# CRIME ANALYSIS IN DALLAS COUNTY

MIS 6324 Business Analytics with SAS

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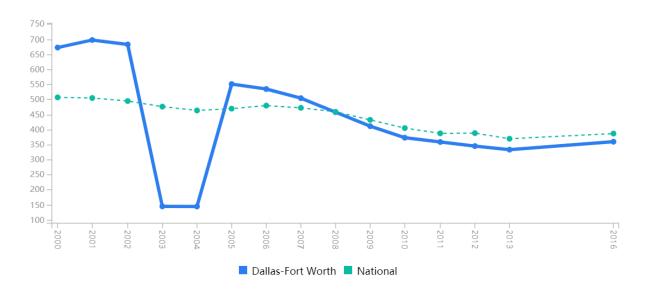
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# Background

Based on Dallas Police Department information, DFW shows a crime rate which is noticeably lower than the average national rate. This means that for comparably-sized cities all across America, DFW area is actually safer than other cities. Especially from the year 2009 to the year 2016.

Figure-1
Violent Crime Rate Over Time



However, we found that Dallas County has a crime rate of 42 per one thousand residents (see Figure-2, this data reflects 2016 calendar year, which was released from FBI in September 2017), it has been one of the highest crime rates in America compared to all communities of all sizes, from the smallest towns to the largest cities. Within Texas, more than 91% of the communities have a lower crime rate than Dallas County.

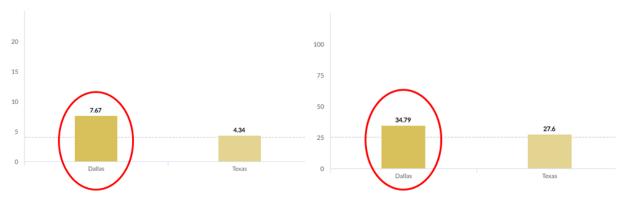
Figure-2

DALLAS ANNUAL CRIMES				
	VIOLENT	PROPERTY	TOTAL	
Number of Crimes	10,103	45,850	55,953	
Crime Rate (per 1,000 residents)	7.67	34.79	42.46	

Figure-3



Figure-4
VIOLENT CRIME COMPARISON (PER 1,000 RESIDENTS)
PROPERTY CRIME COMPARISON (PER 1,000 RESIDENTS)



In this project, we will turn to take a look at the details of the crime cases in Dallas County. We use the methodologies (descriptive analysis and predictive analysis) in SAS Enterprise Miner to dig out what is the major contribution variables to the general rate of crime in Dallas County? Which area of Dallas County tends to have more crimes than the others? Also, based on the location, day and time information, we can predict what type of crime will mostly happen to the citizen.

## **Data Cleaning**

Data cleaning is the first step we need to do before starting the analyzing. It is a process that finding dirty or coarse data which may incorrect, incomplete, inaccurate or irrelevant, and then replacing or modifying them into right data format or information we need.

The dataset is used for this project is from Kaggle second-hand data. The data set is retrieved from <a href="https://www.kaggle.com/carrie1/dallaspolicereportedincidents">https://www.kaggle.com/carrie1/dallaspolicereportedincidents</a>. Below are the detail steps we did on data cleaning:

- 1. Drop unnecessary columns within the dataset. The original raw data has 103 columns, but most of the variables are redundant and not mandatory for data mining. Based on our target, we select 12 out of 103 variables, which are related to the final descriptive and predictive analysis.
- 2. Transfer ratio data into straight interval data. Time is discrete data ranging from 0:00:00 to 23:59:59. We classify the time data into three periods and transfer them into interval data: from 0:00:01 to 8:00:00 set them as 1, from 8:00:01 to 16:00:00 set them as 2, from 16:00:01 to 0:00:00 set them as 3.
- 3. Combine similar meaning descriptions to one terminology. Type of location columns has 34 unique items in total. As too much unique items will make the result vague, we find some of them can be combined into one category, like 'apartment' 'complex/build', 'apartment parking lot', 'apartment residence', etc. All of these description categories can be classified as 'apartment'. Finally, we reduce the unique items number from 34 to 20 after repeating the process mentioned before.
- 4. Extract analysis related data and got rid of no-related data. Latitude and longitude data are essential to our analysis, but the information is embedded in the location column, which included not only latitude and longitude information also, occurrence address and zip code. We first split information at location column and then only keep the latitude and longitude data.
- 5. Abandon unrelated data. The original data includes 3 classes of offenses under United States federal law: F(Felony), M(Misdemeanor) and I (Infraction). The target offense class we are focusing on is felony and misdemeanor, thus, infraction data has been got rid of.
- 6. Fortunately, after screening the whole dataset, we generate a new dataset with no missing data in the whole dataset.

Below are the detail variables and final data type we use in the SAS Enterprise Miner.

