p01 Discovery and Prep



Introduction

Along with data science, I am extremely interested in the field of machine learning. From my basic understanding of what's going on in industry, I am witnessing an intertwining of the skills from both fields in demand. I wanted to choose a dataset that would provide me with the opportunity to learn some statistical modeling along with machine learning. I wanted to find something that could provide me with a challenge, but not too much of one for someone at my skill level, but also give me some versatility in what models I can build from it. I ended up choosing the 1994 Census Income dataset from the UCI Machine Learning Repository.

The typical way this dataset is used is to predict whether an individual's income exceeds 50,000 dollars using the variables within the dataset. We can use statistical modeling techniques like logistic regression along with some machine learning algorithms like neural networks, classification, random forest, support vector machines, and possibly XGBoost.

Data Prep and Discovery

First we load the necessary packages.

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```
#First, we must load the necessary packages.
library(ggplot2)
library(plyr)
library(gridExtra)
library(gmodels)
library(grid)
library(vcd)
library(scales)
library(scales)
library(ggthemes)
library(knitr)
```

Then we must download the data which comes in the form of a test and training set. In my DSProject directory, I created a working directory in which to do this in order to keep my raw data separate for organizational purposes within its own folder named CensusData. For the purposes of this particular assignment, we will go ahead and download the data directly.

```
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```

Let's take a preliminary look at the training data. We note that the number of observations and variables respectively are:

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```
(dim(adult_train))
```

```
[1] 32561 15
```

The column names are such that they're labeled ambiguously as "V1, V2,...". We get the true names from the attributes list available at https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Census+Income (https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Census+Income).

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Now we will take a look at the first few observations of the dataset and its structure as well.

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head(adult_train)

	workclass :×fctr>	•	education <fctr></fctr>	education_num <int></int>	marital_status <fctr></fctr>	occupation <fctr></fctr>
1 39	State-gov	77516	Bachelors	13	Never-married	Adm-clerical
2 50	Self-emp-not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-manageria
3 38	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers-clean
4 53	Private	234721	11th	7	Married-civ-spouse	Handlers-clean
5 28	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married-civ-spouse	Prof-specialty
3 37	Private	284582	Masters	14	Married-civ-spouse	Exec-manageria

```
str(adult_train)
```

```
'data.frame':
               32561 obs. of 15 variables:
                : int 39 50 38 53 28 37 49 52 31 42 ...
 $ age
                : Factor w/ 9 levels " ?"," Federal-gov",..: 8 7 5 5 5 5 5 7 5 5 ...
 $ workclass
 $ fnlwgt
                : int 77516 83311 215646 234721 338409 284582 160187 209642 45781 1594
49 ...
 $ education
                : Factor w/ 16 levels " 10th", " 11th", ...: 10 10 12 2 10 13 7 12 13 10
 $ education num : int 13 13 9 7 13 14 5 9 14 13 ...
 $ marital status: Factor w/ 7 levels " Divorced", " Married-AF-spouse",..: 5 3 1 3 3 3 4
3 5 3 ...
 $ occupation : Factor w/ 15 levels " ?"," Adm-clerical",..: 2 5 7 7 11 5 9 5 11 5
 $ relationship : Factor w/ 6 levels " Husband"," Not-in-family",...: 2 1 2 1 6 6 2 1 2
1 ...
                : Factor w/ 5 levels " Amer-Indian-Eskimo",..: 5 5 5 3 3 5 5 5 5 ...
 $ race
                : Factor w/ 2 levels " Female", " Male": 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 2 1 2 ...
 $ sex
 $ capital gain : int 2174 0 0 0 0 0 0 14084 5178 ...
 $ capital loss : int 00000000000...
 $ hours per week: int 40 13 40 40 40 40 16 45 50 40 ...
 $ native country: Factor w/ 42 levels " ?"," Cambodia",..: 40 40 40 40 6 40 24 40 40 40
 $ income
                 : Factor w/ 2 levels " <=50K", " >50K": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 ...
```

Variables

We see that the variables age, fnlwgt, education_num, capital_gain, capital_loss, and hours_per_week are of type integer. The other variables are factors with differing levels. To see what levels of each factor we have, we provide a function called get_factor_levels() which takes a dataframe as an argument, identifies the factor variables, and outputs the levels of each factor variable it finds.

