

# Neural Network Report

## Alphabet Soup Charity

---



### Purpose

The nonprofit foundation Alphabet Soup has long been dedicated to empowering organizations that align with its mission by providing them with the necessary funding to achieve their goals. However, selecting the most promising applicants for funding is a complex task, given the vast number of organizations that seek support. To enhance the effectiveness of this process, Alphabet Soup seeks to implement a predictive tool that can identify the applicants with the highest likelihood of success in their ventures.

---

---

This analysis aims to leverage machine learning, specifically a neural network model, to develop a binary classifier that can predict the success of an applicant if funded by Alphabet Soup. Using a comprehensive dataset of over 34,000 previously funded organizations, which includes various features such as application type, affiliation, classification, use case, and funding amount requested, this model will enable Alphabet Soup to make data-driven decisions, ultimately improving the allocation of resources and maximizing the impact of its funding initiatives.

By accurately identifying successful applicants, Alphabet Soup can optimize its funding strategy, ensuring that the foundation's resources are utilized in the most effective and impactful manner.

## Results

### Data Preprocessing

- **What variable(s) are the target(s) for your model?**
  - **Target Variable:** The target variable identified is **IS\_SUCCESSFUL**, which measures whether the funding provided was used effectively.
- **What variable(s) are the features for your model?**
  - Feature Variables: The features used to predict **IS\_SUCCESSFUL** include:
    - APPLICATION\_TYPE - Alphabet Soup application type
    - AFFILIATION - Affiliated sector of industry
    - CLASSIFICATION - Government organization classification
    - USE\_CASE - Use case for funding
    - ORGANIZATION - Organization type
    - STATUS - Active status
    - INCOME\_AMT - Income classification
    - SPECIAL\_CONSIDERATIONS - Special considerations for application
    - ASK\_AMT - Funding amount requested
- **What variable(s) should be removed from the input data because they are neither targets nor features?**

- Removed Variables: EIN and NAME were excluded from the dataset as they are identifiers and do not contribute to the model's prediction capabilities.

## Compiling, Training, and Evaluating the Model

### How many neurons, layers, and activation functions did you select for your neural network model, and why?

Five different neural network models were tested, each with varying structures and optimizations:

1.	Description	Initial analysis after modifying Application and Classification features to collapse tail-end into "Other"												
	Features	Columns= 'APPLICATION_TYPE', 'AFFILIATION', 'CLASSIFICATION', 'USE_CASE', 'ORGANIZATION', 'INCOME_AMT', 'SPECIAL_CONSIDERATIONS'												
	Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of Layers: Three</li> <li>• 1st layer: Activation = relu, 6 neurons</li> <li>• 2nd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 4 neurons</li> <li>• Output layer: Activation = sigmoid, 1 neuron</li> <li>• Optimizer: adam</li> <li>• Epoch: 100</li> </ul>												
	Parameters	<p>Model: "sequential"</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Layer (type)</th><th>Output Shape</th><th>Param #</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>dense (Dense)</td><td>(None, 6)</td><td>264</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_1 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 4)</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_2 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 1)</td><td>5</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total params: 297 (1.16 KB)  Trainable params: 297 (1.16 KB)  Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)</p>	Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	dense (Dense)	(None, 6)	264	dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 4)	28	dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 1)	5
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #												
dense (Dense)	(None, 6)	264												
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 4)	28												
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 1)	5												
	Results:	Loss: 0.5520821213722229 Accuracy: 0.7332944869995117												

