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# Predicting the Adoption Rate of Shelter Pets

— **CS 573 Final Project** —

Mohit Gupta & Nandita Viswanath

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Data Exploration
- Data Preprocessing
- Results and Observations

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# Background

**6.5 Million pets are abandoned at shelters every year.**

Every year, **1.5 million** of them are **euthanized**.

- Help shelters forecast the resources required for pet care.
- Identify key factors that affect the pet advertisement.
- Create awareness and reduce the number of pets that are euthanized.
- **Dataset:** Pet advertisement dataset provided by petfinder.my on Kaggle.

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# Data Exploration

- Understanding the Dataset
- Data Visualization

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# Understanding the Dataset

## Dataset Features: (24 total)

- **Type** (cat or dog)
- **Gender, Age** (months)
- **Name, Advertisement Description**
- **Breed** (Breed ID1 & Breed ID2)
- **Color, Fur Length**
- **Maturity Size**
- **Medical Attributes** (vaccinated, sterilized, health condition, etc.)
- **Adoption Fee**

## Class Label - Adoption Rate

- **0** - Adopted within 24 hours.
- **1** - Adopted within the first week.
- **2** - Adopted between 1 week and 1 month.
- **3** - Adopted between 1 and 2 months.
- **4** - No adoption after 100 days.

# Data Exploration

- Understanding the Dataset
- Data Visualization

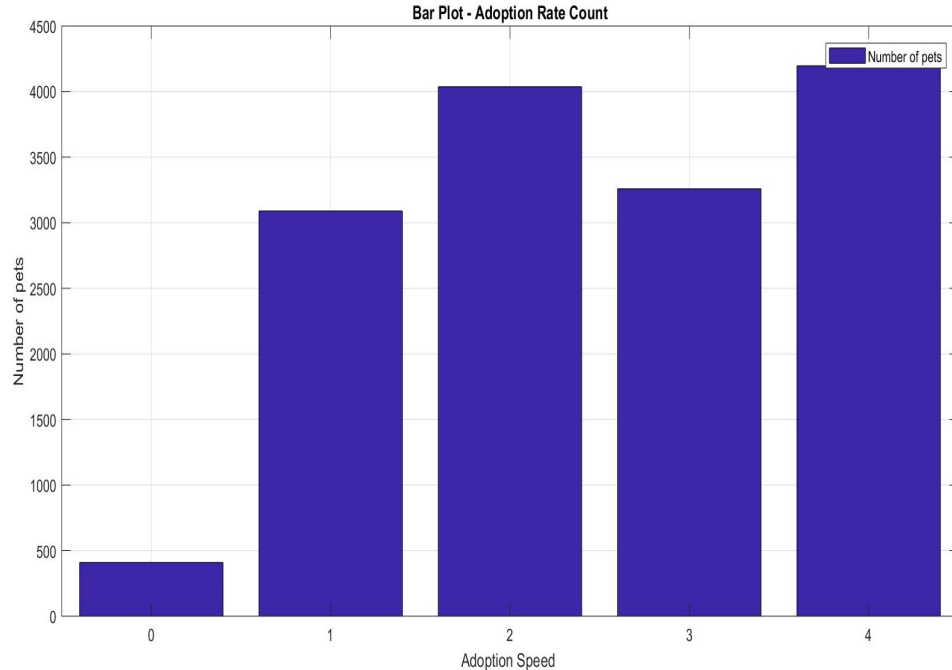
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# Data Exploration

