

A Prediction Model for Burlington Restaurant Ratings Based on Review Features

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Motivation

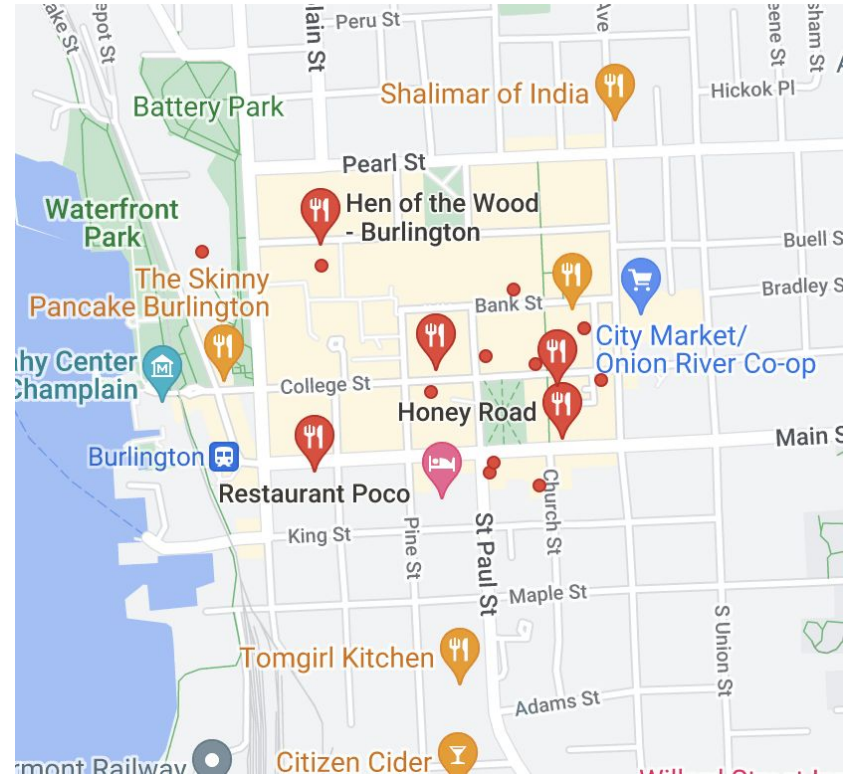
- Next time you walk down Church St take a look at the changes in restaurants
- What makes a restaurant successful in Burlington?
- By analyzing user reviews and restaurant information on Yelp, can we discover any insights into customer preferences?

The collage features three main visual elements:

- VT Commercial Website Screenshot:** A screenshot of the VT Commercial website's 'Retail Listings' page. It displays three property listings with photos and details:
 - Lower Church Street Restaurant Space:** 177 Church Street - Burlington - Under Agreement. 1,650 SF plus basement. \$4000 monthly plus utilities (gas, trash, electric, water/sewer, pest control, & snow shoveling).
 - Dorset Street Flex / Industrial / Retail:** 354 Dorset St - South Burlington - For Lease. 9,500 +/- SF. \$18/sf NNN (est. \$5/SF).
 - Downtown Retail Space:** 162 College Street - Burlington - For Lease. 3200 SF. \$30/SF NNN \$10.50 plus 21.5% of utilities (gas, electric, w/s).
- Church Street Scene:** A photograph of a street scene on Church Street in Burlington, Vermont. It shows a brick building with a red awning, colorful triangular bunting strung across the street, and people walking. A news broadcast overlay at the bottom reads: 'CLOSING TIME SWEETWATERS CLOSES UP SHOP AFTER 41 YEARS'.
- Cool Retail Space!** A small inset photo showing a storefront with a green awning and the text 'Cool Retail Space! 230 College Street - Burlington - For Lease. 1,980 sf. \$2,500/month gross plus utilities'.

What we planned:

- Collect online review data for local restaurants
- Identify trends
- Draw conclusions on what makes a restaurant successful in Burlington



How we planned to do it:

- Curate a list of local restaurants and webscrape review data from well-known sources
- Filter data and identify good features and general trends



1. The Farmhouse Tap & Grill

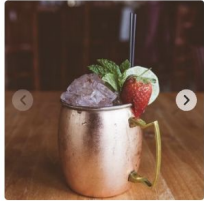
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 1792

Burgers American (Traditional) \$\$

Open until 10:00 PM

“WOW! An overall outstanding experience. From the employees to the decor to the drinks and the FOOD! Incredible. You will not be disappointed. We have been here...” [more](#)

