Is this mushroom edible?

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mushroom database contains about 8.200 types of mushrooms from the most widely consumed family (Agaricus), either edible or poisonous. The database gives 22 attributes for each mushroom (cap shape, cap color, veil type, spore print color, habitat, . . .). I will try different model to predict whether the mushroom is edible or not, according to the attributes. The first objective is to attain a 100% specificity (positive = poisonous, we don't want false edible!) and if possible a 100% accuracy. The second objective is to find a simple model, that is using a small number of attributes.

Almost all models achieved perfect accuracy: logistic regression, k-nearest neighbors and decision tree with a penaly matrix to minimize false edible.

The decision tree shows that 5 attributes among the 22 are enough to get a perfect prediction : odor, spore.print.color, population, gill.size and habitat

If a mushroom smells fishy, spicy, pungent, musty, foul or creosote, DO NOT EAT IT! If it doesn't, but the color of its spore print is green or white, do not eat it either.

2 ANALYSIS

2.1 Getting and tidying the data

The mushroom dataset can be found on the Kaggle website

I couldn't find an easy way to download the dataset directly from the script (restrictions due to Kaggle Terms of Use), so the csv file provided with the script must be copied in the script directory.

```
raw <- read.csv("./mushrooms.csv")</pre>
str(raw)
## 'data.frame':
                    8124 obs. of 23 variables:
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "e", "p": 2 1 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 ...
##
    $ class
                               : Factor w/ 6 levels "b", "c", "f", "k", ...: 6 6 1 6 6 6 1 1 6 1 ...
##
    $ cap.shape
##
   $ cap.surface
                               : Factor w/ 4 levels "f", "g", "s", "y": 3 3 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 ...
##
  $ cap.color
                               : Factor w/ 10 levels "b", "c", "e", "g", ...: 5 10 9 9 4 10 9 9 9 10 ...
##
  $ bruises
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "f", "t": 2 2 2 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 ...
##
    $ odor
                               : Factor w/ 9 levels "a", "c", "f", "l", ...: 7 1 4 7 6 1 1 4 7 1 ...
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "a", "f": 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
##
   $ gill.attachment
##
   $ gill.spacing
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "c", "w": 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 ...
   $ gill.size
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "b", "n": 2 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 2 1 ...
##
   $ gill.color
                               : Factor w/ 12 levels "b", "e", "g", "h", ...: 5 5 6 6 5 6 3 6 8 3 ...
##
                               : Factor w/ 2 levels "e", "t": 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ stalk.shape
  $ stalk.root
                               : Factor w/ 5 levels "?", "b", "c", "e", ...: 4 3 3 4 4 3 3 3 4 3 ...
    $ stalk.surface.above.ring: Factor w/ 4 levels "f", "k", "s", "y": 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...
##
##
    $ stalk.surface.below.ring: Factor w/ 4 levels "f","k","s","y": 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...
    $ stalk.color.above.ring : Factor w/ 9 levels "b", "c", "e", "g", ...: 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 ...
    $ stalk.color.below.ring : Factor w/ 9 levels "b", "c", "e", "g", ...: 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 ...
##
    $ veil.type
                               : Factor w/ 1 level "p": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
##
   $ veil.color
                               : Factor w/ 4 levels "n", "o", "w", "y": 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...
##
  $ ring.number
                               : Factor w/ 3 levels "n", "o", "t": 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
   $ ring.type
                               : Factor w/ 5 levels "e", "f", "l", "n", ...: 5 5 5 5 5 1 5 5 5 5 5 ...
##
                               : Factor w/ 9 levels "b", "h", "k", "n", ...: 3 4 4 3 4 3 3 4 3 3 ...
    $ spore.print.color
   $ population
                               : Factor w/ 6 levels "a", "c", "n", "s", ...: 4 3 3 4 1 3 3 4 5 4 ...
##
                               : Factor w/ 7 levels "d", "g", "l", "m", ...: 6 2 4 6 2 2 4 4 2 4 ...
## $ habitat
```

The dataset is already tidy. The only modification I made for clarity purpose is to use full name instead of one letter for the levels of each factor.

For instance, the code for *cap.shape* is:

