

A photograph of an Emory University campus scene. In the foreground, a large, red, stylized umbrella sculpture stands on a paved plaza. Several people are walking past it. In the background, there are university buildings, including one with a prominent white portico and columns on the left, and another with arched windows on the right. Trees with autumn foliage are scattered throughout the scene. A semi-transparent red rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title text.

# **TRAVELERS INSURANCE FRAUD MODEL**

**Emory MSBA  
Saturday Working Club**

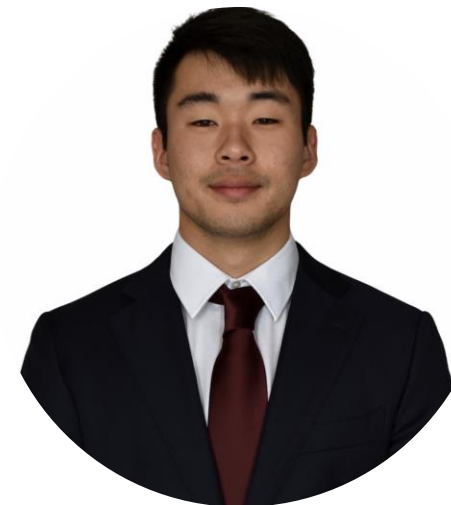
# MEET THE TEAM



**Kyu Kim**  
MSBA Candidate



**Steven Sun**  
MSBA Candidate



**Kenneth Lee**  
MSBA Candidate

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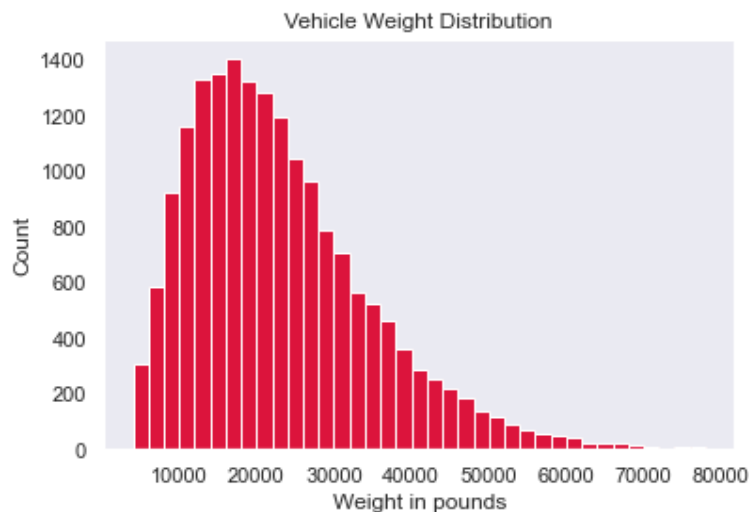


# Claim University

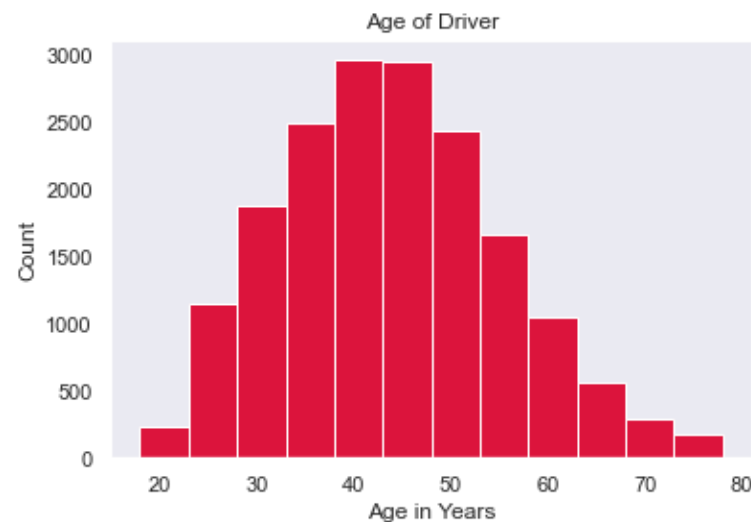
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DATA UNDERSTANDING

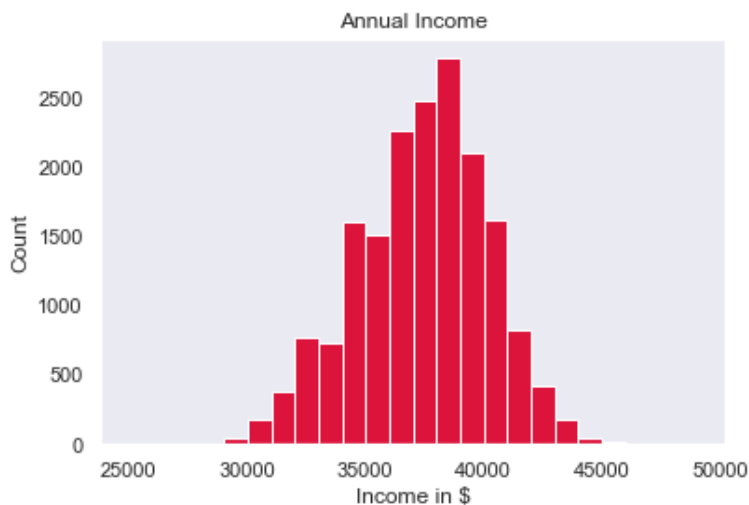
# WHAT CLUES DOES THE DATA GIVE US?



