1 Customer Churn Analysis & Predictive Modeling for Syria Tel

1.1 Project Overview

Syria Tel is a telecommunication company- mobile network- provider in Syria, founded in 2000. Using the DataSet holding Syria Tel Customer Churn information available on Kaggle, this project aims to build a best in class Machine Learning Algorithm, that can predict which and how many customers will churn based on the information available on the dataset.

1.2 Business Understanding

As important to Telecommunications companies as it is to earn new customers to their services, is the need to retain current customers and preventing them from going to competitors. The act of leaving customers or loss of customers are referred to in this industry as "Churn", from a business perspective. The business would like to understand exactly what factors or situations contribute to churning, and most importantly, post identification of those factors, define precises strategic initiatives to retain customers. This project, therefore aims to help the business first in identifying the attributes and factors that cause the churn, and in turn, building models that can help the business predict it, so that in fact strategic business initiatives can be outlined for solution.

1.2.1 Business Modeling Objectives

- 1. Building a model than can predict who will churn with a high level of accuracy
- 2. Identifying important attributes or features that are key in predicting customer churn

1.2.2 Important Model Success Considerations

We are testing for churn. If a customer churns it means churn is positive. A negative is a no, the customer did not churn. What will be more important for this problem are a False Negatives, mening that our model labeled a customer as "not going to churn" when actually churned.

Recall therefore is an important metric in evaluating our model under False Negatives. Recall pertains to the rate at which the model makes correct predictions about customer churning. Aided by a C Matrix- the goal is to minimize false negatives. Failure to identify a customer who is about to churn is more costly from a business persepective, than wrongly classyging a non-churning customer. A good successful model therefore should have an 85% recall at the very least. Precision and accuracy are also metrics to have in mind.

2 EDA - Loading and Understanding the DataSet

In [1]: #install imblearn library

!pip install imbalanced-learn

Requirement already satisfied: imbalanced-learn in /Users/jonax/opt/ana conda3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (0.7.0)

Requirement already satisfied: scikit-learn>=0.23 in /Users/jonax/opt/a naconda3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (from imbalanced-le arn) (0.23.2)

Requirement already satisfied: joblib>=0.11 in /Users/jonax/opt/anacond a3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (from imbalanced-learn) (0.17.0)

Requirement already satisfied: scipy>=0.19.1 in /Users/jonax/opt/anacon da3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (from imbalanced-learn) (1.5.2)

Requirement already satisfied: numpy>=1.13.3 in /Users/jonax/opt/anacon da3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (from imbalanced-learn) (1.18.5)

Requirement already satisfied: threadpoolctl>=2.0.0 in /Users/jonax/op t/anaconda3/envs/learn-env/lib/python3.8/site-packages (from scikit-lea rn>=0.23->imbalanced-learn) (2.1.0)

In [2]: #import libraries

```
import pandas as pd
```

import numpy as np

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

import seaborn as sns

from sklearn.model selection import train test split, GridSearchCV

from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler

from imblearn.over sampling import SMOTE

from sklearn.linear model import LogisticRegression

from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, precision_score, recall_score

from sklearn.metrics import roc_curve, auc

from sklearn.metrics import classification report, confusion matrix, Conf

from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier

from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier

from sklearn.feature selection import RFECV

from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline

%matplotlib inline

In [3]: #loading DataSet first for preview and understanding
 customer_df= pd.read_csv('Data/Customer_churn.csv')
 customer_df.head()

Out[3]:

	state	account length	area code	phone number	international plan	voice mail plan	number vmail messages	total day minutes	total day calls	total day charge	 tota ev call:
0	KS	128	415	382- 4657	no	yes	25	265.1	110	45.07	 9!
1	ОН	107	415	371- 7191	no	yes	26	161.6	123	27.47	 10:
2	NJ	137	415	358- 1921	no	no	0	243.4	114	41.38	 111
3	ОН	84	408	375- 9999	yes	no	0	299.4	71	50.90	 8
4	ОК	75	415	330- 6626	yes	no	0	166.7	113	28.34	 12:

5 rows × 21 columns

In [4]: #Understanding database shape
 customer_df.shape

Out[4]: (3333, 21)

In [5]: #Understanding database information on nulls and data types customer_df.info()