- Understanding the Dataset
- **Data Visualization**

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# Bar Plot: Adoption Speed

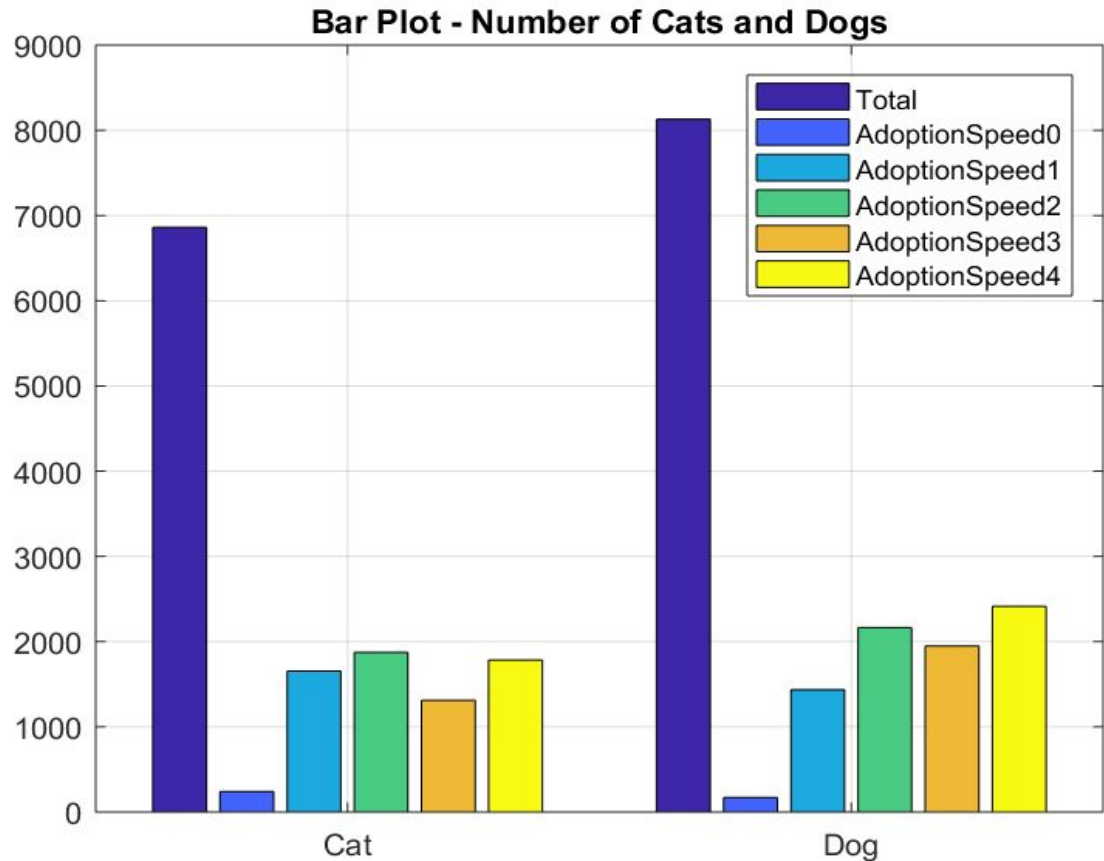


- More pets fall within the adoption rate 4 category than any other - ie. **~4200 pets out the total 14000 pets** are not adopted even after **100 days** of being listed.
- The second highest number of pets fall in the adoption speed 2 (adopted within 1 month of being listed)
- Adoption speed 1 (adopted within 7 days) and 3 (adopted within 90 days) have almost ~3100 and ~3250 pets in their respective categories
- **Lesser than 500 pets** are adopted at **the best adoption speed 0** (adopted on the same day as listed).

## Plot Tips:

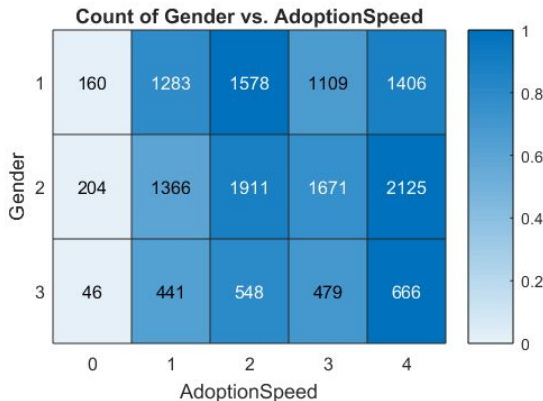
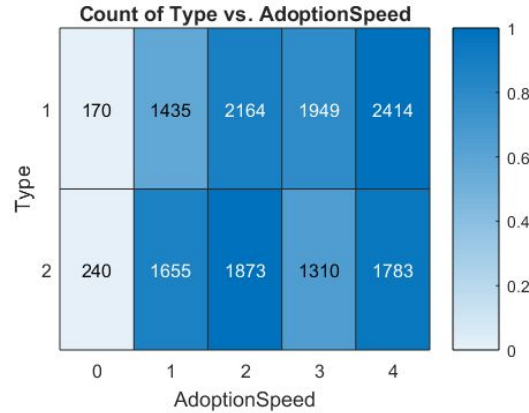
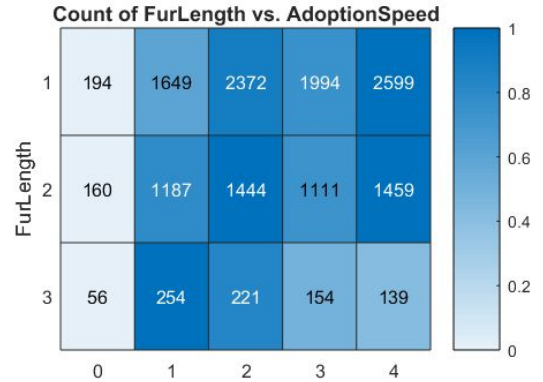
- Adoption speed can be treated as a categorical variable with the categories being 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 with 0 being the highest adoption speed (quick adoption) and 4 being not adopted..

