Witlie Kaggle project DSCI 478

2025-02-19

Data Cleaning

```
LOAD DATA SET
```

5

1

1 3101298 12.2875

```
# Read Titanic data set
train_df <- read.csv("train.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)</pre>
test_df <- read.csv("test.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)</pre>
head(train_df)
     PassengerId Survived Pclass
## 1
               1
               2
## 2
                                1
## 3
               3
                                3
                         1
## 4
## 5
               5
                                3
                         0
## 6
               6
                         0
                                3
##
                                                      Name
                                                               Sex Age SibSp Parch
                                  Braund, Mr. Owen Harris
                                                              male
                                                                    22
## 2 Cumings, Mrs. John Bradley (Florence Briggs Thayer) female
                                                                    38
                                                                                  0
## 3
                                   Heikkinen, Miss. Laina female
                                                                    26
                                                                                  0
## 4
            Futrelle, Mrs. Jacques Heath (Lily May Peel) female
## 5
                                 Allen, Mr. William Henry
                                                                    35
                                                                                  0
                                                              male
## 6
                                          Moran, Mr. James
                                                              male
                                                                    NA
                                                                                  0
##
               Ticket
                          Fare Cabin Embarked
## 1
            A/5 21171 7.2500
             PC 17599 71.2833
                                 C85
                                             С
                                             S
## 3 STON/02. 3101282 7.9250
               113803 53.1000
## 4
                                             S
                                C123
## 5
               373450 8.0500
                                             S
## 6
               330877 8.4583
                                             Q
head(test_df)
##
     PassengerId Pclass
                                                                   Name
                                                                            Sex Age
## 1
             892
                       3
                                                      Kelly, Mr. James
                                                                           male 34.5
## 2
             893
                       3
                                      Wilkes, Mrs. James (Ellen Needs) female 47.0
                       2
## 3
             894
                                             Myles, Mr. Thomas Francis
                                                                           male 62.0
## 4
             895
                       3
                                                       Wirz, Mr. Albert
                                                                          male 27.0
## 5
                       3 Hirvonen, Mrs. Alexander (Helga E Lindqvist) female 22.0
             896
## 6
             897
                                            Svensson, Mr. Johan Cervin
                                                                          male 14.0
##
     SibSp Parch
                  Ticket
                             Fare Cabin Embarked
## 1
         0
               0
                  330911
                           7.8292
                                                Q
## 2
               0
                  363272 7.0000
                                                S
## 3
         0
               0
                  240276
                           9.6875
                                                Q
## 4
         0
               0 315154
                          8.6625
                                                S
```

S

```
## 6
         0
                    7538 9.2250
               0
                                               S
CHECK FOR MISSING VALUES
# Count missing values in each column
colSums(is.na(train df))
## PassengerId
                  Survived
                                Pclass
                                               Name
                                                             Sex
                                                                         Age
##
                                                  0
                                                              0
                                                                         177
##
         SibSp
                     Parch
                                 Ticket
                                               Fare
                                                           Cabin
                                                                    Embarked
##
                         0
                                                               0
                                                                           0
# Remove rows where Age is missing
train_df <- train_df[!is.na(train_df$Age), ]</pre>
DOUBLE CHECK TO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO MORE MISSING VALUES AFTER REMOVING
ROWS TO BE DONE CORRECTLY
# Count missing values in each column
colSums(is.na(train_df))
## PassengerId
                  Survived
                                 Pclass
                                               Name
                                                             Sex
                                                                         Age
##
                                                              0
                                                                           0
                         0
                                                  0
##
         SibSp
                     Parch
                                 Ticket
                                               Fare
                                                           Cabin
                                                                    Embarked
##
             0
                                                               0
                                                                           0
CONVERT CATEGORICAL VARIABLES TO NUMERIC
# Sex: Male -> 0: Females -> 1
train_df$Sex <- ifelse(train_df$Sex == "male", 0, 1)</pre>
test_df$Sex <- ifelse(test_df$Sex == "male", 0, 1)</pre>
# Embarked: "C" (Cherbourg) -> 0; "Q" (Queenstown) -> 1; "S" (Southampton) -> 2
train_df$Embarked <- ifelse(train_df$Embarked == "C", 0,</pre>
                            ifelse(train_df$Embarked == "Q", 1, 2))
test_df$Embarked <- ifelse(test_df$Embarked == "C", 0,</pre>
                           ifelse(test df$Embarked == "Q", 1, 2))
# Fare: Round to two decimal places
train_df$Fare <- round(train_df$Fare, 2)</pre>
test_df$Fare <- round(test_df$Fare, 2)</pre>
# Check the first few rows to confirm changes
head(train_df[, c("PassengerId",
                  "Survived",
                  "Pclass",
                  "Sex",
                  "Age",
                  "SibSp",
                  "Parch",
                  "Fare",
                  "Embarked")])
     PassengerId Survived Pclass Sex Age SibSp Parch Fare Embarked
## 1
               1
                        0
                                3
                                    0 22
                                              1
                                                    0 7.25
                                                                    2
## 2
               2
                                       38
                                                    0 71.28
                                                                    0
                        1
                                1
                                    1
                                              1
## 3
               3
                                       26
                                                    0 7.92
                                                                    2
                        1
                                3
                                    1
                                              0
```

