# CSCI4150U: Data Mining

Lab 03 - Model Selection and Evaluation

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#### Abstract

This report walks through the preprocessing steps, model selection, and evaluation methods used for Naive Bayes, k-Nearest Neighbors, and Decision Tree classifiers to improve accuracy for a dating site recommendation system. Models are trained using a training dataset with the final model selection based on performance metrics evaluated using an unseen test dataset.

### 1 Introduction

In this experiment, we apply standard data preprocessing techniques, explore feature relationships, and select optimal models for classification using Naive Bayes, k-Nearest Neighbors (K-NN), and Decision Tree algorithms. Each model is evaluated using cross-validation, and the best models are selected based on accuracy and generalizability.

## 2 Preprocessing and Exploration

Data preprocessing involves standardizing features to ensure they have a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one, enhancing model performance. We visualize the distribution of standardized features and inspect feature pair correlations.

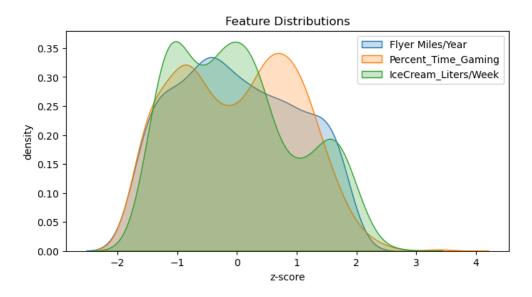


Figure 1: Distribution of Standardized Features

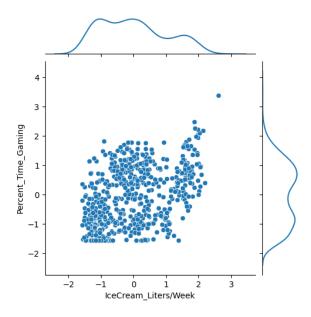
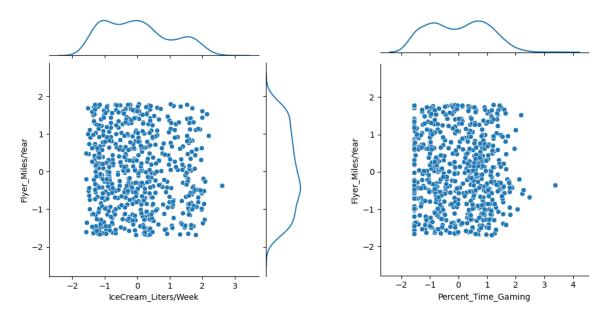


Figure 2: Percentage Time Gaming vs Ice Cream Liters/Week



 $\begin{array}{llll} \mbox{Figure 3:} & \mbox{Flyer Miles/Year vs Ice Cream} \\ \mbox{Liters/Week} & \end{array}$ 

Figure 4: Flyer Miles/Year vs Ice Cream Liters/Week

## 3 Naive Bayes Classification (Gaussian Distribution)

#### 3.1 Model Validation

Naive Bayes is selected due to minimal correlation between features, suggesting a high degree of independence. The cross-validation results for the Gaussian Naive Bayes model are presented in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Naive Bayes Cross Validation Results

## 4 K-Nearest Neighbors (K-NN) Classification

#### 4.1 Model Selection

To determine the optimal k value, we evaluate k values in the range [1, 30] using 10-fold cross-validation. The average accuracy per k-value across 100 iterations is recorded, with k = 18 yielding the highest accuracy.

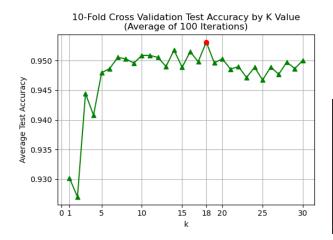


Figure 6: Accuracy vs. K for K-NN

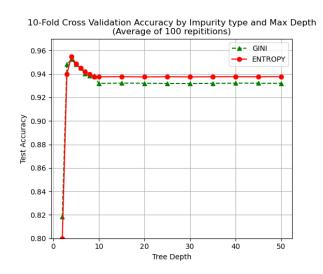
Figure 7: Code for Best K Selection

### 5 Decision Tree Classification

#### 5.1 Model Selection

We create decision trees with varying depths, using entropy and Gini impurity measures, and apply 10-fold cross-validation to identify the depth and impurity measure yielding the highest accuracy.

Figure 8: Decision Tree Model Selection Code



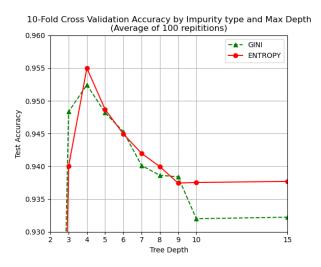


Figure 9: Accuracy by Impurity and Depth

Figure 10: Zoomed-In Accuracy by Impurity and Depth

The optimal decision tree model uses entropy impurity with a maximum depth of 4.

### 6 Test Set Validation

After model selection, we evaluate the chosen models on the test dataset. The comparison results are shown in Figure 11.

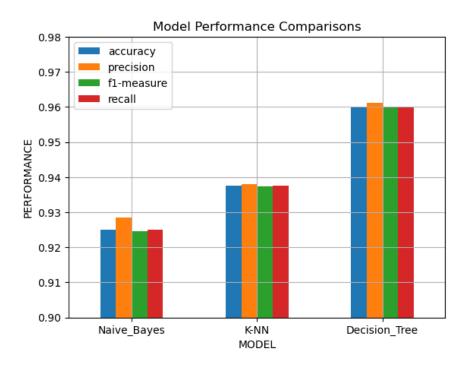


Figure 11: Comparison of Model Performance

	accuracy	precision	f1-measure	recall
Naive_Bayes	0.9250	0.928570	0.924531	0.9250
K-NN	0.9375	0.937960	0.937463	0.9375
Decision_Tree	0.9600	0.961234	0.959920	0.9600

Figure 12: Model Performance Summary

## 7 Conclusion

Based on the test dataset results, the decision tree model with entropy impurity and a max depth of 4 demonstrates the best classification performance. This model is recommended for predicting customer dating preference based on provided features.