Credit Card Fraud Project

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1. Introduction and Overview

The dataset contains transactions made by credit cards in September 2013 by card-holders in two-day period. Of 284,807 valid transactions, 492 are listed as fraudulent. The variable 'Time' contains the seconds elapsed between each transaction and the first transaction in the dataset. The variable 'Amount' is the transaction value. The variable 'Class' is the response variable where 1 is a case of fraud and 0 is a valid transaction.

2. Dataset and Exploratory Analysis

The dataset for this project can be downloaded here:

https://www.kaggle.com/mlg-ulb/creditcardfraud

We will take a look on the dataset:

```
##
     Time
                     V1
                                    V2
                                                ٧3
                                                              ۷4
                                                                             ۷5
                                                                                           V6
## 1
         0 -1.3598071 -0.07278117 2.5363467
                                                     1.3781552 -0.33832077
                                                                                 0.46238778
## 2
            1.1918571
                          0.26615071 0.1664801
                                                     0.4481541
                                                                   0.06001765 -0.08236081
## 3
         1 -1.3583541 -1.34016307 1.7732093
                                                     0.3797796 -0.50319813
                                                                                 1.80049938
##
         1 -0.9662717 -0.18522601 1.7929933 -0.8632913 -0.01030888
                                                                                  1.24720317
## 5
                                                     0.4030339 - 0.40719338
         2 -1.1582331
                          0.87773675 1.5487178
                                                                                 0.09592146
## 6
         2 -0.4259659
                          0.96052304 1.1411093 -0.1682521
                                                                   0.42098688 -0.02972755
##
                ۷7
                               ٧8
                                            ۷9
                                                                        V11
                                                                                      V12
                                                          V10
      0.23959855
                     0.09869790
                                    0.3637870
                                                 0.09079417 -0.5515995-0.61780086
## 1
  2 -0.07880298
                     0.08510165 -0.2554251 -0.16697441
                                                                1.6127267
                                                                              1.06523531
## 3
      0.79146096
                     0.24767579 -1.5146543
                                                 0.20764287
                                                                0.6245015
                                                                              0.06608369
      0.23760894
##
                     0.37743587 -1.3870241 -0.05495192 -0.2264873
   4
                                                                              0.17822823
## 5
      0.59294075 -0.27053268
                                    0.8177393
                                                 0.75307443 -0.8228429
                                                                              0.53819555
## 6
      0.47620095
                     0.26031433 -0.5686714 -0.37140720
                                                                1.3412620
                                                                              0.35989384
##
              V13
                           V14
                                         V15
                                                      V16
                                                                     V17
                                                                                    V18
## 1 -0.9913898 -0.3111694
                                    1.4681770
                                                -0.4704005
                                                               0.20797124
                                                                           0.02579058
## 2
          0.4890950 -0.1437723
                                    0.6355581
                                                 0.4639170
                                                              -0.11480466 -0.18336127
## 3
          0.7172927 -0.1659459
                                    2.3458649
                                                -2.8900832
                                                               1.10996938 -0.12135931
## 4
          0.5077569 -0.2879237
                                  -0.6314181
                                                -1.0596472
                                                              -0.68409279
                                                                           1.96577500
## 5
          1.3458516 -1.1196698
                                    0.1751211
                                                -0.4514492
                                                              -0.23703324 -0.03819479
## 6 -0.3580907 -0.1371337
                                    0.5176168
                                                 0.4017259
                                                              -0.05813282
                                                                           0.06865315
##
               V19
                              V20
                                              V21
                                                              V22
                                                                             V23
## 1
         0.40399296
                        0.25141210 -0.018306778
                                                    0.277837576
                                                                   -0.11047391
## 2
       -0.14578304 -0.06908314
                                   -0.225775248
                                                   -0.638671953
                                                                    0.10128802
## 3
       -2.26185710
                       0.52497973
                                    0.247998153
                                                    0.771679402
                                                                    0.90941226
## 4
       -1.23262197 -0.20803778
                                   -0.108300452
                                                    0.005273597
                                                                   -0.19032052
## 5
         0.80348692
                       0.40854236
                                  -0.009430697
                                                    0.798278495
                                                                   -0.13745808
## 6
        -0.03319379
                       0.08496767 -0.208253515
                                                   -0.559824796
                                                                   -0.02639767
##
                             V25
                                          V26
                                                          V27
                                                                                        Class
                V24
                                                                         V28 Amount
## 1
         0.06692807
                     0.1285394
                                   -0.1891148
                                                0.133558377
                                                               -0.02105305 149.62
                                                                                           0
## 2
        -0.33984648
                     0.1671704
                                   0.1258945
                                               -0.008983099
                                                                0.01472417
                                                                                2.69
                                                                                           0
## 3
                                                                                           0
        -0.68928096 -0.3276418
                                   -0.1390966
                                               -0.055352794
                                                               -0.05975184 378.66
## 4
       -1.17557533
                     0.6473760
                                   -0.2219288
                                                0.062722849
                                                                0.06145763 123.50
                                                                                           0
## 5
         0.14126698 -0.2060096
                                   0.5022922
                                                                               69.99
                                                                                           0
                                                0.219422230
                                                                0.21515315
## 6
        -0.37142658 -0.2327938
                                   0.1059148
                                                0.253844225
                                                                0.08108026
                                                                                3.67
                                                                                           0
```

