Final Project Report

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1. Task

The task is to accurately predict the Length of Stay for each patient on a case-by-case basis so that the Hospitals can use this information for optimal resource allocation and better functionality. The length of stay is divided into 11 different classes ranging from 0-10 days to more than 100 days. The final goal of this project would be to help management to optimize staff allocation and functionality of hospitals by analyzing what patient details tend to minimize patient stay duration. This would in turn allow the hospital to efficiently accommodate the incoming patients, maximizing the benefit it provides to its community as well as the profits it generates to sustain itself.

2. Approach

For the project implementation the plan is to fit a "Classification Model" to accurately predict the length of stay for patients at the hospital based on multiple independent parameters. Our approach towards model building proceeds with the following steps of implementation.

A. Data Formatting and Cleaning
   a. Identifying outliers and missing values.
   b. Removing outliers and imputing missing values
B. Libraries: - Numpy , Pandas, Seaborn, Sklearn , Matplotlib
C. Platforms Used :- Python , Tableau
D. Exploration and Data Analysis: - Explore data analysis and identify the correlation between variables and those variables impacting the Predictor significantly.
   a. Dummy encoding of the variables.
   b. Plotting visuals to interpret the relationship between the variables.
   c. Displaying meaningful insights based on the data.
E. Feature Engineering
   a. Optimizing the dataset for model buildings via actions such as:
      i. Dummy Coding ii.   Data Scaling
F. Model Building
   a. Splitting dataset into test and train dataset: -
   b. Model Selection: -
      i. Comparing and Implementing different classification models. ii.
         Significance and description of models that shall be used

G. Defining Accuracy: - Metric to score the accuracy of the model
   a. 100*Accuracy Score.
H. Model Validation: - Models will be validated by predicting the length of stay for the test dataset.
   a. Generate Confusion Matrix to validate the results of the model.

3. Dataset and Metric

For this project, a Healthcare Analytics Dataset retrieved from the Kaggle website will be used.

Link to dataset:

 - https://www.kaggle.com/nehaprabhavalkar/av-healthcare-analytics-ii?select=healthcare

This dataset includes around 137,000 test examples and around 318,000 training examples. Data preprocessing that was decided that this dataset needed includes: missing value imputation, dummy coding for categorical variables, and grouping/changing of bucket ranges of categorical variables (Age). Data Categorization of variables in the dataset:

Ordinal/Discrete	Nominal/discrete	Categorical
Case_id	Hospital_Code	Hospital_type_code
Available Extra Rooms in Hospital	City_Code_Hospital	Hospital_region_code
Bed Grade	Patientid	Department
	City_Code_Patient	Ward_Type
		Ward_Facility_Code
		Type of Admission
	Visitors with Patient	Severity of Illness
	Admission_Deposit	Age
		Stay

1. Results

Results based on the preliminary work.

1. Missing Values identified in the dataset.

  a. For the attribute "Bed Grade" that represents the condition of the beds available there are 35 records missing in the test data and 113 records missing in the training data.
  b. There are a total of 2192 records missing in the "City_Code_Patient" field of the test data and 4,532 in the training data, representing the zip code for the patient's city.

2. Dummy Encoding of the variables.

The "Stay" categorical variable which is also the dependent variable will have it's amount of categories lowered from around 10 to 5 via grouping. Age ranges were also grouped into fewer categories. The categorical variable changed to a numeric was "Severity of Illness". The variables utilizing dummy encoding were all categorical independent variables.

3. Results from Exploratory Data Analysis.

  Pair Plot:

The following pair plot compares all of the discrete, continuous, and ordinal variables in the dataset with each other and the dependent variable, "Stay", in order to find correlation and separation. It indicates a definite separation of classes for the "Stay", independent variable, when the dependent variable, "Visitors_with_Patient" is involved, indicating that this would likely be a great candidate for use as a predictor variable.
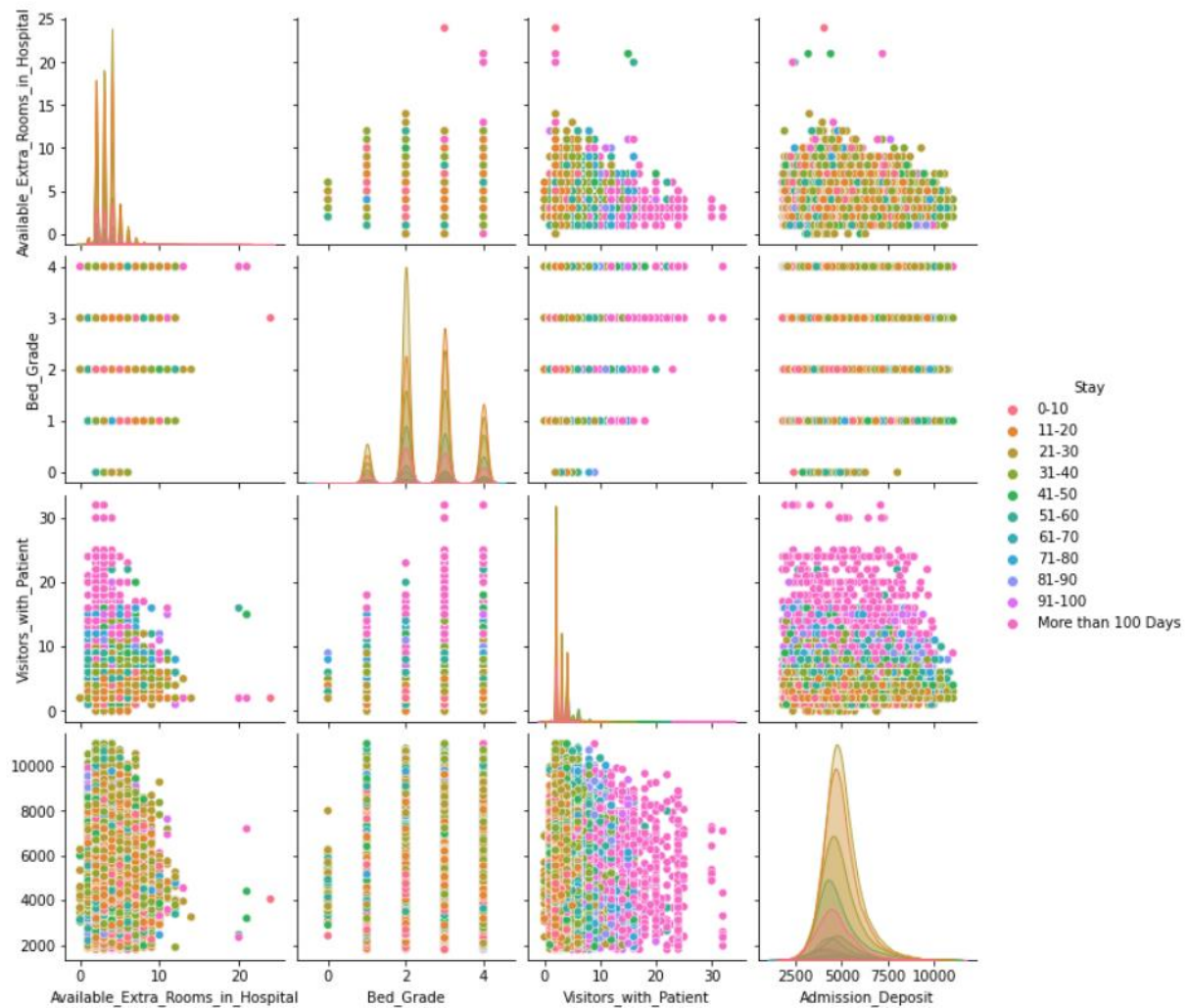
Violin Plots:

The first two violin plots compare shorter and longer stays of patients with their admission deposit, ward type, and illness severity. The third and fourth violin plots compare shorter and
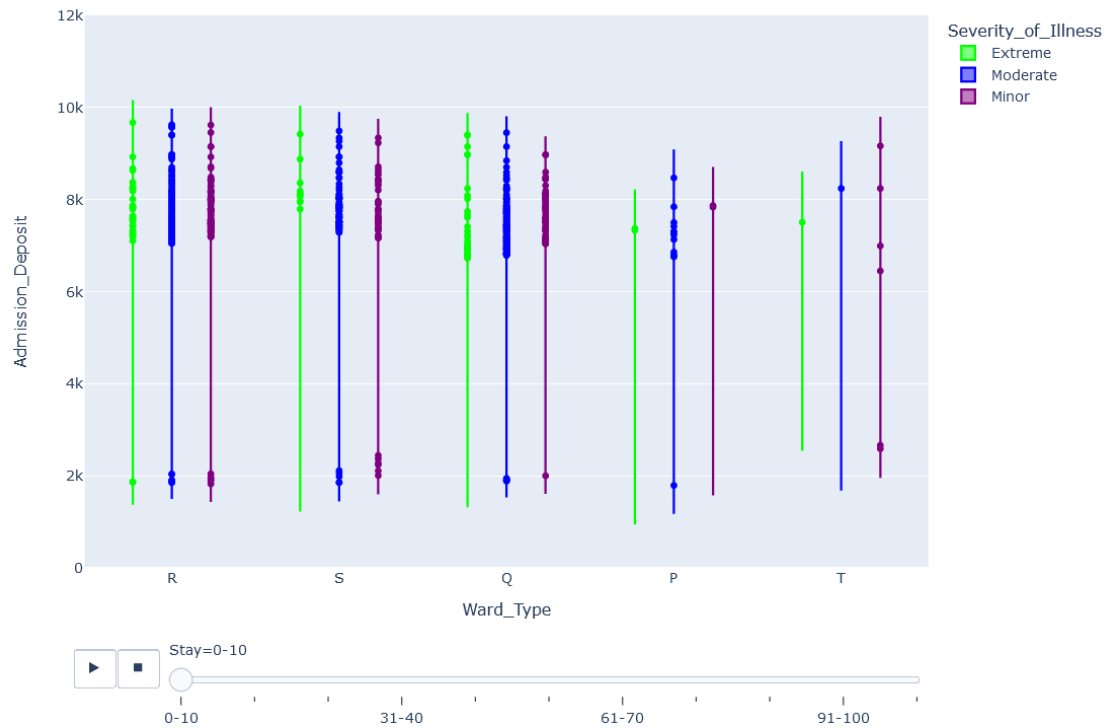
longer stays of patients with the amount of visitors they had at admission, the department they were admitted into, and the type of admission which is based on their condition. As shown on the violin plots, there's an obvious difference in density of patients paying less in admission deposits for longer hospital stays. Also, the