ChronicKidney

April 6, 2019

```
In [1]: library(tidyverse)
       library(repr)
       library(caret)
Loading tidyverse: ggplot2
Loading tidyverse: tibble
Loading tidyverse: tidyr
Loading tidyverse: readr
Loading tidyverse: purrr
Loading tidyverse: dplyr
Conflicts with tidy packages ------
filter(): dplyr, stats
lag():
         dplyr, stats
Loading required package: lattice
Attaching package: caret
The following object is masked from package:purrr:
   lift
```

1 Description:

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is the presence of kidney damage, or a decreased level of kidney function, for three months or more (The Kidney Foundation of Canada). To accurately diagnose CKD, a wide variety of blood and urine tests can be performed, and risk factors such as age, diabetes, and coronary heart disease can be useful for determining the progression of disease (Mayo Clinic). Our goal in this research project is to determine of the data variables collected on CKD and non-CKD patients, which variable is the most important in categorizing a CKD vs. non-CKD patient. Chronic Kidney Disease Data Set was collected from Apollo Hospital for a two months ending in July 2015. There are 25 attributes where 11 are numerical variables, and 14 are characteristic variables. (UCI Machine Learning Repository)

2 Reading and tidying data

After loading tidyverse, repr, and caret, we needed to first load our datasets in via the git clone command in our terminal of juptyer:

git clone https://github.com/UBC-DSCI/datasets.git

We use read_csv() to take in the dataset once it is cloned into our Jupyter hub. Let's first take a look at the dataset:

```
Parsed with column specification:
cols(
  .default = col_character(),
  age = col_integer(),
 bp = col_integer(),
  sg = col_double(),
  al = col_integer(),
  su = col_integer(),
  bgr = col_integer(),
  bu = col_double(),
  sc = col_double(),
  sod = col_double(),
 pot = col_double(),
 hemo = col_double(),
 pcv = col_integer(),
 wbcc = col_double(),
  rbcc = col_double()
```

See spec(...) for full column specifications.

rbc ba bgr pcv wbcc rbcc ht age bp al su pcc sg pc 48 1.020 1 NA 121 44 7800 5.2 80 0 normal notpresent notpresent ye 7 50 notpresent 1.020 4 0 NA notpresent NA 38 6000 NA normal no 62 80 1.010 2 3 normal normal notpresent notpresent 423 31 7500 NA no 48 70 1.005 4 0 117 32 6700 3.9 normal abnormal present notpresent ye 51 80 1.010 0 notpresent notpresent 106 35 7300 4.6 normal normal no 90 1.015 3 0 NA 39 7800 NA notpresent notpresent 74 4.4 ye

2.0.1 Problems:

bgr = col_integer(),

- 1) We have NA values in our class column which are not useful to us when we are attempting to train our classifier. We need to remove these first before beginning our analysis.
- 2) In our wbcc column, we need to convert values that are in scientific notation (10e3) to a more readable form (integer).
- 3) We have 11 numerical variables and 14 characteristic variables. Our statistical analysis will only use the numerical variables. As such, we need to separate our data into numerical and characteristic variables. It's possible that we still use the characteristic variables in the training of our dataset downstream.
- 4) Various format changes: we need to scale our data so that our distance calculations are not weighted towards any specific column, we need to convert our class variable to a factor type, and we need to create an NA free data set for our ggpair() analysis

```
In [4]: #Our first step is to read our data through the read_csv() function, and
        kidney <- read_csv('datasets/chronic_kidney_disease/chronic_kidney_disease_full.csv') '
            mutate(class = as.factor(class)) %>%
            #Removed NA values in our class column only
            filter(!is.na(class)) %>%
            mutate(wbcc = as.integer(wbcc)) #changed all scientific notation to integer
        kidney_num <- kidney %>% #Select all of the columns that are numerical data, we will a
            select(-sg, -su, -rbc, -pc, -pcc, -ba, -htn, -dm, -cad, -appet, -pe, -ane)
        kidney_scaled <- kidney_num %>% #We need to now scale the data
            select(-c(age, class)) %>% #Remove the columns that are not numerical data, but co
            scale(center = FALSE)
        kidney_scaled <- data.frame(age = kidney$age, kidney_scaled, class = kidney$class)</pre>
        # kidney_nona will be used with ggpairs
        kidney_nona <- kidney_scaled %>% drop_na()
        #is.factor(kidney$class)
        head(kidney_scaled)
Parsed with column specification:
cols(
  .default = col_character(),
  age = col_integer(),
  bp = col_integer(),
  sg = col_double(),
  al = col_integer(),
  su = col_integer(),
```

```
bu = col_double(),
sc = col_double(),
sod = col_double(),
pot = col_double(),
hemo = col_double(),
pcv = col_integer(),
wbcc = col_double(),
rbcc = col_double()
)
See spec(...) for full column specifications.
```