```
Covariate *workclass* with factor levels:
```

```
[1] " ?" " Federa
ivate" " Self-emp-inc"
                     " Federal-gov"
                                                                           " Pr
                                      " Local-gov"
                                                        " Never-worked"
[7] " Self-emp-not-inc" " State-gov" " Without-pay"
Covariate *education* with factor levels:
[1] " 10th"
                  " 7
th-8th" "9th"
[8] " Assoc-acdm" " Assoc-voc" " Bachelors" " Doctorate"
                                                              " HS-grad"
                                                                            " M
asters" " Preschool"
[15] " Prof-school" " Some-college"
Covariate *marital status* with factor levels:
                          " Married-AF-spouse" " Married-civ-spouse" " Married
[1] " Divorced"
-spouse-absent" " Never-married"
[6] " Separated"
                          " Widowed"
Covariate *occupation* with factor levels:
[1] " ?"
                       " Adm-clerical" " Armed-Forces" " Craft-repair"
" Exec-managerial"
[6] " Farming-fishing"
                       " Handlers-cleaners" " Machine-op-inspct" " Other-service"
" Priv-house-serv"
[11] " Prof-specialty" " Protective-serv" " Sales" " Tech-support"
" Transport-moving"
Covariate *relationship* with factor levels:
[1] " Husband" " Not-in-family" " Other-relative" " Own-child" " Unmarried"
" Wife"
Covariate *race* with factor levels:
[1] " Amer-Indian-Eskimo" " Asian-Pac-Islander" " Black"
                                                               " Other"
" White"
Covariate *sex* with factor levels:
[1] " Female" " Male"
Covariate *native_country* with factor levels:
```

```
[1] "?"
                                     " Cambodia"
                                                                     " Canada"
" China"
[5] " Columbia"
                                     " Cuba"
                                                                     " Dominican-Republic"
" Ecuador"
[9] " El-Salvador"
                                     " England"
                                                                     " France"
" Germany"
[13] " Greece"
                                     " Guatemala"
                                                                     " Haiti"
" Holand-Netherlands"
[17] " Honduras"
                                     " Hong"
                                                                     " Hungary"
" India"
[21] " Iran"
                                     " Ireland"
                                                                     " Italy"
" Jamaica"
                                                                     " Mexico"
[25] " Japan"
                                     " Laos"
" Nicaragua"
                                                                     " Philippines"
[29] " Outlying-US(Guam-USVI-etc)" " Peru"
" Poland"
[33] " Portugal"
                                                                     " Scotland"
                                     " Puerto-Rico"
" South"
[37] " Taiwan"
                                     " Thailand"
                                                                     " Trinadad&Tobago"
" United-States"
[41] " Vietnam"
                                     " Yuqoslavia"
```

```
Covariate *income* with factor levels:
```

```
[1] " <=50K" " >50K"
```

The output above indicates that some of the factor variables have a level denoted by "?". Those are missing values according to the documentation provided for the census data. We must get rid of the missing values before we can proceed with any exploratory and predictive analysis. We read in the data again, but with the additional specification na.strings ="?".

```
adult train <- read.table("https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/adu
lt/adult.data", sep = ",", header = FALSE, na.strings = " ?")
```

```
#Don't forget to rename the columns.
colnames(adult train) <- c("age", "workclass", "fnlwgt", "education", "education num",</pre>
"marital status", "occupation", "relationship",
                           "race", "sex", "capital gain", "capital loss", "hours per wee
k", "native country", "income")
```

#Since those previous ?'s are now NA's, we may sweep them out with na.omit().

```
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```

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```
adult_train <- na.omit(adult_train)</pre>
```

We'll also enumerate the rows of the data.

```
row.names(adult_train) <- 1:nrow(adult_train)</pre>
```

From a boxplot and summary of the variable hours_per_week, we see that the mean number of working hours per week is 41, and at least 50% of the people taking part of the survey work between 40 and 45 hours per week.

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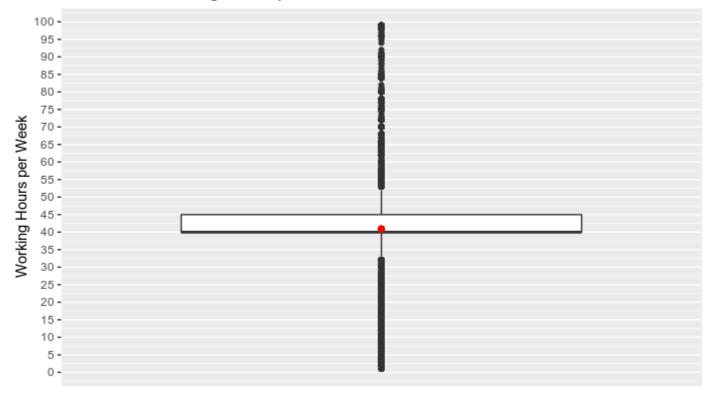
summary(adult_train\$hours_per_week)

Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
1.00 40.00 40.00 40.93 45.00 99.00

The boxplot also indicates the many outliers:

ggplot(aes(x = factor(0), y = hours_per_week), data = adult_train) +
 geom_boxplot() +
 stat_summary(fun.y = mean, geom = "point", shape = 19, color = "red", cex = 2) +
 scale_x_discrete(breaks = NULL) +
 scale_y_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 100, 5)) +
 xlab(label = "") +
 ylab(label = "Working Hours per Week") +
 ggtitle("Box Plot of Working Hours per Week")

Box Plot of Working Hours per Week



We will group the working hours into 5 categories. We will also create a new factor variable called hours_worked corresponding to these 5 categories.

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We can now see how many people belong to each category of the factor variable hours_worked.

Hide