Table-1

Variables	Type of Data	Role
Incident Number	Nominal	ID
Year	Interval	Input
Month	Nominal	Input
Day	Nominal	Input
Time	Interval	Input
Type of Location	Nominal	Input
Zip code	Nominal	Input
Latitude	Interval	Input
Longitude	Interval	Input
Penalty	Binary	Target
Gang	Binary	Input
Drug	Binary	Input

# Data Exploration

Below is the overall data exploration for these 12 variables.

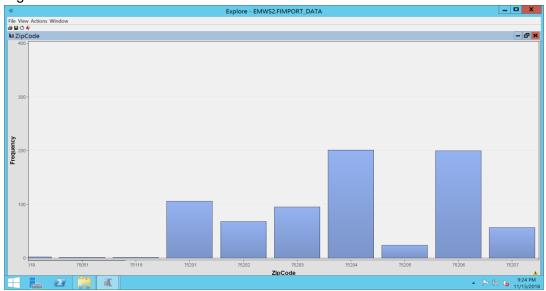




Here we pick up some typical variables and explore their data in detail. These exploration data can be a good reference during our analysis. It will give readers a big picture of how the data distributed, and what kind of prediction we may have after we run SAS Enterprise Miner.

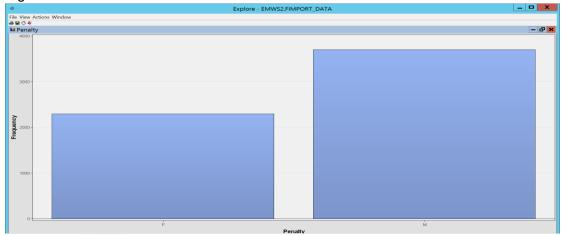
Zip code 75204 and 75206 are more dangerous compared with other Dallas County areas, which may indicate that those areas may not be an ideal location for living, study or work.

Figure-6



For the data exploration, we also can illustrate that the ratio for felony and misdemeanor is 2:3,

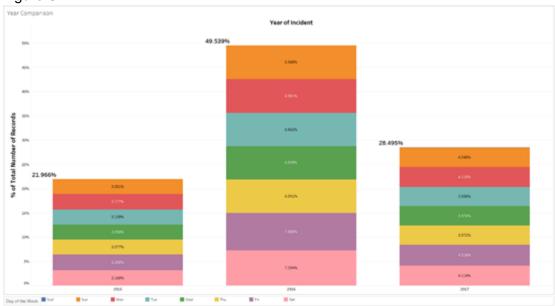
Figure-7



# **Descriptive Analysis**

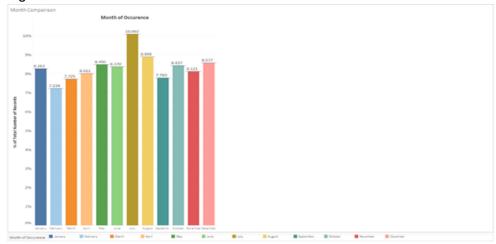
After we clean the data and explore all 12 variables, we would like to conduct a simple data visualization process to see what kind of patterns exist in our data. This visualization analysis would make us more familiar with our data and bring us more ideas about research direction. Here we use Tableau as our visualization tool.

Figure-8



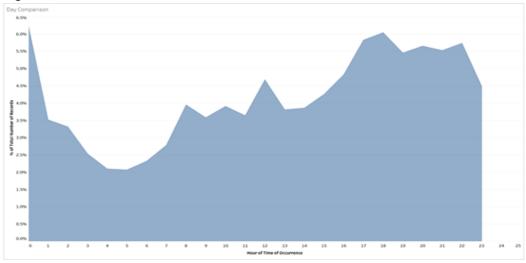
First, we generate a bar chart to show the percentage of the accident records each year. It displays each year's crime amount of the whole three years amount percentage. It is 22 % , 50% and 28% for 2015, 2016 and 2017 records respectively. The amount of accidents increases from 2015 to 2016 and decreases from 2016 to 2017. Different colors represent different days of a week. It directly shows that accidents happened on Friday are higher than any other days.

Figure-9



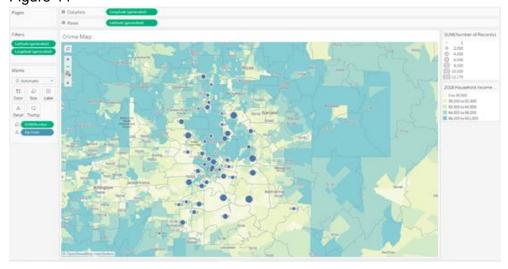
Second, we use the bar chart to analyze the distribution of the total accidents in 12 months. Each bar represents the sum of the accident records for a specific month in the dataset. Based on the bar chart, we can inform readers that July has the highest records than other months' records. In addition, it shows that accidents happened during the period from May to August and the period from December to January are higher than the rest months.