2.2 Data Exploration

Let's have a look at the summary of the dataframe :

```
summary(raw)
```

```
##
                                      cap.surface
                                                       cap.color
          class
                        cap.shape
                                     fibrous:2320
##
    edible
             :4208
                      bell
                             : 452
                                                     brown :2284
##
    poisonous:3916
                      conical:
                                 4
                                     grooves:
                                                     grey
                                                            :1840
##
                      flat
                             :3152
                                     smooth:2556
                                                     red
                                                            :1500
                                                     yellow:1072
##
                      knobbed: 828
                                     scaly :3244
##
                      sunken: 32
                                                     white :1040
##
                      convex :3656
                                                     buff
                                                            : 168
##
                                                     (Other): 220
##
       bruises
                         odor
                                   gill.attachment
                                                     gill.spacing
##
           :4748
                           :3528
                                   attached: 210
                                                    close :6812
                   none
##
    bruises:3376
                   foul
                           :2160
                                   free
                                           :7914
                                                    crowded:1312
                   spicy : 576
##
##
                   fishy
                           : 576
##
                   almond: 400
##
                   anise : 400
##
                    (Other): 484
                      gill.color
     gill.size
                                                        stalk.root
##
                                       stalk.shape
##
    broad :5612
                  buff
                            :1728
                                    enlarging:3516
                                                      missing:2480
    narrow:2512
                                                      bulbous:3776
                  pink
                            :1492
                                    tapering:4608
##
                  white
                            :1202
                                                      club
                                                             : 556
                            :1048
##
                  brown
                                                      equal :1120
##
                            : 752
                  grey
                                                      rooted: 192
##
                  chocolate: 732
##
                   (Other) :1170
##
    stalk.surface.above.ring stalk.surface.below.ring stalk.color.above.ring
##
    fibrous: 552
                              fibrous: 600
                                                        white
                                                               :4464
                                                        pink
##
    silky :2372
                              silky :2304
                                                                :1872
##
    smooth:5176
                              smooth:4936
                                                        grey
                                                                : 576
##
    scaly: 24
                              scaly : 284
                                                        brown
                                                               : 448
##
                                                        buff
                                                                : 432
##
                                                        orange: 192
##
                                                        (Other): 140
##
                              veil.type
                                                          ring.number
    stalk.color.below.ring
                                             veil.color
    white :4384
                            partial:8124
                                                  :
                                                     96
                                                          none: 36
##
    pink
           :1872
                                            orange:
                                                     96
                                                          one:7488
##
    grey
           : 576
                                            white :7924
                                                          two: 600
          : 512
##
    brown
                                            yellow:
    buff
           : 432
    orange: 192
##
##
    (Other): 156
##
         ring.type
                       spore.print.color
                                              population
                                                              habitat
##
                       white
                                :2388
                                          abundant: 384
                                                           woods :3148
    evanescent: 2776
##
    flaring
              : 48
                      brown
                                :1968
                                         clustered: 340
                                                           grasses:2148
                                :1872
##
    large
              :1296
                      black
                                         numerous: 400
                                                           leaves: 832
##
    none
                 36
                       chocolate:1632
                                          scattered: 1248
                                                           meadows: 292
##
    pendant
              :3968
                       green
                                : 72
                                          several:4040
                                                           paths :1144
##
                      buff
                                          solitary:1712
                                                           urban: 368
##
                       (Other) : 144
                                                           waste : 192
```

The observations are almost evenly balanced between edible and poisonous mushrooms. The attributes distributions range from the very rare (e.g. cap.shape conical = 4 observations) to the most common (gill.attachment free = 7924 observations). All observations share the attribute veil.type = partial. Therefore, this factor is not relevant for the model and can be discarded.

```
mushrooms <- select(raw, -veil.type)
rm(raw)</pre>
```

The dataset being quite large, we will train our model on 60% of the observations and keep 40 % as a test set.

```
set.seed(1)
index <- createDataPartition(mushrooms$class, times = 1, p = 0.4, list = FALSE)
test_set <- mushrooms[index, ]
train_set <- mushrooms[-index, ]
y <- test_set$class</pre>
```

2.3 Logistic Regression

The first model we try is a logistic regression with 22 predictors (all attributes but class)

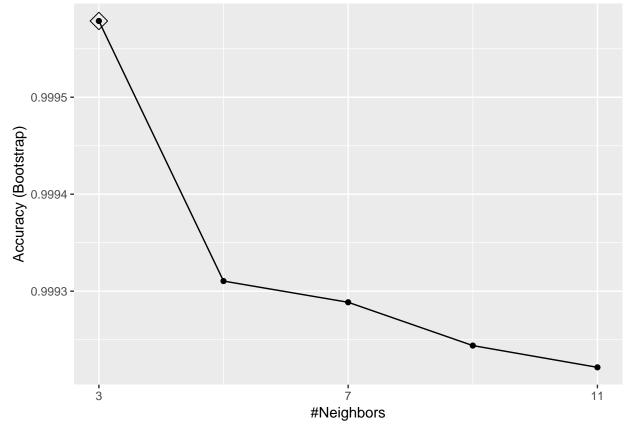
Table 1: Logistic regression

	y_hat		
	edible	poisonous	
edible	1684	0	
poisonous	0	1567	

The logistic regression model gives a perfect prediction on the test set.

2.4 K-nearest neighbors

Let's try a kNN model with k values between 3 and 11:



The best accuracy is achieved with k = 3.

```
y_hat_knn <- predict(knn_train, newdata = test_set, type = "raw")
kable(table(y, y_hat_knn), caption = "3-nearest neighbors", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
kable_styling(latex_options = "hold_position") %>%
add_header_above(c(" " = 1, "y_hat" = 2))
```

Table 2: 3-nearest neighbors

	y_hat	
	edible	poisonous
edible	1684	0
poisonous	0	1567

The 3-nearest neighbors model also gives a perfect prediction on the test set.

