Predicting Hard Drive Failure - A Juul Labs Case Study

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0.1 Predicting Hard Drive Failures Using SMART Metrics

0.1.1 - A Juul Labs Case Study

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0.1.2 What are SMART systems?

SMART features or *S.M.A.R.T.* (*Self-Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technology*) is a software monitoring system for hard drives. It is a widely used industry practice around data center management and disk heavy resources. SMART generates a collection different metrics related to help evaluate the overall health of a Hard Drive. These metrics can be specific to a certain number of manufacturers or be more general, sometimes.

A single metrics may not always determine the exact failure prediction but are commonly accepted to help identify any imminent failure and help handle the backup and restore, in time.

0.1.3 About this case study:

This case study relies on a given data stream provided for this purpose. The goal of this case study is to try and analyze given data and find out meaningful information that can help determine drives failure trends and different factors that may idicate if a drive would fail, and attempt to propose a more data driven answer to future failures based on SMART metrics.

The study concludes with discussing possible opportunities and challenges with existing model and features that can help design a better predictive model for future.

Here's a quick look of how this problem has been approached:

0.1.4 Extraction and Load

- 1. Connect to the postgres server.
- 2. Download the dataset offline

0.1.5 Transform

- 3. Wrangle and explore
- 4. Change Dimentions, clean and slice and dice

0.1.6 Analyze

5. Analyze dataset, plot most significant trends

0.1.7 Predict:

- 6. Feature Selection
- 7. Model and predict

0.1.8 Conclusion and Improvement Ideas:

- 8. Conclude
- 9. Challenges with the current dataset and ways to improve it

Extraction and Load 1. Connect to the postgres server

- I'll begin by importing libraries to connect to postgres and download the dataset offline.
- I will create a few database utility funtion get the table data and columns
- next up, I will use pandas to join columns and dataset and transform incoming data into a pandas dataframe.
- Lastly I will save the data locally in a csv format.

Next up, I will beging wrangling and exploring the data to understand different attributes that will be used later on in analysis.

```
In [72]: import psycopg2
         import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
         %matplotlib inline
         import pandas as pd
         from sklearn import ensemble, metrics
In [10]: #### postgres database utility functions
         ####
         # db connection object generator
         def postgres db connection():
             # postgresql://35.230.114.237", "postgres", "luuj"
             conn = psycopg2.connect(host="35.230.114.237", dbname="postgres",
             user="candidate", password="luuj")
             print('Connecting to postgresql server...')
             cur = conn.cursor()
             print('Successfully connected to the host\n')
             return cur
```

```
def get_all_tables(cur):
        print('Extracting list of tables:')
        cur.execute("SELECT * FROM pg_catalog.pg_tables where schemaname NOT IN ('pg_
        tables = cur.fetchall()
        t = [i[1] for i in tables]
        return t
def lookup_a_table(cur, tablename):
        # get data from a given table: tablename
        print("\nReading table: "+tablename+"...")
    # cur.execute('SELECT * from '+tablename+' limit 10')
        # get table_data
        cur.execute("SELECT * from "+tablename+' limit 10')
        table_data = cur.fetchall()
        return table_data
def get_table_columns(cur, tablename):
        # get column_names
        print('Fetching columns in: ', tablename)
        try:
                cur.execute("SELECT table name, column_name from information_schema.co
                column_names = cur.fetchall()
                column_names = [j[1] for j in column_names]
        except:
                print('Column fetch failed')
        return column_names
# transform data in pandas and save table locally for offline analysis
def clean_response(table, data, column_names):
        # inp: table data and column names
        # out: pandas dataframe
        data = pd.DataFrame(data)
        data.columns = [column_names]
        out_file = 'out_data_from_tablename_'+table+'.csv'
        print('Saving data from table: {}, to file: {}'.format(table, out_file))
          data.to_csv(out_file, index=False, encoding='utf-8')
# Etracting all tables at the host in a list and finally,
# extracting the table we want i.e. 'hard_drive_stats
```

```
db_conn_obj = postgres_db_connection()
    tables = get_all_tables(db_conn_obj)

table = 'hard_drive_stats'
    data = lookup_a_table(db_conn_obj, table)
    table_data = lookup_a_table(db_conn_obj, table)
    table_column_names = get_table_columns(db_conn_obj, table)

# transform data in pandas
    clean_response(table, table_data, table_column_names)

Connecting to postgresql server...
Successfully connected to the host

Extracting list of tables:

Reading table: hard_drive_stats...

Reading table: hard_drive_stats...
Fetching columns in: hard_drive_stats
Saving data from table: hard_drive_stats, to file: out_data_from_tablename_hard_drive_stats.cs
```

