Communities and Crime: Using an Ensemble of ML Algorithms to Predict Crime

By Jake Blancher









The Data **1,994**

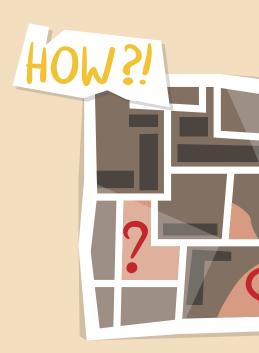
Instances

127

Features

1

Target Value (violent crimes per capita), continuous and normalized

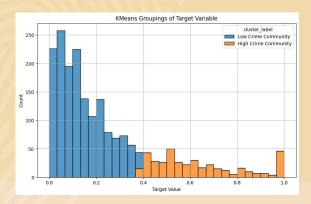




Binning



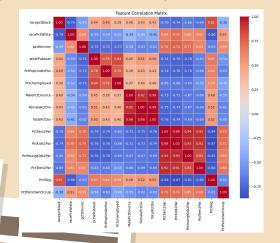
- Used K-means with k=2 to separate into high and low crime
- Frequently ran into low recall, needed to weight class 1

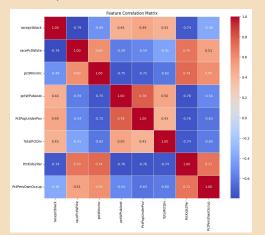




Feature Selection

- Didn't use PCA, need simplicity for GUI
- Removed features with missing data or ones that measure non-numeric data (like state or city name)
- Ran correlation between each feature and the target value, removing all those with an r value between -0.5 and 0.5
- Ran pairwise correlation, eliminating less robust multi collinear features (eg male divorce rate, female divorce rate, and total divorce rate)





Classification Algorithms

01

Logistic Regression

Liblinear solver, 4:1 weight

02

Support Vector Classifier (SVC)

You can describe the topic of the section here

03

Neural Network

1 layer, sigmoid activation, binary cross entropy loss, 1001 total parameters 04

Deep Neural Network (DNN)

3 hidden layers, ReLu between them, sigmoid output layer, 43521 parameters

Ensemble

Logistic Regression

SVC

DNN

86.0% accurate

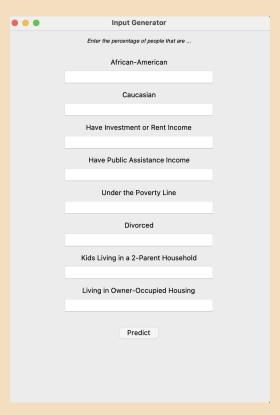
84.0% accurate

86.7% accurate

88.5% accurate, almost 2% better than our best model, DNN



Graphical User Interface (Tkinter)





Discussion - Over-Policing



3.3X

Of investigatory stops target
Black Chicagoans

Despite representing only 8% of the neighborhood

Times more likely to have their cars searched by police

As compared to White residents

Cherrone, Heather. "Chicago Police More Likely to Use Force against Black Chicagoans: Watchdog." WTTW News, 1 Mar. 2022,

news.wttw.com/2022/03/01/chicago-police-more-likely-use-force-against-black-chicagoans-watchdog.