**VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**

“Jnana Sangama”, Belagavi-590018.



A Mini Project Report on

PREDICTION OF AIR POLLUTION IN NEW DELHI

*Submitted in the partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the*

*degree of*

**Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering**

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# RV INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT®

# Department of Computer Science and Engineering

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**CERTIFICATE**

Certified that the mini project work titled “*Prediction of air pollution in New Delhi*” carried out by Priyanshu Kumar (1RF21CS078), Saheel Ahemad (1RF21CS086) and Supreeth S (1RF21CS106) are bonafide students of RV Institute of Technology and Management, Bengaluru in partial fulfillment for the award of degree of Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering of the Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi during the year 2023-24. It is certified that all corrections/suggestions indicated for the internal assessment have been incorporated in the report. The mini project report has been approved as it satisfies the academic requirements prescribed by the institution.

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**ABSTRACT**

This project presents a comprehensive manual for predicting air pollution levels in New Delhi, employing machine learning techniques. Focusing on addressing the critical issue of air quality in one of the world's most polluted cities, the project utilizes various Python libraries including pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, and scikit learn. The analysis commences with the collection of historical air quality data from reputable sources, facilitating an in-depth examination of key pollutants such as particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), sup dioxide (SO2), and carbon monoxide (CO). Following data acquisition, descriptive statistics are computed to unveil the distribution and central tendencies of pollutant levels over time. Visualizations are instrumental in elucidating trends and patterns, with line plots showcasing historical pollutant concentrations and bar plots depicting variations across different time intervals. Moreover, correlation analysis uncovers interrelationships between pollutants, enabling a holistic understanding of air quality dynamics.

This project focuses on addressing the critical challenge of air pollution in New Delhi by thoroughly examining the impact of various meteorological factors on pollutant levels. By scrutinizing factors such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, and precipitation, the project aims to understand how these variables influence air quality dynamics. Through the use of machine learning models like linear regression and random forest regressor, the project seeks to forecast future air quality parameters with a high degree of accuracy. These models enable the capture of temporal dependencies and spatial patterns in air pollution data, providing valuable insights into how pollution levels may evolve over time.

A key highlight of the project lies in its utilization of advanced machine learning techniques, such as ensemble methods like gradient boosting and random forests, to enhance prediction performance. By employing these sophisticated algorithms, the project aims to improve the accuracy and reliability of air quality forecasts. Additionally, the implementation of ensemble techniques allows for the integration of multiple models to collectively make more informed predictions, thereby providing policymakers, environmentalists, and concerned citizens with valuable tools for mitigating air pollution in New Delhi.

In conclusion, this project serves as a vital resource for addressing the pervasive issue of poor air quality in New Delhi. By combining data-driven insights with machine learning expertise, it offers a proactive approach towards combating air pollution and fostering a healthier, more sustainable urban environment. With its focus on risk assessment and forecasting, this project provides actionable insights that can inform policy decisions, environmental initiatives, and community efforts aimed at improving air quality in the region.

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**CHAPTER-01**

**INTRODUCTION**

In today's rapidly evolving urban landscape, air pollution in cities like New Delhi emerges as a pressing concern, demanding attention from policymakers, environmentalists, and health professionals alike. Amidst the bustling streets and burgeoning population, New Delhi grapples with air quality challenges stemming from vehicular emissions, industrial activities, and agricultural practices. The issue of air pollution in New Delhi transcends mere environmental significance, as it profoundly impacts public health, quality of life, and economic productivity. With pollutants like particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and carbon monoxide pervading the atmosphere, residents face heightened risks of respiratory ailments, cardiovascular diseases, and other health complications. Moreover, the economic ramifications of poor air quality manifest through increased healthcare expenditures, decreased labour productivity, and diminished tourism appeal.

**THE PROJECTS MISSION**

Our mission is to harness the power of machine learning to predict and effectively manage air pollution in New Delhi, with the overarching goal of fostering healthier living conditions for its residents. By meticulously analysing historical pollution data alongside meteorological factors, we aspire to develop precise forecasting models that can anticipate pollution spikes and trends. These insights will enable us to implement targeted interventions, ranging from traffic management strategies to industrial emission controls, aimed at curbing pollution levels and safeguarding public health.