✗ Outdoor seating ✗ Delivery ✓ Takeout



2. The Gryphon

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 431

American (New) Seafood Cocktail Bars \$\$

Closed until 4:00 PM

🍷 Hipster vibe • 🍽️ Casual dining

“This ended up being a truly enjoyable adventure all the way through! We gave a couple of the other establishments in the city a shot, but the wait was rather...” [more](#)

✓ Outdoor seating ✗ Delivery ✓ Takeout

Find a Table



3. Hen of the Wood - Burlington

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 748

American (New) \$\$\$

Closed until 4:30 PM

“From the cozy interior, to the fresh food (we saw a farmer drop off stacks of eggs while we sat), to the music selection this was a lovely experience. We made...” [more](#)

✓ Takeout

Related Work 1

Sentiment Analysis of Customer Reviews of Food Delivery Services Using Deep Learning and Explainable Artificial Intelligence: Systematic Review

by  Anirban Adak ¹ ,  Biswajeet Pradhan ^{1,2,3,*}  and  Nagesh Shukla ¹ 

¹ Centre for Advanced Modelling and Geospatial Information Systems (CAMGIS), School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & IT, University of Technology Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2007, Australia

Table 3. Common complaint types in FDS.

| Complaint Types | References |
|--|--------------------|
| Service, missing item, problem with order, missing order, rude service | [4,15,19,32,33,34] |
| Food, food quality, food taste | [4,15,19,32,33,34] |
| Place, location | [19,27,35] |
| Experience, environment, ambiance, dining atmosphere | [4,15,27,35,36] |
| Value for money, restaurant value, cost | [4,15,27,35,36] |
| Time, slow service, slow delivery | [19,33] |

Adak, Anirban, Biswajeet Pradhan, and Nagesh Shukla. 2022. "Sentiment Analysis of Customer Reviews of Food Delivery Services Using Deep Learning and Explainable Artificial Intelligence: Systematic Review" *Foods* 11, no. 10: 1500. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods11101500>

- Study looked at customer reviews from food service delivery companies to see if they could find ways to increase customer satisfaction
- Used sentiment analysis, machine learning models, deep learning models, and explained artificial intelligence methods to predict customer sentiment
- Got good results with Deep Learning, but this lacked explainability

Related Work 2

- Study looked at a dataset of 4000 restaurant reviews in Karachi (a large city in Pakistan)
- Used sentiment analysis to determine if the review was negative or positive, then using text classification techniques classified the reviews by food taste, ambiance, service, and value
- Found the most success with a random forest algorithm (95% accuracy)

Sentiment Analysis and Classification of Restaurant Reviews using Machine Learning

Publisher: IEEE

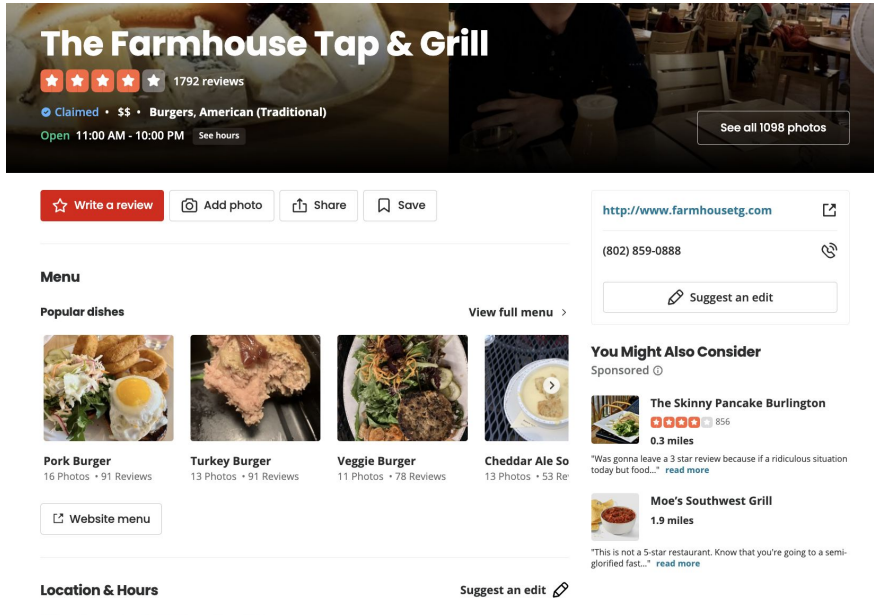
[Cite This](#)

