

Aspiring Minds releases AMCAT employment data for CODS 2016 data challenge

New Delhi, January 25th, 2016: Aspiring Minds, world's leading job skills credentialing firm, has released a partial dataset of its assessments for the data challenge at CODS 2016 - the annual conference on machine learning and data science organized by iKDD. The anonymized dataset comprises of assessment and employment outcome information and will be extremely valuable to understand the factors affecting the employment ecosystem. For the first time, a global assessment company has made such data public for researchers to better understand the dynamics of the labor market.

The dataset comprises of AMCAT scores, educational qualification and demographic details of 5000 candidates. Together with this, information about their first job, salary and job location are included. The data can not just be used to make a smart salary predictor, but also understand the inefficiencies in the labor market. For instance, do students from urban centers get better jobs? A competition based on this data has also been organized by CODS for which entries have to be submitted by January 31st and results will be announced with the conference on 16th March 2016.

Aspiring Minds has been consistently working towards building a data science ecosystem and releasing the assessment data for the public is another effort in this direction. Access to this rich data will inspire students and enthusiasts to develop and use their machine learning skills to find interesting inferences. Furthermore, the data shall provide insights that will benefit the larger research community in machine learning and labor economics.

"The release of our dataset today is in continuance of our efforts to create a merit driven labor market. A systematic study of this data can help make the necessary policy interventions to get rid of the biases that exist for both job seekers and employers in the labor market. On the other hand, it will help guide students on what skills to acquire to get jobs of their choice and at a good salary. This is in the spirit of openly sharing data that can lead to social good." said Varun Aggarwal, CTO, Aspiring Minds.

The dataset released is globally unique as it not only captures the academic and demographic information of engineering students but also has standardized job test scores along with employment outcomes. No other dataset includes a standardized job test score which has been validated with the industry.

"We organize the data challenge at CoDS every year to encourage theoreticians and data enthusiasts to get a flavor of the challenges a real world problem poses. The data provided by Aspiring Minds will give a great opportunity to the participants to develop and showcase novel analytical tools and get an insight into a very relevant problem in our society." said Madhav Marathe, Professor, Computer Science at Virginia Tech, USA and General Chair, CODS 2016.

Aspiring Minds is one of the pioneers of the data science revolution in the country and strongly believes in machine learning and data science transforming how we will perform our tasks in future. The company had earlier organized data science camps for school kids in Gurgaon, Bangalore and Pune. They also recently held their second

annual workshop, ASSESS 2015, on data driven assessments and feedback at New Jersey, USA.

Know more about the challenge: <http://ikdd.acm.org/Site/CoDS2016/datachallenge.html>

About Aspiring Minds:

Aspiring Minds is a global job skills credentialing leader set up with a vision to create a merit driven talent ecosystem and enable efficient job skills matching by crafting credible and intelligent assessments. The flagship product AMCAT, is the world's most widely-taken employability test helping over two million candidates find the 'right' jobs every year. Backed by state-of-the-art, adaptive assessment technology and machine learning algorithms – it allows adaptive, standardized and reliable measurement of generic employability skills (language, cognitive, behavior) and a wide range of functional skills using simulated assessments. Aspiring Minds enables job seekers to evaluate their job skills, earn industry recognized credentials and find appropriate career opportunities. We also help companies dramatically improve their quality and efficiency of hiring and are today associated with more than 3500 corporations. Founded in 2008 by Himanshu and Varun Aggarwal, Aspiring Minds is a 500+ people strong organization with operations in US, China, India, Middle East, Philippines and Sub-Saharan Africa.

For more information, log on to www.aspiringminds.com or www.myamcat.com