In pursuit of our mission, collaboration with key stakeholders is paramount. By working closely with government agencies, environmental organizations, and local communities, we aim to raise awareness about the pressing issue of air pollution and advocate for sustainable solutions. Together, we seek to drive policy changes, promote eco-friendly practices, and invest in cleaner technologies to create a cleaner and more breathable environment for all residents of New Delhi. Our collective efforts will pave the way for a brighter, healthier future for the city and its inhabitants.

**MACHINE LEARNING MODEL TO PREDICT AIR POLLUTION OF NEW DELHI**

Machine learning enables the analysis of vast datasets encompassing historical pollution levels, meteorological variables, urban infrastructure, and socioeconomic factors. Through techniques such as regression analysis, decision trees, and neural networks, models can be trained to discern intricate patterns and relationships within this multifaceted data landscape. This allows for the identification of key drivers of air pollution, ranging from vehicular emissions and industrial activities to weather patterns and geographical features.

Machine learning has revolutionized the way we approach the analysis of complex datasets pertaining to air pollution. By leveraging techniques like regression analysis, decision trees, and neural networks, researchers can sift through vast amounts of historical pollution data, meteorological variables, urban infrastructure details, and socioeconomic factors. These sophisticated algorithms excel at discerning intricate patterns and relationships within this multifaceted data landscape, providing invaluable insights into the dynamics of air quality. Through meticulous model training, it becomes possible to identify the primary drivers of air pollution, spanning from vehicular emissions and industrial activities to nuanced factors like weather patterns and geographical features.

Regression analysis serves as a powerful tool in unpacking the relationships between various contributing factors and pollution levels. By analysing historical data, regression models can quantify the impact of different variables on air quality, offering valuable predictive capabilities. Decision trees, on the other hand, excel at capturing nonlinear relationships and interactions within the data. These tree-based models partition the data space into hierarchical structures, allowing for the identification of complex decision rules governing pollution dynamics.

The integration of machine learning techniques enables a comprehensive understanding of the interplay between human activities and environmental factors in shaping air quality. By incorporating data on urban infrastructure and socioeconomic variables, models can capture the broader context in which pollution occurs. This holistic approach empowers policymakers and urban planners to develop targeted interventions aimed at mitigating pollution hotspots and improving overall air quality. Moreover, the ability to analyze real-time data streams facilitates adaptive strategies to respond swiftly to changing environmental conditions and emerging pollution trends.

**CHAPTER-02**

**OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

The objectives of this project is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the air pollution of New Delhi, focusing specially on the aspects of the hazardous contents present in the atmosphere. Through the utilization of Python libraries like pandas, Matplotlib, Seaborn and other machine learning tools, the project aims to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive analysis of air pollution data in New Delhi, focusing on predicting pollutant levels such as PM2.5 using machine learning techniques.
2. Utilize publicly available datasets and meteorological data, including temperature, wind speed, and relative humidity, to develop a predictive model for accurately forecasting air quality parameters.
3. Employ Python libraries such as pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, and scikit-learn to preprocess and analyse the data, uncovering patterns and correlations between pollutant levels and meteorological variables.
4. Consider temporal factors such as day and time to capture fluctuations in air pollution levels throughout the day and week, enhancing the model's accuracy.
5. Enhance understanding of the factors influencing air pollution in New Delhi and provide actionable insights for policymakers, environmental agencies, and public health officials.
6. Empower stakeholders with timely information to implement targeted interventions and mitigate the adverse effects of air pollution on public health and the environment through the development of a reliable predictive model.

By achieving these objectives, the project aims to provide valuable insights for policymakers, environmental agencies, and public health officials concerned with air quality management in New Delhi. These insights will empower stakeholders to implement targeted interventions and regulatory measures to mitigate the adverse effects of air pollution on public health and the environment. Additionally, the project aims to raise awareness among residents and encourage community-driven initiatives to address air quality issues effectively.