age	bp	al	bgr	bu	sc	sod	pot	hemo	pcv
48	1.0278113	0.5900968	0.7191124	0.4692584	0.1835944	NA	NA	1.1952734	1.100
7	0.6423821	2.3603874	NA	0.2346292	0.1223963	NA	NA	0.8770512	0.950
62	1.0278113	1.1801937	2.5139220	0.6908526	0.2753916	NA	NA	0.7451055	0.775
48	0.8993349	2.3603874	0.6953401	0.7299575	0.5813823	0.8035411	0.4432017	0.8692897	0.800
51	1.0278113	1.1801937	0.6299663	0.3389088	0.2141935	NA	NA	0.9003358	0.875
60	1.1562878	1.7702905	0.4397878	0.3258739	0.1682949		0.5672982	0.9469049	0.975

3 Choosing variables for classifiers

Now that we have cleaned our data, it is time to provide summary statistics to explore our dataset. Our goal is to narrow our focus on five variables that we believe have an impact on CKD classification. To do this, we will calculate the mean of each numerical variable grouped on CKD classification to compare the difference between CKD and non-CKD patients. The columns that contain the top five differences in our variable group will be used downstream to build our classifiers.

```
In [5]: # typeof(kidney_scaled$bu)
```

```
kidney_means
```

```
# t.test(kidney_scaled$hemo~kidney_scaled$class)
# is.factor(kidney_means$age)
```

variable	ckd	notckd	difference		
age	54.4250000	46.3243243	8.10067568		
al	1.0156475	0.0000000	1.01564745		
sc	0.6778795	0.1330209	0.54485858		
bu	0.9470699	0.4261427	0.52092713		
bgr	1.0431517	0.6402316	0.40292011		
hemo	0.8267734	1.1796961	0.35292262		
pcv	0.8234158	1.1593293	0.33591348		
rbcc	0.8186862	1.1137961	0.29510993		
wbcc	1.0197419	0.8609232	0.15881871		
bp	1.0240326	0.9168147	0.10721791		
pot	0.8656670	0.7700630	0.09560398		
sod	0.9691903	1.0258924	0.05670212		

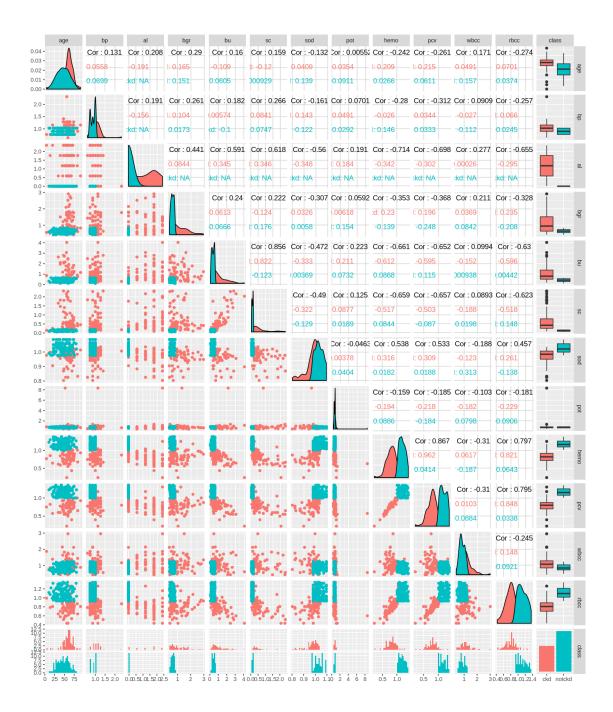
3.0.1 Redirection

We originally chose to find the differences of the means between CKD and non-CKD patients in all of our numerical variables as a means to narrow down our top predictors. However, this method does not take into effect the spread of the data, which could complicate our classifiers if we choose from this chart. Thus, we use ggpairs function to get the graphs and the correlations between the variables and our kidney disease class.

