Project Report: Starbucks Capstone Challenge

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Udacity – AWS Machine Learning Nanodegree 2023

# **Introduction:**

Starbucks is one of the most popular coffeehouse chains in the world with a presence in over 80 countries. The company has a mobile app that enables customers to pay for their orders, earn rewards, and avail of special offers. The challenge for Starbucks is to analyze customer behavior on the app and identify which demographic groups respond best to which offer types. This project proposes a machine learning solution to predict customer behavior upon receiving offers from Starbucks.

#### **Problem Statement:**

The goal of this project is to build a machine learning model that can predict which customers are more likely to make a purchase upon receiving offers. Starbucks sends out different types of offers to its customers, including Buy One Get One (BOGO), discounts, and informational offers. Not all customers receive the same offer, and some customers may not receive any offer during certain weeks. Therefore, the challenge is to analyze the customer behavior on the Starbucks rewards mobile app and identify which demographic groups respond best to which offer types.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

To address this challenge, the project proposes the following steps:

- 1. Exploratory data analysis (EDA): Perform EDA on the provided dataset to understand the relationship between customer demographics, offer types, and customer behavior on the mobile app.
- 2. Data preprocessing: Preprocess and clean the data, ensuring data integrity and addressing any missing values.
- 3. Machine learning techniques: Use machine learning techniques to build a predictive model that can determine which customers respond best to offers.
- 4. Hyperparameter optimization: Optimize the model's hyperparameters using techniques such as grid search or Bayesian optimization.
- 5. Evaluation: Evaluate the model's performance on the test set and compare it with the performance of other models.

# **Deliverables:**

The deliverables of this project will be a well-documented codebase that includes data preprocessing, EDA, and a predictive model. The model should be able to predict which customers are more likely to make a purchase upon receiving offers. The project will be presented in the form of a technical report that documents the entire project's scope, methodology, results, and conclusions. The report will also include visualizations to help explain the findings and a detailed discussion of the limitations and future scope of the project.

# **Evaluation Metric:**

The F1 score will be used as the primary evaluation metric for this project. The F1 score is a measure of a model's accuracy that considers both precision and recall. By using the F1 score as our primary metric, we can ensure that our model performs well in terms of both precision and recall, which are both important for our project's goals.

#### **Project Design:**

- 1. The project will be divided into the following steps:
- 2. Set up the environment: Create an Amazon SageMaker notebook instance and set up the required environment.
- 3. Import necessary libraries: Import the necessary libraries such as pandas, numpy, seaborn, matplotlib, and sagemaker.
- 4. Data loading and exploration: Load the Starbucks dataset into the notebook instance and explore it to gain a better understanding of the data.
- 5. Data preprocessing: Preprocess the data by performing tasks such as data cleaning, feature engineering, and feature scaling.
- 6. Data splitting: Split the data into training, validation, and test sets.
- 7. Machine learning model training: Train a machine learning model using one of the available algorithms such as XGBoost, Random Forest, or Deep Learning.
- 8. Hyperparameter optimization: Optimize the model's hyperparameters using techniques such as grid search or Bayesian optimization.
- 9. Model evaluation: Evaluate the model's performance on the test set and compare it with the performance of other models.

## **Data Sets**

The data is contained in three files:

- \* portfolio.json containing offer ids and meta data about each offer (duration, type, etc.)
- \* profile.json demographic data for each customer
- \* transcript.json records for transactions, offers received, offers viewed, and offers completed

Here is the schema and explanation of each variable in the files:

# portfolio.json

- id (string) offer id
- offer\_type (string) type of offer ie BOGO, discount, informational
- difficulty (int) minimum required spend to complete an offer
- reward (int) reward given for completing an offer
- duration (int) time for offer to be open, in days
- channels (list of strings)

# profile.json

- age (int) age of the customer
- became\_member\_on (int) date when customer created an app account
- gender (str) gender of the customer (note some entries contain 'O' for other rather than M or F)
- id (str) customer id
- income (float) customer's income

# transcript.json

- event (str) record description (ie transaction, offer received, offer viewed, etc.)
- person (str) customer id
- time (int) time in hours since start of test. The data begins at time t=0
- value (dict of strings) either an offer id or transaction amount depending on the record

