

CUSTOMER CHURN PREDICTION USING MACHINE LEARNING

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1. Problem Statement

To develop a machine learning model that can **predict whether a customer is likely to churn (leave the service)**

2. Objectives of the Project

To predict whether a customer is likely to **churn** (leave a company) using historical data, so that the business can take proactive steps to **retain** them.

3. Scope of the Project

The **scope of Customer Churn Prediction using Machine Learning** is broad and highly valuable across industries

4. Data Sources

- i. Customer Demographics
- ii. Account Information
- iii. Payment and Billing History
- iv. Usage and Engagement Data
- v. Customer Support Interactions
- vi. Marketing & Communication History

5. High-Level Methodology

1. Data Collection

Obtain data from CRM systems, logs, billing systems, or public datasets like the Telco Churn Dataset.

2. Data Preprocessing

- Handle **missing values**
- Convert categorical variables using **encoding**
- Scale numeric features (if needed)
- Clean or drop irrelevant columns (e.g., customer ID)

3. Feature Engineering

- Create new features (e.g., engagement_score, tenure_bucket)
- Transform skewed variables
- Bin continuous features for decision trees

4. Model Selection

Common models used:

- **Logistic Regression** (baseline)
- **Decision Tree / Random Forest**

5. Model Evaluation

- Use train-test split or cross-validation
- Metrics:
 - **Accuracy** (overall correctness)
 - **Precision & Recall** (important for imbalanced classes)
 - **F1 Score**
 - **ROC-AUC** (to evaluate probability outputs)

6. Interpret Results

- Use SHAP or feature importance to explain predictions
- Identify top factors that lead to churn (e.g., short tenure, high charges)

7. Actionable Steps

- Target high-risk customers with:
 - Discounts
 - Personalized offers
 - Loyalty programs
 - Improved service quality

6. Tools and Technologies

1. Data Collection & Storage

These tools help gather and store raw data about customers, transactions, and interactions:

- **SQL / MySQL / PostgreSQL** – For querying customer databases
- **Excel / CSV Files** – For manual or exported data
- **CRM Tools** (e.g., Salesforce, HubSpot) – Customer profiles and behavior
- **Cloud Platforms** (e.g., AWS S3, Google BigQuery) – Scalable storage
- **APIs** – To pull in data from external systems or application

2. Data Preprocessing & Analysis

Used for cleaning, exploring, and preparing data before modeling:

- **Python** – Most popular language for ML tasks
- **Pandas** – For data manipulation and preprocessing
- **NumPy** – For numerical operations
- **Matplotlib / Seaborn** – For data visualization

3. Machine Learning Modeling

Tools and libraries for building and evaluating predictive models:

- **Scikit-learn** – Core ML models (Logistic Regression, Random Forest, etc.)
- **XGBoost / LightGBM / CatBoost** – High-performance gradient boosting libraries
- **TensorFlow / Keras / PyTorch** – For deep learning models

4. Feature Engineering & Selection

Used to create and select the best features to improve model performance:

- **Scikit-learn** – Has built-in tools for feature selection
- **Featuretools** – For automated feature engineering
- **SHAP / LIME** – For interpreting feature importance

5. Model Evaluation & Tuning

Helps fine-tune models and understand their performance:

- **Scikit-learn** – Cross-validation, confusion matrix, ROC curves
- **Optuna / Hyperopt** – For hyperparameter tuning
- **Yellowbrick** – For visual model diagnostics and performance plots

6. Deployment

Used to deploy churn models into production:

- **Flask / FastAPI** – Lightweight Python APIs for serving models
- **Docker** – For packaging ML models as containers
- **Streamlit / Gradio** – For building interactive dashboards

7. Reporting & Business Intelligence

Used to present churn insights to non-technical stakeholders:

Tableau / Power BI – Visual dashboards for business teams

Looker / Metabase – Data exploration for decision-makers

Excel – Still common for quick reports and summaries

7. Team Members and Roles

1. K.ABIKA – (Data collection, cleaning)
2. T.R.VIGNESH – (tools and technology)
3. S.KIRUBANANTHAM – (high level methodology)