Credit Score Classification

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Introduction and background

A common problem in the finance and banking industry is assessing the risk involved in lending someone money. Typically, a credit score is used to determine whether a person is a stable borrower or not. This can be a difficult task with many factors to take into account when deciding someone's credit score.

Literature review

One of the first fields machine learning techniques were tested in was economics, particularly credit scoring. Researchers have utilized a variety of machine learning algorithms to predict credit scores and risk. Common machine learning algorithms used include logistic regression, support vector machines (SVM), and decision trees. This section contains relevant work by researchers.

Dumitrescu et. al. used a particular model for credit score classification with an improved logistic regression model that has non-linear decision tree effects. They created the penalised logistic tree regression, which predicted credit score more accurately than the benchmark logistic model commonly used in industry. The datasets they used to test the robustness of the model —— Additionally, they argue that this model preserves the interpretability of logistic regression, an aspect that makes logistic regression popular in industry. Lei et.al. compare the performance of various models for predicting the probability of default.

Dataset description and exploratory data analysis

The dataset contains 27 features. The features we will be focusing on in order to classify a person's credit score, which is categorical, into either "good", "standard", or "poor" credit will be features that had the most correlation with credit score according to the heat map generated from this data and features used in real-life credit score assessing. Although the Credit_Utilization_Ratio has little correlation to credit score, this feature is used to assess credit in real life, so we kept it. (Figure 1).

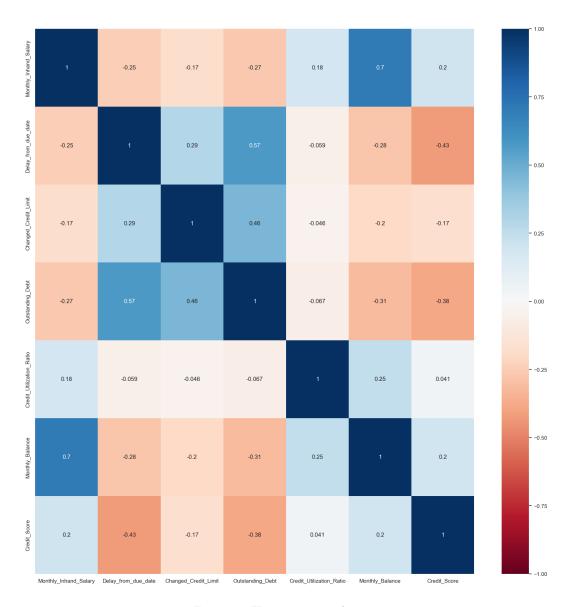


Figure 1: Heat map correlation.

Proposed methodology

From the literature review and the fact that this problem involves multiclassification, we decided to make and compare one SVM model and one multinomial logistic regression model. Additionally, we used Streamlit to host our model online.

Experimental results

Conclusion and discussion

References

Dataset

https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/parisrohan/credit-score-classification/data

Literature Review

Dumitrescu, E., Hué, S., Hurlin, C., & Tokpavi, S. (2022). Machine learning for credit scoring: Improving logistic regression with non-linear decision-tree effects. European Journal of Operational Research, 297(3), 1178-1192. doi:10.1016/j.ejor.2021.06.053

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