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 3333 entries, 0 to 3332
Data columns (total 21 columns):

#	Column	Non-Null Count	D+mo
#	COTUMIT	Non-Null Count	Dtype
		222211	
0	state	3333 non-null	object
1	account length	3333 non-null	int64
2	area code	3333 non-null	int64
3	phone number	3333 non-null	object
4	international plan	3333 non-null	object
5	voice mail plan	3333 non-null	object
6	number vmail messages	3333 non-null	int64
7	total day minutes	3333 non-null	float64
8	total day calls	3333 non-null	int64
9	total day charge	3333 non-null	float64
10	total eve minutes	3333 non-null	float64
11	total eve calls	3333 non-null	int64
12	total eve charge	3333 non-null	float64
13	total night minutes	3333 non-null	float64
14	total night calls	3333 non-null	int64
15	total night charge	3333 non-null	float64
16	total intl minutes	3333 non-null	float64
17	total intl calls	3333 non-null	int64
18	total intl charge	3333 non-null	float64
19	customer service calls	3333 non-null	int64
20	churn	3333 non-null	bool
dtype	es: bool(1), float64(8),	int64(8), objec	t(4)
	ry usage: 524.2+ KB	, , ,	•
	-		

From the above we can conclude that of the 3333 rows and 21 columns, there are non-null values in each of the columns. We can change some value columns such as area code, from integer to object data type. And, we can check further.

```
In [6]: # convert area code from integer to string
    customer_df['area code'] = customer_df['area code'].astype(object)
    customer_df['area code'].dtype
Out[6]: dtype('0')
```

```
In [7]: #Checking for missing values
        customer_df.isna().sum()
Out[7]: state
                                    0
        account length
                                    0
        area code
                                    0
        phone number
                                    0
        international plan
                                    0
        voice mail plan
                                    0
        number vmail messages
                                    0
        total day minutes
                                    0
        total day calls
                                    0
        total day charge
                                    0
        total eve minutes
                                    0
        total eve calls
                                    0
        total eve charge
        total night minutes
                                    0
        total night calls
                                    0
        total night charge
                                    0
        total intl minutes
                                    0
        total intl calls
                                    0
        total intl charge
                                    0
        customer service calls
                                    0
        churn
                                    0
        dtype: int64
```

From the above, this database does not have missing values.

From the above we can conclude the database has no duplications in phone numbers.

3 EDA- Analysis & Statistics

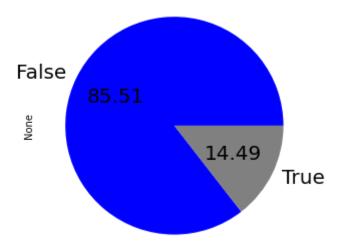
3.1 Churn Discovery

```
In [9]: # Discover churn and vizualize it
    customer_df['churn'].value_counts()

#chart
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10,5))
    customer_df.groupby('churn').size().plot(kind='pie', autopct='%.2f', text
    ax.set_title('Churn Rate', fontsize=18)
```

```
Out[9]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Churn Rate')
```

Churn Rate



We see that there is and imbalance in the churn rate. with approx 86% False and 14% True (they churn). Let's look at some stats and the distributions of statistics in the database

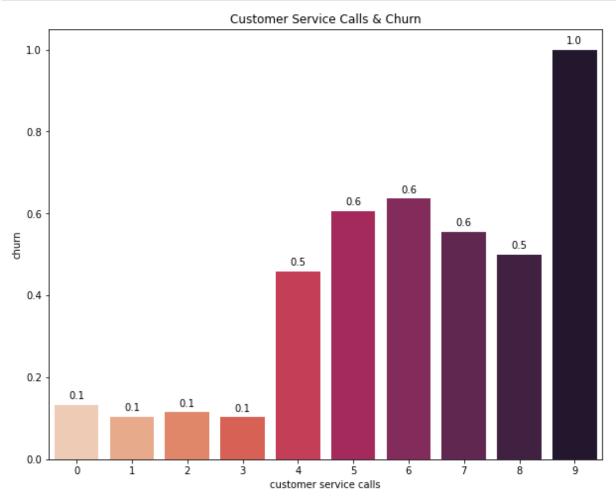
3.1.1 Call and churn discovery

We can look at the number of calls that make at which point customers will churn.

