Lab 8: Define and Solve an ML Problem of Your Choosing

```
In [1]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import os
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
```

In this lab assignment, you will follow the machine learning life cycle and implement a model to solve a machine learning problem of your choosing. You will select a data set and choose a predictive problem that the data set supports. You will then inspect the data with your problem in mind and begin to formulate a project plan. You will then implement the machine learning project plan.

You will complete the following tasks:

- 1. Build Your DataFrame
- 2. Define Your ML Problem
- 3. Perform exploratory data analysis to understand your data.
- 4. Define Your Project Plan
- 5. Implement Your Project Plan:
 - Prepare your data for your model.
 - Fit your model to the training data and evaluate your model.
 - Improve your model's performance.

Part 1: Build Your DataFrame

You will have the option to choose one of four data sets that you have worked with in this program:

- The "census" data set that contains Census information from 1994: censusData.csv
- Airbnb NYC "listings" data set: airbnbListingsData.csv
- World Happiness Report (WHR) data set: WHR2018Chapter2OnlineData.csv
- Book Review data set: bookReviewsData.csv

Note that these are variations of the data sets that you have worked with in this program. For example, some do not include some of the preprocessing necessary for specific models.

Load a Data Set and Save it as a Pandas DataFrame

The code cell below contains filenames (path + filename) for each of the four data sets available to you.

Task: In the code cell below, use the same method you have been using to load the data using pd.read_csv() and save it to DataFrame df.

You can load each file as a new DataFrame to inspect the data before choosing your data set.

```
In [2]: # File names of the four data sets
    adultDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "censusData.csv")
    airbnbDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "airbnbListingsData.csv"
    WHRDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "WHR2018Chapter2OnlineData.
    bookReviewDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "bookReviewsData.csv

    df = pd.read_csv(adultDataSet_filename)

    df.head()
```

Out[2]:

0	age	workclass	fnlwgt	education	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship	rac
	39.0	State-gov	77516	Bachelors	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Not-in- family	Whi
	J 50.0	Self-emp- not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	Whi
i	2 38.0	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers- cleaners	Not-in- family	Whi
3	3 53.0	Private	234721	11th	7	Married- civ- spouse	Handlers- cleaners	Husband	Blac
4	1 28.0	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Wife	Blac
									•

Part 2: Define Your ML Problem

Next you will formulate your ML Problem. In the markdown cell below, answer the following questions:

- 1. List the data set you have chosen.
- 2. What will you be predicting? What is the label?
- 3. Is this a supervised or unsupervised learning problem? Is this a clustering, classification or regression problem? Is it a binary classification or multi-class classifiction problem?
- 4. What are your features? (note: this list may change after your explore your data)

- 5. Explain why this is an important problem. In other words, how would a company create value with a model that predicts this label?
- 1. I am using the Adult Census Income dataset.
- 2. I will be predicting whether a person's annual income is over \$50K or not. The label is the income_binary column.
- 3. This is a supervised learning problem because we are training on labeled data, where the label is the income. It is also a binary classification problem because the output has only two classes: high income (>\$50K) or low income (<=\$50K).
- 4. I plan to use all of the columns in the dataset except for the label (binary_income) as features. These include a mix of numerical features (age, fnlwgt, education-num, capital-gain, capital-loss, hours-per-week) and categorical features (workclass, education, marital-status, occupation, relationship, race, sex, native-country). After exploring the data, I may remove some features that I find irrelevant or redundant, which I suspect "education-num" and "education" are.
- 5. Predicting income information can help businesses better segment customers, target marketing, or adjust pricing. By inferring a customer's income range, for example, they can tailor ads to recommend products or service plans that are more likely align with their budget, increasing appeal and overall sales. Credit card and loan companies might also use income information when making lending decisions, although I feel like they would more likely gather this income information directly from applications rather than predicting it from other data.

Part 3: Understand Your Data

The next step is to perform exploratory data analysis. Inspect and analyze your data set with your machine learning problem in mind. Consider the following as you inspect your data:

- 1. What data preparation techniques would you like to use? These data preparation techniques may include:
 - addressing missingness, such as replacing missing values with means
 - finding and replacing outliers
 - renaming features and labels
 - finding and replacing outliers
 - performing feature engineering techniques such as one-hot encoding on categorical features
 - selecting appropriate features and removing irrelevant features
 - performing specific data cleaning and preprocessing techniques for an NLP problem
 - addressing class imbalance in your data sample to promote fair Al

- 2. What machine learning model (or models) you would like to use that is suitable for your predictive problem and data?
 - Are there other data preparation techniques that you will need to apply to build a balanced modeling data set for your problem and model? For example, will you need to scale your data?
- 3. How will you evaluate and improve the model's performance?
 - Are there specific evaluation metrics and methods that are appropriate for your model?

Think of the different techniques you have used to inspect and analyze your data in this course. These include using Pandas to apply data filters, using the Pandas <code>describe()</code> method to get insight into key statistics for each column, using the Pandas <code>dtypes</code> property to inspect the data type of each column, and using Matplotlib and Seaborn to detect outliers and visualize relationships between features and labels. If you are working on a classification problem, use techniques you have learned to determine if there is class imbalance.

Task: Use the techniques you have learned in this course to inspect and analyze your data. You can import additional packages that you have used in this course that you will need to perform this task.

Note: You can add code cells if needed by going to the **Insert** menu and clicking on **Insert Cell Below** in the drop-drown menu.

```
In [3]: # inspect column names
        df.columns
Out[3]: Index(['age', 'workclass', 'fnlwgt', 'education', 'education-num',
                'marital-status', 'occupation', 'relationship', 'race', 'sex_selfID',
                'capital-gain', 'capital-loss', 'hours-per-week', 'native-country',
                'income binary'],
               dtype='object')
In [4]: # rename certain categories
        df.rename(columns={"sex_selfID": "sex", "fnlwgt": "population-weight", "income_bina
        df.columns
Out[4]: Index(['age', 'workclass', 'population-weight', 'education', 'education-num',
                'marital-status', 'occupation', 'relationship', 'race', 'sex',
                'capital-gain', 'capital-loss', 'hours-per-week', 'native-country',
                'income >50K'],
               dtype='object')
In [5]: # check for class imbalance of label
        income_counts = df['income_>50K'].value_counts()
        income_counts
```

```
Out[5]: <=50K 24720
>50K 7841
```

Name: income_>50K, dtype: int64

```
In [6]: # check how much of the dataset the minority class makes up
income_counts[1] / (income_counts[0] + income_counts[1])
```