1

0 53.10

1

1

1 35

4

2

```
## 5
                               3
                                   0 35
                                              0
                                                    0 8.05
## 7
                                   0 54
                                              0
                                                    0 51.86
                                                                   2
SAVE CLEAN DATASET
write.csv(train_df, "clean_train.csv", row.names = FALSE)
write.csv(test_df, "clean_test.csv", row.names = FALSE)
head(train_df)
     PassengerId Survived Pclass
## 1
               1
                        0
## 2
               2
                        1
## 3
               3
                        1
                               3
## 4
               4
                               1
                        1
## 5
               5
                        0
                               3
## 7
               7
                        Λ
                               1
##
                                                     Name Sex Age SibSp Parch
## 1
                                 Braund, Mr. Owen Harris
                                                            0 22
                                                                      1
## 2 Cumings, Mrs. John Bradley (Florence Briggs Thayer)
                                                            1
                                                               38
                                                                      1
                                                            1 26
                                                                            0
                                  Heikkinen, Miss. Laina
## 4
            Futrelle, Mrs. Jacques Heath (Lily May Peel)
                                                            1 35
                                                                            0
## 5
                                                               35
                                                                            0
                                Allen, Mr. William Henry
                                                            0
                                                                      0
## 7
                                 McCarthy, Mr. Timothy J
                                                           0 54
                                                                            0
##
               Ticket Fare Cabin Embarked
## 1
            A/5 21171 7.25
                                          2
## 2
            PC 17599 71.28
                              C85
                                          0
## 3 STON/02. 3101282 7.92
                                         2
                                         2
## 4
               113803 53.10 C123
## 5
               373450 8.05
                                          2
## 7
                17463 51.86
                              E46
LOADING CLEAN DATASET
# Load the cleaned dataset
train_df <- read.csv("clean_train.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)</pre>
test_df <- read.csv("clean_test.csv", , stringsAsFactors = FALSE)</pre>
# Check the first few rows to verify correctness
head(train_df)
     PassengerId Survived Pclass
##
## 1
                        0
               1
               2
## 2
                        1
                               1
## 3
               3
                        1
## 4
               4
                        1
                               1
               5
## 5
                        0
                               3
## 6
               7
                        0
##
                                                     Name Sex Age SibSp Parch
## 1
                                 Braund, Mr. Owen Harris
                                                            0 22
## 2 Cumings, Mrs. John Bradley (Florence Briggs Thayer)
                                                            1 38
                                                                            0
                                                                      1
## 3
                                  Heikkinen, Miss. Laina
                                                            1 26
                                                                            0
## 4
            Futrelle, Mrs. Jacques Heath (Lily May Peel)
                                                                            0
                                                            1 35
                                                                      1
## 5
                                Allen, Mr. William Henry
                                                            0
                                                               35
                                                                      0
                                                                            0
                                                                            0
## 6
                                 McCarthy, Mr. Timothy J
                                                            0 54
##
               Ticket Fare Cabin Embarked
           A/5 21171 7.25
## 1
```

```
PC 17599 71.28
## 2
                                C85
                                            0
## 3 STON/02. 3101282 7.92
                                            2
## 4
                                            2
                113803 53.10
                               C123
## 5
                373450 8.05
                                            2
                                            2
## 6
                 17463 51.86
                                E46
colSums(is.na(train_df))
## PassengerId
                   Survived
                                  Pclass
                                                 Name
                                                               Sex
                                                                             Age
##
                           0
                                                     0
                                                                  0
                                                                               0
##
         SibSp
                      Parch
                                  Ticket
                                                 Fare
                                                             Cabin
                                                                       Embarked
##
                                                                  0
```