distribution of patients assigned to the various wards tends to become more even with longer stay periods, which may indicate that patients are moved between wards when they stay at the hospital for longer periods of time. Furthermore, the amount of visitors a patient gets is a major tell on whether they'd be staying longer, as shown on the 3rd and 4th violin plots.
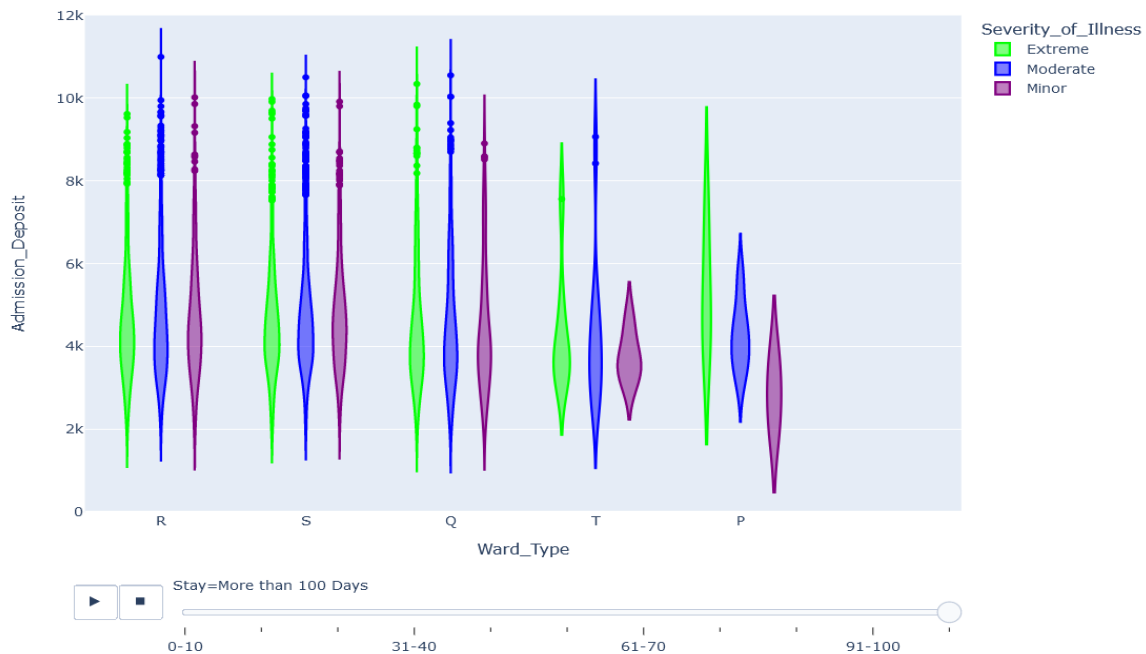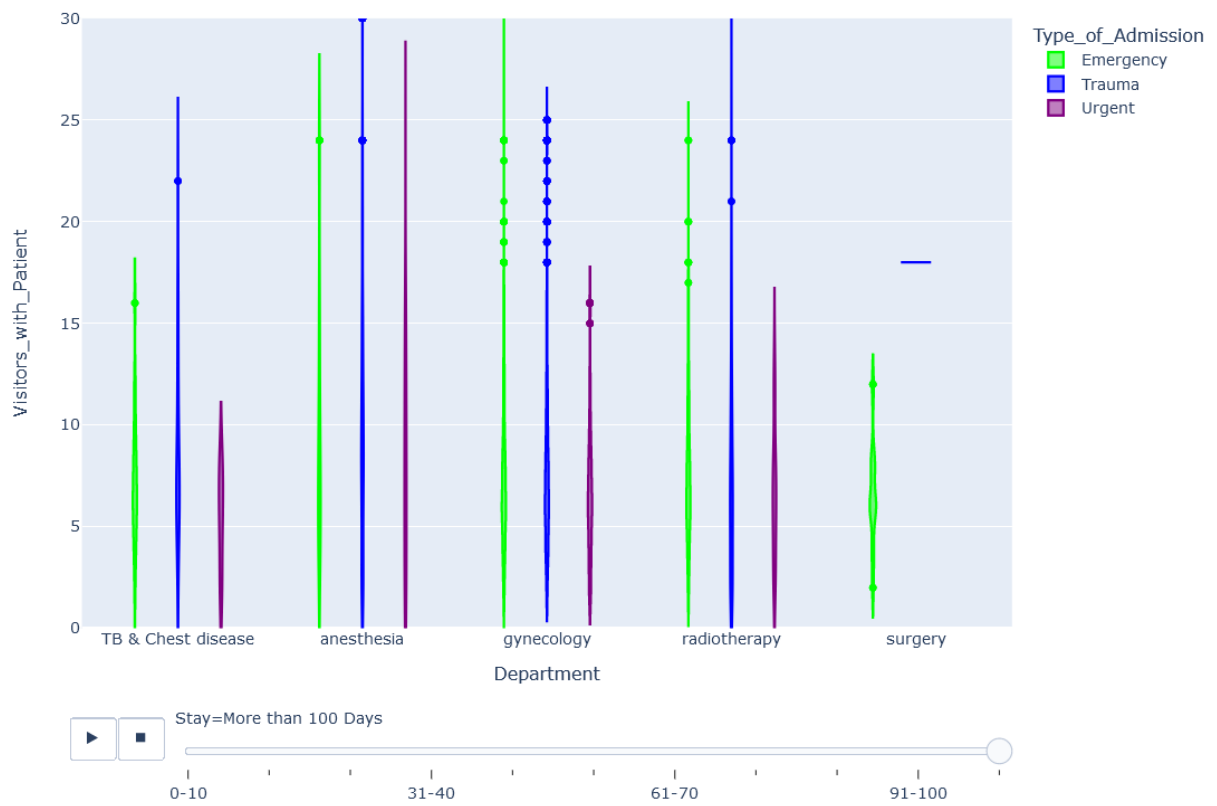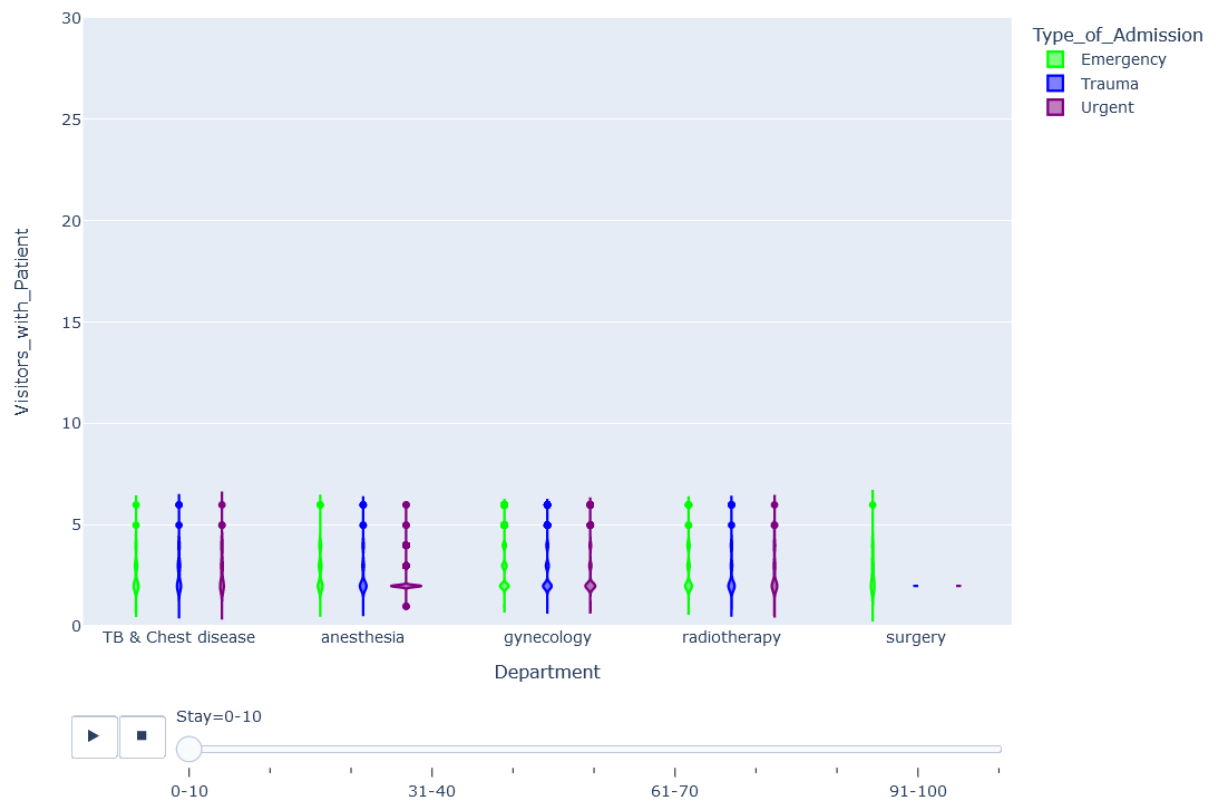
Bubble Plot (Size represents Available Extra Rooms in Hospital):