Figure-10



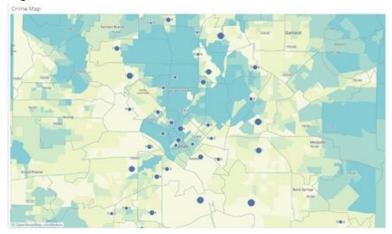
Next, we used 'area' to show the trend of accident occurrence in 24 hours. We sum up the records at a point of time in the dataset. Based on this graph, the number of accidents happened at 5 a.m. is the lowest and the number of accidents happened at 12 a.m. is the highest compared with the rest time within one day. Since 5 a.m., accidents occurrence increases gradually and reaches a periodic peak at 12 p.m. From 4 p.m. to 12 a.m., accidents occurrence keeps in high level.

Figure-11



At last, we try to take advantage of map tool in Tableau to geocode our data. The dots on the map represent the total number of accidents of different zip code. The size of the dot displays the quantity of the accidents. If the dot is larger, it means the total number of accidents in this specific area are higher than areas covered by smaller dots. The color of this map reveals the household income. If the color is darker, then the household income in that area is higher than other areas with smaller dots.

Figure-12

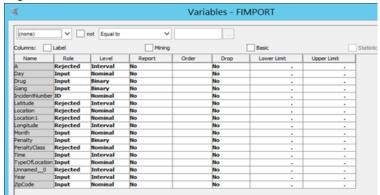


When we zoom in the map, the distribution pattern is clearer. We can see that if the household income is higher, the dots will be smaller, which means a fewer accidents occurrence.

#### Clustering Analysis

Based on what we have got from above, we would like to conduct a clustering analysis to further study on how many clusters could these accidents form and what kind of properties each cluster has. At last, we use latitude and longitude to geocode these clusters on a map and show the patterns of their distribution to readers.

Figure-13



Because records with similar properties may not be geographically close to each other, we exclude geo locations such as latitude, longitude, location. However, zip code is a nominal variable and we keep it in our analysis.

Figure-14

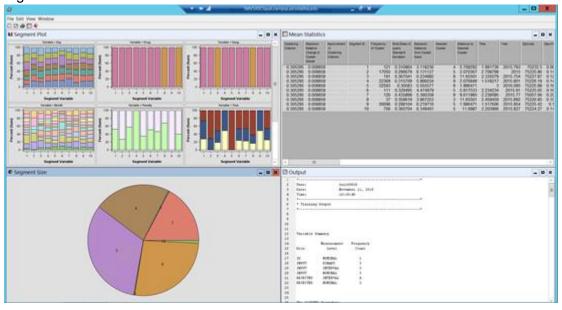


Figure-15

Variables	
Cluster Variable Role	Segment
Internal Standardization	Standardization
■Number of Clusters	
- Specification Method	Automatic
Maximum Number of Clust	er 10
Selection Criterion	10.000 000
-Clustering Method	Ward
-Preliminary Maximum	50
-Minimum	2
-Final Maximum	20
-CCC Cutoff	3
Encoding of Class Variable	5

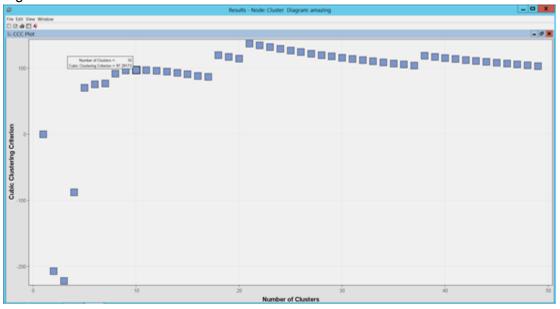
We use Ward as our Clustering Method to measure the cluster distance. The clustering analysis produces the results below:

Figure-16



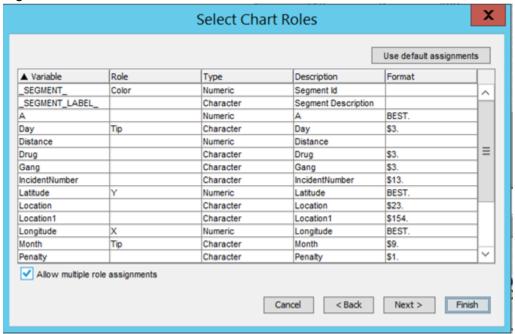
10 clusters are created by this process. However, in order to make sure the number 10 is the optimal number of k, we check the CCC plot.