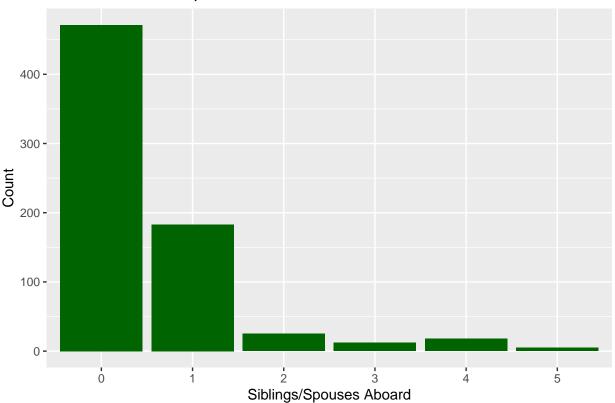
Exploratory Data Analysis

For my exploratory data analysis, I focused on variables SibSp and Parch. Sibsp describes the number of siblings or spouses a passenger was accompanied by aboard the ship. Parch describes the number of parents or children a passenger was accompanied by aboard the ship.

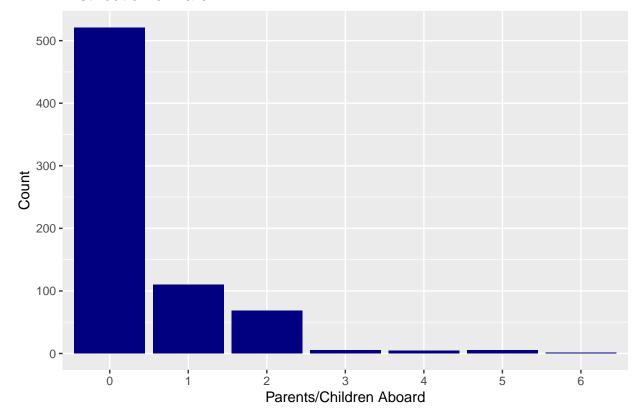
```
# Summarize siblings/spouses aboard and parents/children aboard
summary(train_df$SibSp)
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                               Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                Max.
   0.0000 0.0000 0.0000
                                             5.0000
                             0.5126 1.0000
summary(train_df$Parch)
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                               Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                Max.
    0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.4314 1.0000
##
                                             6.0000
# Distribution of siblings/spouses aboard by survival
table(train_df$SibSp, train_df$Survived)
##
##
         0
             1
##
     0 296 175
##
        86
            97
##
     2
        14
            11
##
     3
         8
             4
##
     4
        15
             3
     5
         5
##
# Distribution of parents/children aboard by survival
table(train_df$Parch, train_df$Survived)
##
##
         0
             1
##
     0 335 186
##
     1
        49
            61
##
     2
        29
            39
         2
             3
##
     3
##
     4
         4
             0
##
     5
         4
             1
##
         1
# Visualize distribution of number of siblings and spouses aboard
ggplot(data = train_df, mapping = aes(x = factor(SibSp))) +
  geom_bar(fill = "darkgreen") +
```

```
labs(title = "Distribution of SibSp",
    x = "Siblings/Spouses Aboard",
    y = "Count")
```