# <u>Perform exploratory data analysis and pre-process the dataset by performing feature engineering, handling missing values, and encoding categorical variables</u>

portfolio.json

clean version:

No data manipulation required, updated column to "offer id" for dataframe merging.

	reward	channels	difficulty	duration	offer_type	offer id
0	10	[email, mobile, social]	10	7	bogo	ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd
1	10	[web, email, mobile, social]	10	5	bogo	4d5c57ea9a6940dd891ad53e9dbe8da0
2	0	[web, email, mobile]	0	4	informational	3f207df678b143eea3cee63160fa8bed
3	5	[web, email, mobile]	5	7	bogo	9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9
4	5	[web, email]	20	10	discount	0b1e1539f2cc45b7b9fa7c272da2e1d7

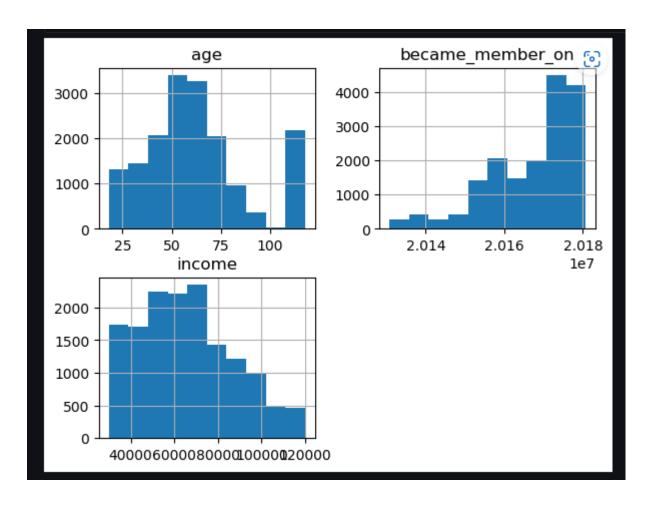
# profile.json

Observed irregular data due to age feature as seen in the histogram.

This was most likely caused by customer not providing their age/date of birth and 118 is the default value the app registers

In the process of dropping invalid age data, null gender data was also removed

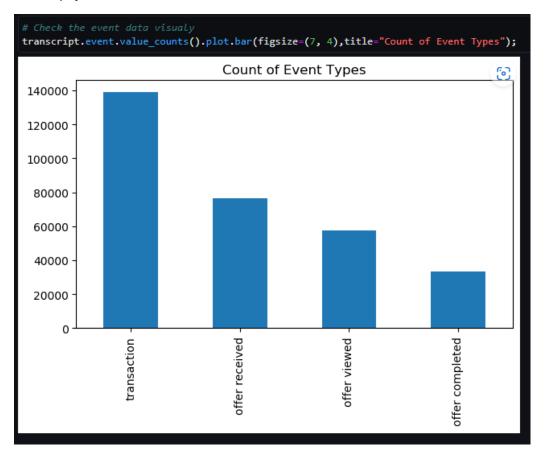
This implies that customers that did not provide age/date of birth, also did not provide their gender This then mplies such customers prefer not to disclose their personal data (age/date of birth and gender)



#### clean version:

:	gender	age	customer id	became_member_on	income
1	F	55	0610b486422d4921ae7d2bf64640c50b	20170715	112000.0
3	F	75	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	20170509	100000.0
5	М	68	e2127556f4f64592b11af22de27a7932	20180426	70000.0
8	М	65	389bc3fa690240e798340f5a15918d5c	20180209	53000.0
12	М	58	2eeac8d8feae4a8cad5a6af0499a211d	20171111	51000.0

