

Big Four Effect

- Need for quality audits
 - Fewer restatements
 - More accurate forecasts
 - Lower cost of capital
- Why effect exists?
 - Better audit methodologies/tools/technologies
 - Hiring effect
 - Self-selection effect
- Target (Binary)
 - Big Four (PwC, EY, Deloitte, KPMG)
 - Other



Data

- Data sources:
 - PCAOB: Public Company Auditor Search
 - Quandl: US Company Fundamentals
- Created/queried PostgreSQL database



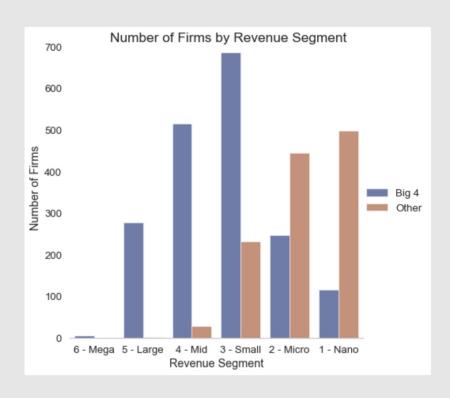


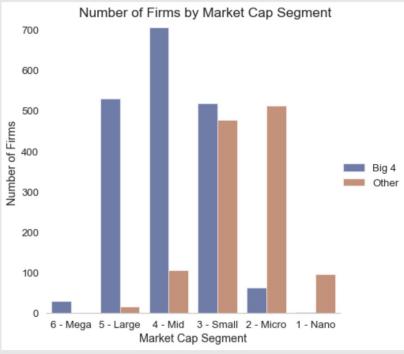


Features

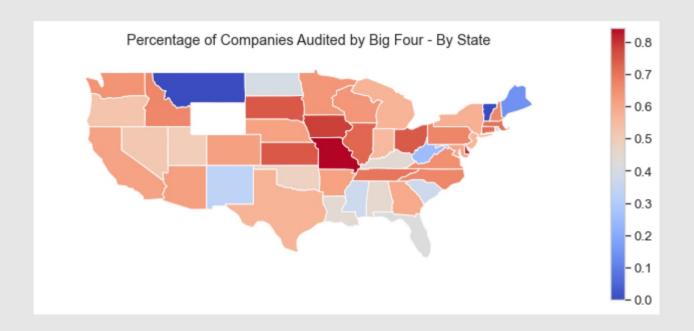
- Cash Flows (Operating, Investing, Etc)
 - Feature engineering: Inflows vs. Outflows
- Balance Sheet Metrics
 - · Assets, Cash, Liabilities, Debt, Equity
- Income Statement Metrics
 - Revenue
 - EBITDA
- Enterprise value
- Market value
- Location (State)
- Exchange
- Industry Sector