[PDF](#)

| The ratio of training versus testing dataset - 75:25 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|-----|-------|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|---------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Algorithm | Naïve Bayes | | | | Logistic Regression | | | | Random Forest | | | |
| Categories | P % | R % | F % | Acc.% | P % | R % | F % | Acc.% | P % | R % | F % | Acc.% |
| Food Taste | 82 | 99 | 89 | 84 | 93 | 98 | 96 | 86 | 95 | 97 | 96 | 94 |
| Value for Money | 92 | 51 | 66 | | 92 | 91 | 93 | | 94 | 91 | 92 | |
| Ambiance | 92 | 62 | 73 | | 93 | 85 | 89 | | 94 | 90 | 92 | |
| Service | 93 | 62 | 74 | | 91 | 87 | 90 | | 94 | 90 | 92 | |

K. Zahoor, N. Z. Bawany and S. Hamid, "Sentiment Analysis and Classification of Restaurant Reviews using Machine Learning," 2020 21st International Arab Conference on Information Technology (ACIT), Giza, Egypt, 2020, pp. 1-6, doi: 10.1109/ACIT50332.2020.9300098.

Data Collecting: Web Scrapping



- Used Yelp as a source
- Scrapped from list of 110 local restaurants using Beautiful Soup!
- Collected name, rating, date, location, cuisine type, and text reviews

Data Collecting: Web Scrapping

| | Name | Street | Category | Price Tags | Average Rating | Review | Date | Rating |
|------|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------|---|------------|--------|
| 0 | SUSHI MAEDA | Cherry St, Bur | japanese,restaurants,sush | ul | 3.5 | The Sushi is definitely quality however, wait ... | 2/18/2023 | 4 |
| 1 | SUSHI MAEDA | Cherry St, Bur | japanese,restaurants,sush | ul | 3.5 | This place was delicious. Service was great. T... | 8/31/2022 | 5 |
| 2 | SUSHI MAEDA | Cherry St, Bur | japanese,restaurants,sush | ul | 3.5 | This place is legit. Fantastic Japanese food. ... | 7/20/2022 | 5 |
| 3 | SUSHI MAEDA | Cherry St, Bur | japanese,restaurants,sush | ul | 3.5 | Totemo oishii desu. @sushimaeda. Finally. The ... | 6/6/2022 | 5 |
| 4 | SUSHI MAEDA | Cherry St, Bur | japanese,restaurants,sush | ul | 3.5 | Food was slow to get to the table even though ... | 9/27/2022 | 1 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3129 | THREE NEEDS TAPROOM & BREWERY | Pearl St | breweries,food,nightlife,poolhall | 2 | 3.0 | Voted best place to play pool in Burlington (2... | 8/23/2016 | 5 |
| 3130 | THREE NEEDS TAPROOM & BREWERY | Pearl St | breweries,food,nightlife,poolhall | 2 | 3.0 | update: Everytime I go here I leave pissed off... | 9/10/2016 | 1 |
| 3131 | THREE NEEDS TAPROOM & BREWERY | Pearl St | breweries,food,nightlife,poolhall | 2 | 3.0 | An amazing pizza menu with no option for dairy... | 2/23/2015 | 1 |
| 3132 | THREE NEEDS TAPROOM & BREWERY | Pearl St | breweries,food,nightlife,poolhall | 2 | 3.0 | Cool spot to grab a beer. Service is quick esp... | 10/23/2017 | 5 |
| 3133 | THREE NEEDS TAPROOM & BREWERY | Pearl St | breweries,food,nightlife,poolhall | 2 | 3.0 | This place is so chill! My husband and I stopp... | 7/7/2019 | 5 |