- 1. At the end of the above code snippet, data is downloaded and saved locally to current directory.
- 2. Name: out_data_from_tablename_hard_drive_stats.csv

0.2 Transform

- 1. Now, the dataset is downloaded.
- 2. Filename is: out_data_from_tablename_hard_drive_stats.csv
- 3. We shall be be using this file going forward, in order to avoid calling the postgres again and again.

```
In [73]: # loading dataset from local machine
        df = pd.read_csv('out_data_from_tablename_hard_drive_stats.csv')
        df.head(5)
Out [73]:
           row.names
                           date
                                  serial_number
                                                               model \
             1865121 2018-01-20
        0
                                       ZA11RRZY
                                                         ST8000DM002
          1865122 2018-01-20 PL1331LAHD3Y7H HGST HMS5C4040BLE640
        1
        2 1865123 2018-01-20
                                       ZA174A42
                                                        ST8000NM0055
        3 1865124 2018-01-20 PL1331LAHGB3VH HGST HMS5C4040ALE640
             1865125 2018-01-20
                                       ZA14ELXG
                                                        ST8000NM0055
           capacity_bytes failure read_error_rate throughput_performance \
           8001563222016
                                0
                                       209151808.0
                                                                     NaN
```

```
0.0
                                                                  106.0
1
    4000787030016
2
    8001563222016
                          0
                                   28504744.0
                                                                    NaN
    4000787030016
                                          0.0
                                                                  104.0
3
                          0
4
    8001563222016
                          0
                                   77116864.0
                                                                    NaN
   spin_up_time start_stop_count reallocated_sector seek_time_performance
0
            0.0
                                3.0
                                                     0.0
                                                                             NaN
            0.0
                               4.0
                                                     0.0
                                                                            42.0
1
                               4.0
2
            0.0
                                                     0.0
                                                                             NaN
3
          431.0
                               5.0
                                                     0.0
                                                                            42.0
4
                               3.0
            0.0
                                                     0.0
                                                                             NaN
                   power_cycle_count reported_uncorrect command_timeout \
   power_on_hours
                                                        0.0
                                                                          0.0
0
          13874.0
                                   3.0
1
          14041.0
                                   4.0
                                                        NaN
                                                                          NaN
           4726.0
                                   4.0
                                                        0.0
                                                                          0.0
3
           8475.0
                                   5.0
                                                        NaN
                                                                          NaN
           7309.0
                                   3.0
                                                        0.0
                                                                          0.0
   high_fly_writes airflow_temprature load_cycle_count total_lbas_written
                                                                    5.189666e+10
                0.0
                                    29.0
                                                     3888.0
0
1
               NaN
                                     NaN
                                                      143.0
                                                                             NaN
                0.0
                                    35.0
2
                                                      716.0
                                                                    2.152110e+10
               NaN
                                    \mathtt{NaN}
3
                                                       11.0
                                                                             NaN
4
               0.0
                                   34.0
                                                     2380.0
                                                                    3.561304e+10
```

Get basic look of the dataset

```
In [12]: # number of rows
    rows = df.shape[0]
    columns = df.shape[1]

    print('Number of rows are: {} and number of columns: {}\n'.format(rows, columns))
    print(df.dtypes)
```

Number of rows are: 8949492 and number of columns: 20

row.names	int64
date	object
serial_number	object
model	object
capacity_bytes	int64
failure	int64
read_error_rate	float64
throughput_performance	float64
spin_up_time	float64
start_stop_count	float64
reallocated_sector	float64

```
float64
seek_time_performance
power_on_hours
                          float64
power_cycle_count
                          float64
reported_uncorrect
                          float64
command timeout
                          float64
high_fly_writes
                          float64
airflow temprature
                          float64
load_cycle_count
                          float64
total_lbas_written
                          float64
dtype: object
```

More wrangling of the data First up, I get rid of some irrelevant columns and then indentify the top 10 hard drives.