4 Figure 1

GGpair Analysis of numerical variables

```
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```



From the box plot we ranked the differences of the means between CKD and other variables and also considered the distribution of the data by looking at the first and the third quartiles. We compared the distributions to find which pair has the most significant difference to roughly get the top three effective variables: hemo, pcv, rbcc, sod and sc.

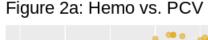
The three graphs below is a scale of the graphs between the variables we have chosen. From the graphs, we find that hemo, pcv and rbcc have obvious relationships with class, but sod and sc may not have strong relationship with class as we expected.

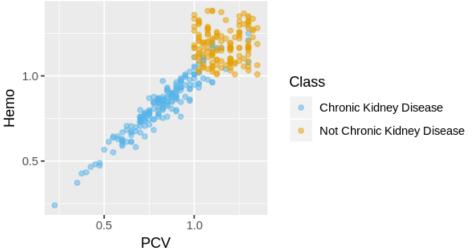
In [22]: #hemo, pcv, rbcc, sod, sc

```
cbPalette <- c("#56B4E9", "#E69F00", "#009E73", "#F0E442", "#0072B2", "#D55E00", "#CC7
options(repr.plot.height = 3, repr.plot.width = 5)
pcv_homo_plot <- kidney_scaled %>%
                       ggplot(aes(x = pcv, y = hemo, colour = class)) +
                       geom_point(alpha = 0.5) +
                       scale_color_manual(name = "Class", labels = c("Chronic Kidney Disease", "Not Chronic Kidney
                       xlab("PCV")+
                       ylab("Hemo") +
                       ggtitle("Figure 2a: Hemo vs. PCV")
pcv_homo_plot
```

Warning message:

Removed 73 rows containing missing values (geom_point).



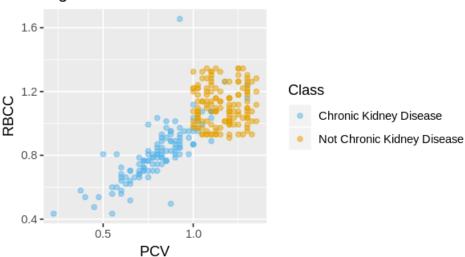