Out[6]: 0.2408095574460244

^ Note: 24% means there IS a class imbalance, but not a super extreme one. I will attempt to account for the imbalance by using class_weight='balanced' when building the models (which weighs the minority class more), or if necessary, resample the data.

```
In [7]: # replace income label with binary integer label for easier metric calculations dow
df["income_>50K"].replace(">50K", 1, inplace=True)
df["income_>50K"].replace("<=50K", 0, inplace=True)
df.head(20)</pre>
```

Out[7]:

	age	workclass	population- weight	education	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship
0	39.0	State-gov	77516	Bachelors	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Not-in- family
1	50.0	Self-emp- not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband
2	38.0	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers- cleaners	Not-in- family
3	53.0	Private	234721	11th	7	Married- civ- spouse	Handlers- cleaners	Husband
4	28.0	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Wife
5	37.0	Private	284582	Masters	14	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Wife
6	49.0	Private	160187	9th	5	Married- spouse- absent	Other- service	Not-in- family
7	52.0	Self-emp- not-inc	209642	HS-grad	9	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband
8	31.0	Private	45781	Masters	14	Never- married	Prof- specialty	Not-in- family
9	42.0	Private	159449	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband
10	37.0	Private	280464	Some- college	10	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband
11	30.0	State-gov	141297	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Husband
12	23.0	Private	122272	Bachelors	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Own-child
13	32.0	Private	205019	Assoc- acdm	12	Never- married	Sales	Not-in- family
14	40.0	Private	121772	Assoc-voc	11	Married- civ- spouse	Craft-repair	Husband

	age	workclass	population- weight	education	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship
15	34.0	Private	245487	7th-8th	4	Married- civ- spouse	Transport- moving	Husband
16	25.0	Self-emp- not-inc	176756	HS-grad	9	Never- married	Farming- fishing	Own-child
17	32.0	Private	186824	HS-grad	9	Never- married	Machine- op-inspct	Unmarried
18	38.0	Private	28887	11th	7	Married- civ- spouse	Sales	Husband
19	43.0	Self-emp- not-inc	292175	Masters	14	Divorced	Exec- managerial	Unmarried

In [8]: # observe data types of columns
df.dtypes

Out[8]: age float64 workclass object int64 population-weight education object int64 education-num marital-status object occupation object relationship object race object object sex int64 capital-gain capital-loss int64 hours-per-week float64 native-country object int64 income_>50K dtype: object

In [9]: # analyze statistics of numerical columns
 df.describe()

Out[9]:	age		population- weight	education- num	capital-gain	capital-loss	hours-per- week
	count	32399.000000	3.256100e+04	32561.000000	32561.000000	32561.000000	32236.000000
	mean	38.589216	1.897784e+05	10.080679	615.907773	87.303830	40.450428
	std	13.647862	1.055500e+05	2.572720	2420.191974	402.960219	12.353748
	min	17.000000	1.228500e+04	1.000000	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000
	25%	28.000000	1.178270e+05	9.000000	0.000000	0.000000	40.000000
	50%	37.000000	1.783560e+05	10.000000	0.000000	0.000000	40.000000
	75%	48.000000	2.370510e+05	12.000000	0.000000	0.000000	45.000000
	max	90.000000	1.484705e+06	16.000000	14084.000000	4356.000000	99.000000

^ Note: the features operate on very different scales. Scaling may be needed if we end up working with distance-based models like KNN or NN, but not with tree-based models.

```
In [10]: # select numerical features
         numerical_features = df.select_dtypes(include=["int64", "float64"]).columns
         numerical_features = numerical_features.drop("income_>50K")
         numerical_features
Out[10]: Index(['age', 'population-weight', 'education-num', 'capital-gain',
                 'capital-loss', 'hours-per-week'],
                dtype='object')
In [11]: # check for missing values
         df.isna().sum()
Out[11]: age
                                162
         workclass
                               1836
         population-weight
                                  0
         education
                                  0
         education-num
                                  0
         marital-status
                                  0
         occupation
                               1843
         relationship
                                  0
                                  0
         race
         sex
                                  0
         capital-gain
                                  0
         capital-loss
                                  0
         hours-per-week
                                325
         native-country
                                583
          income_>50K
                                  0
         dtype: int64
In [12]: # impute missing values for numerical columns using the mean
         for col in ['age', 'hours-per-week']:
             mean = df[col].mean()
             df[col].fillna(mean, inplace=True)
```

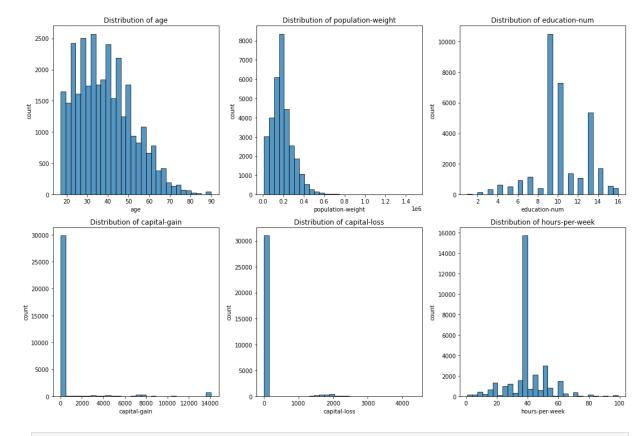
```
# check that there are no more missing values for numerical columns
df.isna().sum()
```

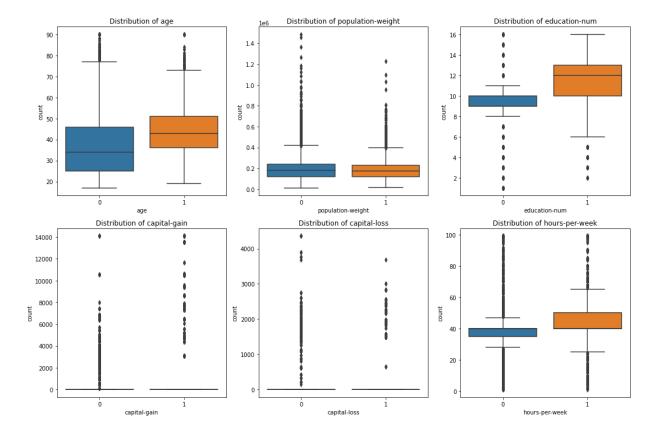
```
Out[12]: age
                                  0
         workclass
                               1836
         population-weight
                                  0
         education
                                  0
          education-num
                                  0
         marital-status
                                  0
         occupation
                               1843
         relationship
                                  0
         race
                                  0
                                  0
          sex
          capital-gain
                                  0
          capital-loss
                                  0
         hours-per-week
                                  0
         native-country
                                583
          income_>50K
                                  0
         dtype: int64
In [13]: # visualize distribution of numerical features using histograms
         fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(15,10))
         axes = axes.flatten()
         for i, col in enumerate(numerical_features):
             sns.histplot(x=df[col], bins=30, ax=axes[i])
             axes[i].set_title("Distribution of " + col)
             axes[i].set_xlabel(col)
```

axes[i].set_ylabel('count')

plt.tight_layout()

