithms. In CTR data, there are many categorical data which takes only a limited number of values. For example, if people responded to a survey about what brand of car they like, the results will be categorical (like BMW, Honda, etc). And we will get an error output if we use these data as input without any encoding.

Let’s look at a simple example.
The real values are Red, Yellow, and Green in Color category. We create four column data to represent these data by using 1 and 0.

4.2 How to solve the problem

4.2.1 Algorithm design

Many researchers have done a plenty of research and proposed many algorithms through time. Researchers proposed Logistic Regression, Factorization Machine and XGBoost in CTR prediction in many years ago. Some companies have their own algorithms for their special need. For example, Bayesian LR (introduced by Microsoft), Bayesian MF (introduced by Microsoft) and Bid Landscape Forecasting (introduced by Yahoo!).

Based on Factorization Machine, researchers proposed some new algorithms to improve. FFM(Field-aware Factorization Machine) considers the influences of the field. Recently, researchers introduced new algorithms by combine factorization machine and deep learning, like DeepFM, FNN and PNN. Each algorithm has its own application scenario. In this problem, we decide use deep learning algorithm: DeepFM.
DeepFM combines WDL (Wide & Deep) with PNN (Product-based Neural Network). In original Wide and Deep, the part of Wide used only Logistic Regression. PNN expand Wide and Deep by using non-linear model. DeepFM simplify the working of feature handling by combining FM (Factorization Machine) and NN (Neural Network).

FM (Factorization Machine) in DeepFM are represented by Figure 17.

![Figure 17 - architecture of FM](image)

The FM component is a Factorization Machine, which have sparse field as input. M features going into embedding layer and embedded into embedding vectors. FM Layer calculates the inner product of these embedding vectors, which are weight-connected into FM Layer. And FM Layer add all m fields by normal connection. The output of FM Layer will put into Output Units, which use sigmoid function to get the final output. As Fig. 5.2 shows, the output is:

\[
y_{FM} = \langle w, x \rangle + \sum_{j_1=1}^{d} \sum_{j_2=j_1+1}^{d} \langle V_i, V_j \rangle x_{j_1} \cdot x_{j_2},
\]

Deep component is shown in Figure 18.
The deep component is a feed-forward neural network, which is used to learn high-order feature interactions. Fields are inputted into Hidden Layer by normal connections. In Hidden Layer, each node has a activation function. After traveling through hidden layer, the output of the hidden layer go into Output Units that also use sigmoid function to get final output, just like the FM component.

DeepFM can reduce work in Feature Engineering, comparing with Wide and Deep, and it can utilize Deep Component to create higher dimension model. By reduction jobs in Feature Engineering, we can save time and energy and focus more on the algorithm part. One interesting thing is that Wide and Deep share the Embedding space in DeepFM, which means Wide and Deep part can both update the Embedding Vectors although Wide part is pure PNN work.

4.2.2 Language used

In this project, Python is used to implement the major part and also used for the back-end programming. In algorithm part, Python has a relatively good performance and has a plenty of library for the implementation of neural network as well. Additionally, Python has a good performance in both math calculation and model representation. Moreover, handling and
processing data is more effective and efficient if Python is being utilized. Comparing with Python, C/C++ and Java have some problems in math implementation and model creating. Given the advantages above, hence, Python is selected as our primary language. The quicker we implement the model, the more time we can use to improve the model. We use HTML, CSS and JavaScript to implement User Interface.

4.2.3 Tools used

TensorFlow: TensorFlow is an open-source software library dataflow programming across a range of tasks. We use TensorFlow for Python to implement DeepFM.

Flask: Python back-end framework.

Pycharm: Python IDE.

4.3 How to generate output

The output of the project is the probability that a user click a specific advertising. Final node calculate the data that handled by hidden layer using sigmoid function to get a real number which represents the probability.

4.4 How to test against hypothesis

We split the data into three part: training set, validation set and test set. While choosing the model and parameters, we use K Fold Cross Validation to validate the model. We split 80% of data as training and validation set. In this part of data, we use K Fold Cross Validation to evaluate and choosing model.

We divide the data into K subsets. Each time we use one of them as validation set and k-1 of them as training set. The error estimation is the average over all K trials. Since data are always not enough, K Fold Cross Validation can help use data efficiently. K Fold Cross Validation can significantly reduce bias because every single data is used as validation once and only once.
4.5 How to proof correctness

CTR problem is a special regression problem, we cannot simply evaluate the correctness by Precision, Recall and F-Measure. Thus, for this problem, we use AUC to evaluate our model. Before introducing the AUC (Area under the Curve), we need to know ROC (Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve) first.

ROC (Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve) is a graphic plot that illustrates the diagnostic ability of a binary classifier. Figure 19 shows an example of ROC.

![ROC example](image)

**Figure 19 ROC example**

In Fig 5.4, the X-axis is 1-specificity (False Positive Rate), which means prediction is true and real value is false. The Y-axis is Sensitivity (True Positive Rate), which is the ratio of data that prediction is true and real value is true.

AUC (Area under the Curve) is the area under the ROC curve. This determines that the value of AUC is never larger than 1. AUC means the probability that a randomly chosen positive example is ranked higher than randomly chosen negative positive. We have several criterions:
1) AUC = 1: A perfect model. When using this model, we can have at least one threshold that get perfect prediction. Unfortunately, there is never a perfect model for most of situation.

2) 0.5 < AUC < 1: Better than randomly prediction. When choosing an appropriate threshold, it’s possible to predict.

3) AUC = 0.5: Equal with randomly prediction. This model has no value.

4) AUC < 0.5: Worse than randomly prediction. However, we still can get a better prediction by choosing opposite value.

[Diagram of three types of AUC]

Figure 20 three types of AUC

Actually CTR prediction can be seen as a soft classification problem. The only difference is that this classifier can give a probability that the result belongs to which type. For this reason, AUC can be used in evaluating CTR prediction model.
5. Implementation

5.1 Design document and flowchart

Figure 21 Prediction Model Training and Recommendation System Development Process
Figure 22 CTR Prediction Model and Target Users Recommendation System Working FlowChart
5.1.1 Data Input

The data we used to train our prediction model is from real-world users behaviour and advertising dataset which is collected from taobao by Alibaba. The data is collected from randomly sampled 1140000 users. The data contains 22-days users’ shopping and browsing behaviour from the website of Taobao and 8 days advertising display and click data. The whole raw data is consisted of four tables, which shows advertising information, user profile information, user behavior logs and advertising clicking information.

The data table ‘user_profile’ records all the samples users’ basic information, such as age, gender, occupation, location. These features are also important contributing factors of ad-click prediction.

The data table ‘raw_behavior_log’ records every sample user’s shopping behavior in 22 days. The shopping behavior is defined as four categories, namely view, favour, buy and cart, which shows if he/she view a good, favour a good, buy a good, or put a good into shopping cart. The category and brand of the good is recorded as well. This 22-day data combined with ‘user_profile’ is used to generate users’ preference.

The data table ‘ad_feature’ records the basic information of display advertisements on Taobao in 8 days.

The data table ‘raw_sample’ records the sample user’s ad-clicking behavior in the same 8 days, which demonstrates whether a single user click on ads in the ‘ad_feature’ or not.

The detailed information and section of theses four table can be find in Section 4.1 and Section 4.2.

5.1.2 Data Cleaning

1). Data re-organized
We have four csv file as original data: raw_sample, ad_feature, user_profile and user_behavior. All data are stored as csv file. We organized these four file into two file: training and test. Firstly, we remove useless feature in user behavior file, and group the file by user and category. The user behavior file is too big (20g), so we split this file into 6 files. After we process all data file by file, we merge these 6 file into one behavior file. Even though, this file is till 5g.

