

device_failure_prediction

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Note that data manipulation and exploration techniques illustrated in this demonstraton does not mean that the audience have to follow the same ways as shown here.

1 Device Failure and Maintenance Prediction Model

It is to build a predictive model or models with diagnoses of telemetry attributes to classify whether maintenance should be performed on devices or not. The column to be use to predict is called "failure" with binary value 0 for "non-failure" and 1 for "failure". *The goal is to minimize false positives and false negatives.*

2 Assumption

As there is no meta data for the description of the current dataset, assumptions can be applied to the current dataset. The dataset consists of diagnoses of telemetry attributes, so it might be rational that some variables are assumed to consist of *categorical nominal type values* while other variables would consist of *continuous type values*.

3 Roadmap

This demonstration is to show how to handle datasets which are imbalanced. The provided dataset has no description for variables. The dataset will be analyzed by using various statistical approaches. The main issue with the current dataset is that it is highly imblanaced. Various sampling techniques usually applied to the imbalanced dataset. There will be detailed explanations with each sampling techniques as the analyses progresses further. In this demonstration, data exploration will only be extensively explained. In the following successive sections, first, no sampling technique will be applied in this demonstration to understand how sampling techniques will affect performances of the predictive model on an imblanaces dataset. Although data preprocessing is done for most datasets but there will be no data preprocessing for this demonstration.

Additive variable generations such as day, day of the week, month, device operation days, or season from the 'date' variable could be an option to enhance the model performance. However, additivie variable generations does not always have to be applied to introduce new variables to the original dataset, unless there is any acceptable model performance with the orginal dataset. One could introduce additive variables before any model development but there is no guarantee that those additive variables are going to improve the model performances.

However, it should be noted that normalizations for continuous values should not be confused with additive variable generations. One might be also tempted to apply binning to continuous values but it could be applied when there is some group of values that are significantly different from other groups of values in a variable. Otherwise, binning would not be much help and it will only cause loss of information of continuity in the values. Distribution transformations, for example, log-normal transformation, could be used but it is not necessary to be applied for Random Forest learning algorithm. It all depends on what the analyzer intends to do with the dataset.

Logistic Regression and Neural Network based algorithms could also have been used but assuming that values of some variables are categorical nominal type values, to properly use those algorithms, creating dummy or one-hot-encoded variables for those algorithms simply overwhelms constraints on the given task. Therefore, for the predictive model development, instead of using Logistic Regression or Neural Network based algorithms, Random Forest predictive model learning algorithm will be adopted because Random Forest can handle very well for both categorical nominal type values and continuous type values at the same time. Random Forest does not require continuous type values to be normalized at all.

4 Data Loading

import necessary python modules.

```
[25]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
```

Load the dataset into memory.

```
[26]: datafile = r'/home/thomas/Downloads/device_failure.csv'
dataset = pd.read_csv(datafile, sep=',', engine='python')
```

5 Data Exploration

See if the dataset has been loaded correctly. There should be 12 columns meaning 12 variables.

```
[3]: dataset.head()
```

```
[3]:
```

	date	device	failure	attribute1	attribute2	attribute3	\
0	2015-01-01	S1F01085	0	215630672	56	0	
1	2015-01-01	S1F0166B	0	61370680	0	3	
2	2015-01-01	S1F01E6Y	0	173295968	0	0	
3	2015-01-01	S1F01JE0	0	79694024	0	0	
4	2015-01-01	S1F01R2B	0	135970480	0	0	

	attribute4	attribute5	attribute6	attribute7	attribute8	attribute9
0	52	6	407438	0	0	7
1	0	6	403174	0	0	0
2	0	12	237394	0	0	0
3	0	6	410186	0	0	0
4	0	15	313173	0	0	3

Take a look at the number of total records.

```
[4]: dataset.failure.count()
```

```
[4]: 124494
```

Take a look at the data structure.

```
[5]: dataset.dtypes
```

```
[5]: date            object  
     device         object  
     failure        int64  
     attribute1     int64  
     attribute2     int64  
     attribute3     int64  
     attribute4     int64  
     attribute5     int64  
     attribute6     int64  
     attribute7     int64  
     attribute8     int64  
     attribute9     int64  
     dtype: object
```

There are 12 variables in the dataset. All of the variables in the dataset are all integer values except date and device variables. Let's take a look at the distribution of the dataset in terms of failure and non-failure.

```
[6]: value_distribution = dataset.failure.value_counts()
```

```
[7]: print("Non-failure: {} [ {:.2f}%]".format(value_distribution[0],  
→(value_distribution[0]/dataset.failure.count())*100))  
     print("Failure: {} [ {:.2f}%]".format(value_distribution[1],  
→(value_distribution[1]/dataset.failure.count())*100))
```

```
Non-failure: 124388 [99.91%]  
Failure: 106 [0.09%]
```

```
[8]: value_distribution.plot(kind='bar')
```

```
[8]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f50c88322b0>
```

The number of device failures is less than 0.1% and the dataset appears to be highly imbalanced. As shown above, there are 12 variables. Failure is the target variable and 11 variables are considered to be independent variables. All the independent variables seems to be integers. The next things to do is to see if there are any null values or missing values in columns of the dataset. The following two lines will figure out if there any null and missing values in the dataset.

```
[30]: dataset.isnull().any()
```

```
[30]: date            False  
     device         False  
     failure        False  
     attribute1     False  
     attribute2     False  
     attribute3     False
```

```
attribute4    False
attribute5    False
attribute6    False
attribute7    False
attribute8    False
attribute9    False
dtype: bool
```

```
[31]: dataset.isna().any()
```

```
[31]: date          False
device          False
failure         False
attribute1      False
attribute2      False
attribute3      False
attribute4      False
attribute5      False
attribute6      False
attribute7      False
attribute8      False
attribute9      False
dtype: bool
```