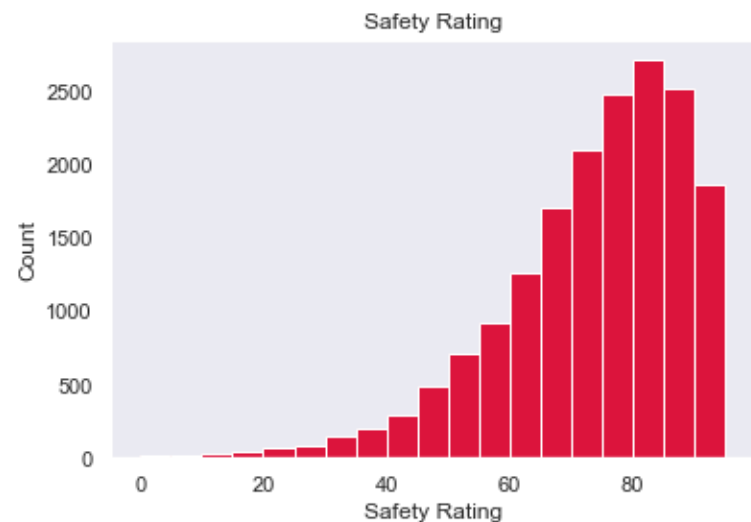
Median weight  
of all vehicles:  
20,838 pounds



Median age  
of drivers:  
43 years old



Median salary:  
\$37,610



Median safety  
ratings:  
76 points

DATA UNDERSTANDING

SWC INSURANCE  
FRAUD MODEL

MODEL SUPPLEMENT

BUSINESS IMPACT &  
ACTION ITEMS



# SETTING OUR FOCUS ON THE COMMERCIAL TRUCKING INDUSTRY



Online research on  
the characteristics led  
us to believe we are  
dealing with the  
trucking industry

Individual  
identification  
information allowed  
us to profile the  
typical claimant

Led us to conclude  
that the dataset we  
were provided was  
from Northland  
Insurance, a Travelers  
Company Subsidiary



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a red jacket over a white shirt and black pants, stands in a large, brightly lit hall. She is positioned in the lower-left area of the frame, enclosed in a red rectangular box. The hall has a polished floor that reflects the overhead lights and the people. Several red umbrellas are suspended from the ceiling at various heights. In the background, many other people are visible, some wearing red shirts, and there are various displays and decorations on the floor, including a small garden area with mushrooms and a gnome. The overall atmosphere is that of a busy event or exhibition.

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**SWC INSURANCE FRAUD MODEL**

# GATHERING WEB DATA

## Zip Code Information

- Source: [uszipcode 0.2.6 Python Package](#)
- 276 Unique Zip Codes
- 11 Features
  - Zip code type, Latitude, Longitude, Population density, Land area, Water area, Housing units, Occupied housing units, Median home value, Median household income



## 2016 Offenses Known to Law Enforcement

- Source: [FBI Uniform Crime Reporting](#)
- 1287 Cities
- 10 Features
  - Violent crime, Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated assault, Property crime, Burglary, Larceny theft, Motor vehicle theft, Arson



DATA UNDERSTANDING

SWC INSURANCE  
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# CONDUCTING FEATURE ENGINEERING

Driver Safety Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Driver safty rating}}{\text{Past \# of claims}}$$

