## SyriaTel Customer Churn Prediction Model

## 1. Business Understanding

### 1.1 Objectives

The primary objective of this project is to build a predictive model that can identify customers who are likely to stop doing business with **SyriaTel**. By detecting **potential churners** in advance, the company can take proactive measures to retain them, thereby reducing revenue loss and increasing customer lifetime value.

### 1.2 Problem Statement

SyriaTel, a telecommunications company, experiences customer churn, which negatively impacts revenue and business stability. This project aims to analyze customer data to identify key factors influencing churn and develop a machine learning model that can predict churn probability. The insights derived will help SyriaTel implement effective retention strategies.

### **Key Questions**

- 1. What are the primary factors influencing customer churn?
- 2. Can we accurately predict which customers are likely to churn?
- 3. How can SyriaTel use these predictions to design effective retention strategies?
- 4. What are the most cost-effective interventions for reducing churn?
- 5. How does customer service interaction impact churn rates?
- 6. Are there specific usage patterns that correlate strongly with customer retention?

#### 1.3 Metrics of Success

The model's success will be evaluated based on the following metrics:

- **Accuracy**: Measures overall correctness of predictions.
- **Precision**: Ensures that when the model predicts churn, it is correct.
- **Recall (Sensitivity)**: Captures how well the model identifies actual churners.
- F1-Score: Balances precision and recall.
- **ROC-AUC Score**: Evaluates the model's ability to differentiate between churners and non-churners.
- **Business Impact**: Reduction in churn rate and increase in customer retention due to actionable insights.

#### 1.4 External Relevance

- **Industry Benchmarking**: Customer churn prediction is a critical problem in the telecom industry, where retaining an existing customer is cheaper than acquiring a new one.
- **Competitive Advantage**: Implementing a predictive model allows SyriaTel to tailor customer retention strategies, increasing loyalty and reducing costs.
- Customer Satisfaction: Identifying at-risk customers enables personalized interventions such as offers, discounts, or improved services, enhancing the customer

experience.

## 2. Data understanding

### 2.1 Data description

The dataset contains customer-related information that influences their decision to stay or leave their subscription. It contains **3333 records** and **21 features** 

#### Key features include:

- Customer Information: state, account length, area code, phone number
- Subscription Plans: international plan, voice mail plan
- **Usage Metrics:** number vmail messages, total day minutes, total eve minutes, total night minutes, total intl minutes
- Call Records: total day calls, total eve calls, total night calls, total intl calls, customer service calls
- **Billing Details:** total day charge, total eve charge, total night charge, total intl charge
- **Churn Label:** churn (Boolean, True = churned, False = not churned)

#### 2.2 Data Source

The dataset was sourced from a published kaggle dataset

```
In [1]: # importing the libraries
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

from scipy import stats
from scipy.stats import chi2_contingency
```

```
In [2]: # loading the dataset
    df = pd.read_csv('bigml_59c28831336c6604c800002a.csv')
# checking the first records
    df.head()
```

Out[2]:

|   | state | account<br>length | area<br>code | phone<br>number | international<br>plan | voice<br>mail<br>plan | number<br>vmail<br>messages | total<br>day<br>minutes | total<br>day<br>calls | tol<br>d<br>char |
|---|-------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 0 | KS    | 128               | 415          | 382-<br>4657    | no                    | yes                   | 25                          | 265.1                   | 110                   | 45.              |
| 1 | ОН    | 107               | 415          | 371-<br>7191    | no                    | yes                   | 26                          | 161.6                   | 123                   | 27.              |
| 2 | NJ    | 137               | 415          | 358-<br>1921    | no                    | no                    | 0                           | 243.4                   | 114                   | 41.              |
| 3 | ОН    | 84                | 408          | 375-<br>9999    | yes                   | no                    | 0                           | 299.4                   | 71                    | 50.              |
| 4 | OK    | 75                | 415          | 330-<br>6626    | yes                   | no                    | 0                           | 166.7                   | 113                   | 28.              |

### 2.3 Statistical Summary

# checking the dataset description

df.describe().T

In [5]:

```
In [3]: # checking the dataset info and their datatype
        df.info()
       <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
       RangeIndex: 3333 entries, 0 to 3332
       Data columns (total 21 columns):
                                      Non-Null Count Dtype
            Column
            -----
       - - -
                                      -----
                                                      ----
        0
                                                      object
            state
                                     3333 non-null
        1
            account length
                                     3333 non-null int64
        2
                                     3333 non-null int64
            area code
                                     3333 non-null
        3
            phone number
                                                      object
        4
            international plan
                                    3333 non-null
                                                      object
        5
            voice mail plan
                                     3333 non-null
                                                      object
            number vmail messages 3333 non-null
        6
                                                      int64
        7
            total day minutes 3333 non-null float64
        8
            total day calls
                                    3333 non-null int64
            total day charge
                                   3333 non-null
3333 non-null
                                     3333 non-null
        9
                                                      float64
        10 total eve minutes
                                                      float64
        11 total eve calls
                                    3333 non-null int64
        12 total eve charge 3333 non-null float64
13 total night minutes 3333 non-null float64
14 total night calls 3333 non-null int64
        15 total night charge 3333 non-null float64
        16 total intl minutes
                                    3333 non-null float64
        17 total intl calls
                                     3333 non-null
                                                      int64
        18 total intl charge
                                     3333 non-null float64
        19 customer service calls 3333 non-null
                                                      int64
        20 churn
                                     3333 non-null
                                                      bool
       dtypes: bool(1), float64(8), int64(8), object(4)
       memory usage: 524.2+ KB
In [4]: df.columns
Out[4]: Index(['state', 'account length', 'area code', 'phone number',
                 'international plan', 'voice mail plan', 'number vmail messages',
                'total day minutes', 'total day calls', 'total day charge', 'total eve minutes', 'total eve calls', 'total eve charge',
                'total night minutes', 'total night calls', 'total night charge',
                 'total intl minutes', 'total intl calls', 'total intl charge',
                 'customer service calls', 'churn'],
               dtype='object')
```

|             |                     | count  | mean       | std       | min    | 25%    | 50%    | <b>75</b> % | max    |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|
| a           | ccount<br>length    | 3333.0 | 101.064806 | 39.822106 | 1.00   | 74.00  | 101.00 | 127.00      | 243.00 |
| are         | ea code             | 3333.0 | 437.182418 | 42.371290 | 408.00 | 408.00 | 415.00 | 510.00      | 510.00 |
| numbe<br>me | r vmail<br>ssages   | 3333.0 | 8.099010   | 13.688365 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 20.00       | 51.00  |
|             | tal day<br>ninutes  | 3333.0 | 179.775098 | 54.467389 | 0.00   | 143.70 | 179.40 | 216.40      | 350.80 |
| total da    | ay calls            | 3333.0 | 100.435644 | 20.069084 | 0.00   | 87.00  | 101.00 | 114.00      | 165.00 |
|             | tal day<br>charge   | 3333.0 | 30.562307  | 9.259435  | 0.00   | 24.43  | 30.50  | 36.79       | 59.64  |
|             | tal eve<br>ninutes  | 3333.0 | 200.980348 | 50.713844 | 0.00   | 166.60 | 201.40 | 235.30      | 363.70 |
| total ev    | e calls             | 3333.0 | 100.114311 | 19.922625 | 0.00   | 87.00  | 100.00 | 114.00      | 170.00 |
|             | tal eve<br>charge   | 3333.0 | 17.083540  | 4.310668  | 0.00   | 14.16  | 17.12  | 20.00       | 30.91  |
|             | al night<br>ninutes | 3333.0 | 200.872037 | 50.573847 | 23.20  | 167.00 | 201.20 | 235.30      | 395.00 |
| tota        | al night<br>calls   | 3333.0 | 100.107711 | 19.568609 | 33.00  | 87.00  | 100.00 | 113.00      | 175.00 |
|             | al night<br>charge  | 3333.0 | 9.039325   | 2.275873  | 1.04   | 7.52   | 9.05   | 10.59       | 17.77  |
| _           | tal intl<br>ninutes | 3333.0 | 10.237294  | 2.791840  | 0.00   | 8.50   | 10.30  | 12.10       | 20.00  |
| total in    | tl calls            | 3333.0 | 4.479448   | 2.461214  | 0.00   | 3.00   | 4.00   | 6.00        | 20.00  |
|             | tal intl<br>charge  | 3333.0 | 2.764581   | 0.753773  | 0.00   | 2.30   | 2.78   | 3.27        | 5.40   |
|             | stomer<br>ce calls  | 3333.0 | 1.562856   | 1.315491  | 0.00   | 1.00   | 1.00   | 2.00        | 9.00   |