**CHAPTER-03**

**3.1 DATASET DESCRIPTION:**

The data has been made publicly available by the Central Pollution Control Board: https://cpcb.nic.in/ which is the official portal of Government of India. They also have a real-time monitoring app: https://app.cpcbccr.com/AQI\_India/

**Link to the dataset:** <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/rohanrao/air-quality-data-in-india>

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sl No. | Name and type of attribute | Description of the attribute |
| 1. | Date | The timestamp indicating when the air quality measurements were recorded. |
| 2. | PM 2.5 | Particulate Matter with a diameter of 2.5 micro meters or smaller, a common air pollutant. |
| 3. | PM 10 | Particulate Matter with a diameter of 10 micro meters or smaller, another significant air pollutant. |
| 4. | NO | Nitric Oxide, a pollutant emitted from combustion processes such as vehicle engines and industrial sources. |
| 5. | NO2 | Nitrogen Dioxide, formed primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels, a harmful air pollutant contributing to respiratory issues. |
| 6. | NH3 | Ammonia, released from agricultural activities, industrial processes, and vehicular emissions. |
| 7. | CO | Carbon Monoxide, a colourless and odourless gas emitted from vehicle exhaust and combustion processes. |
| 8. | SO2 | Sulphur Dioxide, produced by burning fossil fuels containing sulphur, a major air pollutant causing respiratory problems and acid rain. |

**3.2 ATTIBUTE DETAILS:**

**CHAPTER-04**

**SELECTION OF THE ALGORITHM**

**4.1 DECISION TREE:**

In the preparation of a machine learning model to predict air pollution in New Delhi, decision trees play a pivotal role in unraveling the complex relationships between various factors influencing air quality. Decision trees excel in capturing nonlinear patterns and interactions within the data, making them well-suited for modeling the intricate dynamics of pollution levels. By segmenting the data into hierarchical structures based on key features such as meteorological conditions, vehicular traffic, and industrial emissions, decision trees provide valuable insights into the underlying mechanisms driving air pollution in the city.

Moreover, decision trees offer transparency and interpretability, allowing stakeholders to comprehend the decision-making process of the model and gain actionable insights into pollution mitigation strategies. With decision trees, policymakers and environmental experts can identify critical predictors of air pollution in New Delhi, guiding the development of targeted interventions and regulatory measures. By harnessing the analytical power of decision trees, we can enhance our understanding of air quality dynamics and pave the way for effective measures to combat pollution and ensure a healthier environment for all residents of New Delhi.

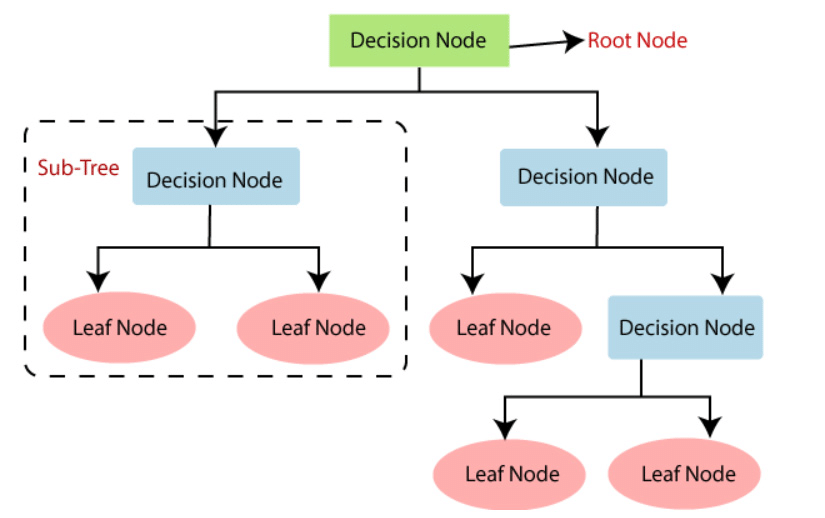


Fig 4.1 Decision Tree

**4.2 RANDOM FOREST REGRESSOR:**

Random Forest Regressor is an ensemble learning algorithm that builds multiple decision trees during training and outputs the average prediction of the individual trees. Each decision tree is constructed by randomly selecting a subset of features and a subset of the training data.

At each node of the decision tree, the algorithm selects the feature that best splits the data into homogeneous groups based on a criterion such as the mean squared error or Gini impurity. This process is repeated recursively until a stopping criterion is met, such as reaching a maximum tree depth or minimum number of samples per leaf node.

During prediction, the random forest regressor aggregates the predictions of all individual decision trees to produce the final output. This ensemble approach helps reduce overfitting and improves the model's predictive accuracy and robustness, especially in the presence of complex relationships and interactions within the data.