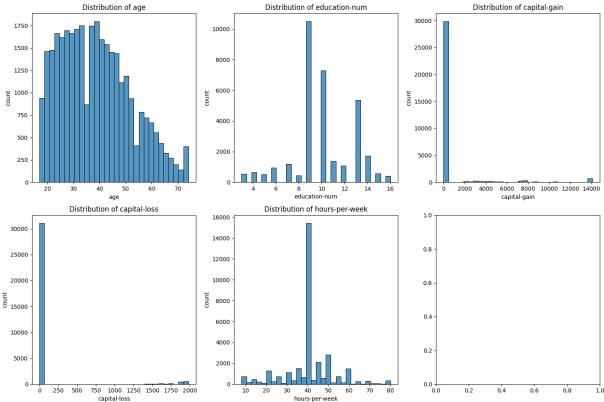
plt.show()

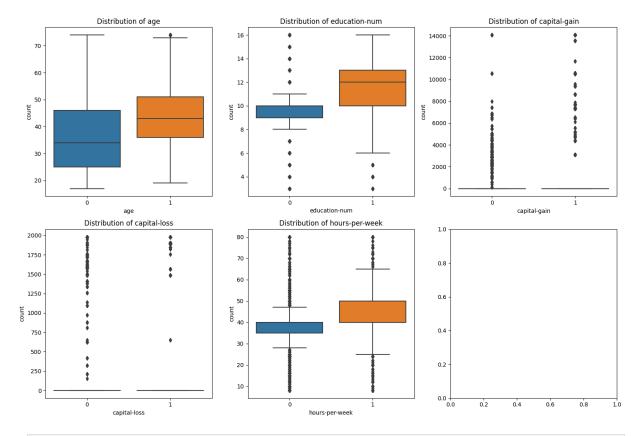




^ Note: the boxplot for population-weight shows nearly equal distributions for the two income classes, suggesting that it has little to no predictive power in distinguishing income. This makes logical sense, as population-weight contains sampling weights in the census, which doesn't relate to an individual's income. Thus, I will remove it as a feature for modeling.

```
In [15]: # remove population-weight from features and check it worked
         numerical_features = numerical_features.drop("population-weight")
         df.drop("population-weight", axis=1, inplace=True)
         print(numerical features)
         print(df.columns)
        Index(['age', 'education-num', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss',
               'hours-per-week'],
              dtype='object')
        Index(['age', 'workclass', 'education', 'education-num', 'marital-status',
               'occupation', 'relationship', 'race', 'sex', 'capital-gain',
               'capital-loss', 'hours-per-week', 'native-country', 'income_>50K'],
              dtype='object')
In [16]:
         # winsorize numerical features to take care of outliers
         import scipy.stats as stats
         for col in numerical_features:
             df[col] = stats.mstats.winsorize(df[col], limits=[0.01, 0.01])
In [17]: # verify that winsorization successfully removed outliers using histogram visualiza
         fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(15,10))
         axes = axes.flatten()
```





In [19]: # observe the relationships between numerical features
df[numerical_features].corr()

Out[19]:		age	education-num	capital-gain	capital-loss	hours-per-week
	age	1.000000	0.039837	0.125410	0.053632	0.074111
	education-num	0.039837	1.000000	0.168202	0.081069	0.151695
	capital-gain	0.125410	0.168202	1.000000	-0.055690	0.104152
	capital-loss	0.053632	0.081069	-0.055690	1.000000	0.055494
	hours-per-week	0.074111	0.151695	0.104152	0.055494	1.000000

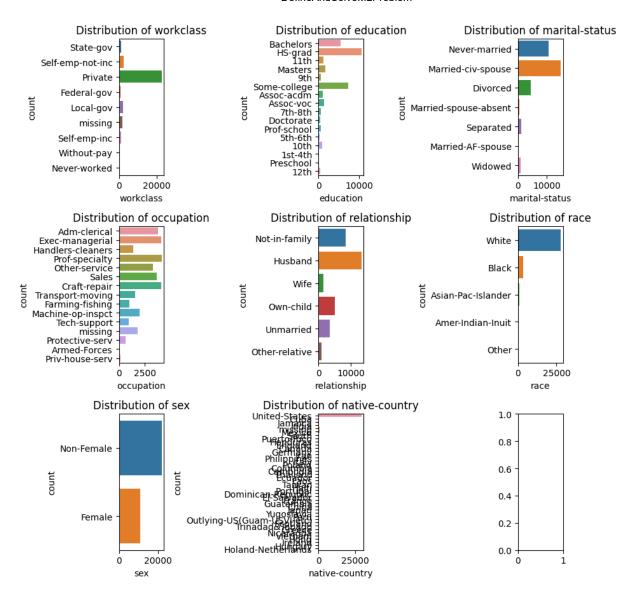
^ Note: none of the numerical features are highly-correlated with each other, so none of the numerical features need to be removed due to redundancy with each other.

```
# check that there are no more null values in the dataset
df.isna().sum()
```

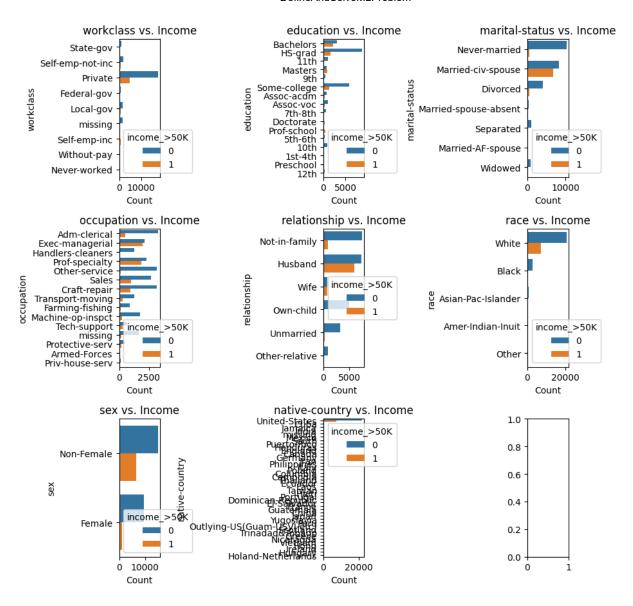
```
Out[21]: age
                            0
          workclass
                            0
          education
                            0
                            0
          education-num
          marital-status
          occupation
                            0
          relationship
                            0
                            0
          race
          sex
                            0
          capital-gain
          capital-loss
                            0
          hours-per-week
                            0
          native-country
                            0
          income_>50K
                            0
          dtype: int64
In [22]: # visualize distribution of categorical features using countplots
         fig, axes = plt.subplots(3, 3, figsize=(9,9))
         axes = axes.flatten()
         for i, col in enumerate(categorical_features):
              sns.countplot(y=df[col], ax=axes[i])
             axes[i].set_title("Distribution of " + col)
             axes[i].set_xlabel(col)
             axes[i].set_ylabel('count')
```

plt.tight_layout()

plt.show()



^ Note: the distributions of some of these categories are pretty skewed. I will keep protected subgroups in the sex, race, and native-country categories in mind when evaluating fairness in the model.