I will apply some cleaning on the columns, changing dtypes and more. Next, I discard/drop columns based on: 1. high number of Nan 2. irrelevance 3. top 10 models

```
In [14]: df.shape
Out[14]: (8949141, 19)
```

0.2.1 Top 10 most common hard drives

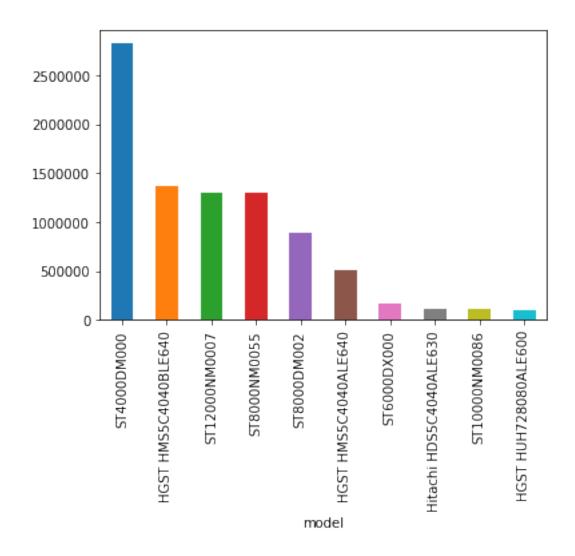
- After getting rid of some of the duplicates.
- Now based the dataset, I am making the following assumptions:
- 1. Hard drives with number of datapoints are the most common hard drives.
- 2. Since there are multiple serial_numbers that belong to the same Hard Drive model, I am taking a unique count only.

Most Common Models in descending order are:

Top 10 Models based on most number of Hard Drives are

```
In [17]: top10_models = most_common_models[:10]
         top10_models
Out[17]: model
         ST4000DM000
                                    2822270
        HGST HMS5C4040BLE640
                                    1363173
         ST12000NM0007
                                    1296241
         ST8000NM0055
                                    1293502
         ST8000DM002
                                     888733
         HGST HMS5C4040ALE640
                                     505026
         ST6000DX000
                                     169017
         Hitachi HDS5C4040ALE630
                                     115984
         ST10000NM0086
                                     109738
         HGST HUH728080ALE600
                                      94024
         dtype: int64
In [61]: top10_models.plot(kind='bar', legend= False)
         print('Top 10 common models and the number of hard Drives in each:')
```

Top 10 common models and the number of hard Drives in each:



0.2.2 Filtering - Limiting the dataset by only top 10 models

Using the new dataframe from here on

/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/site-packages/ipykernel_launcher.py:2: SettingWithCopyWarning: A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame.

Try using .loc[row_indexer,col_indexer] = value instead

See the caveats in the documentation: http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/indexing.htm

0.3 Analysis

Keeping in mind that the resources available *do not* accurately describe this particular dataset. It is crucial to proceed with caution.

I researched online and read a number of articles. I settled one the ones I found most relevant. I have used this information to help me understand the schema and it's various attributes.

0.3.1 Resources:

These are some of the resources I found helpful.

- 1. Understanding differet SMART stats: https://www.backblaze.com/blog/what-smart-stats-indicate-hard-drive-failures/
- $2. \ SMART\ schema\ on\ WIKI: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S.M.A.R.T.\#ATA_S.M.A.R.T._attributes$
- 3. Research Paper: http://cs229.stanford.edu/proj2017/final-reports/5242080.pdf

0.3.2 Tools:

- 1. I have utilized scikit library for prediction.
- 2. Partly used pandas and Google Big Query for faster analysis in SQL, and
- 3. matplotlib + Google Data Studio for plotting charts.