Random Forest Regressor is a machine learning algorithm that holds promise for predicting air pollution levels in New Delhi with high accuracy. This ensemble learning technique leverages the power of multiple decision trees to make reliable predictions based on meteorological data and other relevant factors. Unlike a single decision tree, which may overfit the training data or fail to capture complex relationships, Random Forest Regressor mitigates these issues by aggregating the predictions of many individual trees.

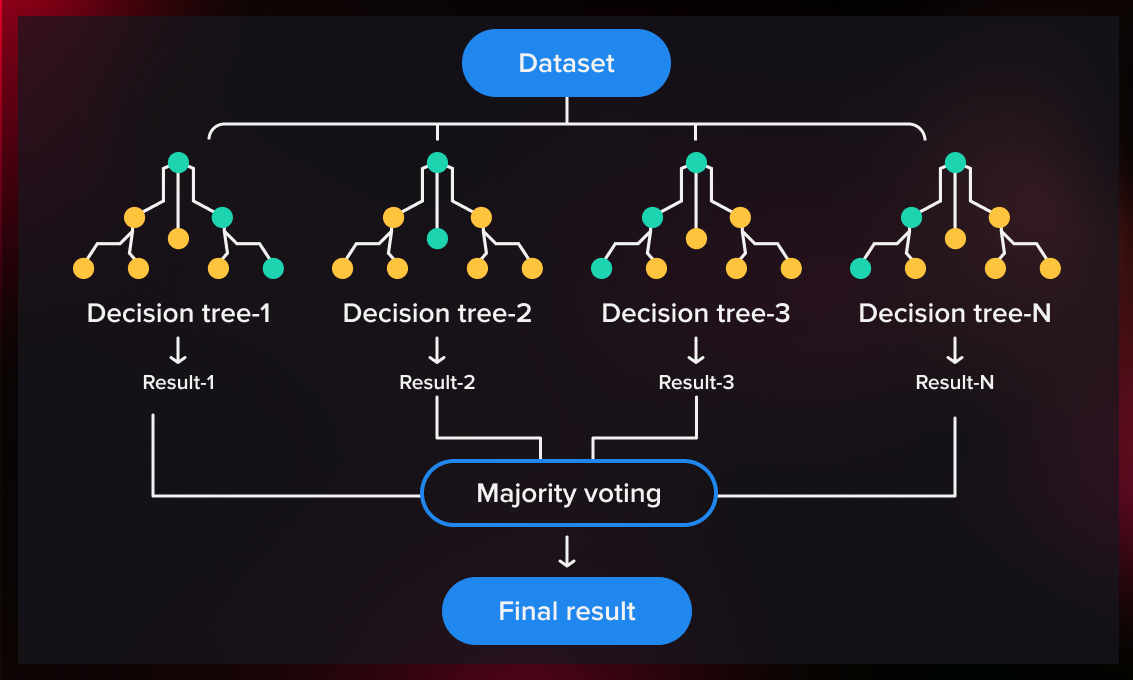


Fig 4.2 Random Forest Regressor

**CHAPTER-05**

**METHODOLOGY**

**5.1 Dataflow of the model**

The dataflow of the model involves training on a dataset with features and corresponding labels, then using the trained model to predict outcomes for new data based on learned patterns and relationships.