After that, we merge all file into one raw file. Firstly we merge raw_sample and ad_feature on key “category id”. Then we merge above file with user behavior and user profile.

Once we merge all data into one file, we split it into two file: training file and test file. We using 7 days data as training set and 1 days data as test set.

2). Data resize

The files we got are too big that we don’t have machine to read the data. Thus we resize the data using several ways. We downgrade the data type in files. For example, we change the int64 to unsigned int32 and change the float64 to float32 by using numpy and pandas. Also, we found that some category feature are Object type. We map the object category to int value.

3). Data normalization

After we analysis the data, we found the numeric data have very large range. The price range from 0 to 100000000. We remove these big value because we thought these data are noise. And we fill the NAN (missing value) with 0 for numeric and -1 for category. For these numeric value, we try several normalization method: Min Max scale and Robust Scale using sklearn. For every method, we generate a file for training to see which method is better.

5.1.3 Model Training

Our CTR prediction model training process is tried to figure out the connection between the users’ preference and their ad- click probability of different categories.
After finishing the data clean process, each user record would include many features for themselves which demonstrates the behavior and interest of the certain user. The all of the user record will be used to as the training data. Because the user record will go through the prediction model one by one, so the number of the user record is the same to the number of model training iteration and each user record is used as the training data one by one. For example, firstly we use the first user features as the input data, the the data will go through the DeepFM model, then the model will produce an initial predicted click rate. Then the initial predicted click rate and the actual click rate(click the advertisement or not) will be compared. According to the comparison and discrepancy, the various parameters of the prediction model, such as the number of the hidden layer, various coefficients of the activation function, the number of the training record and so on, will be adjusted which make the prediction model has a higher accuracy.

Generally speaking, more training data means more higher of the prediction accuracy. However, more training data means more iterations in the training process and more time needed in the training process. Furthermore, according to many related references, after the training data bigger than some number, the accuracy of the prediction model will tend to be stable.

As mentioned in the chapter 4, we use the DeepFM algorithm to build the prediction model. The DeepFM algorithm combines the WDL with the PNN algorithm shown in Figure 17 and Figure 18. Originally, the Wide part is used only to solve the logistic regression problem, in the DeepFM algorithm, the PNN part is combined with the Wide and Deep part by using some non-linear model. By combining Factorization Machine and Neural Network, DeepFM simplify the working of feature handling. DeepFM not only can reduce the work in Feature Engineering but also can create higher dimension model by utilizing the Deep Component. The reduction jobs in Feature Engineering let us save a plenty of time and energy which means we can spend more time and put more effort on designing the specific algorithm.

Because the quality of the predicted model will have the biggest influence on the final predicted result, so we spend a lot of time to train the model by use as much training data as possible. After several forward and backward of batches’ and several iteration of epochs, the parameters, such as
the number of hidden layer, the number of the node in each layer, the initial value of the functions are determined and the predicted model is used to do real life prediction work.

After training the model over and over again, the values of parameters of the prediction model are determined and then the prediction model will be used in real life prediction.

5.1.4 Ad CTR Prediction

After the prediction model is built, it can be used in real life advertisement CTR prediction. In order to finish the prediction process, we not only need the information of one specific advertisement but also the information of one certain users.

For the advertisement, some details of it is needed, such as the category, the price, the brand and the keywords. For example, if the advertiser want to put an certain advertisement on the facebook platform, the facebook platform need to recognize the information of the advertisement before deciding whether and where to put it. There are two different approaches that can be used to obtain the features of one certain advertisement, one is to ask the advertiser to enter all of the details, such as the category, the price, the brand and some keywords on some page, then the prediction model can easily get all of the details of that advertisements. Generally speaking, more details and information of the advertisement will be more helpful when doing the CTR prediction. Another approach is that the advertiser only will be asked to enter the name of the advertisement. Then we can propose some algorithm to extract the details and keywords for that advertisement which will be used in the later prediction process. After thinking this problem seriously, the first approach is chosen by our project. It has three reasons as described detaily in the following. The most important reason is our project is aimed to achieve the CTR prediction of the advertisement and obtaining the details and information of the advertisement is only a small trivial part in our project, so we should pay more attention to the design algorithm and model training instead of spending much time on the trivial work. One the other hand, we will get more accurate description and features of the advertisement if they are entered by the advertiser, if we use some algorithm to extract the features of it, it may cause some misunderstanding or
mistake. Such as the advertiser think their product belongs to the luxury class but our algorithm think it belongs to the daily commodity, then the prediction model will have a opposite prediction result for the user who just is interested in some product with lower price. So the first approach will avoid misunderstanding between our prediction model and thought of the advertiser. One more reason is that it easily for the advertiser to enter the information of the advertisement and this process of thinking also can help the advertiser better locate their product and advertisement before putting the advertisement to the public.

In order to let the advertiser enter the keywords, an interactive page is designed in our project. The advertiser will be asked to choose the category, and at most ten keywords in the page. Then the page will store them into a database and the advertisement will be used to prediction the CTR of it.

Besides the advertisement features, the user informations is also needed. Because it is hard for some user to get their features, so we just ask the advertisement platform to put all of the user’s information into the user pool. For example, as an amazon user, it is hard for me to obtain my browsing history, so it is hard for me to enter the feature for myself. However, it is easy for Amazon platform to collect all of the behaviors for me, such as the products I bought before, the products I liked, and the website and advertisement I have clicked. As an advertisement platform, they have already collection all of the information for all of the users. The only thing they need to do for our prediction system is that they should process the informations of each user according to our rule and produce certain features for each user. When the platform want to predict the how much probability for the certain user to click the certain advertisement, they only need to select that user from the user pool, then make the user’s features and the advertisement’s features as the inputs of the prediction model and click start button, then the prediction model will produce the predicted CTR and the page will show it to the user.
5.1.5 Target Users Recommendation

In addition, our project proposed a novel idea based on CTR prediction system. That is a target user-recommendation system which demonstrates the potential targeting user group based on the click probability calculated by the prediction model.

In our target user recommendation system, CTR threshold is used to decide whether a user should be a target user. If the click probability of a certain user, which is forecasted from the prediction model, is larger than the CTR threshold, then this user is recommended as a target user by our system.

The current advertisements on the display network have a low average CTR, which is only 0.35%. (https://blog.hubspot.com/agency/google-adwords-benchmark-data). The CTR threshold should guarantee a much higher CTR than the current CTR, so that the advertiser would not waste excessive resources on the people who are unlikely to be their potential customers. However, in reality, the CTR threshold is not always the same value, it can be different according to the various industry that the advertisements belong to. The current statistic data shows that the CTR of different industries vary greatly. Thus, it is reasonable to consider different CTR threshold for different industry category when setting the benchmark to recommendation. The decision of single user CTR benchmark can be done in the future work.

(Table generated from https://www.wordstream.com/google-adwords-benchmark-tools)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Average CTR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dating &amp; Personels</td>
<td>0.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>0.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-commerce</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto</td>
<td>0.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Goods</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Services</td>
<td>0.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Insurance</td>
<td>0.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Medical</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>0.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2B</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1.6 Front-end development
Figure 23  Homepage
Figure 24 Advertiser Home Page
Figure 25 Advertising Platform Home Page
Figure 26 A single page about what we did
Figure 27 Contact Page
Figure 28 Results

The front end includes two main pages, one is advertiser page shown in figure 24, another is an advertising platform page shown in figure 25. The advertiser page is used by advertiser. The platform page is used by advertising platform.