```
summary(adult_train$hours_worked)
```

It's been already mentioned that the majority of people work between 40 and 45 hours per week, but there's also a considerable amount of people working less than 40 and between 45 and 60 hours per week.

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```
for (i in 1:length(summary(adult_train$hours_worked))){
  print(round(100 * summary(adult_train$hours_worked)[i] / sum(!is.na(adult_train$hours_worked)), 2))
}
```

The factor variable native_country has 41 levels. When building a predictive model with native_country as a covariate, it will give 41 degrees of freedom and unnecessarily complicate the analysis. We mus coarsen the data using global regions instead.

Hide

levels(adult_train\$native_country)

```
[1] " Cambodia"
                                     " Canada"
                                                                     " China"
" Columbia"
                                     " Dominican-Republic"
[5] " Cuba"
                                                                     " Ecuador"
" El-Salvador"
[9] " England"
                                     " France"
                                                                     " Germany"
" Greece"
                                     " Haiti"
[13] " Guatemala"
                                                                     " Holand-Netherlands"
" Honduras"
[17] " Hong"
                                     " Hungary"
                                                                     " India"
" Iran"
[21] " Ireland"
                                     " Italy"
                                                                     " Jamaica"
" Japan"
[25] " Laos"
                                     " Mexico"
                                                                     " Nicaragua"
" Outlying-US(Guam-USVI-etc)"
[29] " Peru"
                                                                     " Poland"
                                     " Philippines"
" Portugal"
                                     " Scotland"
                                                                     " South"
[33] " Puerto-Rico"
" Taiwan"
[37] " Thailand"
                                     " Trinadad&Tobago"
                                                                     " United-States"
" Vietnam"
[41] " Yugoslavia"
```

First we'll define the regions:

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Then we'll modify the dataframe by adding an additional column named native region.

Finally, we'll transform the new variable, native_region, into a factor.

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```
adult_train$native_region <- factor(adult_train$native_region, ordered = FALSE)
```

The summary below tells us that at least 50% of the variables capital gain and capital loss are zeros.

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```
summary(adult_train$capital_gain)
```

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
0 0 0 1092 0 99999
```

Hide

summary(adult train\$capital loss)

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
0.00 0.00 0.00 88.37 0.00 4356.00
```

The mean values of capital_gain and capital_loss with zero values included are, respectively:

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```
mean_gain <- mean(adult_train$capital_gain)
mean_loss <- mean(adult_train$capital_loss)
kable(data.frame(Mean_Capital_Gain = mean_gain, Mean_Capital_Loss = mean_loss), caption
= "Mean Capital with Zero Values Included")</pre>
```

Mean_Capital_Gain	Mean_Capital_Loss
1002 008	88 37240

1092.008

We also give the mean capital gain and loss in the case where all zero values are removed:

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Mean_Capital_Gain	Mean_Capital_Loss
12977.6	1867.898

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NA

We display the summary of the nonzero values of capital loss and capital gain as well as their respective interquartile ranges.

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```
iqr_gain <- IQR(subset(adult_train$capital_gain, adult_train$capital_gain > 0))
iqr_loss <- IQR(subset(adult_train$capital_loss, adult_train$capital_loss > 0))
quantile_gain <- quantile(x = subset(adult_train$capital_gain, adult_train$capital_gain
> 0), probs = seq(0, 1, 0.25))
quantile_loss <- quantile(x = subset(adult_train$capital_loss, adult_train$capital_loss
> 0), probs = seq(0, 1, 0.25))
kable(x = data.frame(Capital_Gain = quantile_gain, Capital_Loss = quantile_loss), captio
n = "Quantile of the Nonzero Capital")
```

	Capital_Gain	Capital_Loss
0%	114	155
25%	3464	1672
50%	7298	1887
75%	14084	1977
100%	99999	4356

