

## **Machine Learning**

(IT 6080)

# **Assignment 2 - Income Classification using Machine Learning Algorithms**

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#### **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that this assignment is my own original work and that all sources used are fully acknowledged. I have not previously submitted this work, in part or in full, for any academic credit at any institution. I have cited all materials used, and to the best of my knowledge, this work does not contain any uncredited content from other authors or sources.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In today's age of fast-paced technological progress, machine learning (ML) has become crucial for automating tasks and discovering patterns within complex data. This project focuses on predicting income levels, a classification problem that reflects broader socio-economic dynamics, using machine learning techniques. The choice of this topic lies in its applicability to practice since the correct identification of the income level is useful in other aspects, including public policy, marketing, and sociological research. Hence, this research seeks to develop a demographic model that factors age, education, and occupation to determine if the income earned by an individual exceeds a given benchmark.

To achieve this, I utilized supervised learning algorithms, specifically Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Random Forest, to classify income levels based on different socio-economic features. I chose these models for their distinct strengths: SVM's ability to handle high-dimensional spaces and create robust decision boundaries, and Random Forest's ensemble-based resilience against overfitting. The dataset was pre-processed well where missing values were addressed and categorical and numerical data were transformed, making it well-structured for training. By employing both statistical methods (like ANOVA and Chi-Square tests) and model evaluation metrics (such as precision-recall and ROC curves), I carefully assessed feature importance and model performance to achieve a balance between accuracy and interpretability in income classification.

The use of machine learning for income classification not only provides valuable insights into the contributing socio-economic factors but also addresses real-world challenges in predictive modelling. By building a model to classify income levels, this project aims to support data-driven decision-making, which can inform economic policies, identify high-potential demographic groups for financial services, and help organizations tailor their strategies to diverse income brackets. Furthermore, this analysis sheds light on underlying patterns and correlations between income and demographic factors, offering a deeper understanding of social disparities. The careful selection of algorithms and preprocessing techniques ensures that the model is not only accurate but also interpretable, making the outcomes more accessible for stakeholders who may leverage these insights to design inclusive and equitable policies.

#### 2. DATASET PREPROCESSING

#### 2.1.Data Exploration

The data set used in this problem is the publicly available by the name of "Adult" at the Irvine ML Database. The database which is used contains both categorical and integer values. It consists of 14 features and 48842 instances. The dataset is widely used for predicting if income of an individual exceeds fifty thousand dollars or not, some of the factors which contributes to annual income are factors such as age, level of education, Marital Status, gender, occupation etc. It provides a real-world scenario for classification tasks. Hence, this is suitable for testing Machine Learning algorithms. It is as result of the 1994 Census database. It also contains some missing values which will be handled accordingly.

#### 2.2. Data Preparation

The dataset to be fed into Machine Learning algorithms should be of high quality. Hence the need to clean and format the data frame in such a way that it will be easier to analyze. The preprocessing steps involved handling missing values, converting qualitative features into quantitation using label encoding methods. Further, normalizing the numerical features for consistency. These steps ensured the data to be in structured format. The pre-processing steps are carried out in Jupyter Notebook. Jupyter notebook is used because it allows you to visualize the output at every step. The same is shown in the report as well.

#### 2.2.1. Data loading & Visualization

The dataset used for this project is publicly available at UC Irvine ML Repository [1]. It was downloaded and then saved to the local drive. Later it was transferred to the Jupyter Notebook for additional data processing.

```
file_path = r"C:\Users\Public\Downloads\Dataset\adult\adult.data"

df = pd.read_csv(file_path)
```

Figure 1: Data path

The dataset was initially viewed to inspect the labels of the columns and their respective values. It was observed that column names were not properly labeled. As a result, appropriate names were assigned to the column to ensure clarity. Below figure 2 shows the dataset it was done using df.head() command.

]: (	df.hea	ad()													
]:	39	State-gov	77516	Bachelors	13	Never-married	Adm-clerical	Not-in-family	White	Male	2174	0	40	United-States	<=50K
C	50	Self-emp-not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-managerial	Husband	White	Male	0	0	13	United-States	<=50K
1	38	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers-cleaners	Not-in-family	White	Male	0	0	40	United-States	<=50K
2	53	Private	234721	11th	7	Married-civ-spouse	Handlers-cleaners	Husband	Black	Male	0	0	40	United-States	<=50K
3	28	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Prof-specialty	Wife	Black	Female	0	0	40	Cuba	<=50K
4	<b>1</b> 37	Private	284582	Masters	14	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-managerial	Wife	White	Female	0	0	40	United-States	<=50K

Figure 2: Reading the dataset

Similarly df.shape command was used to see the total instances of the data set and total features. It showed that dataset used has 32,560 instances and 15 features. The traditional ML models work well on large datasets. Therefore, the dataset used has amble data to train the model and classify the income

```
[9]: df.shape
[9]: (32569, 15)
```

Figure 3: Tuple representation of dataset

The columns of the dataset had remained using the python command. The results of this renaming process are shown in figure 4 below.



Figure 4: Renaming the columns

To get a clear idea, I wanted to check the datatypes of the columns in the dataset. Therefore, dtypes command was used to check the dataset. It is observed that all the datasets have correct datatypes. Like no numerical column had object datatype and vice versa. Figure 5 displays the command output.

```
[53]: df.dtypes
      age
employment
                         int64
[53]: age
     employment object
final_weight int64
education
      education
                        object
      education_number
      marital_status object
      profession
                        object
      relationship
                       object
      race
                       object
                       object
      gender
      capital-gain
                        int64
      capital-loss
      week_hours
                         int64
      country
                        object
      income
                        object
      dtype: object
```

Figure 5: Verifying data types of columns

#### 2.2.2. Checking Missing Values from Dataset

Accuracy and performance of models are affected by missing values in the dataset. Thus, resulting in either incorrect prediction of biased patterns. Furthermore, missing values can cause failure in model training as well. Addressing missing values is an essential step in the preprocessing phase. Figure 6 shows the total count of missing values in the dataset.

Figure 6: Inspecting for missing values

```
[57]: plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
missing_data.plot(kind='bar', color='blue')

plt.title('Missing Values in Each Column')
plt.vlabel('Columns')
plt.ylabel('Number of Missing Values')

plt.show()
```

Figure 7: Representing the missing values

Missing values from the dataset were identified and inspected. It was observed that the following three columns having names 1) "Employment", 2) "Profession" and 3) "Country" contained missing values. Their respective numbers are shown in figure 8.

