Springboard

Customer Churn Prediction in Telecom

Capstone Project 1 – Data Wrangling

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Introduction

A telecom company is looking to improve customer retention and decided develop focused customer retention programs based on customer churn prediction model.

The historical data includes information about:

- Customers who left within the last month
- Services that each customer has signed up for – phone, multiple lines, internet, online security, online backup, device protection, tech support, and streaming TV and movies
- Customer account information – how long they've been the company, contract, payment method, paperless billing, monthly charges, and total charges
- Demographic info about customers – gender, age range, and if they have partners and dependents

In this document we've developed a few models, applied several techniques to improve prediction accuracy and built a business case.

NOTE: The analysis did not take into account probability of the customer retention after it has been correctly predicted.

The Data contains 19 features and a target

#	Field	Description	Example
1	customerID	Customer ID	7590-VHVEG
2	gender	Whether the customer is a male or a female	Female
3	SeniorCitizen	Whether the customer is a senior citizen or not (1, 0)	0
4	Partner	Whether the customer has a partner or not (Yes, No)	Yes
5	Dependents	Whether the customer has dependents or not (Yes, No)	No
6	tenure	Number of months the customer has stayed with the company	1
7	PhoneService	Whether the customer has a phone service or not (Yes, No)	No
8	MultipleLines	Whether the customer has multiple lines or not (Yes, No, No phone service)	No phone service
9	InternetService	Customer's internet service provider (DSL, Fiber optic, No)	DSL
10	OnlineSecurity	Whether the customer has online security or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	No
11	OnlineBackup	Whether the customer has online backup or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	Yes
12	DeviceProtection	Whether the customer has device protection or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	No
13	TechSupport	Whether the customer has tech support or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	No
14	StreamingTV	Whether the customer has streaming TV or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	No
15	StreamingMovies	Whether the customer has streaming movies or not (Yes, No, No internet service)	No
16	Contract	The contract term of the customer (Month-to-month, One year, Two year)	Month-to-month
17	PaperlessBilling	Whether the customer has paperless billing or not (Yes, No)	Yes
18	PaymentMethod	Payment method - Electronic check, Mailed check, Bank transfer, Credit card	Electronic check
19	MonthlyCharges	The amount charged to the customer monthly	29.85
20	TotalCharges	The total amount charged to the customer	29.85
21	Churn (Target)	Whether the customer churned or not (Yes or No)	No

Data pre-processing

- The dataset has no missing values and requires no data cleaning

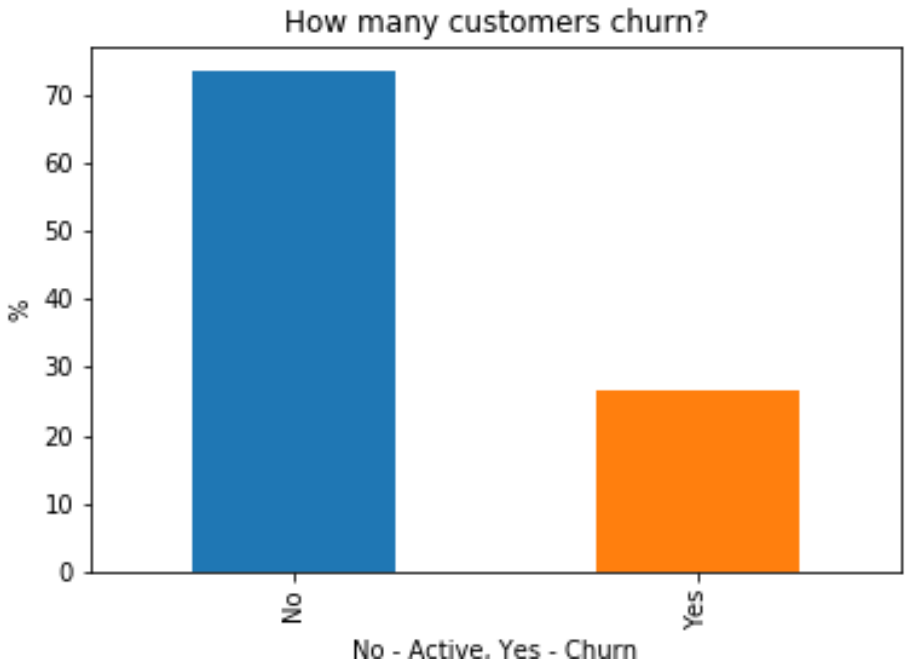
- Overall the file contains 7043 records and 20 columns

- In order to be able to perform modeling, the data requires preprocessing, including:
  - Converting string format to numerical
  - Converting categorical data to dummy values
  - Converting binary categorical to numerical

- After preprocessing the number of feature fields increased from 19 to 40
- Considering that the file contains significant amount of features, but no time series data or behavioral data, the feature engineering has not been done

Target variable and data imbalance

Approximately 26% of the customers churn



- Due to underrepresented data on Churning customers we can assume that the model will perform better at predicting non-churning customers

- We will test strategies to deal with this imbalance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