# Stacked Bar Plot: Pet Type and Adoption Speed



- Visualize relationship between adoption rate and pet type
- More dogs than cats in dataset
- Cat Population: Adoption Speed  $2 > 4 > 1 > 3 > 0$
- Dog Population: Adoption Speed  $4 > 2 > 1 > 3 > 0$
- **Adoption speed 2 most prevalent in cats and 4 most prevalent in dogs.**

# 2-D Heat Map: Adoption Speed vs Categorical Features



## Plot Tips:

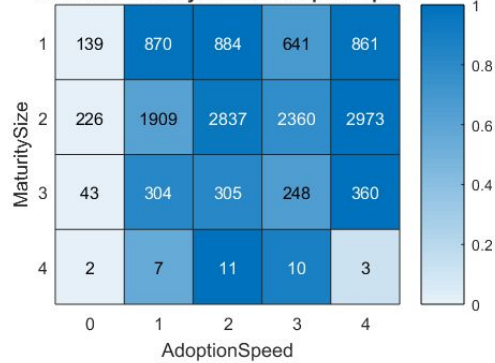
- X-axis: Adoption Speed
- Y-axis: Categorical feature
- Numbers in boxes can be used to interpret size of population in a particular category.
- Heat maps can be used to visualize population distribution and capture high-level trends.

## Inference:

- A higher proportion of pets with fur length 3 are adopted at speed 1 - ie. Pets with fur length 3 are adopted quickly but the trend does not hold true for pets with fur lengths 1 and 2.
- A higher proportion of cats are adopted at quicker speeds than dogs
- For genders 2 (female) and 3 (others), most pets have adoption speed 4. For pets with gender 1 (male), more pets are adopted at higher speeds of 1 and 2

# 2-D Heat Map: Adoption Speed vs Categorical Features

Count of MaturitySize vs. AdoptionSpeed



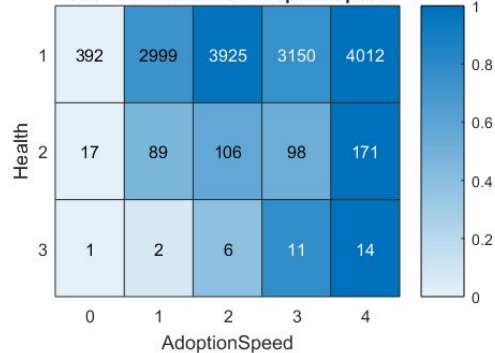
Count of Sterilized vs. AdoptionSpeed



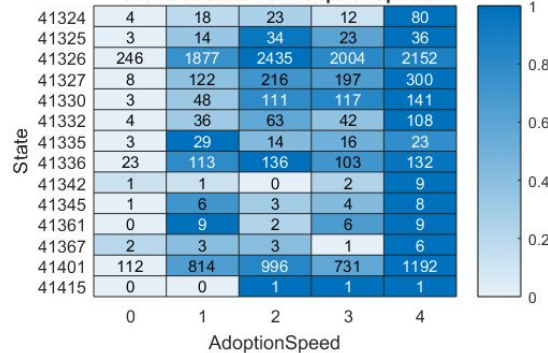
## Inference:

- Most pets are of Maturity Size 2 (medium sized) followed by 1 (small), 3 (large) and 4 (extra large).
- More pets are not sterilized and are adopted at higher speeds when compared to sterilized pets
- Most pets are left at the shelter in healthy condition (Health = 1), health condition does not show a trend with respect to adoption speed
- 58.12% of all pets are found in state location 41326 and 25.6% of all pets are found in state location 41401.