# transcript.json



	the data for the first person	in the dataset		
	ranscript.loc[0]['person'] ript[transcript.person == usr]			
	person	event	value	time
	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef			
0		offer received	{'offer id': '9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9'}	0
15561	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	('offer id': '9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9')	6
47582	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 19.89}	132
47583	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	{'offer_id': '9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9	132
49502	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 17.78}	144
53176	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	{'offer id': '5a8bc65990b245e5a138643cd4eb9837'}	168
85291	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	{'offer id': '5a8bc65990b245e5a138643cd4eb9837'}	216
87134	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 19.67}	222
92104	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 29.72}	240
141566	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 23.93}	378
150598	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	{'offer id': 'ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd'}	408
163375	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	{'offer id': 'ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd'}	408
201572	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	{'offer id': 'f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d'}	504
218393	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 21.72}	510
218394	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	{'offer_id': 'ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd	510
218395	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	{'offer_id': 'f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d	510
230412	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	transaction	{'amount': 26.56}	534
262138	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	{'offer id': 'f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d'}	582

Data indicates that this dataset is a list of historical transactions (multiple transactions per individual)

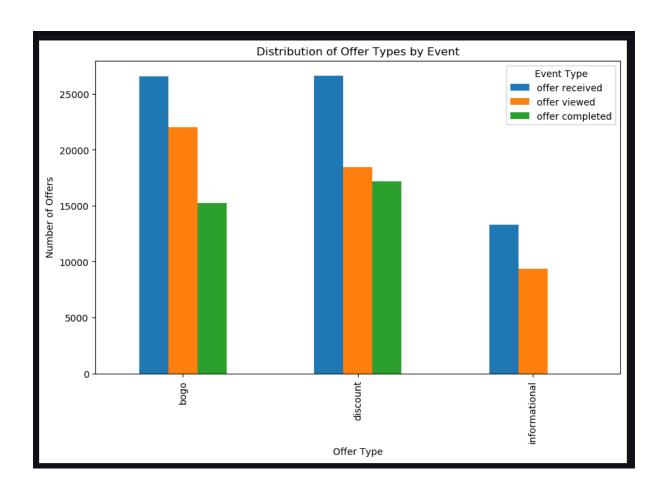
Dropping and renaming some columns:

	customer id	event	time	offer id
0	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	0	9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9
1	a03223e636434f42ac4c3df47e8bac43	offer received	0	0b1e1539f2cc45b7b9fa7c272da2e1d7
2	e2127556f4f64592b11af22de27a7932	offer received	0	2906b810c7d4411798c6938adc9daaa5
3	8ec6ce2a7e7949b1bf142def7d0e0586	offer received	0	fafdcd668e3743c1bb461111dcafc2a4
4	68617ca6246f4fbc85e91a2a49552598	offer received	0	4d5c57ea9a6940dd891ad53e9dbe8da0

# **Final Merged Dataframe**

Combine the 3 dataframes based on 'customer id' and 'offer id'.

	customer id	event	time	offer id	reward	channels	difficulty	duration	offer_type	gender	age	became_member_on	income
0	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received		9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9		[web, email, mobile]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	6	9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9		[web, email, mobile]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
2	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	132	9b98b8c7a33c4b65b9aebfe6a799e6d9		[web, email, mobile]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
3	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	504	f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d		[web, email, mobile, social]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
4	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	510	f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d		[web, email, mobile, social]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
5	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	582	f19421c1d4aa40978ebb69ca19b0e20d		[web, email, mobile, social]			bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
6	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	408	ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd	10	[email, mobile, social]	10		bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
7	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	408	ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd	10	[email, mobile, social]	10		bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
8	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer completed	510	ae264e3637204a6fb9bb56bc8210ddfd	10	[email, mobile, social]	10		bogo		75	20170509	100000.0
9	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer received	168	5a8bc65990b245e5a138643cd4eb9837		[email, mobile, social]		3	informational		75	20170509	100000.0
10	78afa995795e4d85b5d9ceeca43f5fef	offer viewed	216	5a8bc65990b245e5a138643cd4eb9837		[email, mobile, social]	0	3	informational		75	20170509	100000.0



```
        event
        viewed_to_received
        completed_to_viewed
        completed_to_received

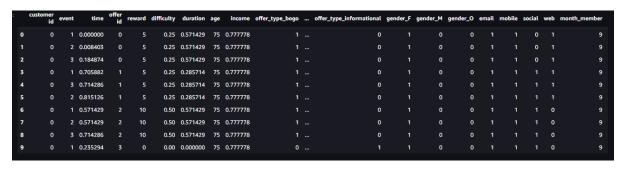
        offer_type
        bogo
        0.830488
        0.692290
        0.574939

        discount
        0.692383
        0.930848
        0.644503

        informational
        0.703754
        NaN
        NaN
```

The data tells us that customers are extremely receptive to "bogo" offers if they see the offer having a conversion rate of 93.08%.

