
Tanzanian Water Crisis:

Predicting Functionality of Water Wells in Tanzania
Using Machine Learning



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Table of Contents

- The Problem & Data Utilized
- OSEMN Modeling Process
- Best Machine Learning Model
- Most Important Features of Functionality
- Conclusions & Recommendations



The Problem:

- $\frac{1}{3}$ of Tanzania is arid or semi-arid (desert)
- No access to clean water
- Pollution contaminates groundwater
- Pumps don't always work.

Data Utilized:

- DrivenData dataset
 - Tanzanian Ministry of Water
 - Taarifa



OSEMN Process



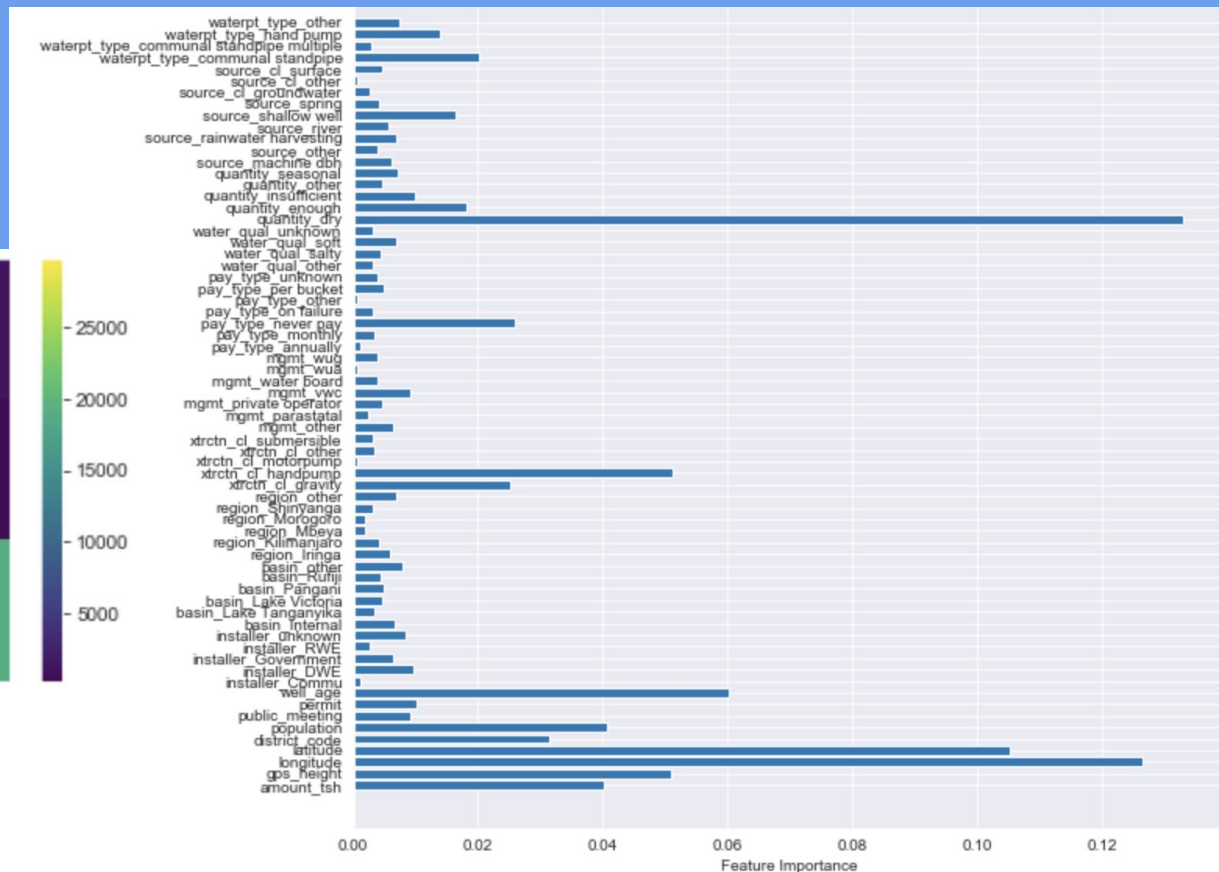
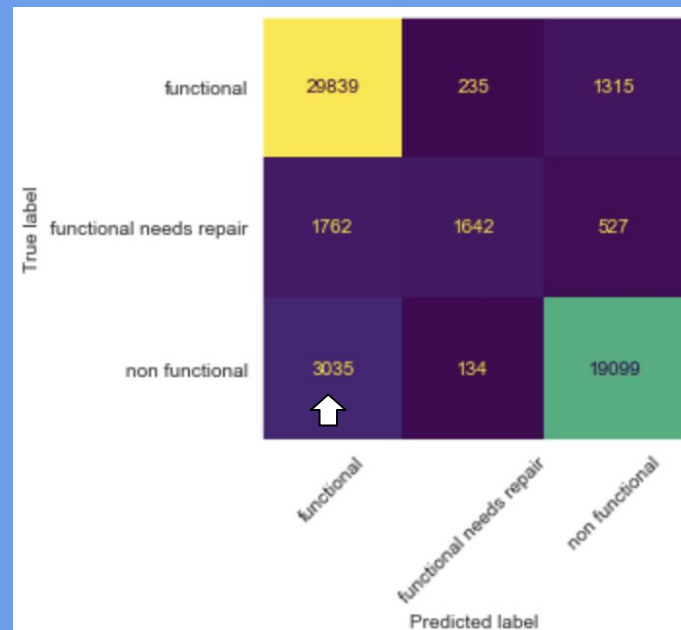
- Obtained Compiled Data from DrivenData
- Scrub missing values & duplicate variables
 - Converted categorical data to numeric
- Explored relationship to functionality
 - Water Quality
 - Pump Types
 - Location, etc.
- Modeling
 - Decision Tree
 - KNN
 - Random Forest
 - XGBoost
- iNterpreted best results!