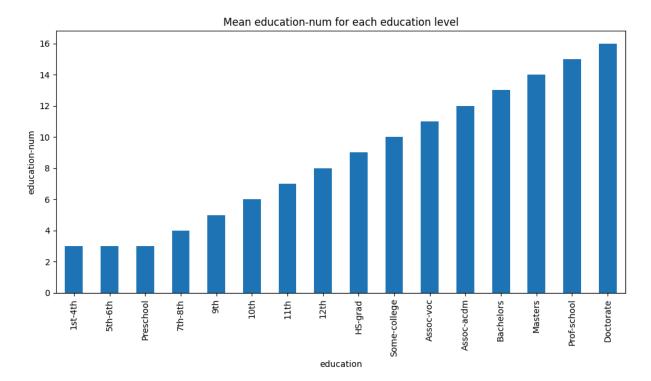


^ Note: none of the categorical feature distributions are identical or very close to identical between the two income classes (0 and 1). This suggests that all categorical features provide some predictive power and none should be removed for being uninformative.

```
In [24]: # check relationship between education and education-num using a barplot
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))

# calculate the average education-num for each education category and sort the resu
edu_means = df.groupby('education')['education-num'].mean().sort_values()

edu_means.plot(kind='bar')
plt.title('Mean education-num for each education level')
plt.ylabel('education-num')
plt.xlabel('education')
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



^ Note: With the exception of preschool, 1st-4th, and 5th-6th, all the education categories map neatly to one education-num value. Thus, these two features are largely redundant, and we can drop one of the columns as a feature. I will choose to drop education (instead of education-num), since ordinal categorical data requires more preprocessing than ordinal numerical data.

```
In [25]: # drop education
         df.drop("education", axis=1, inplace=True)
         categorical_features = categorical_features.drop("education")
         df.columns
Out[25]: Index(['age', 'workclass', 'education-num', 'marital-status', 'occupation',
                 'relationship', 'race', 'sex', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss',
                 'hours-per-week', 'native-country', 'income_>50K'],
                dtype='object')
In [26]: # check the number of unique values for each category to prepare for one-hot-encodi
         df[categorical_features].nunique()
Out[26]: workclass
                             9
                             7
         marital-status
         occupation
                            15
         relationship
                             6
                             5
         race
                             2
          sex
                            42
         native-country
         dtype: int64
         # select the top 10 values of native-country, since 42 is too many to encode
In [27]:
         top_10_country = df["native-country"].value_counts(sort=True, ascending=False).head
         top_10_country
```

```
Out[27]: Index(['United-States', 'Mexico', 'missing', 'Philippines', 'Germany',
                 'Canada', 'Puerto-Rico', 'El-Salvador', 'India', 'Cuba'],
                dtype='object')
In [28]: # one-hot-encode each of the top 10 countries
         for country in top_10_country:
             df["country_" + country] = np.where(df["native-country"] == country, 1, 0)
         # drop the original country column
         df.drop("native-country", axis=1, inplace=True)
         categorical_features = categorical_features.drop("native-country")
         df.columns
Out[28]: Index(['age', 'workclass', 'education-num', 'marital-status', 'occupation',
                 'relationship', 'race', 'sex', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss',
                 'hours-per-week', 'income_>50K', 'country_United-States',
                 'country_Mexico', 'country_missing', 'country_Philippines',
                 'country_Germany', 'country_Canada', 'country_Puerto-Rico',
                 'country_El-Salvador', 'country_India', 'country_Cuba'],
                dtype='object')
In [29]: # check that one-hot-encoding worked
         df.head()
```

Out[29]:

:		age	workclass	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship	race	sex	capital- gain
	0	39.0	State-gov	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Not-in- family	White	Non- Female	2174
	1	50.0	Self-emp- not-inc	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	White	Non- Female	0
	2	38.0	Private	9	Divorced	Handlers- cleaners	Not-in- family	White	Non- Female	0
	3	53.0	Private	7	Married- civ- spouse	Handlers- cleaners	Husband	Black	Non- Female	0
	4	28.0	Private	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Wife	Black	Female	0

 $5 \text{ rows} \times 22 \text{ columns}$

```
In [30]: # one-hot-encode all remaining categorical values
for elem in categorical_features:
    df_encoded = pd.get_dummies(df[elem], prefix=elem, prefix_sep="_")
    df = df.join(df_encoded)

# check that one-hot-encoding worked
df.head()
```

Out[30]:

•		age	workclass	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship	race	sex	capital- gain
	0	39.0	State-gov	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Not-in- family	White	Non- Female	2174
	1	50.0	Self-emp- not-inc	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	White	Non- Female	0
	2	38.0	Private	9	Divorced	Handlers- cleaners	Not-in- family	White	Non- Female	0
	3	53.0	Private	7	Married- civ- spouse	Handlers- cleaners	Husband	Black	Non- Female	0
	4	28.0	Private	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Wife	Black	Female	0

5 rows × 66 columns

In [31]: # remove original columns from dataframe for elem in categorical_features: df.drop(elem, axis=1, inplace=True)

> # check that one-hot-encoding worked df.columns