In order to confirm that there are no missing and null values in every variable, the following can be executed for a list of all the summations of each column:

```
[32]: dataset.isnull().sum()
```

```
[32]: date          0
device          0
failure         0
attribute1      0
attribute2      0
attribute3      0
attribute4      0
attribute5      0
attribute6      0
attribute7      0
attribute8      0
attribute9      0
dtype: int64
```

It is clear to say that there are no null values in the dataset. Currently the meaning of each variable is unknown and it is definitely required to explore each variable to find out what each variable would mean. There are 106 samples, approximately 0.0852%, indicating failure. The above distribution shows that the dataset is perfectly imbalanced. In order to grasp the overall representation of the dataset, it is favorable to look into the characteristics of each variable, first. The following lines will first reveal the number of unique values in each variable and will give an overall idea of how each variable contributes to failure and non-failure.

```
[169]: # Show distinct values of each variable.
columns = dataset.columns
no_unique_values = []
for column in columns:
    unique_values = np.unique(dataset[column])
    print('{}: {} distinct values - {}'.format(column, len(unique_values),
    ↪unique_values))
    no_unique_values.append(len(unique_values))
```

```
date: 304 distinct values - ['2015-01-01' '2015-01-02' '2015-01-03'
'2015-01-04' '2015-01-05'
'2015-01-06' '2015-01-07' '2015-01-08' '2015-01-09' '2015-01-10'
'2015-01-11' '2015-01-12' '2015-01-13' '2015-01-14' '2015-01-15'
'2015-01-16' '2015-01-17' '2015-01-18' '2015-01-19' '2015-01-20'
'2015-01-21' '2015-01-22' '2015-01-23' '2015-01-24' '2015-01-25'
'2015-01-26' '2015-01-27' '2015-01-28' '2015-01-29' '2015-01-30'
'2015-01-31' '2015-02-01' '2015-02-02' '2015-02-03' '2015-02-04'
'2015-02-05' '2015-02-06' '2015-02-07' '2015-02-08' '2015-02-09'
'2015-02-10' '2015-02-11' '2015-02-12' '2015-02-13' '2015-02-14'
'2015-02-15' '2015-02-16' '2015-02-17' '2015-02-18' '2015-02-19'
'2015-02-20' '2015-02-21' '2015-02-22' '2015-02-23' '2015-02-24'
'2015-02-25' '2015-02-26' '2015-02-27' '2015-02-28' '2015-03-01'
'2015-03-02' '2015-03-03' '2015-03-04' '2015-03-05' '2015-03-06'
'2015-03-07' '2015-03-08' '2015-03-09' '2015-03-10' '2015-03-11'
'2015-03-12' '2015-03-13' '2015-03-14' '2015-03-15' '2015-03-16'
'2015-03-17' '2015-03-18' '2015-03-19' '2015-03-20' '2015-03-21'
'2015-03-22' '2015-03-23' '2015-03-24' '2015-03-25' '2015-03-26'
'2015-03-27' '2015-03-28' '2015-03-29' '2015-03-30' '2015-03-31'
'2015-04-01' '2015-04-02' '2015-04-03' '2015-04-04' '2015-04-05'
'2015-04-06' '2015-04-07' '2015-04-08' '2015-04-09' '2015-04-10'
'2015-04-11' '2015-04-12' '2015-04-13' '2015-04-14' '2015-04-15'
'2015-04-16' '2015-04-17' '2015-04-18' '2015-04-19' '2015-04-20'
'2015-04-21' '2015-04-22' '2015-04-23' '2015-04-24' '2015-04-25'
'2015-04-26' '2015-04-27' '2015-04-28' '2015-04-29' '2015-04-30'
'2015-05-01' '2015-05-02' '2015-05-03' '2015-05-04' '2015-05-05'
'2015-05-06' '2015-05-07' '2015-05-08' '2015-05-09' '2015-05-10'
'2015-05-11' '2015-05-12' '2015-05-13' '2015-05-14' '2015-05-15'
'2015-05-16' '2015-05-17' '2015-05-18' '2015-05-19' '2015-05-20'
'2015-05-21' '2015-05-22' '2015-05-23' '2015-05-24' '2015-05-25'
'2015-05-26' '2015-05-27' '2015-05-28' '2015-05-29' '2015-05-30'
'2015-05-31' '2015-06-01' '2015-06-02' '2015-06-03' '2015-06-04'
'2015-06-05' '2015-06-06' '2015-06-07' '2015-06-08' '2015-06-09'
'2015-06-10' '2015-06-11' '2015-06-12' '2015-06-13' '2015-06-14'
'2015-06-15' '2015-06-16' '2015-06-17' '2015-06-18' '2015-06-19'
'2015-06-20' '2015-06-21' '2015-06-22' '2015-06-23' '2015-06-24'
'2015-06-25' '2015-06-26' '2015-06-27' '2015-06-28' '2015-06-29'
'2015-06-30' '2015-07-01' '2015-07-02' '2015-07-03' '2015-07-04']
```

```

'2015-07-05' '2015-07-06' '2015-07-07' '2015-07-08' '2015-07-09'
'2015-07-10' '2015-07-11' '2015-07-12' '2015-07-13' '2015-07-14'
'2015-07-15' '2015-07-16' '2015-07-17' '2015-07-18' '2015-07-19'
'2015-07-20' '2015-07-21' '2015-07-22' '2015-07-23' '2015-07-24'