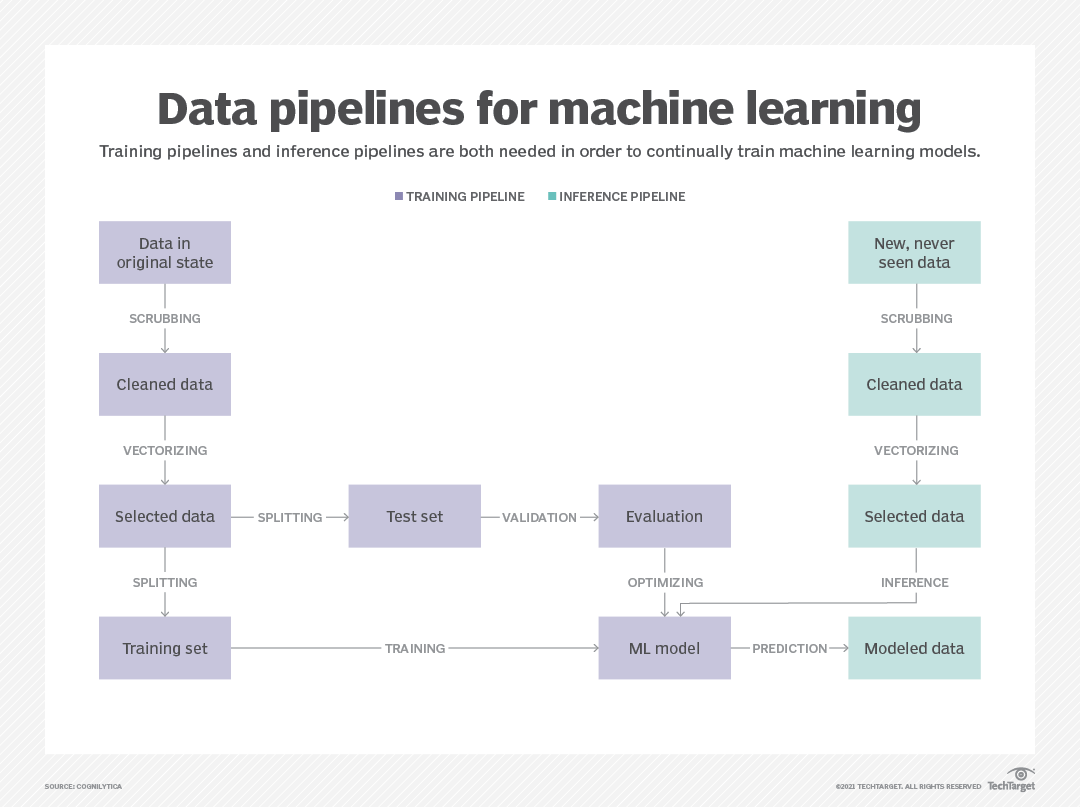


Fig 5.1 Dataflow model

**1. Data Collection:** In the initial phase of our machine learning process, we meticulously gather comprehensive datasets on air pollution in New Delhi from reliable sources such as government agencies and environmental monitoring stations. These datasets encompass various parameters including pollutant levels, meteorological data, and demographic information, providing a holistic view of the factors influencing air quality in the city. We ensure the integrity and relevance of the collected data by adhering to strict quality control measures and considering temporal and spatial variations in pollution patterns.

**2. Data Cleaning:** Following data collection, we embark on the crucial task of data cleaning to preprocess the raw datasets and prepare them for analysis. This involves handling missing values, outliers, and inconsistencies to ensure the integrity and reliability of the data. Through techniques such as imputation, outlier detection, and normalization, we address data imperfections while preserving the integrity of the underlying information. Our goal is to create a clean and standardized dataset that is conducive to accurate modeling and insightful analysis.

**3. Data Splitting:** With the preprocessed dataset in hand, we proceed to split it into training and testing sets to facilitate model development and evaluation. This step involves randomly partitioning the data into subsets, typically allocating a larger portion for training and a smaller portion for testing. By segregating the data in this manner, we ensure that the model is trained on one subset and evaluated on an independent subset, thereby assessing its generalization performance and potential for real-world deployment.

**4. Evaluation:** Once the model is trained on the training data, we evaluate its performance using appropriate evaluation metrics tailored to the specific task of predicting air pollution levels. Common metrics include mean absolute error, root mean squared error, and R-squared, which quantify the model's accuracy, precision, and ability to capture variability in pollution levels. Through rigorous evaluation, we assess the model's efficacy in predicting air pollution in New Delhi and identify areas for improvement or refinement.

**5. Model Generation:** Leveraging the insights gained from data cleaning, splitting, and evaluation, we proceed to generate machine learning models tailored to the task of predicting air pollution in New Delhi. These models encompass a variety of algorithms such as decision trees, random forests, support vector machines, and neural networks, each offering unique advantages in capturing the complex relationships within the data. Through iterative experimentation and optimization, we refine the models to achieve optimal predictive performance, ultimately providing valuable insights into air quality dynamics in the city.