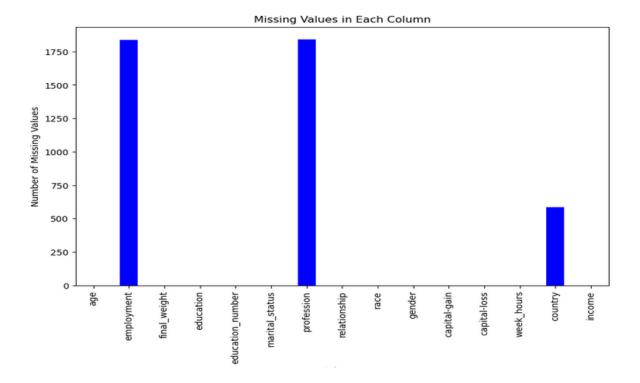


Figure 8: Representation of the missing values

Missing values for two columns that are "Workclass" and "Occupation" were changed with the mode of respective columns to ensure the consistency of the dataset. This helped retain the most frequent category for missing values.

```
df.replace("?", np.nan, inplace=True)

# Replaceing the missing values in 'employment' and 'profession' columns with their mode

df['employment'].fillna(df['employment'].mode()[0], inplace=True)

df['profession'].fillna(df['profession'].mode()[0], inplace=True)

#Missing values are filled
print(df[['employment', 'profession']].isnull().sum())
print('Missing values are replaced by Mode of the columns of employement & profession')

employment 0
profession 0
dtype: int64
Missing values are replaced by Mode of the columns of employement & profession
```

Figure 9: Replacing the missing values with mode

Rows with missing values in the "Native Country" column were dropped, as assigning nationalities can be sensitive and may introduce bias. This was done to ensure that the integrity of data frame remains intact. The sample dropped rows are shown in figure 10.

```
[13]: missing_country_rows = df[df['country'].isnull()]
print(missing_country_rows)
        df.dropna(subset=['country'], inplace=True)
        print('Values with missing rows are deleted')
                             employment final_weight
Private 121772
                                                                 education education_number
                                                121772 Assoc-voc
84154 Some-college
226956 HS-grad
293936 7th-8th
117747 HS-grad
                                 Private
                                Private
Private
        ...
Masters
                                                  71556
                                                    181974 Doctorate
217597 HS-grad
                                                                HS-grad
                                                                 HS-grad
Assoc-voc
                                 Private
                                                    107302
```

Figure 10: Dropping the missing values

#### 2.2.3. Verifying the unique values of categorical columns.

Values in categorical columns can sometimes have similar meanings but represented indifferent ways, this can cause inconsistencies in the dataset. To overcome this challenge, unique values from columns were identified. This step helped in reducing redundancy and ambiguity. Standardized values in categorical values can make dataset cleaner and reliable for further analysis.

Figure 11: Identifying distinct entries in categorical columns

It is observed from seeing the output of the data that no spelling mistakes or variations in naming for the same values within the column of the dataset.

```
Distinct entries in 'employment': ['Self-emp-not-inc' 'Private' 'State-gov' 'Federal-gov' 'Local-gov' 'Self-emp-inc' 'Without-pay' 'Never-worked']

Distinct entries in 'education': ['Bachelors' 'Hs-grad' '11th' 'Masters' '9th' 'Some-college' 'Assoc-acdm' '7th-8th' 'Doctorate' 'Assoc-voc' 'Prof-school' 'Sth-6th' '10th' '1st-4th' 'Preschool' '12th']

Distinct entries in 'marital_status': ['Married-civ-spouse' 'Divorced' 'Married-spouse-absent' 'Never-married' 'Separated' 'Married-AF-spouse' 'Widowed']

Distinct entries in 'profession': ['Exec-managerial' 'Handlers-cleaners' 'Prof-specialty' 'Other-service' 'Adm-clerical' 'Sales' 'Transport-moving' 'Farming-fishing' 'Machine-op-inspct' 'Tech-support' 'Craft-repair' 'Protective-serv' 'Armed-Forces' 'Priv-house-serv']

Distinct entries in 'relationship': ['Husband' 'Not-in-family' 'Wife' 'Own-child' 'Unmarried' 'Other-relative']

Distinct entries in 'reac': ['White' 'Black' 'Asian-Pac-Islander' 'Amer-Indian-Eskimo' 'Other']

Distinct entries in 'gender': ['White' 'Black' 'Asian-Pac-Islander' 'Amer-Indian-Eskimo' 'Other']

Distinct entries in 'country': ['United-States' 'Cuba' 'Jamaica' 'India' 'Mexico' 'South' 'Puerto-Rico' 'Honduras' 'England' 'Canada' 'Germany' 'Iran' 'Philippines' 'Italy' 'Poland' 'Columbia' 'Cambodia' 'Thailand' 'Ecuador' 'France' 'Gustemala' 'China' 'Japan' 'Nygoslavia' 'Peru' 'Outlying-US(Guam-USVI-etc)' 'Scotland' 'Trinadad&Tobago' 'Greece' 'Nicaragua' 'Vietnam' 'Hong' 'Ireland' 'Hungary' 'Holand-Netherlands']

Distinct entries in 'income': ['<=50K' '>50K']
```

Figure 12: Identifying unique entries

#### 2.2.4. Summary stats of Numerical Columns

Summary stats of numerical columns were visualized using describe command. It provides the count, average, standard deviation, minimum, maximum, and quartile range for each column. It Is observed from the stats that there is no outlier present in the dataset. However, further analysis must be done too to confirm it. Box Plot and Histogram were used to visualize the numerical columns for better understanding and to detect the outliers.

describe()					
age	final_weight	education_number	capital-gain	capital-loss	week_hours
nt 32560.000000	3.256000e+04	32560.000000	32560.000000	32560.000000	32560.000000
n 38.581634	1.897818e+05	10.080590	1077.615172	87.306511	40.437469
td 13.640642	1.055498e+05	2.572709	7385.402999	402.966116	12.347618
in 17.000000	1.228500e+04	1.000000	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000
% 28.000000	1.178315e+05	9.000000	0.000000	0.000000	40.000000
% 37.000000	1.783630e+05	10.000000	0.000000	0.000000	40.000000
% 48.000000	2.370545e+05	12.000000	0.000000	0.000000	45.000000
90.000000	1.484705e+06	16.000000	99999.000000	4356.000000	99.000000
9	age  nt 32560.000000 n 38.581634 d 13.640642 n 17.00000 6 28.000000 6 37.000000 6 48.000000	age final_weight  tt 32560.000000 3.256000e+04  n 38.581634 1.897818e+05  d 13.640642 1.055498e+05  n 17.000000 1.228500e+04  6 28.000000 1.78315e+05  6 37.000000 1.783630e+05	age final_weight education_number  at 32560.000000 3.256000e+04 32560.00000  a 38.581634 1.897818e+05 10.080590  d 13.640642 1.055498e+05 2.572709  a 17.000000 1.228500e+04 1.000000  6 28.000000 1.178315e+05 9.000000  6 37.000000 1.783630e+05 10.000000  6 48.000000 2.370545e+05 12.000000	age         final_weight         education_number         capital-gain           at         32560,000000         3.2560,000000         32560,000000           as         38581634         1.897818e+05         10,080590         1077,615172           d         13,640642         1.055498e+05         2.572709         7385,402999           n         17,000000         1.228500e+04         1,000000         0,000000           6         28,000000         1,178315e+05         9,000000         0,000000           6         37,000000         1,783630e+05         10,000000         0,000000           6         48,000000         2,370545e+05         12,000000         0,000000	age         final_weight         education_number         capital-gain         capital-loss           at         32560,000000         1007,615172         873,06511         402,966116         402,966