Out[20]:

count

customer service calls



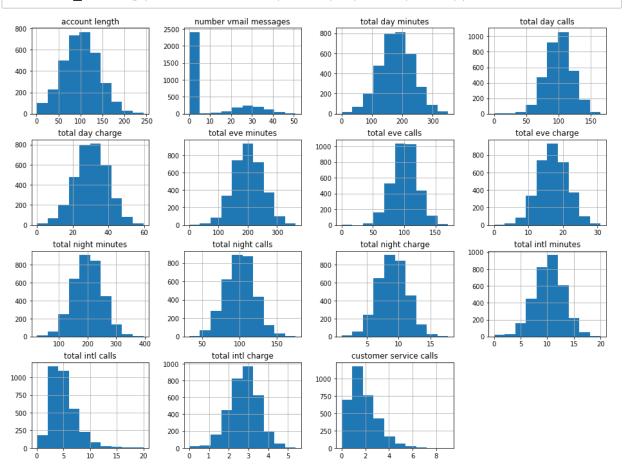
It takes about 4 calls, for customers to start churning, after that the probability of churning is above 50%

```
In [22]: # summary of statistics
customer_df.describe()
```

Out[22]:

	account length	number vmail messages	total day minutes	total day calls	total day charge	total eve minutes	total ev call:
count	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.00000
mean	101.064806	8.099010	179.775098	100.435644	30.562307	200.980348	100.11431
std	39.822106	13.688365	54.467389	20.069084	9.259435	50.713844	19.92262
min	1.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000
25%	74.000000	0.000000	143.700000	87.000000	24.430000	166.600000	87.00000
50%	101.000000	0.000000	179.400000	101.000000	30.500000	201.400000	100.00000
75%	127.000000	20.000000	216.400000	114.000000	36.790000	235.300000	114.00000
max	243.000000	51.000000	350.800000	165.000000	59.640000	363.700000	170.00000

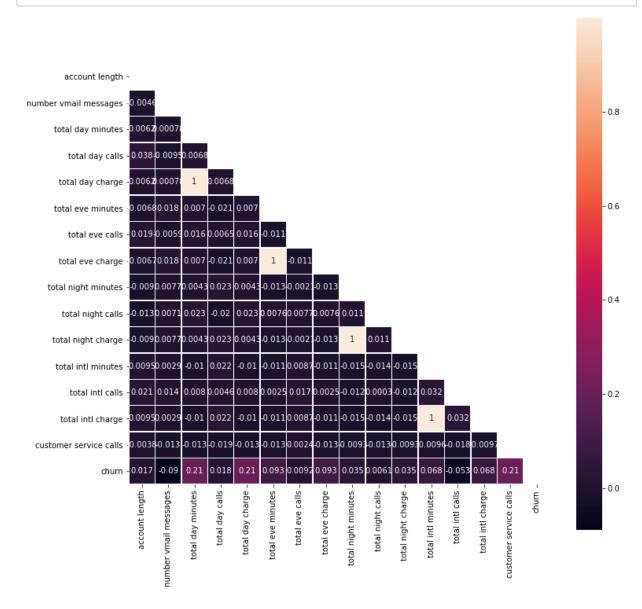
In [26]: customer_df.drop(columns='churn').hist(figsize=(16,12));



While some distributions are normal approximately. Some are not and scaling and normalization are needed.

3.2 Multivariate Analysis

```
In [27]: #Heatmap to show correlations
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12,12))
multi = np.triu(np.ones_like(customer_df.corr(), dtype=bool))
sns.heatmap(customer_df.corr(), linewidths=0.5, mask=multi, square=True,
```



Noting from the heatmap above four main views:

- 1) Perfect Correlations spotted: a) total day charge & total day minutes b) total even charge & total eve minutes c) total night charge & total nights minutes d) total international charge & total int. minutes One correlated variable from each of these pairs will have to be dropped from each pair to handle multicollinearity issues.
- 2) Churn Weak Positive Correlation with total day minutes, total day charge, and customer service calls have a weak positive correlation with churn.
- 3) Churn- almost 0 correlations with most of features with exception of point 2 above.