Let's check the cardinality of each columns

read_error_rate has: 5938125 unique values throughput_performance has: 67 unique values spin_up_time has: 288 unique values start_stop_count has: 187 unique values reallocated_sector has: 1023 unique values seek_time_performance has: 11 unique values power_on_hours has: 43903 unique values power_cycle_count has: 123 unique values reported_uncorrect has: 70 unique values command_timeout has: 161 unique values high_fly_writes has: 1175 unique values airflow_temprature has: 45 unique values load_cycle_count has: 190691 unique values total_lbas_written has: 6562030 unique values

0.4 ### Plotting graphs to get a visual look and analyze

Using Google Data Studio and Big Query:

- Google Data Studio provides for a much more robust and interactive reporting system.
- I loaded the dataset into Big Query and used Google Data Studio because of it's SQL support, interactive platform and robustness with doing exploratory analysis on a large dataset.
- There are some key charts provided below.

Click Here for a full report: https://datastudio.google.com/open/1vzmbcHsLQ-OMZZsfXUnECJbIteK_kdF7

Looking at the trends displayed below, we can derive the following (refer to the Studio Report below):

- 1. Number of positive Hard drives failure trend are going down. This trend is proportional to the power cycle of the hard drives. This means that as the hard drives get old over time, they are more likely to fail. This is also verified by external sources, a typical life of a hard drive is around 5 years. This can help find out the likelyhood of a drive failing.
- 2. Reported uncorrectable errors tend to go down as the failure count goes down over time. On the other hand, the reallocated sectors a going up. Both of these features should ideally be of a lower value for a healthy hard drive. There are higher chances of failure if both of these factors go up in the future.
- 3. Hard Drives have to reallocated sectors at a much higher rate in the event of a failure. This happens becase hard drives need to remap the data to a different sector in order to avoid data loss. Frequent remapping like this is not a good sign of a healthy hard drive.
- 4. High fly rates decrease with decrease in failure. This may indicate that a lower high fly rate is a potential sign of healthier hard drives.

There are more exploratory analysis performed on google data studio report, link is provided below.

0.5 #### Assumptions made and references drawn, in performing the analysis:

Since there isn't enough detail about the dataset in this case study, some external researching is required to get an understanding.

There are exponetial values in some of SMART metrics. The provided data stream is raw and there isn't much information available online about different expoential values. I couldn't find a meaningful method to normalize the raw data to a 100 point scale in order to make a better correlation.

0.6 #### Analysis Conclusion

In conclusion, the metrics in SMART systems are most often high uncorrelated. It wouldn't be recommended to rely on one of them to make a decision about a possible drive failure.

(This is Optional) In case the above embeded code for Data Studio report failed, I am including local PNG import of some of the charts.

- 1. Number Hard Drives per model
 - 2. Number of positive failures by model

```
     3. Failure Trend over time
     <img src="graphs/failure-trend-timeseries.png" width="600">
```