'2015-07-25' '2015-07-26' '2015-07-27' '2015-07-28' '2015-07-29'
'2015-07-30' '2015-07-31' '2015-08-01' '2015-08-02' '2015-08-03'
'2015-08-04' '2015-08-05' '2015-08-06' '2015-08-07' '2015-08-08'
'2015-08-09' '2015-08-10' '2015-08-11' '2015-08-12' '2015-08-13'
'2015-08-14' '2015-08-15' '2015-08-16' '2015-08-17' '2015-08-18'
'2015-08-19' '2015-08-20' '2015-08-21' '2015-08-22' '2015-08-23'
'2015-08-24' '2015-08-25' '2015-08-26' '2015-08-27' '2015-08-28'
'2015-08-29' '2015-08-30' '2015-08-31' '2015-09-01' '2015-09-02'
'2015-09-03' '2015-09-04' '2015-09-05' '2015-09-06' '2015-09-07'
'2015-09-08' '2015-09-09' '2015-09-10' '2015-09-11' '2015-09-12'
'2015-09-13' '2015-09-14' '2015-09-15' '2015-09-16' '2015-09-17'
'2015-09-18' '2015-09-19' '2015-09-20' '2015-09-21' '2015-09-22'
'2015-09-23' '2015-09-24' '2015-09-25' '2015-09-26' '2015-09-27'
'2015-09-28' '2015-09-29' '2015-09-30' '2015-10-01' '2015-10-02'
'2015-10-03' '2015-10-04' '2015-10-05' '2015-10-06' '2015-10-07'
'2015-10-08' '2015-10-09' '2015-10-10' '2015-10-11' '2015-10-12'
'2015-10-13' '2015-10-14' '2015-10-15' '2015-10-16' '2015-10-17'
'2015-10-18' '2015-10-19' '2015-10-20' '2015-10-21' '2015-10-22'
'2015-10-23' '2015-10-24' '2015-10-25' '2015-10-26' '2015-10-27'
'2015-10-29' '2015-10-30' '2015-10-31' '2015-11-02']
device: 1169 distinct values - ['S1F01085' 'S1F013BB' 'S1F0166B' ... 'Z1F26YZB'
'Z1F282ZV' 'Z1F2PBHX']
failure: 2 distinct values - [0 1]
attribute1: 123877 distinct values - [          0          2048          2056 ...
244136552 244138600 244140480]
attribute2: 558 distinct values - [          0           8          16          24          32          40          48
56          64          72          80          88
          96         104         112         120         128         136         144         152         160         168         176         184
          192         200         208         216         224         232         240         248         256         264         272         280
          288         296         304         320         328         336         344         352         360         368         376         384
          392         400         408         416         424         432         440         448         456         464         472         480
          488         496         504         512         520         528         536         544         552         560         568         576
          584         592         600         608         616         624         632         640         648         656         664         672
          680         704         712         728         736         744         752         760         776         792         800         808
          816         824         832         840         848         864         872         888         896         912         920         928
          936         944         952         960         968         976         984         992        1000        1024        1032        1040
        1048        1056        1064        1072        1080        1088        1096        1104        1112        1120        1128        1136
        1144        1152        1160        1176        1184        1192        1200        1208        1232        1240        1248        1256
        1264        1280        1288        1296        1312        1320        1336        1360        1376        1392        1400        1416
        1424        1440        1464        1480        1488        1504        1536        1552        1560        1568        1576        1584
        1592        1600        1616        1624        1632        1648        1656        1664        1672        1720        1744        1752
        1768        1776        1800        1808        1816        1832        1840        1848        1864        1880        1888        1912
        1920        1928        1936        1944        1952        1960        1968        1976        1984        1992        2000        2008
        2016        2024        2032        2040        2048        2056        2064        2072        2096        2104        2144        2192