EDA



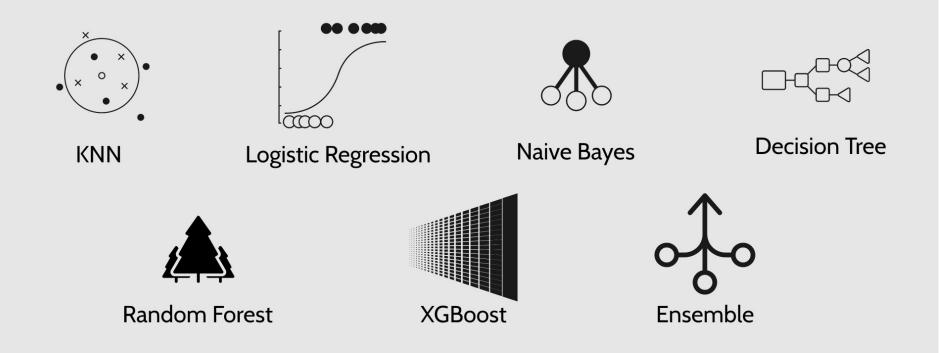


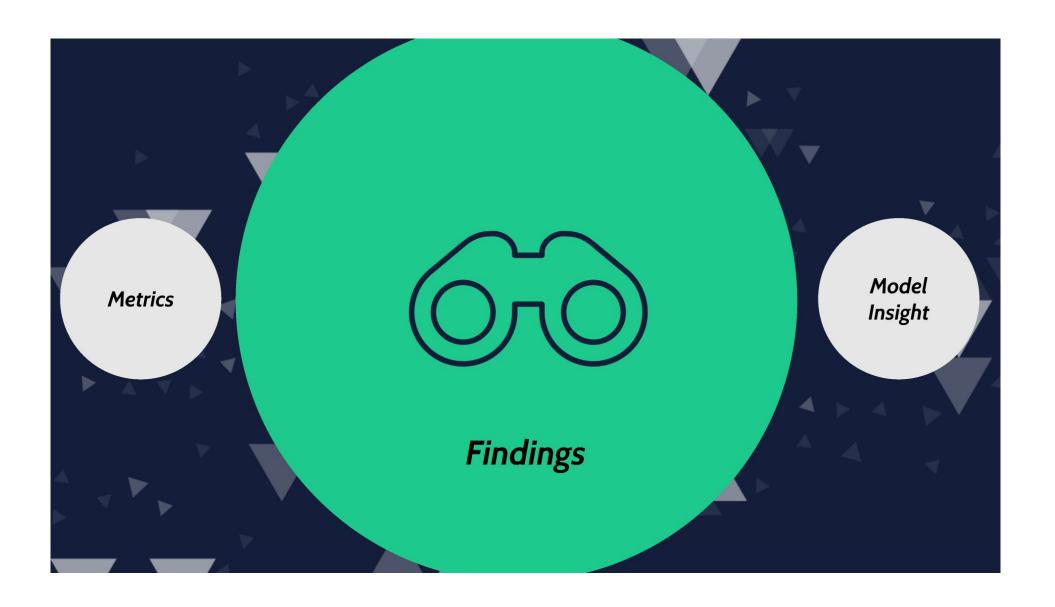
EDA



* For additional EDA visualizations see appendix

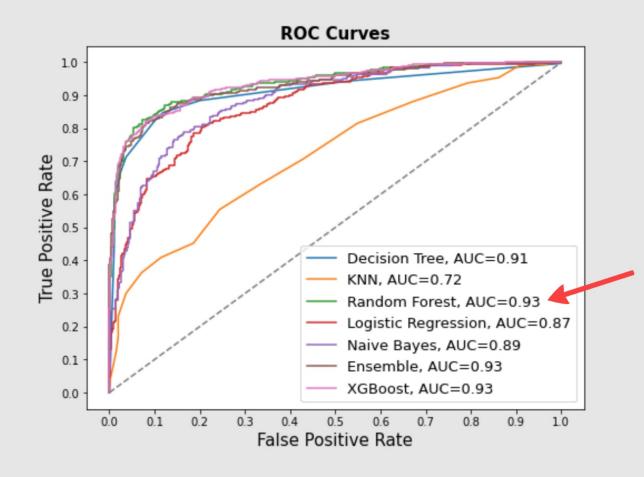
Models



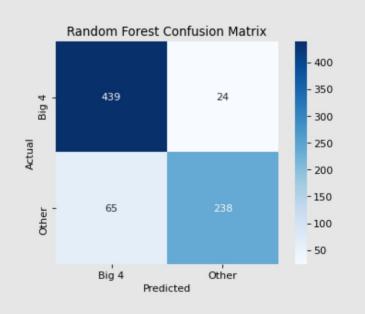


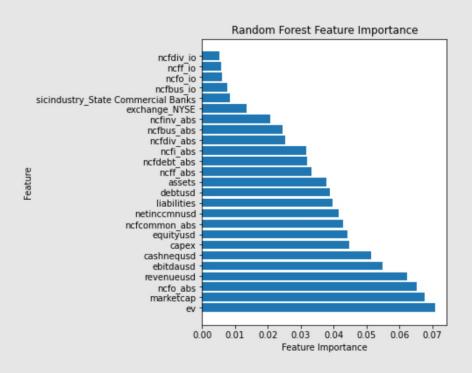
Metrics

| | Accuracy | F1 Score | |
|---------------------|----------|----------|--|