Figure 13: Statistical summary of numerical columns

#### 2.2.5. Addressing outliers from the numerical columns

Outliers can cause skewness in the data distribution. This may result in inaccurate predictions and impact the overall performance of the models. To identify outliers, visualization techniques were used. The Box-Wishker plot provides a representation of data's spread and highlights the points that can fall outside the normal range whereas, histogram offers insights into the frequency distribution of the data values. By employing these techniques, we can understand the presence of outliers. Functions were created to avoid reptation of code. Figure 14 shows the functions of Box plot and histogram.

Figure 14: Functions of Box plot and histogram

#### 2.2.6. Visualization of Numerical Columns

#### • Age

The visualization of the "age" column indicates that there are no outliers in the dataset. The maximum value for age is 90, which is normal. Furthermore, all datasets lie inside the normal age range. This shows that age columns are suitable for further analysis.

```
[132]: #checking outliers in the Age Column
plot_box(df, 'age')
plot_histogram(df, 'age')
```

Figure 15: Age boxplot and histogram functions.

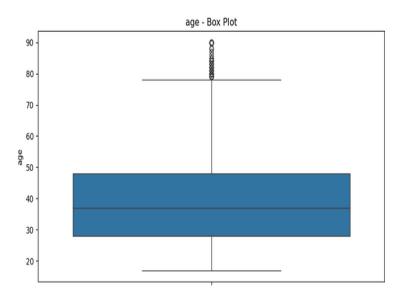


Figure 16: Age box plot

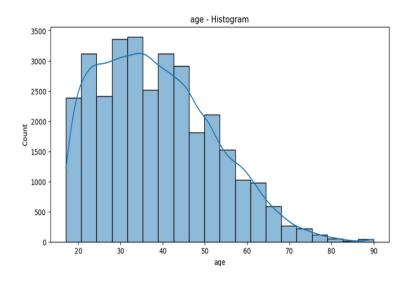


Figure 17: Age Histogram

#### • Education\_Number

Similarly, visualization of Education-num reveals that all data points are inside the normal range. The max education number is 16. That means there is no outlier present in the education number column. Therefore, the education num data is ready for further processing.

```
[133]: #checking outliers in the Education Numbers

plot_box(df, 'education_number')

plot_histogram(df, 'education_number')
```

Figure 18: Education number boxplot and histogram functions

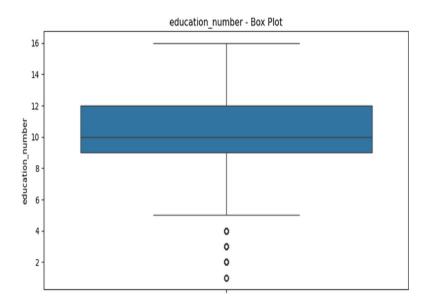


Figure 19: Education number boxplot

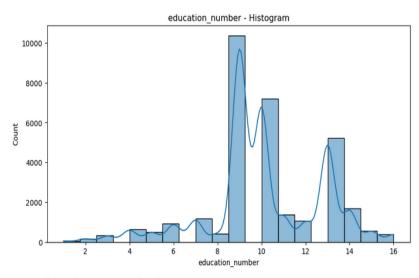


Figure 20: Education number histogram

#### • Capital – Gain

The visualization of the "Capital-Gain" column shows that while one data point has a significant high value, whereas most of the data falls inside a normal range. Given the inherent nature of capital gains, this high value cannot be assumed as an outlier.

```
[134]: #checking outliers in the capital Gain
plot_box(df, 'capital-gain')
plot_histogram(df, 'capital-gain')
```

Figure 21: Capital gain boxplot and histogram functions

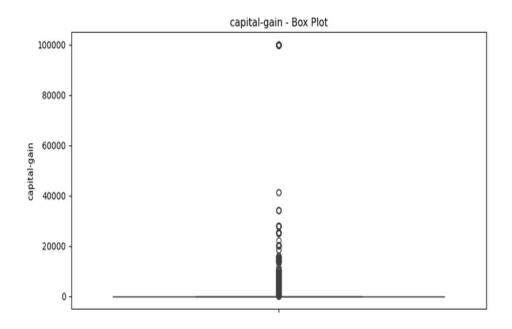


Figure 22: Capital gain boxplot

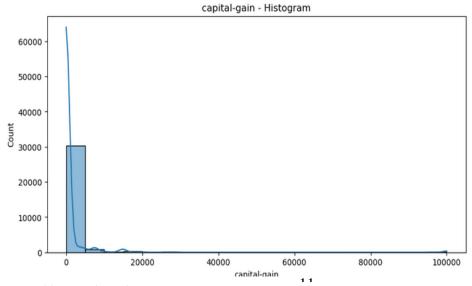


Figure 23: Capital gain histogram

#### • Capital – Loss

Similarly, capital loss column shows no presence of outlier values, indicating that all data points fall within normal range. Hence, further analysis can be done.

```
[135]: #checking outliers in the Capital Loss
plot_box(df, 'capital-loss')
plot_histogram(df, 'capital-loss')
```

Figure 24: Capital loss boxplot and histogram functions

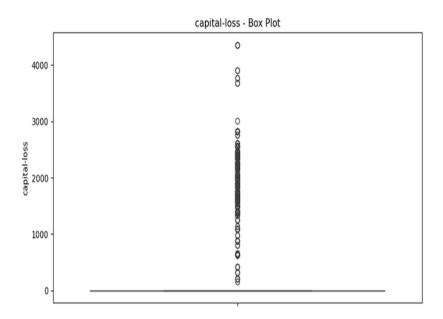


Figure 25: Capital loss boxplot

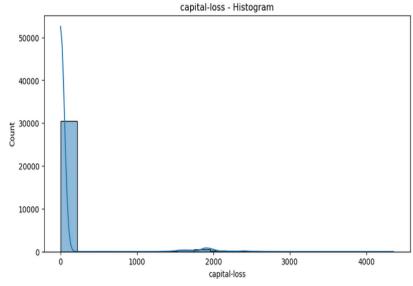


Figure 26: Capital gain histogram

#### Week\_Hours

Similarly, the "Week\_Hours" column follows a normal distribution, with most individuals working within a typical range. However, there are few individuals who have high values, indicating that they are working more than 70 hours per week. While these values are notable, they do not significantly disrupt the overall distribution.

```
[336]: #checking outliers in the Weekly Hours
plot_box(df, 'week_hours')
plot_histogram(df, 'week_hours')
```