2.5 Decision Tree

```
rpart_train <- rpart(class ~ ., data = train_set, method = "class")
y_hat_rpart <- predict(rpart_train, newdata = test_set, type="class")

kable(table(y, y_hat_rpart), caption = "Decision tree", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
    kable_styling(latex_options = "hold_position") %>%
    add_header_above(c(" " = 1, "y_hat" = 2))
```

 $\begin{tabular}{c|c} Table 3: Decision tree \\ \hline & y_hat \\ \hline edible & poisonous \\ edible & 1684 & 0 \\ poisonous & 13 & 1554 \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

13 mushrooms are predicted edible when they are indeed poisonous: NOT GOOD!!

In order to minimize false negatives (false edibles), let's add a penalty matrix:

```
penalty.matrix <- matrix(c(0,10,1,0), nrow = 2, ncol = 2)
rpart2_train <- rpart(class ~ ., data = train_set, method = "class", parms = list(loss = penalty.matrix
y_hat_rpart2 <- predict(rpart2_train, newdata = test_set, type="class")

kable(table(y, y_hat_rpart2), caption = "Decision tree with penalty", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
    kable_styling(latex_options = "hold_position") %>%
    add_header_above(c(" " = 1, "y_hat" = 2))
```

Table 4: Decision tree with penalty

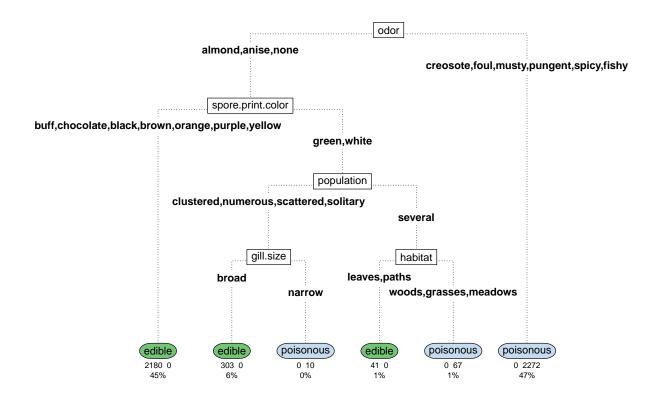
	y_hat		
	edible	poisonous	
edible	1684	0	
poisonous	0	1567	

This time the prediction on the test is perfect. Let's check our decision tree on the full set:

```
y_hat <- predict(rpart2_train, newdata = mushrooms, type = "class")
kable(table(mushrooms$class, y_hat), caption = "DTwP, full set", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
kable_styling(latex_options = "hold_position") %>%
add_header_above(c(" " = 1, "y_hat" = 2))
```

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} Table 5: DTwP, full set \\ & & y_hat \\ \hline edible & edible & poisonous \\ poisonous & 4208 & 0 \\ poisonous & 0 & 3916 \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

Our decision tree predicts correctly any mushroom in our dataset. Let's have a look at the tree:



The decision tree can correctly classify all observations with only **5 attributes**: odor, spore.print.color, population, gill.size and habitat. Let see if logistic regression can achieve 100% accuracy with these 5 predictors.

2.6 Five predictors logistic regression

```
form <- as.formula("class ~ odor + spore.print.color + population + gill.size + habitat")
glm5P_train <- glm(form, data = train_set, family = "binomial", maxit = 100)
y_hat_glm5P <- predict(glm5P_train, newdata = test_set, type = "response")
y_hat_glm5P <- as.factor(ifelse(y_hat_glm5P > 0.5, "poisonous", "edible"))
kable(table(y, y_hat_glm5P), caption = "5-predictors logistic regression", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
kable_styling(latex_options = "hold_position") %>%
add_header_above(c(" " = 1, "y_hat" = 2))
```

Table 6: 5-predictors logistic regression

	y_hat		
	edible	poisonous	
edible	1684	0	
poisonous	0	1567	

The 5 predictors are indeed enough to achieve 100% accuracy.

3 RESULTS

method	Specificity	Sensitivity	Accuracy
Logistic regression	1.000	1	1.000
3-nearest neighbors	1.000	1	1.000
Decision tree	0.992	1	0.996
Decision tree with penalty	1.000	1	1.000
5-predictors logistic regression	1.000	1	1.000

4 CONCLUSION

Five attributes are enough to decide if a mushroom in our dataset is edible or poisonous. If you go shrooming, the golden rule is to **use your nose first.** If the mushroom smells fishy, spicy, pungent, musty, foul or creosote, discard it! If it doesn't, then look at the color of the spore print. If it's green or white, then you'd better throw it away as well. It's probably edible (72% of this population is) but to be sure you would have to establish its population, its habitat and its gill size. Better safe than sorry!