```
In [23]: pcv_rbcc_plot <- kidney_scaled %>%
                                                                                                          ggplot(aes(x = pcv, y = rbcc, colour = class)) +
                                                                                                          geom_point(alpha = 0.5) +
                                                                                                          scale_color_manual(name = "Class", labels = c("Chronic Kidney Disease", "Not Chronic Kidney
                                                                                                          xlab("PCV")+
                                                                                                          ylab("RBCC") +
                                                                                                          ggtitle("Figure 2b: RBCC vs. PCV")
                                                                        pcv_rbcc_plot
```

Warning message:

Removed 135 rows containing missing values (geom_point).

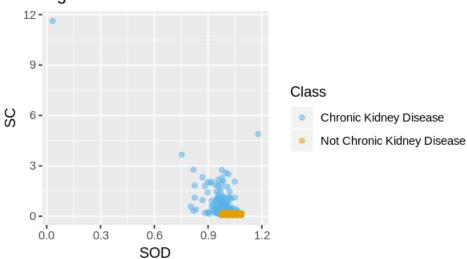
Figure 2b: RBCC vs. PCV



Warning message:

Removed 90 rows containing missing values (geom_point).

Figure 2c: SC vs. SOD



4.0.1 Adding 'albumin'

We chose the nominal variable 'albumin' to use in a classifier as a negative control for numerical variables. From the ggPairs data visualization, we also chose to continue with hemoglobin (hemo), packed cell volume (pcv), and rbcc (red blood cell count (rbcc) in our downstream classification. We also decided to continue with the nominal and numerical variables that shows our top differences in means; Albumin (al) and sc (serum creatine) respectively. Finally, we chose sodium (sod) as a negative control, since it was the variable that had the least difference in means in kidney class.

5 Creating data partitions, training and validation sets, and classifiers

The following cell contains the code for selecting the training rows that will be used to train the classifiers and validation rows against which the classifiers will be tested.

	age	bp		al	bgr	bu	SC	sod	pot	hemo	pcv
94	30	1.0278	113	0	0.4873324	0.5474681	0.1070967	1.056910	0.8864035	1.156466	1.125856
95	79	1.02783	113	0	0.6596817	0.5735380	0.1835944	1.056910	0.6382105	1.265127	1.000760
96	64	0.89933	349	0	0.5764786	0.3519438	0.1070967	1.049671	0.8509473	1.071089	1.225932
97	48	1.02783	113	0	0.4457309	0.2867690	0.1223963	0.991758	0.8864035	1.303935	1.275970
98	41	1.02783	113	0	0.6656247	0.6256778	0.1070967	1.013475	0.8864035	1.319458	1.300989
99	57	1.02783	113	0	0.7904294	0.6256778	0.1835944	1.064149	0.7623070	1.148704	1.150875
age	bp		al		bgr	bu	sc	sod	pot	hemo	pcv
7	0.64	423821	2.36	0387	NA	0.2346292	0.1223963	NA	NA	0.877051	2 0.95072
62	1.02	278113	1.18	0194	2.5139220	0.6908526	0.2753916	NA	NA	0.745105	5 0.77558
51	1.02	278113	1.18	0194	0.6299663	0.3389088	0.2141935	NA	NA	0.900335	8 0.87566
60	1.15	562878	1.77	0291	0.4397878	0.3258739	0.1682949	1.027954	0.5672982	0.946904	9 0.97574
24	NA		1.18	0194	2.4366620	0.4040836	0.1682949	NA	NA	0.962427	9 1.10083
52	1.28	847642	1.77	0291	0.8201448	0.7820973	0.2906911	NA	NA	0.838243	7 0.82562

The cell below contains the code for the training and validation sets for the Hemo variable. Note that the na.omit() is added after the selection of the columns to preserve the columns that have values for the intended variable and class but miss values for other variables.

```
In [12]: set.seed(1234)
         ks = data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         training_hemo_nona <- training_kidney %>%
              select(hemo, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         training_hemo_X <- training_hemo_nona %>%
              select(hemo) %>%
              data.frame()
         {\tt training\_hemo\_Y} \; < - \; {\tt training\_hemo\_nona} \; \% > \%
              select(class) %>%
              unlist()
         val_hemo <- validation_kidney %>%
              select(hemo, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         val_hemo_X <- val_hemo %>%
              select(hemo) %>%
              data.frame()
         val_hemo_Y <- val_hemo %>%
              select(class) %>%
              unlist()
         train_control <- trainControl(method = 'cv', number = 3)</pre>
         hemo_train <- train(x = training_hemo_X, y = training_hemo_Y, method = 'knn', tuneGrice</pre>
         # hemo_train
         k <- data.frame(k = 9)
         hemo_final <- train(x = training_hemo_X, y = training_hemo_Y, method = 'knn', tuneGric
         # hemo_final
```

The following cell contains the code for the RBCC variable classifier. Note that the same strategy for removing missing values is used.

```
training_rm_na <- training_kidney %>%
          select(rbcc, class) %>%
          na.omit()%>%
          data.frame()
      X_rbcc <- training_rm_na %>%
          select(rbcc)%>%
          data.frame()
      Y_rbcc <- training_rm_na %>%
          select(class)%>%
          unlist()
      val_rbcc <- validation_kidney %>%
          select(rbcc, class)%>%
          na.omit()%>%
          data.frame()
      X_val_rbcc <- val_rbcc %>%
          select(rbcc)%>%
          data.frame()
      Y_val_rbcc <- val_rbcc %>%
          select(class)%>%
          unlist()
      rbcc_train <- train(x = X_rbcc, y = Y_rbcc, method = "knn", tuneGrid = ks, trControl</pre>
      # rbcc_train
      k <- data.frame(k = 6)
      rbcc_final <- train(x = X_rbcc, y = Y_rbcc, method = "knn", tuneGrid = k)</pre>
      # rbcc_final
Now the classifier using the PCV variable will be trained.
```

