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", "airbnbListingsDat
    a.csv")
    WHRDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "WHR2018Chapter2Online
    Data.csv")
    bookReviewDataSet_filename = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), "data", "bookReviewsDat
    a.csv")

    df = pd.read_csv(adultDataSet_filename)

    df.head()
```

Out[2]:

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

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 expect "education-num" and "education" are.
- 5. Predicting salary information can help companies 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.

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
- 1. 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?
- 1. 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 describe() method to get insight into key statistics for each column, using the Pandas dtypes 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 [4]: # rename certain categories
        df.rename(columns={"sex_selfID": "sex", "fnlwgt": "population-weight", "income
         _binary": "income_>50K"}, inplace=True)
        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 an extreme one. I will attempt to account for the imbalance by using class weight='balanced' when building the models, or if necessary, resample the data.

```
In [7]: # replace income label with binary integer label for easier metric calculation
s down the line
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	rac
0	39.0	State-gov	77516	Bachelors	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Not-in-family	Whi
1	50.0	Self-emp- not-inc	83311	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	Whi
2	38.0	Private	215646	HS-grad	9	Divorced	Handlers- cleaners	Not-in-family	Whi
3	53.0	Private	234721	11th	7	Married- civ- spouse	Handlers- cleaners	Husband	Blac
4	28.0	Private	338409	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Wife	Blac
5	37.0	Private	284582	Masters	14	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Wife	Whi
6	49.0	Private	160187	9th	5	Married- spouse- absent	Other- service	Not-in-family	Blac
7	52.0	Self-emp- not-inc	209642	HS-grad	9	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	Whi
8	31.0	Private	45781	Masters	14	Never- married	Prof- specialty	Not-in-family	Whi
9	42.0	Private	159449	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	Whi
10	37.0	Private	280464	Some- college	10	Married- civ- spouse	Exec- managerial	Husband	Blac
11	30.0	State-gov	141297	Bachelors	13	Married- civ- spouse	Prof- specialty	Husband	Asia Pa Island
12	23.0	Private	122272	Bachelors	13	Never- married	Adm- clerical	Own-child	Whi
13	32.0	Private	205019	Assoc- acdm	12	Never- married	Sales	Not-in-family	Blac
14	40.0	Private	121772	Assoc-voc	11	Married- civ- spouse	Craft-repair	Husband	Asia Pa Island
15	34.0	Private	245487	7th-8th	4	Married- civ- spouse	Transport- moving	Husband	Ame India Int
16	25.0	Self-emp- not-inc	176756	HS-grad	9	Never- married	Farming- fishing	Own-child	Whi
17	32.0	Private	186824	HS-grad	9	Never- married	Machine- op-inspct	Unmarried	Whi

In [8

	age	workclass	population- weight	education	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship	rac
18	38.0	Private	28887	11th	7	Married- civ- spouse	Sales	Husband	Whi
19	43.0	Self-emp- not-inc	292175	Masters	14	Divorced	Exec- managerial	Unmarried	Whi
# observe data types df.dtypes			pes of col	umns					
ago	e rkclas	S	float6						

Out[8] workclass object population-weight int64 education object int64 education-num marital-status object occupation object relationship object object race sex object int64

capital-loss int64 hours-per-week float64 object native-country int64 income_>50K dtype: object

capital-gain

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

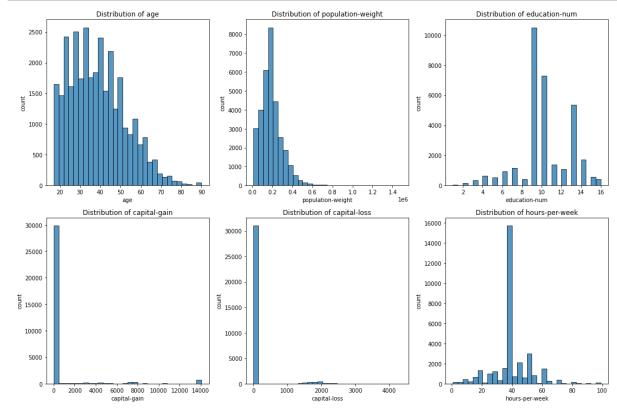
Out[9]:

	age	population- weight	education- num	capital-gain	capital-loss	hours-per- week	inco
count	32399.000000	3.256100e+04	32561.000000	32561.000000	32561.000000	32236.000000	325
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	
4							