Perform feature engineering, final dataframe for building machine learning model:



Then we proceed to split the data into training dataframe and test dataframe to train and test the machine learning models.

## **Benchmark model selection**

K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN) algorithm is a popular choice for benchmarking classification models, especially in cases where the dataset is relatively small, and the number of features is not too high. In this project, KNN was used as a benchmark model to predict the event response of customers to offers on the Starbucks rewards mobile app because it is a simple, non-parametric algorithm that is easy to implement and interpret.

KNN works by calculating the distance between each data point in the dataset and its K nearest neighbors based on some similarity metric. The predicted class for a given data point is then the majority class of its K nearest neighbors. The choice of K can significantly affect the performance of the model, and it is usually determined using cross-validation.

KNN has been widely used for customer segmentation in the retail industry, including the analysis of customer behavior, purchase history, and demographic information. Some examples of KNN applications in customer segmentation can be found in the following references:

- Hua, Y., Cheng, K. T., & Kannan, P. K. (2014). Customer clustering based on purchase sequences: Evidence from a large-scale dataset. Journal of Retailing, 90(4), 518-535. doi: 10.1016/j.jretai.2014.06.001
- Mikhaylov, S. J., & Wittink, D. R. (2012). Market segmentation using K-means clustering. Journal of Marketing Analytics, 1(4), 217-237. doi: 10.1057/jma.2013.3
- Ortega, F. J. G., Rodríguez, M. A. V., Pérez, J. A. R., & Yáñez, J. A. R. (2013). Customer segmentation based on shopping basket analysis using unsupervised techniques. Expert Systems with Applications, 40(8), 3160-3166. doi: 10.1016/j.eswa.2012.12.004

Overall, KNN is a popular choice for benchmarking classification models and has been used effectively in customer segmentation for the retail industry.

#### **Project Refinement and Improvement:**

To improve upon the initial solution, we can explore various approaches. Here are a few steps that we can take to improve the solution:

- 1. Fine-tune the hyperparameters: The performance of machine learning models is highly dependent on the hyperparameters chosen. We can perform a grid search or a randomized search over the hyperparameter space to find the optimal values for our model.
- 2. Feature Engineering: We can create additional features or transform existing ones to provide more information to the model. For example, we can add a feature that represents the ratio of the customer's income to the offer difficulty.
- 3. Model selection: We can experiment with different models, such as Decision Trees, Random Forests, Gradient Boosting, or Neural Networks, to see if they outperform the K-Nearest Neighbor model.
- 4. Ensemble models: We can combine the predictions of multiple models, such as K-Nearest Neighbor, Random Forest, and Gradient Boosting, using a weighted average to improve the overall performance.
- 5. Data Augmentation: We can generate synthetic data using techniques such as SMOTE (Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique) or ADASYN (Adaptive Synthetic Sampling), to increase the representation of the minority class and improve the model's ability to detect true positives.
- 6. Transfer Learning: We can use pre-trained models, such as BERT or GPT, to extract features from the text data and use them in our model. This can potentially improve the accuracy of the model.
- 7. Increase the size of the dataset: We can collect more data or use data from other sources to improve the model's performance. This can be particularly useful if we observe that the model is overfitting or underfitting the data.

Overall, we need to try different approaches and see what works best for our problem. By experimenting with different techniques and algorithms, we can refine and improve the model's performance.

Once the improvements are incorporated, we can report both the initial and final solutions, along with intermediate solutions, if necessary. We can also compare the performance of the different models and techniques used to determine which approach worked best.

In this project,

- 'Feature Engineering' was performed earlier to process categorical variables, normalize numerical features and obtain more features.
- 'Model selection', we will 3 models, K-Nearest Neighbor as the benchmark, two additional models: Random Forest and Decision Tree.
- 'Fine-tune the hyperparameters', of the best performing models from 'Model Selection', to fine tune hyperparameters to yield a model that results in the best F1-scores.