## 2.3 Data quality assesment

### 2.3.1 Completeness

### Strengths:

Out[5]:

 Most key customer attributes, such as account length, total day minutes, and total intl calls, are well-populated.

• Churn labels are available for all records, ensuring a clear classification problem.

#### Weaknesses:

- Some features like voice mail plan and international plan may have missing or ambiguous entries.
- Potential missing values in customer service calls, which might impact churn predictions.

### 2.3.2 Accuracy

#### Strengths:

- Billing-related attributes like total day charge and total intl charge are likely accurate due to automated systems.
- Usage-based features such as total day minutes and total eve minutes reflect real customer interactions.

#### Weaknesses:

- state might contain inconsistencies due to data entry errors.
- Customer-reported features like customer service calls may be subject to human error or misreporting.

#### 2.3.3 Relevance

#### Strengths:

- Most features are directly linked to customer behavior and service usage, making them relevant for churn prediction.
- total day minutes and total intl minutes likely indicate engagement levels, which impact churn likelihood.

#### Weaknesses:

- Some categorical features like state may have minimal impact on churn prediction and require evaluation.
- The area code might not be a significant predictor of churn and could introduce noise into the model.

### 2.4 Next steps?

### 1. Data Cleaning

- Checking and handling missing values using imputation techniques (mean, median, or mode).
- Remove or transform outliers to improve model robustness.

### 2. Feature Engineering

- Create new features such as "average monthly spend" or "customer engagement score."
- Normalize/scale numerical features for better model performance.
- Encode categorical variables using One-Hot Encoding or Label Encoding.
- Address class imbalance using SMOTE (Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique) if needed.

#### 3. EDA

- Perform univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analysis to understand distributions and relationships.
- Visualize data using histograms, boxplots, correlation matrices, and pair plots.
- Identify trends, anomalies, and potential data transformation needs.

## 3. Data Preparation

### 3.1 Data Cleaning

#### 3.1.1 Missing Values

 Checking and handling missing values using imputation techniques (mean, median, or mode).

```
Out[6]: state
                                        0
          account length
                                        0
                                        0
          area code
          phone number
                                        0
          international plan
                                      0
          voice mail plan
                                      0
          \begin{array}{ll} \text{number vmail messages} & \textbf{0} \\ \text{total day minutes} & \textbf{0} \end{array}
                                     0
          total day calls
          total day charge
                                      0
          total eve minutes
          total eve calls
                                      0
          total eve charge
          total night minutes 0
total night coll
          total night calls
                                      0
          total night charge    0
total intl minutes    0
                                      0
          total intl calls
          total intl charge 0
          customer service calls 0
                                        0
          churn
          dtype: int64
```

### No missing values spotted

#### 3.1.2 Outliers

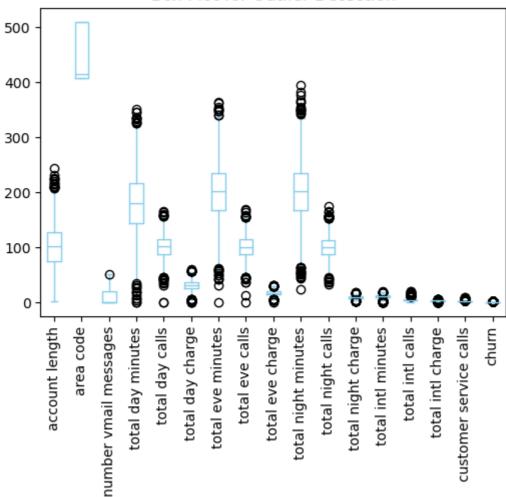
• Remove or transform outliers to improve model robustness.

```
In [7]: # checking for outliers using box plot visually

# Create a box plot for all numerical values
plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))

df.boxplot(rot=90, grid=False, color='skyblue')
plt.title("Box Plot for Outlier Detection")
plt.show()
```

### Box Plot for Outlier Detection



**To note**: Features like account length, total day minutes, total evening minutes and total night minutes have a high number of outliers

```
In [8]:
        # checking for outliers using z-score
        z_scores = np.abs(stats.zscore(df.select_dtypes(include=['number'])))
        outliers = (z_scores > 3)
        # Count of outliers per column
        outliers.sum(axis=0)
                                     7
Out[8]:
        account length
                                     0
         area code
         number vmail messages
                                     3
         total day minutes
                                     9
                                     9
         total day calls
         total day charge
                                     9
                                     9
         total eve minutes
         total eve calls
                                     7
                                     9
         total eve charge
         total night minutes
                                    11
         total night calls
                                     6
         total night charge
                                    11
         total intl minutes
                                    22
         total intl calls
                                    50
                                    22
         total intl charge
                                    35
         customer service calls
         dtype: int64
```

**To Note**: Since there are **features** with outliers but are still **important** for our model, we are not going to drop them so that our model can perform well

#### 3.1.3 Columns

· Removing white spaces in the columns

### 3.1.4 Droping unecessary columns

• Droping columns like phone number which is not helpful in training our model

```
In [10]: # droping the unnecessary column
df = df.drop(columns=['phone_number'], axis=1)
df.head()
```

| Out[10]: |   | state | account_length | area_code | international_plan | voice_mail_plan | number_vmail |
|----------|---|-------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|          | 0 | KS    | 128            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 1 | ОН    | 107            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 2 | NJ    | 137            | 415       | no                 | no              |              |
|          | 3 | ОН    | 84             | 408       | yes                | no              |              |
|          | 4 | OK    | 75             | 415       | yes                | no              |              |

### 3.2 Feature Engineering

#### 3.2.1 New features

• Creating new features such as "average monthly spend" and "customer engagement score" and replacing state codes with its names.

```
In [11]: # creating average monthly spend feature
    df["average_monthly_spend"] = (df["total_day_charge"] + df["total_eve_charge"] + df["
    df.head()
```

| Out[11]: |   | state | account_length | area_code | international_plan | voice_mail_plan | number_vmail |
|----------|---|-------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|          | 0 | KS    | 128            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 1 | ОН    | 107            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 2 | NJ    | 137            | 415       | no                 | no              |              |
|          | 3 | ОН    | 84             | 408       | yes                | no              |              |
|          | 4 | OK    | 75             | 415       | yes                | no              |              |

