Tanzanian Wells

Predicting non functional water wells



Table Of Contents

1.
Overview

Objectives and Context

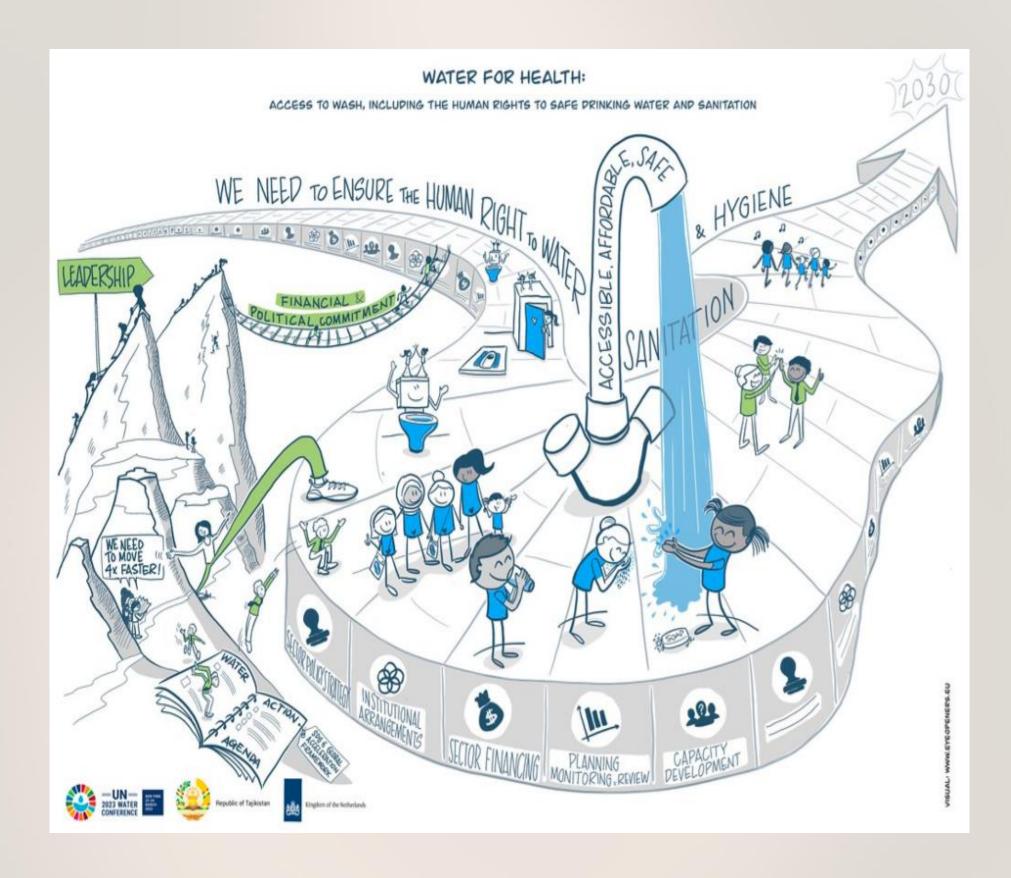
2.
Modeling

Models and Tuning Techniques 3. Evaluation

Best Model's Classification Metrics Recos

How to Achieve Better Predictions 5.
Next Steps

Limits and Overcoming Them



1. Overview

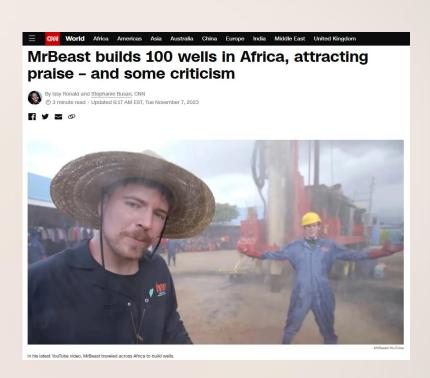
Objectives and Context

A Predictive Tool for Wells in Tanzania









Current Situation:

In Tanzania, only 61% have basic water access, 32% have basic sanitation, and less than half enjoy basic hygiene.

Source: World Bank

Objectives:

- Develop a machine learning classifier
- To predict non-functionality of water wells in Tanzania

Intended Users:

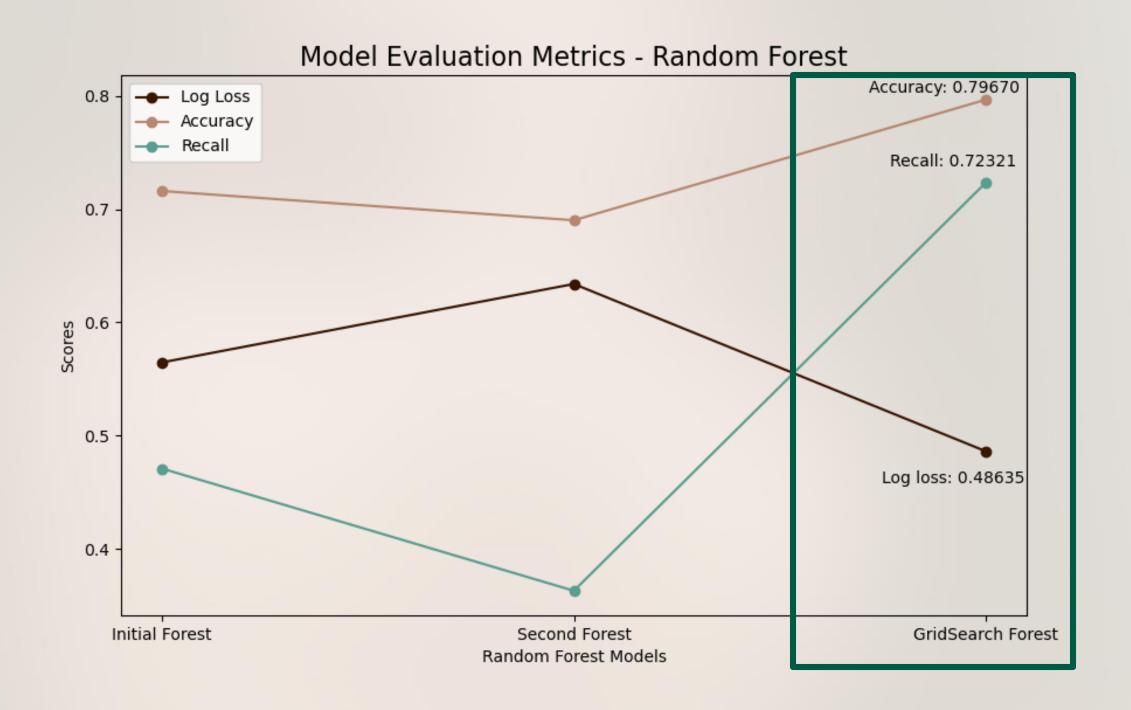
- Organizations involved in water & infrastructure management
 - Non-Governmental
 - Non-Profit
 - o YouTubers?



2. Modeling

Models and Tuning Techniques

Predictive Models to Assess Well Functionality



4 models:

- 1. Logistic Regression
- 2. K-Nearest Neighbor
- 3. Decision Tree
- 4. Random Forest

Preprocessing:

- Missing values handling
- Categorization
- Encoding categorical features
- Scaling

Modeling Techniques

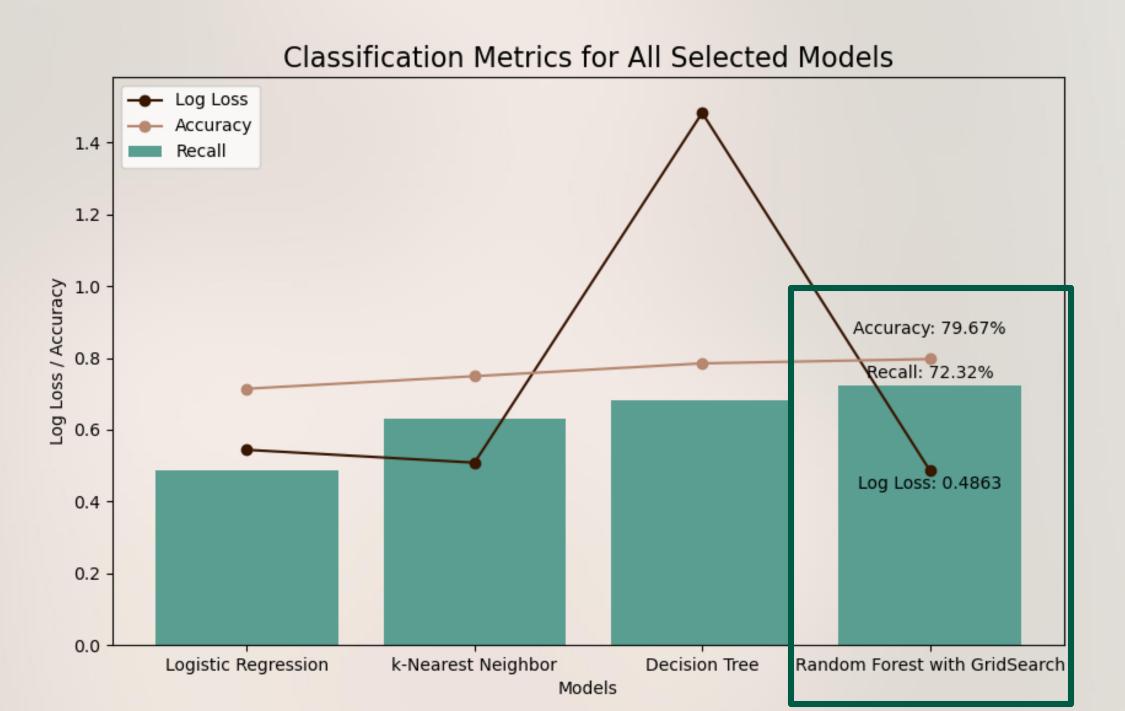
- Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Techniques (SMOTE)
- Recursive Features Elimination
- Combinatoric Grid Searching



