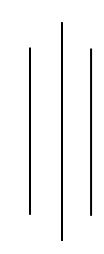


Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology

# **National College of Computer Studies**

Paknajol, Kathmandu



# **Credit Score Classification**

Python Project Report

# **Submitted by**

Smriti Shakya

B.Sc. CSIT 7<sup>th</sup> Sem

Section: B

Roll no. 19

### **Submitted to**

Mr. Mausam Rajbanshi

(Python Lecturer)

### **Abstract**

Credit Score is a crucial factor in financial sector to determine a person's creditworthiness. Financial institutions use credit scores to assess the risk of lending money to individuals. The score provides a predictive indicator of the likelihood that a person will repay their debts.

The goal of this classification task is to predict the credit score category of individuals using various financial and behavioral features. The credit scores were classified manually which made it a tedious task. But this model segregates the people into credit score brackets which will reduce the manual efforts. I have applied three Machine Learning Models: Random Forest, Logistic Regression and Decision Tree Classification to identify patterns in the data and make accurate predictions. These models offer a scientific approach to credit score classification, improving the ability to classify credit scores based on demographic, financial and credit behavior variables and helping financial institutions make more informed decisions.

# Acknowledgement

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# **Chapter 1: Introduction**

#### 1.1 Introduction

Credit score classification is the process of categorizing individuals based on their creditworthiness into different credit score bands. Financial institutions use credit scores to assess the risk of lending money to individuals, as the score provides a predictive indicator of the likelihood that a person will repay their debts.

There are three credit scores that banks and credit card companies use to label their customers:

- ➢ Good
- > Standard
- > Poor

A person with a good credit score will get loans from any bank and financial institution. [1]

#### 1.2 Problem Statement

The aim of this project is to develop a predictive model that can classify individuals' credit scores into categories based on features like income, credit history, debt, and financial behavior. The task is a supervised classification problem where the target variable is the Credit Score, and the features used are demographic, financial, and credit-related information.

By leveraging such features, the model helps financial institutions make informed decisions about loan approvals, credit limits, and interest rates. Key challenges include dealing with imbalanced data, selecting relevant features, and balancing model accuracy, precision, and recall, while also ensuring interpretability and regulatory compliance.

### 1.3 Objectives

- To preprocess the data to implement machine learning algorithms.
- To build and evaluate machine learning models to classify credit scores.
- To compare the performance of different classification algorithms.

# **Chapter 2: Dataset**

#### 2.1 Dataset Overview

The dataset used for credit score classification contains a mix of demographic, financial, and behavioral information. There are 28 columns in Train dataset and 27 columns in Test dataset. Below are the key columns in the dataset:

- Demographic Variables: Age, Occupation
- Financial Variables: Annual Income, Monthly Inhand Salary, Total EMI per Month, Outstanding Debt, Amount Invested Monthly
- Credit Behavior Variables: Number of Bank Accounts, Number of Credit Cards, Number of Loans, Interest Rate, Number of Delayed Payments, Credit History Age, Credit Utilization Ratio, Payment Behavior

### 2.2 Key Insights

- **Credit Score**: The target variable representing the credit score category (Good, Standard, Poor).
- **Data Format**: The data type and format of some columns are unmatched. They need to be formatted properly.
- Missing Values: Some columns have missing values, which will need to be handled appropriately.
- Outliers: Certain financial features may have extreme values, which can skew the model's performance.

# **Chapter 3: Feature Selection**

#### 3.1 Features

Based on the dataset, the following key features have been selected for building the model [2]:

- 1. **Annual Income**: Higher income usually indicates the ability to repay debts.
- 2. **Credit Utilization Ratio**: A higher ratio suggests the individual is using more of their available credit, which could indicate higher risk.
- 3. **Number of Delayed Payments**: Frequent delays in payments are highly indicative of a lower credit score.
- 4. Number of Loans: A high number of loans might increase financial strain.
- 5. **Interest Rate**: Higher interest rates might reflect riskier loans.
- 6. Total EMI per Month: High monthly debt burden can indicate financial stress.
- 7. **Number of Credit Inquiries**: Multiple recent inquiries may suggest a higher credit risk.
- 8. **Credit History Age**: Longer credit history typically correlates with a higher credit score.