Figure-17



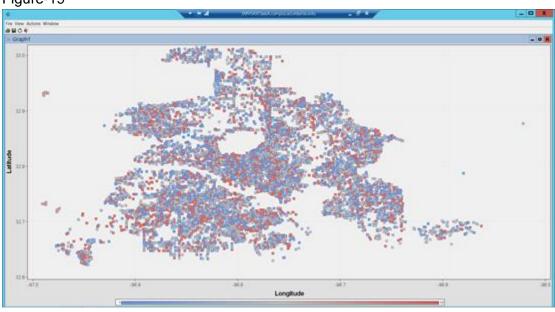
Based on CCC plot, we can see that there is a peak at 10 and CCC value of 10 is a positive number. Therefore, we can conclude that 10 is the optimal number for clustering. Although the results show us a lot of information about this analysis, the information is not clear enough. We use Graph Wizard to generate plots of accidents data based on latitude and longitude.

Figure-18



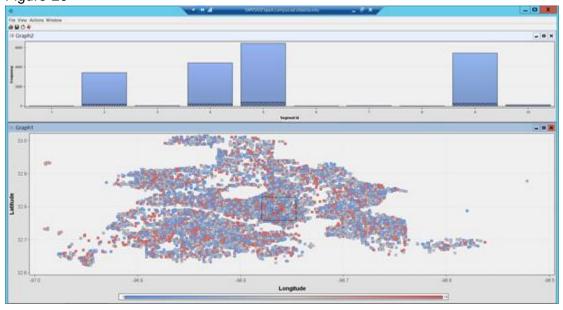
Graph Wizard produces a plot below:

Figure-19



Each square represents an accident and its color shows the cluster segment. In order to make the scatter plot more interpretable, we add a histogram of the segment and combine it with the plot. By selecting an area on the map, the cluster segments in this area are highlighted in the histogram, which will be easier for us to understand the patterns and insights of the data distribution.

Figure-20



# **Predictive Analysis**

The inputs are the independent variables that are influential to the target which is considered to be the dependent variable. In our case, we aim to find out what factors would lead to a penalty class F and what factors would lead to a penalty class M. Hence, we can predict what kind of crime (target) might have the highest possibility of occurrence under certain circumstance (inputs). In our case, the influential factors would be the year, the month of the year, the day of the week, location (apartment, highway, office building, etc.), and time (Section 1 as 12 am -8 am, Section 2 as 8 am – 4 pm, Section 3 as 4 pm-12 am).

Figure-21

Name	Role	Level	Report	Order	Drop	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
A	Rejected	Interval	No		No		
Day	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Drug	Rejected	Binary	No		No		
Gang	Rejected	Binary	No		No		
IncidentNumber	ID	Nominal	No		No		
Latitude	Rejected	Interval	No		No		
Location	Rejected	Nominal	No		No		
Location 1	Rejected	Nominal	No		No		
Longitude	Rejected	Interval	No		No		
Month	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Penalty	Target	Binary	No		No		
PenaltyClass	Rejected	Nominal	No		No		
Time	Input	Interval	No		No		
TypeOfLocation	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Unnamed0	Rejected	Interval	No		No		
Year	Input	Nominal	No		No		
ZipCode	Input	Nominal	No		No		

Predictive analysis always starts with a training data set. The analysis that predicts a target from specific inputs can be easily generated by a group of given training data. To avoid overfitting or underfitting, we calibrate the model's performance with a validation data set. At the same time, the test partition, which is used only for calculating the fit statistics after finishing the model selection and modeling process, is regarded as a waste of data. Therefore, we set 50% of the data as the training value and the other 50% as the validation value for the data partition, while leaving the test value as 0%.

Figure-22

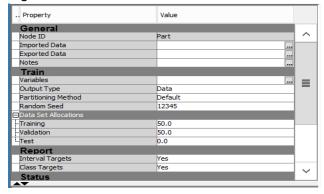
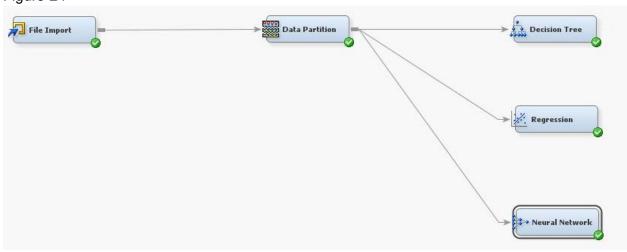


Figure-23 Summary Statistics for Class Targets

Data=DATA						
Variable	Numeric Value	Formatted Value	Frequency Count	Percent	Label	
Penalty Penalty	:	F M	41990 66096	38.8487 61.1513	Penalty Penalty	
Data=TRAIN						
Variable	Numeric Value	Formatted Value	Frequency Count	Percent	Label	
Penalty Penalty	•	F M	20995 33047	38.8494 61.1506	Penalty Penalty	
Data=VALIDATE						
Variable	Numeric Value	Formatted Value	Frequency Count	Percent	Label	
Penalty Penalty	-	F M	20995 33049	38.8480 61.1520	Penalty Penalty	

Based on the settings above, we imply and compare three different kinds of predictive modeling: Decision Trees, Regressions, and Neural Networks.

