Wine sales prediction

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1. Introduction

A large wine manufacturer is studying data collected on 12,000 commercially available wines, with a goal to predict the number of cases ordered based upon the characteristics. The manufacturer intends to adjust the winde offerings based on the findings. The data collected is related to chemical properties of wine with response variable being the number of sample cases sold to distribution companies. the data also includes features like review stars provided by the tasters and label appeal.

2. Exploratory Data analysis

The below table shows the summary statistics of the data. It is seen that there are missing data. "Stars" has the most missing values. The missing values mostly correspond to NO (0) cases sold. Which is most likely due to lack of opportunity to sample because of none sold.

Table 1: Summary Stats and missing values

	min	Q1	median	Q3	max	mean	sd	n	missing
INDEX	1.00	4037.50	8110.00	12106.50	16129.00	8069.98	4656.91	12795	0
TARGET	0.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	8.00	3.03	1.93	12795	0
FixedAcidity	-18.10	5.20	6.90	9.50	34.40	7.08	6.32	12795	0
VolatileAcidity	-2.79	0.13	0.28	0.64	3.68	0.32	0.78	12795	0
CitricAcid	-3.24	0.03	0.31	0.58	3.86	0.31	0.86	12795	0
ResidualSugar	-127.80	-2.00	3.90	15.90	141.15	5.42	33.75	12179	616
Chlorides	-1.17	-0.03	0.05	0.15	1.35	0.05	0.32	12157	638
${\bf Free Sulfur Dioxide}$	-555.00	0.00	30.00	70.00	623.00	30.85	148.71	12148	647
${\bf Total Sulfur Dioxide}$	-823.00	27.00	123.00	208.00	1057.00	120.71	231.91	12113	682
Density	0.89	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.10	0.99	0.03	12795	0
pН	0.48	2.96	3.20	3.47	6.13	3.21	0.68	12400	395
Sulphates	-3.13	0.28	0.50	0.86	4.24	0.53	0.93	11585	1210
Alcohol	-4.70	9.00	10.40	12.40	26.50	10.49	3.73	12142	653
LabelAppeal	-2.00	-1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	-0.01	0.89	12795	0
AcidIndex	4.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	17.00	7.77	1.32	12795	0
STARS	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	2.04	0.90	9436	3359

Figure 2 shows the historgram of features in the data. The chemical properties of wines appear to share an identical distribution with peaks closer to zero. This mau be likely to some standardization done to the day. The variable "TARGET" looks to be poisson or negative biniomially distributed with inflation at 0.

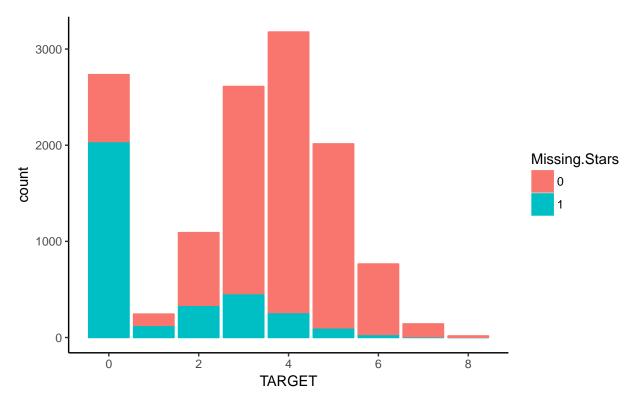


Figure 1: Missing STARS values' association with Number of cases sold

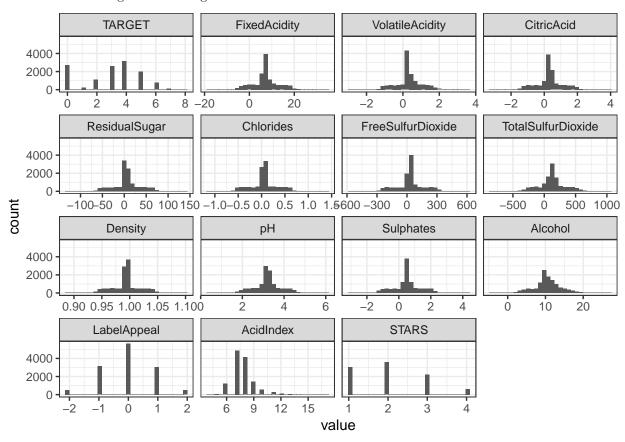


Figure 2: Histograms of features

3. Feature selection

In this section we'll attempt to select important features that explain the target variable. We'll explore the correlations that might exist in the data. There is positive correlations between TARGET and STARS and LabelAppeal.