# **Train and test the machine learning models**

K-Nearest Neighbor algorithm is trained and tested as the benchmark model.

```
KNeighborsClassifier (Benchmark) Model

clf_A = KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors = 5)
a_train_f1, a_test_f1, a_model = train_test(clf_A)

knn = {'KNN Benchmark Model': [ a_model], 'train F1 score': [a_train_f1], 'test F1 score': [a_test_f1]}
benchmark = pd.DataFrame(knn)

benchmark

KNN Benchmark Model train F1 score test F1 score

0 KNeighborsClassifier 51.970824 30.943498
```

Two other models were also trained as part of model refinement and improvement, namely the Random Forest algorithm and Decision Tree algorithm.

```
RandomForestClassifier Model
clf_B = RandomForestClassifier(random_state = 10)
b_train_f1, b_test_f1, b_model = train_test(clf_B)
rfc = {'RandomForestClassifier Model': [ b_model], 'train F1 score':[b_train_f1], 'test F1 score': [b_test_f1]}
model_r = pd.DataFrame(rfc)
model r
  RandomForestClassifier Model train F1 score test F1 score
        RandomForestClassifier
                              93.948595 44.469093
DecisionTreeClassifier Model
clf_C = DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state = 10)
c_train_f1, c_test_f1, c_model = train_test(clf_C)
dtc = {'RandomForestClassifier Model': [ c_model], 'train F1 score':[c_train_f1], 'test F1 score': [c_test_f1]}
model_d = pd.DataFrame(dtc)
model_d
  RandomForestClassifier Model train F1 score test F1 score
          DecisionTreeClassifier 93.949715 63.169305
```

Looking at the F1 scores - A score of 1 indicates perfect precision and recall, while a score of 0 indicates that the model has no predictive power, Decision Tree algorithm performs the best overall as seen below:

	Model	train F1 score	test F1 score
0	KNeighborsClassifier (Benchmark)	51.970824	30.943498
1	RandomForestClassifier	93.948595	44.469093
2	DecisionTreeClassifier	93.949715	63.169305

Thus, to get a further improved model proceed to tune the hyperparameters of the best performing model, the Decision Tree algorithm using GridSearchCV.

# Fine-tune the model using GridSearchCV to find the optimal hyperparameters from sklearn.model\_selection import GridSearchCV # Define the hyperparameter grid to search over param\_grid = { 'criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'], 'max\_depth': [5, 10, 15, 20, None], 'min\_samples\_plit': [2, 5, 10], 'min\_samples\_plit': [2, 5, 10], 'max\_features': ['auto', 'sqrt', 'log2', None] } # Create the GridSearchCV object grid = GridSearchCV object to the data grid - GridSearchCV object to the data grid.fit(X\_train, y\_train) # Print the best parameters found by the GridSearchCV object print(grid.best\_params\_) {'criterion': 'entropy', 'max\_depth': 15, 'max\_features': None, 'min\_samples\_leaf': 2, 'min\_samples\_split': 10}

The best parameters from this tuning yields, {'criterion': 'entropy', 'max\_depth': 15, 'max\_features': None, 'min\_samples\_leaf': 2, 'min\_samples\_split': 10}.

We then plug these parameters into the Decision Tree algorithm to perform training and testing again.

The F1-score (of the tuned Decision Tree model) looks better than the earlier 3 models.

	Model	train F1 score	test F1 score
0	KNeighborsClassifier (Benchmark)	51.970824	30.943498
1	RandomForestClassifier	93.948595	44.469093
2	DecisionTreeClassifier	93.949715	63.169305

	Refined DecisionTreeClassifier Model	train F1 score	test F1 score
0	DecisionTreeClassifier	78.751176	74.004235

# **Evaluating the models in more detail**

Benchmark model, K-Nearest Neighbor algorithm

KNeighborsCla	ssifier			
Train Report				
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
1	0.52	0.83	0.64	39812
2	0.51	0.36	0.42	29875
3	0.59	0.13	0.22	19565
accuracy			0.52	89252
macro avg	0.54	0.44	0.43	89252
weighted avg	0.53	0.52	0.47	89252
Test Report				
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
	0.70	0.50		25555
1	0.38	0.58		26666
2	0.18	0.14		
3	0.09	0.03	0.04	12867
			0.74	F0F02
accuracy	0.04	0.25	0.31	
macro avg	0.21	0.25		
weighted avg	0.25	0.31	0.27	59502