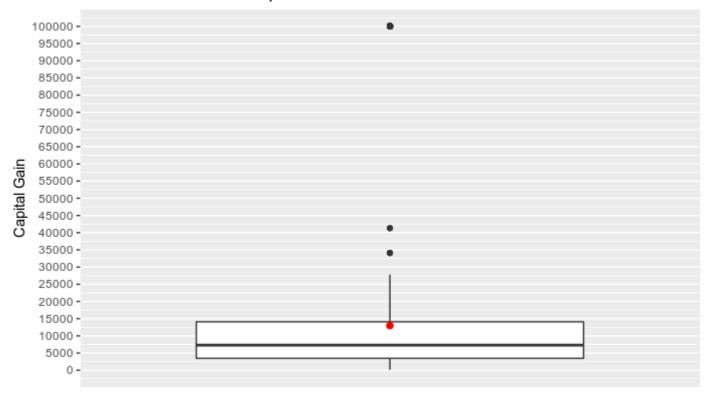
```
kable(x = data.frame(IQR_Capital_Gain = iqr_gain, IQR_Capital_Loss = iqr_loss), caption
= "IQR of the Nonzero Capital")
```

IQR_Capital_Loss	IQR_Capital_Gain
305	10620

We notice that the IQR of the nonzero capital gain is much larger than that of the capital loss. We display a boxplot of the nonzero capital gain.

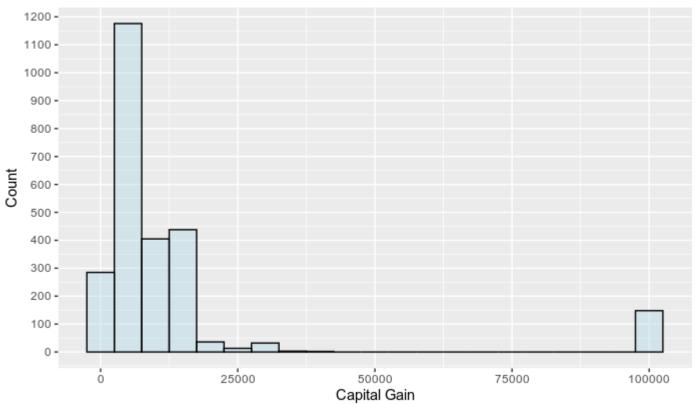
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Box Plot of Nonzero Capital Gain



From the boxplot, we see that the bulk of the data is between 3,000 and 15,000 dollars with a few outliers. Next, we'll show a histogram of the nonzero capital gain:

Histogram of Nonzero Capital Gain

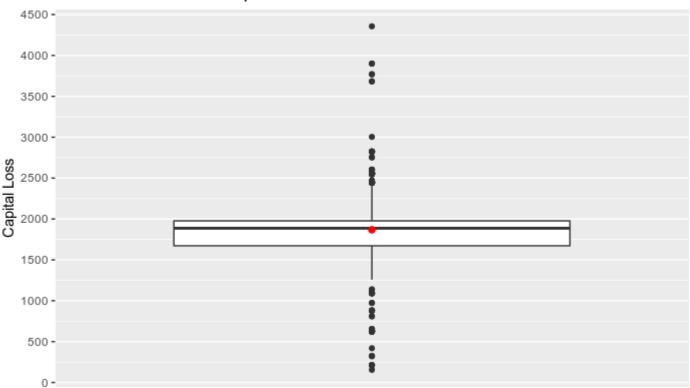


The histogram confirms what we've observed. The majority of people with positive capital gain have a capital gain between 0 and 25,000 dollars. The largest number of people with positive capital gain are those with about 5,000 dollars. Below, we display a box plot of the nonzero capital loss values.

```
Hide
```

```
ggplot(aes(x = factor(0), y = capital_loss), data = subset(adult_train, adult_train$capi
tal_loss > 0)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  stat_summary(fun.y = mean, geom = "point", shape = 19, color = "red", cex = 2) +
  scale_x_discrete(breaks = NULL) +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 5000, 500)) +
  ylab("Capital Loss") +
  xlab("") +
  ggtitle("Box Plot of Nonzero Capital Loss")
```