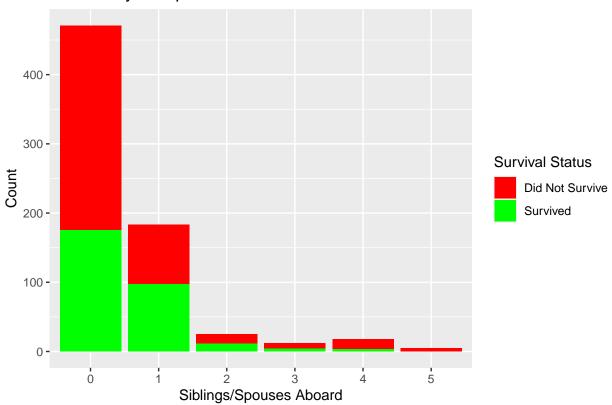
Distribution of SibSp

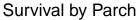


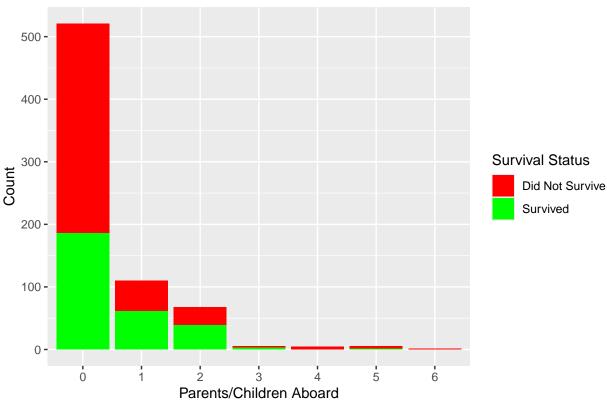
Distribution of Parch



Survival by SibSp

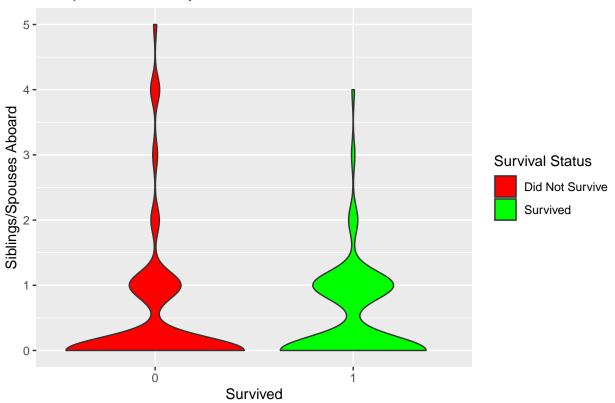




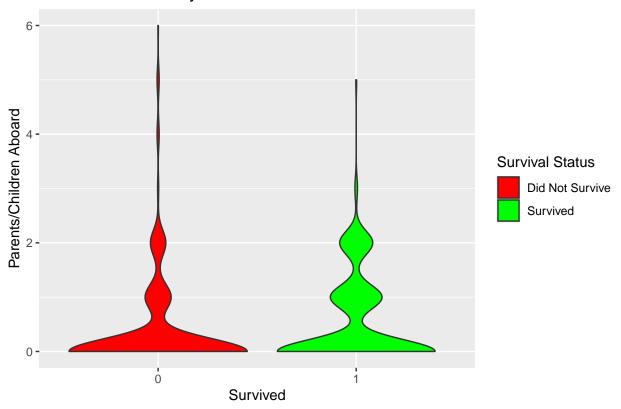


A smaller proportion of passengers survived than not, but the class imbalance between survival statuses does not appear to be excessive.