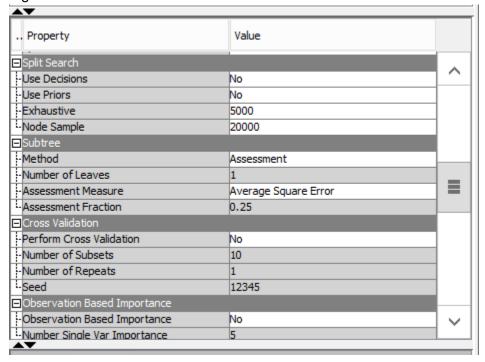
Figure-24



#### **Decision Trees**

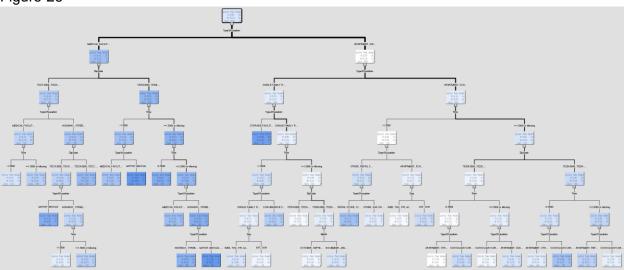
The original decision tree analysis setting is displayed as Figure-25.

Figure-25



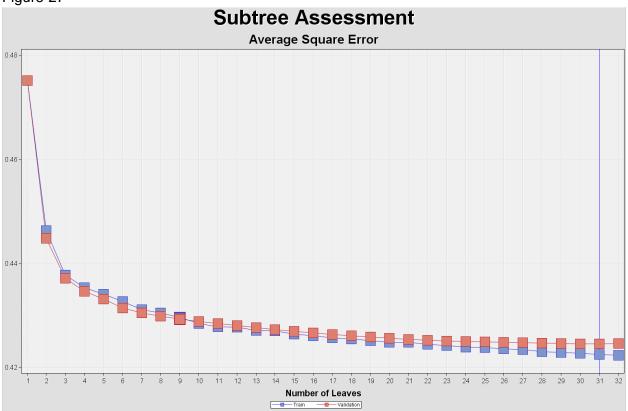
This is the decision tree we get with default settings.

Figure-26



The predicted Penalty Class values are generated by the training data whose main purpose is to select useful input variables for the first predictive model only. A diminishing marginal usefulness of input variables is expected. Therefore, under such circumstances, we need to trim down the tree.





We can tell from the plot chart that the majority of the improvement occurs over the first few splits. There are no significant changes after that. What's more, as we mentioned above, the increasing of the amount of leaves leads to diminishing marginal usefulness. We change the assessment measure as Decision to prune the branches of the tree.

Figure-28

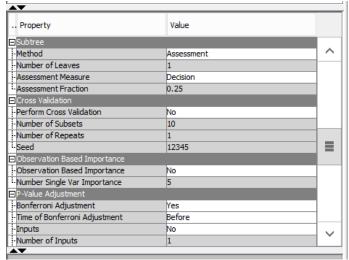
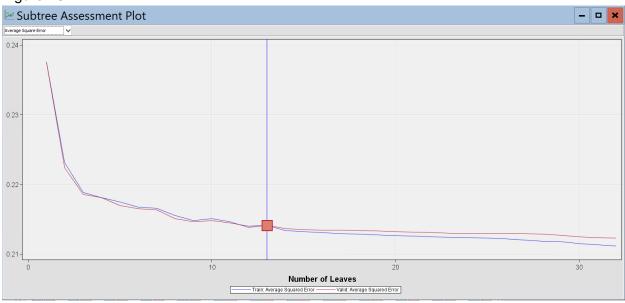


Figure-29 is the plot graph we get through viewing the Subtree Assessment by comparing the misclassification rate:

Figure-29



The plot chart states that while the amount of leaves is limited to 13, we can get the best result. Here below is the updated decision tree as the number of leaves is pruned down to 13.