4 Preparing Data for Machine Learning

4.0.1 Managing Multicolinearity

```
In [28]: # .75 < multicolinearity pairs</pre>
          df = customer_df.corr().abs().stack().reset_index().sort_values(0, ascend
          df['pairs'] = list(zip(df.level 0, df.level 1))
          df.set_index(['pairs'], inplace = True)
          df.drop(columns=['level_1', 'level_0'], inplace = True)
          df.columns = ['cc']
          df.drop duplicates(inplace=True)
          df[(df.cc>.75) & (df.cc<1)]
Out[28]:
                                              CC
                                    pairs
             (total day charge, total day minutes) 1.000000
             (total eve charge, total eve minutes) 1.000000
           (total night minutes, total night charge) 0.999999
             (total intl charge, total intl minutes) 0.999993
In [29]: # dropping a few columns to address collinearity
          customer df = customer df.drop(columns = ['total day charge', 'total eve
          customer df.columns
Out[29]:
         Index(['state', 'account length', 'area code', 'phone number',
                  'international plan', 'voice mail plan', 'number vmail message
          s',
                  'total day minutes', 'total day calls', 'total eve minutes',
                  'total eve calls', 'total night minutes', 'total night calls',
                  'total intl minutes', 'total intl calls', 'customer service call
          s',
                  'churn'],
                dtype='object')
```

4.0.2 Performing a train-test split

```
In [30]: #predictor and target variables
    y= customer_df['churn']
    X= customer_df.drop(columns= ['churn','phone number'])
    #splitting data
    X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.25,
```

In [31]: #view into X_train head
X_train.head()

Out[31]:

	state	account length		international plan	voice mail plan	number vmail messages	total day minutes	total day calls	total eve minutes	eve	tot nig minut
1066	KS	117	510	no	yes	25	216.0	140	224.1	69	267
1553	CO	86	415	no	no	0	217.8	93	214.7	95	228
2628	TN	37	415	no	no	0	221.0	126	204.5	110	118
882	FL	130	415	no	no	0	162.8	113	290.3	111	114
984	NV	77	415	no	no	0	142.3	112	306.3	111	196

In [32]: #Transforming categorial variables.Creating dummy variables for the categorial train= pd.get_dummies (X_train, drop_first= True)
X_test = pd.get_dummies (X_test, drop_first= True)
X_train.head(3)

Out[32]:

	account length	number vmail messages	day		eve			night	intl		 state
1066	117	25	216.0	140	224.1	69	267.9	112	11.8	4	
1553	86	0	217.8	93	214.7	95	228.7	70	11.3	7	
2628	37	0	221.0	126	204.5	110	118.0	98	6.8	3	

3 rows × 65 columns

4.0.3 SMOTE

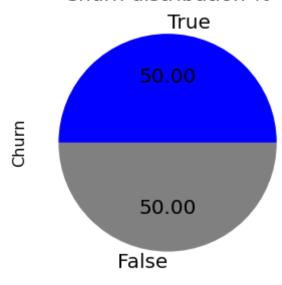
SMOTE is used to handle classes imbalance. We are trying to have a 50/50 split on into our training data(unlike what is seen in our Churn discovery entire data set of 86%False-14%True). Therefore resampling X_train and y_training sets, and fitting SMOTE to these training data.

```
In [33]: #fitting SMOTE to training data.
smote= SMOTE(random_state=123)
X_train_resampled, y_train_resampled = smote.fit_resample(X_train, y_trai)
#looking at the class distribution
print(pd.Series(y_train_resampled).value_counts())

#Visualize it
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 5))
y_train_resampled.value_counts().plot(kind='pie', autopct='%.2f', textpro ax.set_ylabel('Churn', fontsize=16)
ax.set_title('Churn distribution %', fontsize=20);
```

True 2127
False 2127
Name: churn, dtype: int64

Churn distribution %



In []:

Training sets churn distribution is balanced. Now we can ensure we don't have oversampled or undersampled. I can move forward to modeling the data.

5 Modeling Data

5.0.1 Metric Choice (Precision, Recall, Accuracy)

Choosing to measure Recall as the most appropiate for this kind of problem. False Negatives will cost more than False Positives. Not capturing someone who churned, loosing them as a customer while paying a cost to acquire another customer to replace the lost customer is the highest challenge. If we identified someone as churned, when in fact they didn't and we do however pay to retain that False Positive would be less costly.

