

# Predicting Employee Attrition Using Machine Learning

## 1. Stakeholder

The stakeholder for this project is the Human Resources (HR) department of a mid-to-large-sized organization. They are concerned about employee turnover and want to predict which employees are at risk of leaving.

## 2. Problem Statement

Employee attrition is costly for businesses due to recruitment, training, and lost productivity. The HR department wants a predictive model that identifies employees at risk of leaving, allowing proactive measures.

## 3. Dataset

The dataset used for this project is the "IBM HR Analytics Employee Attrition & Performance" dataset, publicly available on Kaggle. The dataset can be accessed at: <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/pavansubhasht/ibm-hr-analytics-employee-attrition>. The dataset contains 35 attributes, including employee demographics, job roles, and satisfaction metrics.

## 4. Models Used and Rationale

We experimented with two different types of models:

- Random Forest Classifier: Chosen for its robustness, ability to handle feature importance analysis, and capacity to deal with both categorical and numerical data.
- Logistic Regression: Chosen as a baseline model due to its interpretability and efficiency in handling binary outcomes.

Each model was tuned using three different hyperparameter settings:

- Random Forest: Number of trees (100, 200, 500)
- Logistic Regression: Regularization parameter C (0.01, 1, 10)

## 5. Feature Selection & Engineering

Feature selection was based on exploratory data analysis and domain knowledge. Selected features included:

- Existing Features: Age, JobSatisfaction, YearsAtCompany, WorkLifeBalance, BusinessTravel, and TotalWorkingYears.
- Engineered Features:
  - JobTenure =  $\text{YearsAtCompany} / (\text{TotalWorkingYears} + 1)$  to normalize tenure.
  - Satisfaction Score =  $(\text{JobSatisfaction} + \text{WorkLifeBalance}) / 2$  to create an overall satisfaction metric.

## 6. Model Evaluation

The models were evaluated using:

- Accuracy: Measures overall correctness.
- Precision: Important to avoid false positives in predicting attrition.
- Recall: Ensures employees likely to leave are identified.
- F1-Score: Balances precision and recall.

## 7. Future Work

- Incorporating additional external factors such as market conditions or employee feedback surveys.
- Testing advanced models like Gradient Boosting or Neural Networks.
- Feature selection refinement using SHAP values for better interpretability.

## 8. Recommendation

Based on our analysis, the Random Forest model with optimized hyperparameters performed best in balance. It is recommended for deployment with further validation in real-world HR scenarios.

A link to the complete code and analysis can be found at: <https://github.com/your-repo-link>.