5 rows × 21 columns

```
In [12]: # creating customer engagement score
df["customer_engagement_score"] = (df["total_day_minutes"] * 0.4 +
```

```
df["total_eve_minutes"] * 0.3 +
    df["total_night_minutes"] * 0.1 +
    df["total_intl_minutes"] * 0.2 +
    df["number_vmail_messages"] * 0.2 -
    df["customer_service_calls"] * 0.3)
df.head()
```

#### state account length area\_code international\_plan voice\_mail\_plan number\_vmail Out[12]: 0 KS 128 415 yes 1 OH 107 415 no yes 2 NJ 137 415 nο nο 3 ОН 84 408 yes no 4 OK 75 415 yes no

5 rows × 22 columns

| Out[13]: |   | state | account_length | area_code | international_plan | voice_mail_plan | number_vmail |
|----------|---|-------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|          | 0 | KS    | 128            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 1 | ОН    | 107            | 415       | no                 | yes             |              |
|          | 2 | NJ    | 137            | 415       | no                 | no              |              |
|          | 3 | ОН    | 84             | 408       | yes                | no              |              |
|          | 4 | OK    | 75             | 415       | yes                | no              |              |

5 rows × 22 columns

```
In [14]: # changing state codes with names
state_mapping = {
    "AL": "Alabama", "AK": "Alaska", "AZ": "Arizona", "AR": "Arkansas", "CA": "Califo
    "CO": "Colorado", "CT": "Connecticut", "DE": "Delaware", "FL": "Florida", "GA": "
    "HI": "Hawaii", "ID": "Idaho", "IL": "Illinois", "IN": "Indiana", "IA": "Iowa",
    "KS": "Kansas", "KY": "Kentucky", "LA": "Louisiana", "ME": "Maine", "MD": "Maryla
    "MA": "Massachusetts", "MI": "Michigan", "MN": "Minnesota", "MS": "Mississippi",
    "MT": "Montana", "NE": "Nebraska", "NV": "Nevada", "NH": "New Hampshire", "NJ": "
    "NM": "New Mexico", "NY": "New York", "NC": "North Carolina", "ND": "North Dakota
    "OK": "Oklahoma", "OR": "Oregon", "PA": "Pennsylvania", "RI": "Rhode Island", "SC
    "SD": "South Dakota", "TN": "Tennessee", "TX": "Texas", "UT": "Utah", "VT": "Verm
    "VA": "Virginia", "WA": "Washington", "WV": "West Virginia", "WI": "Wisconsin", "
```

```
In [15]: # maping the names to the codes
    df["state"] = df["state"].map(state_mapping)

    df.head()
```

| Out[15]: |   | state         | account_length | area_code | international_plan | voice_mail_plan | number_v |
|----------|---|---------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
|          | 0 | Kansas        | 128            | 415       | no                 | yes             |          |
|          | 1 | Ohio          | 107            | 415       | no                 | yes             |          |
|          | 2 | New<br>Jersey | 137            | 415       | no                 | no              |          |
|          | 3 | Ohio          | 84             | 408       | yes                | no              |          |
|          | 4 | Oklahoma      | 75             | 415       | yes                | no              |          |

5 rows × 22 columns

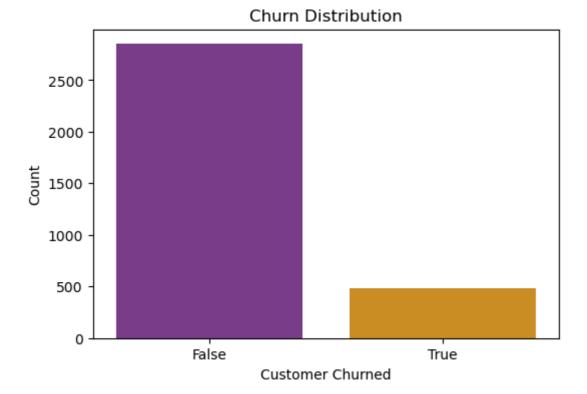
```
In [16]: # saving the cleaned dataset in another file
    df.to_csv("cleaned_churn_dataset.csv", index=False)
```

### 3.3 EDA

plt.show()

### 3.3.1 Univariate Analysis

```
• A univariate analysis on the churn outcome
In [17]: # checking the number of categories the column has
         df['churn'].value_counts()
Out[17]: churn
         False
                   2850
         True
                    483
         Name: count, dtype: int64
In [18]: # checking how the data is distributed and if it is imbalanced
         df['churn'].value_counts(normalize=True) *100
Out[18]: churn
         False
                   85.508551
         True
                   14.491449
         Name: proportion, dtype: float64
In [19]: # ploting the churn distribution using seaborn and plotlib
         plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
         #ploting a count plot
         sns.countplot(x=df["churn"], palette="CMRmap")
         plt.title("Churn Distribution")
         plt.xlabel("Customer Churned")
         plt.ylabel("Count")
```



**To Note**: The data is clearly imbalanced with **85.51%** of the sample did **not churn** and **14.49%** of the sample **churned**.

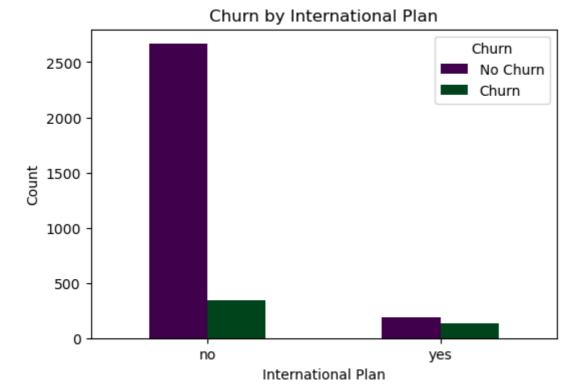
### 3.3.2 Multivariate analysis

- Comparing how the **international plan** affected the churn of the customer
- Checking how the average monthly spend of a customer affected the churn
- Checking if the **state** a customer is from affects the churn

```
In [20]: # Comparing how the international plan affected the churn of the customer
# Grouping the data
churn_counts = df.groupby("international_plan")["churn"].value_counts().unstack()

# Plotting
churn_counts.plot(kind="bar", figsize=(6,4), colormap="PRGn")

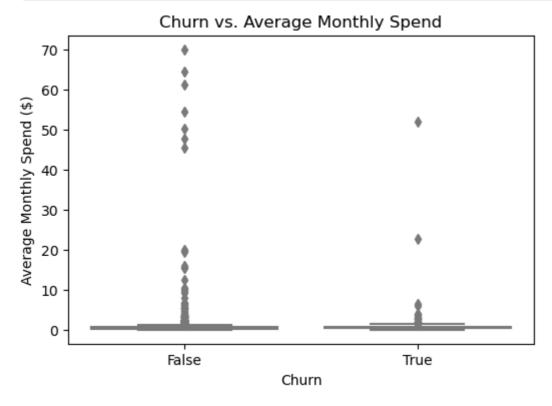
# Labels
plt.title("Churn by International Plan")
plt.xlabel("International Plan")
plt.ylabel("Count")
plt.legend(title="Churn", labels=["No Churn", "Churn"])
plt.xticks(rotation=0)
plt.show()
```