| KNN | .64 | .67 | |
| Naive Bayes | .79 | .79 | |
| Logistic Regression | .80 | .78 | |
| Decision Tree | .87 | .86 | |
| Random Forest | .88 | .88 | |
| XGBoost | .88 | .87 | |
| Ensemble | .87 | .87 | |

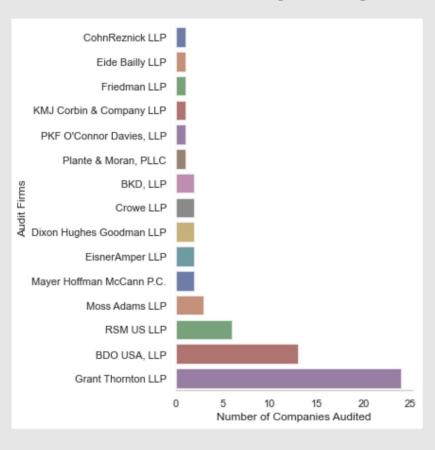


Random Forest

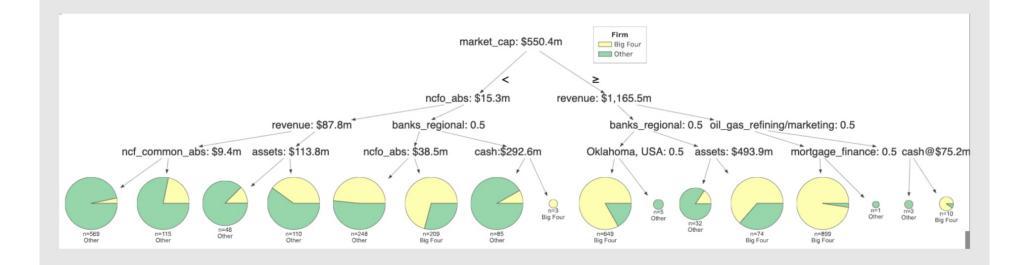




False Positives (n=65)