```
In [14]: set.seed(1234)
         #pcv sod, sc
         ks = data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         val_pcv <- validation_kidney %>%
             select(pcv, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         val_pcv_X <- val_pcv %>%
             select(pcv) %>%
             na.omit()
```

```
val_pcv_Y <- val_pcv %>%
    select(class) %>%
    unlist()
training_pcv <- training_kidney %>%
    select(pcv, class) %>%
    na.omit()
training_pcv_X <- training_pcv %>%
    select(pcv) %>%
    data.frame()
training_pcv_Y <- training_pcv %>%
    select(class) %>%
    unlist()
pcv_train <- train(x = training_pcv_X, y = training_pcv_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid =
# pcv_cross
k <- data.frame(k = 45)
pcv_final <- train(x = training_pcv_X, y = training_pcv_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid =</pre>
# pcv_train
```

The following cell will contain the code to train the SOD variable.

```
In [15]: set.seed(1234)
         #pcv sod, sc
         ks = data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         training_sod <- training_kidney %>%
             select(sod, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         training_sod_X <- training_sod %>%
             select(sod) %>%
             data.frame()
         training_sod_Y <- training_sod %>%
             select(class) %>%
             unlist()
         val_sod <- validation_kidney %>%
             select(sod, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         val_sod_X <- val_sod %>%
             select(sod) %>%
             na.omit()
         val_sod_Y <- val_sod %>%
             select(class) %>%
```

```
sod_train <- train(x = training_sod_X, y = training_sod_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid =</pre>
          # sod train
         k <- data.frame(k = 6)
          sod_final <- train(x = training_sod_X, y = training_sod_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid =</pre>
          # sod final
   Lastly, a classifier using the SC variable is trained.
In [16]: set.seed(1234)
         #sc
         ks = data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         \texttt{training\_sc} \; \mathrel{<-} \; \texttt{training\_kidney} \; \% \gt \%
              select(sc, class) %>%
              na.omit()
         training_sc_X <- training_sc %>%
              select(sc) %>%
              data.frame()
         training_sc_Y <- training_sc %>%
              select(class) %>%
              unlist()
         val_sc <- validation_kidney %>%
              select(sc, class) %>%
              na.omit()
         val_sc_X <- val_sc %>%
              select(sc) %>%
              na.omit()
         val_sc_Y <- val_sc %>%
              select(class) %>%
              unlist()
         sc_train <- train(x = training_sc_X, y = training_sc_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid = ks</pre>
          # sc_train
         k <- data.frame(k = 8)</pre>
         sc_final <- train(x = training_sc_X, y = training_sc_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid = k)</pre>
          # sc_final
In [17]: set.seed(1234)
         ks = data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         training_al <- training_kidney %>%
```

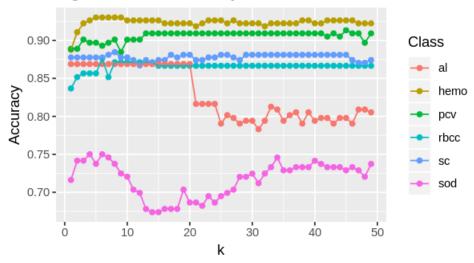
unlist()

```
select(al, class) %>%
    na.omit()
training_al_X <- training_al %>%
    select(al) %>%
    data.frame()
training_al_Y <- training_al %>%
    select(class) %>%
    unlist()
val_al <- validation_kidney %>%
    select(al, class) %>%
    na.omit()
val_al_X <- val_al %>%
    select(al) %>%
    na.omit()
val_al_Y <- val_al %>%
    select(class) %>%
    unlist()
al_train <- train(x = training_al_X, y = training_al_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid = ks
# sc_train
k <- data.frame(k = 8)
al_final <- train(x = training_al_X, y = training_al_Y, method = "knn", tuneGrid = k)
# sc_final
```

For choosing the correct k value for each classifier, we extracted the results of each cross validation, gathered around our k column, and plotted k vs accuracy in a joint graph. In doing so, we can also get a good idea of the relative accuracies from each variable. Each variable was assigned a k value that maximized accuracy, while keeping k as low as possible.