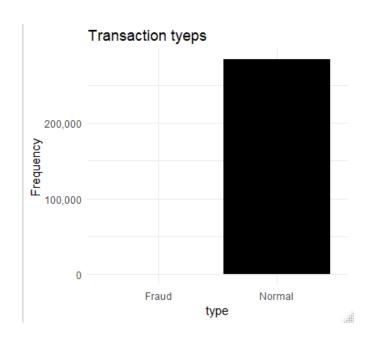
To better understand the data we present a data dictionary of the 31 variables in the dataset.

- **Time** the number of seconds elapsed between this transaction and the first transaction in the dataset
- V1-V28 result of a PCA Dimensionality reduction to protect user identities and sensitive features
- **Amount** the dollar value of the transaction
- **Class** 1 for fraudulent transactions, 0 for Normal transactions

Dimension of the dataset Length Columns 284807 31

We want to see how many transactions are fraudulent compared to how many are Normal. 0 is defined as a Normal transaction, and 1 is defined as a fraudulent transaction.

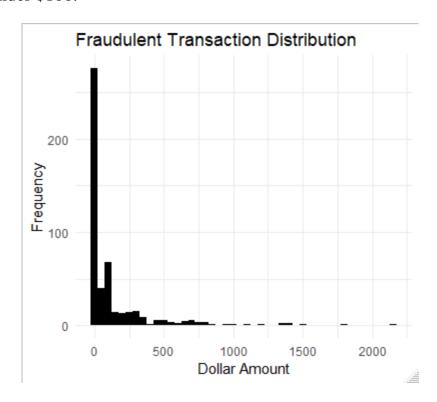
To see the data, we plot a bar graph of the frequency of fraud verses valid credit card transactions.



```
##
    Min.
         :-48.3256
                        Min.
                             :-5.68317
                                            Min. :-113.74331
##
    1st Qu.: -0.8904
                        1st Qu.:-0.84864
                                            1st Qu.:
                                                      -0.69160
    Median:
                        Median :-0.01985
                                            Median:
              0.1799
                                                      -0.05434
    Mean
              0.0000
                        Mean
                              : 0.00000
                                            Mean
                                                       0.00000
                                            3rd Qu.:
##
    3rd Qu.:
              1.0272
                        3rd Qu.: 0.74334
                                                       0.61193
                                            Max.
                                                      34.80167
##
    Max.
              9.3826
                        Max.
                              :16.87534
                                                  ٧8
##
          V6
                              ٧7
##
    Min.
           :-26.1605
                        Min.
                               :-43.5572
                                            Min.
                                                   :-73.21672
##
    1st Qu.: -0.7683
                        1st Qu.: -0.5541
                                            1st Qu.: -0.20863
##
    Median: -0.2742
                        Median: 0.0401
                                            Median:
                                                      0.02236
                              : 0.0000
##
    Mean : 0.0000
                        Mean
                                            Mean :
                                                      0.00000
                        3rd Qu.:
##
    3rd Qu.:
              0.3986
                                  0.5704
                                            3rd Qu.:
                                                      0.32735
##
    Max. : 73.3016
                             :120.5895
                                            Max. : 20.00721
                        Max.
##
          V9
                              V10
                                                   V11
##
          :-13.43407
                         Min. :-24.58826
                                              Min.
                                                   :-4.79747
##
    1st Qu.: -0.64310
                         1st Qu.: -0.53543
                                              1st Qu.:-0.76249
##
    Median: -0.05143
                         Median: -0.09292
                                              Median :-0.03276
##
    Mean : 0.00000
                         Mean : 0.00000
                                              Mean : 0.00000
    3rd Qu.:
              0.59714
                         3rd Qu.: 0.45392
                                              3rd Qu.: 0.73959
    Max. : 15.59500
                         Max. : 23.74514
##
                                              Max. :12.01891
##
        V12
                            V13
                                                V14
    Min. :-18.6837
                        Min.
                             :-5.79188
                                            Min.
                                                 :-19.2143
##
    1st Qu.: -0.4056
                        1st Qu.:-0.64854
                                            1st Qu.: -0.4256
                        Median :-0.01357
                                            Median:
##
    Median:
              0.1400
                                                      0.0506
                        Mean : 0.00000
              0.0000
##
    Mean :
                                            Mean
                                                 : 0.0000
    3rd Qu.:
##
              0.6182
                        3rd Qu.: 0.66251
                                            3rd Qu.:
                                                      0.4931
##
    Max. : 7.8484
                        Max. : 7.12688
                                            Max.
                                                 : 10.5268
##
        V15
                            V16
                                                  V17
##
         :-4.49894
                             :-14.12985
                                                  :-25.16280
    Min.
                        Min.
                                             Min.
    1st Qu.:-0.58288