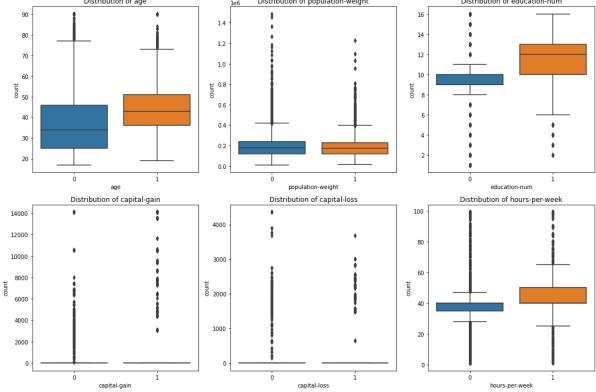
[^] Note: the features operate on very different scales. Scaling may be needed if we end up working with distancebased models like KNN or NN, but not with tree-based models.

```
# select numerical features
In [10]:
         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
                               1836
         workclass
         population-weight
                                  0
         education
                                  0
         education-num
                                  0
         marital-status
                                  0
         occupation
                               1843
         relationship
                                  0
         race
                                  0
         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
                               1836
         workclass
         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()
```



```
# visualize distribution of numerical features using grouped boxplots
In [14]:
          fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(15,10))
           axes = axes.flatten()
           for i, col in enumerate(numerical_features):
               sns.boxplot(x="income_>50K", y=col, data=df, 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()
                       Distribution of age
                                                 Distribution of population-weight
                                                                               Distribution of education-num
              90
                                           1.4
```

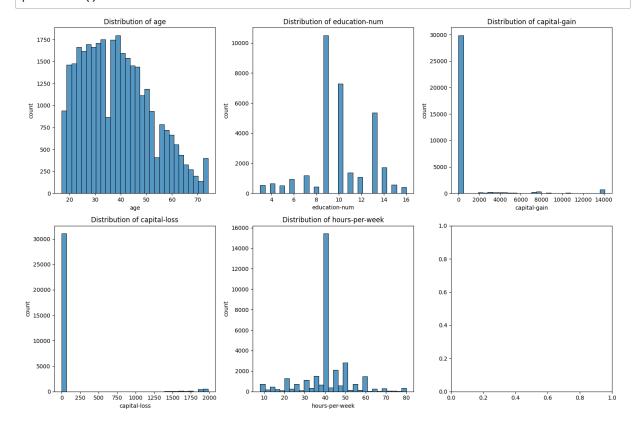


^ Note: the boxplot for population-weight shows nearly equal distributions for the two income classes, suggesting that it has little to no predictive power. This makes logical sense, as population-weight contains sampling weights in the census, which doesn't relate to an individual's salary. Thus, I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

```
In [16]: # winsorize numerical features to take care of outliers
import scipy.stats as stats

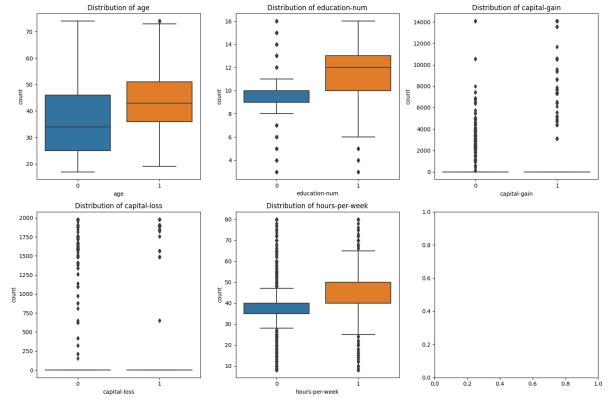
for col in numerical_features:
    df[col] = stats.mstats.winsorize(df[col], limits=[0.01, 0.01])
```

```
In [17]: # verify that winsorization successfully removed outliers using histogram visu
alization
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()
```



```
In [18]: # verify that winsorization successfully removed outliers using grouped box-pl
    ot visualization
    fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(15,10))
    axes = axes.flatten()
    for i, col in enumerate(numerical_features):
        sns.boxplot(x="income_>50K", y=col, data=df, 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()
```