Figure-30

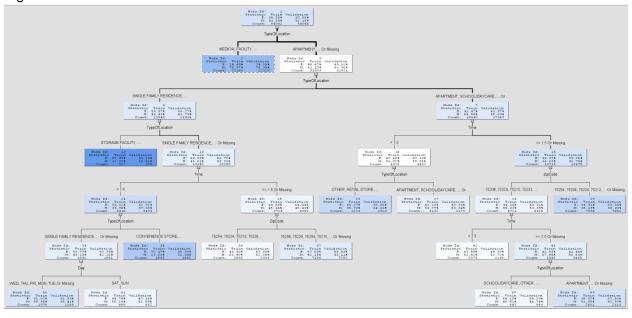
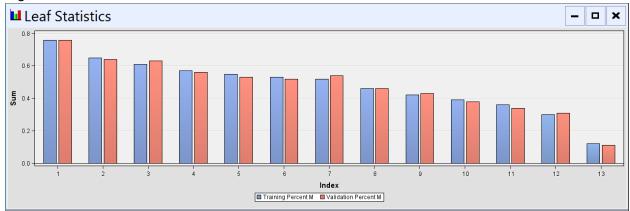


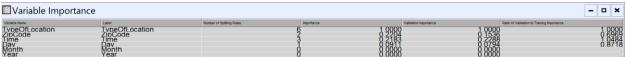
Figure-31 is the Leaf Statistics Bar Chart. If the height difference between training data and validation data is small, we can conclude that the model functions well.

Figure-31



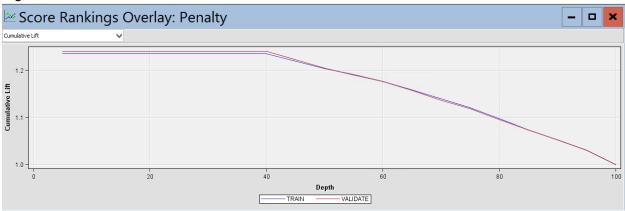
Meanwhile, we can tell from the Variable Importance table that the Type of Location is the most influential factor to the Penalty Class type, followed by the Zip Code and Time. In the Decision Trees analysis, Year has no impacts on the penalty class.

Figure-32



The Score Rankings Overlay plot indicates that this model is a useful model because it shows high cumulative lifts in both the training and validation data.

Figure-33

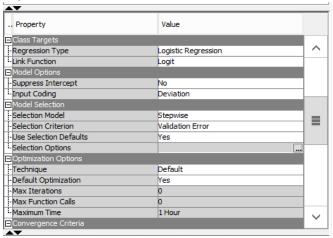


#### Regressions

Regressions modeling offers a different aspect to predict the results compared to decision trees modeling. Regressions modeling, as a parametric analysis, assumes a specific association structure between inputs and target. However, Decision Trees, as predictive algorithms, do not assume any association structure.

While running the Regressions modeling, we set the Selection Model as Stepwise and the Selection Criterion as Validation Error.

Figure-34



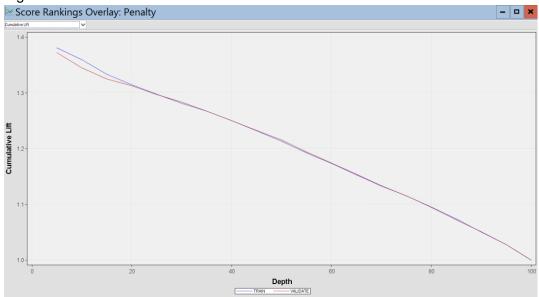
The result of Regressions modeling is listed in Figure-35.

Figure-35

Type (	3 Analy	sis of Effects	
Effect	DF	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Month	11	60.9956	<.0001
Time	1	203.1968	<.0001
TypeOfLocation	25	4094.8616	<.0001
ZipCode	58	455.3397	<.0001

The Score Rankings Overlay plot indicates that this model is a useful model because it shows high cumulative lifts in both the training and validation data.

Figure-36

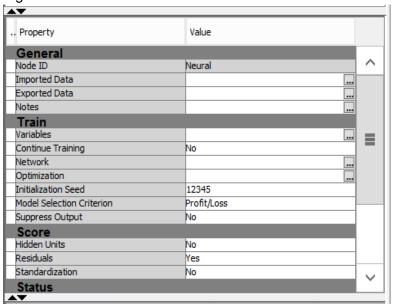


In this case, the result can be used for prediction and it indicates that Month, Time, Type of Location, and Zip Code has decreasing impacts on the penalty class.

#### **Neural Networks**

Applying the neural networks modeling under the Stepwise selection model on the inputs to analyze the penalty class, we enable Preliminary Training and take the default maximum iterations as 50 to run the first round of analysis.

Figure-37



Here is what we get.

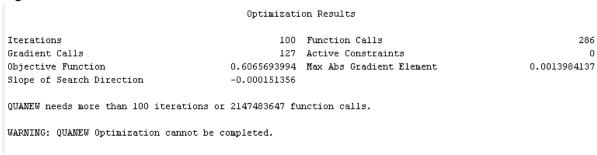
Figure-38

rigure-36			
	Optimizati	on Results	
Iterations	50	Function Calls	147
Gradient Calls	66	Active Constraints	0
Objective Function	0.6135663393	Max Abs Gradient Element	0.0008244992
Slope of Search Direction	-0.00004679		
QUANEW needs more than 50 iteration:		action calls.	