##
                        1st Qu.: -0.46804
                                             1st Qu.: -0.48375
##
    Median: 0.04807
                        Median:
                                 0.06641
                                             Median: -0.06568
    Mean : 0.00000
                        Mean : 0.00000
                                             Mean : 0.00000
##
                                                       0.39968
##
    3rd Qu.: 0.64882
                        3rd Qu.:
                                  0.52330
                                             3rd Qu.:
##
    Max. : 8.87774
                        Max. : 17.31511
                                             Max. : 9.25353
         V18
                              V19
                                                   V20
##
##
    Min. :-9.498746
                              :-7.213527
                                              Min. :-54.49772
                         Min.
    1st Qu.:-0.498850
                         1st Qu.:-0.456299
                                              1st Qu.: -0.21172
##
    Median :-0.003636
                         Median: 0.003735
                                              Median: -0.06248
##
    Mean : 0.000000
                         Mean : 0.000000
                                              Mean : 0.00000
##
    3rd Qu.: 0.500807
                         3rd Qu.: 0.458949
                                              3rd Qu.:
                                                        0.13304
##
    Max. :5.041069
                              :5.591971
                                                    : 39.42090
                         Max.
                                              Max.
                                                    V23
##
         V21
                              V22
                           Min. :-10.933144
##
    Min. :-34.83038
                                                 Min. :-44.80774
##
    1st Qu.: -0.22839
                           1st Qu.: -0.542350
                                                  1st Qu.: -0.16185
    Median: -0.02945
                          Median: 0.006782
                                                 Median: -0.01119
##
    Mean : 0.00000
                          Mean : 0.000000
                                                 Mean : 0.00000
                                                 3rd Qu.: 0.14764
##
    3rd Qu.:
              0.18638
                          3rd Qu.:
                                     0.528554
                                                      : 22.52841
##
    Max.
           :27.20284
                           Max. : 10.503090
                                                 Max.
##
         V24
                             V25
                                                  V26
    Min.
                        Min. :-10.29540
##
           :-2.83663
                                             Min. :-2.60455
##
    1st Qu.:-0.35459
                        1st Qu.: -0.31715
                                             1st Qu.:-0.32698
##
    Median: 0.04098
                        Median:
                                  0.01659
                                             Median:-0.05214
    Mean : 0.00000
                        Mean :
                                  0.00000
                                             Mean : 0.00000
##
    3rd Qu.: 0.43953
                        3rd Qu.:
                                  0.35072
                                             3rd Qu.: 0.24095
```

```
##
            : 4.58455
                          Max.
                                  : 7.51959
                                                 Max.
                                                        : 3.51735
    Max.
##
          V27
                                  V28
                                                        Amount
##
            :-22.565679
                              Min.
                                      :-15.43008
                                                    Min.
                                                                  0.00
    Min.
##
    1st Qu.: -0.070840
                                1st Qu.: -0.05296
                                                   1st Qu.:
                                                                 5.60
##
    Median:
                0.001342
                              Median:
                                         0.01124
                                                    Median:
                                                                 22.00
    Mean
                0.000000
                              Mean
                                         0.00000
                                                    Mean
                                                                 88.35
##
                              3rd Qu.:
                                         0.07828
                                                    3rd Qu.:
    3rd Qu.:
                0.091045
                                                                 77.17
##
    Max.
            :31.612198
                              Max.
                                     : 33.84781
                                                     Max.
                                                             :25691.16
##
         Class
##
    Min.
            :0.000000
##
    1st Qu.:0.000000
##
    Median: 0.000000
            :0.001728
##
    Mean
##
    3rd Qu.:0.000000
    Max.
            :1.000000
```