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

Out[19]:

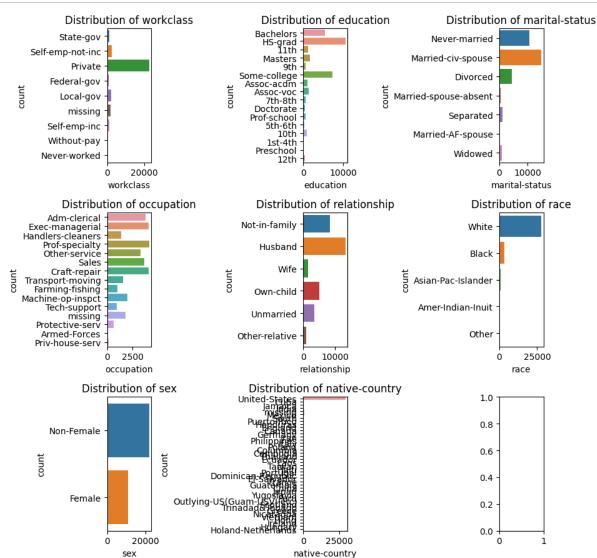
	age	education-num	capital-gain	capital-loss	hours-per-week
age	1.000000	0.039837	0.125410	0.053632	0.074111
education-num	0.039837	1.000000	0.168202	0.081069	0.151695
capital-gain	0.125410	0.168202	1.000000	-0.055690	0.104152
capital-loss	0.053632	0.081069	-0.055690	1.000000	0.055494
hours-per-week	0.074111	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.

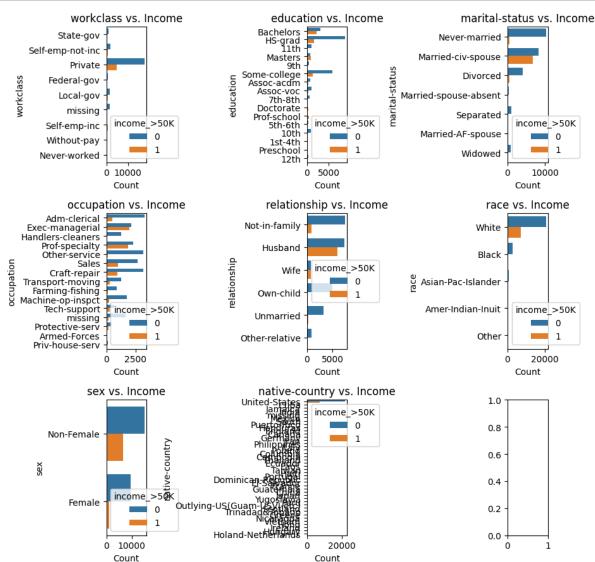
```
# select categorical features
In [20]:
         categorical_features = df.select_dtypes(include=["object"]).columns
         categorical_features
Out[20]: Index(['workclass', 'education', 'marital-status', 'occupation',
                 'relationship', 'race', 'sex', 'native-country'],
               dtype='object')
In [21]: # replace categorical missing values with "missing" category
         df['workclass'] = df['workclass'].fillna('missing')
         df['occupation'] = df['occupation'].fillna('missing')
         df['native-country'] = df['native-country'].fillna('missing')
         # check that there are no more null values in the dataset
         df.isna().sum()
Out[21]: age
                            0
                            0
         workclass
         education
                            0
         education-num
                            0
         marital-status
                            0
         occupation
                            0
         relationship
                            0
         race
                            0
         sex
                            0
         capital-gain
                            0
         capital-loss
                            0
         hours-per-week
                           0
         native-country
                            0
         income_>50K
         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 classes in the sex, race, and native-country features in mind when evaluating fairness in the model.

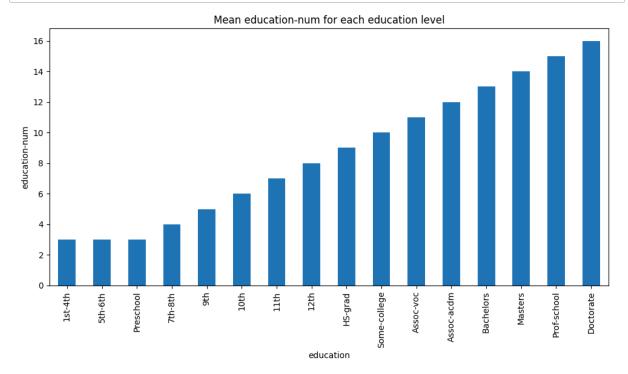


[^] Note: none of the categorical feature distributions are identical or nearly identical between the two income classes (0 and 1). This suggests that all categorical features provide some predictive signal and none should be removed for being uninformative.

