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SAVING OUR NATION'S BRIDGES

Alison Garrett Unsolicited Report to the American Society of Civil Engineers 29 October 2021

Introduction

- The American Road & Transportation Builders Association reports <u>171.5 million daily crossings on over 45,000</u> <u>structurally deficient U.S. bridges</u>
- Fortunately, lawmakers are earmarking \$3.265B for a 5-year
 Bridge Reinvestment Program
- While significant, it is likely insufficient to address current and future deficiencies



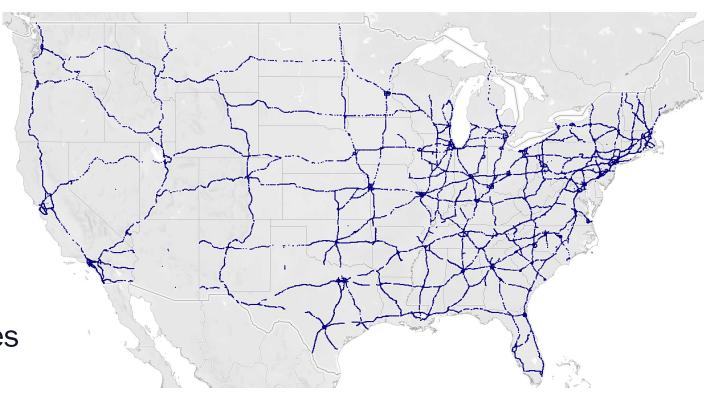
The State of the National Highway System

45,962 National Highway
 System Bridges in the US

 74% are Stringer / Multibeam, Girder, or Culvert Bridges

 Most are Concrete construction

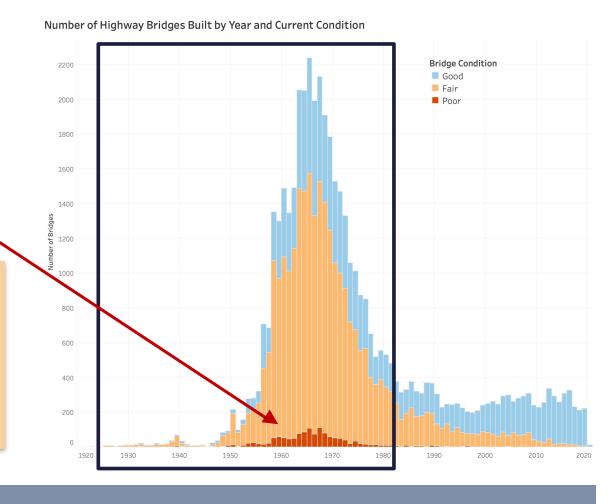
Typical highway overpasses



The State of the National Highway System

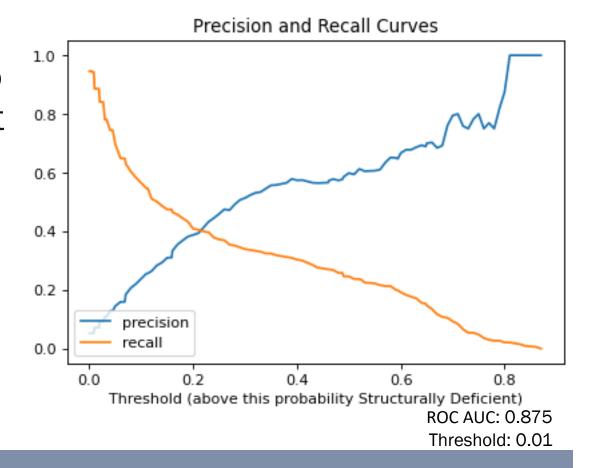
- 76% of NHS Bridges are more than 40 years old
- 3% (1,363) are classified as Poor - Structurally Deficient and will receive investment

What about the 59% classified as Fair – Needing Repair?



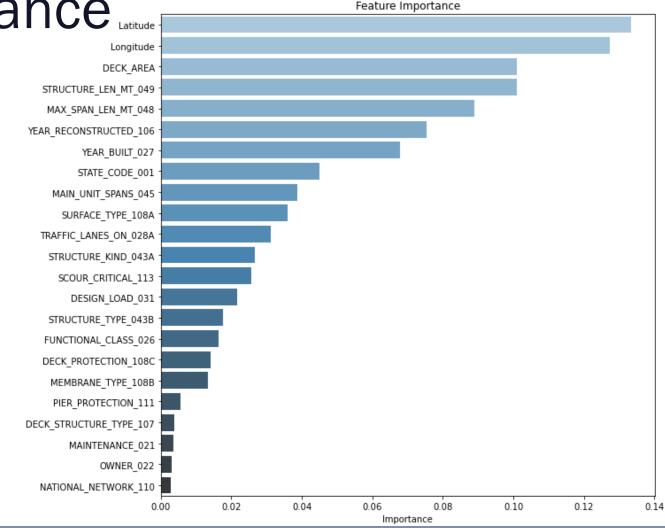
Modeling

- Developed an Ensemble
 Random Forest Classifier to
 identify Bridge features that
 are Important when looking
 at Structural Deficiency
- Focused on high Recall to minimize False Negatives
- Model provides probability of Structural Deficiency

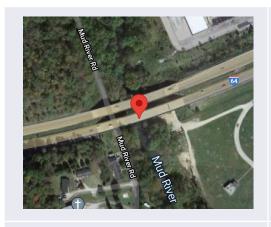


Feature Importance Latitude

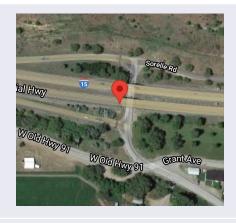
- Location
- Dimensions
- AgeType

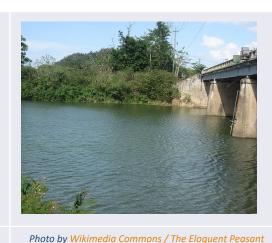


Fair Rated with High Probability Features









I-64 at Mud River Barboursville WV Built: 1959

Daily Traffic: 20,350

Planned Repairs: \$31K

in 2036

I-20 at US-71 Bossier City LA Built: 1966

Daily Traffic: 43,950

Planned Repairs: \$34K

in 2036

I-15 at Inkom

Inkom ID

Built: 1962

Daily Traffic: 8,500

Planned Repairs: \$13K

in 2038

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PR-2 at Guayanilla River

Guayanilla PR

Built: 1970

Daily Traffic: 37,800

Planned Repairs: \$48K

in 2025

Recommendations

- Proceed with the repair of Poor Condition, Structurally Deficient Bridges
- Refine the Model for improved Precision
- Leverage the Model to better identify and prioritize Bridge Reinvestment Funds to address repair / replacement for Bridges in Fair Condition

Back up

Algorithms