We want to investigate the dollar amounts of fraud. Here we plot all the fraudulent transaction by amount. This plot shows a massive skew toward transactions under \$100.



| Amount | count |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1.00 | 113 |
| 0.00 | 27 |
| 99.99 | 27 |
| 0.76 | 17 |
| 0.77 | 10 |
| 0.01 | 5 |
| 2.00 | 4 |
| 3.79 | 4 |
| 0.68 | 3 |
| 1.10 | 3 |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |

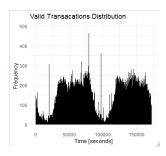
We can also investigate what are the most common valid transactions in the dataset.

| Amount | count |
|--------|-------|
| 1.00 | 1357 |
| | 5 |
| 1.98 | 6044 |
| 0.89 | 4872 |
| 9.99 | 4746 |
| 15.00 | 3280 |
| 0.76 | 2981 |
| 10.00 | 2950 |
| 1.29 | 2892 |
| 1.79 | 2622 |
| 0.99 | 2304 |
| | |

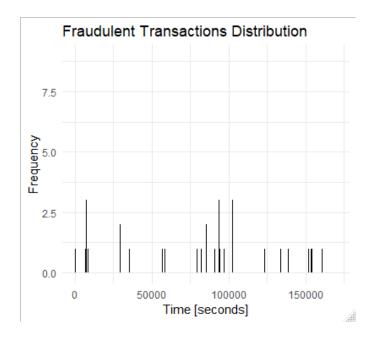
An interesting observation is that \$1 is the most common fraudulent and valid transaction. In fact the chance of a transaction of \$1 being fraud is almost five times higher than other transactions in the data set.

Another very interesting observations is that a transactions of \$99.99 is the 98th most common valid trans- actions with 303 transactions, but is tied for second of fraudulent transactions with 27. This means that ~9% of \$99.99 transactions in the data set are fraudulent!

We can plot a distribution of valid transactions over time. This plot has a clear episodic distribution. This makes sense since a day has 86,400 seconds, which is the approximate period of this distribution. The punchline is that most transactions occur during the day, while fewer transactions occur at night. There is a clear spike of outlier transactions near the trough of the graph. We surmise that these spikes correlate to automated transactions that are processed a little before the close of midnight or shortly after midnight. An example of automated transactions would be monthly recurring bills set to autopay.