```
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
    results
    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, the rest of the education categories map neatly to one education-num value. Thus, these values 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 [26]:
         # check the number of unique values for each category to prepare for one-hot-e
         ncodina
         df[categorical_features].nunique()
Out[26]: workclass
                            9
                            7
         marital-status
         occupation
                           15
         relationship
                            6
                            5
         race
                            2
         sex
         native-country
                           42
         dtype: int64
In [27]: # select the top 10 values of native-country, since 42 is too many to encode
         top_10_country = df["native-country"].value_counts(sort=True, ascending=Fals
         e).head(10).index
         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')
```

Out[29]:

	age	workclass	education- num	marital- status	occupation	relationship	race	sex	capital- gain	capital los:
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 × 22 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	capital los:
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-in
          с',
                   'workclass_Self-emp-not-inc', 'workclass_State-gov',
                   'workclass_Without-pay', 'workclass_missing', 'marital-status_Divorce
          d',
                   'marital-status Married-AF-spouse', 'marital-status Married-civ-spous
          e',
                   'marital-status_Married-spouse-absent', 'marital-status_Never-marrie
          d',
                   '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_Wif
          e',
                   '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 salary, 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, learn ing_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,
recall_score, f1_score, roc_auc_score
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier, GradientBoostingClassifie
r
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.

```
In [33]: X = df.drop(["income_>50K"], axis=1)
y = df["income_>50K"]
```

Model #1: Simple Decision Tree

```
In [35]: # create a hyperparameter grid to test different hyperparameters of decision t
          rees
          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 minority class
         dt_grid = GridSearchCV(dt_model,
                                 param_grid=dt_param_grid,
                                 n jobs=4, # parallelize by allowing 4 cores to be used
         - speeds up computation
                                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

^ 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_samp les_leaf': 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, c
         lass weight='balanced')
         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 [68]: gbdt model = GradientBoostingClassifier(n iter no change=10, # enables early s
         topping if no improvement in validation loss for 10 iterations — saves time an
         d resources
                                                 validation fraction=0.15) # fraction o
         f training data used as validation set for early stopping
         gbdt_grid = GridSearchCV(gbdt_model,
                                  param grid=gbdt param grid,
                                  n_jobs=4, # parallelize by allowing 4 cores to be use
         d
                                  verbose=1) # Logging data
In [70]: # note: GradientBoostingClassifier does not have an inherent class_weights hyp
         erparameter, so we must incormorate it into the fitting
         # 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_weight
         s)
         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_samp
         les leaf': 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.

```
gbdt_param_grid_2 = {
In [73]:
              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 sto
         pping
                                                    validation fraction=0.15) # for earl
         y stopping)
         gbdt grid 2 = GridSearchCV(gbdt model 2,
                                   param_grid=gbdt_param_grid_2,
                                   n_jobs=6, # parallelize by allowing 6 cores to be use
         d
                                  verbose=1) # Logging data
In [75]: | t0 = time.time()
         gbdt_grid_search_2 = gbdt_grid_2.fit(X_train, y_train, sample_weight=sample_we
         ights)
         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:.4
         f}")
         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_samp
         les_leaf': 5, 'n_estimators': 400}
```

Select and Train the Best Model

^ Note: 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.

