

# Big Mountain Resort Ticket Pricing & Expanding the Resort

A Data Scientist's Perspective

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# Business Questions

- How to compensate for the additional expense (\$1.54 M) of adding a chair lift?
  - Is **cutting cuts** by reducing the number of facilities a viable option?
  - Is **raising ticket price** a viable option based on the facilities we offer?

# Business Questions

- As business has stated, we have 4 choices
  - a. Permanently closing down up to 10 of the least used runs. This doesn't impact any other resort statistics.
  - b. Increase the vertical drop by adding a run to a point 150 feet lower down but requiring the installation of an additional chair lift to bring skiers back up, without additional snow making coverage
  - c. Same as number 2, but adding 2 acres of snow making cover
  - d. Increase the longest run by 0.2 mile to boast 3.5 miles length, requiring an additional snow making coverage of 4 acres

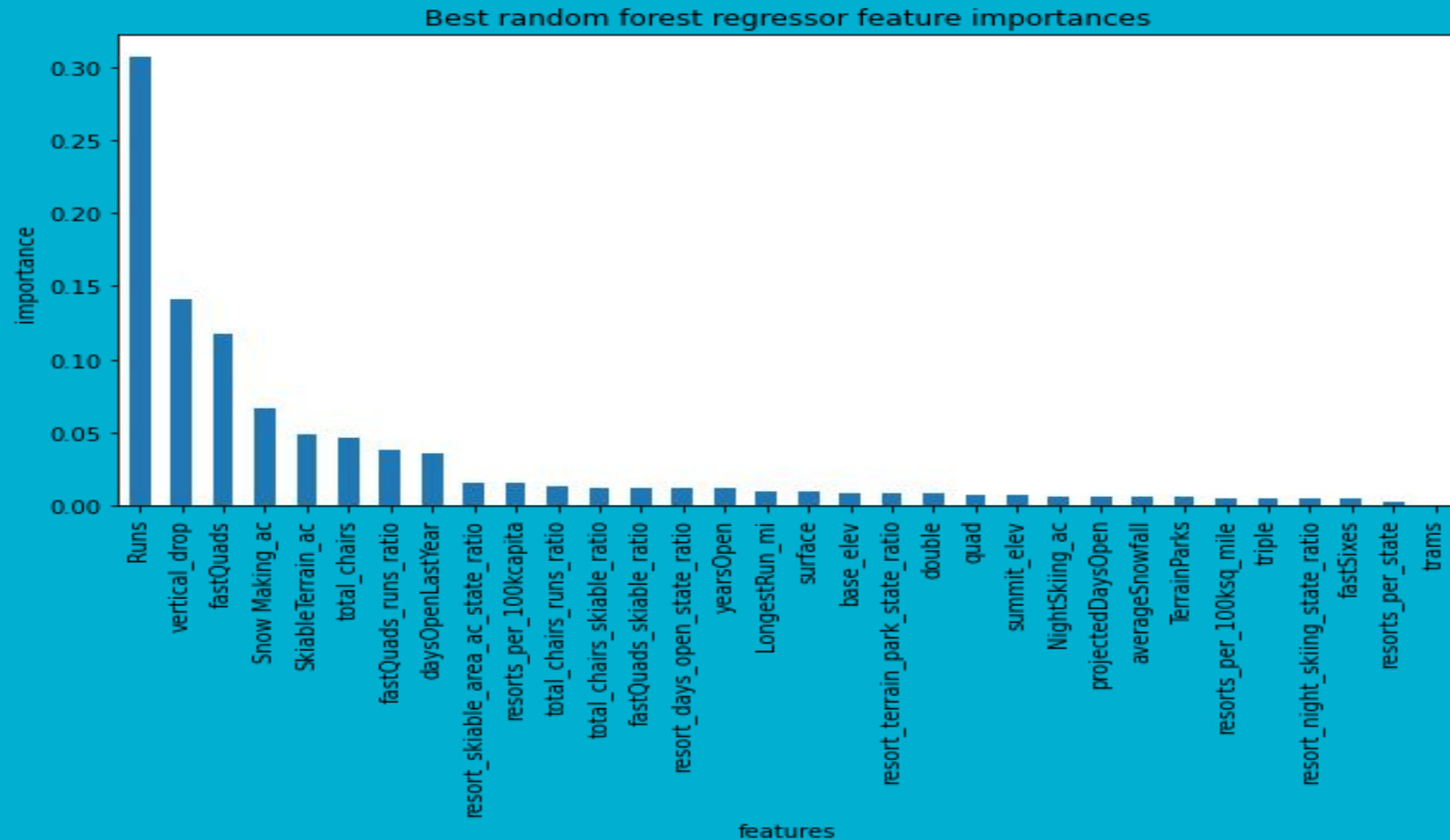
# Recommendations

- We suggest capitalizing more on the facilities and moving forward with option 2
  - Increase the vertical drop by adding a run to a point 150 feet lower down
  - Installation of an additional chair lift
- Analysis of other options
  - Closing down the 10 least common runs
    - Leads to decreased support for ticket price
  - Adding the number of snow making acres or increase length of longest run
    - Leads to no predicted difference in ticket price

# Modeling & Analysis

- Used a Random forest model to predict ticket prices and analyze which of the 32 features contribute most to ticket price
- Most important features which support an increased ticket price are:
  - Number of Runs
  - Vertical Drop
  - Number of Fast Quads
  - Number of Snow Making Acres
  - Skiable Terrain Acres
  - Total Chairs

# Modeling & Analysis

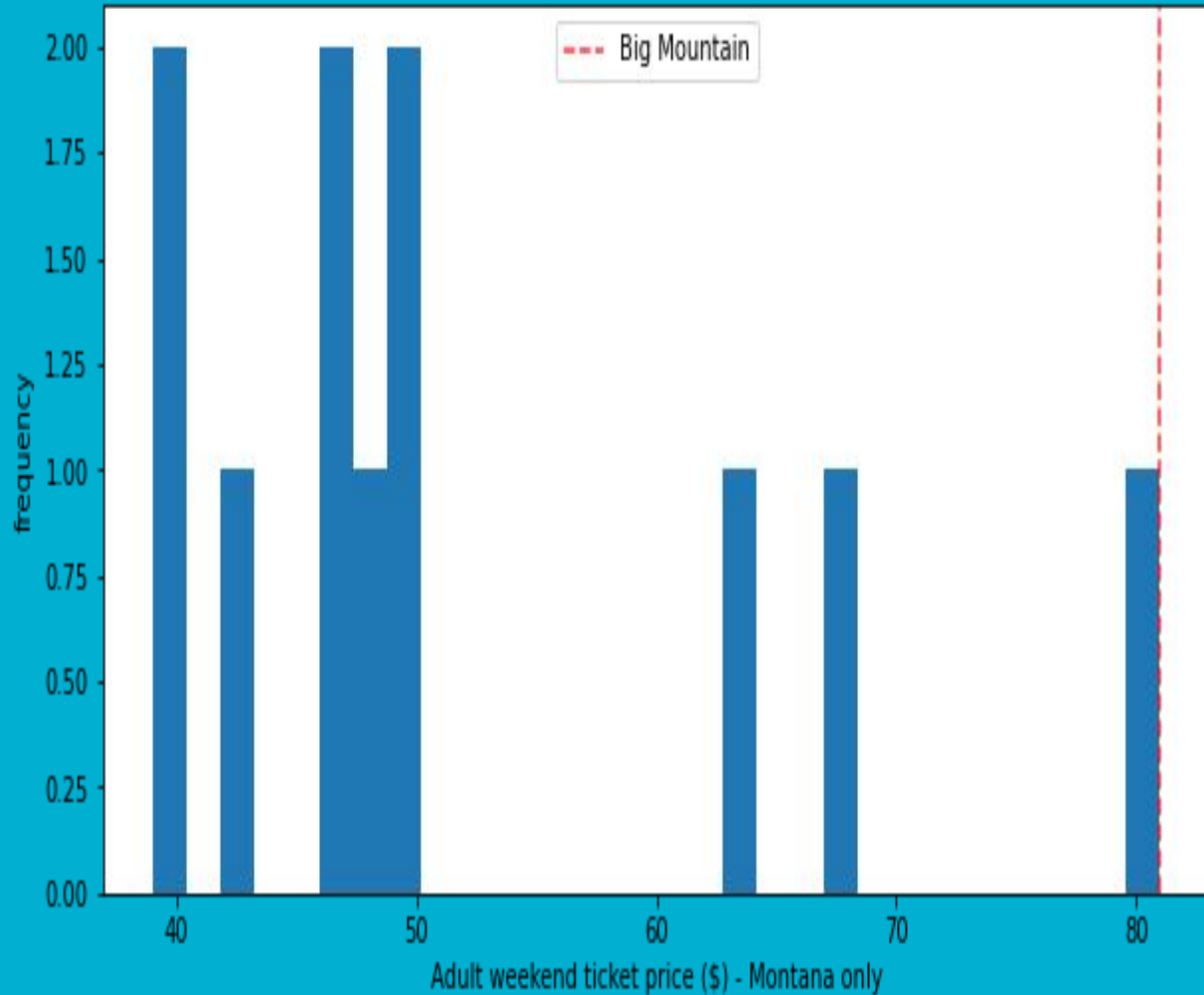


# Modeling & Analysis

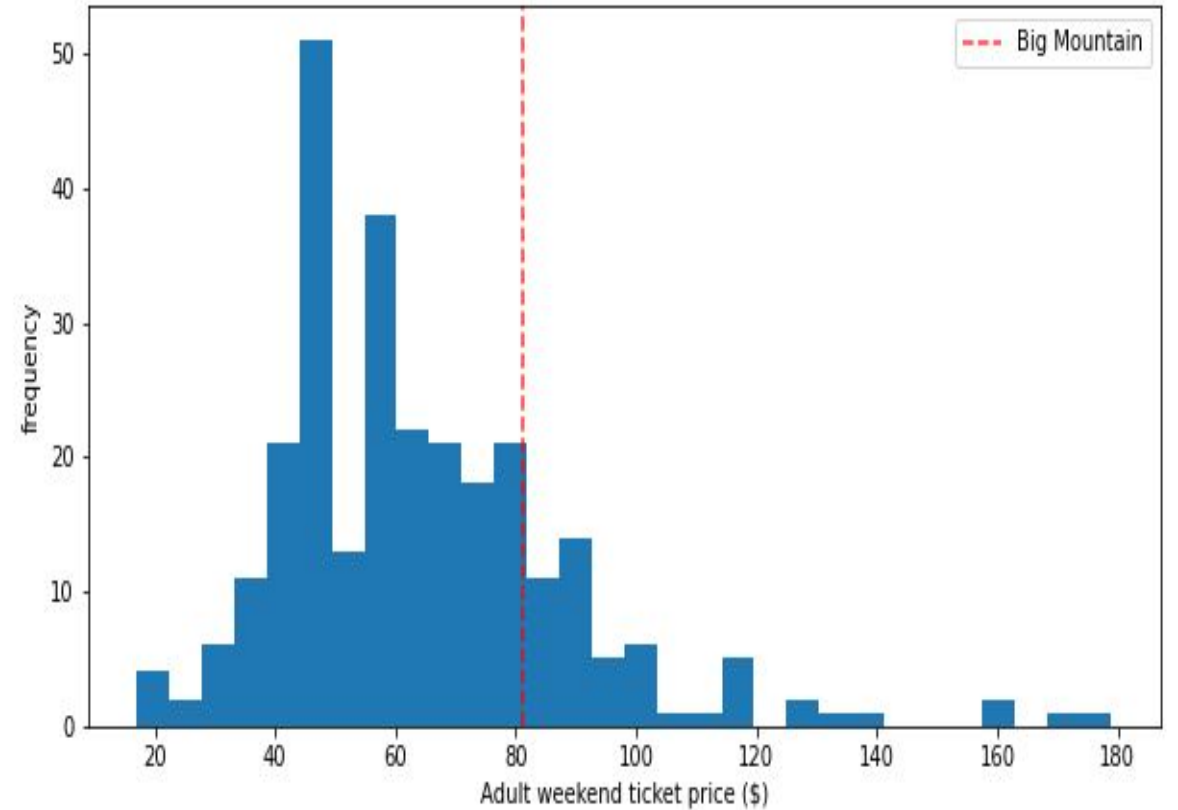
- Model recommends that we raise ticket prices
  - Model indicates that a resort with our facilities should have a pricing of \$92
  - Even with the model's margin of error of \$10, this suggests that our current price of \$81 is too low
- If we raise prices by \$1.31 per ticket, we expect to have additional revenue of \$2.3 M per season

# Modeling & Analysis

Adult weekend ticket price (\$) - Montana only distribution for resorts in market share



Adult weekend ticket price (\$) distribution for resorts in market share





# Summary

- Recommend Option 2: installing a new run with an increased vertical drop of 150 ft and adding an additional chair lift
- Raise ticket prices by \$1.31 per ticket
  - Model suggests that our current price of \$81 is too low for a resort with our facilities
  - Raising ticket prices is very reasonable when we consider other resorts in our market share, and will be enough to cover additional operational expenditures