2.	Description	<b>Optimization Attempt #1:</b> Same as above with
----	-------------	--

hyperparameter tuning																							
Features	Columns= 'APPLICATION_TYPE', 'AFFILIATION', 'CLASSIFICATION', 'ORGANIZATION', 'INCOME_AMT', 'SPECIAL_CONSIDERATIONS', 'USE_CASE'																						
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of Layers: Six</li> <li>• 1st layer: Activation = relu, 100 neurons</li> <li>• 2nd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 75 neurons</li> <li>• 3rd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 50 neurons</li> <li>• 4th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 25 neurons</li> <li>• 5th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 10 neurons</li> <li>• Output layer: Activation = sigmoid, 1 neuron</li> <li>• Optimizer: adam</li> <li>• Epoch: 20</li> </ul>																						
Parameters	<p>Model: "sequential"</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Layer (type)</th><th>Output Shape</th><th>Param #</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>dense (Dense)</td><td>(None, 100)</td><td>4,400</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_1 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 75)</td><td>7,575</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_2 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 50)</td><td>3,800</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_3 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 25)</td><td>1,275</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_4 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 10)</td><td>260</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_5 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 1)</td><td>11</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>           Total params: 17,321 (67.66 KB)            Trainable params: 17,321 (67.66 KB)            Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)         </p>		Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	dense (Dense)	(None, 100)	4,400	dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575	dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800	dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275	dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260	dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #																					
dense (Dense)	(None, 100)	4,400																					
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575																					
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800																					
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275																					
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260																					
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11																					
Results:	Loss: 0.5507164597511292 Accuracy: 0.7330612540245056																						

- Description

**Optimization Attempt #2:** Searched for ASK\_AMT outliers using a box plot, however no outlier was identified. Nevertheless, I identified a wide range of values. As a result, used logarithmic transformation to create bins for ASK\_AMT

		<pre> Log_ASK_AMT_Binned_Clean \$3K - \$20K      26814 \$20K - \$90K     2711 \$90K - \$370K    2208 \$370K - \$1.4M   1310 \$1.4M - \$5.5M   737 \$5.5M - \$24M    280 \$24M - \$90M     143 \$90M - \$490M    56 \$490M - \$1.5B   33 \$1.5B+          7 Name: count, dtype: int64 </pre>																					
	Features	Columns= 'APPLICATION_TYPE', 'AFFILIATION', 'CLASSIFICATION', 'USE_CASE', 'ORGANIZATION', 'STATUS', 'INCOME_AMT', 'SPECIAL_CONSIDERATIONS', 'IS_SUCCESSFUL', 'ASK_AMT_BIN'																					
	Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of Layers: Six</li> <li>• 1st layer: Activation = relu, 100 neurons</li> <li>• 2nd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 75 neurons</li> <li>• 3rd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 50 neurons</li> <li>• 4th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 25 neurons</li> <li>• 5th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 10 neurons</li> <li>• Output layer: Activation = sigmoid, 1 neuron</li> <li>• Optimizer: adam</li> <li>• Epoch: 20</li> </ul>																					
	Parameters	<p>Model: "sequential_1"</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Layer (type)</th><th>Output Shape</th><th>Param #</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>dense_6 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 100)</td><td>5,400</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_7 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 75)</td><td>7,575</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_8 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 50)</td><td>3,800</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_9 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 25)</td><td>1,275</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_10 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 10)</td><td>260</td></tr> <tr> <td>dense_11 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 1)</td><td>11</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p> Total params: 18,321 (71.57 KB)  Trainable params: 18,321 (71.57 KB)  Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B) </p>	Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 100)	5,400	dense_7 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575	dense_8 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800	dense_9 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275	dense_10 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260	dense_11 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #																					
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 100)	5,400																					
dense_7 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575																					
dense_8 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800																					
dense_9 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275																					
dense_10 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260																					
dense_11 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11																					
	Results:	Loss: 0.5574935674667358 Accuracy: 0.7223323583602905																					

4.