3134 rows x 8 columns

Data Cleaning

- Lots of garbage
- Misspelled words + woes of scraping
- 110 Restaurants
- 3000+ Reviews
- Missing data

```
nt in Burlington. They constantly have different chet  
y. \xa0Everyone&#39;s food was great. \xa0Seems l
```

```
it&#39;s right up there with them.<br><br>The owner needs to show
```

```
<br><br>This place is great if you&#39;re looking for good sushi
```

```
# Clean Reviews
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace(';', '\')
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace('<br>', '')
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace('&', '')
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace('amp;', '')
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace(' ', '')
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].str.replace('#39', ' ')

# Make all lowercase
df['Review text'] = df['Review text'].apply(str.lower)

# Add custom stop words
custom_stop_words = ['food', 'burlington', 'would', '-', 'place',
stop = stop + custom_stop_words
```

```
df['Street'].unique()
```

```
array(['Cherry St, Bur', 'Battery St, Bur', 'N Champlain St, Bur',  
      'Church St, Bur', 'Riverside Ave, Bur', 'N Winooski Ave, Bur',  
      'Bar', 'Tru', 'Pine St, Bur', 'Colchester Ave, Bur',  
      'Main St, Bur', 'Maple St, Bur', 'Bank St', 'Phot', 'Cherry St',  
      'Church St', 'S Champlain St', 'Lake St', 'Center St',  
      'Saint Paul St', 'Main St', 'Photo', 'N Winooski Ave', 'North Ave',  
      'Riverside Ave', 'St Paul St', 'North St', 'Battery St',  
      'Mechanics Ln', 'N St', 'Center St, Bur', 'Pine St',  
      'South Union St', 'Pearl St', nan, 'College St', 'Henry St',  
      'Shelburne Rd', 'Institute Rd', 'College St, Bur', 'Oak St',  
      'S Union St', 'N Ave, Bur', 'Tracy Dr', 'Flynn Ave', 'Lawson Ln',  
      'Pho', 'Colchester Ave', 'Maple St'], dtype=object)
```

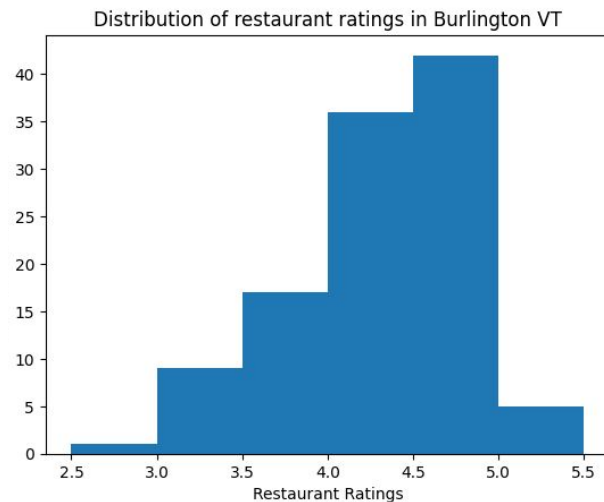
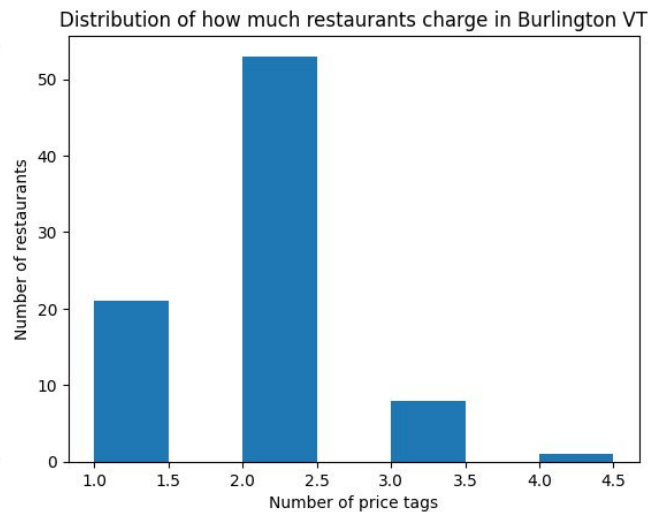
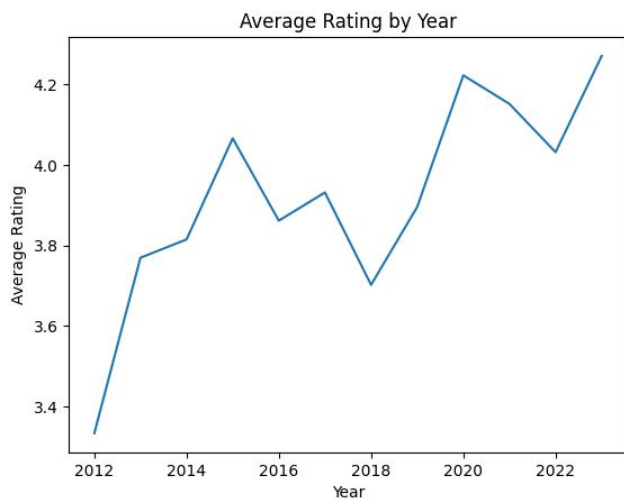
Data Cleaning

Even more cleaning!