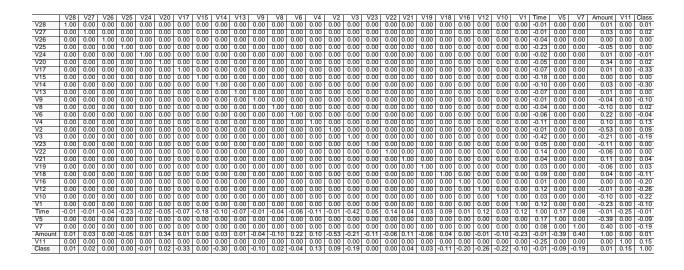
Similarly, to the distribution of valid transactions, we can plot the distribution of fraudulent transactions over time. The lack of any clear episodic distribution indicates that fraud can occur at any time.



To note: Without performing Fourier analysis (such as a Fast Fourier Transform) on this data, we do not know with certainty that fraudulent transactions are non-episodic. This analysis is beyond the scope of this project, and the frequency distribution plotted above will suffice to show that fraudulent transactions are not episodic and can occur at any point in time.

We want to calculate the correlation between the variables and graph them. We first design a correlation matrix.

Here is a matrix of the correlation between the 31 distinct variables.



Further, we can plot the correlation. Notice how all the variables V1-V28 have very low correlation coefficients among each other, and especially low correlation with the 'Class' feature. This was already expected since the data was processed using PCA.

we established that fraud does not appear to coincide with a specific time of day, so the 'Time' variable will be removed from the dataset.

To verify the variable 'Time' has been removed, we can view the first six entries with the head() function.

| ## 1 | 1.1918571 -1.3583541 | ∨2 -0.07278117 2.53 0.26615071 0.16 -1.34016307 1.77 -0.18522601 1.79 0.87773675 1.54 0.96052304 1.14 | 64801 0.4481541 732093 0.3797796 929933 -0.8632913 987178 0.4030339 | -0.50319813 -0.01030888 -0.40719338 | V6 0.46238778 -0.08236081 1.80049938 1.24720317 0.09592146 -0.02972755 | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| ## ## 1 | V7 0.23959855 -0.07880298 0.79146096 0.23760894 0.59294075 0.47620095 V13 0.9913898 0.4890950 0.7172927 0.5077569 1.3458516 -0.3580907 V19 0.40399296 -0.14578304 -2.26185710 -1.23262197 0.80348692 -0.03319379 | V8 0.09869790 0.08510165 0.24767579 0.37743587 -0.27053268 0.26031433 V14 0.3111694 -0.1437723 -0.1659459 -0.2879237 -1.1196698 -0.1371337 V20 0.25141210 -0.06908314 0.52497973 -0.20803778 0.40854236 0.08496767 | V9 0.3637870 -0.2554251 -1.5146543 -1.3870241 0.8177393 -0.5686714 V15 1.4681770 0.6355581 2.3458649 -0.6314181 0.1751211 0.5176168 V21 -0.018306778 -0.225775248 0.247998153 -0.108300452 -0.009430697 -0.208253515 | V10 0.09079417 -0.16697441 0.20764287 -0.05495192 0.75307443 -0.37140720 V16 -0.4704005 0.4639170 -2.8900832 -1.0596472 -0.4514492 0.4017259 V22 0.277837576 -0.638671953 0.771679402 0.005273597 0.798278495 -0.559824796 | V11 -0.5515995 1.6127267 0.6245015 -0.2264873 -0.8228429 1.3412620 V17 0.20797124 -0.11480466 1.10996938 -0.68409279 -0.23703324 -0.05813282 V23 -0.11047391 0.10128802 0.90941226 -0.19032052 -0.13745808 -0.02639767 | V12 -0.61780086 1.06523531 0.06608369 0.17822823 0.53819555 0.35989384 V18 0.02579058 -0.18336127 -0.12135931 1.96577500 -0.03819479 0.06865315 V24 0.06692807 -0.33984648 -0.68928096 -1.17557533 0.14126698 -0.37142658 |
| ## 1 | V25 0.12853 0.16717 -0.32764 0.64737 -0.20600 -0.23279 | | 48 0.133558377 45 -0.008983099 66 -0.055352794 88 0.062722849 22 0.219422230 | V28 -0.02105305 0.01472417 -0.05975184 0.06145763 0.21515315 0.08108026 | Amount 149.62 2.69 378.66 123.50 69.99 3.67 | Class 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 |

II. Methods and Analysis

For this report we will investigate four models: The Naive Model, the Naive Bayes Model, the K-Nearest Neighbor Model, and the Random Forest Model.

