

Predicting Heart Disease

ML Modeling Project

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Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States

- Heart disease cost the US about \$239.9 billion in 2018/2019
 - Lifestyle interventions for those at risk may reduce healthcare system burden
- **The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Dataset**
 - Yearly telephone survey of ~400,000 US individuals
 - Health-related information, including if a respondent has heart disease

Objective: build a binary classifier to predict heart disease based on the BRFSS survey data



Data pre-processing

- **327 features** including high cholesterol/blood pressure, BMI, diet, exercise, income, race
- Excluded features with > 30% missing values or those clearly unrelated to heart disease -> **109 features -> 20 top features**
- Dataset balancing:
 - **38,633 with heart disease**
 - 398,881 without heart disease -> **38,633 without heart disease**

Number of Days Physical Health Not Good

Section: 2.1 Healthy Days — Health Related Quality of Life

Column: 91-92

Prologue:

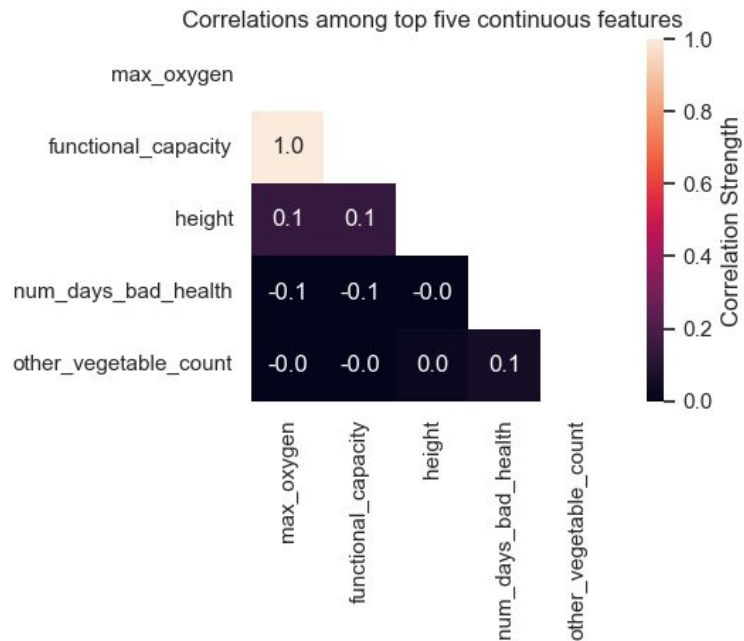
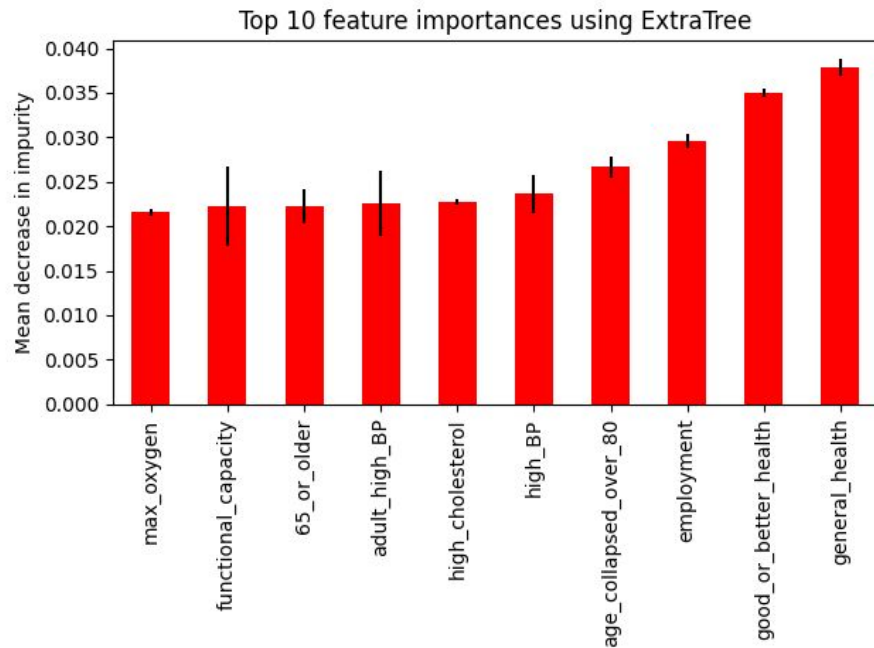
Description: Now thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?