| | Name | Street | Price Tags | Average Rating | Review text | Category 1 | Category 2 | Customer Satisfaction |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------|------------|----------------|---|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 0 | THE FARMHOUSE TAP & GRILL | Bank_St | 2.0 | 4.0 | julie another wonderful experience farmhouse! ... | burgers | tradamerica | High |
| 1 | HEN OF THE WOOD | NaN | 3.0 | 4.5 | cozy interior, fresh (we saw farmer drop stack... | newamerican | NaN | High |
| 2 | THE GRYPHON | Main_St | 2.0 | 4.5 | best brunch. bloody mary' die for, love unique... | nightlife | newamerican | High |
| 3 | JUNIPER BAR & RESTAURANT | Cherry_St | 2.0 | 4.0 | met family crazy thanksgiving weekend. great p... | tradamerica | NaN | High |
| 4 | HONEY ROAD | Church_St | 2.0 | 4.5 | review mentioned difficult get reservation res... | NaN | NaN | High |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 105 | KRU COFFEE | Church_St | 1.0 | 4.5 | stopped last day struggling decide grab coffee... | coffee | sandwiche | High |
| 106 | HALVORSON'S UPSTREET CAFE | Church_St | 2.0 | 3.0 | great food. cozy atmosphere. made reservations... | tradamerica | beer_and_wine | Low |
| 107 | PIESANOS | Main_St | 2.0 | 3.0 | 1 1/2 hour delivery wait...i get it, it' busy,... | pizza | italian | Low |
| 108 | KESTREL COFFEE ROASTERS | Maple_St | NaN | 4.5 | sweet little roastery free short term streetsi... | cafes | coffee | High |
| 109 | NECTAR'S | Main_St | 2.0 | 3.0 | boyfriend trivia years. first time. great atmo... | burgers | chicken_wings | Low |