The Javascript, CSS, Html are used to implement this Front-end. At Homepage, you will see a description about our website and if you click read more, you will be redirected to a single page, in which I put more details about this project. Like why we built our model, how it will help current industry and what the project is. Then, after scrolling down, you will find two entrances, one for advertising platforms and another one for advertisers. The reason that why we want to direct users to different places is because they have different requirements.
For advertising platforms, they have their own user pool. This is the biggest comparative advantage, because they know who are their target users, through these targeted users, these platforms will get a better result. In the advertising platform homepage, we allow them to upload their use pool. We prefer .csv file, because this file type could save us a lot of calculating time. If they gave us other file type, we will switch it to .csv by ourselves.

Besides this, advertising platform could also choose their advertisement category. We provide 11 categories for them to choose, including clothing, shoes, books, food, garden, baby/kids, beauty, games, electronics, handmade, sports. And they will have 4 keywords to define their scopes, the first keyword is required, other 3 are optional. For example, if they chose Shoes in advertisement category, they can put Nike, $100, footwear manufacturing company as keywords. Then, the next important number is threshold. This threshold means under current user pool, how many users are more likely to click your advertisement and their click probability is higher than the threshold. In result, we will give you an average number of lick probability and a database, which contains those users, who are more likely to click the advertisement.

For advertisers part, I believe they have natural weakness of asymmetric information. They only know their target users(who probably will click their advertisements), but they have no idea about who will use the advertising platform. It is a blind advertise. Under these circumstances, we kindly provide a interface for advertisers to choose which platform they want to advertise. For now, we do not have most platforms’ user pool. We only have Taobao’s partial user pool. However, in the future, we could cooperate with platforms, use their user pool as input. And they don’t need to actually upload their user pool to us, if they want to protect their users’ privacy. All we need is an anonymous database.

They also have 11 advertisement categories, 1 required keyword, 3 optional keywords and a threshold to fulfill. Moreover, they will have a choice to choose which
5.2 Code Implementation

The following are the steps which we followed in the project for achieving the results:

a) The raw data are collected by Alibaba. Raw data contains 700 million rows of user behavior and 20 million rows of advertising click log.

b) DeepFM model is implemented by using tensorflow in DeepFM.py.

c) Data preparing is implemented several times using pandas, numpy and sklearn.

d) Model has been trained based on data set we processed. And we optimized model by tuning the batch size, epoch, deep network parameters.

e) The output will be the probabilities of every sample and the AUC score for all test data.
6. data analysis and discussion

6.1 Output generation

The program reads user behavior logs, advertisement information, and user profiles from CSV files to generate the probability that users will click this advertising. For the purpose of analysis, we generate some other output including ROC curves and AUC scores. For the final usage, we could generate the probability and a list of users.

In the implementation, we add the code to calculate the AUC score. For every iteration in training, we get the output which is the probability for every sample. We generate an AUC score by using the real value and the predictive value to evaluate the model.

The output of a single sample is the probability that the user will click a specific advertising. And out of the front-end could calculate the total probability that users in our user pool will click a specific advertising.

We generate the average probability that users will click a specific advertising by concatenating the advertising feature with our user behavior and information as input features. After a whole prediction process, we could get a list of probabilities. Then we could calculate the average as output.

The users who will click the advertising is generated by using a threshold the advertiser sets. When the advertiser sets a threshold of 0.5, we could return a list of users who have at least 0.5 probability to click this advertising from what we got from process what I talked above.

6.2 Output analysis

In training process, we generate AUC scores to evaluate our model. When we try to define a threshold for AUC to determine that our model works, we found 0.68 would be a good value. We calculate the probability that users click the advertising by grouping data by advertisement category and brand, then we just put probability to the test set and calculate the AUC score. We found that
AUC score is 0.58, which means we could get 0.68 AUC score even if we don’t use any methodology. Thus, we must get a value that is larger than 0.68 so that our model could work for prediction. Our model get 0.89 for partial data. We don’t use full dataset because the data file is too big that we don’t have time and machine to train model. So we choose part of data to train and test the model.

![Receiver Operating Characteristic](image)

**Figure 29 ROC curve for partial data**

After we trained our model, we could generator the probability that users will click a specific advertising, and we could also return a list of users who will click a specific advertising using a threshold from our user pool. The probability is the average probability for users who ever view, add to cart or buy the goods in same category.

6.3 Compare output against hypothesis

In chapter 3, we proposed multiple hypothesis for this advertisement CTR prediction and recommendation system. The following will compare the output with the hypothesis one by one.
Firstly, the primary goals of this project is to train a prediction model to predict the Ad click-through rates (CTR) based on the key features which are collected and analyzed based on the online-shopping history and browse record of the users pool. In actual implementation of this project, we do the data clean process for the input user records and input advertisement records. Then these cleaned users’ data and advertisements’ datas are used as the input data of our prediction model to training it. The input data is cut into many batches and each batch is composed of a certain number of input data. For each batch, the prediction model is trained one forward and one backward. Because each input data run once is not enough, the number of epoch is set to 60 which means all of the input data record will go through the prediction model \(60*2 = 120\) times. After that, the training process is finished and then the model is suitable for real life prediction work.

Secondly, we proposed that our project will build a recommendation system which demonstrates the potential targeting user group whose predicted CTR is equal or bigger than the threshold. If the CTR of a certain user based on our algorithm is more than a threshold, the system will tender a positive recommendation, which means this user has high level of possibility to click your Ad and it is recommended to target him/her, and vice versa. In the front end parts, it allows advertiser to determine the threshold in their account. Then the advertisement record be submitted to the advertising platform, then they advertising platform will let each user record to go through the predicted model and pick the user whose predicted CTR is higher than the threshold. Finally, all of the targeting user will be caught. The target user recommendation is not only beneficial to the advertiser but also beneficial to the advertising platform. For advertiser, they will know which users is interested in their advertisement and is more likely to click their advertisement which will not damage their brand. For advertising platform, it will not waste excessive resources to the users who are unlikely to click the advertisement at all. It will reduce the user’s disgusted feeling and avoid advertisement pollution in their platform.

In addition, our front end also can produce the percentage of the user whose prediction CTR is higher than the threshold. Compared to the target user recommendation, it make more sense to give the percentage. As we all know, in the recent years, almost all of the advertising platform
just charge the fee from the advertiser only the putting advertisement is clicked. Taking this situation into consideration, we propose an idea that the advertising platform can charge different fee when the prediction percentage target user is different. For example, if the predicted percentage is small which means the users of this platform is less likely to be interested in this advertisement, then if the advertiser still want to put the advertisement on this platform, then this platform will charge less fee considering the less effect. On the contrary, if the predicted percentage is extremely high which means the users of this platform is more likely to be interested in this advertisement, then this platform will charge more fee considering the extreme good effect. We have finished this work on our predicted model and backend work. We also regarded it as an feature of the front end page which means it will be integrated as a part of the front end page in the future.

Additionally, for the custom choice, our project achieves that it allows advertiser to choose different advertisement platform. Our system will provide a list of platform for the advertiser to choose, after knowing each platforms’ predicted percentage, the advertiser can make final decision about where to put their advertisement. If all of the platform returns low result which means in all of the platform, this advertisement cannot attract users’ eyes, then the advertiser is recommended to either reposition their advertisement or change some key features of your advertisements in order to meet more users’ interest.