4. Daily Failure Trend to determine missing failure data pattern

0.7 Machine learning to Predict Possible Failures based

0.7.1 Feature selection:

Based on my findings and research on SMART attributes, I have found the following variables to be the most significant out of the total available dataset. The variables are highly non correlated, I made the selection based on what works as a industry standard for SMART predictions.

```
failure
                                         0
         read_error_rate
                                         0
         throughput_performance
                                   6579501
         spin_up_time
                                         0
         start stop count
                                         0
         reallocated_sector
                                         0
         seek_time_performance
                                   6579501
         power_on_hours
         power_cycle_count
         reported_uncorrect
                                   2078207
         command_timeout
                                   2078207
         high_fly_writes
                                   3374448
         airflow_temprature
                                   2078207
         load_cycle_count
                                         0
                                   2078207
         total_lbas_written
         dtype: int64
In [24]: # new_df.groupby(['model'], as_index=True)['failure'].head()
         # failure by model = new df.groupby('failure').aqg('model').head()
         new_df.shape
Out[24]: (8657708, 19)
In [25]: # featured selection
         # -----
         # selecting dataframe slice with no nan values.
         # first doing a row wise check to see if dropping rows will solve this
         featured_df = new_df.dropna(axis=0, how='any', thresh=15)
         featured_df.isna().sum()
         # there are still three metrics with very high number of nan
         # dropping more columns
         featured_df = featured_df.drop(['throughput_performance', 'seek_time_performance', 'h
         # final dataframe is ready for any predictive usage
         # verify nan in featured_df
         featured_df.isna().sum()
Out[25]: date
                               0
         serial_number
                               0
                               0
         model
         capacity_bytes
                               0
         failure
         read_error_rate
         spin_up_time
                               0
         start_stop_count
                               0
         reallocated_sector
                               0
         power_on_hours
                               0
```

```
power_cycle_count
        reported_uncorrect
                               0
         command_timeout
                               0
        airflow_temprature
                               0
        load cycle count
                               0
        total_lbas_written
                               0
        dtype: int64
In [26]: # quick look at the featured_df
        featured_df.shape
         # find unique models per columns
         len(featured_df['model'].unique())
Out[26]: 6
In [27]: # number of dates in featured_df
         len(featured_df['date'].unique())
Out[27]: 90
In [28]: # number of dates in featured_df
         len(featured_df['serial_number'].unique())
Out [28]: 76355
In [29]: # saving feature_df to csv, this is optional.
         # -----
         # using this to ocassionally push data to Big Query
         # this is optional for re-runs
         # featured_df.to_csv('featured_hard_drive_dataset.csv', index=False)
In [57]: import psycopg2
         import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        %matplotlib inline
         import pandas as pd
        from sklearn import ensemble, metrics
In [31]: # load featured hard drive dataset
        hdd = pd.read_csv('featured_hard_drive_dataset.csv')
In [32]: hdd.shape
Out[32]: (6579501, 16)
In [33]: # number of unique hard drives
        hdd['serial_number'].value_counts().shape
         # since hard drives serial number is unique across, we use this as the index
```

```
Out[33]: (76355,)
In [34]: # there are 6 models now left in the featured dataset
         hdd['model'].value_counts().shape
Out[34]: (6,)
   I've used Big Query in parts where I found it easy to do analysis using SQL. Below is the sql
script to get % of failure per model #### SQL to get % of failure per model:
SELECT
 model,
  COUNT(DISTINCT serial_number) number_of_hdd,
  SUM(IF(failure IS TRUE,
      1,
      0)) fails,
 ROUND(SUM(IF(failure IS TRUE,
        0))/COUNT(DISTINCT serial_number),3) percentage_of_fails
FROM
  `orbital-linker-226700.pandey.hard_drive_stats_top10_models`
GROUP BY
 model order by number_of_hdd desc
In [69]: # exported sql output and reading in pandas
         sql_output = pd.read_csv('reports/failure_percentage_by_model.csv')
         sql_output.head(10)
         # This shows that the data is highly imbalanced and the model with most fails is only
Out [69]:
                               model number_of_hdd fails percentage_of_fails
                                               32091
         0
                         ST4000DM000
                                                         178
                                                                             0.006
         1
                       ST12000NM0007
                                               16833
                                                          32
                                                                             0.002
         2
               HGST HMS5C4040BLE640
                                               15374
                                                                             0.001
                                                          16
         3
                        ST8000NM0055
                                               14418
                                                          28
                                                                             0.002
         4
                         ST8000DM002
                                                9912
                                                          21
                                                                             0.002
         5
               HGST HMS5C4040ALE640
                                                6237
                                                          8
                                                                             0.001
         6 Hitachi HDS5C4040ALE630
                                                2296
                                                          0
                                                                             0.000
         7
                         ST6000DX000
                                                1882
                                                           1
                                                                             0.001
         8
                       ST10000NM0086
                                                1220
                                                           0
                                                                             0.000
         9
               HGST HUH728080ALE600
                                                1048
                                                           3
                                                                             0.003
   Above: Full list of model their % of failure
In [70]: # using ST4000DM000
                                       model
         hdd_st4000 = hdd.query('model == "ST4000DM000"')
```