      The following bubble plot compares stay length of hospital patients with their age, the visitors they had on admission, their illness severity, and the available extra rooms in the hospital at admission which is indicated by bubble size. They indicate that patients with shorter stay lengths tend to have less visitors when they are admitted although not much else as shown by the spread of colors, sizes and by the vertical spread.

Age, Frequency, Severity of Illness, and Available Extra Hospital Rooms (bubble size) for each Stay Period
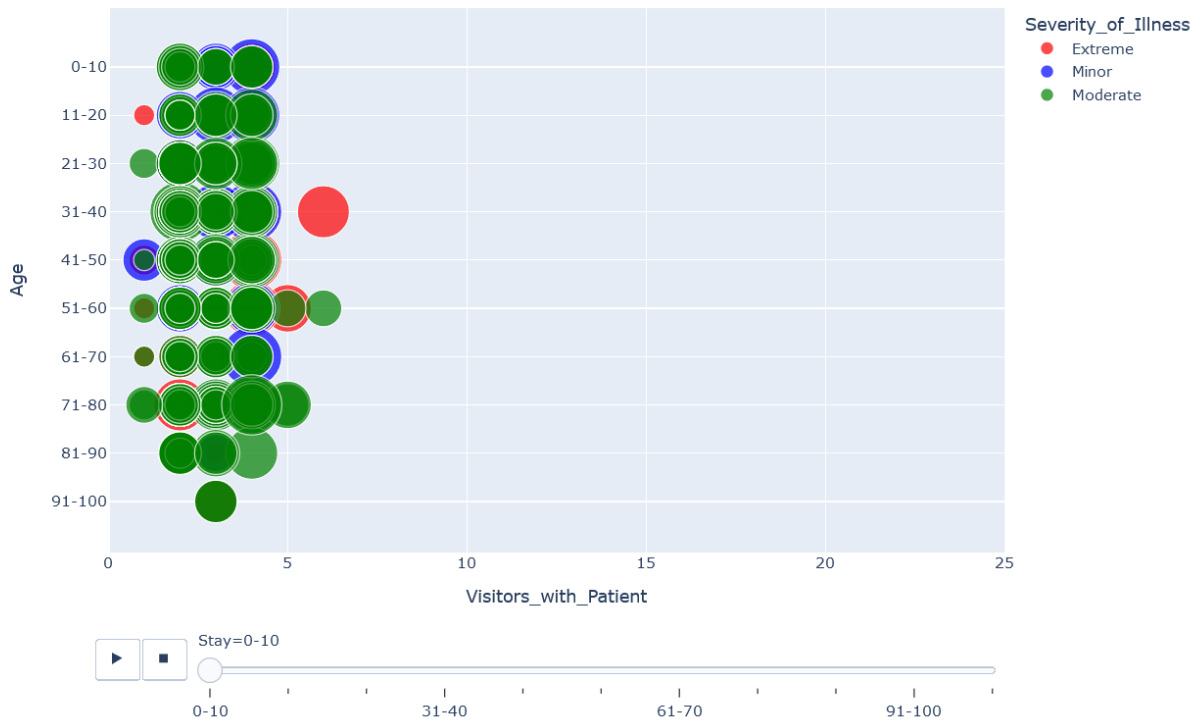
Age, Frequency, Severity of Illness, and Available Extra Hospital Rooms (bubble size) for each Stay Period

