

What Has Been Done

1. Dataset Preparation

- Loaded a large maternal health dataset (4+ million rows) from a Parquet file.
- Cleaned data: converted flags to binary, handled missing values, and ensured numeric consistency.
- Derived the `stillbirth_risk` target from the `IS_CHILD_DEATH` column due to initial lack of labeled positives.

2. Stratified Sampling

- Created a **balanced subset of 2 million rows** using:
 - All known stillbirth, maternal mortality, and child death cases.
 - Random non-critical cases to preserve class distribution.

3. Feature Engineering

- Selected 43 important numerical features after excluding ID and leakage-prone columns.
- Key features included hemoglobin metrics, anemia status, age, gravida, and parity.

4. Modeling with Random Forest

- Trained a **Random Forest Classifier** with:
 - SMOTE oversampling to handle class imbalance.
 - 5-fold stratified cross-validation.
 - Class weighting (1:10) to emphasize positive class (stillbirth cases).
 - Evaluation at multiple thresholds (0.3 to 0.6) to balance recall vs precision.

5. Evaluation

- Used metrics like **AUC, F1, recall, precision, and accuracy**.
- Identified **threshold 0.6** as best tradeoff (F1: 0.0568).
- Achieved **very high recall (0.95)** at threshold 0.3, but with **low precision** (~2.5%).

6. SHAP Analysis

- Used SHAP to interpret feature influence.
- Top features: **HEMOGLOBIN_mean, anemia_mild, AGE, inadequate_weight_gain**.
- SHAP plots confirmed hemoglobin levels and age as dominant predictors.

Recommendations to Improve the Model

1. Improve Precision (reduce false positives)

- Try other **advanced models** like:
 - **LightGBM or XGBoost** (already partially implemented).
 - **CatBoost**, which handles categorical variables better.
- Add **class-specific sampling ratios** in SMOTE (e.g., BorderlineSMOTE or ADASYN).
- Experiment with **ensemble methods**: combine predictions from multiple models.

2. Feature Engineering

- Include **temporal features**: time since first ANC visit, time gaps between checkups.
- Engineer interaction terms (e.g., HEMOGLOBIN_mean × AGE).
- Use **domain knowledge** to add risk scores (e.g., anemia severity score, BMI range flags).

3. Threshold Tuning

- Use **Precision-Recall Curve AUC** to optimize threshold dynamically.
- Introduce **cost-sensitive thresholds** depending on false positive/false negative trade-offs.

4. Data Quality & Labeling

- Improve labeling of `stillbirth_risk` using **additional hospital records or expert annotations**.
- Consider **multi-label prediction** (stillbirth + maternal mortality) for more robust learning.

5. Explainability & Validation

- Deploy **local SHAP explanations** for high-risk predictions to validate with clinicians.
 - Validate model performance across **geographic regions or districts** to ensure fairness.
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