FINANCIAL DATA MINING

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In this project, we plan to predict real-time online shopper behavior analysis system i.e. whether the user will be purchasing something from an e-commerce site. There is a constant need for e-commerce sites to improve their model based on how much time user is spending while surfing the net and the period at which he is doing it, which causes a need for such model to arise. We have used 5 models for this: Naive Bayes, Logistic Regression, decision trees, random forest, and XGboost.

PROBLEM

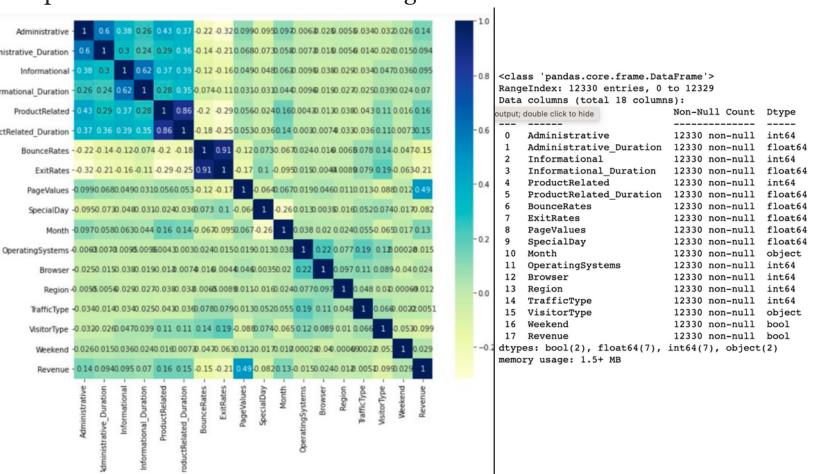
Purchase prediction has an important role for decision making in e-commerce to improve consumer experience, provide personalized recommendations and increase revenue. Many works investigated purchase prediction for session logs by analysis of users' behavior to predict purchase intention after a session has ended. In most cases, e-shoppers prefer to be anonymous while browsing the websites and after a session has ended, identifying users and offering discounts can be challenging. Therefore, after a session ends, predicting purchase intention may not be useful for the e-commerce strategists.

CUSTOMER INTENT PREDICTION

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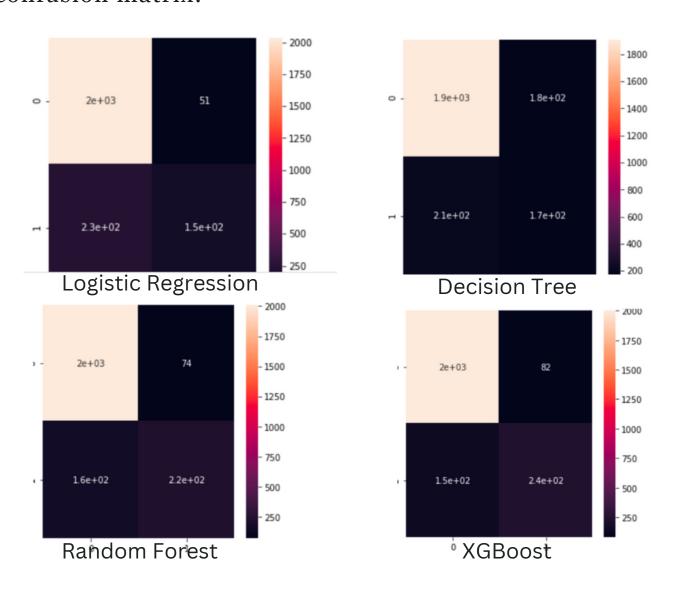
ABOUT THE DATA

This project covers Online shoppers purchase intention dataset: (https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Online+Shoppers+Purchasing+Intention+Dataset) The dataset consists of feature vectors belonging to 12,330 sessions and was formed in such a way that each session would belong to a different user in a 1-year period to avoid any tendency to a specific campaign, special day, user profile or period. Below is the correlation plot and some more important information to look at glance.

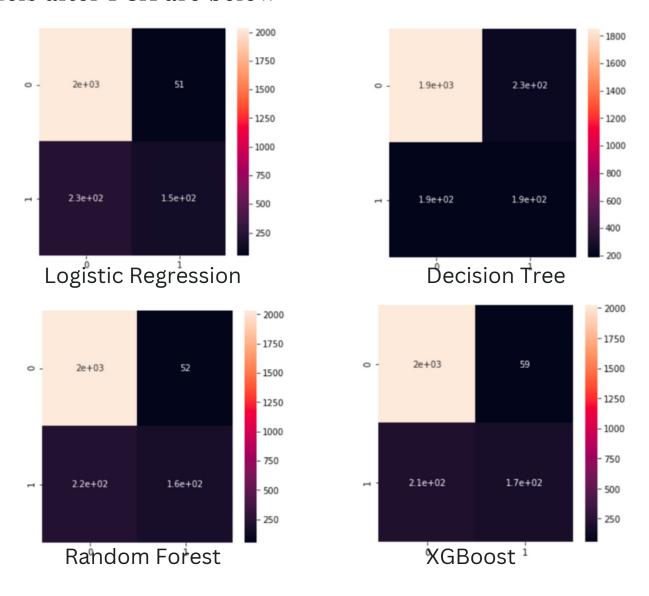


METHODOLOGY

We decided to do an 80-20 split between training and test data set. Parameters such as f1 score, accuracy, misclassification error, etc. would be calculated. Normalization has been done on dataset to change the value of numeric columns to a common scale. Below are the confusion matrix:



We have also used Principle Component Analysis (PCA) which is a common feature extraction method in data science. Technically, PCA finds the eigenvectors of a covariance matrix with the highest eigenvalues and then uses those to project the data into a new subspace of equal or less dimensions. The confusion matrix for models after PCA are below



FINDINGS & EVALUATION

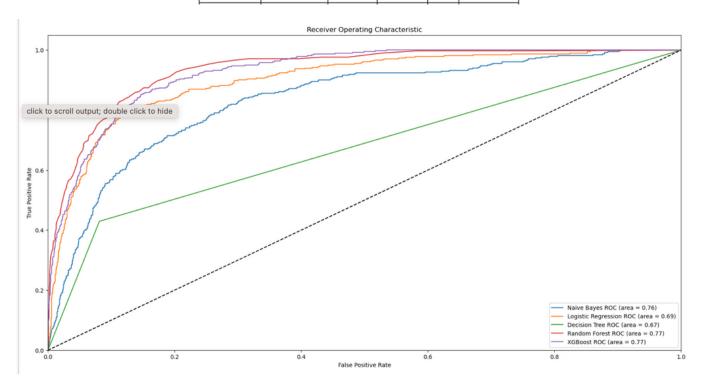
Accuracy: Accuracy determines the number of correct predictions over the total number of predictions made by the model. The formula of accuracy is- Accuracy = (TP+TN)/(TP+TN+FP+FN).

Sensitivity: Classifier's performance to spot positive results is related by Sensitivity. Sensitivity is calculated as follows Precision = TP/(TP+FN).

Specificity: Classifier's performance to spot negative results is related by Specificity. Specificity is calculated as follows: TN/(TN+FP).

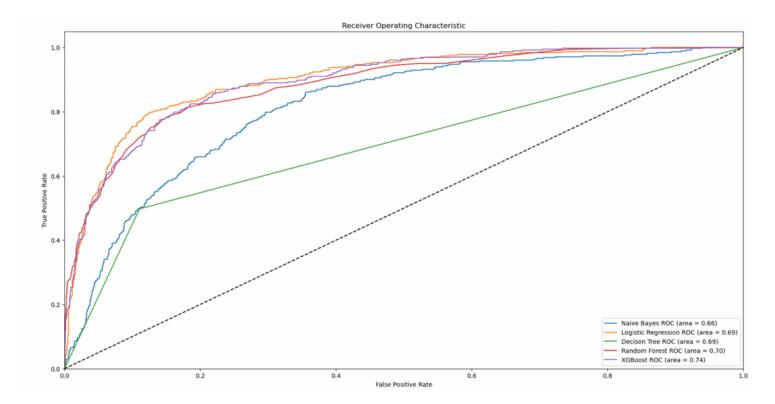
Comparing the 5 models on the basis of success rate, tp rate, tn rate, fp rate and f1 score:

Algorithm	Success Rate	Tp rate (Sensitivity)	Tn rate (Specificity)	Fp rate	F1 score
Naïve Bayes	0.796	0.712	0.811	0.188	0.52
Logistic Regression	0.885	0.395	0.975	0.024	0.52
Decision Trees	0.843	0.445	0.916	0.083	0.47
Random Forest	0.904	0.575	0.964	0.035	0.65
XgBoost	0.907	0.617	0.960	0.039	0.67



Similar comparison can be done for the 5 models using PCA:

Algorithm	Success Rate	Tp rate	Tn rate	Fp rate	F1 score
		(Sensitivity)	(Specificity)		
Naïve Bayes	0.841	0.405	0.920	0.079	0.44
Logistic Regression	0.885	0.395	0.975	0.024	0.52
Decision Trees	0.827	0.492	0.888	0.111	0.47
Random Forest	0.889	0.421	0.975	0.024	0.54
XgBoost	0.890	0.445	0.971	0.028	0.56



CONCLUSION

The online shopping customer intention problem is a binary classification task, and we evaluated five models with two techniques: normalization and PCA. Based on metrics such as F1 score and ROC curve, XGBoost outperformed the other models with Random Forest as second the best model. For future work, additional feature extraction techniques like RFE and machine learning models such as neural networks could be explored to further improve the classification performance.