^ Note: 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.

```
In [93]: # explore with different thresholds on the validation data
         accuracies = []
         f1_scores = []
         # tune thresholds on these CV predictions
         thresholds = np.arange(0.1, 1, 0.05) # from 0.1 to 0.9 is increments of 0.05
         for t in thresholds:
             y pred = (y proba cv >= t).astype(int)
             acc = accuracy_score(y_train, y_pred)
             f1 = f1_score(y_train, y_pred, zero_division=0)
             prec = precision_score(y_train, y_pred, zero_division=0)
             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} | Pr
         ecision: {prec:.4f} | Recall: {rec:.4f}")
         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 F1: {best_th_f1:.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 | R
ecall: 0.9170
Threshold: 0.15 | Accuracy: 0.7728 | F1-Score: 0.6507 | Precision: 0.5166 | R
ecall: 0.8789
Threshold: 0.20 | Accuracy: 0.7968 | F1-Score: 0.6675 | Precision: 0.5508 | R
ecall: 0.8468
Threshold: 0.25 | Accuracy: 0.8134 | F1-Score: 0.6774 | Precision: 0.5803 | R
ecall: 0.8134
Threshold: 0.30 | Accuracy: 0.8238 | F1-Score: 0.6784 | Precision: 0.6053 | R
ecall: 0.7716
Threshold: 0.35 | Accuracy: 0.8319 | F1-Score: 0.6777 | Precision: 0.6293 | R
ecall: 0.7341
Threshold: 0.40 | Accuracy: 0.8393 | F1-Score: 0.6779 | Precision: 0.6552 | R
ecall: 0.7023
Threshold: 0.45 | Accuracy: 0.8420 | F1-Score: 0.6707 | Precision: 0.6734 | R
ecall: 0.6680
Threshold: 0.50 | Accuracy: 0.8458 | F1-Score: 0.6637 | Precision: 0.6988 | R
ecall: 0.6320
Threshold: 0.55 | Accuracy: 0.8480 | F1-Score: 0.6550 | Precision: 0.7222 | R
ecall: 0.5993
Threshold: 0.60 | Accuracy: 0.8473 | F1-Score: 0.6390 | Precision: 0.7418 | R
ecall: 0.5612
Threshold: 0.65 | Accuracy: 0.8457 | F1-Score: 0.6180 | Precision: 0.7651 | R
ecall: 0.5184
Threshold: 0.70 | Accuracy: 0.8429 | F1-Score: 0.5899 | Precision: 0.7941 | R
ecall: 0.4693
Threshold: 0.75 | Accuracy: 0.8379 | F1-Score: 0.5559 | Precision: 0.8164 | R
ecall: 0.4215
Threshold: 0.80 | Accuracy: 0.8332 | F1-Score: 0.5204 | Precision: 0.8461 | R
ecall: 0.3758
Threshold: 0.85 | Accuracy: 0.8251 | F1-Score: 0.4704 | Precision: 0.8679 | R
ecall: 0.3227
Threshold: 0.90 | Accuracy: 0.8128 | F1-Score: 0.3941 | Precision: 0.8937 | R
ecall: 0.2528
Threshold: 0.95 | Accuracy: 0.7974 | F1-Score: 0.2915 | Precision: 0.9238 | R
ecall: 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, we will use the 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

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 ~0.84 and a high AUC of ~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, making it better for 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}")

Accuracy for >50K class: 0.7083
    Accuracy for <=50K class: 0.8790</pre>
```

^ 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). If we wanted to 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

```
# function to print metrics across different subgroups
In [114]:
          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.

```
In [116]: # filter for race categories
    race_groups = ['race_Amer-Indian-Inuit', 'race_Asian-Pac-Islander', 'race_Blac
    k', 'race_Other', 'race_White']
    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

AUC: 0.789

^ 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 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. 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:

^ Note: 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 incorrectly predicted one 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 being from El Salvador strongly signals an income of <=50K, which may or may not reflect reality. Seeing as there's only 33 examples in this subgroup, more representative examples from individuals from El Salvador are needed to help the model learn more meaningful patterns for both 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, some demographic subgroups show notably lower precision and recall, which may reflect either 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, especially from disadvantaged subgroups, and further investigating the characteristics of these subgroups would be valuable.

```
In [ ]:
```