Notice the warning message. It indicates that data do not fit the model well, because there are too many poorly fitting observations.

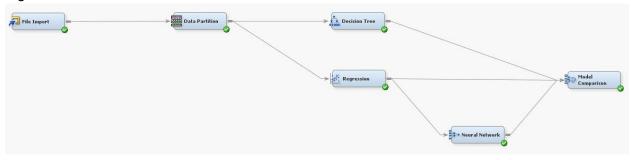
In the second round analysis, we set the maximum iterations as 100. However, the same warning appears again as in Figure-39.

#### Figure-39



Therefore, we connect the Neural Networks node right after the Regression node in SAS EM. Figure-40 is the new route and the related result we get.

Figure-40



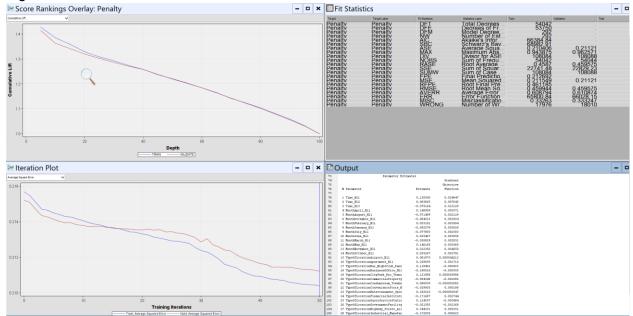
Under such setting, the modeling process functions well, which is shown in Figure-41.

Figure-41

Optimization Results			
Iterations	69	Function Calls	192
Gradient Calls	85	Active Constraints	0
Objective Function	0.6080797718	Max Abs Gradient Element	0.0008342243
Slope of Search Direction	-0.000029378		
Convergence criterion (FCONV=0.0001) satisfied.			

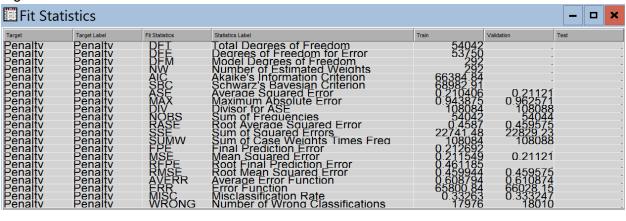
Figure-42 is the result of the Neural Networks analysis.

Figure-42



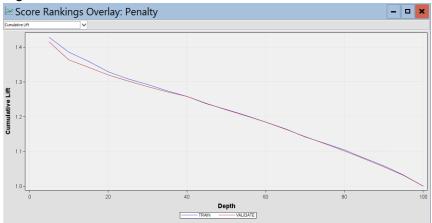
The Fit Statistics window shows a good modeling performance on both the average squared error and misclassification scales.

Figure-43



What's more, the Score Rankings Overlay plot indicates that this model is a useful model because it shows high cumulative lifts in both the training and validation data.

Figure-44



In the Output window, the most influential factors are revealed in the sequence as Time, Month, and the Type of Location, which is shown in Figure-45.

Figure-45

	Deventer Estimates					
	Parameter Estimates					
			Gradient			
		<b>-</b>	Objective			
N	Parameter	Estimate	Function			
1	Time Hll	0.120500	0.024647			
	Time H12	0.083665	0.007645			
	Time H13	-0.079164	0.015129			
	MonthApril Hll	0.148909	0.005571			
	MonthAugust Hll	-0.071499	0.002129			
	MonthDecember Hll	-0.084515	0.002924			
	MonthFebruary Hll	0.033181	0.003994			
	MonthJanuary H11	-0.092579	0.003028			
	MonthJuly Hll	-0.077893	0.002503			
	MonthJune Hll	0.025467	0.003056			
	MonthMarch Hll	-0.028829	0.002931			
	MonthMay Hll	0.140169	0.003569			
	MonthNovember Hll	0.012392	0.004050			
	MonthOctober Hll	0.025267	0.002791			
15	TypeOfLocationAirport Hll	0.081873	0.000044212			
	TypeOfLocationApartment Hll	0.169695	0.001710			
	TypeOfLocationBar NightClub Danc	0.118491	-0.000472			
	TypeOfLocationBusinessOffice Hll	-0.190016	-0.000550			
19	TypeOfLocationCityPark Rec Tenni	0.121088	0.000058986			
20	TypeOfLocationCommercialProperty	-0.094349	-0.002282			
21	TypeOfLocationCondominium_Townho	0.096839	-0.000002082			
22	TypeOfLocationConvenienceStore_H	-0.029005	0.000188			
23	TypeOfLocationEntertainment_Spor	0.182010	-0.000082947			
24	TypeOfLocationFinancialInstituti	-0.171687	0.002744			
25	${\tt TypeOfLocationGasorServiceStatio}$	0.124557	-0.000404			
26	${\tt TypeOfLocationGovernmentFacility}$	-0.021585	-0.001268			
27	${\tt TypeOfLocationHighway\_Street\_All}$	0.344351	0.000351			
28	${\tt TypeOfLocationIndustrial\_Manufac}$	-0.172836	0.000623			
29	${\tt TypeOfLocationMedicalFacility\_Hl}$	0.151364	-0.000444			
30	TypeOfLocationMotorVehicle_Hll	0.460991	-0.000529			
31	TypeOfLocationOther_Hll	-0.023389	0.002132			
32	${\tt TypeOfLocationOutdoorAreaPublic}\_$	0.324794	0.000153			
33	TypeOfLocationParkingLot_H11	0.339737	-0.001401			
34	${\tt TypeOfLocationPersonalServices\_H}$	-0.214653	-0.000123			
35	${\tt TypeOfLocationReligiousInstituti}$	0.045616	0.001253			
36	${\tt TypeOfLocationRestaurant\_FoodSer}$	-0.106574	-0.002297			
37	TypeOfLocationRetailStore_H11	0.097321	0.001847			
	${\tt TypeOfLocationSchool\_Daycare\_Hll}$	0.085877	-0.000479			
39	${\tt TypeOfLocationSingleFamilyReside}$	-0.006533	-0.017572			