SibSp Distribution by Survival

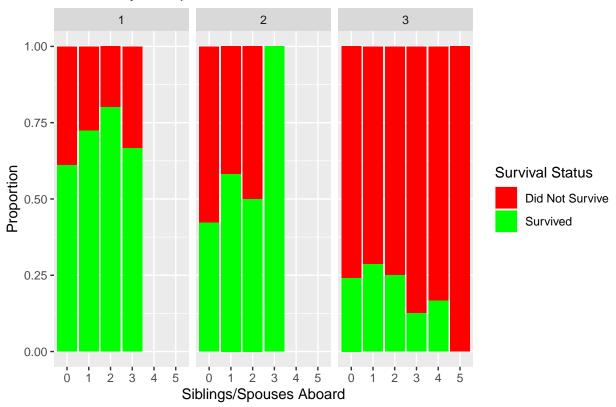


Parch Distribution by Survival

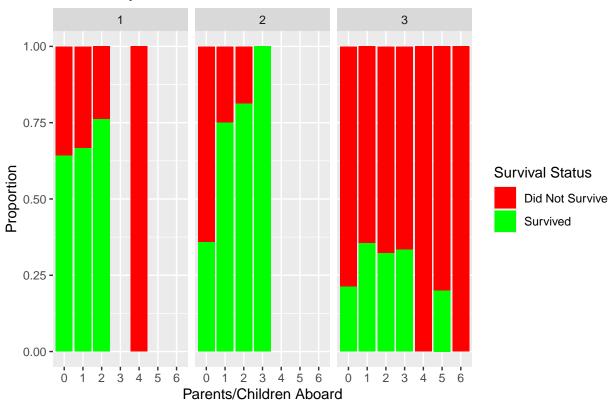


The vast majority of passengers did not have any family on board with them. Passengers with more than 2 family members aboard were relatively rare. No passengers with familial relations greater than 4 siblings/spouses or 5 parents/children survived.

Survival by SibSp Across Classes



Survival by Parch Across Classes



After visualizing the distribution of surviving and non-surviving passengers by class and familial relations, it was clear to see that larger families were more common in the lowest class (class 3). The proportion of surviving passengers was much higher for those belonging to the higher classes (class 1 and 2) than for class 3.

Random Forest

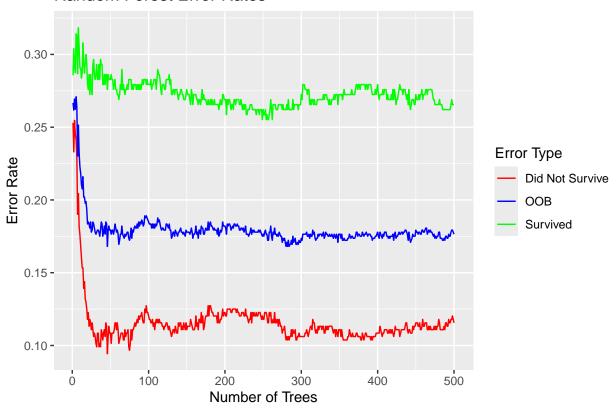
One approach to a binary classification problem such as this Titanic challenge is a random forest. A random forest is a type of classification model that trains multiple decision trees on randomized subsets of the data and assigns a classification based on the combined predictions of each tree. Random forests do not assume linearity or normality, as they are a type of non-parametric model that is able to capture non-linear relationships in the data.

```
str(train_df)
```

```
714 obs. of 12 variables:
##
   'data.frame':
##
    $ PassengerId: int
                         1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 ...
##
    $ Survived
                         0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 ...
                    int
##
    $ Pclass
                         3 1 3 1 3 1 3 3 2 3 ...
##
    $ Name
                         "Braund, Mr. Owen Harris" "Cumings, Mrs. John Bradley (Florence Briggs Thayer)"
##
    $ Sex
                         0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 ...
                    int
##
    $ Age
                         22 38 26 35 35 54 2 27 14 4 ...
                   num
                         1 1 0 1 0 0 3 0 1 1 ...
##
    $ SibSp
                   int
    $ Parch
##
                   int
                         0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 1 ...
##
    $ Ticket
                         "A/5 21171" "PC 17599" "STON/O2. 3101282" "113803" ...
                   chr
                         7.25 71.28 7.92 53.1 8.05 ...
##
    $ Fare
                   num
    $ Cabin
                         "" "C85" "" "C123" ...
##
                   chr
                         2 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 2 ...
    $ Embarked
                  : int
```

```
# Set factor variables as factors
train df$Survived <- as.factor(train df$Survived)</pre>
train df$Pclass <- as.factor(train df$Pclass)</pre>
train_df$Sex <- as.factor(train_df$Sex)</pre>
train_df$SibSp <- as.factor(train_df$SibSp)</pre>
train_df$Parch <- as.factor(train_df$Parch)</pre>
train_df$Embarked <- as.factor(train_df$Embarked)</pre>
str(train_df)
                    714 obs. of 12 variables:
## 'data.frame':
## $ PassengerId: int 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 ...
## $ Survived : Factor w/ 2 levels "0","1": 1 2 2 2 1 1 1 2 2 2 ...
                 : Factor w/ 3 levels "1", "2", "3": 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 3 2 3 ...
## $ Pclass
                : chr "Braund, Mr. Owen Harris" "Cumings, Mrs. John Bradley (Florence Briggs Thayer)"
## $ Name
## $ Sex
                : Factor w/ 2 levels "0", "1": 1 2 2 2 1 1 1 2 2 2 ...
## $ Age
                : num 22 38 26 35 35 54 2 27 14 4 ...
## $ SibSp
                : Factor w/ 6 levels "0","1","2","3",...: 2 2 1 2 1 1 4 1 2 2 ....
               : Factor w/ 7 levels "0","1","2","3",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 3 1 2 ...
## $ Parch
## $ Ticket
               : chr "A/5 21171" "PC 17599" "STON/O2. 3101282" "113803" ...
## $ Fare
                : num 7.25 71.28 7.92 53.1 8.05 ...
                : chr "" "C85" "" "C123" ...
## $ Cabin
## $ Embarked : Factor w/ 3 levels "0","1","2": 3 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 1 3 ...
# Create random forest model
set.seed(478)
rfmodel <- randomForest(Survived ~ ., data = train_df, proximity = T)</pre>
rfmodel
##
## randomForest(formula = Survived ~ ., data = train_df, proximity = T)
                  Type of random forest: classification
##
                        Number of trees: 500
## No. of variables tried at each split: 3
           OOB estimate of error rate: 17.65%
##
## Confusion matrix:
      0
         1 class.error
## 0 375 49 0.1155660
## 1 77 213 0.2655172
# Create error rate data frame
oob_error_data <- data.frame(</pre>
 Trees = rep(1:nrow(rfmodel$err.rate), times = 3),
 Type = rep(c("OOB", "Did Not Survive", "Survived"), each = nrow(rfmodel$err.rate)),
 Error = c(rfmodel$err.rate[, "00B"],
            rfmodel\( \text{"0"} \),
            rfmodel$err.rate[, "1"])
)
# Visualize error rates
```