Figure 27: Week hours boxplot and histogram functions

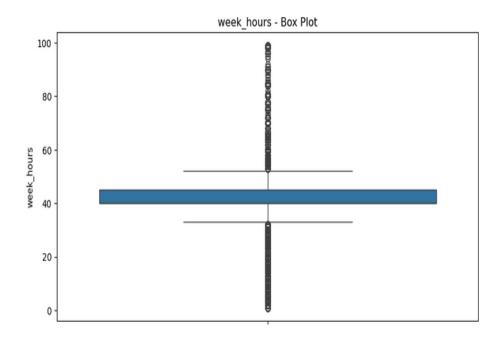


Figure 28: Week hours boxplot

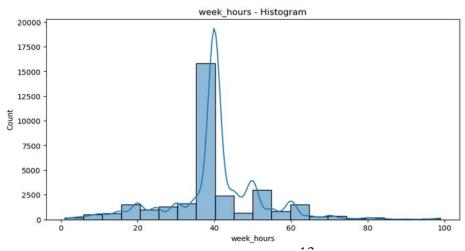


Figure 29: Week hours histogram

#### 3. FEATURE CORRELATION WITH TARGET VARIABLE

To determine if the means of numerical features across several categories of a categorical variable differ significantly, the ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) test is frequently used. This can provide information about the variables that may affect income classification in the adult dataset by assisting in determining if a numerical feature and a categorical target variable, such as income, are related. Similarly, the Chi-Square test is used for categorical features. Both tests were used in datasets to find the correlation and the results are shown below.

#### 3.1. ANOVA F-Statistic for Numerical Features

The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) F-statistics is a widely used metric in statistical analysis, particularly in experimental and observational studies, to determine whether there are significant differences among group means. Introduced by Ronald A. Fisher, who established its mathematical foundation in the early 20th century, ANOVA serves as a statistical technique to assess whether there is an association between numerical features and a categorical variable [2]. ANOVA evaluates whether the differences in means are statistically significant or simply due to random variation by comparing the variance within groups to the variance between groups. In our case, the numerical features include age, final\_weight, education\_number, Capital-Gain, Capital-Loss, and week\_hours, while the target variable is Age, which is stored as object datatype, making it a categorical variable. The code and results are displayed in Figure 30 below.

```
[129]: anova_features = ['age', 'final_weight', 'education_number', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss', 'week_hours']
    anova_results = {}

for feature in anova_features:
    groups = [df[feature][df['income'] == category] for category in df['income'].unique()]
    anova_results[feature], p_value = stats.f_oneway(*groups)
    print(f"ANOVA result for {feature}: F-statistic = {anova_results[feature]}, P-value = {p_value}")

ANOVA result for age: F-statistic = 1845.590672152451, P-value = 0.0

ANOVA result for final_weight: F-statistic = 2.6094133204677763, P-value = 0.1062409224161227

ANOVA result for education_number: F-statistic = 4066.8527089574845, P-value = 0.0

ANOVA result for capital-gain: F-statistic = 1668.6620962523523, P-value = 0.0

ANOVA result for capital-loss: F-statistic = 729.4876778136354, P-value = 7.054070014175733e-159

ANOVA result for week_hours: F-statistic = 1793.3189217281883, P-value = 0.0
```

Figure 30: ANOVA analysis

```
[133]: plt.figure(figsize=(18, 6))

# ANOVA bar plot
plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
plt.bar(anova_results.keys(), anova_results.values(), color='skyblue')
plt.title('ANOVA F-statistic for Numerical Features')
plt.xlabel('Features')
plt.ylabel('F-statistic')
plt.xticks(rotation=45)
```

Figure 31: ANOVA F-statistic bar plot function

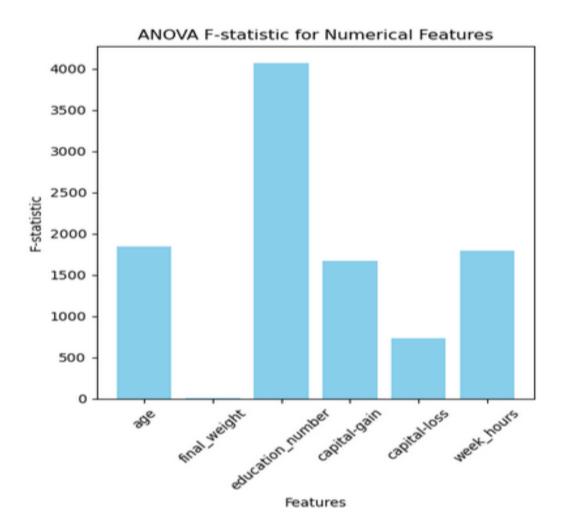


Figure 32: ANOVA F-statistic bar plot

#### 3.1.1. Results Interpretation of ANOVA F-Statistic

The High F value indicates that there is a significant correlation with the target variable. In our case the education\_number has the highest value, meaning that it has the strongest relationship with income among numerical features. The higher the education\_number will be the more

likely it is that income of that person is greater than 50k. Similarly, ge, final\_weight, and week\_hours also have relatively high F-statistics, showing they may have a meaningful impact on income classification. Whereas, capital\_gain and capital\_loss show lower F-statistics, suggesting a weaker relationship with income.

#### 3.2. Chi-Square P-Values for Categorical Features

The Chi-Square test was first introduced by the statistician Karl Pearson in 1900. The Chi-Square test and its associated p-values are important tools in statistics, primarily used to evaluate the independence of categorical features and test associations between them. A low p-value (typically < 0.05) indicates a strong association [3]. High P-Value indicates that the feature does not have a significant relationship with income. In our case employment, education, marital\_status, profession, relationship, race, gender, country are categorical variables.

Figure 33: Chi-Square test

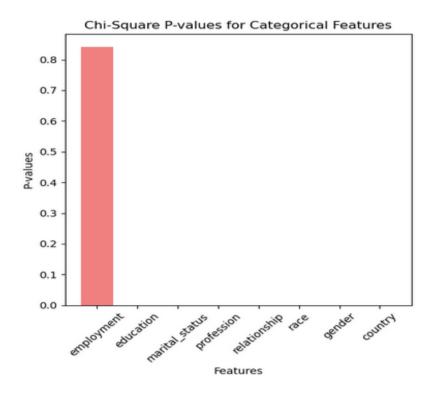


Figure 34: Chi-Square P-values for Categorical Features

#### 3.2.1. Results Interpretation of Chi-Square

The chi-square test results show how each categorical feature relates to target variable.