Description

**Optimization Attempt #3:** Ran a KerasClassifier and identified the weakest and strongest features, and removed the weakest

### features (Use\_Case, ASK\_AMT\_BIN)

Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_0 with importance -0.0006647230320700026  
 Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_25000-99999 with importance -0.0006064139941691193  
 Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$3K - \$20K with importance -0.00045481049562685617  
 Weakest feature: ORGANIZATION\_Co-operative with importance -0.00025655976676385305  
 Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_5M-10M with importance -0.0001516034985422965  
 Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$1.5B+ with importance -0.0001282798833819432  
 Weakest feature: USE\_CASE\_Healthcare with importance -3.3306690738754695e-17  
 Weakest feature: USE\_CASE\_Other with importance 0.0

Features	Columns= 'APPLICATION_TYPE', 'AFFILIATION', 'CLASSIFICATION', 'ORGANIZATION', 'STATUS','SPECIAL_CONSIDERATIONS'																					
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• # of Layers: Six</li><li>• 1st layer: Activation = relu, 100 neurons</li><li>• 2nd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 75 neurons</li><li>• 3rd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 50 neurons</li><li>• 4th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 25 neurons</li><li>• 5th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 10 neurons</li><li>• Output layer: Activation = sigmoid, 1 neuron</li><li>• Optimizer: adam</li><li>• Epoch: 20</li></ul>																					
Parameters	<p>Model: "sequential_2"</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Layer (type)</th><th>Output Shape</th><th>Param #</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>dense_12 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 100)</td><td>3,000</td></tr><tr><td>dense_13 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 75)</td><td>7,575</td></tr><tr><td>dense_14 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 50)</td><td>3,800</td></tr><tr><td>dense_15 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 25)</td><td>1,275</td></tr><tr><td>dense_16 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 10)</td><td>260</td></tr><tr><td>dense_17 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 1)</td><td>11</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Total params: 15,921 (62.19 KB) Trainable params: 15,921 (62.19 KB) Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)</p>	Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 100)	3,000	dense_13 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575	dense_14 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800	dense_15 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275	dense_16 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260	dense_17 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #																				
dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 100)	3,000																				
dense_13 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575																				
dense_14 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800																				
dense_15 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275																				
dense_16 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260																				
dense_17 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11																				
Results:	Loss: 0.5609097480773926 Accuracy: 0.7262973785400391																					

- Description** **Optimization Attempt #4:** Ran neural network auto-optimizer which tries different combinations of Activation ('relu', 'tanh', 'sigmoid'), Layers, Neurons, and Optimizers ('adam', 'rmsprop', 'sgd'). Moved forward with the best of 60 tests.

Features	Columns= 'APPLICATION_TYPE', 'AFFILIATION', 'CLASSIFICATION', 'ORGANIZATION', 'STATUS','SPECIAL_CONSIDERATIONS'																					
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• # of Layers: Six</li><li>• 1st layer: Activation = sigmoid, 7 neurons</li><li>• 2nd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 3 neurons</li><li>• 3rd layer: Activation = sigmoid, 9 neurons</li><li>• 4th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 9 neurons</li><li>• 5th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 3 neurons</li><li>• 6th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 7 neurons</li><li>• 7th layer: Activation = sigmoid, 7 neurons</li><li>• Output layer: Activation = sigmoid, 1 neuron</li><li>• Optimizer: adam</li><li>• Epoch: 20</li></ul>																					
Parameters	<p>Model: "sequential_2"</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Layer (type)</th><th>Output Shape</th><th>Param #</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>dense_12 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 100)</td><td>3,000</td></tr><tr><td>dense_13 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 75)</td><td>7,575</td></tr><tr><td>dense_14 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 50)</td><td>3,800</td></tr><tr><td>dense_15 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 25)</td><td>1,275</td></tr><tr><td>dense_16 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 10)</td><td>260</td></tr><tr><td>dense_17 (Dense)</td><td>(None, 1)</td><td>11</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Total params: 15,921 (62.19 KB) Trainable params: 15,921 (62.19 KB) Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)</p>	Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 100)	3,000	dense_13 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575	dense_14 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800	dense_15 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275	dense_16 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260	dense_17 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #																				
dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 100)	3,000																				
dense_13 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575																				
dense_14 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800																				
dense_15 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275																				
dense_16 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260																				
dense_17 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11																				
Results:	Loss: 0.5586107969284058 Accuracy: 0.7220991253852844																					

### Were you able to achieve the target model performance?

The objective was to achieve a predictive accuracy of 75% or higher. While none of the models reached this threshold, the initial baseline model (Model 1) provided the best performance. This model's simpler structure and granular inputs may have contributed to its slightly superior results.