**To Note**: Customers with International plan still had a smaller amount of no churn to churn turnout. Though from the data imbalance we can definitely see that there was still a higher turnout of churn customers with an international plan

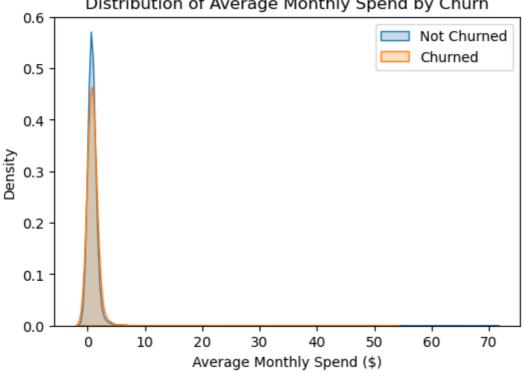
```
In [21]: # Checking how the average monthly spend of a customer affected the churn
plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
sns.boxplot(x="churn", y="average_monthly_spend", data=df, palette="coolwarm")

plt.title("Churn vs. Average Monthly Spend")
plt.xlabel("Churn")
plt.ylabel("Average Monthly Spend ($)")
plt.show()
```

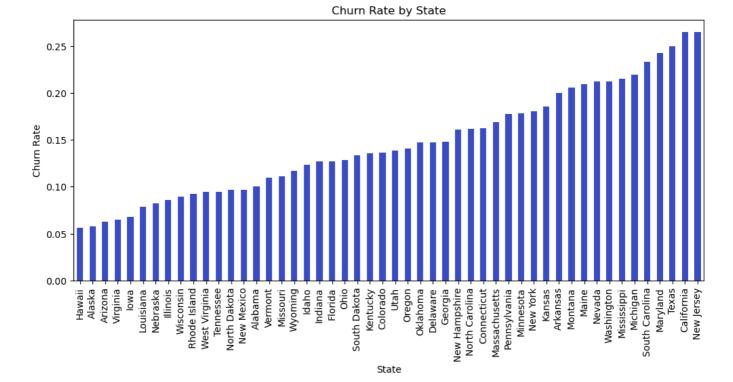


```
In [22]: plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
    sns.kdeplot(df[df["churn"] == 0]["average_monthly_spend"], label="Not Churned", shade
    sns.kdeplot(df[df["churn"] == 1]["average_monthly_spend"], label="Churned", shade=Tru
```

```
plt.title("Distribution of Average Monthly Spend by Churn")
 plt.xlabel("Average Monthly Spend ($)")
 plt.ylabel("Density")
 plt.legend()
 plt.show()
/tmp/ipykernel 99623/1705903778.py:2: FutureWarning:
`shade` is now deprecated in favor of `fill`; setting `fill=True`.
This will become an error in seaborn v0.14.0; please update your code.
  sns.kdeplot(df[df["churn"] == 0]["average monthly spend"], label="Not Churned", shad
e=True)
/home/bev/anaconda3/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/ oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarni
ng: use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Conver
t inf values to NaN before operating instead.
 with pd.option context('mode.use inf as na', True):
/tmp/ipykernel_99623/1705903778.py:3: FutureWarning:
`shade` is now deprecated in favor of `fill`; setting `fill=True`.
This will become an error in seaborn v0.14.0; please update your code.
  sns.kdeplot(df[df["churn"] == 1]["average_monthly_spend"], label="Churned", shade=Tr
ue)
/home/bev/anaconda3/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/ oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarni
ng: use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Conver
t inf values to NaN before operating instead.
 with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
          Distribution of Average Monthly Spend by Churn
```



**To Note:** The average monthly spend does not really affect the churn rate of a customer.





**To Note**: States like **Carlifornia, Texas and New Jersey** have a highest churn rate due to different factors. Could be competition from other service networks, service quality, pricing differences etc.

```
In [25]: # Lets do a hypothesis test to see if the state significantly affects the churn rate
    # Create a contingency table (frequency of churn per state)
    contingency_table = pd.crosstab(df["state"], df["churn"])

alpha = 0.5
    # Perform Chi-Square Test
    chi2, p, dof, expected = chi2_contingency(contingency_table)

print(f"Chi-Square Test p-value: {p}")

if p < alpha:
    print('The churn rate significantly depends on the State the customer is from.')
else:
    print('The churn rate does not significantly depend on the State the customer is</pre>
```

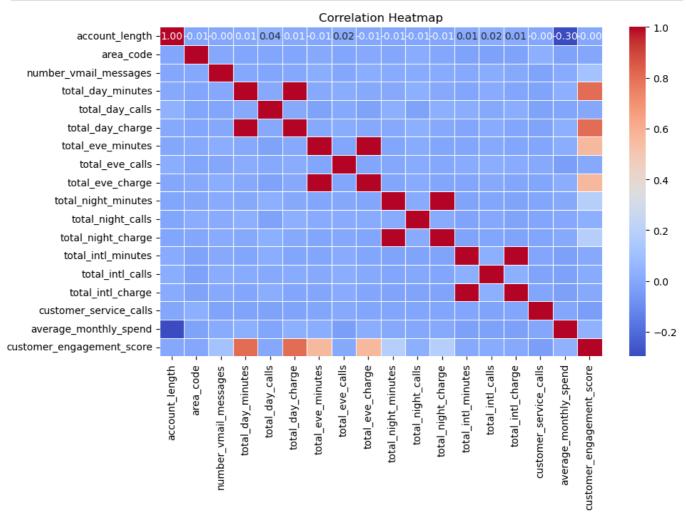
Chi-Square Test p-value: 0.0024733134842029442
The churn rate significantly depends on the State the customer is from.

### 3.3.3 Multivariate Analysis

Correlation between the features

```
In [26]: # heat map to show the correlation of the features
# Select only numeric columns
numeric_df = df.select_dtypes(include=["number"])
# Compute correlation
plt.figure(figsize=(10,6))
```

```
sns.heatmap(numeric_df.corr(), annot=True, cmap="coolwarm", fmt=".2f", linewidths=0.5
plt.title("Correlation Heatmap")
plt.show()
```



**To Note**: Features like total\_day\_minutes, total\_day\_charge and total\_eve\_charge have a high correlation with the customer engagement which means it is highly significant to the churn turn out.

## 4. Modeling

### 4.1 Rationale for Using Machine Learning

Machine learning is chosen for this analysis because:

- **Pattern Recognition:** Traditional statistical methods may not effectively capture the complex relationships between customer behaviors and churn.
- **Predictive Power:** ML models can generalize patterns from historical data to predict churn probabilities for new customers.
- **Feature Interaction Handling:** Advanced models such as Random Forest and Gradient Boosting can capture interactions between multiple features, something simpler analysis might miss.

This dataset, cleaned\_churn\_dataset.csv, contains a mix of categorical and numerical variables, making supervised learning a suitable approach for classification. By iterating between different models, we can assess their effectiveness and refine the approach.

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder, StandardScaler
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
from xgboost import XGBClassifier
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, classification_report, confusion_matrix
from imblearn.over_sampling import SMOTE
```

## Steps to building and training our model

### Step 1: Define the X(predictive) and y(target) variables

- We have to encode all the categorical features in our dataset before training.
- Churn column will be the y variable for our case.

