Tanzanian Wells

Predicting non functional water wells



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1. Overview

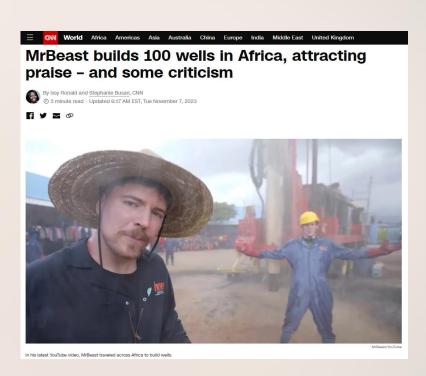
Objectives and Context

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:

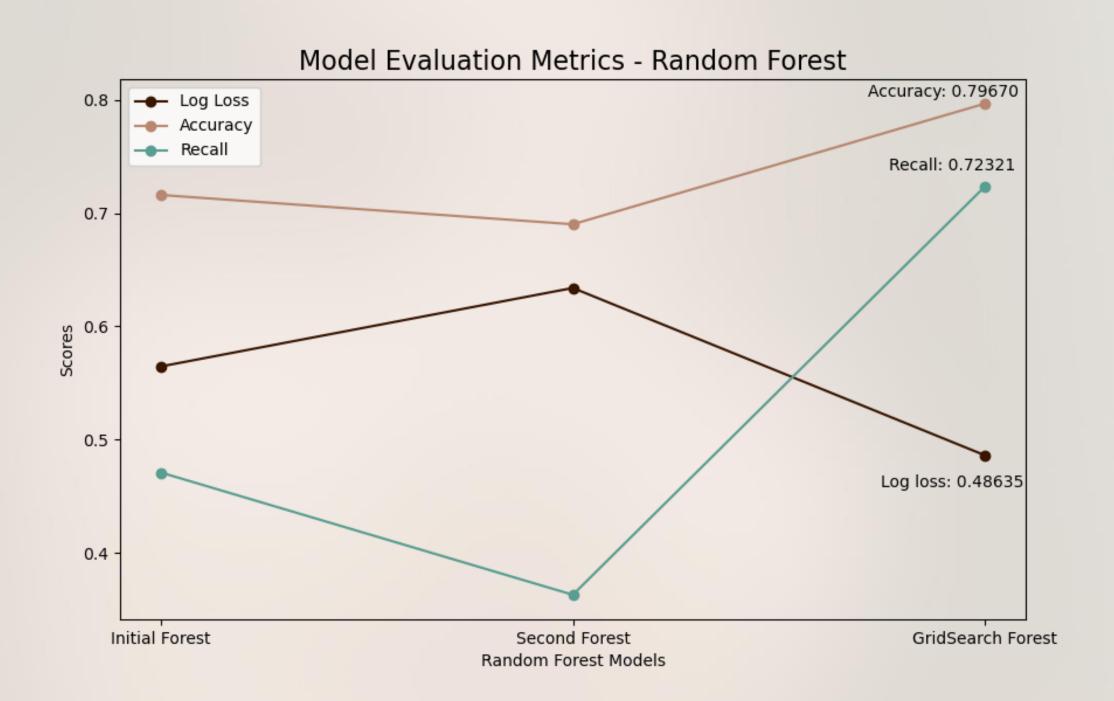
- Organizations involved in water & infrastructure management
 - Non-Governmental
 - Non-Profit
 - o YouTubers?



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:

- Categorization
- Missing values
- Encoding categorical features
- Scaling

Modeling Techniques

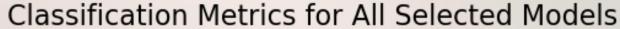
- Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Techniques (SMOTE)
- Recursive Features Elimination
- Combinatoric Grid Searching