**Chi2-statistics**: This value indicates the strength of the association among the features and the target variable. Higher values indicate that there is a strong relationship between variables. Whereas The p-value reflects the probability that the observed association is due to chance. A low p-value (generally less than 0.05) indicates a statistically significant relationship.

**Employment:** Results show that there is a strong relationship between employment status and income.

**Education:** Education has a high relationship with income as well. The more education the more the income.

Marital Status: There is a strong relationship between marital status and income class.

**Profession:** The type of profession also has a significant impact on income class. Certain professions are associated with higher income levels.

**Race:** Race also shows that there is a significant relationship with an income. However, it is weaker compared with previous ones.

**Gender:** Gender has a very strong association with income class. That means certain genders earn more than others.

**Country:** Ther relationship between country of origin and income level. This indicates that the income level does not vary from country of origin.

The above results show that employment, education, marital status, profession, relationship, race and gender are good predicators of income whereas the country has a very less role.

#### 3.2.2. Feature Selection based on the results

Choosing the right feature is crucial to good accuracy and predictions. Therefore, based on the test results of ANOVA and Chi – Square we would drop some feature that doesn't corresponds to the outcome results. These features are Country, Capital Gain and Capital Loss.

#### • Dropping Country Column

```
[219]: #dropping row of country column

df.drop('country', axis=1, inplace=True)

print('The country column is deleted')

The country column is deleted
```

Figure 35: Dropping the 'country' column from the DataFrame

Figure 36: Verifying the structure of the DataFrame after removing 'country' column

#### • Dropping Column of Capital Gain

```
[223]: #dropping row of country column

df.drop('capital-gain', axis=1, inplace=True)

print('The capital-gain column is deleted')

The capital-gain column is deleted
```

Figure 37: Dropping the 'capital-gain' column from the DataFrame

Figure 38: Verifying the structure of the DataFrame after removing 'capital-gain' column

#### • Dropping Column of Capital Loss

```
#dropping of capital Loss column

df.drop('capital-loss', axis=1, inplace=True)

print('The capital-loss column is deleted')

The capital-loss column is deleted
```

Figure 39: Dropping the 'capital-loss' column from the DataFrame

Figure 40: Verifying the structure of the DataFrame after removing 'capital-loss' column

## 4. DATASET PREPROCESSING (CONT...)

## 4.1.Income Mapping

The "income" column contained string values "<50k" and ">50", which needed to be converted for Boolean for processing as our model task is classification. Therefore, it is converted into Boolean. To achieve this, these values were mapped to 0 and 1. The results of this are mapped in 0 and 1 are shown in figure 41.

Figure 41: Mapping 'income' column to binary values for classification

The figure 42 below shows that income is mapped to 0 and 1 respectively.

[419]:	df	.head	()										
[419]:		age	employment	final_weight	education	education_number	marital_status	profession	relationship	race	gender	week_hours	income
	0	50	Self-emp-not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-managerial	Husband	White	Male	13	0
	1	38	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers-cleaners	Not-in-family	White	Male	40	0
	2	53	Private	234721	11th	7	Married-civ-spouse	Handlers-cleaners	Husband	Black	Male	40	0
	3	28	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Prof-specialty	Wife	Black	Female	40	0
	4	37	Private	284582	Masters	14	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-managerial	Wife	White	Female	40	0

Figure 42: DataFrame after preprocessing

#### 4.2. Label Encoding

Before feeding into algorithms, categorical columns must be converted into numerical columns. To accomplish this, label encoding methods were employed to transform categorical

columns into quantitative values. The process facilitates the effective processing of data by machine learning algorithms. Firstly, the categorical columns were identified and after that these columns were converted into numerical columns. The results of the label encoding are shown in figure 43.



Figure 43: Applying label encoding to categorical columns

#### 4.3. Standardization of Values

Numerical values can exhibit a large spread or distribution. Due to this, potential challenges can arise during the training of algorithms. This spread can complicate the convergence of algorithms. By standardizing the features, we can stabilize the learning process, allowing algorithms to converge more efficiently. Therefore, standardization of numerical columns was introduced in the preprocessing. Post standardization results are shown in figure 44.

```
[443]: #transforming these columns to standard format numerical_cols = ['age', 'final_weight', 'education_number', 'week_hours']
        scaler = StandardScaler()
        df[numerical_cols] = scaler.fit_transform(df[numerical_cols])
        1 -0.042381 3
2 1.055548
                                                               -0.418316
                                       0.245246 11
          1.055548
-0.774334
                                        0.425670
        4 -0.115576
                                       0.897286
                                                         12
                                                                       1.534341
            marital_status profession relationship race gender week_hours
                                                                         -2.220918
                                                                         -0.033848
                                                                          -0.033848
                                                                         -0.033848
                                                                          -0.033848
```

Figure 44: Standardizing numerical columns in the DataFrame

#### 4.4. Target Value Dropping

The target variable, "income" was dropped from the original dataset and stored in separate variable to facilitate the model training process. It is done so to ensure that the features (X) used training do not include the target variable (y), allowing the algorithm to get trained and predict afterwards the output.

```
[26]: X = df.drop('income', axis=1)
y = df['income']
```

Figure 45: Separating features and target variable for model training

[431]:	X.head()											
[431]:		age	employment	final_weight	education	education_number	marital_status	profession	relationship	race	gender	week_hours
	0	50	5	83311	9	13	2	3	0	4	1	13
	1	38	3	215646	11	9	0	5	1	4	1	40
	2	53	3	234721	1	7	2	5	0	2	1	40
	3	28	3	338409	9	13	2	9	5	2	0	40
	4	37	3	284582	12	14	2	3	5	4	0	40

Figure 46: Dataframe after target variable is dropped

### 4.5.Data Splitting

The data was split in an 80:20 ratio, with 80% used for training and 20% set aside to test the model's performance. The 20% reserved for testing was not shown to the model during training, allowing it to assess the model's accuracy and generalization on unseen data.

```
[28]: X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2, random_state=42)
```

Figure 47: Data splitting

```
[728]: X_train.shape
[728]: (25581, 11)
[730]: X_test.shape
[730]: (6396, 11)
[732]: y_train.shape
[732]: (25581,)
[736]: (9396,)
```

Figure 48: Size of data after splitting

#### 5. SELECTION OF ML MODEL AND RESULTS.

#### 5.1. Supervised Learning

Supervised learning is ideal for tasks where labelled data is available, and the objective is to predict outcomes based on known features. In this project, where the goal is to classify individuals' income levels based on demographic information, supervised learning is effective because it allows models to learn relationships between input variables and the target income classification. Supervised models, like Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Random Forest, are particularly suitable for structured data with categorical outcomes, enabling them to identify patterns and distinguish classes in the dataset

Using supervised learning in income classification also allows for precise model evaluation on metrics like accuracy and recall, providing measurable insights into model performance [4]. This method's structured approach to learning and evaluation helps refine the model iteratively, ensuring better generalization to new data and supporting accurate decision boundaries for complex socio-economic features. Supervised learning's focus on labeled datasets makes it a robust choice for tasks requiring reliable prediction and interpretability.