Best Performer: Random Forest

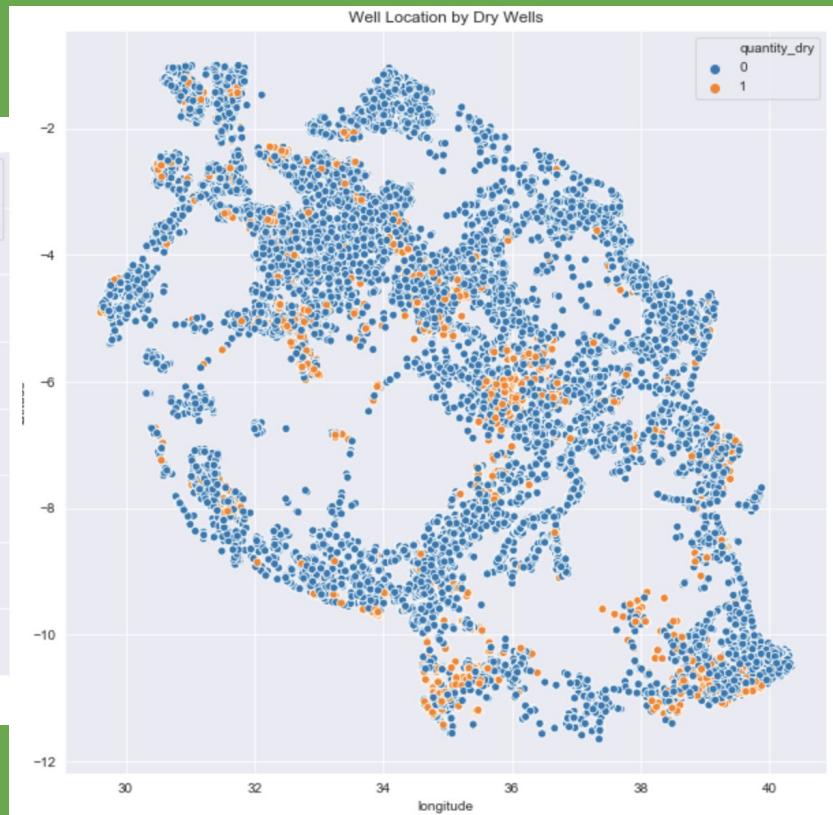
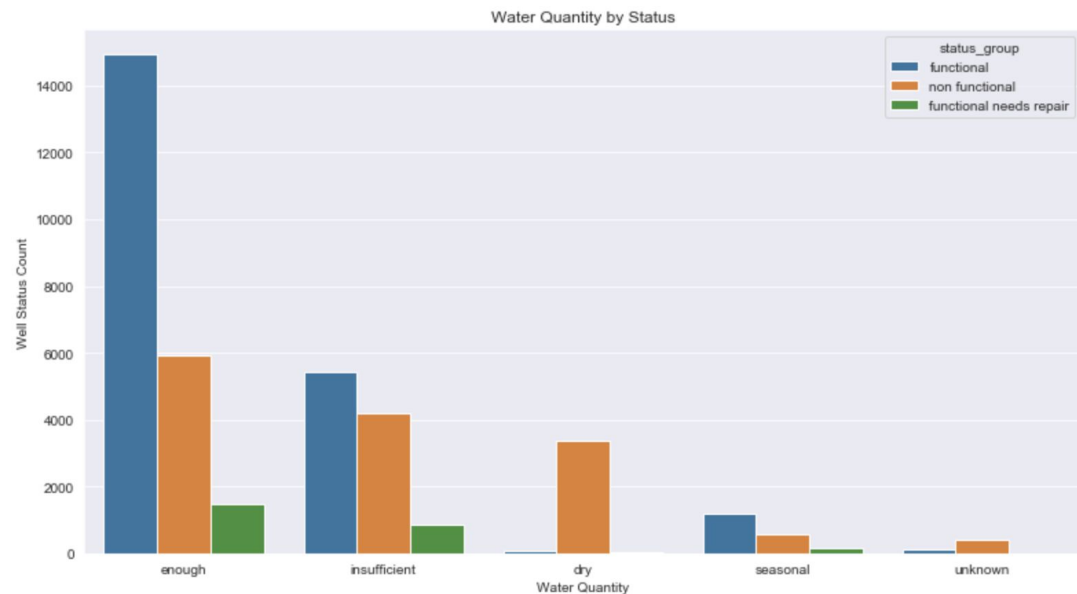
Highest Accuracy: **0.8095**