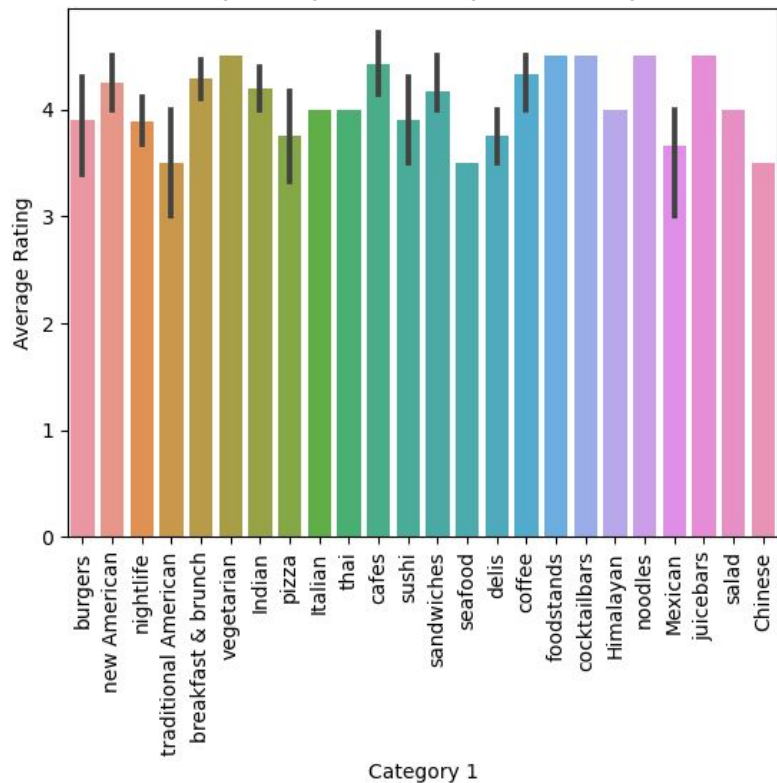
110 rows x 8 columns

Data Exploration

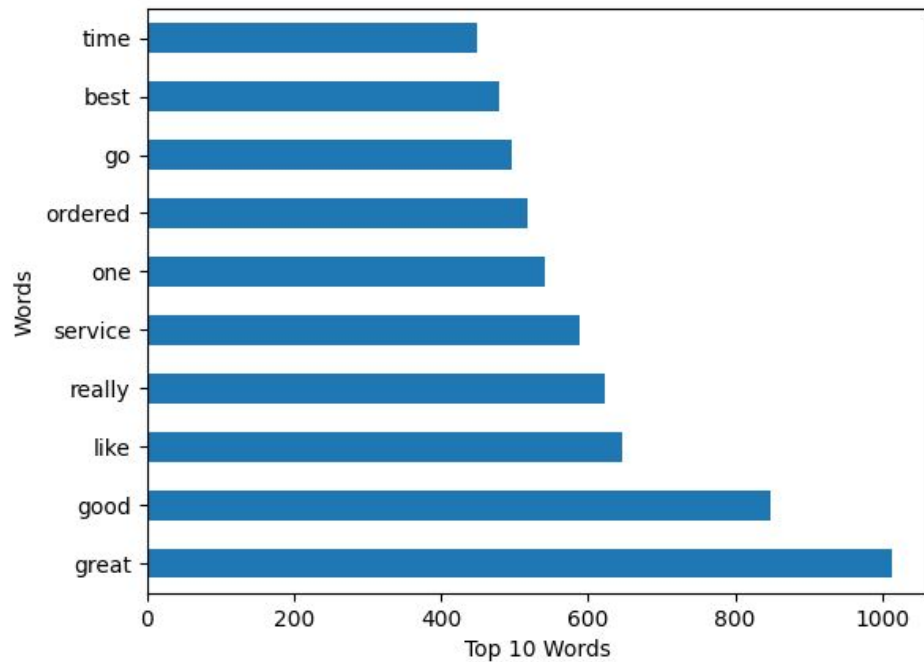


Further Exploration

Average Rating of Food Categories in Burlington, VT



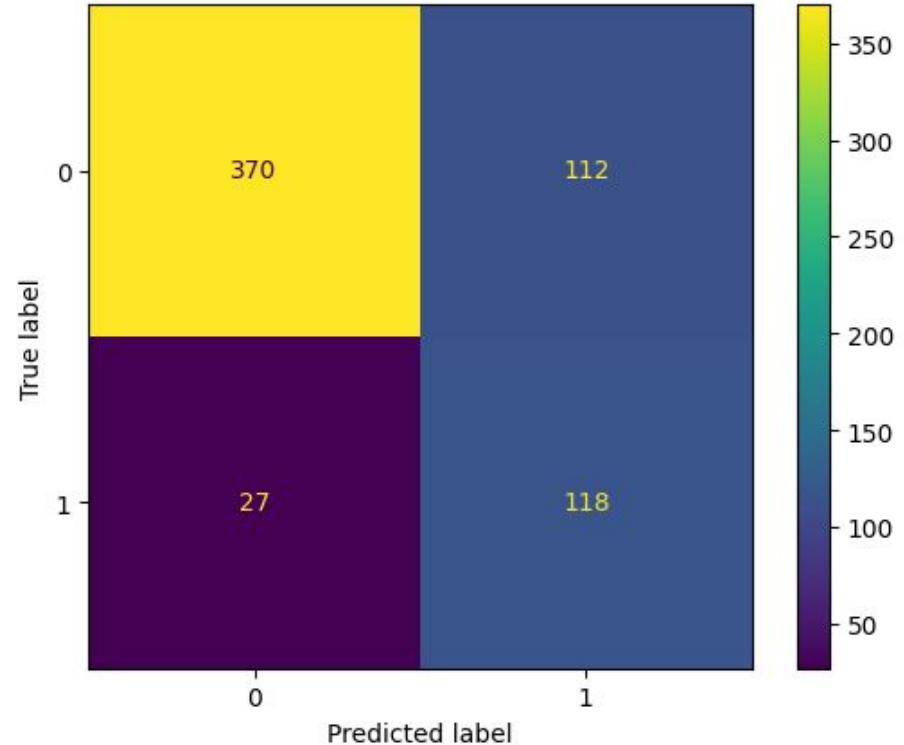
Number of Uses in Reviews



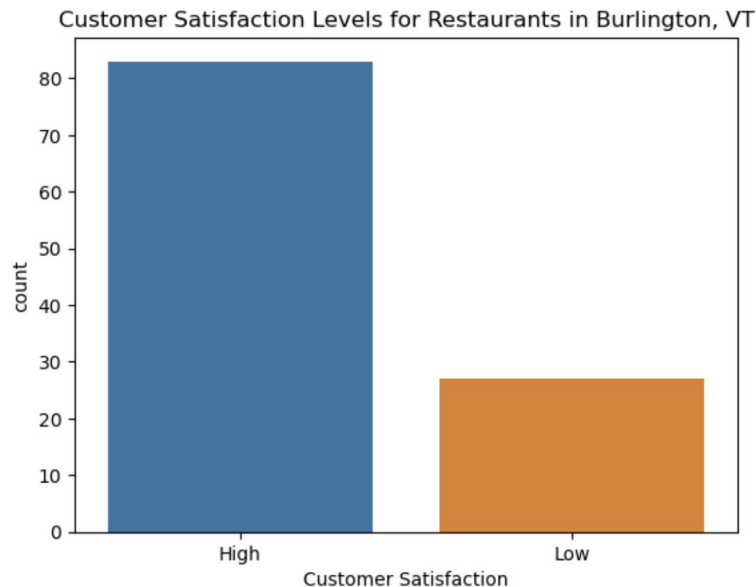
Logistic Regression Model Based on Word Frequencies