Random Forest Error Rates



The default parameters for a random forest in R is 500 trees and 3 variables tried at each split. This default model produced an out-of-bag (OOB) error rate of 17.65%. The "survived" class suffered a greater frequency of erroneous predictions (class error 26.55%) than the "did not survive" class (class error 11.56%). This means that the model is most often committing Type 1 error, incorrectly predicting that passengers survived when they did not.

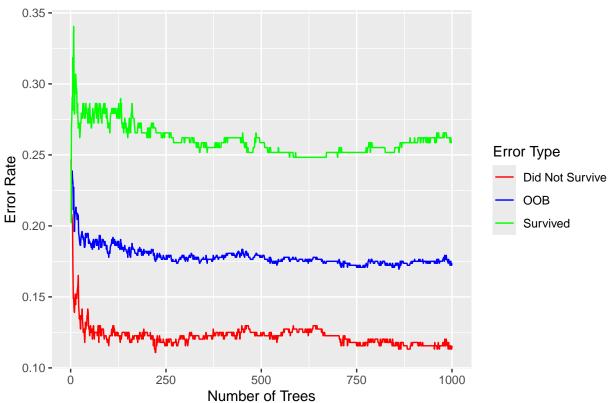
The graph above visualizes the OOB error rate, "survived" class error rate, and "did not survive" class error rate for each addition of a decision tree.

In order to improve these error rates, I tried increasing the number of trees included in the model from 500 to 1000.

```
# Create model with increased number of trees (1000)
rfmodel2 <- randomForest(Survived ~ ., data = train_df, ntree = 1000, proximity = T)
# Check error rates
rfmodel2
##
## Call:</pre>
```

```
## randomForest(formula = Survived ~ ., data = train_df, ntree = 1000,
                                                                             proximity = T)
##
                  Type of random forest: classification
##
                        Number of trees: 1000
## No. of variables tried at each split: 3
##
           OOB estimate of error rate: 17.37%
## Confusion matrix:
           1 class.error
       0
## 0 375 49 0.1155660
## 1 75 215
             0.2586207
# Create new error data frame
oob_error_data2 <- data.frame(</pre>
  Trees = rep(1:nrow(rfmodel2$err.rate), times = 3),
  Type = rep(c("00B", "Did Not Survive", "Survived"), each = nrow(rfmodel2$err.rate)),
  Error = c(rfmodel2$err.rate[, "00B"],
            rfmodel2\serr.rate[, "0"],
            rfmodel2$err.rate[, "1"])
)
# Visualize error rates
ggplot(data = oob_error_data2, mapping = aes(x = Trees, y = Error)) +
  geom_line(mapping = aes(color = Type)) +
  labs(title = "Random Forest Error Rates",
       x = "Number of Trees",
       y = "Error Rate",
       color = "Error Type") +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("red", "blue", "green"),
                     labels = c("Did Not Survive", "OOB" , "Survived"))
```