hdd_st4000.shape

```
# number of failures in this hard drive model
         hdd_st4000['failure'].value_counts()
Out[70]: False
                  2822092
         True
                      178
         Name: failure, dtype: int64
0.7.2 Preparing training and testing datasets using dataframe 'hdd'
In [71]: # using data from all models
         # -----
         date = pd.to_datetime(hdd['date'])
         hdd['date'] = date
         # add day of year using date column
         hdd['day_of_year'] = hdd['date'].dt.dayofyear
         # grouping by getting all unique hard drives
         # indexing by serial number as every hard drive will have a unique serial number
         hdd_group = hdd.groupby('serial_number')
         # take the last row from each group
         hdd_last_day = hdd_group.nth(-1)
         len(hdd_last_day['date'].unique())
Out[71]: 29
In [40]: # total failure per model for one day
         hdd_last_day['failure'].value_counts()
         # number of drives in the dataset
         uniq_serial_numbers = pd.Series(hdd_last_day.index.unique())
         uniq_serial_numbers.shape
Out [40]: (76355,)
In [41]: hdd_last_day['failure'].value_counts()
Out[41]: False
                  76271
         True
                    84
         Name: failure, dtype: int64
In [42]: # slicing a copy of 25% of all unique hard drives for test
         test_ids = uniq_serial_numbers.sample(frac=0.25)
```

hdd_st4000['serial_number'].value_counts().shape

```
train = hdd_last_day.query('index not in @test_ids')
         test = hdd_last_day.query('index in @test_ids')
         # test data has now looks like this
         test.shape
Out [42]: (19089, 16)
In [43]: # test data
         test['failure'].value_counts()
Out[43]: False
                  19066
         True
                     23
         Name: failure, dtype: int64
In [44]: train.shape
Out [44]: (57266, 16)
In [45]: # train data has remaining 24029 data points
         train['failure'].value_counts()
Out[45]: False
                  57205
         True
                     61
         Name: failure, dtype: int64
In [46]: # training and testing labels
         train_labels = train['failure']
         # failure is the final label we would like to predict
         test_labels = test['failure']
         # drop labels from train and test
         train = train.drop('failure', axis=1)
         test = test.drop('failure', axis=1)
In [47]: train.shape
Out [47]: (57266, 15)
In [48]: #drop date related features from tree model
         train = train.drop(['day_of_year', 'date'], axis=1)
         test = test.drop(['day_of_year', 'date'] , axis=1)
         # removing other irrelevant or constant columns
         # this is out final training and test dataset with all the right features
         train = train.drop(['model', 'capacity_bytes', 'power_on_hours', 'total_lbas_written']
         test = test.drop(['model', 'capacity_bytes', 'power_on_hours', 'total_lbas_written'],
In [49]: train.shape
```

```
Out [49]: (57266, 9)
In [50]: # these are the training features
         train.columns
Out[50]: Index(['airflow_temprature', 'command_timeout', 'load_cycle_count',
                'power_cycle_count', 'read_error_rate', 'reallocated_sector',
                'reported_uncorrect', 'spin_up_time', 'start_stop_count'],
               dtype='object')
In [51]: # check first 10 training labels
        train_labels[:10]
Out[51]: serial_number
        S3000A9T
                    False
        S3000FZ5
                     False
                    False
        S3000NSV
        S3000QAP
                    False
        S30015PW
                  False
                  False
        S3001FPA
        S3001HBH False
        S30034E6
                    False
        S3003A6V
                    False
        S3003GAB
                    False
        Name: failure, dtype: bool
```

0.7.3 Prediction using Random Forest Ensemble

For prediction, I tried a couple of options from logistic regression to Naive Bayes but finally settled on random forest classifier tree for following reasons: 1. Data is full of poorly correlated SMART features. 3. For regression, normalization of some of the attributes would be required. 4. Since there isn't much information available on how different large float values can be normalized, it's a better idea to stick with the absolute numbers only 5. Use raw values instead of normalization since normalization has no impact on performance of a tree. 6. Random forest classifiers are designed to reduce the overall error rate and work over raw data.