Results based on the intermediary tasks.

1. Variable Selection

Variable selection was tested via Pearson Coefficients (with r values above .04) and Ridge Regression Coefficients (with coefficients equal to or above .1). Ridge Regression was ultimately decided on as the variable selection measure due to its chosen variables having slightly better results in testing.

Pearson Coefficient results:

The table below displays the selected variables and their r values.

Stay	1.000000
Visitors_with_Patient	0.497877
Available_Extra_Rooms_in_Hospital	0.117671
Admission_Deposit	0.071185
AR_over_60	0.058358
ToA_Trauma	0.049531
Hospital_code	0.039905
ToA_Urgent	0.036015
Dep_anesthesia	0.034424
Bed_Grade	0.030108
Dep_radiotherapy	0.020286
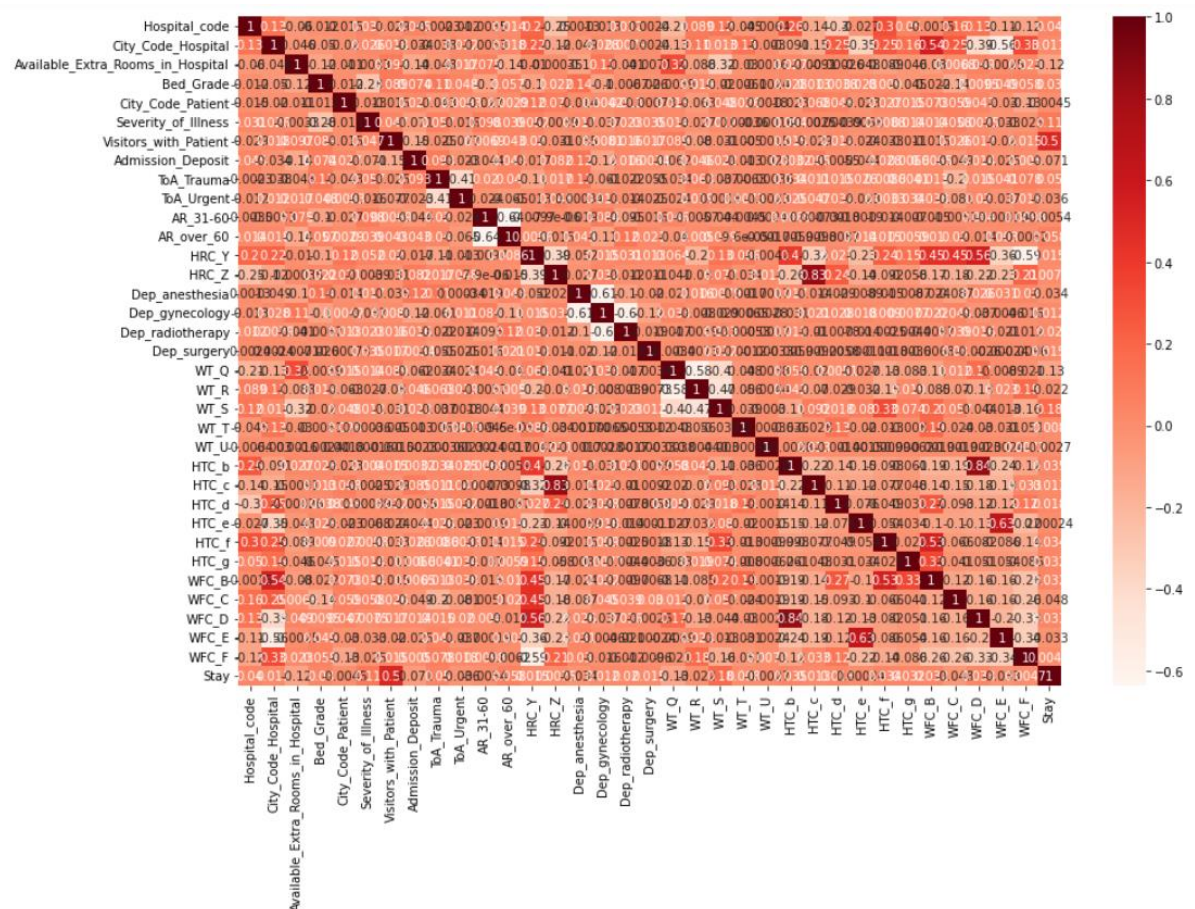
Ridge Regression results:

col_name	coefficient
WT_S	0.494510
WT_T	0.387076
WT_R	0.316514
Visitors_with_Patient	0.179297
WFC_D	0.174173
WT_Q	0.173374
Dep_surgery	0.139799
WFC_C	0.119619
HTC_g	0.101906

2. Feature Engineering:- We performed changes in the existing variables to tune our dataset and make it more explainable to the models. Categorical ordinal variables were converted to numerics based on their ordinality.

- Severity of Illness Numeric:-(Key: 0=Minor, 1=Moderate, 2=Severe)
  Department:(Key: 0=TB & Chest disease, 1=anesthesia,
  2=radiotherapy, 3=gynecology)

- Age:-(#Key: '0-30'=['0-10', '11-20', '21-30'] '31-60'=['31-40', '41-50',
  '51-60'], 'over 60'= rest of the data)

- Stay:-(#Key: 1:['0-10','11-20','21-30','31-40'], 2:['41-50','51-60','61-
  70'] 3:['71-80','81-90','91-100','More than 100 Days'])

3. Data Standardization

We performed data standardization to scale our data into the same range of values, since our dataset consisted of several different parameters. We utilized Sci-Kit Learn's Standard Scaler and fit it on the training dataset. Then we used the same object to transform Test and Validation datasets so that features of the dataset have the same weights in order to improve model accuracy and performance.

4. Data Split

This step consisted of a split of the training dataset into training and validation datasets. The split ratio we decided on was 70% for training and 30% for validation.

5. Model Testing

It was decided to implement 3 models, Decision Tree, Random Forest, and Stochastic Gradient Descent. Models are selected based on their popularity and accuracy with classification problems, and also the ability of decision tree and random forest models to provide visuals of their decision process which can be used for convincing stakeholders and helping them understand the logic behind model decisions.

6. Model Tuning

Experiments we made to evaluate our approach were all based on trying to maximize the accuracy rates of our models. When first running our models, we were surprised to find very low accuracy rates on our test datasets. These accuracy rates were between 40 and 50 percent and thus we tried various methods to improve them.

At first we tried hyperparameter tuning, but via this, we were only able to improve accuracy rates by around 5% on average. For this project, we decided to, as mentioned earlier, utilize decision tree, random forest, and stochastic gradient descent. Due to the nature of these models, we had some flexibility in regard to hyperparameters to possibly solve the accuracy rate issues we were facing. With the decision tree, we were able to make a gain of about 9% in accuracy on the test dataset via lowering the max depth, increasing the minimum samples split, and adjusting the criterion of the splits from gini to entropy. With the random forest model, we were able to improve accuracy by about 5% via similar adjustments as the ones we made for the decision tree model. Finally for stochastic gradient descent, we were not able to make more than a decimal value impact on the accuracy rate by adjusting the hyperparameters and thus gave up after cycling through many of the different options it allowed. These adjustments included adjusting the loss function and penalty options. We did find that changing the loss function for SGD from hinge to log and penalty from L2 to L1 allowed us some accuracy gains, but as mentioned earlier, they were only improvements by about three tenths. This hyperparameter testing was automated via grid search in scikit learn.