#### 5.1.1. Model Selection

Dataset become of high quality after thoroughly pre-processing. With the data organized and cleaned, it is ready for training. The next step was model selections and training algorithms on datasets. Two models of Machine learning were selected: 1) Support Vector Machine (Known as SVM) and 2) Random Forest [5] were selected to take advantage of their respective strengths.

#### **5.1.2.** Support Vector Machine

SVM, developed by Vladimir Vapnik and Corinna Cortes at AT&T Bell Labs in the 1990s, is recognized for its capability to manage complex, high-dimensional datasets and to establish decision boundaries (or hyperplanes) that separate classes with maximum margin. This makes it a favored option for binary classification tasks [6]. The working mechanism of this is, it finds the optimal hyperplane that differentiates classes of the problem. SVM is used because it can handle highly dimensional datasets easily and it can create decision-making boundaries [7]. SVM is effective in cases where the classes are not linearly separable. It is also robust against overfitting, especially where data is with many features. The model is trained on the training dataset, as shown in Figure 49.



Figure 49: Support Vector Classifier (SVC) on the training dataset

The accuracy of the model is checked on test dataset. The accuracy of model on test dataset is 82.86%.

```
[744]: # Predictions and accuracy
y_pred_svm = svm.predict(X_test)
print("SVM Accuracy on Test Set:", accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred_svm))

SVM Accuracy on Test Set: 0.8286429018136335
```

Figure 50: Accuracy of the Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

Precision indicates the accuracy of positive predictions. The model's precision on the test set is 0.6956.

```
[894]: precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print(f"Precision: {precision: .4f}")
Precision: 0.6956
```

Figure 51: Precision of the Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

The F1-Score reflects the harmonic mean of precision and recall. For this dataset, the SVM model achieved an F1-Score of 0.5456.

```
[896]: f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print(f"F1-Score: {f1:.4f}")
F1-Score: 0.5456
```

Figure 52: F1 score of the Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

The ROC-AUC score indicates the model's capability to differentiate between two classes. For this model, the ROC-AUC score is 0.6952.

```
[898]: auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print(f"AUC-ROC: {auc:.4f}")
AUC-ROC: 0.6952
```

Figure 53: ROC-AUC of the Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

The Precision-Recall Curve highlights how effectively the model manages the positive class by illustrating the balance between precision and recall. It is particularly valuable for imbalanced datasets where the positive class is uncommon.

```
[908]: precision, recall, thresholds = precision_recall_curve(y_test, y_pred_svm)

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(recall, precision, label="Precision-Recall Curve", color="green")
plt.xlabel("Recall")
plt.ylabel("Precision")
plt.title("Precision-Recall Curve")
plt.legend(loc="best")
plt.show()
```

Figure 54: Precision-Recall Curve function of Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

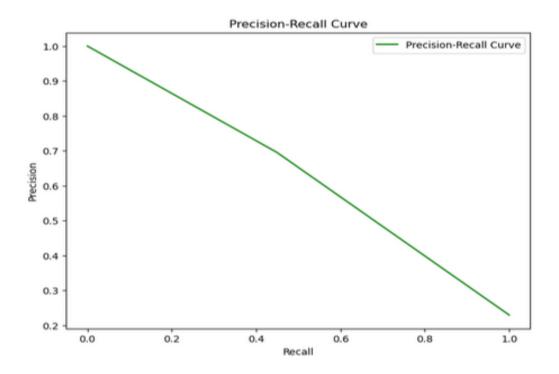


Figure 55: Precision-Recall Curve of Support Vector Machine (SVM)

The labelled confusion matrix visually demonstrates the performance of the SVM model, providing an understanding of how accurately the model predicted each class. It also offers insight into the types of errors, such as false positives and false negatives, made by the model.

Figure 56: Confusion matrix function of Support Vector Machine (SVM) model

The SVM Model achieved accuracy of 82.80% on test data set. It means that it correctly classified around 82% of the values. Model was also evaluated on the base of confusion matrix.

- True Positive (TP): 658 instances were predicted positive. It means that 658 individuals were earning more than \$50k in test dataset.
- True Negatives (TN): 4642 instances were correctly predicted as negative. It means that 4642 individuals were earning less than \$50K in dataset.
- False Positive (FP): 288 instances were wrongly classified. They belong to negative class, however model classified as positive.
- False Negative (FN): 808 instances were misclassified. They belong to a positive class; however, models classify them as positive.

These results indicate that the model's overall performance is satisfactory. However, there are many false negatives, indicating that it struggled to predict some individuals with income above 50k. The SVM model shows a balanced trade-off between precision and recall.



Figure 57: Confusion matrix for a Support Vector Machine (SVM)

#### 5.1.3. Random Forest

Random Forest, developed by Leo Breiman in 2001, is an ensemble learning method designed to improve prediction accuracy by combining multiple decision trees [8]. Each tree in the Random Forest is constructed using a method called bootstrap aggregation, or "bagging," which trains each tree on a random subset of the original data [8]. This aggregation technique helps reduce variance and increase model robustness, making Random Forest well-suited for high-dimensional datasets.

The Random Forest model uses an ensemble learning approach by constructing multiple decision trees and then combining their outcomes to produce a final prediction.. This approach helps to prevent overfitting, making the model to be more reliable and accurate [9]. It can also highlight which features are most important for making predictions. Overall, it is a robust model and combines the strengths of many trees to improve performance. In addition to the above Random Forest works very well with the large datasets [10]. It is also resilient to some noise maintaining performance with noisy or imperfect data as well. The results of models are shown below as well.

```
[910]: rf = RandomForestClassifier() rf.fit(X_train, y_train)

[910]: v RandomForestClassifier RandomForestClassifier()
```

Figure 58: Training Random Forest Classifier

The Random Forest model was trained on the same training dataset in which SVM was trained.

```
# Predictions and accuracy
y_pred_rf = rf.predict(X_test)
print("RF Accuracy on Test Set:", accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred_rf))
rf Accuracy on Test Set: 0.8339587242026266
```

Figure 59: Random Forest model accuracy

The Random Forest gives us 83.39% accuracy which is 1% greater than SVM model as shown in above figure 58.