```
Out[31]: Index(['age', 'education-num', 'capital-gain', 'capital-loss',
                  'hours-per-week', 'income_>50K', 'country_United-States',
                  'country_Mexico', 'country_missing', 'country_Philippines', 'country_Germany', 'country_Canada', 'country_Puerto-Rico',
                  'country_El-Salvador', 'country_India', 'country_Cuba',
                  'workclass_Federal-gov', 'workclass_Local-gov',
                  'workclass Never-worked', 'workclass Private', 'workclass Self-emp-inc',
                  'workclass_Self-emp-not-inc', 'workclass_State-gov',
                  'workclass_Without-pay', 'workclass_missing', 'marital-status_Divorced',
                  'marital-status_Married-AF-spouse', 'marital-status_Married-civ-spouse',
                  'marital-status_Married-spouse-absent', 'marital-status_Never-married',
                  'marital-status_Separated', 'marital-status_Widowed',
                  'occupation_Adm-clerical', 'occupation_Armed-Forces',
                  'occupation_Craft-repair', 'occupation_Exec-managerial',
                  'occupation_Farming-fishing', 'occupation_Handlers-cleaners',
                  'occupation_Machine-op-inspct', 'occupation_Other-service',
                  'occupation_Priv-house-serv', 'occupation_Prof-specialty',
                  'occupation_Protective-serv', 'occupation_Sales',
                  'occupation Tech-support', 'occupation Transport-moving',
                  'occupation_missing', 'relationship_Husband',
                  'relationship_Not-in-family', 'relationship_Other-relative',
                  'relationship_Own-child', 'relationship_Unmarried', 'relationship_Wife',
                  'race_Amer-Indian-Inuit', 'race_Asian-Pac-Islander', 'race_Black',
                  'race_Other', 'race_White', 'sex_Female', 'sex_Non-Female'],
                dtype='object')
```

Part 4: Define Your Project Plan

Now that you understand your data, in the markdown cell below, define your plan to implement the remaining phases of the machine learning life cycle (data preparation, modeling, evaluation) to solve your ML problem. Answer the following questions:

- Do you have a new feature list? If so, what are the features that you chose to keep and remove after inspecting the data?
- Explain different data preparation techniques that you will use to prepare your data for modeling.
- What is your model (or models)?
- Describe your plan to train your model, analyze its performance and then improve the model. That is, describe your model building, validation and selection plan to produce a model that generalizes well to new data.

Q1: Yes, I have a new feature list. I kept all the non-label columns, except:

- "education": This is redundant with the "education-num" column and requires more preprocessing, since it is an ordinal categorical feature.
- "fnlwgt" (final weight): This is a measure of how many people in the population are represented by that row. This feature seemed to have no predictive value on income, based on the boxplot showing near-identical distributions across the two label classes.

Q2: So far, I have already preprocessed the data by:

- Replacing missing values: I imputed numerical values using the column mean and replaced categorical values with a "missing" category.
- Applying winsorization: I capped numerical features at the 1st and 99th percentiles to reduce the effect of outliers.
- Encoding the label: I converted the the label from a string (">50K" or "<=50K") to binary format (1 for income >50K, 0 otherwise). This makes it easier to calculate metrics down the line.
- One-hot-encoding categorical features: This step is necessary for the decision tree to use categorical data. Note that for native-country, I only encoded the top 10 most frequent countries to reduce dimensionality.

In addition, I will apply the following steps to prepare the data for modeling:

- Define the features (X) and the label (y)
- Split the data into a training set and test set (test_size 0.33), using statify=y to keep the proportion of each class label the same in each subset
- Note: Scaling the data is not necessary, since I will be using tree-based models (see Q3)

Q3: I plan to focus on tree-based models such as simple decision trees, random forests, and gradient-boosted decision trees. This is because they can handle both numerical and categorical features without extensive preprocessing, work well for binary classification tasks, and are more interpretable than models like Neural Networks. While KNN and logistic regression can also be applied to binary classification, they require feature scaling and can struggle to capture more complex nonlinear, relationships as well as tree-based models.

Q4: I will start by training a simple Decision Tree model and then extend to ensemble methods like Random Forests and Gradient-Boosted Decision Trees. For each of these three model types, I will conduct a grid search with 5-fold cross-validation to find the hyperparameters that result in the best validation performance. The hyperparameters I will choose to explore are as follows:

- Decision Tree: max_depth, min_samples_leaf, criterion
- Random Forest: max_depth, min_samples_leaf, criterion, n_estimators
- Gradient-Boosted Decision Trees: max_depth, min_samples_leaf, n_estimators, learning_rate

After the grid search, I will compare the validation accuracies of the best-performing configurations of each model (DT, RF, GBDT) to make my final selection. I will then fit the final model using the selected algorithm and hyperparameters. Additionally, I will explore with different thresholds on the validation data to find the threshold that results in the highest average of accuracy and F1-score. This is because I want the model to make as many correct predictions as possible (accuracy) while maintaining a reasonable balance between precision and recall (F1-score), especially since there is a class imbalance.

To evaluate generalization performance, I will evaluate the final model on the test set using the chosen threshold and calculate a range of metrics including accuracy, AUC, precision, recall, and F1-score. I will also generate a confusion matrix to inspect the types of classification errors the model makes (false positives vs false negatives).

Finally, I will evaluate the fairness of the model by testing its performance across the two label classes, >\$50K and <=\$50K, paying close attention to precision and recall. I will also analyze the results across different protected groups, specifically for sex, race, and native country to check that the model does not disproportionately disadvantage any group.

Part 5: Implement Your Project Plan

Task: In the code cell below, import additional packages that you have used in this course that you will need to implement your project plan.

```
In [32]: # YOUR CODE HERE
    from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
    from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, cross_val_predict
    from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, confusion_matrix, precision_score, reca
    from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
    from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier, GradientBoostingClassifier
    import time
```

Task: Use the rest of this notebook to carry out your project plan.

You will:

- 1. Prepare your data for your model.
- 2. Fit your model to the training data and evaluate your model.
- 3. Improve your model's performance by performing model selection and/or feature selection techniques to find best model for your problem.

Add code cells below and populate the notebook with commentary, code, analyses, results, and figures as you see fit.

```
(21815, 59)
(10746, 59)
(21815,)
(10746,)
```

Model #1: Simple Decision Tree

```
In [35]: # create a hyperparameter grid to test different hyperparameters of decision trees
         dt_param_grid = {
              'max_depth': list(range(3, 51, 3)),
              'min_samples_leaf': list(range(1, 51, 3)),
              'criterion': ['gini', 'entropy']
         dt param grid
Out[35]: {'max_depth': [3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48],
           'min samples leaf': [1,
           4,
            7,
            10,
            13,
            16,
            19,
            22,
            25,
            28,
            31,
            34,
            37,
           40,
           43,
           46,
           49],
           'criterion': ['gini', 'entropy']}
In [36]: # use grid search to find the best model hyperparameters
         dt_model = DecisionTreeClassifier(class_weight='balanced') # give more weight to mi
         dt_grid = GridSearchCV(dt_model,
                                 param_grid=dt_param_grid,
                                 n_jobs=4, # parallelize by allowing 4 cores to be used - spe
                                 verbose=1) # Logging data
In [37]: t0 = time.time()
         dt_grid_search = dt_grid.fit(X_train, y_train)
         t1 = time.time()
         print(f"Elapsed time for DT grid search: {t1-t0:.2f}s")
        Fitting 5 folds for each of 544 candidates, totalling 2720 fits
        Elapsed time for DT grid search: 46.17s
In [38]: # get the best accuracy and parameter values from the grid search
         dt_accuracy = dt_grid.best_score_
         print(f"Validation accuracy for the best DT model is : {dt_accuracy:.4f}")
```

```
dt_best_params = dt_grid.best_params_
print(f"DT model best parameters: {dt_best_params}")

Validation accuracy for the best DT model is : 0.8207

DT model best parameters: {'criterion': 'gini', 'max_depth': 3, 'min_samples_leaf': 1}
```

Model #2: Random Forest

```
In [40]: # create a hyperparameter grid to test different hyperparameters of random forests
    rf_param_grid = {
        'max_depth': [10, 20, 30, 40],
        'min_samples_leaf': [1, 5, 10, 20],
        'criterion': ['gini', 'entropy'],
        'n_estimators': [100, 300]
}
```

^ Note: In my original parameter ranges, I chose relatively higher max_depth values and lower min_samples_leaf values. This is intentional, as both allow for more complex, potentially overfitted individual trees that Random Forests can average out to reduce variance and improve generalization.