6.4 Abnormal case explanation (the most important task if you have it)

1. We found there are some abnormal data including: abnormal value and missing data. For abnormal value. We simply remove some and scale the numeric value into range(0, 1) for better computing performance. For missing data, we fill by 0 and -1 for different scenario.

2. During training process, we got unexpected validation result. We expect that validation result would rise with training result. The thing is we found the validation result fall down every time. And for every fold of K-Fold, the validation result has a high value at the first, then falls down. We think it is because of the data. The data we have contains too many sample, which cause
validation set has many features that training set doesn’t contain. However, we found that the AUC values of validation and training go closer and closer.

6.5 Discussion

1. Feature extracting

We extract feature from four different csv files. These feature may be not so good because we don’t know the relationship between features and result. Some relationship are obvious and some are not. There may be different ways to extract feature. We don’t have time to do more experiments.

2. How to get better performance

The performance of our model are not good enough. We define lots of parameters to run DeepFM model, including deep depth, number of nodes, embedding layer size, learning rate, etc. Tuning these parameters would change the performance. However, the performance could be better or worse. It would take us a lot of time to do optimize our model. Due to the time limit, we could not continue to optimize our model.
7. Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 Summary and Conclusions

The project almost achieve the proposed goals and hypothesis. The main work of this project is composed of the following main three part: massive data cleaning and data feature catching, prediction model training and front end recommendation system designing.

Firstly we cleaned the massive data and caught the data features from them. We use real-world advertising dataset collect from taobao users by Alibaba. The data is formed by randomly sampled 1140000 users from the website of Taobao for 8 days advertising display and click. The whole raw data contains advertising information, user profile information, user behavior logs and advertising clicking information. Before we use them as the input data of the training model, we analyze the data in details and do a lot of clean work for them. We firstly discuss about how many features should be kept for the user input data. The features of the user data is used to demonstrate the preference and interest of one certain user, so finally we choose six typical features from the user profile: sex, age, consumption level, shopping dependency, whether is a student or not, the city they live and combined them with the user’s history shopping and browsing list and click history record in the previous seven days to entirely demonstrate the preference of one user. Then all of the user datas are processed and store as a row of the csv file. Similarly, we keep some main features for the advertisement, including the advertiser name, category and brand of the product, price of the product and some keywords of the advertisement. In a word, we did the data clean for not only the user information, but also the advertisement information.

Secondly we choose an appropriate algorithm and proposed and suitable prediction model then trained it. After comparing other algorithm and other approaches used in advertisement CTR prediction, DeepFM is chosen by our project. Considering that the quality of the predicted model
will have the biggest influence on the final predicted result, so we spend a lot of time to train the model by use as much training data as possible. After several forward and backward of batches’ and several iteration of epochs, the parameters, such as the number of hidden layer, the number of the node in each layer, the initial value of the functions are determined and the predicted model is used to do real life prediction work.

Thirdly we designed the front end recommendation system. The front end recommendation system includes two main part, one is advertiser part which is used by the advertiser who want to put the advertisement on the platform, another is platform part which is used by various advertising platform who want to attract more advertiser to put their advertisement on their platform. The advertiser is required to enter the category, brand, price and other features in the home page, then they also have the personal choice to choose one specific platform to do the prediction. The advertising platform is required to submit their user data which is already processed in the specific format. If more and more advertiser and advertising platform are willing to our prediction system, then the advertiser will have more choice when deciding to use which platform and the platform will know more information about coming advertisement which achieve a win-win result. In the recommendation system,

In a word, our project successfully achieved an advertisement CTR prediction and recommendation system which has a relative high prediction accuracy. The system is beneficial to user, advertiser and also to the advertising platform by decreasing the advertisement pollution on the Internet. The goals and hypothesis are almost achieved in our project and even get a better result.

7.2 Recommendations for future studies

The AUC is a used to evaluate the prediction model performance. The higher AUC is, the better the prediction model perform. Thus, to improve the AUC of our prediction model through adjusting coefficients and choose the data features would be a direction in the future study.
Our project will provide a recommendation system which demonstrates the potential targeting user group based on the click probability calculated by the prediction model. In our target user recommendation system, CTR threshold is used to decide whether a user should be a target user. If the click probability of a certain user, which is forecasted from the prediction model, is larger than the CTR threshold, then this user is recommended as a target user by our system.

It is obvious that a reasonable CTR threshold is of great importance for the effectiveness and economical efficiency recommendation system. A reasonable CTR threshold should ensure a desirable actual ad click through rate of target users, meanwhile it should also ensure the advocacy of advertisers, which keeps the appearance on public and increases the awareness of companies and products. If CTR threshold is set to be too high, the target users will have a very high probability to click the ad. However, a high CTR threshold will make the target user pool too small, so that this ad make only a small coverage. On the other hand, a low CTR threshold will guarantee this ad a high coverage, but make the this ad a low actual CTR. Thus, the contributing factors that should be considered for setting a reasonable CTR includes the desired advertisements coverage and the desired actual CTR wanted.

Additionally, the current statistic data shows that the CTR of different industries vary greatly (shown in Table 6). Thus, it is reasonable to consider different CTR threshold for different industry category when setting the benchmark to recommendation.

The decision of a reasonable CTR threshold could be studied in the future work.
8. Bibliography


9. Appendices

9.1 Program source code with documentation

9.1.1 Code for Data Cleaning

**Split.py**

```python
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
#
import os
import sys
import csv
#
# initial encoding
reload(sys)
sys.setdefaultencoding('utf-8')
#
# read csv
csv_path = os.path.join(os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__)), 'csv', 'behavior_log.csv')
# reader = open(csv_path, 'rb')
s_csv_reader = csv.reader(open(csv_path, 'rb'))
# sys.stdout.write(str(j)+1)
for row in s_csv_reader:
    s = '%s' % j
    # write csv
    csv_path = os.path.join(os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__)), 'csv', 'source'+str(j)+'.csv')
    # file = file(csv_path, 'ab')
    csv_file = open(csv_path, 'ab')
    csv_write = csv.writer(csv_file)
    # write header
    csv_write.writerow(['user', 'time_stamp', 'btag', 'cate_id', 'brand'])
    # write data
    csv_write.writerow([row[0], row[1], row[2], row[3], row[4]])
    # close
```

**Handle_behavior.py**
```python
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import datetime

def main():
    print('Start to handle behavior_log')
    start_time = datetime.datetime.now()

    behavior_data = pd.read_csv('behavior_log.csv')
    end1 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Got behavior_data, time cost: %d' % (end1-start_time).seconds)

    btag = pd.get_dummies(behavior_data['btag'])
    new_behavior = pd.concat([behavior_data, btag], axis=1, join='outer')
    new_behavior.rename(columns={'cate': 'cate_id'}, inplace=True)
    print(new_behavior.head(5))
    end2 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Concate behavior with btag, time cost: %d' % (end2-end1).seconds)

    new_behavior = new_behavior.groupby(['user', 'cate_id', 'brand']).agg({
        'cart': np.sum,
        'fav': np.sum,
        'pv': np.sum,
        'buy': np.sum
    })
    end3 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Got new behavior, time cost: %d' % (end3-end2).seconds)

    print('Start to write csv')
    new_behavior.to_csv('new_behavior.csv')
    end4 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('End. Total time cost: %d' % (end4-start_time).seconds)

    raw_ad = pd.read_csv('/local/weka/raw_merge_ad.csv', usecols=[1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11])
    final_data = pd.merge(raw_ad, new_behavior, on=['user', 'cate_id'], how='inner')
    final_data.to_csv('/local/weka/final_data.csv')

    print(ad_feature.head())
    if __name__ == '__main__':
        main()
```