5.0.2 Baseline: Logistic Regression

Using 'liblinear', as solver.

5.0.2.1 Confusion Matrix and Model Evaluation

```
#evaluating performance function & confusion matrix
In [35]:
         def evaluate(model, X test, y test):
             y train preds = model.predict(X train resampled)
             y test preds = model.predict(X test)
             print('Recall_score: ')
             print('Train: ', recall score(y train resampled, y train preds))
             print('Test: ', recall score(y test, y test preds))
             print('\nPrecision score: ')
             print('Train: ', precision score(y train resampled, y train preds))
             print('Test: ', precision score(y test, y test preds))
             print('\nAccuracy_score: ')
             print('Train: ', accuracy score(y train resampled, y train preds))
             print('Test: ', accuracy_score(y_test, y_test_preds))
             cm = confusion matrix(y test, y test preds, labels=model.classes )
             disp = ConfusionMatrixDisplay(confusion matrix=cm, display labels=mod
             disp.plot();
```

```
In [36]: #passing the evaluation function
    evaluate(pipe_log, X_test, y_test)
```

Recall_score:

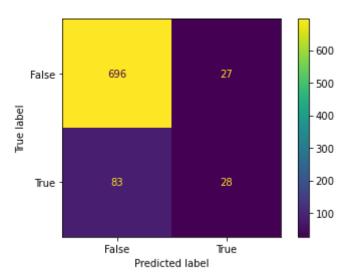
Train: 0.8556652562294311 Test: 0.25225225225223

Precision_score:

Train: 0.9494001043296818 Test: 0.509090909090909

Accuracy_score:

Train: 0.9050305594734368 Test: 0.86810551558753



There is a large number of false negatives, making the model perform poorly. The model is overfitting performing well on the training data but not on the test data. On test data there is good accuracy at 86%, but recall is extremely low at 25%.

5.1 Decision Tree Model

5.1.1 Importing library and scaling data

In [38]: #evaluate the performance of the model evaluate (pipe_dt, X_test, y_test)

Recall_score:
Train: 1.0

Test: 0.7567567567568

Precision_score:

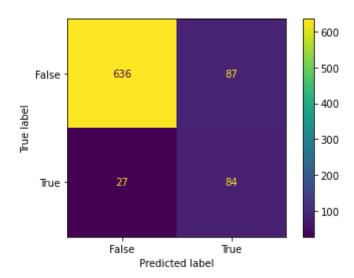
Train: 1.0

Test: 0.49122807017543857

Accuracy_score:

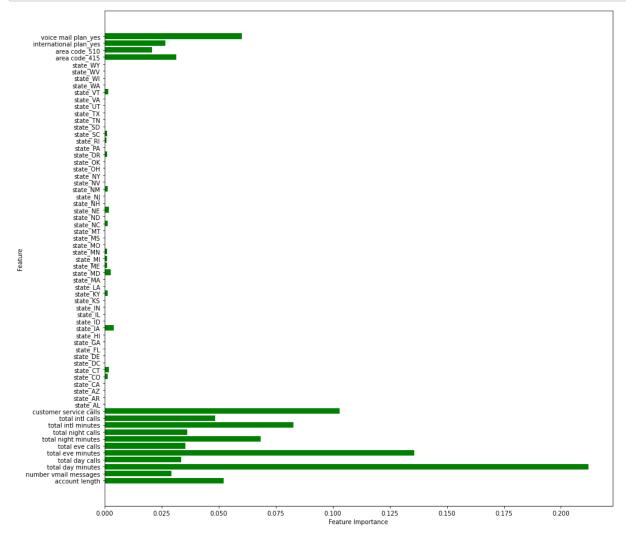
Train: 1.0

Test: 0.8633093525179856



Clearly the decision tree has a higher performance than the baseline. It is still however overfitting.

```
In [39]: #Finding out the features that most affect the decision tree for Feature
    def plot_feature_importances(pipe, figsize):
        model =pipe.steps[1][1]
        plt.figure(figsize=figsize)
        plt.barh(X_train_resampled.columns, model.feature_importances_, align
        plt.xlabel('Feature Importance')
        plt.ylabel('Feature')
plot_feature_importances(pipe_dt,(15,15))
```



Top 3 features affecting churn include: 1)total day minutes 2) total mins and 3) customer service calls