3. Evaluation

Best Model's Classification Metrics

Best Model Selection: Classification Metrics



Classification Metrics:

- 1. Recall
- 2. Accuracy
- 3. Log loss

Risk for populations' health & lives if a well is predicted functional when it was not (false negative).

Best model results:

- The model correctly identified over 72% of the actual non-functional water wells
- 2. Model's predictive power: 79% of all water wells were correctly predicted
- High probability that a well predicted as non-functional is actually non functional





How to Achieve Better Predictions

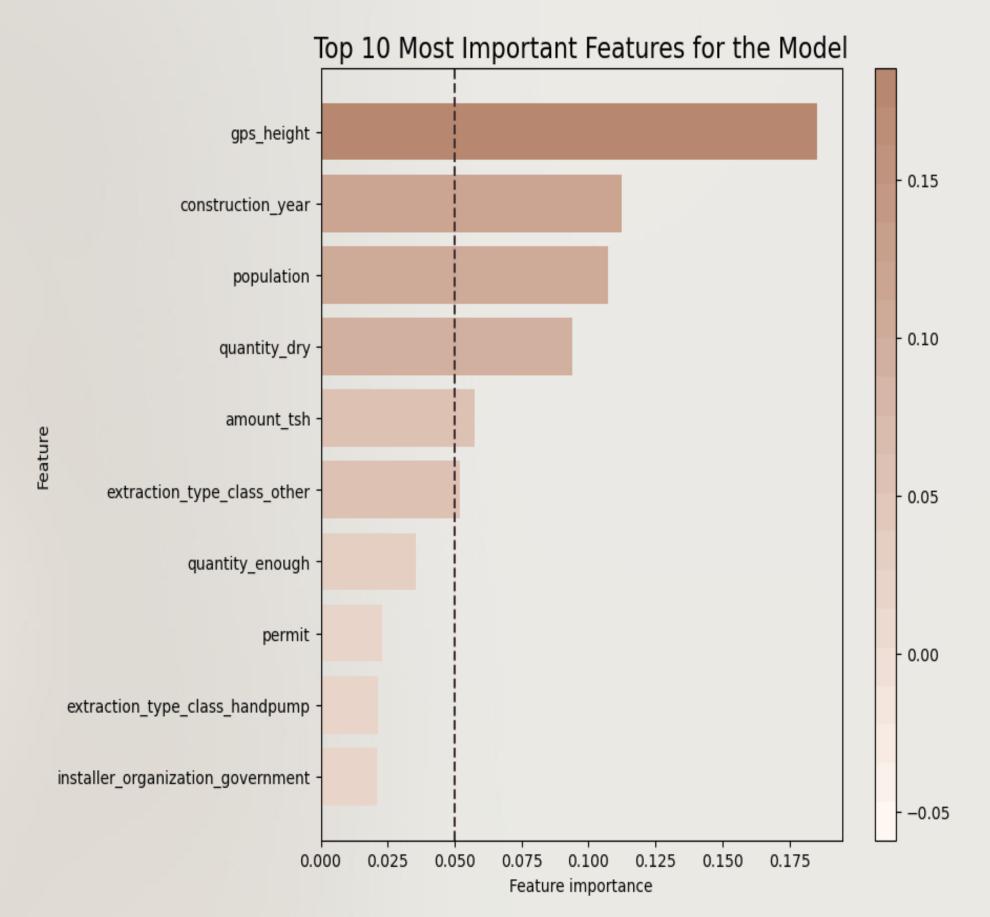
Recommendations

Purposes of Model's Predictions

- <u>Useful</u>
 - Prioritize maintenance efforts
 - Allocate resources and funding
- Not Useful
 - Data is outdated or inaccurate
 - Most important features are not reported

How to Achieve Better Predictions

- 1. Enhance quality: collect recent & accurate data
- 2. Include local knowledge
- 3. Share knowledge with other NGOs: open data
- 4. Implement a feedback system





5. Next Steps

Limits and Overcoming Them

5. Next Steps



- 1. Collect More Recent Data: Data recorded is outdated: it is from 2011 to 2013. More recent information must be collected for more accurate predictions.
- 2. Verify Actuals Before Relying on Predictions: Accuracy is good, over 79%. Nevertheless, room for error still exist.
- 3. Scalability Concerns: Consider optimizing the model with more efficient algorithms or modifying processing techniques to predict larger datasets.

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