```

2208	2232	2248	2256	2272	2280	2288	2296	2304	2320	2328	2336
2344	2352	2360	2368	2376	2384	2392	2400	2416	2424	2432	2440
2448	2456	2464	2472	2480	2488	2496	2520	2528	2536	2544	2552
2568	2576	2600	2608	2616	2640	2648	2656	2664	2704	2712	2720
2744	2768	2784	2792	2808	2816	2824	2832	2848	2856	2880	2904
2912	2920	2936	2944	2984	2992	3000	3016	3032	3040	3048	3064
3072	3080	3096	3104	3112	3128	3136	3144	3152	3160	3200	3216
3248	3272	3288	3352	3376	3432	3440	3456	3472	3488	3512	3528
3536	3552	3576	3584	3592	3600	3608	3616	3624	3696	3800	3840
3848	4072	4080	4160	4240	4248	4264	4280	4304	4312	4360	4440
4448	4456	4464	4472	4488	4496	4512	4536	4768	4792	4808	4816
4832	4920	4960	5160	5184	5192	5560	5624	6048	6080	6096	6128
6176	6216	6248	6264	6272	6280	6288	6304	6328	6336	6344	6352
6360	6368	6376	6416	6464	6472	6480	6504	6544	6656	6680	6720
6744	6792	6800	6808	6856	6912	6992	7024	7096	7128	7160	7216
7240	7344	7384	7400	7440	7448	7456	7504	7520	7544	7552	7624
7640	7648	7672	7680	7712	7752	7768	7800	7808	7888	7904	7928
7944	7960	7968	7976	8064	8104	8120	8136	8160	8392	8480	8488
8520	8528	8536	8544	8688	8760	9008	9264	9536	9592	9848	9920
9952	9960	9984	10024	10064	10096	10168	10184	10200	10232	10248	10288
10304	10328	10336	10344	10352	10360	10368	10376	10384	10392	10440	10448
10592	10648	11216	11432	11856	11872	11880	11888	12360	12928	13088	13560
14856	14904	14920	15304	15328	15336	16408	16864	17408	17704	18072	19200
21200	21528	21544	21816	21928	21944	22816	23208	23400	23936	24656	24680
24792	24904	24920	24976	24984	27856	28344	32936	33000	33016	33024	33528
34912	35616	37936	41232	43712	44008	44024	44152	44176	44224	44232	46264
46280	46296	46304	46328	46400	46408	46496	46520	46584	46848	46872	47944
49768	49840	51976	54752	54896	56584	56736	61592	62296	64464	64472	64584
64728	64736	64776	64784	64792	64968]						
attribute3: 47 distinct values - [
0	1	2	3	4	5	7					
8	9	10	11	12							
14	15	16	18	21	24	25	34	35	36	38	53
56	61	62	70	72	100	107	208	220	263	266	279
318	323	377	382	406	1162	1326	1331	2112	2693	24929]	
attribute4: 115 distinct values - [
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
9	10	11	12	13							
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27										
28	29	30	31	32	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	43										
44	45	46	48	49	50	51	52	53	55	56	57
58	60										
62	65	67	69	73	74	76	79	80	86	90	91
94	95										
97	100	108	112	118	121	122	128	129	135	147	160
164	173										
175	186	204	214	215	235	236	256	288	297	299	300
305	322										
331	399	400	401	405	406	431	486	487	521	529	533
763	841										
1033	1074	1666]									
attribute5: 60 distinct values - [
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15									
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	70	78	89	90	91	92	94	95	98]

```

attribute6: 44838 distinct values - [      8      9     12 ... 689035 689062
689161]
attribute7: 28 distinct values - [  0   6   8  16  22  24  32  40  48  56  72
80  96 104 112 128 136 152
176 216 240 272 312 424 496 736 744 832]
attribute8: 28 distinct values - [  0   6   8  16  22  24  32  40  48  56  72
80  96 104 112 128 136 152
176 216 240 272 312 424 496 736 744 832]
attribute9: 65 distinct values - [      0      1      2      3      4      5      6
7      8      9     10     11
12     13     14     15     18     19     20     21     22     23     24     25
26     30     33     34     38     41     42     51     52     57     65     70
98     104    120    145    155    164    177    205    222    233    241    248
255    263    269    400    898   1080   1150   1165   1864   2269   2270   2522
2637   2794   7226  10137  18701]

```

Summary of unique values

- date : 304 unique values.
- device: 1,169 unique values.
- attribute1: 123,877 unique values.
- attribute2: 558 unique values.
- attribute3: 47 unique values.
- attribute4: 115 unique values.
- attribute5: 60 unique values.
- attribute6: 44,838 unique values.
- attribute7: 28 unique values.
- attribute9: 65 unique values.

For a dataset with a large number of variables, it would be extremely hard to manually look at all the values of each variable in the dataset. Nonetheless, data exploration for understanding characteristics of individual variables is mandatory to undergo when a story telling about the current dataset is required. However, the current dataset only has 9 variables excluding 'date', 'device', and 'failure' variables, so it is reasonable to look at individual characteristics of unique values of each variable.

- 'attribute1' and 'attribute6' have relatively high numbers of unique values while numbers of unique values for other values are small. Those two variables must have a lot of ways for the predictive model to learn non-failures of devices. The predictive model must not only know how to tell devices with failure but it also has to learn ways to failure, too. A brief unique value summary will help grasp a further picture of the dataset.
- The ranges of unique values of 'attribute1' and 'attribute6' are much broader than the ranges of unique values of other variables.
- 'attribute7' and 'attribute8' seem to be identical to one another. Either of the variables, 'attribute7' or 'attribute8', should be removed from analysis if those variables are used by Logistic Regression or Ordinal Regression since those two analyses strongly assume little or no multicollinearity.

- 'attribute1' appears to be multiples of 'attribute2', either of those two variables should also be removed from the dataset unless only one of them should be used. Otherwise, they will cause a multicollinearity problem if Logistic Regression or Ordinal Regression analyses are implemented for the predictive model. 'attribute1' seems to express the amount of daily data transmission handled by each device.
- Although Logistic Regression and Ordinary Regression are not applied here, but those multi-collinearity issues should be noted. When Logistic Regression or Ordinary Regression is undertaken, multi-collinearity tests must be performed for a reliable multi-collinearity association to ensure the predictive model performance.