```
In [28]: # selecting columns with categorical values
         categorical_columns = df.select_dtypes(include=['object']).columns
         categorical columns
Out[28]: Index(['state', 'international_plan', 'voice_mail_plan'], dtype='object')
In [29]: # feature encoding with one hot encoding
         # initializing the encoder
         encoder = OneHotEncoder(drop="first", sparse output=False)
         # fiting and transforming the columns
         encoded col = encoder.fit transform(df[categorical columns])
         encoded col
Out[29]: array([[0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 1.],
                 [0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 1.],
                 [0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 0.]
                 [0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 0.]
                 [0., 0., 0., \ldots, 0., 1., 0.],
                 [0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 1.]]
In [30]: # we then convert the array to fit our dataset
         encoded df = encoded df = pd.DataFrame(encoded col, columns=encoder.get feature names
         # we define our df again by concatinating with the encoded dataframe
         df = pd.concat([df.drop(columns=categorical columns), encoded df], axis=1)
         df.head()
```

# Out[30]: account\_length area\_code number\_vmail\_messages total\_day\_minutes total\_day\_ca

| 0 | 128 | 415 | 25 | 265.1 | 1 |
|---|-----|-----|----|-------|---|
| 1 | 107 | 415 | 26 | 161.6 | 1 |
| 2 | 137 | 415 | 0  | 243.4 | 1 |
| 3 | 84  | 408 | 0  | 299.4 |   |
| 4 | 75  | 415 | 0  | 166.7 | 1 |

 $5 \text{ rows} \times 71 \text{ columns}$ 

```
In [31]: # getting the churn column as our last column in our dataframe
if 'churn' in df.columns:
```

```
churn_column = df.pop("churn")
df["churn"] = churn_column

df.head()
```

| Out[31]: |   | account_length | area_code | number_vmail_messages | total_day_minutes | total_day_ca |
|----------|---|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|          | 0 | 128            | 415       | 25                    | 265.1             | 1            |
|          | 1 | 107            | 415       | 26                    | 161.6             | 1            |
|          | 2 | 137            | 415       | 0                     | 243.4             | 1            |
|          | 3 | 84             | 408       | 0                     | 299.4             |              |
|          | 4 | 75             | 415       | 0                     | 166.7             | 1            |

 $5 \text{ rows} \times 71 \text{ columns}$ 

```
In [32]: # converting our churn feature to a numerical type
df["churn"] = df["churn"].astype(int)

df.head()
```

| Out[32]: |   | account_length | area_code | number_vmail_messages | total_day_minutes | total_day_ca |
|----------|---|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| ,        | 0 | 128            | 415       | 25                    | 265.1             | 1            |
|          | 1 | 107            | 415       | 26                    | 161.6             | 1            |
|          | 2 | 137            | 415       | 0                     | 243.4             | 1            |
|          | 3 | 84             | 408       | 0                     | 299.4             |              |
|          | 4 | 75             | 415       | 0                     | 166.7             | 1            |

5 rows × 71 columns

```
In [33]: # now that all our features and target variables are numerical, we can initialize our
X = df.drop(columns=['churn'], axis=1)
y = df['churn']
```

```
In [34]: X.shape
```

Out[34]: (3333, 70)

In [35]: y.shape

Out[35]: (3333,)

### Step 2: Spliting the data using train\_test\_split

- Spliting the data to train and testing data.
- Handle the class imbalance that we discovered when cleaning using SMOTE.

The dataset was **highly imbalanced** with **85%** of the sample being classified as **not churned**.

 Transforming the data using a standard scaler before using it to train and test the model.

```
In [36]: # using train_test_split to split the dataset
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2, random_state
```

```
In [37]: # handling class imbalance using smote
         #initializing smote
         smote = SMOTE(random state=42)
         # applying smote to the traiing data
         X train smote, y train smote = smote.fit resample(X train, y train)
In [38]: # checking class distribution after balancing
         pd.Series(y train smote).value counts()
Out[38]: churn
              2284
              2284
         Name: count, dtype: int64
In [39]: # fitting and transforming the training and testing data
         # initializing the scaler
         scaler = StandardScaler()
         X train scaled = scaler.fit transform(X train smote)
         X_test_scaled = scaler.transform(X_test)
```

### Step 3: Bulding and training our models

- Build a logistic regression model and train it.
- · Build a random forest model and train it.
- · Build a Decision Tree Classifier model and train it.
- Build a Gradient boost optimized model and train it.

### **Selected Models and Justification**

### 1. Logistic Regression (Baseline Model)

- · Why?
  - It serves as a baseline for comparison.
  - It is simple, interpretable, and efficient.
  - It outputs probability scores, helping assess churn likelihood.

#### · Limitations:

- Assumes linear relationships between features.
- Might underperform if the data is highly non-linear.

### 2. Decision Tree Classifier (Simple Non-Linear Model)

- · Why?
  - Captures non-linear relationships better than Logistic Regression.
  - It provides clear feature importance, aiding business insights.
  - Simple to interpret.

#### Limitations:

- Prone to overfitting unless tuned properly.
- Less robust compared to ensemble methods.

### 3. Random Forest Classifier (Ensemble Learning)

- · Why?
  - Reduces overfitting by averaging multiple Decision Trees.
  - Handles missing data and outliers better than a single tree.

Useful for feature importance ranking.

#### Limitations:

- More computationally expensive than a single Decision Tree.
- Slightly less interpretable compared to simpler models.

### 4. Gradient Boosting (XGBoost)

- Why?
  - Best suited for structured data.
  - Reduces bias and variance by iteratively improving predictions.
  - Highly tunable for maximizing performance.

#### Limitations:

- Requires careful tuning for best results.
- Computationally intensive.

### 1. Logistic Regression Model

```
In [40]:
         # initializing our model
         lrm = LogisticRegression(random state=42)
         # training our model
         logistic_reg = lrm.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train_smote)
         logistic_reg
Out[40]:
                   LogisticRegression
         LogisticRegression(random_state=42)
         Checking our Logistic Regression Model performance
         # predicting our target using X test data
         lrm y predicted = logistic reg.predict(X test scaled)
         lrm_y_predicted.shape
Out[41]: (667,)
In [42]:
         # checking performance using Accuracy score
         lrm_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, lrm_y_predicted)
         # output of the accuracy
         print(f'The accuracy of the Logistic Regression Model is at {lrm_accuracy * 100} %')
        The accuracy of the Logistic Regression Model is at 77.06146926536732 %
In [43]:
         # checking performance using the confusion matrix
         lrm_confusion_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, lrm_y_predicted)
```

index=["Actual No Churn", "Actual Churn"],

columns=["Predicted No Churn", "Predicted Churn"])

```
Predicted No Churn Predicted Churn
Actual No Churn 441 125
Actual Churn 28 73
```

print(lrm\_cm\_df)

# printing the infor in an understandable manner
lrm cm df = pd.DataFrame(lrm confusion matrix,

```
In [44]: # checking the performance using the classification report
lrm_cr = classification_report(y_test, lrm_y_predicted)
print(lrm_cr)

precision recall f1-score support
```

|                                       | precision    | recall       | f1-score             | support           |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 0<br>1                                | 0.94<br>0.37 | 0.78<br>0.72 | 0.85<br>0.49         | 566<br>101        |
| accuracy<br>macro avg<br>weighted avg | 0.65<br>0.85 | 0.75<br>0.77 | 0.77<br>0.67<br>0.80 | 667<br>667<br>667 |

Overally we can say that this model performed okay.

#### 2. Decision Tree Classifier Model