Model	Accuracy	Loss
#1 - Initial Baseline	0.73329	0.55208

#2 - Hyperparameter Tuning	0.73306	0.55071
#3 - Logarithmic Transformation Binning (ASK_AMT)	0.72233	0.55749
#4 - KerasClassifier (Weakness & Strength)	0.72629	0.56090
#5 - Auto Optimizer	0.72209	0.55861

## What steps did you take in your attempts to increase model performance?

Several strategies were employed to enhance model performance:

- **Hyperparameter Tuning:** Adjusting the number of layers and neurons (Exhibit 1).
- **Logarithmic Transformation:** Binning **ASK\_AMT** to reduce the complexity of unique values (Exhibit 2).
- **Feature Reduction:** Removing weak features identified through a KerasClassifier analysis (Exhibit 3).
- **Auto-Optimization:** Implementing an automated search for the best combination of activation functions, layers, neurons, and optimizers (Exhibit 4).

Despite these efforts, the initial baseline model remained the most effective, suggesting that further refinement is needed. One potential avenue for improvement could be the strategic removal of low-performing features after the one-hot encoding (dummies) stage.

### Exhibit 1

# Model 1

Model: "sequential"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense (Dense)	(None, 6)	264
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 4)	28
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 1)	5

Total params: 297 (1.16 KB)  
Trainable params: 297 (1.16 KB)  
Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)

# Model 2

Model: "sequential"

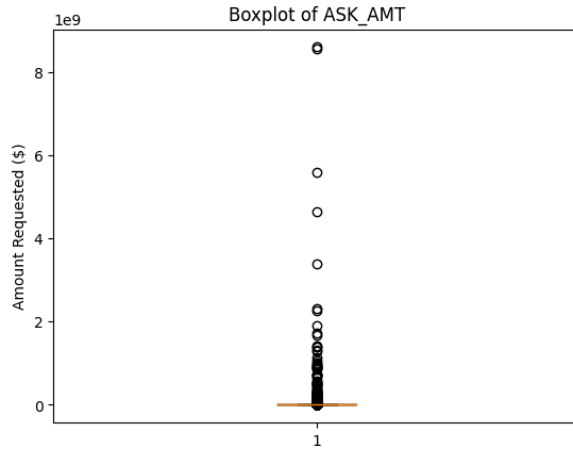
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense (Dense)	(None, 100)	4,400
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 75)	7,575
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 50)	3,800
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 25)	1,275
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 10)	260
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 1)	11

Total params: 17,321 (67.66 KB)  
Trainable params: 17,321 (67.66 KB)  
Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)



## Exhibit 2

ASK\_AMT Box Plot



Logarithmic Transformation of ASK\_AMT

Log\_ASK\_AMT\_Binned\_Clean

\$3K - \$20K	26814
\$20K - \$90K	2711
\$90K - \$370K	2208
\$370K - \$1.4M	1310
\$1.4M - \$5.5M	737
\$5.5M - \$24M	280
\$24M - \$90M	143
\$90M - \$490M	56
\$490M - \$1.5B	33
\$1.5B+	7