Increasing the number of decision trees only slightly improved the OOB error rate to 17.37% and the "survived" class error rate to 25.86%, while the "did not survive" class error remained the same (11.56%).

In the graph above, you can see that the error rates plateau as the number of trees increases, indicating that we should not expect to see an improvement in error rates by the addition of more decision trees.

Next, I checked which number of variables checked at each split would result in the lowest OOB error rate. The default is 3 variables, and I checked from 1 to 10 variables.

```
# Determine best number of variables to try at each split

oob_values <- vector(length = 10)

for(i in 1:10) {
   temp_model <- randomForest(Survived ~ ., data = train_df, mtry = i, ntree = 1000)
   oob_values[i] <- temp_model$err.rate[nrow(temp_model$err.rate), 1]
}

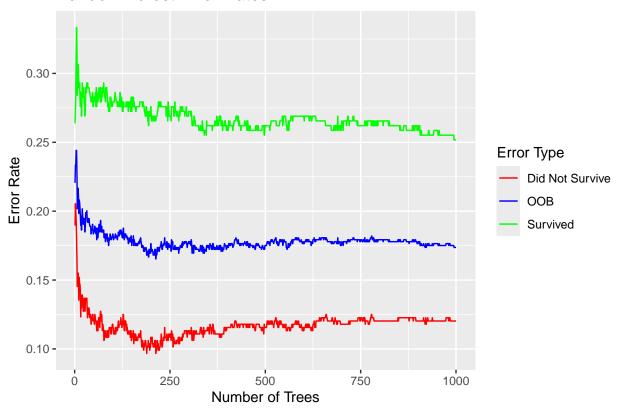
oob_values</pre>
```

```
## [1] 0.1848739 0.1862745 0.1764706 0.1722689 0.1764706 0.1876751 0.1778711 ## [8] 0.1890756 0.1848739 0.1848739
```

The number of variables that produced the lowest OOB error rate (17.23%) was 4 variables.

```
proximity = T)
# Check error rates
rfmodel3
##
## Call:
##
                Type of random forest: classification
                     Number of trees: 1000
## No. of variables tried at each split: 4
         OOB estimate of error rate: 17.37%
##
## Confusion matrix:
      0
        1 class.error
## 0 373 51 0.1202830
## 1 73 217 0.2517241
# Create new error data frame
oob_error_data3 <- data.frame(</pre>
 Trees = rep(1:nrow(rfmodel3$err.rate), times = 3),
 Type = rep(c("00B", "Did Not Survive", "Survived"), each = nrow(rfmodel3$err.rate)),
 Error = c(rfmodel3$err.rate[, "00B"],
          rfmodel3\serr.rate[, "0"],
          rfmodel3$err.rate[, "1"])
)
# Visualize error rates
ggplot(data = oob_error_data3, mapping = aes(x = Trees, y = Error)) +
 geom_line(mapping = aes(color = Type)) +
 labs(title = "Random Forest Error Rates",
      x = "Number of Trees",
      y = "Error Rate",
      color = "Error Type") +
 scale_color_manual(values = c("red", "blue", "green"),
                   labels = c("Did Not Survive", "OOB" ,"Survived"))
```