```
In [45]: # initializing our model
dtc = DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=42)

# training our model
dtc_model = dtc.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train_smote)
dtc_model
```

### Checking our Decision Tree Classifier Model performance

```
In [46]: # predicting our target using X_test data
    dtc_y_predicted = dtc_model.predict(X_test_scaled)
    dtc_y_predicted.shape

Out[46]: (667,)

In [47]: # checking performance using Accuracy score
    dtc_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, dtc_y_predicted)
    # output of the accuracy
    print(f'The accuracy of the Decision Tree Model is at {dtc_accuracy * 100} %')

The accuracy of the Decision Tree Model is at 91.00449775112443 %
```

```
Predicted No Churn Predicted Churn
Actual No Churn 528 38
Actual Churn 22 79
```

```
In [49]: # checking the performance using the classification report
dtc_cr = classification_report(y_test, dtc_y_predicted)
```

```
print(dtc cr)
             precision recall f1-score support
          0
                  0.96
                           0.93
                                     0.95
                                                566
          1
                  0.68
                           0.78
                                     0.72
                                                101
                                     0.91
                                                667
   accuracy
                 0.82
                           0.86
                                     0.84
                                                667
   macro avg
weighted avg
                  0.92
                            0.91
                                     0.91
                                                667
```

**To Note**: The Decision Tree Model performed better than the Logistic Regression Model.

### 3. Random Forest Classifier (Ensemble Learning)

```
In [50]:
         # initializing the model
         rfc = RandomForestClassifier()
         # training the model
         rfc_model = rfc.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train_smote)
         rfc_model
RandomForestClassifier()
         Checking the Random Forest Classifier Model Performance
In [51]:
         # predicting our target using X_test data
         rfc_y_predicted = rfc_model.predict(X_test_scaled)
         rfc_y_predicted.shape
Out[51]: (667,)
In [52]: # checking performance using Accuracy score
         rfc_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, rfc_y_predicted)
         # output of the accuracy
         print(f'The accuracy of the Random Forest Model is at {rfc accuracy * 100} %')
        The accuracy of the Random Forest Model is at 95.05247376311844 %
In [53]:
         # checking performance using the confusion matrix
         rfc_confusion_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, rfc_y_predicted)
         # printing the infor in an understandable manner
         rfc_cm_df = pd.DataFrame(rfc_confusion_matrix,
                             index=["Actual No Churn", "Actual Churn"],
                             columns=["Predicted No Churn", "Predicted Churn"])
         print(rfc cm df)
                        Predicted No Churn Predicted Churn
        Actual No Churn
                                       558
                                                         8
        Actual Churn
                                        25
                                                        76
```

In [55]: # checking the performance using the classification report

print(rfc cr)

rfc cr = classification report(y test, rfc y predicted)

|              | precision | recall | f1-score | support |
|--------------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| 0            | 0.96      | 0.99   | 0.97     | 566     |
| 1            | 0.90      | 0.75   | 0.82     | 101     |
| accuracy     |           |        | 0.95     | 667     |
| macro avg    | 0.93      | 0.87   | 0.90     | 667     |
| weighted avg | 0.95      | 0.95   | 0.95     | 667     |

**To Note**: The RFC performed a little better than the Decision Tree Classifier Model.

### 4. Gradient Boosting Model with XGBoost

In [56]: # initializing our model

```
In [57]: # getting the default parameters used in this model
    print(xgb_model.get_params())
```

{'objective': 'binary:logistic', 'base\_score': None, 'booster': None, 'callbacks': None, 'colsample\_bylevel': None, 'colsample\_bynode': None, 'colsample\_bytree': None, 'dev ice': None, 'early\_stopping\_rounds': None, 'enable\_categorical': False, 'eval\_metric': None, 'feature\_types': None, 'gamma': None, 'grow\_policy': None, 'importance\_type': None, 'interaction\_constraints': None, 'learning\_rate': None, 'max\_bin': None, 'max\_cat\_threshold': None, 'max\_cat\_to\_onehot': None, 'max\_delta\_step': None, 'max\_depth': None, 'max\_leaves': None, 'min\_child\_weight': None, 'missing': nan, 'monotone\_constraints': None, 'multi\_strategy': None, 'n\_estimators': None, 'n\_jobs': None, 'num\_parallel\_tree': None, 'random\_state': 42, 'reg\_alpha': None, 'reg\_lambda': None, 'sampling\_method': None, 'scale\_pos\_weight': None, 'subsample': None, 'tree\_method': None, 'validate\_parameters': None, 'verbosity': None}

gamma=None, grow\_policy=None, importance\_type=None,

interaction\_constraints=None, learning\_rate=None, max\_bin=Non

#### Checking the XGB model performance

```
In [58]: # predicting our target using X_test data
xgb_y_predicted = xgb_model.predict(X_test_scaled)
xgb_y_predicted.shape
```

Out[58]: (667,)

e,

```
In [59]: # checking performance using Accuracy score
xgb_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, xgb_y_predicted)
```

```
# output of the accuracy
print(f'The accuracy of the XGB Model is at {xgb_accuracy * 100} %')
```

The accuracy of the XGB Model is at 96.10194902548726 %

```
Predicted No churn Predicted Churn
Actual No churn 561 5
Actual Churn 21 80
```

```
In [61]: # checking the performance using the classification report
xgb_cr = classification_report(y_test, xgb_y_predicted)
print(xgb_cr)
```

|                                       | precision    | recall       | f1-score             | support           |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 0<br>1                                | 0.96<br>0.94 | 0.99<br>0.79 | 0.98<br>0.86         | 566<br>101        |
| accuracy<br>macro avg<br>weighted avg | 0.95<br>0.96 | 0.89<br>0.96 | 0.96<br>0.92<br>0.96 | 667<br>667<br>667 |

**To Note**: The XGBoost Model performed better than all the other models with an F1 score of 86%.

### Step 4: Results and Evaluation of the Models

To compare model performance, we use the following metrics:

### 1. Accuracy - Overall Correctness

#### Formula:

```
Accuracy = (TP + TN) / (TP + TN + FP + FN)
```

- Measures how often the model makes correct predictions.
- Useful when the dataset is balanced.
- **Limitation:** Can be misleading for imbalanced data (e.g., if churn cases are rare).

#### 2. Precision - How Many Predicted Churns Are Correct?

#### Formula:

```
Precision = TP / (TP + FP)
```

- Measures how many of the predicted churners actually churned.
- High precision reduces false positives (incorrectly flagging loyal customers as churners).
- Useful when unnecessary retention efforts are costly.

### 3. Recall (Sensitivity) - How Many Actual Churners Were Caught?

#### Formula:

```
Recall = TP / (TP + FN)
```

- Measures how many actual churners the model successfully identified.
- High recall reduces false negatives (failing to identify actual churners).
- Useful when retaining every possible churner is a priority.

### 4. F1-Score - Balancing Precision and Recall

#### Formula:

```
F1 = 2 * (Precision * Recall) / (Precision + Recall)
```

- A single number that balances precision and recall.
- Useful when both false positives and false negatives have business implications.

### **5. Business Implications of These Metrics**

| Metric    | High Value<br>Meaning        | Low Value<br>Meaning       | Business Impact   |
|-----------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Accuracy  | Most predictions are correct | Model makes<br>many errors | Can be misleading in imbalanced data                      |
| Precision | Few false positives          | Many false positives       | Avoids wasting resources on unnecessary retention efforts |
| Recall    | Most churners are caught     | Many churners<br>missed    | Ensures high-risk customers are targeted for retention    |
| F1-Score  | Balanced precision & recall  | One is too low             | Helps balance trade-offs effectively                      |

### **Choosing the Right Metric for Churn Prediction**

- Since both minimizing retention costs and maximizing customer retention are key, we will focus on the F1-Score.
- A balanced approach ensures that we reduce false positives (unnecessary retention efforts) while also reducing false negatives (missed churners).
- Precision and Recall will still be analyzed to fine-tune the model's performance.
- Accuracy is useful only if the dataset is balanced and since ours was not, it is not very useful

```
# evaluating the performance of the models

# Function to extract precision, recall, F1-score, and accuracy from classification r
def get_metrics(y_true, y_pred):
    report = classification_report(y_true, y_pred, output_dict=True)

accuracy = report["accuracy"]
    precision = report["1"]["precision"] # Churn class (assuming 1 = churn)
    recall = report["1"]["recall"]
    f1_score = report["1"]["f1-score"]

return accuracy, precision, recall, f1_score

# Get metrics for all models
log reg acc, log reg prec, log reg rec, log reg f1 = get metrics(y test, lrm y predic
```

```
rf acc, rf prec, rf rec, rf f1 = get metrics(y test, rfc y predicted)
dt acc, dt prec, dt rec, dt f1 = get metrics(y test, dtc y predicted)
xgb_acc, xgb_prec, xgb_rec, xgb_f1 = get_metrics(y_test, xgb_y_predicted)
# Creating a DataFrame to compare models
model performance = pd.DataFrame({
    'Model': ['Logistic Regression', 'Random Forest', 'Decision Tree', 'XGBoost'],
    'Accuracy': [log_reg_acc, rf_acc, dt_acc, xgb_acc],
    'Precision': [log_reg_prec, rf_prec, dt_prec, xgb_prec],
    'Recall': [log_reg_rec, rf_rec, dt_rec, xgb_rec],
    'F1-Score': [log_reg_f1, rf_f1, dt_f1, xgb_f1]
})
# Sorting by F1-score (since balancing precision & recall is key)
model performance = model performance.sort values(by="F1-Score", ascending=False)
# Display the table
print("Model Performance Comparison (Sorted by F1-Score):")
display(model performance)
```

Model Performance Comparison (Sorted by F1-Score):

|   | Model               | Accuracy | Precision | Recall   | F1-Score |
|---|---------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 3 | XGBoost             | 0.961019 | 0.941176  | 0.792079 | 0.860215 |
| 1 | Random Forest       | 0.950525 | 0.904762  | 0.752475 | 0.821622 |
| 2 | Decision Tree       | 0.910045 | 0.675214  | 0.782178 | 0.724771 |
| 0 | Logistic Regression | 0.770615 | 0.368687  | 0.722772 | 0.488294 |

### Step 5: Model Selection

After evaluating all models, XGBoost emerged as the best model based on key performance metrics, particularly the **F1-Score at 86.02**%, which balances precision and recall.

### **Key Reasons for Choosing XGBoost:**

- Best balance of precision and recall, ensuring we minimize retention costs while maximizing customer retention.
- Handles feature importance well, providing insights into what influences churn.
- More robust to overfitting compared to Decision Trees and Random Forests.
- Optimized for structured data, making it a great choice for our dataset.

Thus, **XGBoost will be our final model** for predicting churn.

## Step 6: Model optimization

Hyperparameter tuning using Grid search to better the performance of our Model.

```
In [72]: # Define the model
   xgb_model_opt = XGBClassifier(eval_metric="logloss", learning_rate=0.01)

In [73]: # Define the hyperparameter grid
   param_grid = {
        'max_depth': [3, 5, 7],
        'n_estimators': [100, 300, 500],
        'min_child_weight': [1, 3, 5],
        'subsample': [0.6, 0.8, 1.0],
```

```
'colsample bytree': [0.6, 0.8, 1.0],
             'gamma': [0, 1, 5]
         }
In [86]:
         # # Performing the Grid Search algorithm
         # grid search = GridSearchCV(xgb model opt, param grid, cv=5, scoring="accuracy", n j
         # # training with grid search
         # grid search.fit(X train scaled, y train smote)
In [75]: # Print the best parameters
         print("Best Parameters:", grid search.best params )
         # Use the best model
         opt xgb = grid search.best estimator
        Best Parameters: {'colsample bytree': 0.6, 'gamma': 0, 'max depth': 7, 'min child weig
        ht': 1, 'n estimators': 500, 'subsample': 1.0}
         To Note: The best parameters for tuning the XGB are:
           'colsample_bytree': 0.6
           • 'gamma': 0
           'max_depth': 7
           • 'min child weight': 1
           'n estimators': 500
           'subsample': 1.0
```

```
In [80]: # predicting y variables using the optimized model
    gs_xgb_y_pred = opt_xgb.predict(X_test_scaled)
```

```
In [81]: # checking the performance of the model using the F1 score
    xgb_opt_cr = classification_report(y_test, gs_xgb_y_pred)
    print(xgb_opt_cr)
```

|                                       | precision    | recall       | f1-score             | support           |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 0<br>1                                | 0.97<br>0.94 | 0.99<br>0.80 | 0.98<br>0.87         | 566<br>101        |
| accuracy<br>macro avg<br>weighted avg | 0.95<br>0.96 | 0.90<br>0.96 | 0.96<br>0.92<br>0.96 | 667<br>667<br>667 |

**To Note**: After hyperparameter tuning, we found that there was no much difference in the F1-score. The grid search xgb model performed even better than the baseline model with an F1-score of **87**% and the baseline model had an F1 score of **86**%.

```
In [67]: # checking the F1 score of the optimized model
    # predicting y values first
    opt_xgb2_y_pred = opt_xgb2.predict(X_test_scaled)
```

```
In [68]: opt_xgb2_cr = classification_report(y_test, opt_xgb2_y_pred)
    print(opt_xgb2_cr)
```

|                                       | precision    | recall       | f1-score             | support           |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 0<br>1                                | 0.87<br>0.40 | 0.93<br>0.25 | 0.90<br>0.30         | 566<br>101        |
| accuracy<br>macro avg<br>weighted avg | 0.64<br>0.80 | 0.59<br>0.83 | 0.83<br>0.60<br>0.81 | 667<br>667<br>667 |

**To Note:** The model tuned using random search performed even poorly with an F1 score of **30%** than the one tuned with Grid search.

