Github Link: https://github.com/arul3210/Project-Predicting-Customer-Churn.git

Project Title: Predicting Customer Churn Using Machine Learning to Uncover Hidden Patterns

PHASE-2

1. Problem Statement

- Customer churn poses a significant challenge for businesses, directly impacting revenue and growth. Traditional methods often fail to detect early signals of churn, especially when hidden within complex customer behavior patterns.
- This project aims to develop a machine learning-based solution to accurately predict customer churn by uncovering subtle and non-obvious patterns in customer data.

2. Project Objectives

- Collect and preprocess customer data to ensure quality and consistency for model training.
- Analyze the data to identify patterns and trends related to customer churn.
- Engineer relevant features that effectively represent customer behavior and engagement.
- Develop and compare machine learning models to accurately predict customer churn.
- Uncover hidden patterns and key factors influencing churn using advanced analytics techniques.

3. Flowchart of the Project Workflow



4. Data Description

- Dataset Name: Credit Card Customer Churn Prediction
- Source: IBM Sample Data Repository / Kaggle / Other public repositories
- Type of Data: Structured tabular data
- **Records and Features:** 10,127 customer records and 23 features (combination of categorical and numerical)
- Target Variable: Attrition_Flag (binary: Existing Customer / Attrited Customer)
- Static or Dynamic: Static dataset

• Attributes Covered:

- Demographics: Customer_Age, Gender, Dependent_count, Education_Level, Marital_Status, Income_Category
- Account Information: Customer_ID, Card_Category, Months_on_book, Total_Relationship_Count
- Credit Behavior:
 - Credit_Limit, Total_Revolving_Bal, Avg_Open_To_Buy
- Transaction Behavior:
 - Total_Trans_Amt, Total_Trans_Ct, Total_Ct_Chng_Q4_Q1
- Utilization and Risk Indicators:
 - Avg_Utilization_Ratio, Contacts_Count_12_mon
- Dataset Link: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/rjmanoj/credit-cardcustomer-churn-prediction

5. Data Preprocessing

- Handling Missing Values: Impute or remove missing values in the dataset.
- Data Type Conversion: Convert columns to appropriate data types.
- **Encoding Categorical Variables:** Apply one-hot encoding or label encoding to categorical features.
- **Feature Scaling:** Standardize or normalize numerical features for consistency.
- Outlier Detection and Feature Selection: Identify outliers and remove irrelevant features for model accuracy.

6. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

- Univariate Analysis:
 - **Histogram of 'Churn'** to understand the class distribution and assess class imbalance.
 - Boxplots for numerical variables such as monthly charges, tenure, and total charges to detect outliers and understand their distribution relative to churn status.
 - Count plots for categorical features (e.g., contract type, internet service, payment method) to explore frequency distributions and potential churn patterns.

• Bivariate & Multivariate Analysis:

- Correlation matrix shows that tenure and monthly charges have moderate relationships with churn likelihood, while total charges correlate highly with tenure.
- Bar plots and boxplots comparing features like contract type, tech support, and payment method against churn status reveal notable trends—e.g., customers on month-to-month contracts churn more frequently.
- Stacked/grouped bar charts highlight how services like online security, streaming services, and tech support affect churn behavior.
- Pair plots and scatter plots identify clusters and trends among continuous variables segmented by churn.

Key Insights:

- Contract type is a strong predictor—month-to-month customers are far more likely to churn than those on longer-term contracts.
- Tech support and online security are associated with lower churn—customers with these services tend to stay.
- **Higher monthly charges** slightly increase churn risk, especially for short-tenure customers.
- **Tenure** inversely correlates with churn—longer-tenured customers are less likely to leave.

7. Feature Engineering

Created interaction features:

- total_services = count of services subscribed (e.g., internet, phone, streaming)
- has_streaming_and_support = flag indicating if a customer has both streaming and tech support services

• Derived binary features:

- is_month_to_month = 1 if the contract type is "Month-to-month", else 0
- is_senior_citizen = converted from numeric (0/1) to meaningful binary representation
- Handled multicollinearity by removing or combining highly correlated variables like total_charges and monthly_charges × tenure

- **Performed label encoding** for binary categorical variables (e.g., Partner, Dependents, PaperlessBilling)
- One-hot encoded multi-class categorical features like Contract, PaymentMethod, and InternetService
- Scaled numeric features such as tenure, monthly_charges, and total_charges using StandardScaler to standardize input for machine learning models

8. Model Building

• Algorithms Used:

- Logistic Regression: as a baseline linear classifier
- Random Forest Classifier: for capturing non-linear relationships and feature importance
- XGBoost Classifier (optional addition): for high performance and better handling of imbalanced data

Model Selection Rationale:

- Logistic Regression: simple, fast, and interpretable; establishes a benchmark
- Random Forest: robust to overfitting, works well with both categorical and numerical data, and provides feature importance scores
- XGBoost: optimized for classification with imbalanced datasets and offers better performance through boosting

• Train-Test Split:

- 80% training, 20% testing
- Used train_test_split with random_state for reproducibility

• Evaluation Metrics:

- Accuracy: Overall correctness of predictions
- Precision & Recall: Especially important due to the cost of false positives/negatives
- F1 Score: Balances precision and recall in a single metric
- ROC-AUC Score: Measures model's ability to distinguish between churners and non-churners

9. Visualization of Results & Model Insights

• Feature Importance:

- Bar plots from Random Forest and XGBoost revealed key drivers of churn:
 - Contract type, tenure, and tech support ranked highest
 - Features like monthly charges and payment method also showed moderate influence

• Model Comparison:

- Plotted evaluation metrics (Accuracy, F1 Score, ROC-AUC) for each model:
 - Random Forest and XGBoost outperformed Logistic Regression, especially in ROC-AUC and F1 Score
 - Visualized using bar and line plots for clarity

Confusion Matrix & ROC Curve:

- Confusion matrix highlighted true positives and false negatives, helping assess model reliability
- ROC Curve plotted for all models to visualize trade-offs between sensitivity and specificity

• User Testing:

- Built an interactive Gradio or Streamlit web interface:
 - Allowed users to input customer details and instantly receive churn prediction
 - Helpful for stakeholders to explore model behavior and test scenarios

10. Tools and Technologies Used

Programming Language: Python 3
Notebook Environment: Google Colab (for development and sperimentation)
Key Libraries & Frameworks:

- pandas, numpy: for efficient data manipulation and analysis
- matplotlib, seaborn, plotly: for exploratory and result visualizations
- scikit-learn: for preprocessing, model training, and evaluation

- XGBoost (optional): for gradient boosting classifier implementation
- Gradio or Streamlit: to build an interactive web app for churn prediction

11. Team Members and Contributions

1. R.Abinesh – Model Development & Evaluation

- Implemented Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost models.
- Tuned hyperparameters and performed train-test splits.
- Evaluated models using accuracy, precision, recall, F1 score, and ROC-AUC metrics.

2. R.Abishek - Model Development & Evaluation

- Implemented Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost models.
- Tuned hyperparameters and performed train-test splits.
- Evaluated models using accuracy, precision, recall, F1 score, and ROC-AUC metrics.

3. K.Arulkumaran – Data Collection & Cleaning

- Responsible for loading and cleaning the customer churn dataset.
- Handled missing values, inconsistencies, and prepared the dataset for analysis.
- Ensured proper encoding and formatting of categorical variables.

4. V.Bavithran – Visualization & Interface Deployment

- Visualized feature importance, confusion matrices, and ROC curves.
- Built an interactive churn prediction interface using Gradio.
- Documented insights and assisted with report preparation and presentation.