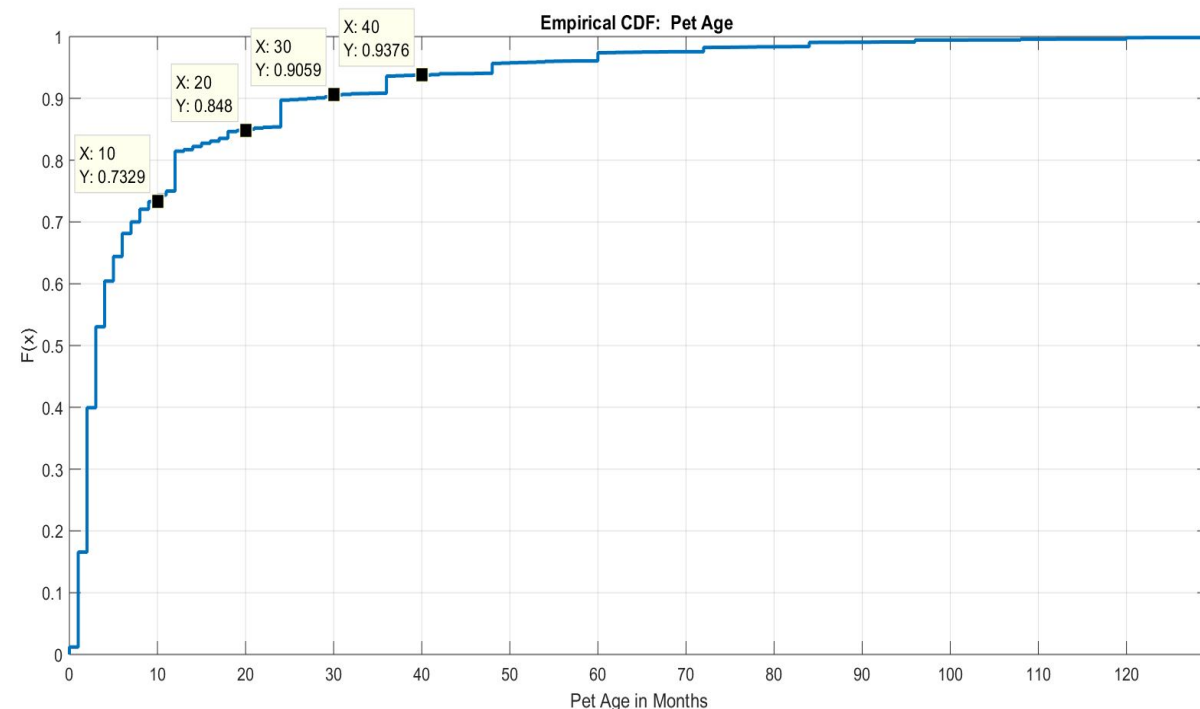
Count of Health vs. AdoptionSpeed



Count of State vs. AdoptionSpeed



# Age distribution: Cumulative Distribution Function

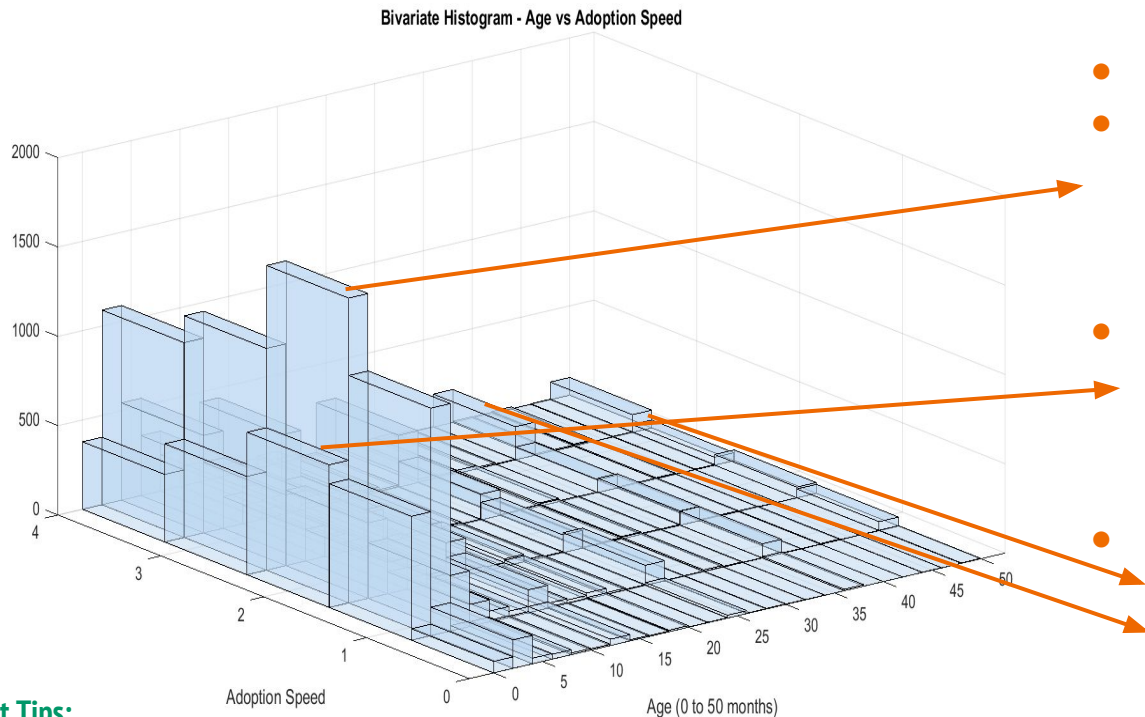


## Inference:

- **73.29%** of the total number of pets are **lesser than 10 months old**.
- 11.51% of the pets are between 10 and 20 months old
- 9.41% of the pets are greater than 30 months old and 6.24% of the pets are less greater than 40 months old
- Since majority of the pets are lesser than 50 months old, pets lesser than 50 months old are visualized in a bivariate histogram shown in the next slide