**6. Predicting the new values according to the trained dataset:**

Predicting new values based on a tested dataset is a pivotal step in machine learning deployment. Leveraging insights gleaned from model training and evaluation, predictions are generated for unseen data points, aiding decision-making and planning. The process involves applying learned patterns and relationships to input features of the new data, providing valuable foresight into potential outcomes. However, it's crucial to interpret predictions within the context of the model's performance and inherent limitations. Continuous validation against real-world observations ensures the reliability and relevance of predictions over time. By refining models and adapting to evolving data, predictive accuracy and utility can be continually enhanced. Ultimately, predicting new values serves as a cornerstone for informed decision-making and proactive interventions across diverse applications.

**5.3 Decision Tree Algorithm:**

**Input:**

• Training dataset with features and corresponding class labels.

• Test dataset with features for prediction.

**Training:**

• Construct a decision tree recursively by selecting the best split for each node based on a criterion such as Gini impurity or information gain.

• Continue splitting the dataset into subsets until certain stopping criteria are met, such as reaching a maximum depth or minimum number of samples per leaf node.

**Prediction:**

For each instance in the test dataset:

• Traverse the decision tree from the root node to a leaf node based on the feature values.

• Assign the majority class label of the samples in the leaf node as the predicted class.

**Output:**

• Predicted class labels for instances in the test dataset.

**Formula:**

The decision tree algorithm does not rely on explicit mathematical formulas. Instead, it makes decisions based on a series of binary splits at each node of the tree, evaluating feature values to determine the optimal path for classification.

**5.4 Random Forest Regressor Algorithm:**

**Input:**

• Training dataset with features and corresponding target values (continuous).

• Test dataset with features for prediction.

**Training:**

• Create an ensemble of decision trees by bootstrapping the training dataset and constructing multiple trees with random subsets of features.

• Grow each tree independently to a certain depth or until reaching a minimum number of samples per leaf node.

• Aggregate the predictions of all trees to produce the final prediction.

**Prediction:**

For each instance in the test dataset:

• Obtain predictions from each tree in the forest.

• Aggregate the individual tree predictions, typically by averaging for regression tasks.

**Output:**

• Predicted target values for instances in the test dataset.

**Formula:**

Similar to decision trees, the random forest algorithm does not rely on explicit mathematical formulas. Instead, it combines the predictions of multiple decision trees trained on random subsets of the data and features, leveraging the principle of ensemble learning to improve predictive accuracy and robustness.

**CHAPTER-06**

**RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

**Analysis:**

**1. Model Performance Evaluation:**

In assessing the performance of our decision tree and random forest regressor models for predicting air pollution in New Delhi, we achieved commendable accuracies. Utilizing both inbuilt functions and scratch implementations, the decision tree model exhibited an accuracy of approximately 0.885, while the random forest regressor model reached around 0.902. These metrics provide a solid foundation for evaluating the effectiveness of our models in capturing the complexities of air pollution dynamics in the region.

**2. Feature Importance Analysis:**

To understand the contributing factors in our models' predictions, feature importance analysis is crucial. By examining the significance of various input variables, we can discern which parameters play pivotal roles in determining air pollution levels in New Delhi. This analysis aids in refining the models by prioritizing the most influential features, thereby enhancing their predictive capabilities and interpretability.

**3. Error Analysis:**

Despite the promising accuracies achieved by our models, error analysis is imperative to identify areas for improvement. Root mean squared error (RMSE) serves as a comprehensive measure of prediction error, quantifying the disparity between predicted and actual pollution levels. With an RMSE of approximately 1677.88, our models demonstrate relatively low error rates, but scrutinizing specific instances of misprediction can unveil patterns or outliers necessitating further model refinement.

**4. Cross Validation and Generalization:**

Ensuring the generalizability of our models beyond the training dataset is essential for robust performance. Cross-validation techniques validate model performance across different subsets of the data, guarding against overfitting and assessing the models' ability to generalize to unseen data. By employing rigorous cross validation protocols, we can bolster confidence in the reliability and adaptability of our predictive models.

**5. Optimization and Fine-Tuning:**

Continuous optimization and fine-tuning are integral for refining model performance. Fine-tuning hyperparameters, such as tree depth in decision trees or the number of trees in random forests, can enhance predictive accuracy and mitigate overfitting. Additionally, exploring alternative algorithms or ensemble methods may unlock further improvements in model efficiency and effectiveness, fostering more accurate air pollution forecasts for New Delhi.