Name: count, dtype: int64

## Exhibit 3

### Weakest Features (20)

Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_0 with importance -0.0006647230320700026  
Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_25000-99999 with importance -0.0006064139941691193  
Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$3K - \$20K with importance -0.00045481049562685617  
Weakest feature: ORGANIZATION\_Co-operative with importance -0.00025655976676385301  
Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_5M-10M with importance -0.0001516034985422965  
Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$1.5B+ with importance -0.0001282798833819432  
Weakest feature: USE\_CASE\_Healthcare with importance -3.3306690738754695e-17  
Weakest feature: USE\_CASE\_Other with importance 0.0  
Weakest feature: STATUS\_0 with importance 1.1661807580176654e-05  
Weakest feature: STATUS\_1 with importance 1.1661807580176654e-05  
Weakest feature: AFFILIATION\_Other with importance 2.3323615160353307e-05  
Weakest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_100000-499999 with importance 5.830903790084996e-05  
Weakest feature: SPECIAL\_CONSIDERATIONS\_Y with importance 9.329446064139102e-05  
Weakest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T7 with importance 0.00012827988338188768  
Weakest feature: SPECIAL\_CONSIDERATIONS\_N with importance 0.00012827988338192097  
Weakest feature: AFFILIATION\_Regional with importance 0.00016326530612242873  
Weakest feature: AFFILIATION\_National with importance 0.0002682215743439853  
Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$24M - \$90M with importance 0.0002682215743439853  
Weakest feature: ORGANIZATION\_Corporation with importance 0.00030320699708451525  
Weakest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$1.4M - \$5.5M with importance 0.00038483965014575184

### Strongest Features (20)

Strongest feature: AFFILIATION\_CompanySponsored with importance 0.05385422740524776  
Strongest feature: AFFILIATION\_Independent with importance 0.051720116618075754  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T4 with importance 0.021807580174927076  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T10 with importance 0.010775510204081563  
Strongest feature: CLASSIFICATION\_Other with importance 0.008979591836734625  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T5 with importance 0.008804664723032008  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T6 with importance 0.007591836734693824  
Strongest feature: ORGANIZATION\_Association with importance 0.00464723032069928  
Strongest feature: ORGANIZATION\_Trust with importance 0.004641399416909564  
Strongest feature: CLASSIFICATION\_C3000 with importance 0.0039883381924197825  
Strongest feature: CLASSIFICATION\_C2100 with importance 0.0036034985422739862  
Strongest feature: CLASSIFICATION\_C2000 with importance 0.003486880466472231  
Strongest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_1-9999 with importance 0.003008746355685088  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T19 with importance 0.0029854227405247237  
Strongest feature: INCOME\_AMT\_10M-50M with importance 0.0029154518950436636  
Strongest feature: CLASSIFICATION\_C1200 with importance 0.0020058309037900403  
Strongest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$20K - \$90K with importance 0.0018075801749270592  
Strongest feature: APPLICATION\_TYPE\_T7 with importance 0.001236151603498481  
Strongest feature: USE\_CASE\_CommunityServ with importance 0.0011661807580174322  
Strongest feature: ASK\_AMT\_BIN\_\$5.5M - \$24M with importance 0.0010379008746355112

## Exhibit 4

### Best hyperparameters based on Auto-Optimizer

---

```
{'activation': 'sigmoid',  
  'first_units': 7,  
  'num_layers': 4,  
  'units_0': 3,  
  'units_1': 9,  
  'units_2': 3,  
  'units_3': 7,  
  'units_4': 5,  
  'units_5': 1,  
  'add_dropout_0': 0,  
  'dropout_0': 0.30000000000000004,  
  'optimizer': 'adam',  
  'add_dropout_1': 1,  
  'dropout_1': 0.1,  
  'add_dropout_2': 0,  
  'dropout_2': 0.0,  
  'add_dropout_3': 1,  
  'dropout_3': 0.0,  
  'add_dropout_4': 0,  
  'dropout_4': 0.30000000000000004,  
  'add_dropout_5': 0,  
  'dropout_5': 0.0,  
  'tuner/epochs': 20,  
  'tuner/initial_epoch': 7,  
  'tuner/bracket': 1,  
  'tuner/round': 1,  
  'tuner/trial_id': '0015'}
```

## Summary

In this project, five neural network models were constructed and evaluated. The initial baseline model emerged as the most effective predictor of success among the tested models. The results indicate that the model's simplicity and granular inputs played a key role in its performance. Future work could explore additional feature engineering techniques or alternative machine learning models to achieve the desired accuracy. Additionally, careful consideration should be given to the removal of low-impact features to further enhance model performance.