Let's first check if 'attribute7' and 'attribute8' are identical to one another.

```
[23]: # Create two different dataframes for attribute7 and attribute8.
attribute_7 = pd.DataFrame(dataset, columns = ['attribute7'])
attribute_8 = pd.DataFrame(dataset, columns = ['attribute8'])
attribute_test = pd.DataFrame(dataset, columns = ['matched'])

# Compare attribute7 and attribute8 by their values for each record.
attribute_test['matched'] = pd.DataFrame(np.where(attribute_7.attribute7 ==
→attribute_8.attribute8, 'True', 'False'))
```

```
[24]: # See the number of matched values.
attribute_test['matched'].value_counts()
```

```
[24]: True      124494
      Name: matched, dtype: int64
```

It is safe to say 'attribute7' is a duplicate of 'attribute8' or the other way around. As mentioned earlier above, if a variable is a copy of another variable, it could be problematic when the predictive model is developed using Logistic Regression Classifier since Logistic Regression assumes little or no multi-collinearity among independent variables, so either of them should be removed from the dataset or they both can stay in the dataset as long as only one of them is applied to the model development.

If the model is developed by using an ensemble classifier such as Random Forest, the effect of multi-collinearity would not have much impact on the predictive model since Random Forest will create the predictive model with random selection of features at each node creation, but in general the effect is not removed completely. It could be experimented during the model development.

It would be useful if the overall number of unique values in each variable could be presented with graphical representations. A pie chart and a bar chart would do the trick to quickly understand the overall characteristics of distributions of unique values in the dataset.

```
[11]: # import matplotlib to plot graphical statistics.
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
[27]: '''
      It returns an array of numbers of unique values in each variable.
      '''
def get_no_unique_values(columns):
    no_unique_values = []
    for column in columns:
        no_unique_value = dataset[column].nunique()
```

```

        no_unique_values.append(no_unique_value)
    return no_unique_values

'''
    Plot a bar chart for the number of unique values in each variable.
    Numbers of unique values of each variable will also be displayed on top of
    →each bar,
    otherwise those small values would have no way to display themselves.
'''
def plot_no_unique_values_bar_chart(columns):
    no_unique_values = get_no_unique_values(columns)
    total_no_unique_value = sum(no_unique_values)
    percentages = []

    for value in no_unique_values:
        percentages.append(round((value/total_no_unique_value)*100, 4))

    fig, ax = plt.subplots()
    percent_idx = 0
    for i, v in enumerate(no_unique_values):
        ax.text(v + 3, i + .25, str(v)+str(" ")
        →(")+str(percentages[percent_idx])+str("%)"), color='green')
        percent_idx += 1

    width = 0.65 # the width of the bars
    ind = np.arange(len(no_unique_values))
    ax.barh(ind, no_unique_values, width, color="blue")
    ax.set_yticks(ind+width/2)
    ax.set_yticklabels(columns, minor=False)
    plt.title('No. of unique values by variable')
    plt.xlabel('No. of unique values')
    plt.ylabel('Variables')
    plt.show()

```

[31]:

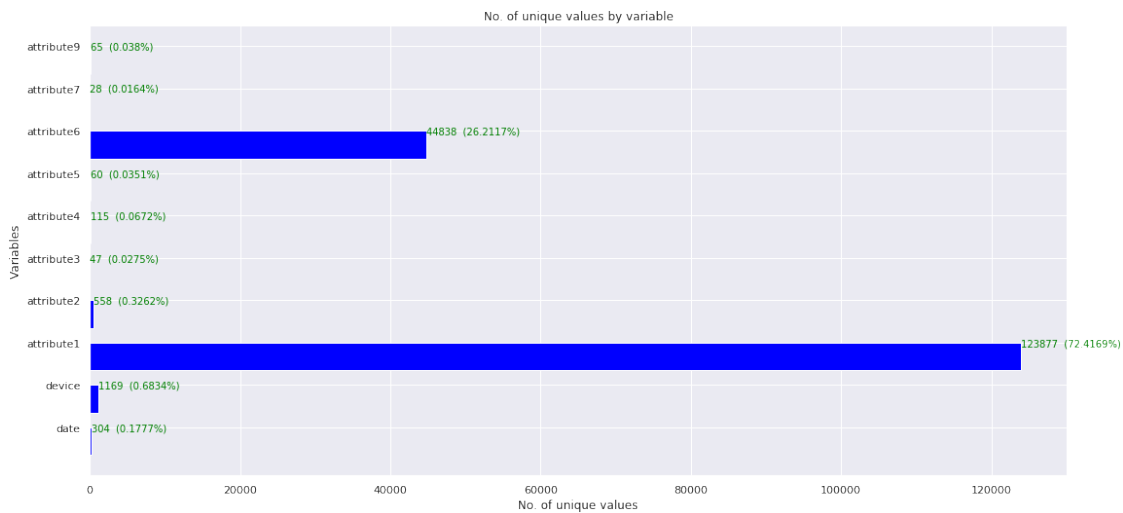
```

'''
    attribute8 is removed from the column list since it is a duplicate of
    →attribute7.
'''
columns = ['date',      'device',      'attribute1',
           'attribute2', 'attribute3', 'attribute4',
           'attribute5', 'attribute6', 'attribute7',
           'attribute9']

'''
    Generate a bar chart for more details with counts of unique values in each
    →variable.
'''

```

```
plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (18.0, 8.5)
plot_no_unique_values_bar_chart(columns)
```



- 'attribute1' and 'attribute6' have large numbers of unique values while other variables have relatively small numbers of unique values.
- Unique values of 'attribute1' are assumed to be the amount of daily data exchange. 'attribute6' also a large number of unique values but it is not really conclude what 'attribute6' means.
- It seems reasonable to consider unique values of 'attribute1' and 'attribute6' as continuous values.
- 'attribute2' has 558 unique values and 'attribute4' has 115 unique values.
- Treating unique values of 'attribute2' as a continuous values seems to be rational.
- 'attribute3', 'attribute4', 'attribute5', 'attribute7', and 'attribute9' are assumed to be categorical nominal type values. discrete values of those variables could be treated as continuous type values but in this demonstration, they are forced to be categorical nominal type values to apply a variety of modeling approaches.