```
In [42]: t0 = time.time()
    rf_grid_search = rf_grid.fit(X_train, y_train)
    t1 = time.time()
    print(f"Elapsed time for RF grid search: {t1-t0:.2f}s")
```

Fitting 5 folds for each of 64 candidates, totalling 320 fits Elapsed time for RF grid search: 157.35s

```
In [43]: rf_accuracy = rf_grid.best_score_
    print(f"Validation accuracy for the best RF model is : {rf_accuracy:.4f}")
    rf_best_params = rf_grid.best_params_
    print(f"RF model best parameters: {rf_best_params}")
```

Validation accuracy for the best RF model is : 0.8464
RF model best parameters: {'criterion': 'entropy', 'max_depth': 40, 'min_samples_lea f': 1, 'n_estimators': 300}

^ Note: Since both the best values for max_depth and n_estimators are at the end of the range I provided during the grid search, let's do another grid search with higher values (and the chosen values for the other hyperparameters).

```
In [63]: rf_param_grid_2 = {
     'max_depth': [40, 50, 60], # adjusted higher
```

```
'n estimators': [300, 400, 500, 600] # adjusted higher
In [64]: # use grid search to find the best model hyperparameters
         rf model 2 = RandomForestClassifier(criterion='entropy', min samples leaf=1, class
         rf_grid_2 = GridSearchCV(rf_model_2,
                                 param_grid=rf_param_grid_2,
                                 n_jobs=4, # parallelize by allowing 4 cores to be used
                                 verbose=1) # logging data
In [65]: t0 = time.time()
         rf_grid_search_2 = rf_grid_2.fit(X_train, y_train)
         t1 = time.time()
         print(f"Elapsed time for RF grid search 2: {t1-t0:.2f}s")
        Fitting 5 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 60 fits
        Elapsed time for RF grid search 2: 105.74s
In [66]: rf_accuracy_2 = rf_grid_2.best_score_
         print(f"Validation accuracy for the best RF model is : {rf accuracy 2:.4f}")
         rf_best_params_2 = rf_grid_2.best_params_
         print(f"RF model 2 best parameters: {rf_best_params_2}")
        Validation accuracy for the best RF model is : 0.8464
        RF model 2 best parameters: {'max_depth': 50, 'n_estimators': 300}
         ^ Note: This accuracy is the same as above, with a different max_depth value. Let's just
         choose max depth = 50.
```

Model #3: Gradient-Boosted Decision Tree

```
In [67]: gbdt_param_grid = {
    'learning_rate': [0.01, 0.05, 0.1],
    'max_depth': [1, 5, 10],
    'min_samples_leaf': [10, 20, 30],
    'n_estimators': [100, 300]
}
```

^ Note: for GBDT, I began with lower max_depth values and higher min_samples_leaf values, since GBDTs are less tolerant to overfitted trees than RFs. This is because each tree builds on the errors of the previous ones, causing the errors to possibly compound.

```
In [70]: # note: GradientBoostingClassifier does not have an inherent class weights hyperpar
         # process instead
         from sklearn.utils.class weight import compute sample weight
         sample weights = compute sample weight(class weight='balanced', y=y train)
In [71]: t0 = time.time()
         gbdt_grid_search = gbdt_grid.fit(X_train, y_train, sample_weight=sample_weights)
         t1 = time.time()
         print(f"Elapsed time for GBDT grid search: {t1-t0:.2f}s")
        Fitting 5 folds for each of 54 candidates, totalling 270 fits
        Elapsed time for GBDT grid search: 253.26s
In [72]: gbdt_accuracy = gbdt_grid.best_score_
         print(f"Validation accuracy for the best GBDT model is : {gbdt_accuracy:.4f}")
         gbdt_best_params = gbdt_grid.best_params_
         print(f"GBDT model best parameters: {gbdt_best_params}")
        Validation accuracy for the best GBDT model is : 0.8345
        GBDT model best parameters: {'learning rate': 0.1, 'max depth': 10, 'min samples lea
        f': 10, 'n_estimators': 300}
         ^ Note: again, since all the chosen parameter values are on the edge of the range, let's
         adjust the ranges and do another grid search.
In [73]: gbdt_param_grid_2 = {
             'learning_rate': [0.1, 0.2], # adjusted higher
             'max_depth': [10, 20, 30, 40], # adjusted higher
             'min_samples_leaf': [1, 5, 10], # adjusted Lower
              'n_estimators': [300, 400, 500] # adjusted higher
In [74]: gbdt model 2 = GradientBoostingClassifier(n iter no change=10, # for early stopping
                                                    validation_fraction=0.15) # for early sto
         gbdt_grid_2 = GridSearchCV(gbdt_model_2,
                                   param_grid=gbdt_param_grid_2,
                                  n_jobs=6, # parallelize by allowing 6 cores to be used
                                   verbose=1) # Logging data
In [75]: t0 = time.time()
         gbdt_grid_search_2 = gbdt_grid_2.fit(X_train, y_train, sample_weight=sample_weights
         t1 = time.time()
         print(f"Elapsed time for GBDT grid search 2: {t1-t0:.2f}s")
        Fitting 5 folds for each of 72 candidates, totalling 360 fits
        Elapsed time for GBDT grid search 2: 226.06s
In [76]: gbdt_accuracy_2 = gbdt_grid_2.best_score_
         print(f"Validation accuracy for the best GBDT model 2 is : {gbdt accuracy 2:.4f}")
         gbdt_best_params_2 = gbdt_grid_2.best_params_
         print(f"GBDT model best parameters: {gbdt_best_params_2}")
        Validation accuracy for the best GBDT model 2 is : 0.8374
        GBDT model best parameters: {'learning_rate': 0.1, 'max_depth': 10, 'min_samples_lea
        f': 5, 'n estimators': 400}
```

^ Note: This accuracy is higher than the one from the original GBDT grid search, so let's count these parameters as the best for GBDT instead.

Select and Train the Best Model

From the work above, the best validation accuracies of each model are as follows:

- DT: 0.8207 (criterion=gini, max_depth=3, min_samples_leaf=1)
- RF: 0.8464 (criterion=entropy, max_depth=50, min_samples_leaf=1, n_estimators=300)
- GBDT: 0.8374 (learning_rate=0.1, max_depth=10, min_samples_leaf=5, n_estimators=400)

Since GBDT gave us the highest validation accuacy, we will select GBDT with the specified parameters as our final model.

Now, let's find an ideal threshold for the model to use. Note that we must do threshold tuning on validation data, not the test data, since this is still a part of model selection. Evaluating performance at different thresholds using the test data would be considered "cheating" or "peeking" at the data.