Payout Ratio

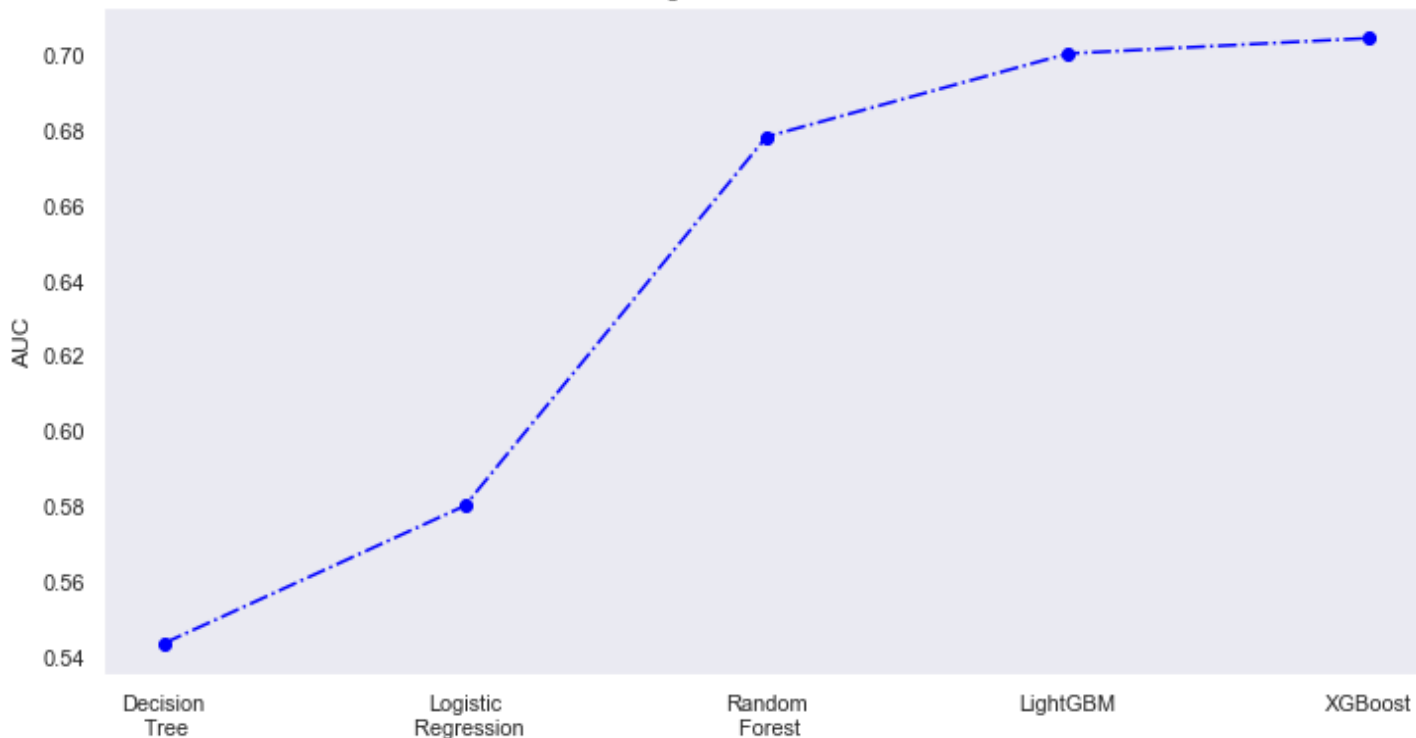
$$\frac{\text{Claim estimate payout}}{\text{Annual income}}$$

Vacancy Ratio

$$\frac{\text{\# of occupied housing units}}{\text{\# of housing units}}$$

# SELECTING ALGORITHM(S)

Algorithm Performance



**Gradient boosting models has best performance**

***XGBoost***

- Higher out-of-box ROC AUC
- Level-wise growth
- High memory usage

** LightGBM**

- Similar performance
- Histogram binning
- Leaf-wise growth
- Low memory usage
- Faster tuning speed