The precision of Random Forest classifier is 0.6551.

```
[914]: precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"Precision: {precision:.4f}")

Precision: 0.6551
```

Figure 60: Random Forest model precision

#### Got 0.5819 as the recall score of the model.

```
[916]: recall = recall_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"Recall: {recall:.4f}")

Recall: 0.5819
```

Figure 61: Random Forest model recall score

#### The F1 score of random forest model is 0.6165. Whereas the AUC-ROC score is 0.7454.

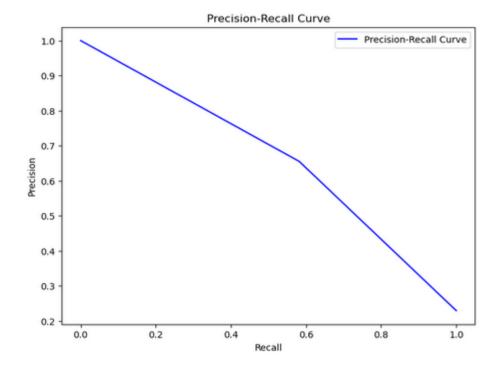
```
[918]: f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"F1-Score: {f1:.4f}")

F1-Score: 0.6163

[920]: auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"AUC-ROC: {auc:.4f}")

AUC-ROC: 0.7454
```

Figure 62; F1 score and AUC-ROC score of Random Forest model.



 $Figure\ 63:\ Precision-Recall\ Curve\ of\ Random\ Forest\ model.$ 

Figure 64: Confusion matrix function of Random Forest model



Figure 65: Confusion matrix of Random Forest model

The Random Forest model attained an accuracy of 83.3%, surpassing the SVM model. The confusion matrix summary is as follows.

- True Positive (TP): 853 instances were classified as positive. It means that 927 individuals were earning more than \$50k in test dataset.
- True Negatives (TN): 4481 instances were correctly predicted as negative. It means that 4579 individuals were earning less than \$50K in dataset.
- False Positive (FP): 449 instances were wrongly classified. They belong to negative class but classified as positive.
- False Negative (FN): 613 instances were wrongly classified. They belong to positive class but classified as negative.

Precision of model is 65.51% where recall of model is 58.19%. It shows the Random Forest classifier performs well, for predicting negative classes.

## 6. DISCUSSION

The results of both methods demonstrate the effectiveness of data preprocessing in getting the output. After addressing missing values, encoding categorical variables, and standardizing numerical variables, the dataset was prepared for training. The same metrics were used for evaluation of both models. The SVM achieved an accuracy of 82.38% on test set, showing reasonable performance. Whereas Random Forest got an accuracy of 83.35%. The results show that True Negative was predicted with high accuracy. However, both models struggle with false negative. The results also highlight the importance of feature engineering, preprocessing and evaluation in achieving reliable results.

To increase accuracy, various machine learning algorithms need to be explored. Furthermore, feature engineering should be done to mitigate the inherent bias in the dataset. Both models have their shortcomings and strengths. Therefore, it is crucial to choose the right model. Furthermore, quality and quantity of datasets play an important role in machine learning algorithms.

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## **APPENDIX**

import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder, StandardScaler
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
from scipy import stats
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error, r2_score
from sklearn.feature_selection import chi2
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score
from sklearn.svm import SVC
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, confusion_matrix
% matplotlib inline
from sklearn.metrics import precision_score
from sklearn.metrics import recall_score
from sklearn.metrics import f1_score
from sklearn.metrics import roc_auc_score
from sklearn.metrics import classification_report
from sklearn.metrics import precision_recall_curve

```
#change the dataset file path
file\_path = r"C:\Users\Thisura\Desktop\sliit\ML\assignment\ 2\MS23464582\adult.data"
df = pd.read_csv(file_path)
df.head()
#adding Column Names in the data set.
names_of_coulmns = ['age', 'employment', 'final_weight', 'education', 'education_number',
          'marital_status', 'profession', 'relationship', 'race', 'gender',
          'capital-gain', 'capital-loss', 'week_hours', 'country', 'income']
# Renaming the columns in the dataset
df.columns = names_of_coulmns
#Displaying the column names of dataset after assigning names.
df.head()
df.dtypes
#making '?' consistent removing spaces in the columnIde
df = df.apply(lambda x: x.str.strip() if x.dtype == "object" else x)
#identifying Missing Values in columns
df.replace("?", np.nan, inplace=True)
missing_data = df.isnull().sum()
```

```
print(missing_data[missing_data > 0])
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
missing_data.plot(kind='bar', color='blue')
plt.title('Missing Values in Each Column')
plt.xlabel('Columns')
plt.ylabel('Number of Missing Values')
plt.show()
df.replace("?", np.nan, inplace=True)
# Replaceing the missing values in 'employment' and 'profession' columns with their mode
df['employment'].fillna(df['employment'].mode()[0], inplace=True)
df['profession'].fillna(df['profession'].mode()[0], inplace=True)
#Missing values are filled
print(df[['employment', 'profession']].isnull().sum())
print('Missing values are replaced by Mode of the columns of employement & profession')
missing_country_rows = df[df['country'].isnull()]
print(missing_country_rows)
```

```
#Droping rows
df.dropna(subset=['country'], inplace=True)
print('Values with missing rows are deleted')
#Checking unque values in the column to standarize it
cat_columns = ['employment', 'education', 'marital_status', 'profession',
              'relationship', 'race', 'gender', 'country', 'income']
# Iterate over each categorical column and display the distinct values it contains.
for column in cat_columns:
  values = df[column].unique()
  print(f"Distinct entries in '{column}': {values}\n")
df.describe()
def plot_box(data, column_name):
  plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
  sns.boxplot(y=data[column_name])
  plt.ylabel(column_name)
  plt.title(f'{column_name} - Box Plot')
  plt.show()
def plot_histogram(data, column_name):
  plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
  sns.histplot(data[column_name], bins=20, kde=True)
  plt.xlabel(column_name)
```

```
plt.ylabel('Count')
  plt.title(f'{column_name} - Histogram')
  plt.show()
#checking outliers in the Age Column
plot_box(df, 'age')
plot_histogram(df, 'age')
#checking outliers in the Education Numbers
plot_box(df, 'education_number')
plot_histogram(df, 'education_number')
#checking outliers in the capital Gain
plot_box(df, 'capital-gain')
plot_histogram(df, 'capital-gain')
#checking outliers in the Capital Loss
plot_box(df, 'capital-loss')
plot_histogram(df, 'capital-loss')
#checking outliers in the Weekly Hours
plot_box(df, 'week_hours')
plot_histogram(df, 'week_hours')
anova_features = ['age', 'final_weight', 'education_number', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss',
'week_hours']
anova_results = { }
for feature in anova_features:
```

```
groups = [df[feature][df['income'] == category] for category in df['income'].unique()]
  anova_results[feature], p_value = stats.f_oneway(*groups)
  print(f"ANOVA result for {feature}: F-statistic = {anova_results[feature]}, P-value =
{p_value}")
categorical_features = ['employment', 'education', 'marital_status', 'profession', 'relationship',
'race', 'gender', 'country']
chi2_results = {}
chi2_p_values = {}
df_{encoded} = df.copy()
# Loop over each categorical feature
for feature in categorical_features:
  # Apply Label Encoding for each categorical feature in the new DataFrame
  df_encoded[feature] = LabelEncoder().fit_transform(df_encoded[feature])
  # Perform the Chi-Square test
  chi2_stat, p_val = chi2(df_encoded[[feature]], df_encoded['income'])
  # Store the first P-value for each feature
  chi2_results[feature] = p_val[0]
```

```
print(f"Chi-Square result for {feature}: P-value = {p_val[0]}")
# Plotting ANOVA and Chi-Square results
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
# ANOVA bar plot
plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
plt.bar(anova_results.keys(), anova_results.values(), color='skyblue')
plt.title('ANOVA F-statistic for Numerical Features')
plt.xlabel('Features')
plt.ylabel('F-statistic')
plt.xticks(rotation=45)
# Chi-Square bar plot
plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
plt.bar(chi2_results.keys(), chi2_results.values(), color='lightcoral')
plt.title('Chi-Square P-values for Categorical Features')
plt.xlabel('Features')
plt.ylabel('P-values')
plt.xticks(rotation=45)
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