**Merge.py**
```python
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import datetime

def main():
    start_time = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Read five csvs')
    brief1 = pd.read_csv('brief1_2.csv')
    brief2 = pd.read_csv('brief3_4_5.csv')
    end1 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Got behavior brief1, time cost: %d' % (end1-starttime).seconds)
    print('merge 12 & 345')
    brief1_2 = pd.concat([brief1, brief2], axis=0, join='outer')
    brief1_2 = brief1_2.groupby(['user', 'cate_id', 'brand']).agg(
        {'cart': 'np.sum',
         'fav': 'np.sum',
         'pv': 'np.sum',
         'buy': 'np.sum'})
    end2 = datetime.datetime.now()
    print('Got brief1_2, time cost: %d' % (end2-end1).seconds)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()

from sagemaker import get_execution_role

# connect to s3
role = get_execution_role()
bucket='281data'

import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sagemaker.amazon.common import write_numpy_to_dense_tensor
import io
import datetime

brief1 = s3:///{}/brief1_2.csv'.format(bucket)
brief2 = s3:///{}/brief3_4_5.csv'.format(bucket)
out_path = s3:///{}/final.csv'.format(bucket)

start_time = datetime.datetime.now()

brief1_data = pd.read_csv(brief1)
brief2_data = pd.read_csv(brief2)
end1 = datetime.datetime.now()
print('Got behavior brief1, time cost: %d' % (end1-starttime).seconds)

print('merge 12 & 345')
brief1_data = pd.concat([brief1_data, brief2_data], axis=0, join='outer')
brief1_data = brief1_data.groupby(['user', 'cate_id', 'brand']).agg(
    {'cart': 'np.sum',
     'fav': 'np.sum',
     'pv': 'np.sum',
     'buy': 'np.sum'})
end2 = datetime.datetime.now()
print('Got brief1_2, time cost: %d' % (end2-end1).seconds)

print('TO csv')
brief1_2.to_csv('final.csv')
end6 = datetime.datetime.now()
print('end total cost: %d' % (end6-starttime).seconds)
```

```
9.1.2 Code for Model Training and Recommendation

**DeepFM.py**

```python
# Tensorflow implementation of DeepFM [1]

Reference:
Huifeng Guo, Ruiming Tang, Yunkeng Ye, Zhenguo Li, Xiuqiang He.

import numpy as np
import tensorflow as tf
from sklearn.base import BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin
from sklearn.metrics import roc_auc_score
from time import time
from tensorflow.contrib.layers.python.layers import batch_norm as batch_norm
from yellowfin import YFOptimizer

class DeepFM(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
    def __init__(self, feature_size, field_size,
                 embedding_size=8, dropout_fm=[1.0, 1.0],
                 deep_layers=[32, 32], dropout_deep=[0.5, 0.5, 0.5],
                 deep_layers_activation=tf.nn.relu,
                 epoch=10, batch_size=256,
                 learning_rate=0.001, optimizer_type="adam",
                 batch_norm=False, batch_norm_decay=0.995,
                 verbose=False, random_seed=2016,
                 use_fm=True, use_deep=True,
                 loss_type="logloss", eval_metric=roc_auc_score,
                 l2_reg=0.0, greater_is_better=True):

        assert (use_fm or use_deep)
        assert loss_type in ["logloss", "mse"],
        "loss_type can be either 'logloss' for classification task or 'mse' for regression task"

        self.feature_size = feature_size  # denote as M, size of the feature dictionary
        self.field_size = field_size  # denote as F, size of the feature fields
        self.embedding_size = embedding_size  # denote as K, size of the feature embedding

        self.dropout_fm = dropout_fm
        self.deep_layers = deep_layers
        self.dropout_deep = dropout_deep
        self.deep_layers_activation = deep_layers_activation
        self.use_fm = use_fm
        self.use_deep = use_deep
        self.l2_reg = l2_reg

        self.epoch = epoch
        self.batch_size = batch_size
        self.learning_rate = learning_rate
        self.optimizer_type = optimizer_type
```

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self.batch_norm = batch_norm
self.batch_norm_decay = batch_norm_decay

self.verbose = verbose
self.random_seed = random_seed
self.loss_type = loss_type
self.eval_metric = eval_metric
self.greater_is_better = greater_is_better
self.train_result, self.valid_result = [], []

self._init_graph()

def _init_graph(self):
  self.graph = tf.Graph()
  with self.graph.as_default():
    tf.set_random_seed(self.random_seed)

    self.feat_index = tf.placeholder(tf.int32, shape=[None, None],
                                        name="feat_index")  # None x F

    self.feat_value = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, shape=[None, None],
                                        name="feat_value")  # None x F

    self.label = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, shape=[None, 1], name="label")  # None x 1

    self.dropout_keep_fm = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, shape=[None],
                                               name="dropout_keep_fm")

    self.dropout_keep_deep = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, shape=[None],
                                               name="dropout_keep_deep")

    self.train_phase = tf.placeholder(tf.bool, name="train_phase")

    self.weights = self._initialize_weights()

    # model
    self.embeddings = tf.nn.embedding_lookup(self.weights["feature_embeddings"],
                                               self.feat_index)  # None x F x K

    feat_value = tf.reshape(self.feat_value, shape=[-1, self.field_size, 1])
    self.embeddings = tf.multiply(self.embeddings, feat_value)

    # first order term
    self.y_first_order = tf.nn.embedding_lookup(self.weights["feature_bias"],
                                                self.feat_index)  # None x F

    self.y_first_order = tf.reduce_sum(tf.multiply(self.y_first_order, feat_value), 2)  # None x F

    self.y_first_order = tf.nn.dropout(self.y_first_order, self.dropout_keep_fm[0])  # None x F

    # second order term
    self.summed_features_emb = tf.reduce_sum(self.embeddings, 1)  # None x K

    self.summed_features_emb_square = tf.square(self.summed_features_emb)  # None x K
# square_sum part
self.squared_features_emb = tf.square(self.embeddings)
self.squared_sum_features_emb = tf.reduce_sum(self.squared_features_emb, 1)  # None * K

# second order
self.y_second_order = 0.5 * tf.subtract(self.summed_features_emb_square,
    self.squared_sum_features_emb)  # None * K
self.y_second_order = tf.nn.dropout(self.y_second_order, self.dropout_keep_fm[1])  # None * K

# ---------- Deep component ----------
self.y_deep = tf.reshape(self.embeddings, shape=[-1, self.field_size * self.embedding_size])  # None * (F*K)
self.y_deep = tf.nn.dropout(self.y_deep, self.dropout_keep_deep[0])

for i in range(0, len(self.deep_layers)):
    self.y_deep = tf.add(tf.matmul(self.y_deep, self.weights["layer_%d" %i]),
        self.weights["bias_%d" %i])  # None * layer[i] * 1
    if self.batch_norm:
        self.y_deep = self.batch_norm_layer(self.y_deep, train_phase=self.train_phase,
            scope_bn="bn_%d" %i)  # None * layer[i] * 1
    self.y_deep = self.deep_layers_activation(self.y_deep)
self.y_deep = tf.nn.dropout(self.y_deep, self.dropout_keep_deep[1+i])  # dropout at each Deep layer

# ---------- DeepFM ----------
if self.use_fm and self.use_deep:
    concat_input = tf.concat([[self.y_first_order, self.y_second_order, self.y_deep],
        axis=1])
elif self.use_fm:
    concat_input = tf.concat([[self.y_first_order, self.y_second_order], axis=1])
elif self.use_deep:
    concat_input = self.y_deep
self.out = tf.add(tf.matmul(concat_input, self.weights["concat_projection"],
        self.weights["concat_bias"])

# loss
if self.loss_type == "logloss":
    self.out = tf.nn.sigmoid(self.out)
self.loss = tf.losses.log_loss(self.label, self.out)
elif self.loss_type == "mse":
    self.loss = tf.nn.mse(self.out, self.label)
# l2 regularization on weights
if self.l2_reg > 0:
    self.loss += tf.contrib.layers.l2_regularizer(
        self.l2_reg)(self.weights["concat_projection"])
if self.use_deep:
    for i in range(len(self.deep_layers)):
        self.loss += tf.contrib.layers.l2_regularizer(
            self.l2_reg)(self.weights["layer_%d" %i])
# optimizer

