# **EXPERIMENT REPORT**

| **Student Name** | Tarun Krishnan |
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| **Project Name** | Assignment 2, Classification |
| **Date** |  |
| **Deliverables** | Extra Random Tree Classifier |

| 1. **EXPERIMENT BACKGROUND** | | |
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| Provide information about the problem/project such as the scope, the overall objective, expectations. Lay down the goal of this experiment and what are the insights, answers you want to gain or level of performance you are expecting to reach. | | |
| **1.a. Business Objective** | The business in question is a car dealership that wishes to analyse the dataset and produce information that will help sell cars.  The results of the model trained will be used to suggest which current customers and car owners are more or less likely to buy a new car.  Inaccurate results will result in customers that would actually buy cars not being approached and thereby losing out on sales, while accurate results will have the opposite effect. | |
| **1.b. Hypothesis** | I believe that there is a correlation between the various fields and the likelihood of buying a new or second car, and to that extent will train a Extra Random Forest classifier that will help the business make better sales and further progress. | |
| **1.c. Experiment Objective** | The expected outcome here is to successfully identify the fields and characteristics that correlate to the likelihood of buying a new car and thereafter train a Extra Random Forest classifier to help classify the category that people are to fall into to recommend the business to pursue them as favourable clients or not. | |

| 1. **EXPERIMENT DETAILS** | | |
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| Elaborate on the approach taken for this experiment. List the different steps/techniques used and explain the rationale for choosing them. | | |
| **2.a. Data Preparation** | The dataset was large, with over 100,000 entries. While most of the columns contained usable values, the age band and gender fields had a large number of NaN fields that needed to be cleaned.  Additionally, the categorical fields for car model and segment too were converted to numerical values to prevent overfitting.  Since the data exploration stage yielded the fields of use, the cleaning of all values may not have been required, however, for the sake of future use the cleaned code was used regardless. | |
| **2.b. Feature Engineering** | While no features were generated, when it came to train the model a bunch of features were dropped due to little/no correlation.  Features such as ID, age\_band and gender might have shown correlation, however, inspecting the dataset shows a large factor to this is bias introduced by sample size, which would not be truly or accurately indicative of the real world or of minorities. | |
| **2.c. Modelling** | The model trained for this experiment was a Random Forest Classifier. Inherently, it performs along the lines of a decision tree, however, it follows a more randomised approach to ensure a more performant and more effective overall tree.  The hyperparameters trained were:  class\_weight : Remove imbalance/bias due to overwhelming sample weight  n\_estimators : Changes the number trees in the forest  min\_samples\_split : enforces a limit on how the conditional splitting occurs, forcing more efficient splitting methods  max\_features : sets a limit on how many features are considered while splitting the dataset | |

| 1. **EXPERIMENT RESULTS** | | |
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| Analyse in detail the results achieved from this experiment from a technical and business perspective. Not only report performance metrics results but also any interpretation on model features, incorrect results, risks identified. | | |
| **3.a. Technical Performance** | Mean Square Errors :  Training : 0.06608038527063168  Testing : 0.0678391959798995 | |
| **3.b. Business Impact** | The mean square error rate shows us that by and large, this model is very accurate. Too accurate in fact, as it is very probably overfitting the data to ensure better performance metrics.  As we can’t confidently use these metrics to suggest predictions, we should further investigate the model’s performance and not put this into production without verifying it further. | |
| **3.c. Encountered Issues** | The only visible issue with this dataset and training the model stems from the overwhelming class disproportion and the size of the dataset that heavily reduces the ability to effectively train models due to bias and time complexity required to actually tune the hyperparameters. | |

| 1. **FUTURE EXPERIMENT** | | |
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| Reflect on the experiment and highlight the key information/insights you gained from it that are valuable for the overall project objectives from a technical and business perspective. | | |
| **4.a. Key Learning** | The outcome of this experiment seems rather satisfactory. Given the dataset and the tuning performed, it has performed up to expectation. Different models could give different results, so while this particular experiment has concluded, further experiments can improve upon this. | |
| **4.b. Suggestions / Recommendations** | While this experiment may be over, we could further investigate and try to manually tune the model to fix issues stemming from overfitting and randomisation. | |