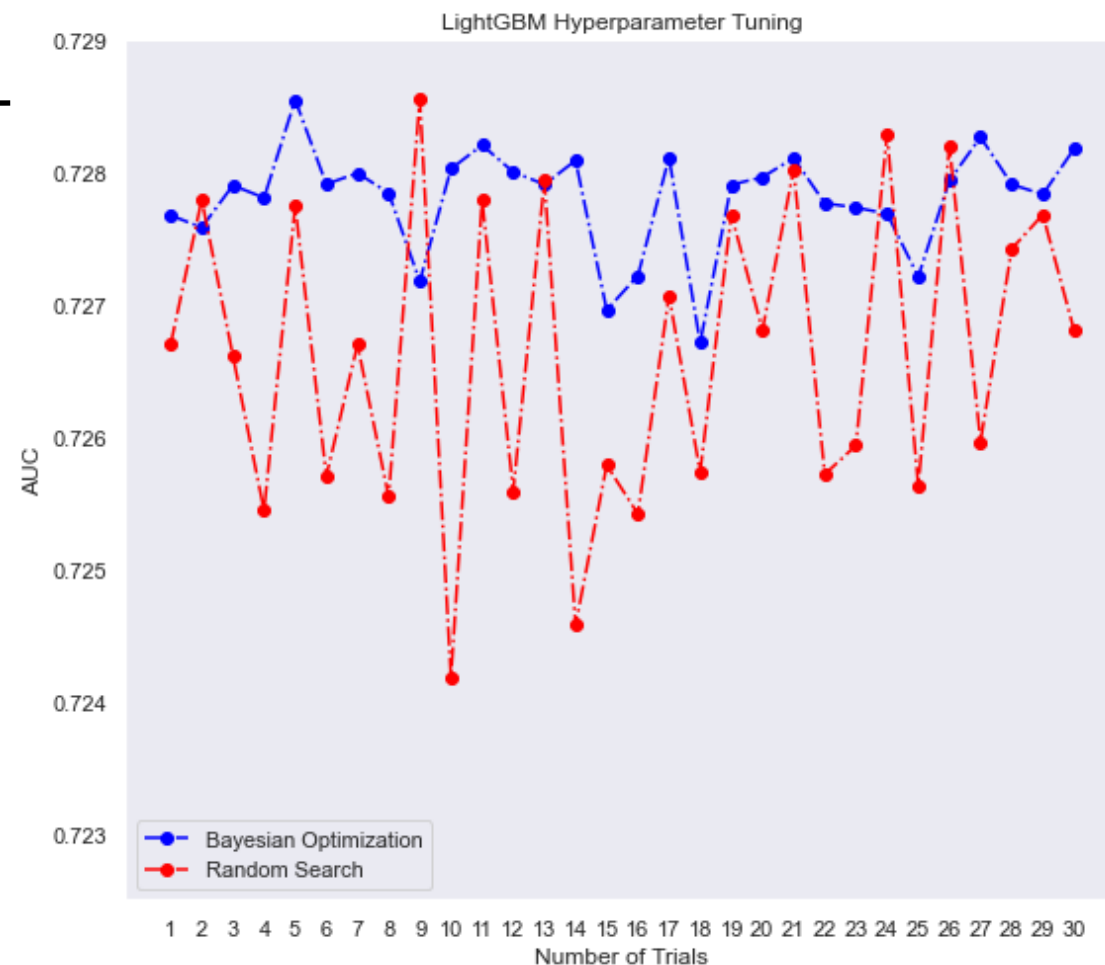
# TUNING HYPERPARAMETERS

## Parameters

- Learning rate
- Maximum depths
- Number of Leaves
- Lambda L2
- Feature fraction
- Bagging fraction
- Class weight

## Optimizers

- Random Search
  - Fastest tuning method
  - Search within provided list
  - Used in preliminary tuning
- Bayesian Optimization
  - Prioritize parameters more promising from past results
  - Search in range of distribution
  - Used in fine tuning

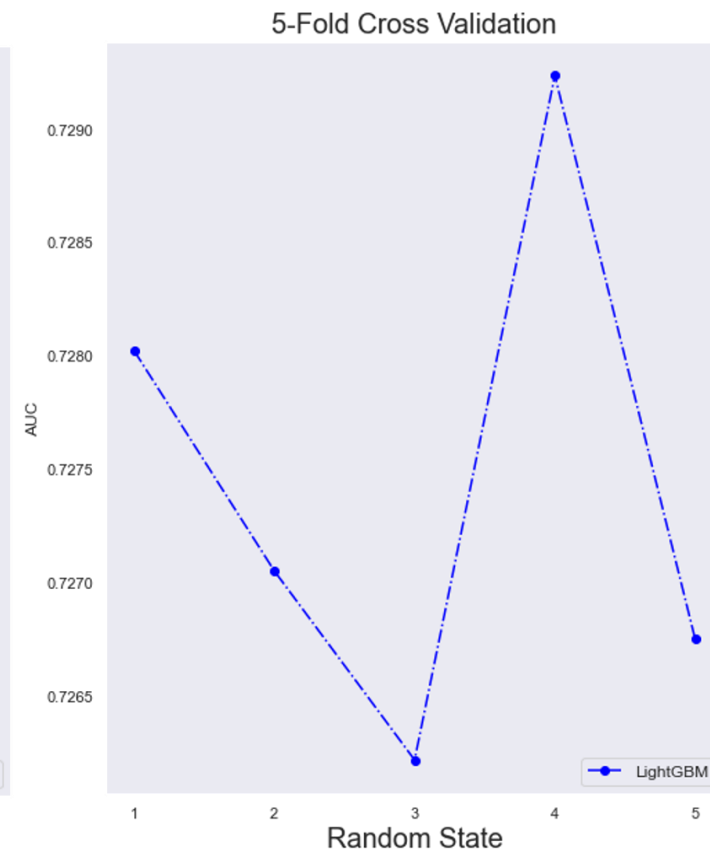
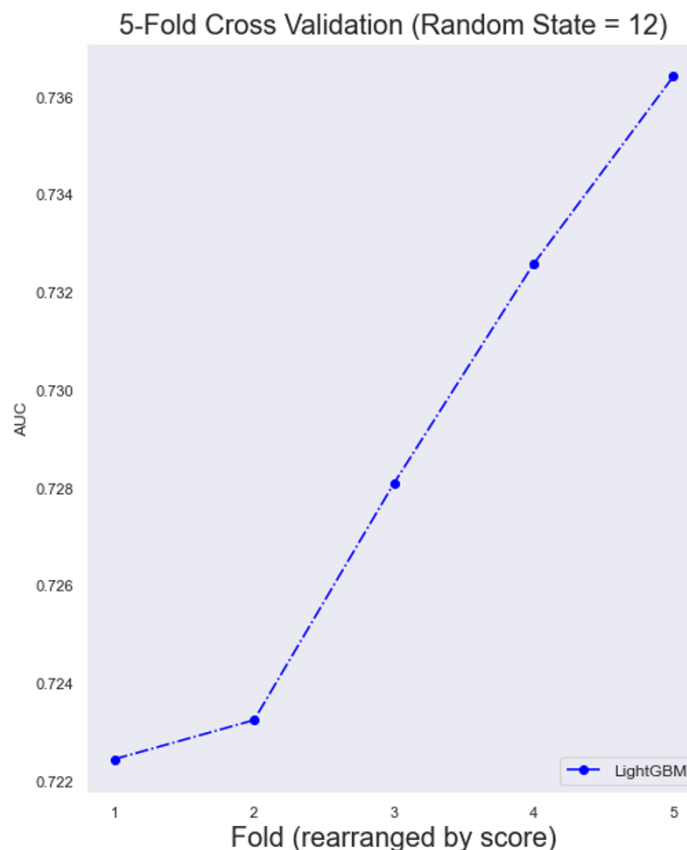