III.A. Naive Model

The first model we design is the Naive Model. This model makes the simple prediction that every transaction is a valid transaction and that there are no fraudulent transactions. This will serve as our first attempt in trying to better the model.

III.B. Naive Bayes Model

The Naive Bayes Model is a model that applies Bayes' theorem with strong (naive) independence assumptions between the features. We build the model with the 'Class' (i.e. whether the transaction is valid or fraud) as the target and with the remaining variables are predictors.

III.c. K-Nearest Neighbor

The K-Nearest Neighbors algorithm (KNN) is a non-parametric method used for classification where the input consists of the k closest training examples in the feature space. In KNN classification (determining if the transaction was valid or fraud), the output is a class membership. An object is classified by a plurality vote of its neighbors, with the object being assigned to the class most common among its k nearest neighbors. Several values of k were tested and 5 was chosen as a value that provided the best results. In this model, 'Class' is the target and all other variables are predictors.

III.D. Random Forest

The Random Forest algorithm (sometimes called Random Decision Forests) is an algorithm of machine learning were an ensemble learning method for classification operates by constructing a multitude of decision trees at training time and outputting the class that is the mode of the classification of the individual trees. These trees are a decision tree that goes from observations about an item (represented in the branches) to conclusions about the item's target value (represented in the leaves). For

this model, 'Class' (whether a transaction is valid or fraud) is the target, and all other variables are predictors. In this model we define the number of trees to be 500.

III. Results

Prior to our computations, we partition the dataset into a training set, a test set, and a cross validation set.

IV.A. Naive Model

When we plot sensitivty and specificty for the Naive Model, we obtain a straight diagonal line, as expected. The Area Under the Curve (AUC) for this model yields 0.5.

Secificity

AUC: 0.5

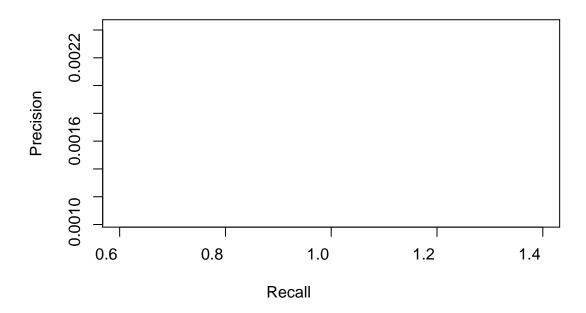
Seusitivity

O: 0.0

Specificity

No line is generated for the Area Under the Precision Recall Curve (AUPRC) since these values are zero.

AUPRC: 0



We save our results from our first model in a data frame and display them.

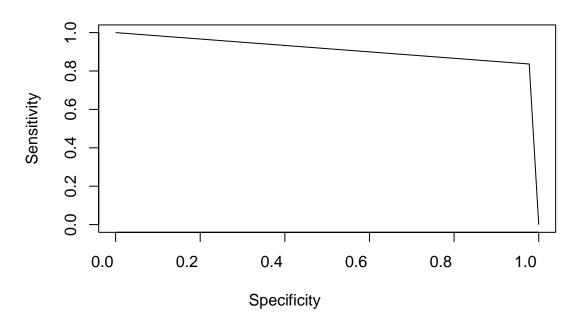
| Model | AUC | AUPRC |
|-------|-----|-------|
| Naive | 0.5 | 0 |

Although this model has an accuracy ~99.8%, it has a AUPRC of 0, and therefore is comepletely useless for our task at hand.