- Prediction for each individual review in dataset.
- 78% Validation Accuracy for individual reviews

| | feature | coef |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 21 | delicious | -1.944369 |
| 44 | highly | -1.585731 |
| 2 | amazing | -1.454004 |
| 31 | excellent | -1.184753 |
| 48 | love | -1.177975 |
| .. | ... | ... |
| 27 | even | 0.536201 |
| 74 | said | 0.548959 |
| 98 | went | 0.596276 |
| 71 | restaurant | 0.607097 |
| 68 | pretty | 0.650434 |



Random Forest Model

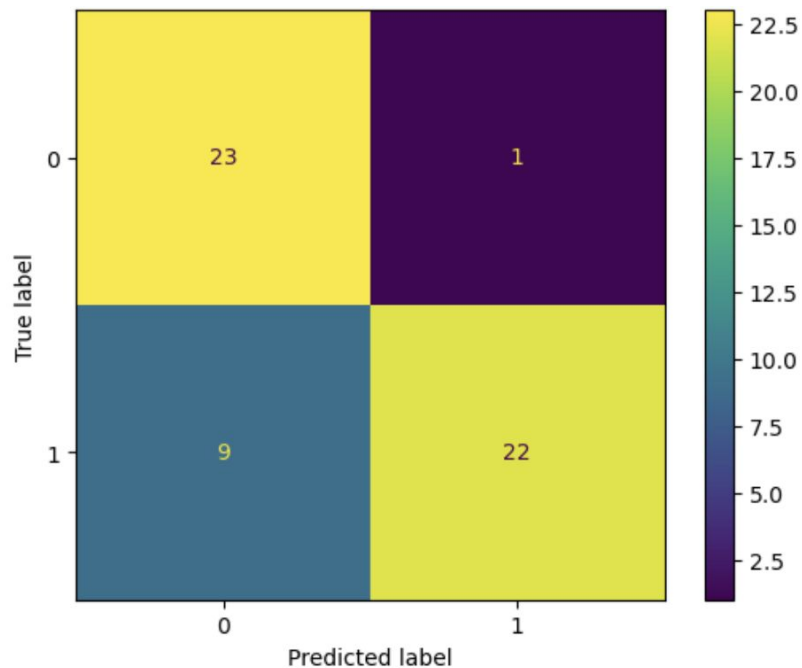
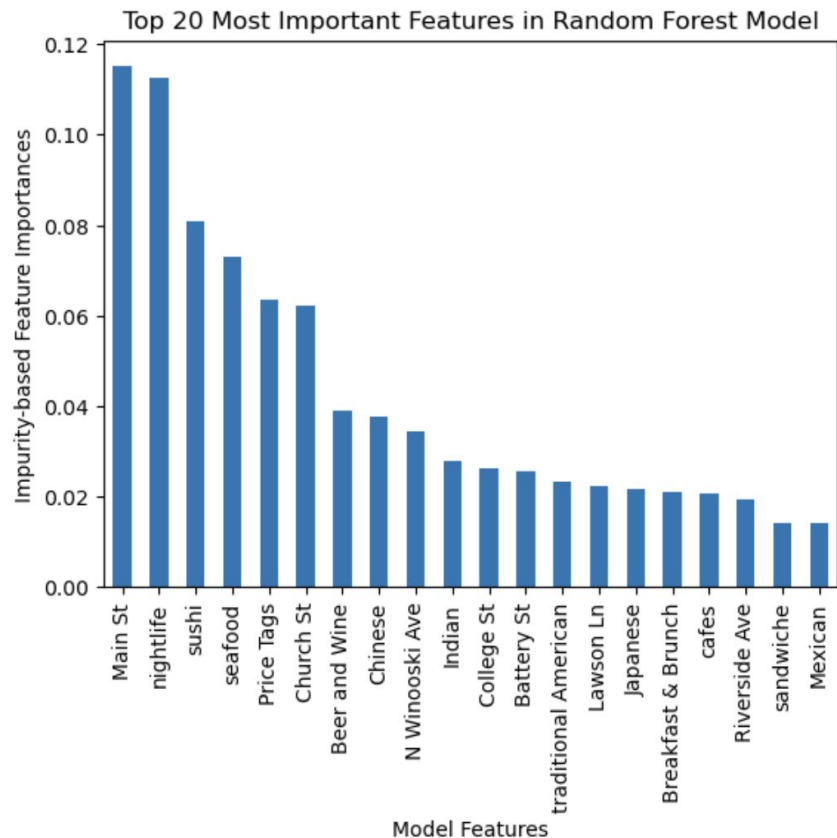