'attribute1', 'attribute2', and 'attribute6' are considered to be continuous type values while 'attribute3', 'attribute4', 'attribute5', 'attribute7', and 'attribute9' are assumed to be categorical nominal value types. Recall that 'attribute8' is not included because 'attribute8' is identical to 'attribute7'. One can use both 'attribute7' and 'attribute8' if Random Forest is the learning algorithm but for this demonstration, 'attribute8' will not be used. Before preceding further, let's take a look at ranges of values in each variable for overall characteristics using boxplots. Although boxplots are for continuous values, they can be utilized to picture overall characteristics of variables even for categorical values, too.

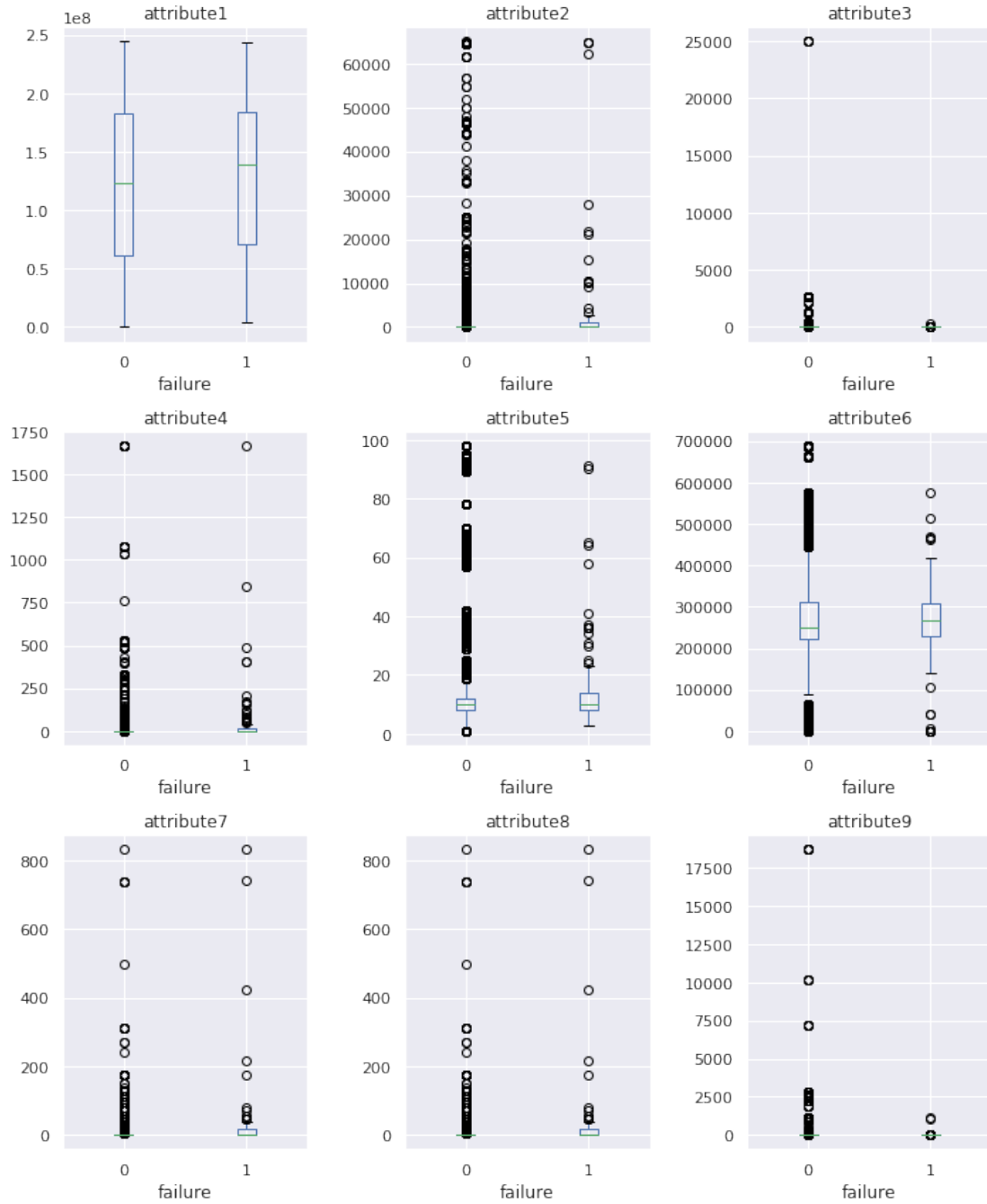
```
[230]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10,12))

ax1 = plt.subplot(331)
ax2 = plt.subplot(332)
```

```
ax3 = plt.subplot(333)
ax4 = plt.subplot(334)
ax5 = plt.subplot(335)
ax6 = plt.subplot(336)
ax7 = plt.subplot(337)
ax8 = plt.subplot(338)
ax9 = plt.subplot(339)

dataset.boxplot(column='attribute1',by='failure',ax=ax1)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute2',by='failure',ax=ax2)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute3',by='failure',ax=ax3)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute4',by='failure',ax=ax4)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute5',by='failure',ax=ax5)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute6',by='failure',ax=ax6)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute7',by='failure',ax=ax7)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute8',by='failure',ax=ax8)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute9',by='failure',ax=ax9)

plt.suptitle('')
plt.tight_layout()
```



5.1 Categorical Variable Exploration

Unique values, contributing to failure, of each variable will be studied. The following utility functions will help plot the distribution of contributions of unique values in each variable.