Eventually we realized that we could make great gains on our accuracy rates by "moving the goalposts", or changing our end goal to something that was much easier to attain. Originally, our dependent variable had 11 different possible categories. Adjusting this to 3 increased the accuracy rates of our models by about 30%. We settled on this method and saw it as a success as it allowed us to obtain satisfactory accuracy rates (near 80%) for a machine learning model while not further complicating our processes.

<u>Results Based on the Final Work.</u>

1. Final Model Selected

Decision tree was chosen as the final model as it gives us a very high accuracy rate on the test dataset compared to the other models while providing the fastest processing speed between the models.

2. Displaying Model Accuracy Score Results

	Model	Prediction Accuracy - Training	Prediction Accuracy - Test
0	Decision Tree	80.57	80.37
1	Random Forest	86.23	80.37
2	Stochastic Gradient Descent	79.20	79.06

3. Displaying Confusion Matrix of our chosen model

A confusion matrix was made via the chosen model to compare the true values to the predicted values for the decision tree.

Decision Tree Confusion Matrix:
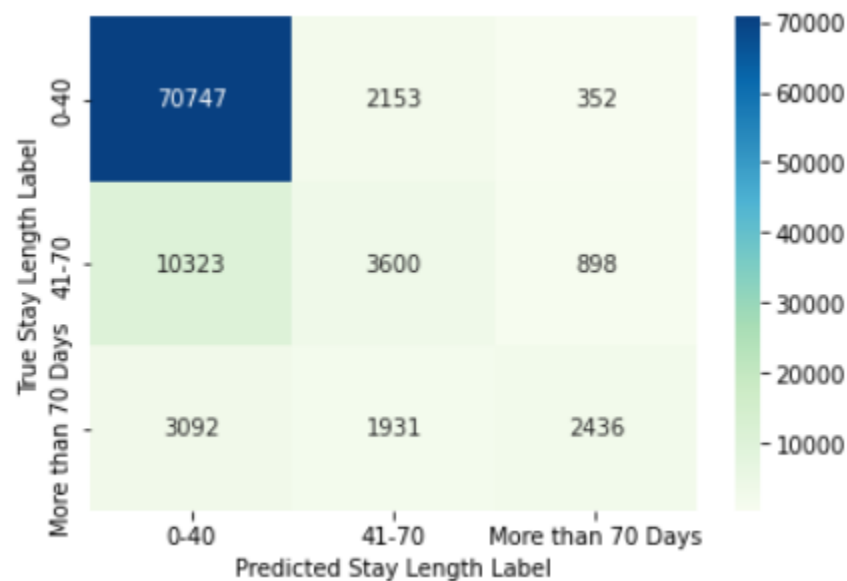
This confusion matrix shows how the decision tree was very accurate with the majority of the data, which fell into the 0-40 category, but still made many misclassifications, especially for the 41-70 category which it often incorrectly predicted to be part of the 0-40 category.

4. Displaying End Results on the Validation Dataset Predictions

tra_Rooms_in_Hospital	Admission_Deposit	AR_over_60	ToA_Trauma	Hospital_code	ToA_Urgent	Dep_anesthesia	Bed_Grade	Dep_radiotherapy	Stay
3	3095.0	1	0	21	0	0	2.0	0	0-40
2	4018.0	1	1	29	0	0	2.0	0	41-70
3	4492.0	1	0	26	0	0	4.0	0	0-40
3	4173.0	1	1	6	0	0	2.0	0	0-40
2	4161.0	1	1	28	0	0	2.0	0	41-70
3	4659.0	1	1	23	0	0	2.0	0	0-40
2	4167.0	1	1	26	0	0	2.0	0	0-40
4	4396.0	0	0	25	0	0	3.0	0	0-40
4	4088.0	0	1	23	0	0	3.0	0	0-40
3	3925.0	0	0	23	1	0	4.0	0	0-40

	Count
Stay	
0-40	121116
41-70	10764
More than 70 Days	5177