```python
if self.optimizer_type == "adam":
    self.optimizer = tf.train.AdamOptimizer(learning_rate=self.learning_rate, beta1=0.9, beta2=0.999,
                                           epsilon=1e-8).minimize(self.loss)

elif self.optimizer_type == "adagrad":
    self.optimizer = tf.train.AdagradOptimizer(learning_rate=self.learning_rate,
                                              initial_accumulator_value=1e-8).minimize(self.loss)

elif self.optimizer_type == "gd":
    self.optimizer =
    tf.train.GradientDescentOptimizer(learning_rate=self.learning_rate).minimize(self.loss)

elif self.optimizer_type == "momentum":
    self.optimizer = tf.train.MomentumOptimizer(learning_rate=self.learning_rate,
                                              momentum=0.95).minimize(self.loss)

elif self.optimizer_type == "yellowfin":
    self.optimizer = YFOptimizer(learning_rate=self.learning_rate,
                                 momentum=0.8).minimize(self.loss)
```

# init
```python
self.saver = tf.train.Saver()
init = tf.global_variables_initializer()
sess = self._init_session()
sess.run(init)
```

# number of params
```python
total_parameters = 0
for variable in self.weights.values():
    shape = variable.get_shape()
    variable_parameters = 1
    for dim in shape:
        variable_parameters *= dim.value
    total_parameters += variable_parameters
if self.verbose > 0:
    print("#params: %d" % total_parameters)
```

```python
def _init_session(self):
    config = tf.ConfigProto(device_count={"gpu": 0})
    config.gpu_options.allow_growth = True
    return tf.Session(config=config)
```

```python
def _initialize_weights(self):
    weights = dict()
    # # embeddings
    weights["feature_embeddings"] = tf.Variable(
```
tf.random_normal([self.feature_size, self.embedding_size], 0.0, 0.01),
    name="feature_embeddings") # feature_size * K
weights["feature_bias"] = tf.Variable(
    tf.random_uniform([self.feature_size, 1], 0.0, 1.0), name="feature_bias") # feature_size * 1

# deep layers
num_layer = len(self.deep_layers)
input_size = self.field_size * self.embedding_size
glorot = np.sqrt(2.0 / (input_size + self.deep_layers[0]))
weights["layer_0"] = tf.Variable(
    np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=glorot, size=(input_size, self.deep_layers[0])),
    dtype=np.float32)
weights["bias_0"] = tf.Variable(np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=glorot, size=(1, self.deep_layers[0])),
    dtype=np.float32) # l * layers[0]

for i in range(1, num_layer):
    glorot = np.sqrt(2.0 / (self.deep_layers[i-1] + self.deep_layers[i]))
    weights["layer_%d" % i] = tf.Variable(
        np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=glorot, size=(self.deep_layers[i-1],
        self.deep_layers[i])),
        dtype=np.float32) # layers[i-1] * layers[i]
weights["bias_%d" % i] = tf.Variable(
    np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=glorot, size=(1, self.deep_layers[i])),
    dtype=np.float32) # 1 * layer[i]

# final concat projection layer
if self.use_fm and self.use_deep:
    input_size = self.field_size * self.embedding_size + self.deep_layers[-1]
elif self.use_fm:
    input_size = self.field_size * self.embedding_size
elif self.use_deep:
    input_size = self.deep_layers[-1]
glorot = np.sqrt(2.0 / (input_size + 1))
weights["concat_projection"] = tf.Variable(
    np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=glorot, size=(input_size, 1)),
    dtype=np.float32) # layers[i-1] * layers[i]
weights["concat_bias"] = tf.Variable(tf.constant(0.01), dtype=np.float32)
return weights

def batch_norm_layer(self, x, train_phase, scope_bn):
    bn_train = batch_norm(x, decay=self.batch_norm_decay, center=True, scale=True,
    updates_collections=None,
    is_training=True, reuse=None, trainable=True, scope=scope_bn)
bn_inference = batch_norm(x, decay=self.batch_norm_decay, center=True, scale=True,
    updates_collections=None,
    is_training=False, reuse=True, trainable=True, scope=scope_bn)
z = tf.cond(train_phase, lambda: bn_train, lambda: bn_inference)
return z
```python
def get_batch(self, Xi, Xv, y, batch_size, index):
    start = index * batch_size
    end = (index+1) * batch_size
    end = end if end < len(y) else len(y)
    return Xi[start:end], Xv[start:end], [y_] for y_ in y[start:end]]

# shuffle three lists simultaneously

def shuffle_in_unison_scary(self, a, b, c):
    rng_state = np.random.get_state()
    np.random.shuffle(a)
    np.random.set_state(rng_state)
    np.random.shuffle(b)
    np.random.set_state(rng_state)
    np.random.shuffle(c)

def fit_on_batch(self, Xi, Xv, y):
    feed_dict = {self.feat_index: Xi,
                 self.feat_value: Xv,
                 self.label: y,
                 self.dropout_keep_fm: self.dropout_fm,
                 self.dropout_keep_deep: self.dropout_deep,
                 self.train_phase: True}
    loss, opt = self.sess.run((self.loss, self.optimizer), feed_dict=feed_dict)
    saver.save(sess, 'model/my_test_model', global_step=1000)
    return loss

def fit(self, Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train,
        XI_valid=None, Xv_valid=None, Y_valid=None,  
        early_stopping=False, refit=False):