[247]:

```

total_record = dataset['failure'].count() # Get a count for total records.
failure_summary_table = [{"Variable", "Total", "Failure", "Non-failure",
    ↳"Intersected"}] # a summary table.

'''
    This will plot statistics on unique values with failure contribution.
'''
def plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure(attr):

    '''
        Prepare dataframe from the original dataset for required statistics.
    '''
    plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (18.0, 3.5)
    attr_failure_info = dataset['failure'] == 1
    df1 = pd.DataFrame(dataset, columns=[attr])
    df2 = pd.DataFrame(dataset[attr_failure_info], columns=[attr])
    attr_failure_info = dataset[attr_failure_info].groupby(attr).failure.sum()

    '''
        Compute necessary information to generate summary statistics on unique_
    ↳values with
        contributions to both failure and non-failure.
    '''
    total_no_uniq_values = dataset[attr].nunique()
    unique_value_ratio = round((total_no_uniq_values/total_record)*100, 4)
    failures = attr_failure_info.count()
    failure_ratio = round((failures/total_no_uniq_values)*100, 4)
    non_failures = total_no_uniq_values - failures
    non_failure_ratio = round((non_failures/total_no_uniq_values)*100, 4)
    intersection_df = pd.merge(df1, df2, on=[attr], how='inner')
    intersection = intersection_df[attr].nunique()
    intersection_ratio = round((intersection/failures)*100, 4)

    '''
        Store summaries on unique values with failure contribution.
    '''
    tr = ['{}'.format(attr),
        '{}:{:.2f}%'.format(total_no_uniq_values, unique_value_ratio),
        '{}:{:.2f}%'.format(failures, failure_ratio),
        '{}:{:.2f}%'.format(non_failures, non_failure_ratio),
        '{}:{:.2f}%'.format(intersection, intersection_ratio)
        ]
    failure_summary_table.append(tr)

```

```

[248]: # See how unique values in attribute3 contributes to failure.
plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure('attribute3')
plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure('attribute4')

```

```
plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure('attribute5')
plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure('attribute7')
plot_unique_value_contribution_device_failure('attribute9')
```

Let's take a look at the summary of category variable analyses.

```
[249]: from IPython.display import HTML, display
import tabulate
```

```
[250]: display(HTML(tabulate.tabulate(failure_summary_table, tablefmt='html')))
```

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>

Those variables in the summary are all assumed to have categorical nominal type values. All the category variables have high cardinalities, meaning that those category variables have a large number of unique categorical values.

The predictive model needs to classify devices into either failure or non-failure. Looking at the summary above, 'attribute3' will be the most importance variable for the predictive model to learn that a device is either in failure or non-failure since it has the highest number of intersected unique values. Having a higher number of intersected unique values for a categorical variable means that the predictive model knows many ways to tell if a device is in failure or non-failure. The rank of variable importances will follow high numbers of intersected unique values in each variable.

In addition to the summary above, it might a good idea to look at numerical categorical variable importance measures by using 'ExtraTreesClassifier' in 'sklearn' and compare the numerical feature importances to the summary above.

```
[217]: # import ExtraTreesClassifier.
from sklearn.ensemble import ExtraTreesClassifier
```

```
[223]: # Test features for importances.
def examine_features(x_train, y_train):
    # Build a forest and compute the feature importances
    forest = ExtraTreesClassifier(n_estimators=250, random_state=0)
    forest.fit(x_train, y_train)
    importances = forest.feature_importances_
    std = np.std([tree.feature_importances_ for tree in forest.estimators_],
                  axis=0)
    indices = np.argsort(importances)[::-1]

    # Print the feature ranking
    print("Feature ranking:")
    for f in range(X.shape[1]):
        print("%d. attribute %d (%f)" % (f + 1, indices[f] + 1,
→importances[indices[f]]))

    # Plot the feature importances of the forest
    plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (18.0, 4.5)
    plt.figure()
    plt.title("Feature importance scores")
```

```
plt.bar(range(X.shape[1]), importances[indices], color="red",
→yerr=std[indices], align="center")
plt.xticks(range(X.shape[1]), indices+1)
plt.xlim([-1, X.shape[1]])
plt.show()
```

```
[224]: # Execute variable importance test with all the variables in the current
→dataset.
X = dataset[['attribute1', 'attribute2', 'attribute3', 'attribute4',
→'attribute5', 'attribute6', 'attribute7', 'attribute9']]
Y = dataset.failure
examine_features(X, Y)
```

Feature ranking:

1. attribute 1 (0.278196)
2. attribute 6 (0.276792)
3. attribute 4 (0.123269)
4. attribute 2 (0.102534)
5. attribute 5 (0.082676)
6. attribute 7 (0.079533)
7. attribute 8 (0.044559)
8. attribute 3 (0.012441)