Other important features like Occupation, Age, and Payment Behavior are included based on domain knowledge.

#### 3.2 New Features

Based on the given information, new features are created from the relationship between existing ones.

### Adding New Features

# **Chapter 4: Data Preprocessing**

### 4.1 Importing Necessary Modules and Loading Data

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
from sklearn.preprocessing import OrdinalEncoder, LabelEncoder
from sklearn.feature_selection import mutual_info_classif
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
from sklearn.metrics import classification_report, confusion_matrix, accuracy_score

    #load data in dataframe
    data_train =pd.read_csv("./csv_files/credit score classification/train.csv")
    data_test =pd.read_csv("./csv_files/credit score classification/test.csv")
```

```
train.info()
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
 RangeIndex: 100000 entries, 0 to 99999
 Data columns (total 28 columns):
                              Non-Null Count Dtype
  # Column

        0 ID
        100000 non-null object

        1 Customer_ID
        100000 non-null object

        2 Month
        100000 non-null object

        3 Name
        90015 non-null object

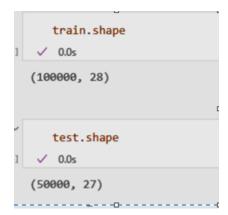
  4 Age 100000 non-null object
5 SSN 100000 non-null object
6 Occupation 100000 non-null object
7 Annual_Income 100000 non-null object
  8 Monthly_Inhand_Salary 84998 non-null float64
9 Num_Bank_Accounts 100000 non-null int64
  9 Num_Bank_Accounts 100000 non-null int64
10 Num_Credit_Card 100000 non-null int64
11 Interest_Rate 100000 non-null int64
12 Num_of_Loan 100000 non-null object
13 Type_of_Loan 88592 non-null object
14 Delay_from_due_date 100000 non-null int64
  15 Num_of_Delayed_Payment 92998 non-null object
16 Changed_Credit_Limit 100000 non-null object
17 Num_Credit_Inquiries 98035 non-null float64
                                           100000 non-null object
100000 non-null object
   18 Credit Mix
   19 Outstanding_Debt
  26 Monthly_Balance 98800 non-null object
   27 Credit_Score
                                                      100000 non-null object
 dtypes: float64(4), int64(4), object(20)
 memory usage: 21.4+ MB
 Output is truncated. View as a scrollable element or open in a text editor. Adju
```

#### Result:

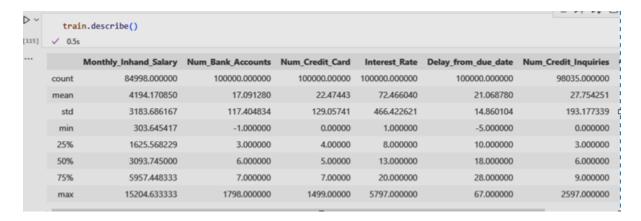
The df.info() provides a summary of the dataset. There are 100000 number of entries, 27 column names, non-null values,4 float64 values, 4 int64 values and 20 object values for input variables and 1 object value for target variable i.e. Credit Score.

## 4.2 Exploratory Data Analysis

### i) Determining Rows and Column



#### ii) Data Describe



**Result:** The df.describe() gives a statistical summary of numerical columns, including metrics like mean, standard deviation, and quartiles.

# iii) Checking for null values

	<pre>train.isnull().sum()</pre>			
6]	✓ 0.0s			
	ID	0		
	Customer_ID	0		
	Month	0		
	Name	9985		train.isnull().sum()
	Age	0	[27]	✓ 0.0s
	SSN	0		V 0.03
	Occupation	0	***	Age
	Annual_Income	0		Occupation
	Monthly_Inhand_Salary	15002		Annual_Income
	Num_Bank_Accounts	0		Num_Bank_Accounts
	Num_Credit_Card	0		Num_Credit_Card
	Interest_Rate	0		Interest Rate
	Num_of_Loan	0		Num of Loan
	Type_of_Loan	11408		Delay from due date
	Delay_from_due_date	0		Num of Delayed Payment
	Num_of_Delayed_Payment	7002		Changed Credit Limit
	Changed_Credit_Limit	0		Num Credit Inquiries
	Num_Credit_Inquiries	1965		Credit Mix
	Credit_Mix	0		Outstanding Debt
	Outstanding_Debt	0		Credit Utilization Ratio
	Credit_Utilization_Ratio	0		Payment of Min Amount
	Credit_History_Age	9030		Total EMI per month
	Payment_of_Min_Amount	0		
	Total_EMI_per_month	0		Amount_invested_monthly
	Amount_invested_monthly	4479		Payment_Behaviour
	Payment_Behaviour	0		Monthly_Balance
	Monthly_Balance	1200		Credit_Score
	Credit_Score dtype: int64	0		Credit_History_Age_Months dtype: int64

**Result:** The method df.isnull().sum() tells us whether there are any missing values present or not. It looks like there are lots of missing values to handle. The output on the right side is after all the missing values are handled.

#### iv) Checking for duplicates

#### v) Data Formatting

```
Train Data

# age, loans, delayed payments
train['Age'] = train['Age'].fillna('0').astype(float).astype(int)
train['Num_of_Loan'] = train['Num_of_Loan'].fillna('0').astype(float).astype(int)
train['Num_of_Delayed_Payment'] = train['Num_of_Delayed_Payment'].fillna('0').astype(float).astype(int)

# annual income
train['Annual_Income'] = train['Annual_Income'].str.replace(r'['0-9.]', '', regex=True)
train['Annual_Income'] = train['Annual_Income'].astype(float)

# 0.1s
```

#### Result:

After the data formatting, there are 100000 number of entries, 29 column names, non-null values, 9 float64 values, 5 int64 values and 15 object values for input variables.

# 4.3 Data Scaling

#### i) Removing Top Outliers

#### ii) Scaling the data

```
# Scaling
train = train[train['Age'] < 60]
train = train[train['Num_Credit_Card'] <= 10]
train = train[train['Interest_Rate'] <= 50]
train = train[train['Num_of_Loan'] <= 12]
train = train[train['Num_Bank_Accounts'] <= 10]
train = train[train['Delay_from_due_date'] <= 60]
train = train[train['Changed_Credit_Limit'] <= 30]
train = train[train['Num_Credit_Inquiries'] <= 12]
train = train[train['Total_EMI_per_month'] <= 200]
train = train[train['Outstanding_Debt'] <= 1500]</pre>
```

This Scaling is done to keep all the data within range. The outliers are also removed so the data distribution doesn't get skewed.

# 4.3 Filtering Data Values

#### i) Dropping Columns

#### ii) Filtering Anolamous Data

There were anomalous data in columns Payment Behavior, Occupation and Credit Mix which were filtered out.

## 4.4 Encoding Data

### i) Label Encoding

### ii) Ordinal Encoding

### 4.5 Data Visualization

### i) Box Plot

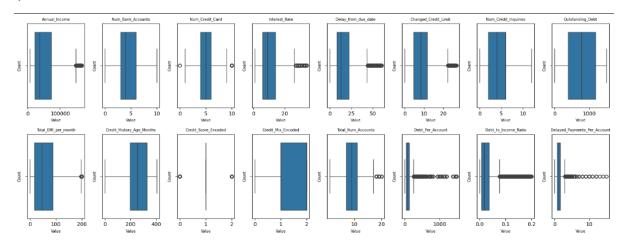


Figure 1: Box Plot

### ii) Heatmap

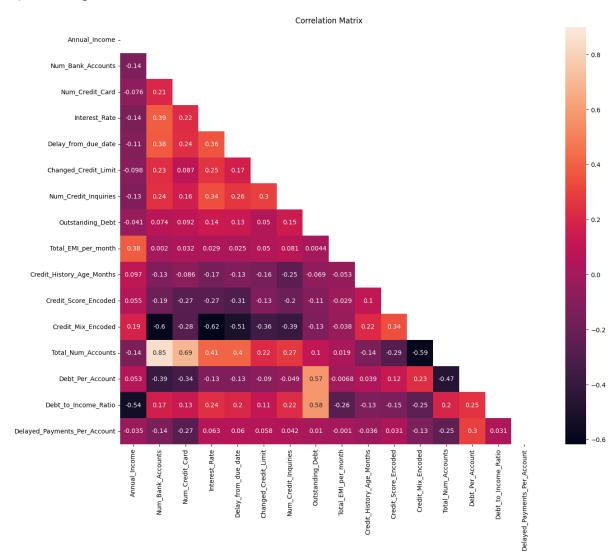


Figure 2: Heatmap

# **Chapter 5: Model Building and Evaluation**

#### 5.1 Model

Train Test Split was done on training data to build a model to predict the credit score.

### 5.2 Logistic Regression

Logistic Regression was trained using the cleaned and scaled dataset. The model struggled with non-linear relationships between the features and the target, leading to moderate accuracy.

Accuracy on training data: 63%

#### 5.3 Random Forest Classifier

Random Forest is an ensemble method that builds multiple decision trees and averages their predictions to improve accuracy and reduce overfitting. Since the dataset is large, it showed high accuracy and it is less prone to overfitting.

Accuracy on training data: 80%

### **5.3 Decision Tree Classifier**

A Decision Tree Classifier was used with depth constraints to avoid overfitting. The model handled non-linear relationships well and performed better with the categorical features, but was prone to overfitting on deeper trees.

**Accuracy on training data:** 75%

#### **5.4 Model Evaluation**

Each model was evaluated on the test set using common classification metric accuracy. Here, Random Forest has the highest accuracy so, this model is the best.

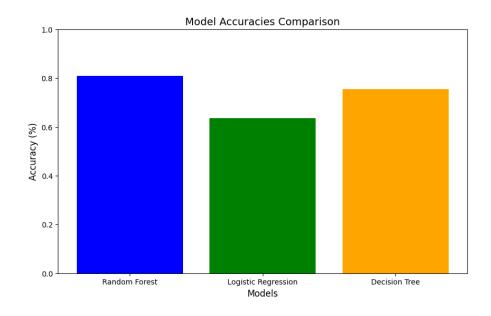


Figure 3: Model Evaluation

# **Chapter 6: Conclusion**

Based on the evaluation metrics, the Random Forest model proved to be the most effective algorithm for credit score classification, offering the best accuracy. Logistic Regression, while interpretable, was less effective at identifying risky borrowers, particularly in an imbalanced dataset. The Decision Tree provided some interpretability benefits but lacked the overall performance and generalizability of Random Forest.

Hence, Random Forest was used to predict the Test Data. The Test Data was cleaned in accordance to Train Data.

```
Performing Predictions on Test Data

# Make predictions on the test data using Random Forest model as it produced highest accuracy y_pred_test = rf_classifier.predict(test)

12.1s

#Add predictions to the test dataframe test['Predicted_Credit_Scores'] = y_pred_test

# Save only the predictions if 'ID' does not exist test[['Predicted_Credit_Scores']].to_csv('Test_Predictions_Crdit_Score.csv', index=False)

# Display the first few rows of predictions test[['Predicted_Credit_Scores']].head(8)

✓ 0.1s
```

	Predicted_Credit_Scores
1	2.0
3	2.0
5	2.0
12	1.0
14	1.0
17	1.0
19	1.0
20	2.0

# References

- [1] A. Kharwal, "Credit Score Classification with Machine Learning," thecleverprogrammer, 5 December 2022. [Online]. Available: https://thecleverprogrammer.com/2022/12/05/credit-score-classification-with-machine-learning/. [Accessed August 2024].
- [2] "How Credit Score is Calculated," shriramfinance, 21 February 2024. [Online]. Available: https://www.shriramfinance.in/article-how-credit-score-is-calculated. [Accessed September 2024].