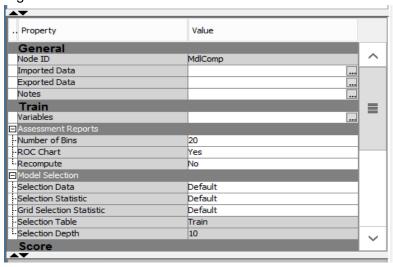
Optimization Start

#### Comparison

Above all, we have completed three predictive analyzing models, which are Decision Trees, Regressions, and Neural Networks. All of them are logical and useful. We need to conduct a comparative analysis among these models.

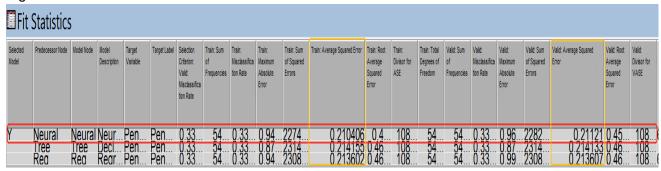
The comparison default settings are displayed as Figure-46.

Figure-46



We can find out the best model by comparing the values of Average Square Error. In this comparison, Neural Networks modeling performs the best because of its lowest value of Average Square Error in both Training data and Validation data.

Figure-47



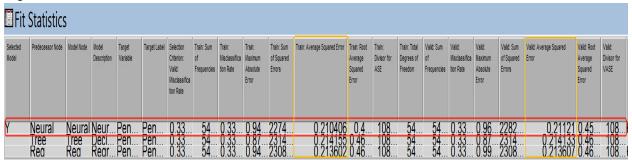
## Conclusion

Due to algorithm difference, three models are focusing on different points and the results might vary. In our research, the three models demonstrate similar levels of accuracy in predicting violent reconviction. For Neural Networks, the most important indicator is Time, followed by Month factor then followed by the Type of Location. For Regressions analysis, Month is the

most important factor toward the crime analysis, and for Decision Trees, the most influential factor is Type of Location.

From the comparison result, we can tell that the neural network performed the best among other methodologies.

Figure-48



From 5 a.m. the accident occurrence increases gradually and reach a periodic peak at 12 p.m. From 4 p.m. to 12 a.m., accidents occurrence keeps in high level. If you want to travel outside the Dallas County, the wise choice is to get rid of these two time periods.

A reverse relationship between income and crime rate is tested in our research: higher household income areas usually come with lower crime rates. In the future if your financial budget is allowed, renting an apartment located at higher income area could help you get away from crimes. For the police department, the lower household income areas require more police resource especially around 75204 and 75206 districts.

In a word, there are no good or right models among Clustering, Decision Tree and Regressions analysis, and which model will be most helpful to the research is different. In this report, we firmly believe that the Neural Network provides us with the best result.

# Take Away

Based on the research of our study, we would like to recommend the following tips for future explorations:

- 1. Increasing variables: the more variables the raw data has, the more accurate the analysis model will be.
- Other comparison measures should be considered: Average Square Error is the only method we applied to compare between different models. Other measures such as AUC (area under the curve) value might apply as well.

3. Different methodologies have different advantages and disadvantages, from our perspective the neural network model gave us the best result, but it did not denote that the Neural Network will be working well for any other areas. To figure out which method is the best fit, we suggest the scholar treat the specific topic with the most fitting method by using their own judgments.