    """
    :param XI_train: [[ind_1, ind_2, ...], [ind_1, ind_2, ...], ..., [ind_1, ind_2, ..., ind_i, ...]]
    ind_i is the feature index of feature field j of sample i in the training set
    :param Xv_train: [[val_1, val_2, ...], [val_1, val_2, ...], ..., [val_1, val_2, ..., val_i, ...]]
    val_i is the feature value of feature field j of sample i in the training set
    val_i can be either binary (1/0, for binary/categorical features) or float
    (e.g., 10.24, for numerical features)
    :param Y_train: label of each sample in the training set
    :param XI_valid: list of list of feature indices of each sample in the validation set
    :param Xv_valid: list of list of feature values of each sample in the validation set
    :param Y_valid: label of each sample in the validation set
    :param early_stopping: perform early stopping or not
    :param refit: refit the model on the train+valid dataset or not
```

has_valid = Xv_valid is not None

for epoch in range(self.epoch):
    ti = time()
    self.shuffle_in_unison_scary(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train)
    total_batch = int(len(y_train) / self.batch_size)
    for i in range(total_batch):
        Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch = self.get_batch(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train,
                                                   self.batch_size, i)
        self.fit_on_batch(Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch)

    # evaluate training and validation datasets
    train_result = self.evaluate(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train)
    self.train_result.append(train_result)
    if has_valid:
        valid_result = self.evaluate(Xi_valid, Xv_valid, y_valid)
        self.valid_result.append(valid_result)
    if self.verbose > 0 and epoch % self.verbose == 0:
        if has_valid:
            print("[%d] train_result=%.4f, valid_result=%.4f [%.1f s]
                  % (epoch + 1, train_result, valid_result, time() - ti))
        else:
            print("[%d] train_result=%.4f [%.1f s]
                  % (epoch + 1, train_result, time() - ti))
    if has_valid and early_stopping and self.training_termination(self.valid_result):
        break

    # fit a few more epoch on train+valid until result reaches the best_train_score
    if has_valid and refit:
        if self.greater_is_better:
            best_valid_score = max(self.valid_result)
        else:
            best_valid_score = min(self.valid_result)
        best_epoch = self.valid_result.index(best_valid_score)
        best_train_score = self.train_result[best_epoch]
        Xi_train = Xi_train + Xi_valid
        Xv_train = Xv_train + Xv_valid
        y_train = y_train + y_valid
        for epoch in range(100):
            self.shuffle_in_unison_scary(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train)
            total_batch = int(len(y_train) / self.batch_size)
            for i in range(total_batch):
                Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch = self.get_batch(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train,
                                                            self.batch_size, i)
                self.fit_on_batch(Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch)

                # check
                train_result = self.evaluate(Xi_train, Xv_train, y_train)
                if abs(train_result - best_train_score) < 0.001 or \
                    (self.greater_is_better and train_result > best_train_score) or \
                    ((not self.greater_is_better) and train_result < best_train_score):
```python
def training_termination(self, valid_result):
    if len(valid_result) > 5:
        if self.greater_is_better:
            if valid_result[-1] < valid_result[-2] and \
                valid_result[-2] < valid_result[-3] and \
                valid_result[-3] < valid_result[-4] and \
                valid_result[-4] < valid_result[-5]:
                return True
        else:
            if valid_result[-1] > valid_result[-2] and \
                valid_result[-2] > valid_result[-3] and \
                valid_result[-3] > valid_result[-4] and \
                valid_result[-4] > valid_result[-5]:
                return True
        return False

    def predict(self, Xi, Xv):
        """"""
        :param Xi: list of list of feature indices of each sample in the dataset
        :param Xv: list of list of feature values of each sample in the dataset
        :return: predicted probability of each sample
        """
        dummy_y = [1] * len(Xi)
        batch_index = 0
        Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch = self.get_batch(Xi, Xv, dummy_y, self.batch_size, batch_index)
        y_pred = None
        while len(Xi_batch) > 0:
            num_batch = len(y_batch)
            feed_dict = {self.feature_index: Xi_batch,
                          self.feature_value: Xv_batch,
                          self.label: y_batch,
                          self.dropout_keep_fm: [1.0] * len(self.dropout_fm),
                          self.dropout_keep_deep: [1.0] * len(self.dropout_deep),
                          self.train_phase: False}
            batch_out = self.sess.run(self.out, feed_dict=feed_dict)
            if batch_index == 0:
                y_pred = np.reshape(batch_out, (num_batch,))
            else:
                y_pred = np.concatenate((y_pred, np.reshape(batch_out, (num_batch,))))
            batch_index += 1
        Xi_batch, Xv_batch, y_batch = self.get_batch(Xi, Xv, dummy_y, self.batch_size, batch_index)
        return y_pred
```
def evaluate(self, X_i, X_v, y):
    
    :param X_i: list of list of feature indices of each sample in the dataset
    :param X_v: list of list of feature values of each sample in the dataset
    :param y: label of each sample in the dataset
    :return: metric of the evaluation
    
    y_pred = self.predict(X_i, X_v)
    return self.eval_metric(y, y_pred)
1 import os
2 import sys
3
4 import numpy as np
5 import pandas as pd
6 import tensorflow as tf
7 from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
8 from sklearn.metrics import make_scorer
9 from sklearn.model_selection import StratifiedKFold
10
11 import config
12 from metrics import gini_norm
13 from DataReader import FeatureDictionary, DataParser
14 sys.path.append("..")
15 from DeepFM import DeepFM
16
17 gini_scorer = make_scorer(gini_norm, greater_is_better=True, needs_proba=True)
18
19
20 def _load_data():
21     dfTrain = pd.read_csv(config.TRAIN_FILE)
22     dfTest = pd.read_csv(config.TEST_FILE)
23     # def preprocess(df):
24     #     cols = [c for c in df.columns if c not in ["user", "adgroup_id", "clk"]]
25     #     df["missing_feat"] = np.sum((df[cols] == -1).values, axis=1)
26     #     df["ps_car_13_x_ps_reg_03"] = df["ps_car_13"] * df["ps_reg_03"]
27     #     return df
28     # dfTrain = preprocess(dfTrain)
29     # dfTest = preprocess(dfTest)
30     
31     cols = [c for c in dfTrain.columns if c not in ["user", "adgroup_id", "clk"]]
32     cols = [c for c in cols if (not c in config.IGNORE_COLS)]
33     X_train = dfTrain[cols].values
34     y_train = dfTrain["clk"].values
35     X_test = dfTest[cols].values
36     ids_test = dfTest["clk"].values
37     cat_features_indices = [i for i, c in enumerate(cols) if c in config.CATEGORICAL_COLS]
38     return dfTrain, dfTest, X_train, y_train, X_test, ids_test, cat_features_indices
39
40 def _run_base_model_dfm(dfTrain, dfTest, folds, dfm_params):
41     fd = FeatureDictionary(dfTrain=dfTrain, dfTest=dfTest,
42                            numeric_cols=config.NUMERIC_COLS,
43                            ignore_cols=config.IGNORE_COLS)
data_parser = DataParser(feature_dict=fd)
X_train, Xv_train, y_train = data_parser.parse(df=dfTrain, has_label=True)
X_test, Xv_test, ids_test = data_parser.parse(df=dfTest, has_label=True)

df_params["feature_size"] = fd.feature_dim
df_params["field_size"] = len(X_train[0])

y_train_meta = np.zeros((dfTrain.shape[0], 1), dtype=float)
y_test_meta = np.zeros((dfTest.shape[0], 1), dtype=float)

lambda x, l: [x[i] for i in l]
gini_results_cv = np.zeros(len(folds), dtype=float)
gini_results_epoch_train = np.zeros((len(folds), df_params["epoch"]), dtype=float)
gini_results_epoch_valid = np.zeros((len(folds), df_params["epoch"]), dtype=float)

for i, (train_idx, valid_idx) in enumerate(folds):
    X_train_ = X_train + train_idx
    Xv_train_ = Xv_train + train_idx
    y_train_ = y_train + train_idx
    yv_train_ = yv_train + train_idx
    X_valid_ = X_valid + valid_idx
    Xv_valid_ = Xv_valid + valid_idx
    y_valid_ = y_valid + valid_idx
    yv_valid_ = yv_valid + valid_idx

dfm = DeepFM(**df_params)
dfm.fit(X_train, Xv_train, y_train, X_valid, Xv_valid, y_valid, early_stopping=True)

y_train_meta[valid_idx, 0] = dfm.predict(X_valid, Xv_valid)
y_test_meta[:, 0] = dfm.predict(X_test, Xv_test)

gini_results_cv[i] = gini_norm(y_valid, y_train_meta[valid_idx])
gini_results_epoch_train[i] = dfm.train_result

gini_results_epoch_valid[i] = dfm.valid_result

# save result
if df_params["use_fm"] and df_params["use_deep":]:
clf_str = "DeepFM"
eclf df_params["use_fm"]:
clf_str = "FM"
eclf df_params["use_deep"]:
clf_str = "DNN"
print("%s %.5f (%.5f)"%(clf_str, gini_results_cv.mean(), gini_results_cv.std()))
filename = "%s_MeanSf_STD%Sf.csv"%(clf_str, gini_results_cv.mean(), gini_results_cv.std())
_make_submission(ids_test, y_test_meta, filename)

plot_fig(gini_results_epoch_train, gini_results_epoch_valid, clf_str)
return y_train_meta, y_test_meta

# def _make_submission(ids, y_pred, filename="submission.csv"):
pd.DataFrame({"Real": ids, "Predict": y_pred.flatten()}).to_csv(
    os.path.join(config.SUB_DIR, filename), index=False, float_format="%.5f")
def _plot_fig(train_results, valid_results, model_name):
    colors = ['red', 'blue', 'green']
    xs = np.arange(1, train_results.shape[1]+1)
    plt.figure()
    legends = []
    for i in range(train_results.shape[0]):
        plt.plot(xs, train_results[i], color=colors[i], linestyle="solid", marker="o")
        plt.plot(xs, valid_results[i], color=colors[i], linestyle="dashed", marker="o")
        legends.append("train-%d\%(i+1)"
        legends.append("valid-%d\%(i+1)"
        plt.xlabel("Epoch")
    plt.ylabel("Normalized Gini")
    plt.title("%s\%s\%model_name")
    plt.legend(legends)
    plt.savefig("./fig/%s.png"%model_name)
    plt.close()

# load data
dfTrain, dfTest, X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test, cat_features_indices = _load_data()

# folds
folds = list(StratifiedKFold(n_splits=config.NUM_SPLITS, shuffle=True,
                             random_state=config.RANDOM_SEED).split(X_train, y_train))

# --------------------- DeepFM Model ---------------------
# params
deep_fm_params = {
    "use_fm": True,
    "use_deep": True,
    "embedding_size": 8,
    "dropout_fm": [1.0, 1.0],
    "deep_layers": [32, 32],
    "dropout_deep": [0.5, 0.5, 0.5],
    "deep_layers_activation": tf.nn.relu,
    "epoch": 10,
    "batch_size": 1024,
    "learning_rate": 0.001,
    "optimizer_type": "adam",
    "batch_norm": 1,
    "batch_norm_decay": 0.995,
    "l2_reg": 0.01,
    "verbose": True,
    "eval_metric": gini_norm,
    "random_seed": config.RANDOM_SEED
}
y_train_dfm, y_test_dfm = _run_base_model_dfm(dfTrain, dfTest, folds, dfm_params)

# --------------------- FM Model ---------------------
#fm_params = dfm_params.copy()
#fm_params["use_deep"] = False
#y_train_fm, y_test_fm = _run_base_model_dfm(dfTrain, dfTest, folds, fm_params)
#
### --------------------- DNN Model ---------------------
#dnn_params = dfm_params.copy()
#dnn_params["use_fm"] = False
#y_train_dnn, y_test_dnn = _run_base_model_dfm(dfTrain, dfTest, folds, dnn_params)

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162
163
Config.py