```
#dropping of country column
df.drop('country', axis=1, inplace=True)
print('The country column is deleted')
#data set columns after dropping country column
print(df.columns)
#dropping of Capital Gain column
df.drop('capital-gain', axis=1, inplace=True)
print('The capital-gain column is deleted')
#data set columns after dropping capital gain column
print(df.columns)
#dropping of capital loss column
df.drop('capital-loss', axis=1, inplace=True)
print('The capital-loss column is deleted')
#data set columns after dropping capital loss column
print(df.columns)
df['income'] = df['income'].str.strip()
income_mapping = \{"<=50K": 0, ">50K": 1\}
df['income'] = df['income'].map(income_mapping)
income_counts = df['income'].value_counts()
```

```
print(income_counts)
print(df['income'].unique())
print('income is mapped to 0 & 1')
df.head()
cat_col = df.select_dtypes(include=['object']).columns
print(cat_col)
df.head()
label_encoders = {}
for col in cat_col:
  # Initializing the encoder for each column
  lbl_encoder = LabelEncoder()
  # Applying label encoding to transform the categorical column.
  df[col] = lbl_encoder.fit_transform(df[col])
  # Storeingthe encoder object for later use
  label_encoders[col] = lbl_encoder
df.head()
# Transforming these columns to standard format
numerical_cols = ['age', 'final_weight', 'education_number', 'week_hours']
scaler = StandardScaler()
```

```
df[numerical_cols] = scaler.fit_transform(df[numerical_cols])
print(df.head())
#Droping X Vecotr for feature space
X = df.drop('income', axis=1)
#adding target in a seperate array
y = df['income']
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2, random_state=42)
X_train.shape
X_test.shape
y_train.shape
y_test.shape
svm = SVC()
svm.fit(X_train, y_train)
# Predictions and accuracy
y_pred_svm = svm.predict(X_test)
print("SVM Accuracy on Test Set:", accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred_svm))
precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print(f"Precision: {precision:.4f}")
f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print(f"F1-Score: {f1:.4f}")
auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_svm)
```

```
print(f"AUC-ROC: {auc:.4f}")
precision, recall, thresholds = precision_recall_curve(y_test, y_pred_svm)
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(recall, precision, label="Precision-Recall Curve", color="green")
plt.xlabel("Recall")
plt.ylabel("Precision")
plt.title("Precision-Recall Curve")
plt.legend(loc="best")
plt.show()
conf_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred_svm)
print("Confusion Matrix:\n", conf_matrix)
# Defining class labels
class_labels = ['True Negative Class (TN)', 'False Positive Class (FP)', 'False Negative Class
(FN)', 'True Positive Class (TP)']
# Formatting group counts and percentages
count_values = [f"{int(val)}" for val in conf_matrix.ravel()]
percentage_values = [f"{val:.2%}" for val in conf_matrix.ravel() / np.sum(conf_matrix)]
```

```
# Creating labels combining names, counts, and percentages
combined_labels = [f''\{label\}\n\{count\}\n\{percent\}'' for label,
                                                                       count,
                                                                                percent in
zip(class_labels, count_values, percentage_values)]
combined_labels = np.array(combined_labels).reshape(2, 2)
# Plotting the confusion matrix with annotations
plt.figure(figsize=(9, 7))
sns.heatmap(conf_matrix, annot=combined_labels, fmt=", cmap="Blues",
       xticklabels=['<=50K', '>50K'], yticklabels=['<=50K', '>50K'])
plt.ylabel('Actual')
plt.xlabel('Predicted by Model')
plt.title('SVM Confusion Matrix with Labels')
plt.show()
rf = RandomForestClassifier()
rf.fit(X_train, y_train)
# Predictions and accuracy
y_pred_rf = rf.predict(X_test)
print("RF Accuracy on Test Set:", accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred_rf))
precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"Precision: {precision:.4f}")
recall = recall_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"Recall: {recall:.4f}")
```

```
f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"F1-Score: {f1:.4f}")
auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print(f"AUC-ROC: {auc:.4f}")
precision, recall, thresholds = precision_recall_curve(y_test, y_pred_rf)
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(recall, precision, label="Precision-Recall Curve", color="Blue")
plt.xlabel("Recall")
plt.ylabel("Precision")
plt.title("Precision-Recall Curve")
plt.legend(loc="best")
plt.show()
conf_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred_rf)
print("Confusion Matrix:\n", conf_matrix)
# Defining class labels
class_labels = ['True Negative Class (TN)', 'False Positive Class (FP)', 'False Negative Class
(FN)', 'True Positive Class (TP)']
# Formatting group counts and percentages
count_values = [f"{int(val)}" for val in conf_matrix.ravel()]
percentage_values = [f"{val:.2%}" for val in conf_matrix.ravel() / np.sum(conf_matrix)]
```