Overall There doesn't seem to be a lot of correlation between various SMART attributes, and this varies greatly over different models of hard drive. A decision tree model (random forest) that looks at more than one attribute in order to make a better guess at detecting any future failures.

```
min_weight_fraction_leaf=0.0, n_estimators=10, n_jobs=1,
                     oob_score=False, random_state=None, verbose=0,
                     warm_start=False)
In [53]: # Apply the Classifier we trained to the test data
         rf_clf.predict(test)
Out[53]: array([False, False, False, ..., False, False, False])
In [54]: # generating the predicted values of possible of features for test data using trained
         preds = rf_clf.predict_proba(test)
         # check predicted values of the first 10 observations
         preds[:10]
Out[54]: array([[9.98842063e-01, 1.15793746e-03],
                [9.98980480e-01, 1.01951991e-03],
                [9.99389243e-01, 6.10756587e-04],
                [9.98842063e-01, 1.15793746e-03],
                [9.98842063e-01, 1.15793746e-03],
                [9.98842063e-01, 1.15793746e-03],
                [9.98980480e-01, 1.01951991e-03],
                [9.99256057e-01, 7.43943123e-04],
                [9.98712833e-01, 1.28716695e-03],
                [9.98842063e-01, 1.15793746e-03]])
In [55]: # performing quick ROC and log loss functions to see how the the data looks
         print('ROC Area Under Curve', metrics.roc_auc_score(y_true=test_labels, y_score=preds
ROC Area Under Curve 0.7667108305702389
In [56]: # performing quick ROC and log loss functions to see how the the data
         metrics.roc_auc_score(y_true=test_labels, y_score=preds[:,1])
Out [56]: 0.7667108305702389
  Since, above tell us that the area under curve is about 0.75, so that's a good enough
```

0.7.4 Challenges:

- 1. Highly critical features like throughput_performance', 'seek_time_performance', 'high_fly_writes and 'command_timeout' have a lot of missing data. This makes the training dataset unreliable.
- 2. A sound relationship between these uncorrelated metrics/features is needed to better understand things like:
 - 1. How command_timeout affects retry count or,

- 2. How reallocated sector changes over time as the drive gets old.
- 3. Different models are manufactured by different companies, and not all manufacturers have all SMART metrics, among other factors like usage, data-center wear and tear, climatic conditions. This makes it difficult to design a general training that would work across the board.
- 4. Data is not normalized and there isn't much information on how to normalize them: is the reallocated sector by bits or bytes? are all these drives magnetic tapes, hybrid or SSDs?

Normalization would make a much a better regression design, or at least present one such option to do so.

Our model accurately predicted about 77% of the time that a drive is likely to fail.

0.8 Business wide High Level Result

SMART systems widely used industry practice around data center management and disk heavy resources.

The above case study attempted to analyze and predict future hard drive failures based on the data that was provided. was to predict hard drive failures using available dataset.

We identified a few key metrics such as 'throughput_performance', 'reallocated sectors', age of the hard drive using 'power on hours' and a few more. We analyzed their effect over time as the failure rate goes down.

There was also some extensive researching done leading up to identifying other highly critical metrics but there seems to be missing data about those metrics. Since there isn't enough detail about the dataset in this case study, some external researching was required to get an understanding.

Using provided data, we predicted over 77% of possible failure, but this can be improved further.

Some recommended actions and improvements:

- 1. Realistically, since not all Hard Drives are manufactured and used under the same roof it's a good idea that for future predictions, we use the critical attributes, mentioned above to analyze their effect on per hard drive model instead of a general prediction.
- 2. Including more data source:
- a. Using more than one source of information such as operating temperature, throughput, of reads and writes etc. can help build a more robust collection of data that can predict future.
- 3. Backing up drives that are showing critical changes.

0.9 Thanks!

Harsh