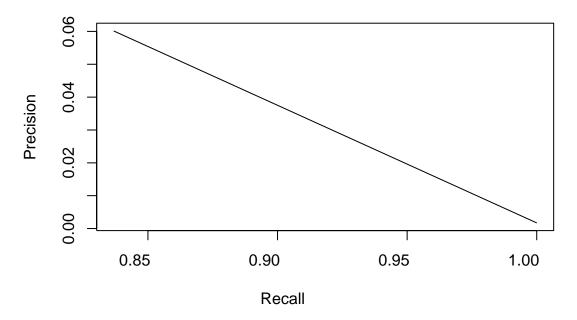
IV.B. Naive Bayes Model

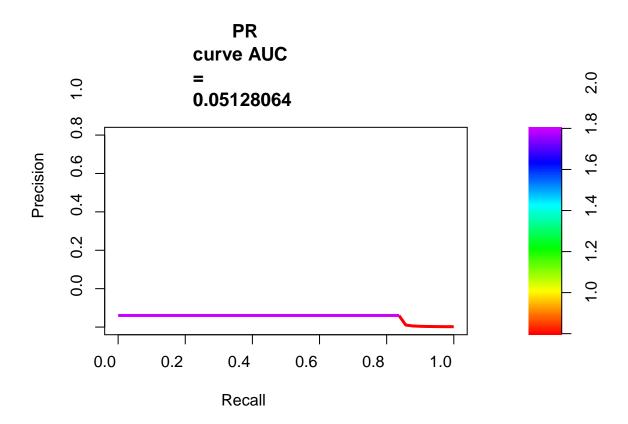
The AUC for sensitivity versus specificity for the Naive Bayes Model is greatly improved compared to the Naive Model alone. Additionally, the AUPRC improves (albeit marginally) to just 0.05. We can improve on this with the following two models.

AUC: 0.907103431914946



AUPRC: 0.051280635616542





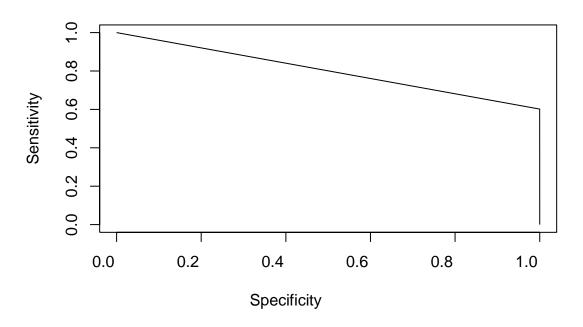
We save our results from our Naive Bayes Model in a data frame and display them with previous results.

| Model | AUC | AUPRC |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Naive | 0.5000000 | 0.0000000 |
| Naive | 0.9071034 | 0.0512806 |
| Bayes | | |

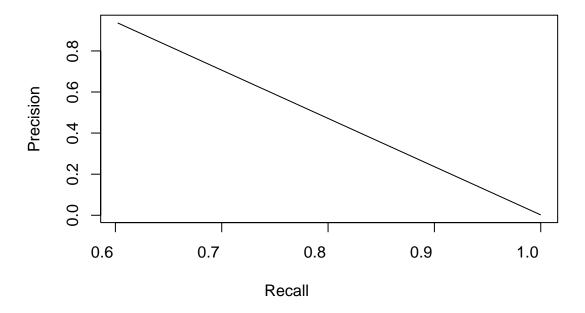
IV.C. K-Nearest Neighbor

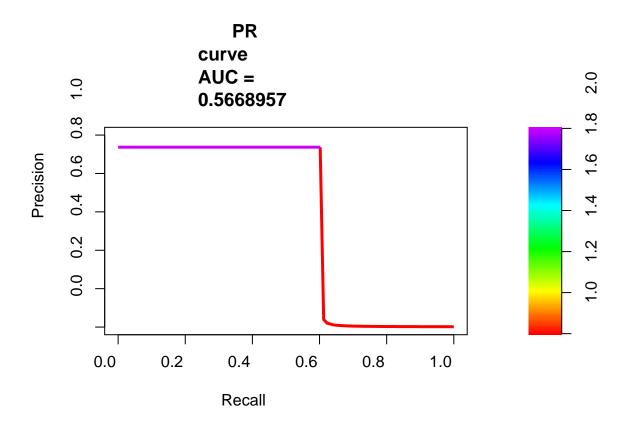
For the K Nearest Neighbors, we have a small reduction for our AUC when looking at sensitivity versus specificity compared to the Naive Bayes Model, but a substantial improvement on precision versus recall in our AUPRC. This value of 0.56 is still low. We would like to achieve an AUC for precision versus recall close to 0.8.