n_estimators = 200,

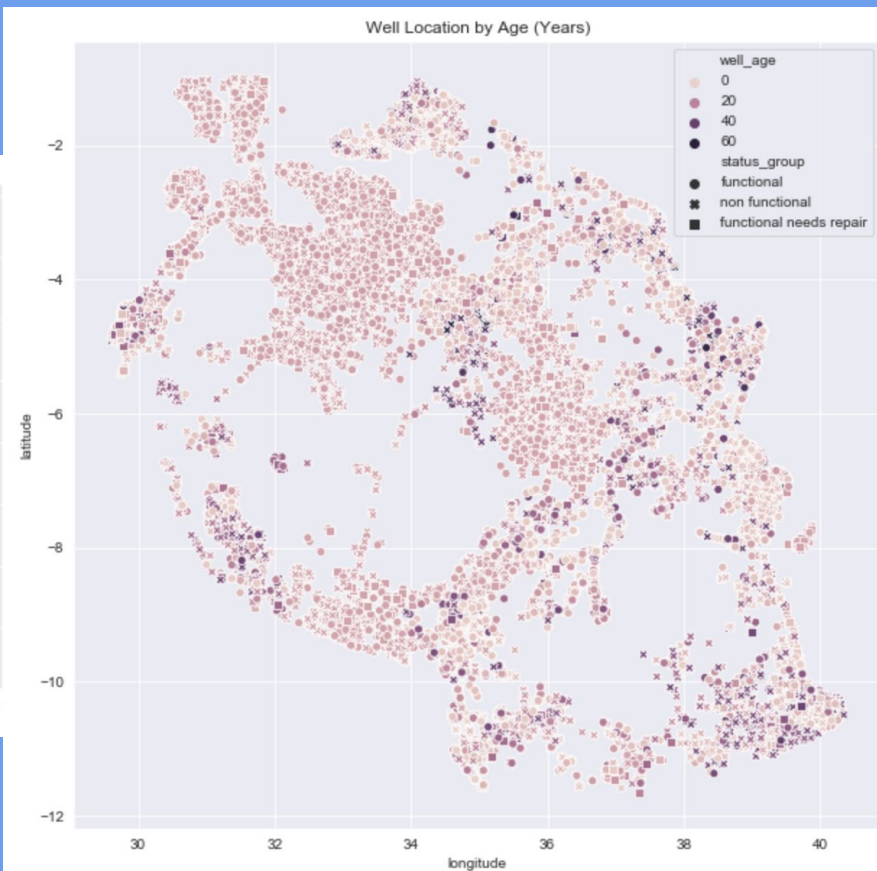
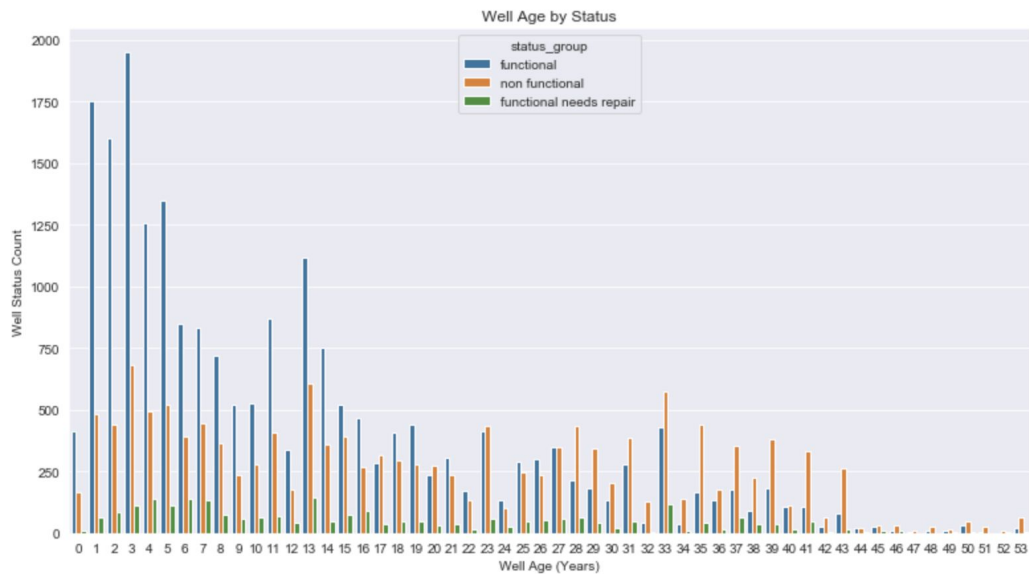
min_samples_split=8