# EVALUATING PERFORMANCE

## Good Fold, Bad Fold

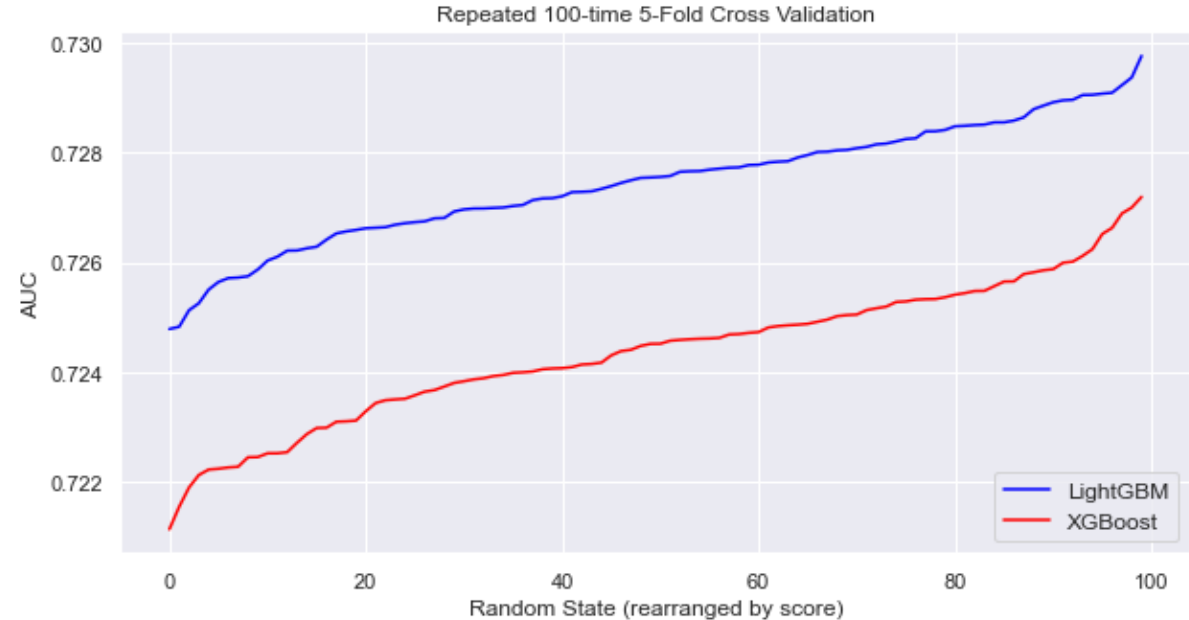
- Holdout testing and cross validation heavily relies on selection of random seeds
  - Seed 12, fold 5 AUC: 0.736
  - Seed 4, 5-fold CV average AUC: 0.7291
- **Sticking to one random seed can be biased**
- Validation across more folds reflects more accurate performance estimation
- What is model selection best practice?



# EVALUATING PERFORMANCE (CONT.)

## Model Comparison

- Repeated 100-time 5-fold cross validation
- Why 100 different random seeds?
  - Lower error in mean performance estimation
  - Lower standard deviation than single run CV
- Why 5 folds?
  - Test data size
    - 5-fold cross validation test size:  $\approx 3600$
    - Public leaderboard test size:  $\approx 4800$
    - Private leaderboard test size:  $\approx 7200$



## Computational Expense Overview

- LightGBM 100x 5-fold CV run time: 21.1 minutes / 500 fits
- 30 iterations of Bayesian optimization fine tuning:
  - $21.1 \text{ minutes} * 30 \approx 10.55 \text{ hours}$

# EXTRACTING MODELING INSIGHTS

## Mismatch between Training and Test Score

- 100 times 5-fold cross validation
  - AUC: 0.72745
- Public leaderboard
  - AUC : 0.75826
- Private leaderboard
  - AUC: 0.73795
- Leaderboard AUC is consistently higher
  - Test dataset is more predictable
  - Sampling bias during data collection