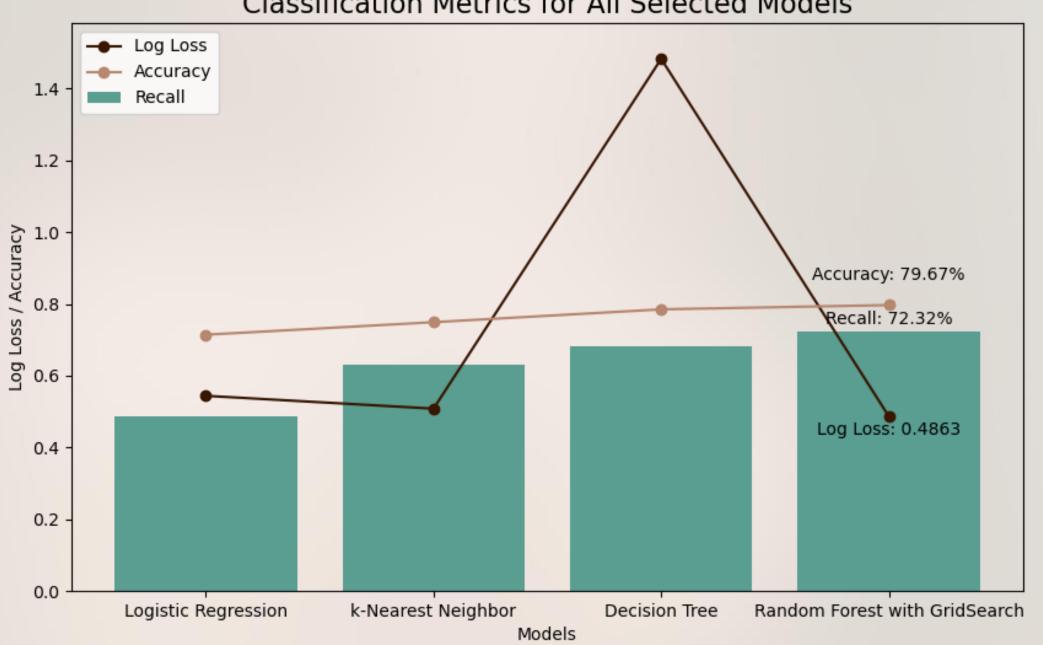


3. Evaluation

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:

- 1. 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
- 3. High probability that a well predicted as non-functional is actually non functional





How to Achieve Better Predictions

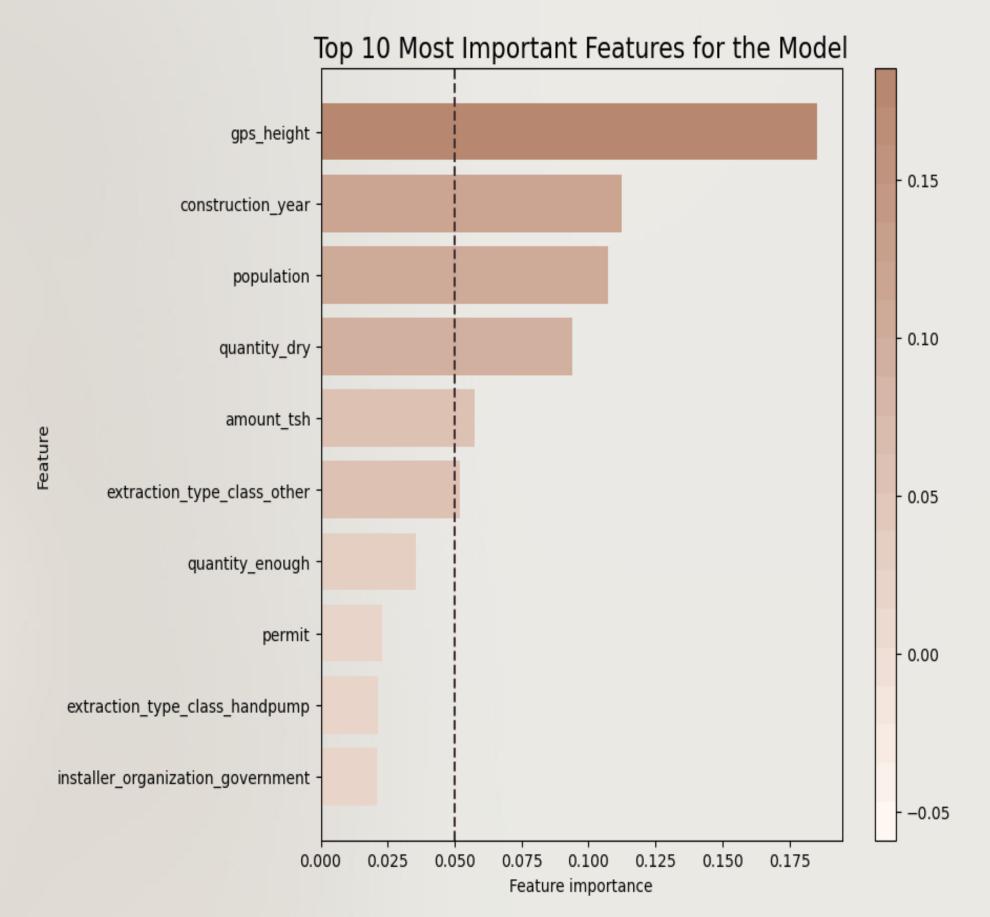
Recommendations

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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