AUC: 0.800985235907141



AUPRC: 0.566895701633174





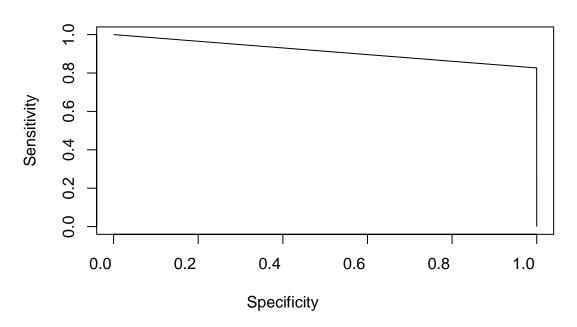
We save our results from our K-Nearest Neighbor Model in a data frame and display them with previous results.

| Model | AUC | AUPRC |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Naive | 0.5000000 | 0.0000000 |
| Naive Bayes | 0.9071034 | 0.0512806 |
| K-Nearest Neighbors | 0.8009852 | 0.5668957 |

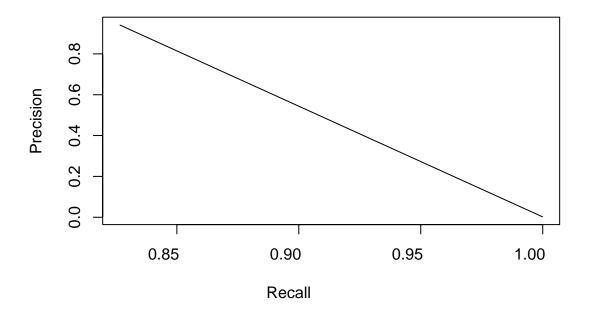
IV.D. Random Forest

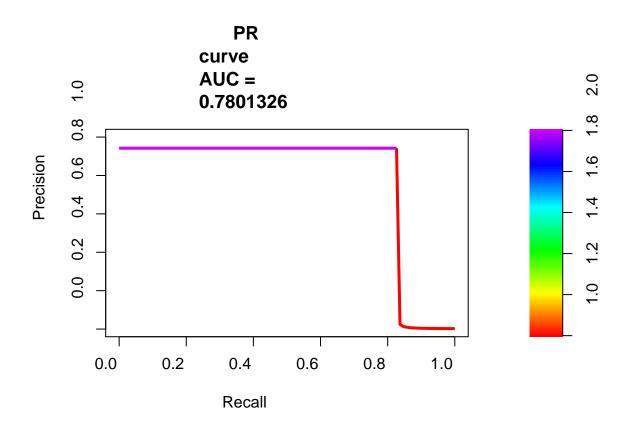
For our Random Forest Model, we not only obtain the best AUC for sensitivity versus specificity (0.91), but we also obtain the best AUC for precision versus recall (0.78). Out of the models developed and trained, this model is the most accurate for our task at hand. The use of 500 trees for this algorithm worked well.

AUC: 0.913221340802293



AUPRC: 0.78013263485615





We save our results from our Random Forest Model in a data frame and display them with previous results.

| Model | AUC | AUPRC |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Naive | 0.5000000 | |
| Naive Bayes | 0.9071034 | 0.0512806 |
| K-Nearest Neighbors | 0.8009852 | |
| Random Forest | 0.9132213 | 0.7801326 |

IV. Conclusion

In this report we seek to address credit card fraud using a machine learning approach. Since credit card fraud is very rare compared to the volume of valid transactions, we are posed with a machine learning problem that utilizes the accuracy of the model by calculating the Area Under the Precision-Recall Curve as opposed to a more traditional method such as a confusion matrix.

Four models were developed and each was tested with a dataset of credit card transactions provided by Kaggle. Here we again present the findings from the four models utilized for this report.

| Model | AUC | AUPRC |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Naive | 0.5000000 | 0.0000000 |
| Naive Bayes | 0.9071034 | 0.0512806 |
| | 0.8009852 | |
| Random Forest | 0.9132213 | 0.7801326 |

The end