5.1.2 Recursive Feature

This feature along with cross-validation is used to seelct a subset of features used to build model

```
In [40]: # feature selection using RFECV
         rfecv = RFECV(estimator=DecisionTreeClassifier(random state=42), scoring=
         pipe dt2 = Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()), ('Feature Selections)
         pipe_dt2.fit(X train resampled, y train resampled)
Out[40]: Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()),
                          ('Feature Selection',
                          RFECV(estimator=DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=4
         2),
                                scoring='recall')),
                          ('clf', DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=42))])
In [41]: # optimal number of features selected via cross-validation
         print(f'Optimal # features: {rfecv.n_features_}' )
         Optimal # features: 15
In [42]: # selected features (assigned a rank of 1)
         rfecv_df = pd.DataFrame(rfecv.ranking_,index=X_train_resampled.columns,co
         rfecv_df[rfecv_df['Rank'] == 1]
Out[42]:
                            Rank
```

account length	1
area code_510	1
area code_415	1
international plan_yes	1
customer service calls	1
total intl calls	1
total intl minutes	1
voice mail plan_yes	1
total night minutes	1
total eve calls	1
total eve minutes	1
number vmail messages	1
total day minutes	1
total day calls	1
total night calls	1

```
In [43]: # remove columns that are not part of the optimal features
    cols = rfecv_df[rfecv_df['Rank'] == 1].index
    X_train_resampled = X_train_resampled[cols]
    X_test = X_test[cols]
    X_train_resampled.head(2)
```

Out[43]:

	account length	area code_510		international plan_yes	customer service calls	intl	intl	voice mail plan_yes	night	
0	117	1	0	0	0	4	11.8	1	267.9	69
1	86	0	1	0	0	7	11.3	0	228.7	95

5.1.3 Hyperparameters testing in Decision Tree Model

In decision treee model the hyperparameters include max_depth, min_samples_leaf, min_sample_split, help the model be better tuned to stop the model from overfitting.

```
In [44]: #Using Gridsearch for Hyperparameters
         # hyperparameter tuning using GridSearchCV
         params_dt = {'clf__criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'],
                      'clf max depth': range(14, 32, 2),
                      'clf min samples split': range(2, 10, 2),
                      'clf min samples leaf': [2, 3, 5, 7, 10],
                      'clf max features': [11, 13, 15]
         }
         gridsearch dt = GridSearchCV(pipe dt, params dt, cv=4, scoring='recall')
         gridsearch dt.fit(X train resampled, y train resampled)
Out[44]: GridSearchCV(cv=4,
                      estimator=Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()),
                                                 ('clf',
                                                 DecisionTreeClassifier(criterio
         n='entropy',
                                                                         random s
         tate=42))]),
                      param grid={'clf criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'],
                                   'clf max depth': range(14, 32, 2),
                                  'clf max features': [11, 13, 15],
                                   'clf__min_samples_leaf': [2, 3, 5, 7, 10],
                                  'clf min samples split': range(2, 10, 2)},
                      scoring='recall')
```

```
In [45]:
         # parameters that gave the best result
         print(f'Optimal parameters: {gridsearch dt.best params }')
         # Mean cross-validated score of the best estimator
         print(f'Validation recall: {gridsearch_dt.best_score_}')
         Optimal parameters: {'clf_criterion': 'entropy', 'clf_max_depth': 28,
         'clf max_features': 15, 'clf__min_samples_leaf': 2, 'clf__min_samples_
         split': 2}
         Validation recall: 0.8725937371677781
         # evaluate the performance of the model
In [46]:
         evaluate(gridsearch_dt, X_test, y_test)
         Recall_score:
         Train: 0.9811941701927598
                0.7927927927927928
         Test:
         Precision score:
         Train: 0.9971333014811276
         Test: 0.5238095238095238
         Accuracy_score:
         Train: 0.9891866478608369
         Test: 0.8764988009592326
                                               600
                                               500
                     643
                                   80
            False
                                               400
          Frue label
                                               300
                                               200
```

As opposed to the Decision Tree with no hyperparameters, this model has performed much better on recall score. The train and test scores are closer related, and overfitting has been reduced.