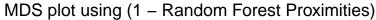
Random Forest Error Rates

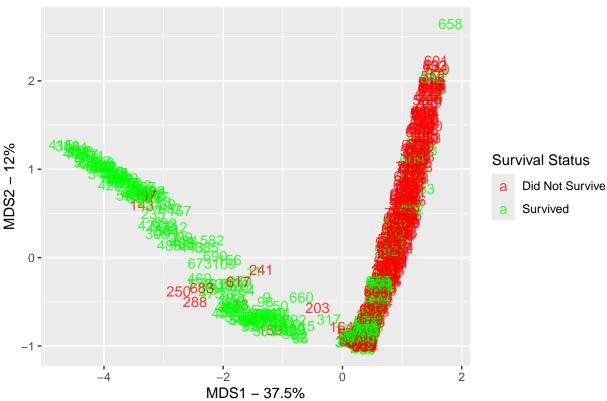


The new OOB error rate did not improve from the last model using 1000 trees and 3 variables per split and instead remained the same (17.37%). This new model with 1000 trees and 4 variables per split does show a slight improvement in the "survived" class error (now 25.17%), but also a slight increase in the "did not survive" class error (12.03%).

To visualize classification of this model, I created a multidimensional scaling (MDS) plot.

```
# Create multidimensional scaling plot
distance_matrix <- dist(1 - rfmodel3$proximity)</pre>
mds_info <- cmdscale(distance_matrix, eig = T, x.ret = T)</pre>
mds_var_per <- round(mds_info$eig / sum(mds_info$eig) * 100, 1)</pre>
mds values <- mds info$points
mds_data <- data.frame(Sample = rownames(mds_values),</pre>
                        X = mds_values[, 1],
                        Y = mds_values[, 2],
                        Status = train_df$Survived)
ggplot(data = mds_data, mapping = aes(x = X, y = Y, label = Sample)) +
  geom_text(mapping = aes(color = Status), alpha = 0.75) +
  labs(title = "MDS plot using (1 - Random Forest Proximities)",
       color = "Survival Status",
       x = paste("MDS1 - ", mds_var_per[1], "%", sep = ""),
       y = paste("MDS2 - ", mds_var_per[2], "%", sep = "")) +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("red", "green"),
                     labels = c("Did Not Survive", "Survived"))
```





MDS plots visualize the relative similarities between points in a data set, with closer points denoting greater similarity and further points denoting greater dissimilarity. This plot shows the individuals classified as "survived" in green on the left and individuals classified as "did not survive" in red on the right. Visually it is clear that many data points appear to have been misclassfied.

The percentages included on the axes of the graph denote the amount of variation in the distance matrix that each dimension accounts for. The Y axis accounts for 12% of variation in the distance matrix, and the X axis accounts for 37.5%.

Generating Predictions

```
# Add empty "Survived" column to test_df
library(tibble)
test_df <- add_column(test_df, Survived = rep(NA, nrow(test_df)), .after = "PassengerId")
# Ensure variables are same type in both data sets
for(col in names(train_df)) {
   if (is.factor(train_df[[col]])) {
      test_df[[col]] <- factor(test_df[[col]], levels = levels(train_df[[col]]))
   }
}
# Create predictions using random forest model
test_predictions <- predict(rfmodel3, test_df)
predictions <- data.frame(PassengerId = test_df$PassengerId, Survived = test_predictions)
head(predictions)</pre>
```

##		${\tt PassengerId}$	Survived
##	1	892	0
##	2	893	0
##	3	894	0
##	4	895	0
##	5	896	1
##	6	897	0

Conclusion

The random forest model performed decently well, with an accuracy rate of 82.63% (1 - OOB error). Due to the model's black box nature, it does not lend much interpretability or insight into feature importance.

The "survived" class error rate was 12.03%, and the "did not survive" class error rate was 25.17%. This model is prone to greater Type 1 error than Type 2, meaning that it more often incorrectly classifies non-surviving passengers as "survived" rather than surviving passengers as "did not survive".

My exploratory analysis suggested that larger families were more common in the lowest class (class 3), and that members of the third class survived at a much lower frequency than members of the first and second classes. This corroborates historical understanding. Due to limited access to lifeboats, ship layout, and physical barriers such as gates separating classes aboard the ship, third class passengers are much more likely to have lost their lives on the Titanic.

Bowdoin. (n.d.). Disproportionate Devastation. Titanic. https://courses.bowdoin.edu/history-2203-fall-2020-kmoyniha/reflection/#:~:text=There%20is%20no%20doubt%20that,passengers%20was%20not%20necessarily%20surprising.