```
rec = recall_score(y_train, y_pred, zero_division=0)

accuracies.append(acc)
f1_scores.append(f1)

print(f"Threshold: {t:.2f} | Accuracy: {acc:.4f} | F1-Score: {f1:.4f} | Precisi

acc_f1_avg = list(np.array(accuracies) + np.array(f1_scores) / 2)

best_th_acc = thresholds[accuracies.index(max(accuracies))]
best_th_f1 = thresholds[f1_scores.index(max(f1_scores))]
best_th_avg = thresholds[acc_f1_avg.index(max(acc_f1_avg))]

print(f"\nBest Threshold Based on Accuracy: {best_th_acc:.2f}")
print(f"Best Threshold Based on Avg of Accuracy and F1: {best_th_avg:.2f}")
```

```
Threshold: 0.10 | Accuracy: 0.7371 | F1-Score: 0.6268 | Precision: 0.4762 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.15 | Accuracy: 0.7728 | F1-Score: 0.6507 | Precision: 0.5166 | Recall:
0.8789
Threshold: 0.20 | Accuracy: 0.7968 | F1-Score: 0.6675 | Precision: 0.5508 | Recall:
0.8468
Threshold: 0.25 | Accuracy: 0.8134 | F1-Score: 0.6774 | Precision: 0.5803 | Recall:
0.8134
Threshold: 0.30 | Accuracy: 0.8238 | F1-Score: 0.6784 | Precision: 0.6053 | Recall:
0.7716
Threshold: 0.35 | Accuracy: 0.8319 | F1-Score: 0.6777 | Precision: 0.6293 | Recall:
0.7341
Threshold: 0.40 | Accuracy: 0.8393 | F1-Score: 0.6779 | Precision: 0.6552 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.45 | Accuracy: 0.8420 | F1-Score: 0.6707 | Precision: 0.6734 | Recall:
0.6680
Threshold: 0.50 | Accuracy: 0.8458 | F1-Score: 0.6637 | Precision: 0.6988 | Recall:
0.6320
Threshold: 0.55 | Accuracy: 0.8480 | F1-Score: 0.6550 | Precision: 0.7222 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.60 | Accuracy: 0.8473 | F1-Score: 0.6390 | Precision: 0.7418 | Recall:
0.5612
Threshold: 0.65 | Accuracy: 0.8457 | F1-Score: 0.6180 | Precision: 0.7651 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.70 | Accuracy: 0.8429 | F1-Score: 0.5899 | Precision: 0.7941 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.75 | Accuracy: 0.8379 | F1-Score: 0.5559 | Precision: 0.8164 | Recall:
0.4215
Threshold: 0.80 | Accuracy: 0.8332 | F1-Score: 0.5204 | Precision: 0.8461 | Recall:
0.3758
Threshold: 0.85 | Accuracy: 0.8251 | F1-Score: 0.4704 | Precision: 0.8679 | Recall:
0.3227
Threshold: 0.90 | Accuracy: 0.8128 | F1-Score: 0.3941 | Precision: 0.8937 | Recall:
Threshold: 0.95 | Accuracy: 0.7974 | F1-Score: 0.2915 | Precision: 0.9238 | Recall:
0.1730
Best Threshold Based on Accuracy: 0.55
Best Threshold Based on F1: 0.30
Best Threshold Based on Avg of Accuracy and F1: 0.40
```

^ Note: Based on these metrics, a threshold can be chosen depending on the business goals of the model. For example, if the goal is to predict high-income customers to distribute ads for an expensive product, a company may choose to prioritize higher precision to avoid wasting ad costs (which can happen if we falsely predict a low-income customer as high-income), whereas another might prioritize higher recall to maximize the number of potential high-income customers they reach. In our case, since there is no particular business goal in mind, we will use a threshold of 0.4, which provides reasonable balance across accuracy and F1-Score (which takes both precision and recall into account).

Evaluate the Final Model on Test Data

Evaluate Overall Metrics

```
In [100... prob_predictions = best_model.predict_proba(X_test)[:, 1]
    class_label_predictions = (prob_predictions > 0.4).astype(int)

accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, class_label_predictions)
    precision = precision_score(y_test, class_label_predictions)
    recall = recall_score(y_test, class_label_predictions)
    f1 = f1_score(y_test, class_label_predictions)
    auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, prob_predictions)

print(f'Test Accuracy: {accuracy}')
    print(f'Precision: {precision}')
    print(f'Recall: {recall}')
    print(f'F1 Score: {f1}')
    print(f'AUC: {auc}')
```

Test Accuracy: 0.837893169551461

Precision: 0.65

Recall: 0.7082689335394127 F1 Score: 0.6778846153846154 AUC: 0.8966084438218446

^ Note: The model performs relatively well, with a decent test accuracy of \sim 0.84 and a high AUC of \sim 0.90. Precision is slightly lower at 0.65, while recall is slightly higher at 0.71. This suggests that this particular model is more liberal when predicting positive cases, working better in scenarios where missing positive instances is more costly than false positives.

Evaluate Metrics Across Each Label Class

Out[101...

Predicted: >50K Predicted: <=50K

Actual: >50K	1833	755
Predicted: <=50K	987	7171

```
In [102... # use confusion matrix to calculate accuracy for >50K class:
    pos_accuracy = 1833 / (1833 + 755)
    neg_accuracy = 7171 / (987 + 7171)
    print(f"Accuracy for >50K class: {pos_accuracy:.4f}")
    print(f"Accuracy for <=50K class: {neg_accuracy:.4f}")</pre>
```

Accuracy for >50K class: 0.7083 Accuracy for <=50K class: 0.8790 ^ Note: Based on the class-wise accuracies (0.7083 for >\$50K vs. 0.8790 for <=\$50K), it seems that the model does significantly better on the majority group (<=50K), despite already addressing class imbalance by weighing the minority class more (using class_weight='balanced'). Note that I've also tried resampling using SMOTE but removed it since it made little to no difference (it actually got a tad bit worse). If we wanted to further prioritize balanced accuracy across groups, choosing the threshold that results in the best F1-score (threshold=0.3) would likely improve performance on the minority class. However, it is very likely that this would come with the tradeoff of reduced overall accuracy. Again, the choice depends on the business goals. For now, we will keep the threshold as 0.4.

Evaluate Metrics Across Protected Groups - Sex, Race, Nationality