The numeric variable importance test with ExtraTreesClassifier shows the order of important variables according to the variable importance score of each variable. As mentioned above, it is conclusive that variables with a higher number of intersected unique values take higher variable importance scores. Knowing numerical importances of variables gives more confidence in choosing variables to include or exclude when developing the predictive model. With these understandings about variables in the current dataset, diving deeper into the spreads of unique values on failure and non-failure would give more insights to further understand about the variables. Although boxplots are for continuous values, boxplots can be improvised to look at the spreads of unique values of categorical variables, too. Note that one can use "Logistic Regression" to display the spread of values separately.

```
[253]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10,20))

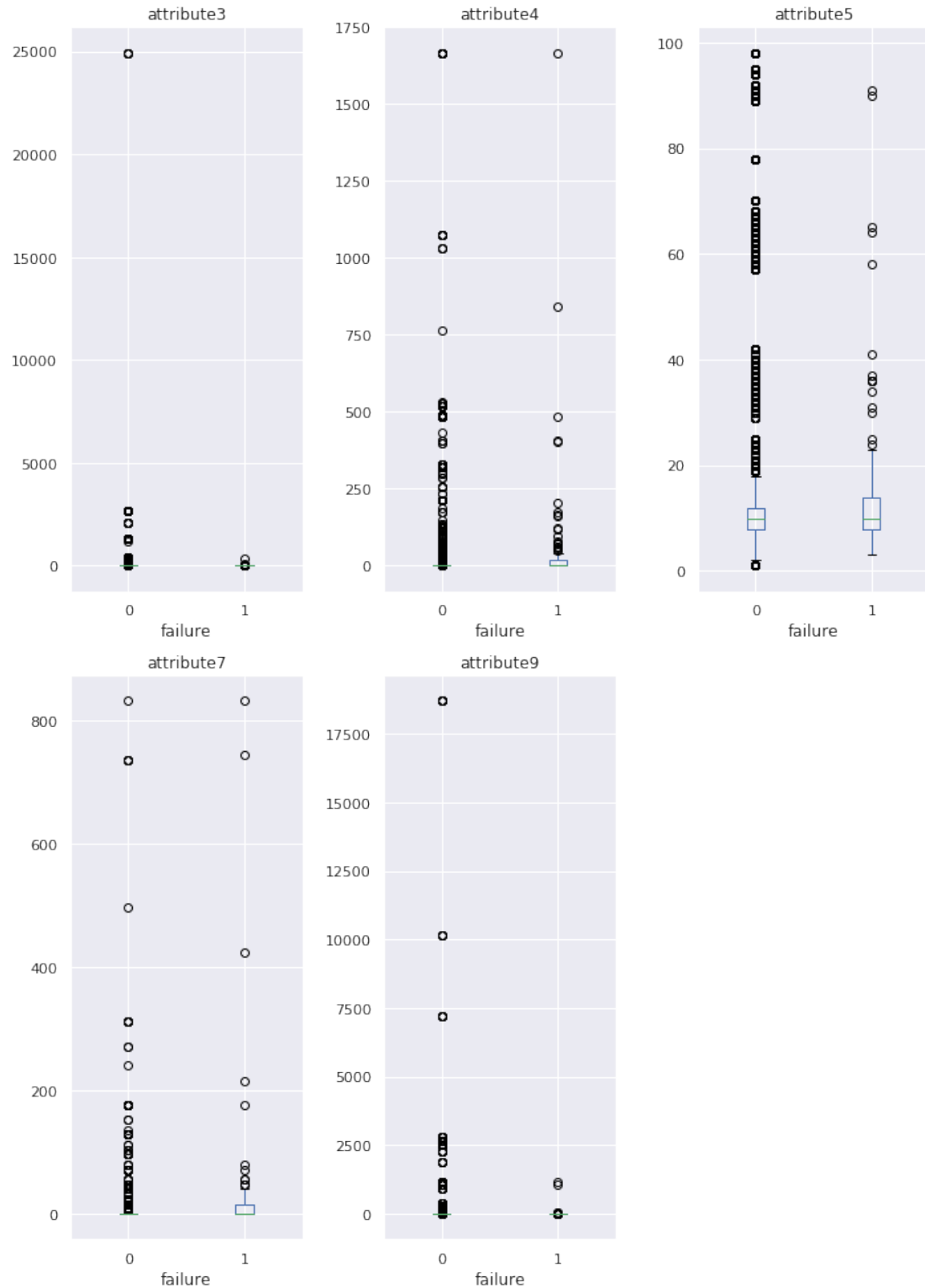
ax1 = plt.subplot(331)
```



```
ax2 = plt.subplot(332)
ax3 = plt.subplot(333)
ax4 = plt.subplot(334)
ax5 = plt.subplot(335)

dataset.boxplot(column='attribute3',by='failure',ax=ax1)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute4',by='failure',ax=ax2)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute5',by='failure',ax=ax3)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute7',by='failure',ax=ax4)
dataset.boxplot(column='attribute9',by='failure',ax=ax5)

plt.suptitle('')
plt.tight_layout()
```



By looking at the boxplots above, 'attribute4', 'attribute5', and 'attribute7' seem to have more options to contribute to failure than other variables: 'attribute3' and 'attribute9'. Above boxplots

reveal that the unique value, '0', or close to '0' in 'attribute3', and 'attribute9' show that has most frequencies for both failure and non-failure while 'attribute4', 'attribute5', 'attribute7' show similar spread patterns of their unique values except ranges of spreads of their unique values. From the study of variables, 'attribute4', 'attribute5', and 'attribute7' might be good to use for the predictive model developments since they have more options to failure and have different spreads of unique values other than unique values for non-failure.

[]: