## Loan Default Prediction Analysis

Leveraging Machine Learning to Mitigate Credit Risk

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### **Business Problem**

Financial Losses

Institutions lose millions annually due to defaults.

Risk Management

Need to optimize lending decisions.

☐ Improve Lending Decisions

Lenders struggle with selecting the right criteria for lending, leaving many Kenyans unbanked

### **Objective**

To build a loan prediction model that can be used scalably across multiple financial institutions to help stakeholders:

- Identify high-risk loans early.
- Optimize lending strategies.
- Reduce financial losses due to defaults



## **Data Preprocessing**

#### **Data Understanding**

- 1. 115,893 loan records with 18 features (demographics, credit scores, loan details)
- 2. 19.3% of the borrowers in the dataset are defaulters.

Our final cleaned dataset comprised of:

#### **Demographic Variables**

- Gender, Age, Marital Status
- Employment Status

#### **Financial Variables**

- · Credit Score, Net Income
- · EMI, Principal Disbursed
- Overdraft Amount

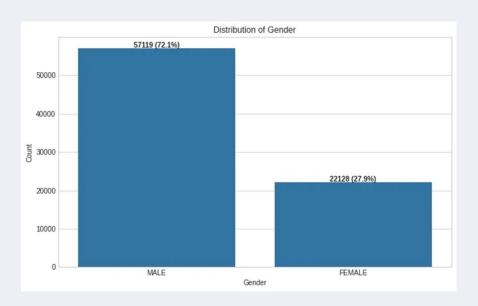
#### **Key Steps in Data Cleaning**

- Handled missing values
- Created DEFAULT BINARY
- Added AGE\_GROUP categories
- Undersampled majority class

# Demographic Analysis

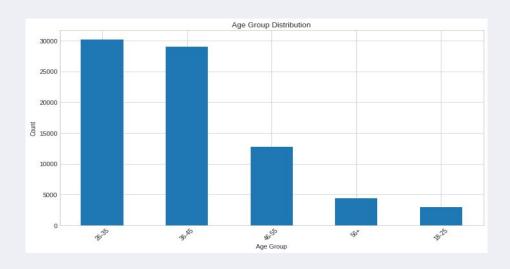
#### Gender

72.1% male borrowers vs 27.9% female borrowers.



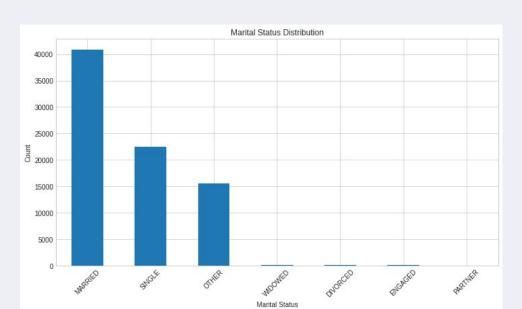
#### **Age Groups**

36-45 and 26-35 age groups comprise most borrowers.



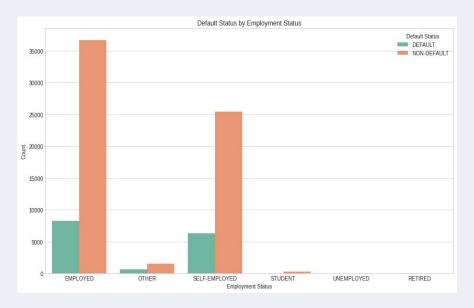
#### **Marital Status**

Majority of borrowers are married (40,000+).

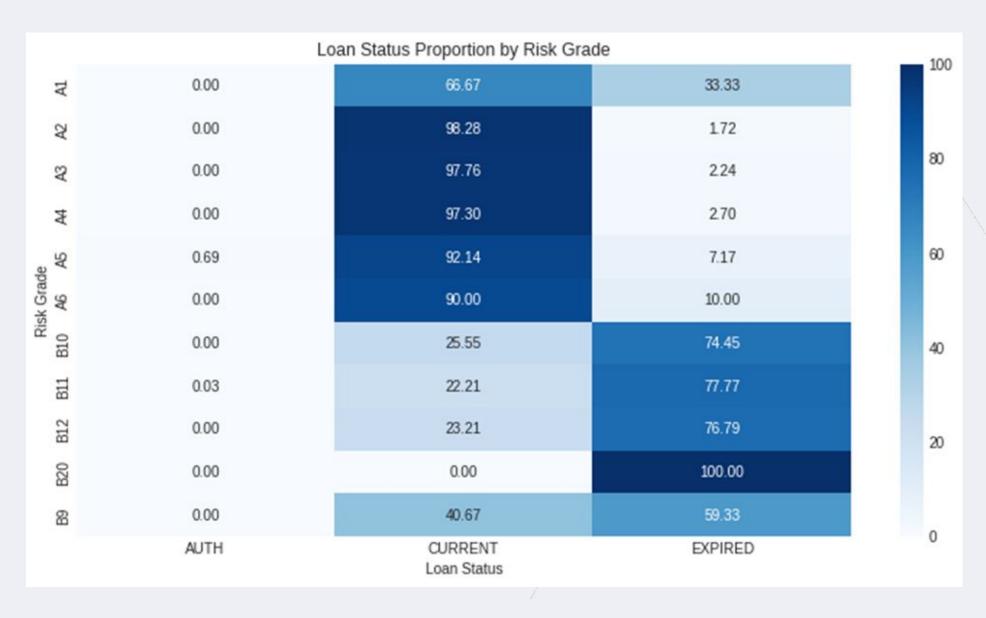


#### **Employment**

Self-employed borrowers show higher default rates.



## **Risk Analysis**



#### Low Risk (A2-A5)

Mostly current loans

#### Medium Risk (B1-B9)

Mixed loan status

#### High Risk (B10-B12)

Significant expired loans

#### Critical Risk (B20)

100% expired loans



## **Variable Correlations**

Variables	Correlation	Significance
EMI & Principal	0.39	Moderate
Financial Variables	Low	Independent predictors
Net Income	Minimal	Stands alone
Credit Score & OD_AMOUNT	-0.068	Negative

Step 1



**Training** 

Step 2



Step 3



Deployment

### **Model Development**



#### **Logistic Regression**

Baseline model for interpretability.



#### **Decision Tree**

For transparent decision rules.



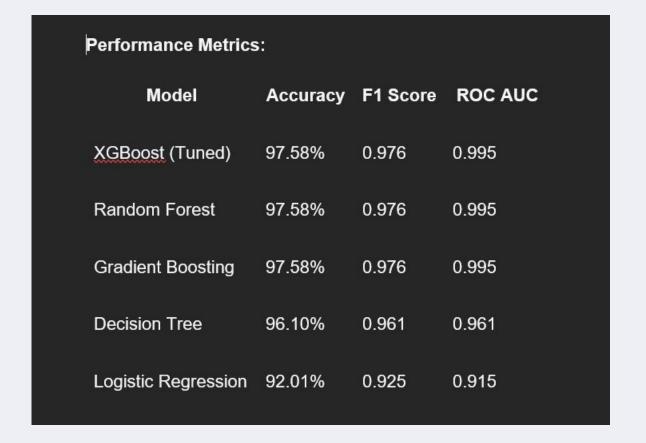
#### **Random Forest**

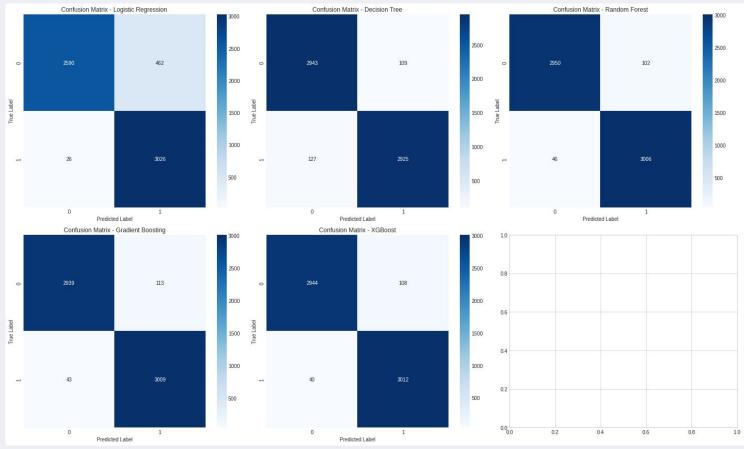
For ensemble learning power.

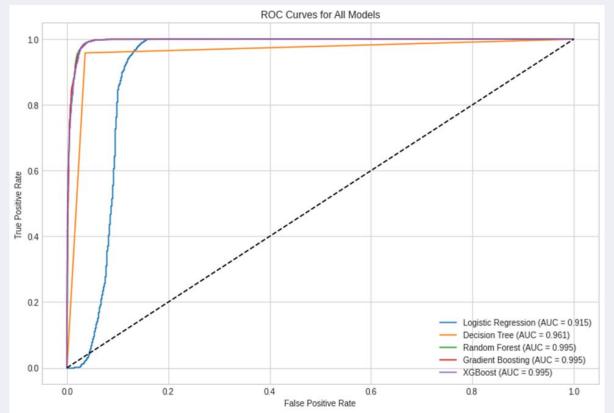


#### **XGBoost**

For optimized gradient boosting.







## Model Performance & Business Impact

97.58%

**XGBoost Accuracy** 

Best overall performance.

0.995

**ROC AUC** 

Exceptional discrimination ability.

3,010

**Defaults Predicted** 

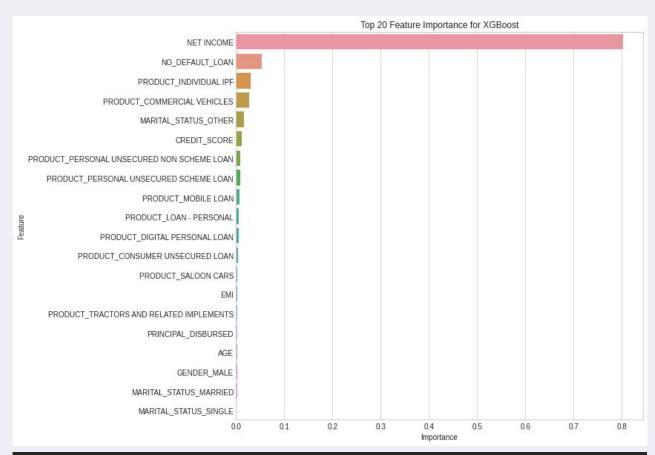
Out of 6,104 test cases.

155.97M

Net Value (Ksh)

Total business impact.

## **Key Insights**



#### Top 10 Important Features:

- 1. NET INCOME (0.803083) By far the most influential predictor
- 2. NO\_DEFAULT\_LOAN (0.053243) Previous loan performance
- 3. PRODUCT\_INDIVIDUAL IPF (0.029323)
- 4. PRODUCT\_COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (0.027311)
- 5. MARITAL\_STATUS\_OTHER (0.015945)
- 6. CREDIT SCORE (0.011784)
- 7. PRODUCT\_PERSONAL UNSECURED NON SCHEME LOAN (0.008060)
- 8. PRODUCT\_PERSONAL UNSECURED SCHEME LOAN (0.008030)
- 9. PRODUCT\_MOBILE LOAN (0.007030)
- 10. PRODUCT\_LOAN PERSONAL (0.004991)

#### **Income is Paramount**

Net income is the strongest predictor (80.3% importance).

#### **Product Risk Varies**

Commercial vehicles and mobile loans need close monitoring by the financial institutions that provide them

#### **Employment Matters**

Self-employed borrowers show higher risk profiles.

#### **Prior Behavior Predicts**

Previous defaults strongly indicate future risk (5.3% importance).



## Recommendations & Next Steps

- 1. **Include Enhanced Features:** Incorporate macroeconomic indicators and consumer behavior metrics.
- 2. **Explainability:** Implement SHAP values for transparent risk explanations to customers
- 3. **Default Prevention:** Develop early intervention programs for high-risk customers
- **4. Deployment:** Integrate model into loan approval workflows with A/B testing.