Decision Tree

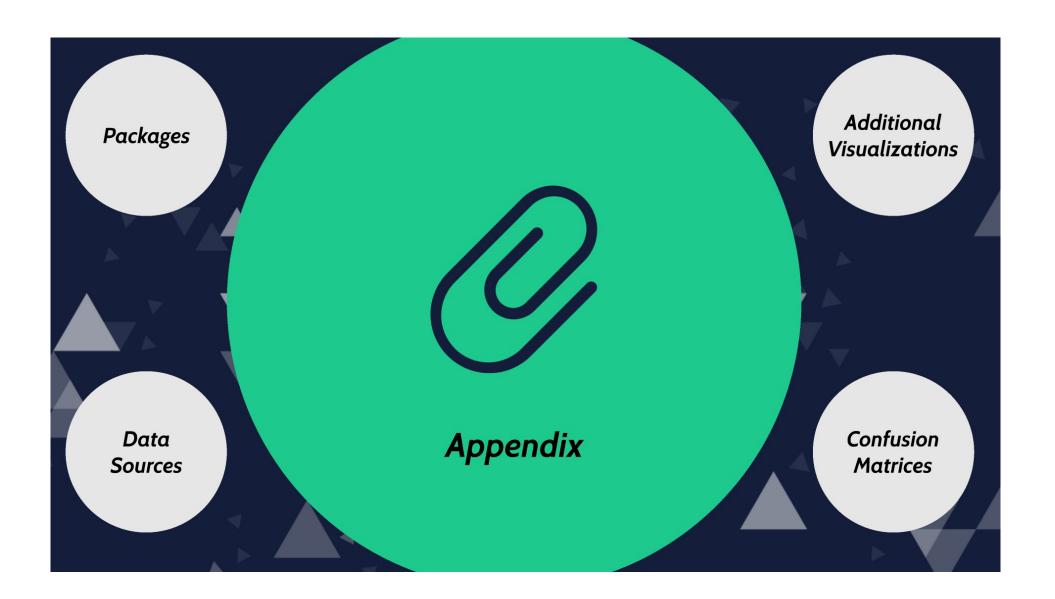




Future Work

- Multiclass classification
 - Identify specific firm
- Time-series analyses
 - When do companies upgrade?
- Create internal tool for audit firms to predict probability of winning a bid





Packages/Tools















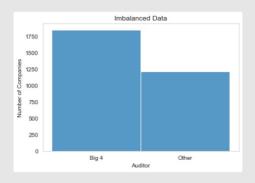


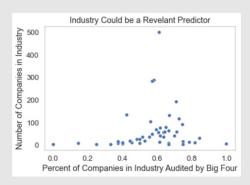
Data Sources

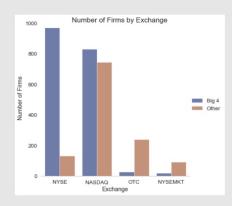
PCAOB: Auditor Search https://pcaobus.org/resources/auditorsearch

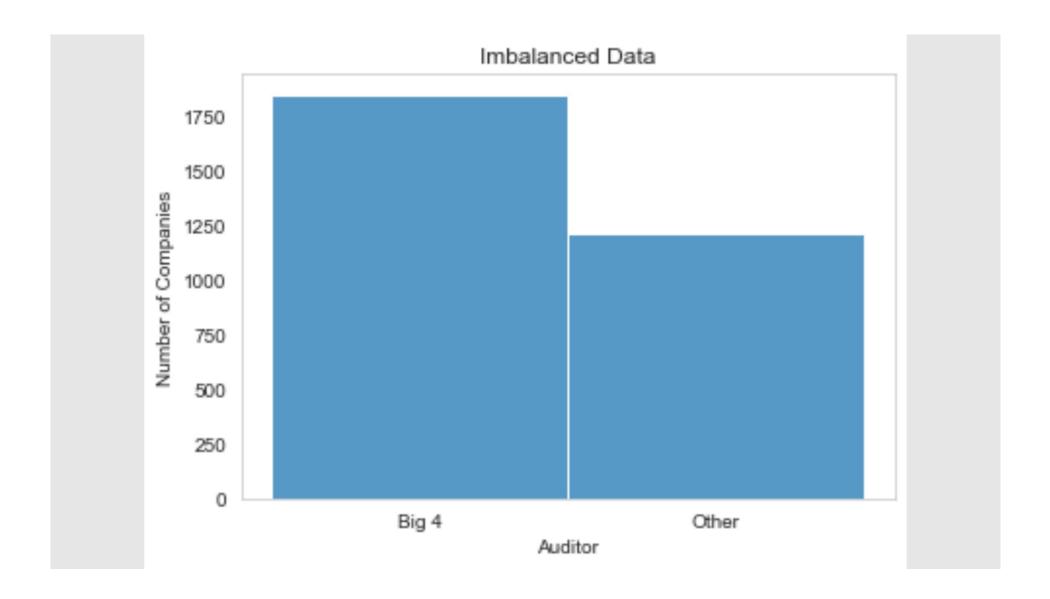
Quandl: US Company Fundamentals https://www.quandl.com/databases/SF1/data