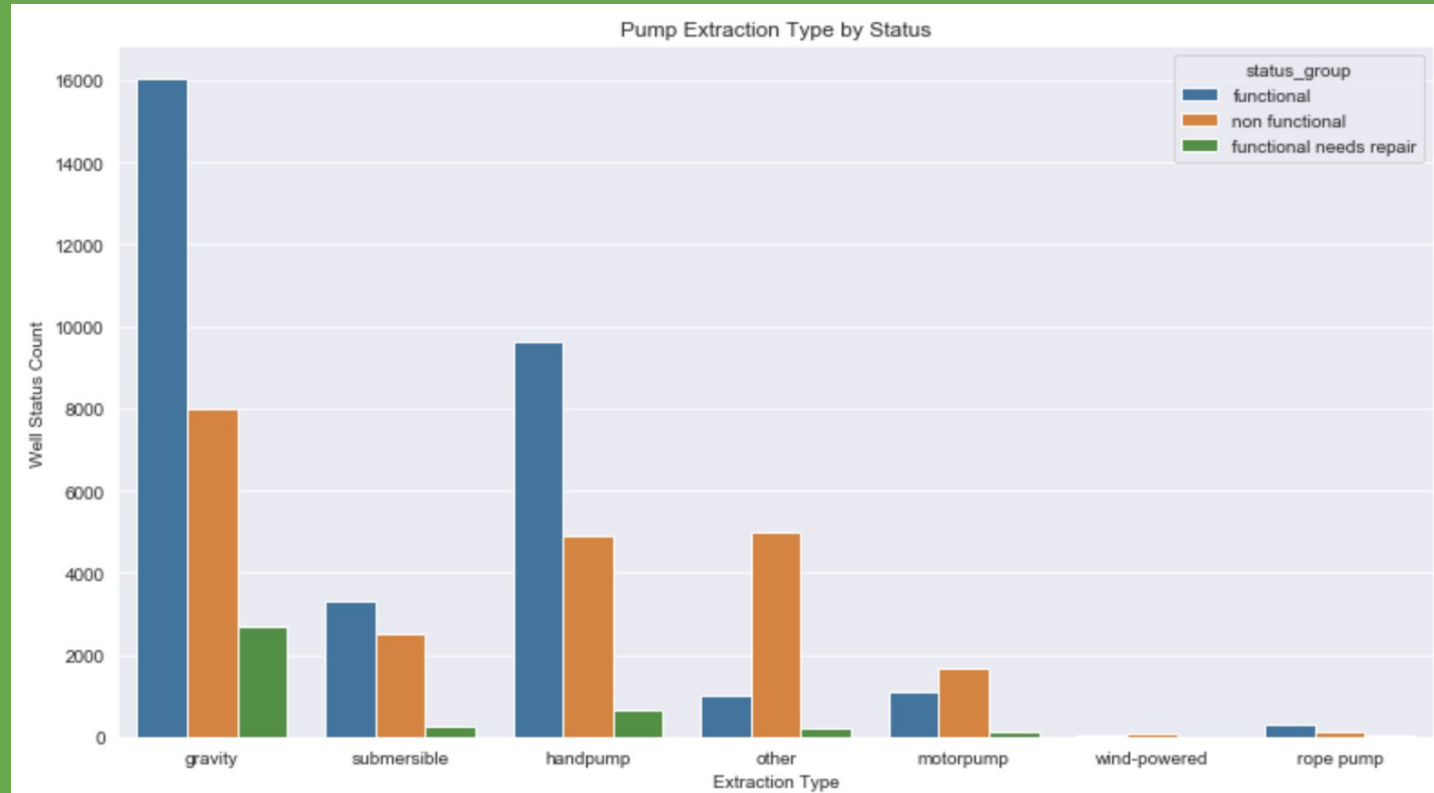
Water Quantity of Well: Dry = Non-Functional



Age of the Well Pump: Date of Data Recorded - Construction Year



Pump Extraction Type: gravity, handpump - mostly functional



Conclusions

- ↓ water quantity = ↓ functionality
 - Dry wells are almost always not working
- ↑ well age = ↓ functionality
 - Older pumps should be refurbished
- Gravity pumps and handpumps are less prone to breaking
 - Only install these if possible

Future Recommendations

- Limit the redundancy of categorical data
- More time to explore amount of use per well, possibly population
- Exploration into cost associated with well type

Thank you!!