## Performance Ceiling

*"If we can improve cross-validation AUC from 0.72 to 0.73, why can't we improve from 0.73 to 0.74?"*

- Kenneth Lee



- Predictive modeling is pattern recognition
  - Pattern recognition suffers from irregularity
  - Pattern recognition cannot find scientific formula
- How to improve?
  - Collect larger dataset for more generalizable patterns
  - Collaborate with actuarial scientists on technical analysis



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MODEL SUPPLEMENTS





# IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT DRIVERS OF FRAUDULENT REPORTING

## GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Housing-Units | Population Density | Accident Site

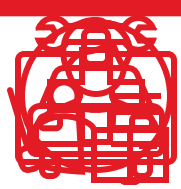
## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Annual Income | Median Household Income | Age of Driver | Safety Rating

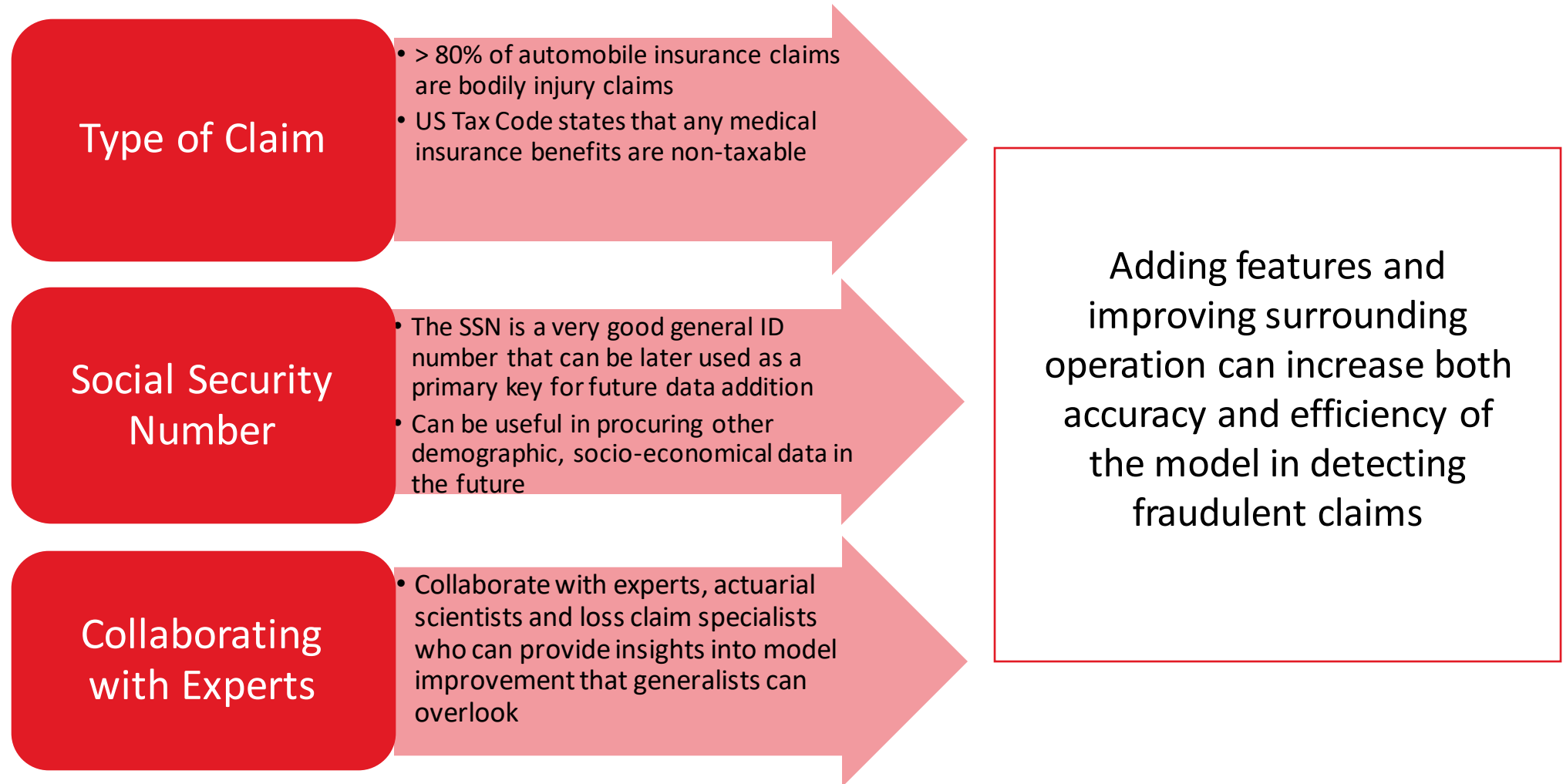
## CLAIM CHARACTERISTICS

Claim Estimated Payment | Past Number of Claims

Identifying the key drivers of fraudulent reporting will not only be able to help us improve our model accuracy, but also give us a starting point for further investigations



# IMPROVING THE MODEL & PERFORMANCE



DATA UNDERSTANDING

SWC INSURANCE  
FRAUD MODEL

MODEL SUPPLEMENT

BUSINESS IMPACT &  
ACTION ITEMS



A photograph of a modern, multi-story office building with a glass facade. The word "TRAVELERS" is visible on the upper part of the building, accompanied by a red umbrella logo. The building has a unique architectural design with a large overhang. In the foreground, there are green trees. The sky is clear and blue.