# Bivariate Histogram: Pet Age vs Adoption Speed



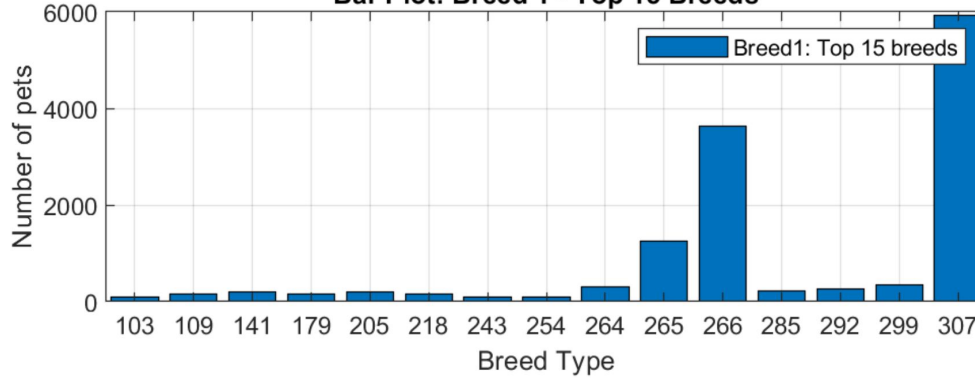
## Plot Tips:

- X-axis: Age (0-50 months)
- Y-axis: Adoption Speed.
- Z-axis: Number of pets.

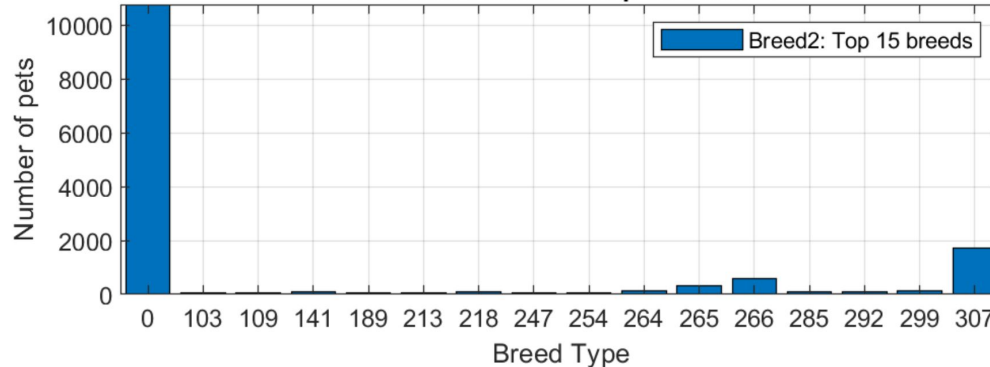
- Bin size in X-axis is two months
- For pets that are between 0 and 4 months old, most frequent adoption speed is 2 followed by 1, 4 and then 0.
- For pets that are between 4 and 6 months old, more pets are adopted at adoption speed 3 followed by 4, 2, 1 and 0
- For pets that are older than 6 months, the trend suggests that they are adopted at slower speeds as more pets fall in the adoption speed 4 category than any other speed category

