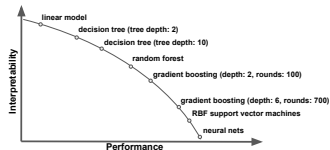


Interpretable Machine Learning

Introduction, Motivation, and History



Learning goals

- Why interpretability?
- Developments until now?
- Use cases for interpretability

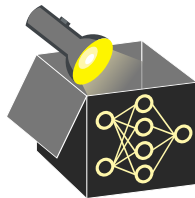
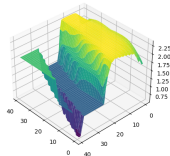
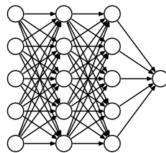
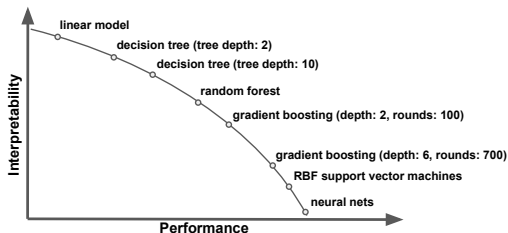
WHY INTERPRETABILITY?

- ML: huge potential to aid decision-making process due to its predictive performance
 - ML models are black boxes, e.g., XGBoost, RBF SVM or DNNs
~> too complex to be understood by humans
 - Some applications are "learn to understand"
 - When deploying ML models, lack of explanations
 - ❶ hurts trust
 - ❷ creates barriers
- ~> Many disciplines with required trust rely on traditional models, e.g., linear models, with less predictive performance



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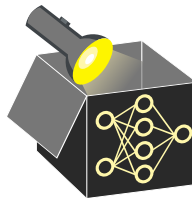
INTERPRETABILITY IN HIGH-STAKES DECISIONS

Examples of critical areas where decisions based on ML models can affect human life

- Credit scoring and insurance applications

► Society of Actuaries

- Reasons for not granting a loan
- Fraud detection in insurance claims



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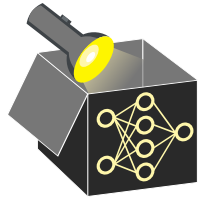
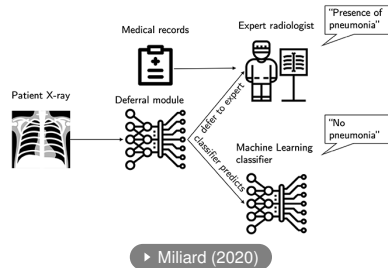
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- Medical applications

- Identification of diseases
- Recommendations of treatments

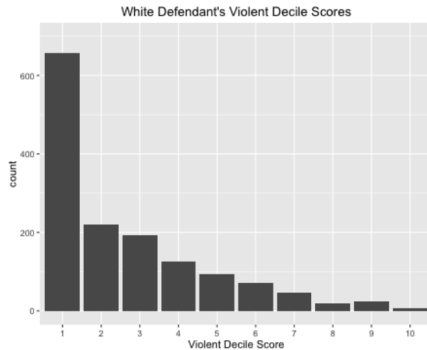
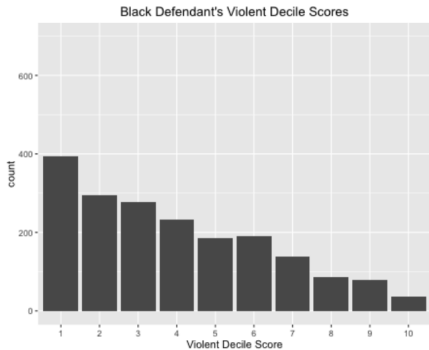
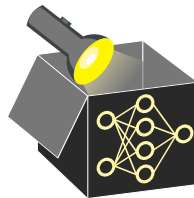
- ...



NEED FOR INTERPRETABILITY

Need for interpretability becoming increasingly important from a legal perspective

- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requires for some applications that models have to be explainable ▶ [Goodman & Flaxman \(2017\)](#)
 ↪ *EU Regulations on Algorithmic Decision-Making and a “Right to Explanation”*
- *Ethics guidelines for trustworthy AI* ▶ [European Commission \(2019\)](#)



BRIEF HISTORY OF INTERPRETABILITY

- 18th and 19th century:
linear regression models (Gauss, Legendre, Quetelet)
- 1940s:
emergence of sensitivity analysis (SA)
- Middle of 20th century:
Rule-based ML, incl. decision rules and decision trees
- 2001:
built-in feature importance measure of random forests
- >2010:
Explainable AI (XAI) for deep learning
- >2015:
IML as an independent field of research



► Carl Friedrich Gauss

► Wikipedia