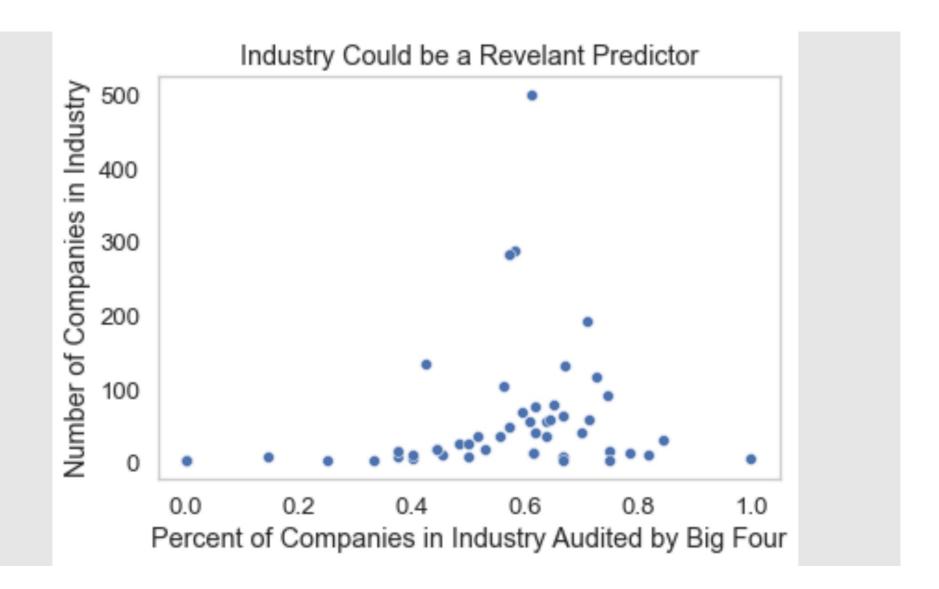
Additional Visualizations

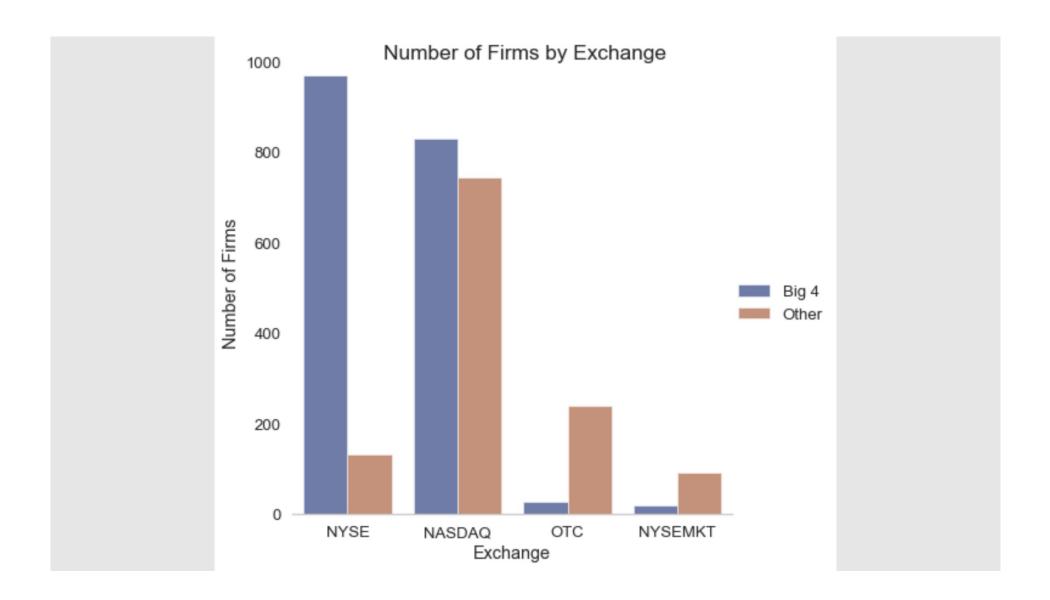












Confusion Matrices