# Random Forest algorithm model

1 2 3 accuracy macro avg	0.92 0.95 0.97		0.92 0.96	39812 29875
2 3 accuracy macro avg	0.95 0.97	0.89	0.92 0.96	29875
accuracy macro avg	0.97		0.96	
accuracy macro avg		0.95		19565
macro avg				
macro avg				
_			0.94	
	0.95	0.94		
weighted avg	0.94	0.94	0.94	89252
Test Report				
pr	ecision	recall	f1-score	support
1	0.59	0.67	0.63	26666
2	0.29	0.27	0.28	19969
3	0.30	0.25	0.27	12867
2551122511			0.44	59502
accuracy	0.70	0.40	0.44	
macro avg	0.39	0.40 0.44	0.39	59502

# Decision Tree algorithm model

DecisionTreeClassifier								
Train Report								
	precision	recall	f1-score	support				
1	0.90	1.00	0.95	39812				
2	0.97	0.87	0.92	29875				
3	1.00	0.92	0.96	19565				
accuracy			0.94	89252				
macro avg	0.96	0.93	0.94	89252				
weighted avg	0.94	0.94	0.94	89252				
Test Report								
	precision	recall	f1-score	support				
	0.01	0.04	0.04	25555				
1	0.81	0.81	0.81	26666				
2	0.50	0.50	0.50	19969				
3	0.47	0.47	0.47	12867				
accuracy			0.63	59502				
macro avg	0.59	0.59	0.59	59502				
weighted avg	0.63	0.63	0.63	59502				

# Tuned model, Decision Tree algorithm

DecisionTreeClassifier								
Train Report								
	precision	recall	f1-score	support				
1	0.83	1.00	0.91	39812				
2	0.76	0.61	0.68	29875				
3	0.70	0.63	0.66	19565				
accuracy			0.79	89252				
macro avg	0.76	0.75	0.75	89252				
weighted avg	0.78	0.79	0.78	89252				
Test Report								
	precision	recall	f1-score	support				
1	0.83	0.99	0.90	26666				
2	0.68	0.54	0.60	19969				
3	0.59	0.54	0.56	12867				
accuracy			0.74	59502				
macro avg	0.70	0.69	0.69	59502				
weighted avg	0.73	0.74	0.73	59502				

#### Recap:

	Model	train F1 score	test F1 score
0	KNeighborsClassifier (Benchmark)	51.970824	30.943498
1	RandomForestClassifier	93.948595	44.469093
2	DecisionTreeClassifier	93.949715	63.169305
3	Refined DecisionTreeClassifier Model	78.751176	74.004235

Based on the F1 scores, the KNeighborsClassifier (Benchmark) model as the benchmark model performs the poorest of the trained models.

The RandomForestClassifier model performs better by being able to predict the training data well, but predicts relatively poorly when it comes to the testing data set, this could be due to overfitting. The DecisionTreeClassifier model performs even better by being able to predict the training data well, but predicts moderately when it comes to the testing data set, this could also be due to overfitting.

The Refined DecisionTreeClassifier model which had undergone hyperparameter tuning would be the best model, as it performs "well" for both the training and test data set suggesting it generalizes well.

#### **Conclusion:**

The proposed solution aims to analyze the customer behavior on the Starbucks rewards mobile app and identify which customers respond best to offers. The final model (Refined DecisionTreeClassifier Model) serves moderately well as a base model to be further developed by collecting more data for further training, testing other algorithm which might be developed in future, etc. With further development, the machine learning model will eventually be able to accurately predict customer behavior.

In conclusion, this project has the potential to provide Starbucks with valuable insights into customer behavior on their mobile app, enabling them to tailor their marketing campaigns to better reach and engage their customers. By using machine learning techniques, we can predict customer behavior accurately and improve the overall customer experience.