```python
# set the path-to-files
TRAIN_FILE = "./data/t_train.csv"
TEST_FILE = "./data/t_test.csv"

SUB_DIR = "/output"

NUM_SPLITS = 3
RANDOM_SEED = 2017

# types of columns of the dataset dataframe
CATEGORICAL_COLS = [
]

NUMERIC_COLS = [
    "cate_id", "campaign_id", "customer",
    "brand", "price", "pid", "cart", "fav",
    "pv", "buy"
]

IGNORE_COLS = [
    "user", "adgroup_id", "clk"
]
```

Metrics

```python
import numpy as np

def gini(actual, pred):
    assert (len(actual) == len(pred))
    all = np.asarray(np.c_[actual, pred, np.arange(len(actual))], dtype=np.float)
    all = all[~np.isinf(all[:, 2])]
    all = all[all[:, 2].argsort()]
    totalLosses = all[:, 2].sum()
    ginisum = all[:, 2].cumsum().sum() / totalLosses
    ginisum -= (len(actual) + 1) / 2.
    return ginisum / len(actual)

def gini_norm(actual, pred):
    return gini(actual, pred) / gini(actual, actual)
```
import pandas as pd

class FeatureDictionary(object):
    def __init__(self, trainfile=None, testfile=None, dfTrain=None, dfTest=None, numeric_cols=[], ignore_cols=[]):
        assert not ((trainfile is None) and (dfTrain is None)), "trainfile or dfTrain at least one is set"
        assert not ((trainfile is not None) and (dfTrain is not None)), "only one can be set"
        assert not ((testfile is None) and (dfTest is None)), "testfile or dfTest at least one is set"
        assert not ((testfile is not None) and (dfTest is not None)), "only one can be set"
        self.trainfile = trainfile
        self.testfile = testfile
        self.dfTrain = dfTrain
        self.dfTest = dfTest
        self.numeric_cols = numeric_cols
        self.ignore_cols = ignore_cols
        self.gen_feat_dict()

def gen_feat_dict(self):
    if self.dfTrain is None:
        dfTrain = pd.read_csv(self.trainfile)
    else:
        dfTrain = self.dfTrain
    if self.dfTest is None:
        dfTest = pd.read_csv(self.testfile)
    else:
        dfTest = self.dfTest
    df = pd.concat([dfTrain, dfTest])
    self.feat_dict = {}
    tc = 0
    for col in df.columns:
        if col in self.ignore_cols:
            continue
        if col in self.numeric_cols:
            self.feat_dict[col] = tc
            tc += 1
        else:
            us = df[col].unique()
            self.feat_dict[col] = dict(zip(us, range(tc, len(us)+tc)))
            tc = len(us)
    self.feat_dim = tc

class DataParser(object):
    def __init__(self, feat_dict):
        self.feat_dict = feat_dict
def parse(self, infile=None, df=None, has_label=False):
    assert not ((infile is None) and (df is None)), "infile or df at least one is set"
    assert not ((infile is not None) and (df is not None)), "only one can be set"
    if infile is None:
        dfi = df.copy()
    else:
        dfi = pd.read_csv(infile)
        if has_label:
            y = dfi["clk"]["values.to_list()"
                        dfi.drop(["user", "clk", "adgroup_id"], axis=1, inplace=True)
        else:
            ids = dfi["id"]["values.to_list()"
                            dfi.drop(["id"], axis=1, inplace=True)
        # dfi for feature index
        # dfv for feature value which can be either binary (1/0) or float (e.g., 10.24)
        dfv = dfi.copy()
        for col in dfi.columns:
            if col in self.feat_dict.ignore_cols:
                dfv.drop(col, axis=1, inplace=True)
                continue
            if col in self.feat_dict.numeric_cols:
                dfi[col] = self.feat_dict.feat_dict[col]
            else:
                dfi[col] = dfi[col].map(self.feat_dict.feat_dict[col])
        # list of list of feature indices of each sample in the dataset
        Xi = dfi.values.to_list()
        # list of list of feature values of each sample in the dataset
        Xv = dfv.values.to_list()
        if has_label:
            return Xi, Xv, y
        else:
            return Xi, Xv, ids
9.1.3 Code for Front End Development

Home page
Advertising platform page
101
Contact page
CSS
9.2 input/output listing

Our input contains a list of advertising features user advertiser input from website. And we concate these features with the user features we have in our user pool to a format that our model require. For every sample, we process the data into index:value format as input.

Our output contains probability that every user will click the advertising, and a list of users whose probability is larger that the threshold.