

IÉSEG CENTER For MARKETING NALYTICS

Leveraging textual data for customer life event prediction



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1: Introduction







Predictive modeling process

- Making predictions about the future state of a customer by using the historical data of that customer [Coussement et al., 2016]
- Typically data about customers that companies store in large transactional databases, which we refer to as *structured data* (e.g. age, time since last purchase, ...)
- Four steps of predictive modeling [Blattberg et al., 2010]





Modeling framework



2: Methodology



- Convolutional neural network
 - Deep artificial neural network that uses the convolution operation in at least one of their layers
 - Initially developed for image recognition inspired by the visual perception mechanism [Henderson et al., 1980; Lecun et al., 1990]
 - Good performance in text classification tasks [e.g. Collobert et al., 2011; Zhang, Zhao, Lecun, 2015]



2: Methodology



Convolutional neural network

- Emails are aggregated per client so we have one single document per client
- Shorter documents are padded with a special zero vector to length of longest (non-outlier) document
- Initial word embeddings are trained on entire French Wikipedia corpus using word2vec [Fauconnier, 2015; Mikolov, 2013]
- Architecture based on literature [Kim, 2014]



3: Experimental Setting

- Data
 - Real-life data from an European financial services provider
 - 21,898 customers
 - About 100,000 messages
 - 207 variables based on structured data
 - Birth of a child is considered as life event
- Period:





• Life event have significant effect on product possession...



Note: propensity score matching is used to determine customers without life event.

4: Results



But only for specific product categories



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4: Results



Life event prediction

- Three models are constructed to investigate the value of different data sources
- The model that only use structured data performs better than the model that only uses textual data
- Best results in terms of AUC and TDL are obtained by the model that combines textual data and structured data.





Life event prediction as a tool to identify purchase drivers





Framework* for cross sell using life event predictions



*Framework is based on Ascarza et al. (2018) which is developed for customer retention campaigns.



Thank you for your attention! Questions?

Contact

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