- Problem: Imbalanced data
- Solution: Random Oversampling!
- One hot encoding to transforms categorical data into numerical
- Hyperparameter tuning using RandomizedSearchCV

```
#fit model to our training data
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
random_forest = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators = 90, min_samples_split = 5,
                                     min_samples_leaf = 2, max_features = 'sqrt',
                                     max_depth = None, bootstrap=False, random_state=42)

#train random forest model
random_forest.fit(x_train, y_train.values.ravel())
#change array shape with .values.ravel()
```


Random Forest continued



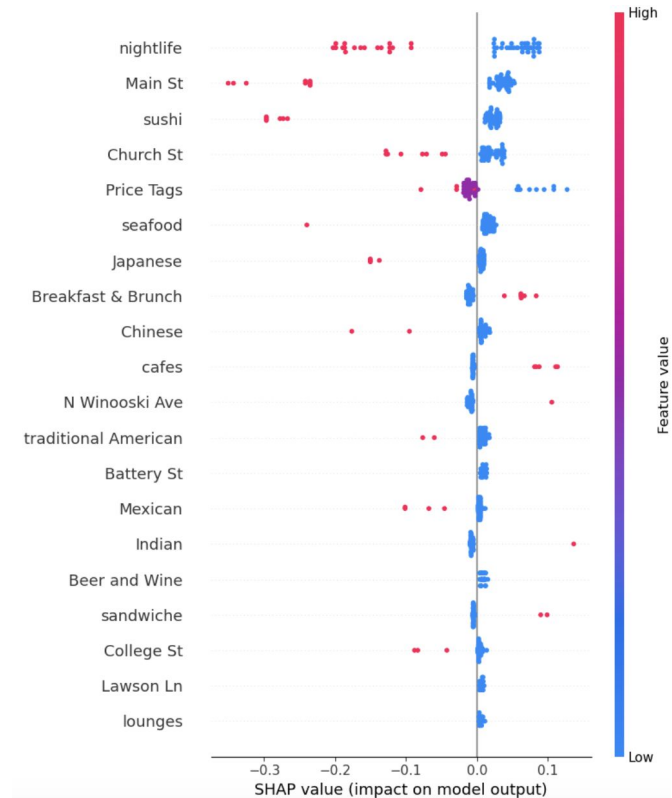
Accuracy: 0.8181818181818182

Precision: 0.9565217391304348

Recall: 0.7096774193548387

But are the features good or bad for customer satisfaction?

- SHAP values can break down a prediction and show the impact of features
- In this plot, positive SHAP values lead to the model predicting that the restaurant will have high customer satisfaction
- Red dot represents a restaurant with this feature, blue occurs when restaurants do not have this feature
- A restaurant having a lower price appears to have a positive impact on customer satisfaction
- Nightlife and Main St appear to have a negative impact



Conclusions

- Location seems play a role in customer satisfaction (Main St appears to have a negative impact)
- Lower food prices (1 price tag on Yelp) seem have a positive impact on customer satisfaction
- Categories like sushi, seafood, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Mexican foods impact the model
- Nightlife seems to be have an association with lower customer satisfaction levels



Conclusions



- Perhaps this can be used to promote growth and success for local businesses and enhance the overall dining experience for the community
- Hopefully this can help restaurant owners better understand their customers' preferences and improve their offerings!

Limitations and Further work

- Models tailored to Burlington
- Limited data adds importance to features that may not be that important
- Unbalanced data
- Not enough data to examine individual variables in a meaningful manner
- How accurate is Yelp?
- Would be helpful to add more variables (yearly earnings, years in business, etc)
- Adding more restaurants from the surrounding area or trying this again in a city with more restaurants