100

88

True

23

False

Predicted label

True -

5.2 Random Forest Model

False

Predicted label

```
In [47]: #creating a pipeline
         pipe_rf= Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()), ('rf', RandomForest
         pipe rf.fit(X train resampled, y train resampled)
Out[47]: Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()),
                           ('rf', RandomForestClassifier(random_state=42))])
In [48]: #evaluate model performance
         evaluate(pipe_rf, X_test, y_test)
          Recall_score:
          Train: 1.0
          Test:
                 0.666666666666666
          Precision_score:
          Train: 1.0
          Test:
                0.6851851851851852
         Accuracy_score:
          Train: 1.0
                 0.9148681055155875
         Test:
                                                 600
                      689
                                     34
            False
                                                500
          Frue label
                                                 400
                                                300
                       37
                                     74
                                                200
             True
                                                 100
```

Random forest model has a recall score of 0.66. This is better than the baseline model of 0.25 recall on test data. However, in comparisson with Decision Tree Model with Hyperparameter recall of 0.79, it is not better.

True

5.2.1 Random Forest with Hyperparameters

```
In [49]: # hyperparameter tuning using GridSearchCV
         params_rf = {'rf__n_estimators': range(400, 800, 200),
                      'rf _criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'],
                      'rf max_depth': range(14, 20, 2),
                      'rf min samples split': range(3, 4, 7),
                      'rf min samples leaf': [5, 7, 12]
         }
         gridsearch rf = GridSearchCV(pipe rf, params rf, cv=4, scoring='recall')
         gridsearch rf.fit(X train resampled, y train resampled)
Out[49]: GridSearchCV(cv=4,
                      estimator=Pipeline(steps=[('scale', StandardScaler()),
                                                 ('rf',
                                                 RandomForestClassifier(random s
         tate=42))]),
                      param_grid={'rf__criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'],
                                   'rf max depth': range(14, 20, 2),
                                  'rf__min_samples_leaf': [5, 7, 12],
                                  'rf min samples split': range(3, 4, 7),
                                   'rf n estimators': range(400, 800, 200)},
                      scoring='recall')
In [50]: # parameters that gave the best result
         print(f'Optimal parameters: {gridsearch rf.best params }')
         # Mean cross-validated score of the best estimator
         print(f'Validation recall: {gridsearch rf.best score }')
         Optimal parameters: {'rf criterion': 'entropy', 'rf max depth': 18,
         'rf min samples leaf': 5, 'rf min samples split': 3, 'rf n estimator
         s': 600}
         Validation recall: 0.8702494229925095
```

In [51]: #evaluating the performance evaluate(gridsearch_rf, X_test, y_test)

Recall_score:

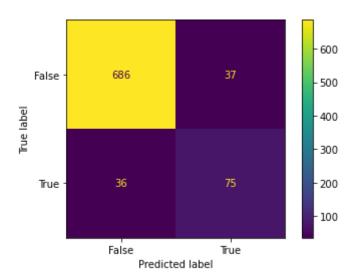
Train: 0.9619181946403385 Test: 0.6756756756756757

Precision_score:

Train: 0.9898403483309144
Test: 0.6696428571428571

Accuracy_score:

Train: 0.9760225669957687 Test: 0.9124700239808153



5.3 Model Finalization

The best model is the Decision Tree with Hyperparameters. This model has the highest recall scores in summary:

Recall scores: Test: 0.7927927927928

Precision score: Test: 0.5238095238095238

Accuracy score: Test: 0.8764988009592326

Correctly identify a negative 80% of time. /100, 80 of them identify and mis-identify 20%

6 Business Recommendations & Conclusions

According to our analysis, the most important features in predicting churn are :

1. The total number of minutes that the customer has done during the day

- 2. The total number of evenining minutes
- 4. The number of customer calls to customer service
- 3. The total international minutes in international calls

For Syria tel, customer srvice is a key differentiatior. Syria tel should focus on training programs to enhance this features that mostly need to reduce the number of minutes spent by a customer on the phone. Therefore effective communication training to customer service representatives is a key success factor. When a customer spends or makes 3 or more phone calls to customer service, this is an indication of higher churn. So providing customer incentives provided at the third call will be a recommendation.

6.0.1 Modeling- next steps recommendations & conclusions

The best performing model at a targeted level of 85% is not achieved by best model. There is still some overfitting. An increase in the training data set should reduce the overfitting and improve performance.