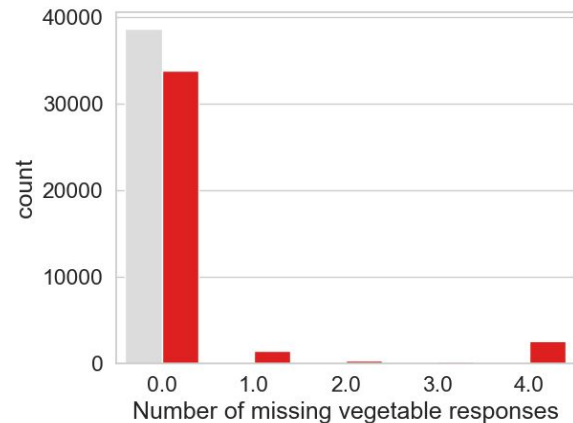
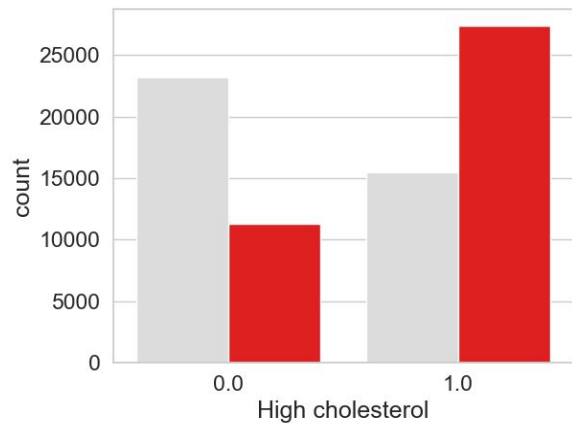
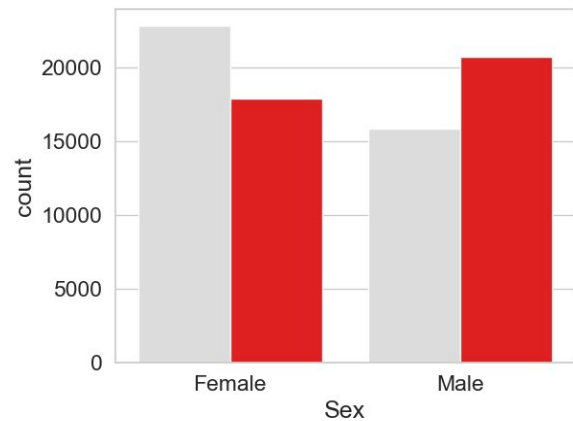
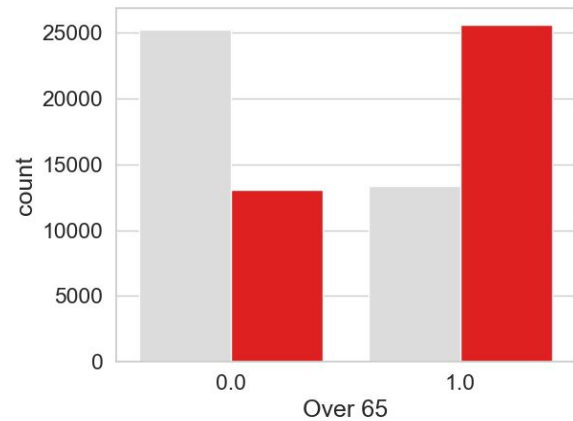
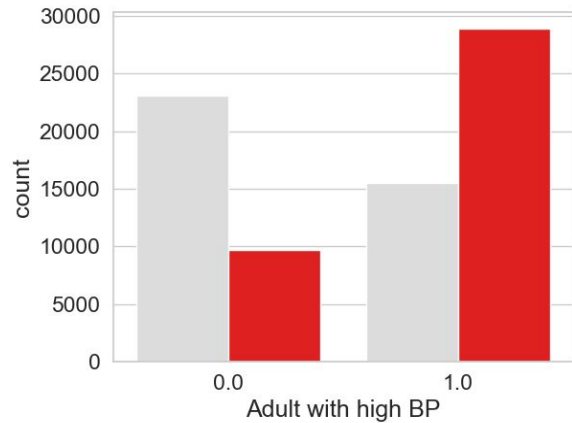
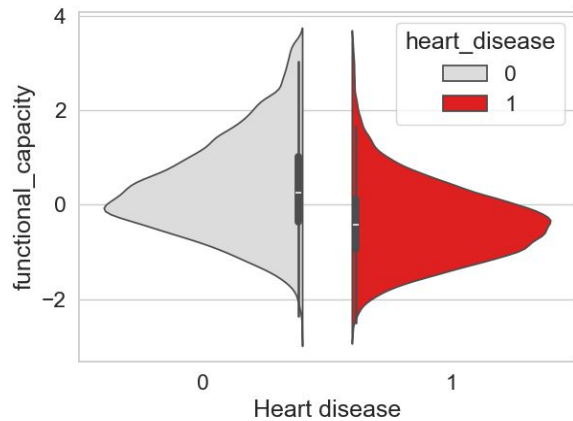
Type: Num