```
In [114...
          # function to print metrics across different subgroups
          def print_metrics(groups):
              for group in groups:
                  # create mask to filter for the rows that match that subgroup
                  mask = X_test[group] == 1
                  y_true_group = y_test[mask]
                  y_pred_group = class_label_predictions[mask]
                  # calculate metrics for this subgroup
                  acc = accuracy_score(y_true_group, y_pred_group)
                  prec = precision_score(y_true_group, y_pred_group)
                  rec = recall_score(y_true_group, y_pred_group)
                  f1 = f1_score(y_true_group, y_pred_group)
                  auc = roc_auc_score(y_true_group, y_pred_group)
                  print(f"Results for {group}")
                  print(f"Accuracy: {acc:.3f}")
                  print(f"Precision: {prec:.3f}")
                  print(f"Recall: {rec:.3f}")
                  print(f"F1-Score: {f1:.3f}")
                  print(f"AUC: {auc:.3f}\n")
In [115...
         # filter for sex categories
          sex_groups= ['sex_Female', 'sex_Non-Female']
          print_metrics(sex_groups)
         Results for sex_Female
         Accuracy: 0.925
         Precision: 0.656
         Recall: 0.637
         F1-Score: 0.646
         AUC: 0.798
         Results for sex Non-Female
         Accuracy: 0.796
         Precision: 0.649
         Recall: 0.720
         F1-Score: 0.683
         AUC: 0.775
```

^ Note: Interestingly, the model seems to perform better in terms of both accuracy and AUC on the minority class (females) despite lower precision and recall compared to the non-female class. This suggests that the model is generally good at distinguishing classes for females, but it might still struggle to correctly identify positive cases, possibly due to imbalances in the data.

```
# filter for race categories
In [116...
          race_groups = ['race_Amer-Indian-Inuit', 'race_Asian-Pac-Islander', 'race_Black',
          print_metrics(race_groups)
         Results for race_Amer-Indian-Inuit
         Accuracy: 0.898
         Precision: 0.429
         Recall: 0.333
         F1-Score: 0.375
         AUC: 0.644
         Results for race_Asian-Pac-Islander
         Accuracy: 0.827
         Precision: 0.673
         Recall: 0.742
         F1-Score: 0.706
         AUC: 0.801
         Results for race_Black
         Accuracy: 0.913
         Precision: 0.647
         Recall: 0.682
         F1-Score: 0.664
         AUC: 0.814
         Results for race_Other
         Accuracy: 0.940
         Precision: 0.750
         Recall: 0.667
         F1-Score: 0.706
         AUC: 0.820
         Results for race White
         Accuracy: 0.828
         Precision: 0.649
         Recall: 0.710
         F1-Score: 0.678
```

^ Note: The model performs well for most racial groups, with relatively high and consistent accuracy and AUC scores (around or above 0.8.) However, there seems to be a trend where precision and recall are noticeably lower (around 0.6 or 0.7). The Amer-Indian-Inuit group is the most obvious case of this, with noticeably low precision (0.43), recall (0.33), and AUC (0.64), despite high accuracy (0.898). This may be due to underrepresentation of subgroups

AUC: 0.789

like the Amer-Indian-Inuits in the training data and/or highly imbalanced income distributions within these groups in general.

Results for country_United-States

Accuracy: 0.833 Precision: 0.646 Recall: 0.705 F1-Score: 0.674 AUC: 0.790

Results for country_Mexico

Accuracy: 0.969 Precision: 0.500 Recall: 0.667 F1-Score: 0.571 AUC: 0.823

Results for country_missing

Accuracy: 0.845 Precision: 0.731 Recall: 0.691 F1-Score: 0.710 AUC: 0.797

Results for country_Philippines

Accuracy: 0.908 Precision: 0.889 Recall: 0.800 F1-Score: 0.842 AUC: 0.878

Results for country_Germany

Accuracy: 0.818 Precision: 0.667 Recall: 0.667 F1-Score: 0.667 AUC: 0.771

Results for country_Canada

Accuracy: 0.854 Precision: 0.800 Recall: 0.800 F1-Score: 0.800 AUC: 0.842

Results for country_Puerto-Rico

Accuracy: 0.906 Precision: 0.400 Recall: 1.000 F1-Score: 0.571 AUC: 0.950

Results for country_El-Salvador

Accuracy: 0.939
Precision: 0.000
Recall: 0.000
F1-Score: 0.000
AUC: 0.484

Results for country_India

Accuracy: 0.838
Precision: 0.706
Recall: 0.923
F1-Score: 0.800
AUC: 0.857

Results for country_Cuba

Accuracy: 1.000 Precision: 1.000 Recall: 1.000 F1-Score: 1.000 AUC: 1.000

^ Note: The model performs well on countries like the Philippines, Canada, India, and Cuba, showing relatively high and consistent metrics (although with Cuba, this is likely affected by the small sample size). Performance on the U.S. is solid but less high, while results for Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Germany are more mixed. One interesting result is El Salvador, where the accuracy is 0.939, but the AUC is 0.484, and the precision, recall, and F1 scores are all 0. Let's take a look at the actual and predicted labels to get a better idea of what's going on:

```
In [123... m = X_test['country_El-Salvador'] == 1
    y_true = y_test[m]
    y_pred = class_label_predictions[m]
    print(y_true.values)
    print(y_pred)
```

This outcome makes sense given that the vast majority of the actual labels are 0s. The model misclassified the only positive case as negative and the only negative case as positive, which is why precision, recall, and F1-score are all 0 despite having a high overall accuracy. It's likely the model has learned that originally being from El Salvador strongly signals an income of <=50K. This result may be perpetuating harmful sterotypes due to biased data, or it could be reflecting real underlying socioeconomic patterns (that stem from systemic discrimination). Seeing as there's only 33 examples in this subgroup, more representative examples from individuals from El Salvador are needed to help the model reduce bias and learn more meaningful patterns in distinguishing classes. Looking back at the results from the Amer-Indian-Inuit subgroup in the previous race analysis, it is likely that that those results may stem from similar causes as the El Salvador results.

Final Analysis: The model shows solid overall performance with relatively good accuracy (~0.84) and AUC (~0.90), indicating effective discrimination between classes. However, I was unable to achieve balanced accuracy across the classes without sacrificing overall accuracy, despite weighing and resampling efforts. Additionally, some demographic subgroups show notably lower precision and recall, which may reflect limitations in model

learning due to limited and biased data or genuinely skewed income distributions within those groups. To better understand and potentially mitigate these issues, collecting more representative data from underrepresented subgroups is necessary to ensure fair Al.