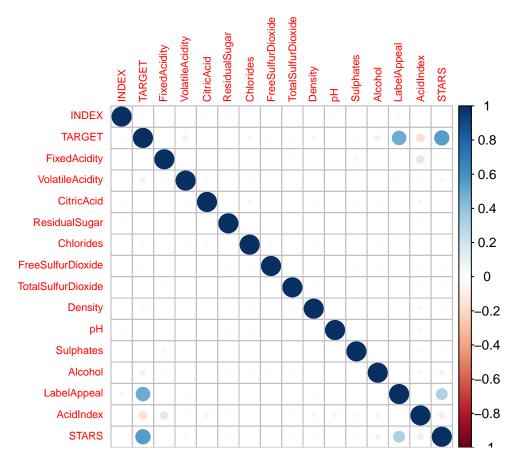


Figure 3: Correlation plot

It'll be useful to identify what contributes to the zero inflation in the TARGET variable. For which let's create an indicator variable "TARGET0" to equal 1 when TARGET is 0 and 0 otherwise.

3.1 Decision Trees

Figure 4 shows the decision tree for TARGET0. Where 1 is no sale (cases sold = 0) and 0 is sale (cases sold > 0). Figure 5 shows the variable importance plot after a random forest bootstrap. While LabelAppeal did not contribute to node purity (Decrease in Gini index), it did affect accuracy on out of bag (OOB) samples.

Poisson Regression

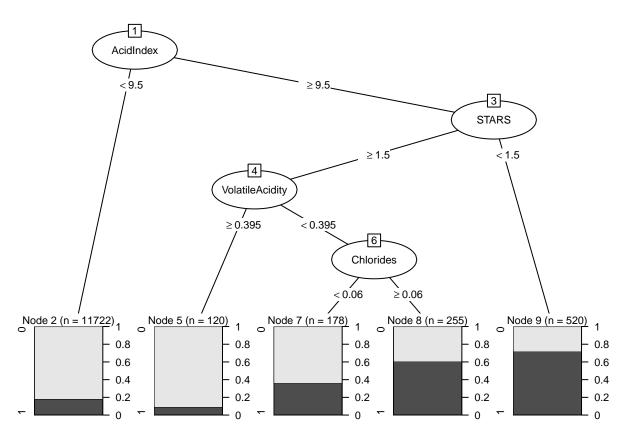


Figure 4: Decision tree - Sale (0) or no Sale (1)

Variable Importance plot - Random forest

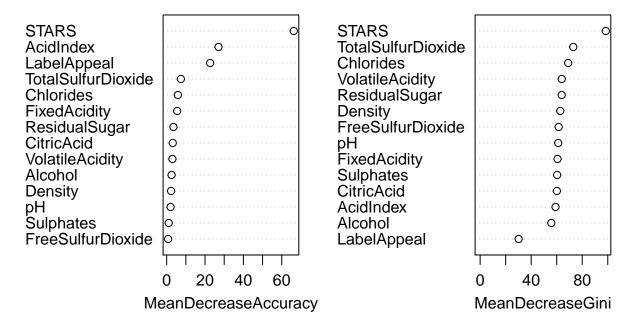


Figure 5: Variable Importance - Randomforest

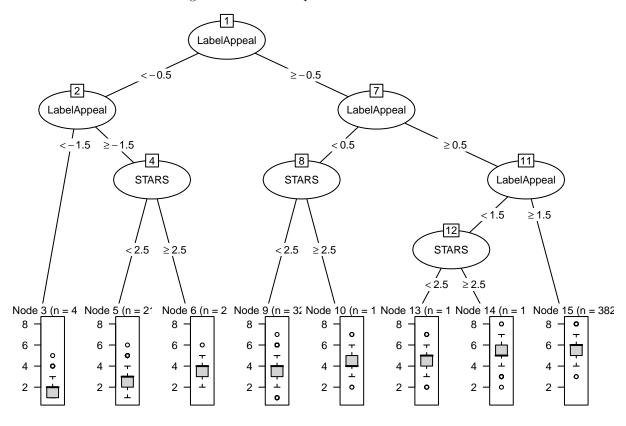


Figure 6: Simple tree for TARGET

Variable importance plot from random forest – TARGET

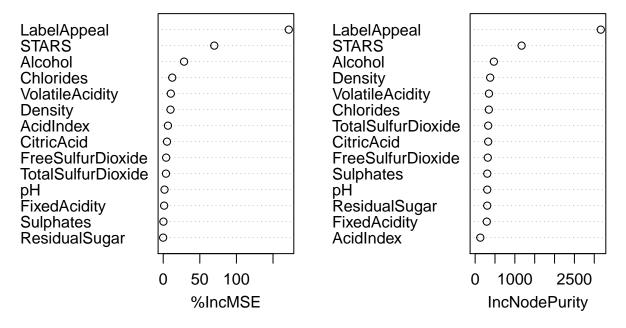


Figure 7: Variable importance plot - TARGET