SAS Variable Name: PHYSHLTH

Value	Value Label
1 - 30	Number of days
88	None
77	Don't know/Not sure
99	Refused
BLANK	Not asked or Missing

Exploratory data analysis





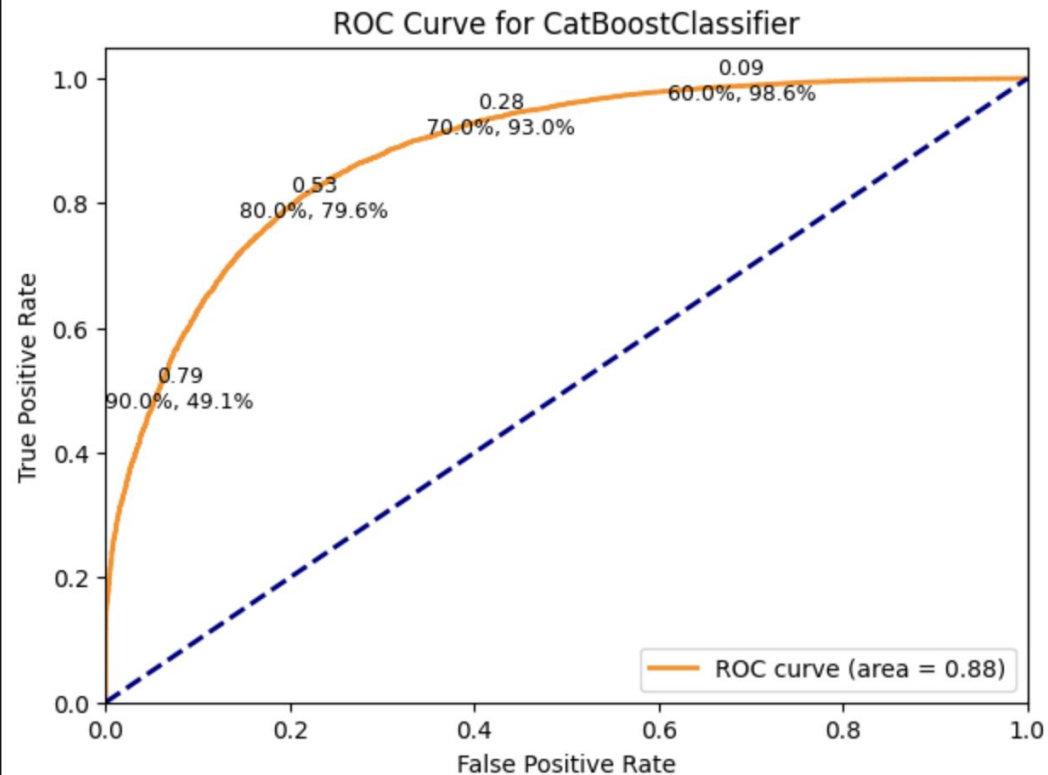


Training & Fine-Tuning

- CatBoost Classifier
- GradientBoosting Classifier
- Random Forest Classifier
- AdaBoost Classifier
- ExtraTrees Classifier

Results

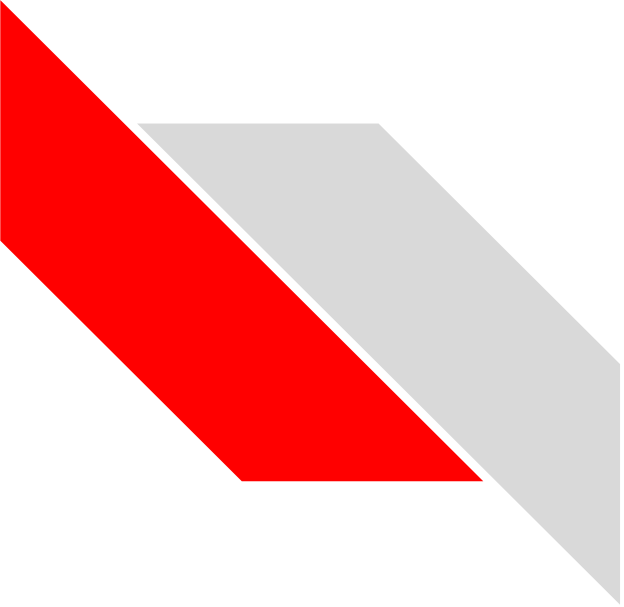
Precision	70%
Recall	93%
F1_Score	80%





Conclusion

- The performance of our model is reasonable given the complex etiology of heart disease
- It could be utilized in a few ways
 - Early warning tool for a doctor
 - Incorporated into a system to inform insurance eligibility
 - Inform governmental programs
- Limitations:
 - We only used data from one survey year (2015)
 - Survey lacked some lifestyle details, e.g. drug use



Hope you eat your
Veggies!