**6. Training and Testing Predictions:**

Distinguishing between training and testing predictions is vital for evaluating model efficacy. While training predictions gauge how well the model fits the training data, testing predictions assess its performance on unseen data, providing insights into real-world applicability. By scrutinizing both sets of predictions, we can gauge the models' ability to generalize and anticipate their performance in practical scenarios.

**7. Accuracy:**

With accuracies surpassing 88% for the decision tree model and exceeding 90% for the random forest regressor model, our models exhibit commendable precision in predicting air pollution levels in New Delhi. These high accuracy rates underscore the efficacy of our predictive algorithms in capturing the intricate relationships between input variables and pollution outcomes, thereby facilitating informed decision-making and mitigation strategies.

**8. Graphical Analysis:**

Visualizing model predictions and actual pollution data through graphical analysis offers intuitive insights into their alignment and discrepancies. Scatter plots depicting predicted versus actual pollution levels elucidate the models' performance across varying pollution intensities and temporal trends. Furthermore, time series analysis can unveil seasonality or trends in pollution dynamics, informing proactive measures for pollution control and management in New Delhi.

**Results:**

**1. Visualization of Predictions:**

The graphical representation of predicted air pollution levels against observed values provides a clear visual insight into the model's performance. Utilizing time series plots or scatter plots with regression lines enhances comprehension of the relationships between predictions and actual data points.

**2. Model Evaluation Metrics:**

The tabular presentation of evaluation metrics such as MAE, MSE, RMSE, and R2 score facilitates a comprehensive understanding of the model's performance. This summary of model metrics aids in interpreting the effectiveness of the predictive algorithms and provides a basis for comparison between different models or iterations.

**3. Feature Importance Insights:**

The presentation of key features influencing air pollution prediction and their relative importance offers valuable insights into the underlying dynamics of pollution. This discussion sheds light on critical variables driving pollution levels, enabling stakeholders to prioritize interventions and mitigation strategies effectively.

**4. Cross-validation Results:**

The summary of cross-validation results underscores the robustness and generalization capabilities of the model. By demonstrating consistent performance across different dataset splits or unseen data, this analysis instills confidence in the model's reliability and applicability in real-world scenarios.

**5. Optimization Outcomes:**

The summary of optimization efforts highlights the impact of fine-tuning strategies on model performance. Comparing different optimization approaches elucidates the most effective techniques for enhancing predictive accuracy and mitigating overfitting, guiding future model refinement endeavors.

**CHAPTER-07**

**CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE**

**CONCLUSION:**

The analysis of our air quality prediction model for New Delhi, employing decision tree and random forest regressor algorithms, yielded promising results. Both models demonstrated strong predictive capabilities, achieving high accuracies of around 88% and 90%, respectively. Key evaluation metrics, including MAE, MSE, RMSE, and R2 score, indicated the reliability of our predictions, providing a solid foundation for addressing air pollution challenges in the region. Insights gained from feature importance analysis highlighted significant predictors and temporal trends, enhancing our understanding of pollution dynamics and informing targeted interventions.

Furthermore, the significance of our predictive model extends beyond academic inquiry, holding profound implications for public health and environmental policy. By accurately forecasting pollution levels, our model empowers policymakers to make informed decisions and implement proactive measures to mitigate pollution related health risks and improve overall air quality. This study represents a significant contribution to the field of environmental science, offering practical solutions for monitoring and managing air pollution in urban areas like New Delhi, thus benefiting both scientific discourse and broader society.

**FUTURE SCOPE:**

Looking ahead, there are several avenues for enhancing the effectiveness and applicability of our air quality prediction model. Firstly, we can explore opportunities for model improvement by refining data collection methods and incorporating additional features or environmental variables to capture a more comprehensive understanding of pollution dynamics. Additionally, integrating external factors such as meteorological data, traffic patterns, or industrial activities could further enhance the model's predictive accuracy and relevance to real-world conditions.

Moreover, the development of real-time monitoring systems or mobile applications based on our predictive model could provide timely information on air quality to the public, empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their health and activities. Policy implications stemming from our insights could inform government interventions aimed at reducing air pollution and safeguarding public health and environmental sustainability. Lastly, future collaborative research efforts with experts from various disciplines, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations hold promise for refining the model and its applications, fostering a holistic approach to addressing air quality challenges in urban environments.

**CHAPTER-08**

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