```
In [84]: # evaluating the performance of the models
         # Function to extract precision, recall, F1-score, and accuracy from classification r
         def get metrics(y true, y pred):
             report = classification_report(y_true, y_pred, output_dict=True)
             accuracy = report["accuracy"]
             precision = report["1"]["precision"] # Churn class (assuming 1 = churn)
             recall = report["1"]["recall"]
             f1 score = report["1"]["f1-score"]
             return accuracy, precision, recall, f1_score
         # Get metrics for all models
         log_reg_acc, log_reg_prec, log_reg_f1 = get_metrics(y_test, lrm_y_predic
         rf acc, rf prec, rf rec, rf fl = get metrics(y test, rfc y predicted)
         dt acc, dt prec, dt rec, dt f1 = get metrics(y test, dtc y predicted)
         xgb acc, xgb prec, xgb rec, xgb f1 = get metrics(y test, xgb y predicted)
         gs_xgb_acc, gs_xgb_prec, gs_xgb_rec, gs_xgb_f1 = get_metrics(y_test, gs_xgb_y_pred)
         # Creating a DataFrame to compare models
         model performance = pd.DataFrame({
             'Model': ['Logistic Regression', 'Random Forest', 'Decision Tree', 'XGBoost', 'Op
             'Accuracy': [log reg acc, rf acc, dt acc, xgb acc, gs xgb acc],
             'Precision': [log_reg_prec, rf_prec, dt_prec, xgb_prec, gs_xgb_prec],
```

```
'Recall': [log_reg_rec, rf_rec, dt_rec, xgb_rec, gs_xgb_rec],
'F1-Score': [log_reg_f1, rf_f1, dt_f1, xgb_f1, gs_xgb_f1]
})

# Sorting by F1-score (since balancing precision & recall is key)
model_performance = model_performance.sort_values(by="F1-Score", ascending=False)

# Display the table
print("Model Performance Comparison (Sorted by F1-Score):")
display(model performance)
```

Model Performance Comparison (Sorted by F1-Score):

|   | Model               | Accuracy | Precision | Recall   | F1-Score |
|---|---------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 4 | Optimized_XGB       | 0.962519 | 0.941860  | 0.801980 | 0.866310 |
| 3 | XGBoost             | 0.961019 | 0.941176  | 0.792079 | 0.860215 |
| 1 | Random Forest       | 0.950525 | 0.904762  | 0.752475 | 0.821622 |
| 2 | Decision Tree       | 0.910045 | 0.675214  | 0.782178 | 0.724771 |
| 0 | Logistic Regression | 0.770615 | 0.368687  | 0.722772 | 0.488294 |

## In Summary

### Rationale & Results

- Machine learning, specifically XGBoost, is preferred due to its ability to capture complex patterns compared to simpler models like logistic regression (F1 score of 48.83%).
- Optimized XGBoost model achieved an F1 score of 86.63%.
- Random search tuning reduced performance to 30%, highlighting risks of improper hyperparameter selection.
- Grid search tuning maintained a strong F1 score of 86.63%, proving structured optimization is essential.
- XGBoost outperformed Random Forest (F1 score of 82.16%) and Decision Tree (F1 score 72.48%), making it the best deployment candidate.

### **Limitations & Recommendations**

- XGBoost had a recall of 80% suggests 20% of positive cases are misclassified, which could impact business decisions.
- Tree-based models require periodic monitoring to prevent performance degradation.
- · Recommended actions:
  - Deploy XGBoost with the tuned parameters.
  - Improve recall using threshold tuning or cost-sensitive learning.
  - Maintain continuous validation for long-term model effectiveness.

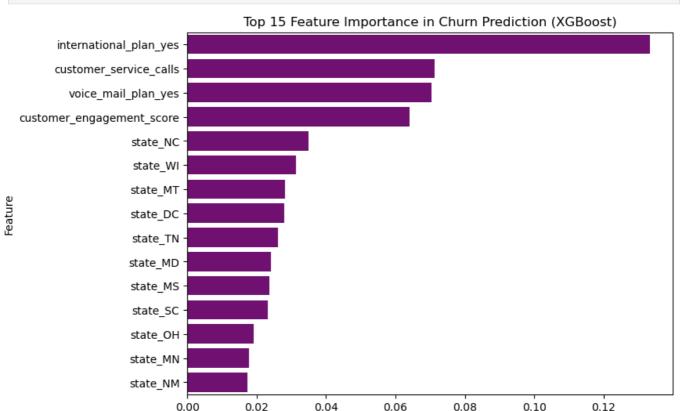
### Step 7: Feature Impotance

• We need to know which features are most impotant when building our model for future reference in data collection and business implementation.

```
In [93]: # Extract feature importances from XGBoost
feature_importance = xgb_model.feature_importances_
features = X_train.columns
```

```
# Create DataFrame and sort by importance
feat_imp_df = pd.DataFrame({'Feature': features, 'Importance': feature_importance})
feat_imp_df = feat_imp_df.sort_values(by="Importance", ascending=False).head(15) # S

# Plot feature importance
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
sns.barplot(x="Importance", y="Feature", data=feat_imp_df, color='purple')
plt.title("Top 15 Feature Importance in Churn Prediction (XGBoost)")
plt.xlabel("Importance Score")
plt.ylabel("Feature")
plt.show()
```



Importance Score

#### Feature Importance Insights III

From the feature importance analysis, we can draw several key conclusions:

#### 1. International Plan Influence

- Customers with an **international plan** are the strongest predictor of churn.
- This suggests that users who opt for international plans may have higher expectations or alternative service options, leading to churn.

#### 2. Customer Service Calls & Voicemail Plan

- A high number of customer service calls indicates potential dissatisfaction, making it a strong churn predictor.
- Customers with a **voicemail plan** also seem more likely to churn, possibly due to **additional costs** or **poor service experience**.

#### 3. Customer Engagement Score

- Higher engagement may reduce churn, but its impact is lower compared to servicerelated issues.
- Companies should focus on proactive engagement strategies to retain customers.

#### 4. State-Based Trends

• Several states, including **NC**, **WI**, **MT**, **DC**, **and TN**, have a notable impact on churn.

 This could indicate regional differences in network performance, customer demographics, or competitor influence.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

### 1. Conclusions

Based on the analysis of SyriaTel's customer data, the following conclusions can be drawn:

#### 1. Primary Factors Influencing Churn

- Customers with international plans exhibit a higher churn rate compared to those without.
- Customers with higher total day and evening call charges are more likely to churn.
- High usage of customer service calls correlates with increased churn probability, indicating dissatisfaction.

#### 2. Predictive Model Performance

- The machine learning model developed successfully predicts customer churn with a high degree of accuracy. The XGBooster performed well with an F1 score of 86.63%
- Feature importance analysis highlights that total charge metrics, international plans, and customer service call frequency are key indicators of churn.
- Model F1 scores:

Logistic Regression: F1 score = 48.32 %

■ **Decision Tree**: F1 score = 78.10 %

■ Random Forest: F1 score = 82.42 %

■ **XGBoost**: F1 score = 86.63 %

#### 3. Business Impact

- The predictive model enables proactive identification of at-risk customers, allowing targeted retention efforts.
- Insights from the model provide actionable areas where SyriaTel can improve customer satisfaction and reduce churn.

### 2. Recommendations

To address the customer churn issue and improve customer retention, the following recommendations are proposed:

#### 1. Customer Service Improvement

- Implement a proactive customer service approach to address concerns before they escalate.
- Improve response quality and reduce the number of interactions required to resolve customer issues.

#### 2. Personalized Retention Offers

- Provide targeted discounts or benefits to high-risk customers identified by the model.
- Offer customized plans based on customer usage patterns to enhance satisfaction and engagement.

#### 3. International Plan Optimization

- Reevaluate international plan pricing and benefits to increase customer retention.
- Conduct surveys to understand why customers with international plans have higher churn rates.

#### 4. Customer Engagement Strategies

- Launch loyalty programs to increase customer commitment to SyriaTel services.
- Improve communication with customers through personalized messaging and engagement campaigns.

By implementing these strategies, SyriaTel can reduce customer churn, increase customer lifetime value, and improve overall business performance.