# Breed Population

Bar Plot: Breed 1 - Top 15 Breeds



Bar Plot: Breed 2 - Top 15 Breeds



- For 14993 pets, there are 188 different breed types.
- Breed 1 has 176 different types of breeds and Breed 2 has 135 different types of breeds.
- **13114 pets** fall within the **top 15 types of Breed 1** breed types.
- **14296 pets** fall within the **top 15 types of Breed 2** breed types.
- Among Breed 1 breed types, 307 is the most common followed by 266 and 267.
- Among Breed 2 breed types, 0 is the most common breed type followed by 307 and 266.

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# Data Preprocessing

## One hot Encoding:

- **Type** (cat or dog)
- **Age** (months)
- **Gender**
- **Breed** (Breed ID1 & Breed ID2)
- **Color, Fur Length**
- **Maturity Size**
- **Medical Attributes** (vaccinated, sterilized, health condition, etc.)
- **Adoption Fee**

## TF-IDF & Word2Vec Embedding:

- **Advertisement Description.**

## Ablation Study on Name Feature:

- **Removed Name feature** since it was not useful after performing an ablation study on the same.

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# Results and Observations

- **Algorithms Implemented:**

Support Vector Machine

Decision Tree

Neural Network

- **Evaluation Criteria:**

Micro F1 Score

- **Other Evaluations:**

TF-IDF vs Word2Vec Embeddings

Binary Classification Results



# Models - Performance Comparison

## Support Vector Machine

- **Model Parameters**  
Kernel: RBF  
(Gaussian).
- **Results**  
F1 Score = 0.32

## Decision Tree

- **Model Parameters**  
Criterion: Gini Gain.
- **Results**  
F1 Score = 0.37

## Artificial Neural Network

- **Model Parameters**  
Two Hidden Layers: 2000  
& 500 neurons.  
Learning Rate: 1e-5.
- **Results**  
F1 Score = 0.42

### Note:

These results are based on Word2Vec preprocessing applied to the advertisement description attribute.

# Observations - Word2Vec Embedding vs TF-IDF

## Word2Vec Embedding

- We convert the “Description” attribute to dense 300 dimensional vectors using the skip-gram model trained on Google News corpus.

### Results:

SVM F1 Score:	<b>0.32</b>
Decision F1 Score:	<b>0.37</b>
Neural Network F1 Score:	<b>0.42</b>

## TF-IDF

- We use Bag of Words representation for the “Description” attribute weighted using Term Frequency Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF).

### Results:

SVM F1 Score:	<b>0.33</b>
Decision Tree F1 Score:	<b>0.35</b>
Neural Network F1 Score:	<b>0.44</b>

# Observations - Binary classification

**Binary Classification - Classifying whether the pet will be adopted within 100 days.**

- **Class Labels:**
  - 1 → Pet adopted within 100 days.
  - 0 → Pet not adopted after 100 days.
- **Results with Word2Vec Embedding on the description attribute:**

SVM F1 Score:	0.71
Decision Tree F1 Score:	0.69
Neural Network F1 Score:	<b>0.77</b>
- **Results with TF-IDF preprocessing on the description attribute:**

SVM F1 Score:	0.71
Decision Tree F1 Score:	0.70
Neural Network F1 Score:	<b>0.78</b>

# Questions?

# Thank you!

# References

1. Dataset: <https://www.kaggle.com/c/petfinder-adoption-prediction/data>
2. Introduction statistics: <https://www.aspca.org/animal-homelessness/shelter-intake-and-surrender/pet-statistics>