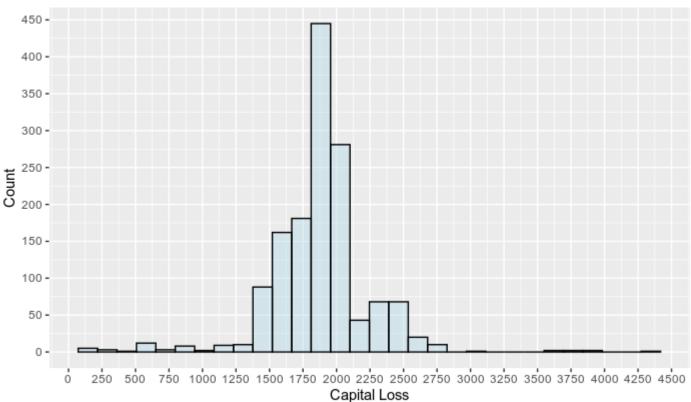
Box Plot of Nonzero Capital Loss



A histogram of the nonzero capital loss:

```
df <- adult_train[adult_train$capital_loss > 0,]
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = df$capital_loss)) +
   geom_histogram(color = "black", fill = "lightblue", alpha = 0.4) +
   scale_x_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 5000, 250)) +
   scale_y_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 450, 50)) +
   labs(x = "Capital Loss", y = "Count") +
   ggtitle("Histogram of Nonzero Capital Loss")
```

Histogram of Nonzero Capital Loss



The box plot tells us that most values are between 1,700 and 2,000 dollars and there are many outliers. The largest number of people have a capital loss of about 1,875 dollars.

Based on these results, we will group the values of the variables capital_loss, and capital_gain into categories and we will create two new factor variables called cap gain and cap loss.

We will mark all values of capital_gain which are less than the first quartile of the nonzero capital gain as "Low", all values that are between the first and third quartile as "Medium", and all values greater than or equal to the third quartile are marked "High".

We mark all values of capital_loss which are less than the first quartile of the nonzero capital gain as "Low", all values that are between the first and third quartile as "Medium", and all values greater than or equal to the third quartile are marked "High".

We notice that there is one unused factor level in the variable workclass, the level "Never-worked".

Hide

summary(adult_train\$workclass)

```
Federal-gov
                           Local-gov
                                            Never-worked
                                                                    Private
                                                                                  Self-emp-in
  Self-emp-not-inc
                              State-gov
                                                       0
               943
                                 2067
                                                                       22286
                                                                                           107
4
                2499
                                   1279
      Without-pay
                14
```

We will remove the unused factor level Never-worked from the categorical variable workclass.

Hide

```
adult_train$workclass <- droplevels(adult_train$workclass)
levels(adult_train$workclass)</pre>
```

```
[1] "Federal-gov" "Local-gov" "Private" "Self-emp-inc" "Self-emp-i
```

The census data comes with a separate test data set, which we use to test out-of-sample accuracy of the constructed predictive models. We repeat the same steps as in the transformation of the training dataframe adult_train.

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Cleaning missing values from the test data.

Hide

```
adult_test <- na.omit(adult_test)
row.names(adult_test) <- 1:nrow(adult_test)</pre>
```

Let's take a look at what we're working with.

```
head(adult_test)
```

workclass	fnlwgt education	education_num marital_status	occupation
<int×fctr></int×fctr>	<int> <fctr></fctr></int>	<int> <fctr></fctr></int>	<fctr></fctr>

workclass <int≍fctr></int≍fctr>	•	education <fctr></fctr>	education_num <int></int>	marital_status <fctr></fctr>	occupation <fctr></fctr>
1 25 Private	226802	11th	7	Never-married	Machine-op
2 38 Private	89814	HS-grad	9	Married-civ-spouse	Farming-fish
3 28 Local-gov	336951	Assoc-acdm	12	Married-civ-spouse	Protective-s
4 44 Private	160323	Some-college	10	Married-civ-spouse	Machine-op
5 34 Private	198693	10th	6	Never-married	Other-servic
6 63 Self-emp-not-inc	104626	Prof-school	15	Married-civ-spouse	Prof-special
6 rows 1-8 of 15 columns					

From the display of the first 5 observations of the data, we notice that the names of the levels of the factor variable income differ from the respective names in the training data adult_train by the symbol ".". We remove the "." from the names of the factor levels of "income" in the test data.

Hide

```
levels(adult_test$income)[1] <- "<=50K"
levels(adult_test$income)[2] <- ">50K"
levels(adult_test$income)
```

```
[1] "<=50K" ">50K"
```

Just like the training data we create a new variable called hours_worked.

Hide

We also have to create the variable native_region.

Create the variables cap gain and cap loss.

Hide

We drop the unused level Never-worked from the factor variable workclass.

Hide

```
adult test$workclass <- droplevels(adult test$workclass)
```

Research Questions and Other Implications

How would a company that makes high-end products identify customers to target for their products, or potentially customer rich markets? Is using census data an effective way to accomplish these goals? This is a sort of market research question that could be answered in a project like this. Perhaps I may discover other interesting relationships that may be ascertained from the data.