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## BUSINESS IMPACTS & ACTION ITEMS

# WHAT IS THE BUSINESS IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTING OUR MODEL?

**\$28.7 m**

**Annual Financial Impact**

**\$11 m**

**REDUCTION**

in "Claims & Claim Adjustment  
Expenses" on Income  
Statement

**\$177 m**

**MORE**

in additional revenue  
generation due to  
decreased premium fees

**1 %**

**MORE**

in bottom line growth  
just through the  
implementation of the  
model

DATA UNDERSTANDING

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**THANK YOU!**  
**ANY QUESTIONS?**

**TRAVELERS** 



A photograph of a park scene featuring a large, red, stylized umbrella sculpture on the left. The umbrella has a thick red handle that curves upwards. In the background, there are trees with yellowing leaves, a multi-story building, and an American flag on a tall pole. Several people are walking in the park. A semi-transparent red rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the word "APPENDIX" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

# APPENDIX

# MODELING METHODOLOGY





# A p p e n d i x

## Summary Statistics

	claim_num	age_of_dr	marital_st	safty_ratr	annual_in	high_educ	address_c	past_num	witness_p	liab_prct	policy_rep	claim_est	age_of_ve	vehicle_pr	vehicle_w	latitude	longitude	radius_in	population	land_area	water_are	housing_u	occupied	median_h	median
count	17998	17998	17993	17998	17998	17998	17998	17998	17866	17998	17998	17981	17990	17998	17998	17644	17644	17998	17998	17998	17998	17998	17998	17998	17998
mean	14970.6	43.6955	0.71272	73.563	37367.7	0.69919	0.57729	0.505	0.23268	49.4233	0.60068	4975.79	5.00806	23089.1	23031.3	38.9036	-93.4354	4.07096	1396.48	27.5324	0.22191	5222.67	4795.03	149219	4849
std	8659.94	11.9598	0.45251	15.3468	2957.3	0.45862	0.494	0.9555	0.42255	33.6785	0.48977	2215.71	2.25839	11988.4	12052.4	2.8301	13.4455	4.0796	2766.41	48.975	0.47655	6309.49	5786.03	151614	3938
min	1	18	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	282.639	0	2457.33	2429.43	33.3022	-112.247	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
25%	7479.25	35	0	65	35554	0	0	0	0	17	0	3337.03	3	14279.6	14164.1	38.8318	-105.077	0.39773	9	0.09	0	29	28	0	
50%	14965.5	43	1	76	37610	1	1	0	0	50	1	4668.8	5	20948.9	20838.2	39.7945	-93.4921	3	412	11.37	0.03	1630	1520	112600	4828
75%	22467.8	51	1	85	39318	1	1	1	0	81	1	6255.9	6	29562.2	29430.4	40.6252	-79.8568	6	1819	28.9	0.27	9170	8666	200000	6508
max	30000	229	1	100	54333	1	1	6	1	100	1	17218.3	16	127064	123017	42.633	-77.2888	26	28779	498.67	6.41	29594	25991	813700	18048

# MODELING DETAILS

## Feature Importance

Feature Name	Chi-Squared Feature Importance
housing_units	29320.428918
population_density	13795.514388
vehicle_weight	10068.531405
annual_income	8813.913495
claim_est_payout	4705.814218
safety_rating_percentage	2207.531805
claim_income_percentage	2153.529149
median_household_income	462.358119
past_num_of_claims	459.064911
age_of_driver	208.096947
safety_rating	148.076097
accident_site_Parking Lot	145.293145
witness_present_ind	75.122551
longitude	61.221502
high_education_ind	52.712519
age_of_vehicle	49.760848
address_change_ind	39.769575
marital_status	31.392122
vehicle_price	19.394472
gender_M	18.214358
accident_site_Local	16.605227
state_code_VA	11.095430
state_code_CO	7.100361
living_status_Rent	6.881231
policy_report_filed_ind	6.278338
zipcode_type_Unique	4.820228
vehicle_category_Large	2.743725

## Optimal Parameters

Optimal Parameter: {'reg\_lambda': 3.4000000000000004, 'num\_leaves': 3, 'max\_depth': 45, 'learning\_rate': 0.015, 'feature\_fraction': 0.2, 'bagging\_fraction': 0.9000000000000004}