```
select(k,Accuracy)
al_cv <- al_train$results %>%
    select(k,Accuracy)
k_{acc} \leftarrow data.frame(k = seq(1,49),
                     hemo = hemo_cv$Accuracy,
                     pcv = pcv_cv$Accuracy,
                     rbcc = rbcc_cv$Accuracy,
                     sc = sc_cv$Accuracy,
                     sod = sod_cv$Accuracy,
                     al = al_cv$Accuracy)
k_{acc} \leftarrow k_{acc} \%
    gather(key = Class, value = Accuracy, -k)
k_acc_plot <- k_acc %>%
    ggplot(aes(x = k, y = Accuracy, color = Class)) +
    geom_point() +
    geom_line() +
    ggtitle('Figure 3: K vs Accuracy of Cross-Validation')
k_acc_plot
```

Figure 3: K vs Accuracy of Cross-Validation



6 Assessing accuracy of each classifier

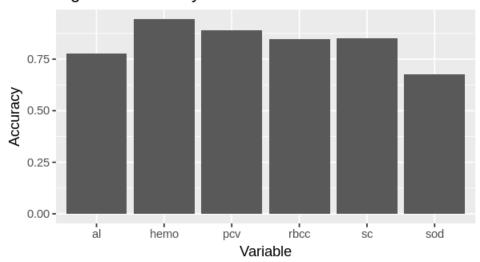
Now that all classifiers have been trained, each classifier's accuracy will be evaluated against the validation set and a measure of accuracy will be given using confusionMatrix.

```
In [19]: set.seed(1234)
         predictions_hemo <- predict(hemo_final, val_hemo_X)</pre>
         results_hemo <- confusionMatrix(predictions_hemo, val_hemo_Y)</pre>
          # results_hemo
         pred_rbcc <- predict(rbcc_final, X_val_rbcc)</pre>
         results_rbcc <- confusionMatrix(pred_rbcc, Y_val_rbcc)</pre>
          # results_rbcc
         predictions_pcv <- predict(pcv_final, val_pcv_X)</pre>
         results_pcv <- confusionMatrix(predictions_pcv, val_pcv_Y)</pre>
          # results_pcv
         predictions_sod <- predict(sod_final, val_sod_X)</pre>
         results_sod <- confusionMatrix(predictions_sod, val_sod_Y)</pre>
          # results_sod
         predictions_sc <- predict(sc_final, val_sc_X)</pre>
         results_sc <- confusionMatrix(predictions_sc, val_sc_Y)</pre>
          # results sc
         predictions_al <- predict(al_final, val_al_X)</pre>
         results_al <- confusionMatrix(predictions_al, val_al_Y)</pre>
```

Using the results of the confusionMatrix, a bar plot of the accuracies of the variables is plotted to demonstrate their relative accuracy.

variable	accuracy			
hemo	0.9431818			
pcv	0.8915663			
sc	0.8510638			
rbcc	0.8461538			
al	0.7764706			
sod	0.6756757			

Figure 4: Accuracy vs. Variable



As a comparison, we were interested in the potential accuracy of a classifier that uses all of our top variables (pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo) to predict the class of kidney disease. We created training, and validation data sets, and performed 3-fold cross validation. After deciding that 17 was our optimal k value, we created the classifer, and tested against the validation set. The accuracy was 100% with no errors in predicting.

```
In [27]: # multivariable classifier using the pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo
    set.seed(1234)
    train_multi <- training_kidney %>%
        select(pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo, class) %>%
        na.omit()

X_train_multi <- train_multi %>%
        select(pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo) %>%
        data.frame()

Y_train_multi <- train_multi %>%
        select(class) %>%
        unlist()