Optimal Estimator: LGBMClassifier(bagging\_fraction=0.9000000000000004, drop\_rate=0.1, feature\_fraction=0.2, is\_unbalance=True, learning\_rate=0.015, max\_depth=45, metric='auc', min\_child\_weight=150, min\_split\_gain=0, num\_iterations=1500, num\_leaves=3, reg\_lambda=3.4000000000000004, subsample=0.9, verbose=-1)

iter	target	baggin...	featur...	learn...	max_depth	num_le...	reg_la...
1	0.728	0.9252	0.6534	0.02029	47.67	3.0	3.317
2	0.7278	0.7946	0.6354	0.0215	7.493	3.0	3.463
3	0.728	0.9032	0.5508	0.02746	35.56	3.0	3.137
4	0.7277	0.846	0.6787	0.02494	18.25	3.0	3.153
5	0.7278	0.6588	0.407	0.04133	48.86	3.0	3.271
6	0.7281	0.5579	0.2591	0.03666	26.47	3.0	3.463
7	0.7278	0.6466	0.2045	0.03578	9.592	3.0	3.238
8	0.7279	0.676	0.5693	0.03382	43.76	3.0	3.284
9	0.7273	0.92	0.4557	0.01253	43.39	3.0	3.253
10	0.7278	0.7358	0.5811	0.03227	21.17	3.0	3.246
11	0.7268	0.5545	0.6445	0.01062	41.64	3.0	3.113
12	0.7279	0.9459	0.4521	0.03436	15.99	3.0	3.184
13	0.7279	0.7112	0.5999	0.03893	37.24	3.0	3.425
14	0.7279	0.8227	0.3814	0.03031	31.82	3.0	3.073
15	0.7274	0.7308	0.4925	0.02593	45.11	3.0	3.037
16	0.7261	0.5831	0.472	0.01009	29.67	3.0	3.485
17	0.7281	0.6664	0.3614	0.02113	25.88	3.0	3.122
18	0.7274	0.9197	0.3984	0.03303	43.58	3.0	3.312
19	0.728	0.7488	0.5382	0.03545	23.01	3.0	3.087
20	0.7278	0.5947	0.4142	0.02532	48.94	3.0	3.03
21	0.7277	0.8746	0.5218	0.03885	43.38	3.0	3.396
22	0.7265	0.8982	0.2063	0.01092	32.63	3.0	3.201
23	0.7275	0.935	0.484	0.01308	40.11	3.0	3.485
24	0.728	0.7317	0.6708	0.03211	58.2	3.0	3.065
25	0.7285	0.7468	0.3075	0.03969	49.65	3.0	3.108
26	0.7281	0.5518	0.2973	0.0313	46.79	3.0	3.416
27	0.7266	0.9246	0.5942	0.01066	32.69	3.0	3.28
28	0.7279	0.6029	0.6423	0.01629	42.01	3.0	3.171
29	0.7284	0.8624	0.4614	0.0369	8.836	3.0	3.066
30	0.7277	0.7213	0.5559	0.01292	37.21	3.0	3.214

## Bayesian Optimization



# FINANCIAL IMPACT CALCULATIONS

## Claim Expense Cost Reduction = \$11 million

- 29 billion annual cost incurred for automobile related fraud
- 15% of automobile insurance claims are trucking related insurance claims
- Northland Insurance has a 1.3% market share in the trucking insurance industry
- Assumes our model would be 20% efficient

$$\$29 \text{ bn} * 0.15 * 0.013 * 0.2 = \$11.0 \text{ mn}$$

## Increase in revenue = \$177 mn

- Northland Insurance has an estimated \$231 mn sales (private company does not disclose, but is estimate)
- Northland Insurance has a 1.3% market share in the trucking insurance industry
- Total market for truck insurance is \$17 bn
- Assume that premium fees can be reduced by around \$500~\$1,000 (FBI Data) due to the reduction in costs related to insurance fraud, which allows Northland Insurance to lower price and increase market share by a modest 1% (1.3% --> 2.3%)

$$(\$231 \text{ mn} / 0.013 * 0.023) - \$231 \text{ mn} = \$177 \text{ mn}$$

## Increase in bottom line = 1% OR 28.7 mn

- Traveler's Company has a cost of revenue of 90%
- Traveler's Company 2020 Net Income was \$2,697 mn

$$\$11 \text{ mn} + (\$177 \text{ mn} * 0.1) = \$28.7 \text{ mn in net income}$$

$$\$28.7 \text{ mn} / \$2,697 \text{ mn} = 1\%$$

A white semi-truck is driving on a multi-lane highway. The truck is in the center-right of the frame, moving towards the viewer. The background shows a green field on the left and a line of trees under a blue sky with white clouds. A red rectangular box is superimposed over the middle of the image, containing the word "BIBLIOGRAPHY" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**



# BIBLIOGRAPHY

- <https://journalofbigdata.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40537-020-00380-z>
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