val_multi <- validation_kidney %>%
```

```
select(pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo, class) %>%
             na.omit()
         X_val_multi <- val_multi %>%
             select(pcv, rbcc, sc, sod, hemo) %>%
             data.frame()
         Y_val_multi <- val_multi %>%
             select(class) %>%
             unlist()
         train_control <- trainControl(method = "cv", number = 3)</pre>
         k \leftarrow data.frame(k = seq(1, 49))
         multi_train <- train(x = X_train_multi, y = Y_train_multi, method = "knn", tuneGrid =
         multi_train_k_plot <- multi_train$results %>%
             ggplot(aes(x = k, y = Accuracy)) +
             geom_point() +
             geom_line() +
             ggtitle('Figure 5: K vs Accuracy in Multi-variable Classifier')
         multi_train_k_plot
         k <- data.frame(k = 17)
         multi_final <- train(x = X_train_multi, y = Y_train_multi, method = "knn", tuneGrid =
         predictions_multi <- predict(multi_final, X_val_multi)</pre>
         results_multi <- confusionMatrix(predictions_multi, Y_val_multi)</pre>
         results_multi
Confusion Matrix and Statistics
          Reference
Prediction ckd notckd
    ckd
            20
                    0
    notckd 0
                   32
               Accuracy: 1
                 95% CI: (0.9315, 1)
    No Information Rate: 0.6154
    P-Value [Acc > NIR] : 1.085e-11
                  Kappa: 1
Mcnemar's Test P-Value : NA
            Sensitivity: 1.0000
            Specificity: 1.0000
```

Pos Pred Value : 1.0000 Neg Pred Value : 1.0000 Prevalence : 0.3846

Detection Rate : 0.3846 Detection Prevalence : 0.3846 Balanced Accuracy : 1.0000

'Positive' Class : ckd

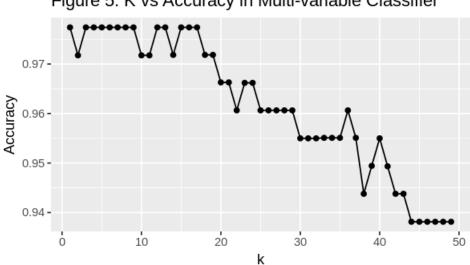


Figure 5: K vs Accuracy in Multi-variable Classifier

7 Discussion

7.1 Results

Our top performing classifiers were our ggPair picked variables, hemo and pcv, with classifier accuracies of 94.3% and 89.1%. Next came our variable with the highest difference in mean, sc, with a classifier accuracy of 85.1%. Rbcc, al, and sod were our lowest performing classifiers with classifier accuracies of 84.6%, 77.6%, and 67.5% respectively. The initial analysis of the ggpairs plot indicated these variables to have a relatively higher correlation to the classification of non-CKD and CKD. The al variable, a categorical variable that was initially ignored, proved to have very good accuracy overall after a classifier was trained on it. The expected accuracy of these classifiers proved to be slightly lower than the actual ones that were measured using the validation sets. Hence these variables did fulfill the expected accuracy. Interestingly, our lone nominal variable (al) was surprisingly effective in classifying chronic kidney disease. We were surprised, considering that albumin can only be one of 4 values, and was initially dismissed as not being an effective variable to train a classifier. Nevertheless, albumin was more effective than sodium in classifying. Our multi-variable classifer performed the best with a 100% validation accuracy. It is unlikely that

it would perform as well as 100% for larger datasets, and the high accuracy can likely be explained by the relatively small dataset.

7.2 Impact

It is well known that characteristics such as hemoglobin, packed cell volume, and rbcc are related to anemia in patients - a hallmark of chronic kidney disease (NIDDK). Albumin and creatine levels are markers of severe kidney failure, and are related to a hypersecretion of these proteins into the serum (kidney.org). Our findings show that certain blood markers such as hemoglobin and packed cell volume should be a higher priority of measuring from potential CKD patients as opposed to variables such as sodium levels and albumin. Ideally, the best case scenario would be to take blood tests for all 25 attributes; however, considering the sparseness of our chronic kidney disease dataset, it appears that different health care professionals prioritize different blood markers. As our world continues to become more data oriented in predicting and diagnosing disease, our findings are an attempt to prioritize and simplify which characteristics are most valuable to have in diagnosing chronic kidney disease.

7.3 Future Questions

Since in this project we did not choose the top five influential variables by ranking the differences of means between CKD and non-CKD patients in all of our numerical variables, we would like to know whether performing a Welch two sample T test be an effective measure of predicting whether variables are important in our classification. Doing so, and arranging the top variables in this manner is a more methodical way of choosing variables to use downstream, as opposed to selecting them by hand. In addition, we know that we can achieve 100% accuracy by training on all six variables; however, it would be still useful to know what combinations of variables are most important in classifying chronic kidney disease. Finally, it would be important to have a larger dataset for testing and validation, as we can properly see whether the classifiers that we built scale well.

7.3.1 REFERENCES

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