

Crazy Raisins: A Raisin Classification Adventure

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1 Summary

In this project, we built a classification model using logistic regression to predict raisin varieties—Besni and Kecimen—based on morphological measurements extracted from digitized raisin images. Several of the size-related features, such as `Area`, `Perimeter`, `MajorAxisLength`, and `ConvexArea`, were found to be strongly correlated. This suggests redundancy among these predictors, whereas features like `Eccentricity` and `Extent` provide more distinct shape information that may help refine classification.

Our model achieved an accuracy of 0.911 and a weighted F1 score of 0.911, indicating strong and balanced performance across both classes. The similarity of these two metrics suggests that the class distribution is not heavily skewed. However, the correlation heatmap shows that size-based measurements dominate the feature set, which could cause the model to over-rely on redundant information and increase the risk of overfitting.

The confusion matrix reveals that while the model performs well overall, some misclassifications occur where the two raisin types have overlapping visual characteristics. This is expected in real-world applications, where similar shape profiles can blur the distinction between varieties.

This classifier has practical implications for quality control in agriculture and food processing, where automated classification could reduce labor costs, improve consistency, and minimize human error. At the same time, misclassifications highlight the need for caution in applications involving labeling or pricing decisions.

Future work may include investigating which features contribute most to the model's decisions, incorporating additional measurements such as color or texture, and experimenting with alternative machine learning algorithms. Evaluating the model's generalizability on new raisin batches is also essential to ensure it performs reliably beyond this dataset.

2 Introduction

Raisins are dried grapes, and like their fresh counterparts, different varieties vary in taste, texture, sweetness, and appearance. Beyond being a common snack, raisins are associated with various health benefits, such as increased raisin consumption has been linked to improved diet quality and reduced appetite (Olmo-Cunillera et al. 2019). Accurately identifying raisin varieties can be useful in food processing, quality control, and consumer preference studies.

The dataset used in this project consists of morphological measurements extracted from images of 900 raisins belonging to the Besni and Kecimen varieties, obtained from the UCI Machine Learning Repository. Each sample includes seven numerical features describing the size and shape of a raisin.

2.1 Background

Morphological measurements, such as area, perimeter, and axis lengths, capture important geometric properties that may distinguish different raisin types. Because these biological shapes vary naturally, analyzing their quantitative characteristics can reveal patterns that are not easily detectable by simple visual inspection.

2.2 Motivation

Our goal is to determine whether raisin variety can be accurately predicted using these measured properties. If successful, this type of model could support automated inspection systems in agriculture and food processing, reduce human error, and help standardize quality control. This analysis also helps us understand which features are most informative and whether logistic regression is an appropriate model for this classification task.

3 Methods

3.1 Data

The dataset used in this project consists of digitized raisin images provided by İlkay Çınar, Murat Koklu, and Şakir Taşdemir from Selçuk University (Çınar, Koklu, and Tasdemir 2019). The dataset is available through the UCI Machine Learning Repository and was imported using the ucimlrepo Python library. The data can be obtained from [[here](#)]. Each observation corresponds to a single raisin and includes seven numerical features capturing its morphological properties. Every raisin belongs to one of two varieties: Besni or Kecimen.

A standard 75%/25% train–test split was used to create separate datasets for model training and evaluation

Table 1 provides a high-level summary of the dataset structure:

Table 1: High-level summary of the features in the raisin dataset.

	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
Area	Area	900	int64
MajorAxisLength	MajorAxisLength	900	float64
MinorAxisLength	MinorAxisLength	900	float64
Eccentricity	Eccentricity	900	float64
ConvexArea	ConvexArea	900	int64
Extent	Extent	900	float64
Perimeter	Perimeter	900	float64

Table 2 provides the descriptive statistics for the numerical features:

Table 2: Statistical summary of numerical features in the raisin dataset.

	Area	MajorAxisLength	MinorAxisLength	Eccentricity	ConvexArea	Extent	Perimeter
count	900	900	900	900	900	900	900

Table 2: Statistical summary of numerical features in the raisin dataset.

	Area	MajorAxisLeng	MinorAxisLeng	Eccentricity	ConvexArea	Extent	Perimeter
mean	87804.1	430.93	254.488	0.781542	91186.1	0.699508	1165.91
std	39002.1	116.035	49.9889	0.0903184	40769.3	0.0534682	273.764
min	25387	225.63	143.711	0.34873	26139	0.379856	619.074
25%	59348	345.443	219.111	0.741766	61513.2	0.670869	966.411
50%	78902	407.804	247.848	0.798846	81651	0.707367	1119.51
75%	105028	494.187	279.889	0.842571	108376	0.734991	1308.39
max	235047	997.292	492.275	0.962124	278217	0.835455	2697.75

3.2 Analysis

The LogisticRegression algorithm was used to build the classification model to predict the species of a raisin given its measured shape properties. The data was split 75% into training set and 25% into test set. We obtained an accuracy of $\{ \text{accuracy} \}$ with our model, , indicating strong performance given the simplicity of the model.

4 Exploratory Data Analysis

We began our EDA by visualizing the two major axis measurements. The scatterplot in Figure 1 shows visible separation between the two raisin varieties based on these measurements.

Next, the Pearson correlation matrix shown in Figure 2 reveals strong correlations among size-related features such as Area, Perimeter, and ConvexArea. These relationships suggest redundancy among size metrics and highlight the importance of including shape-based descriptors.

The dataset contains a nearly even number of Besni and Kecimen raisins, as shown in Figure 3. This balance is beneficial for classification performance because it reduces the risk of a model over-emphasizing one class.

5 Results

The confusion matrix for the Logistic Regression classifier (Figure 4) shows that the model performs strongly overall but exhibits slightly better performance for the Kecimen class. Misclassifications occur in both directions, suggesting that some raisins share similar morphological properties that make them difficult to distinguish.

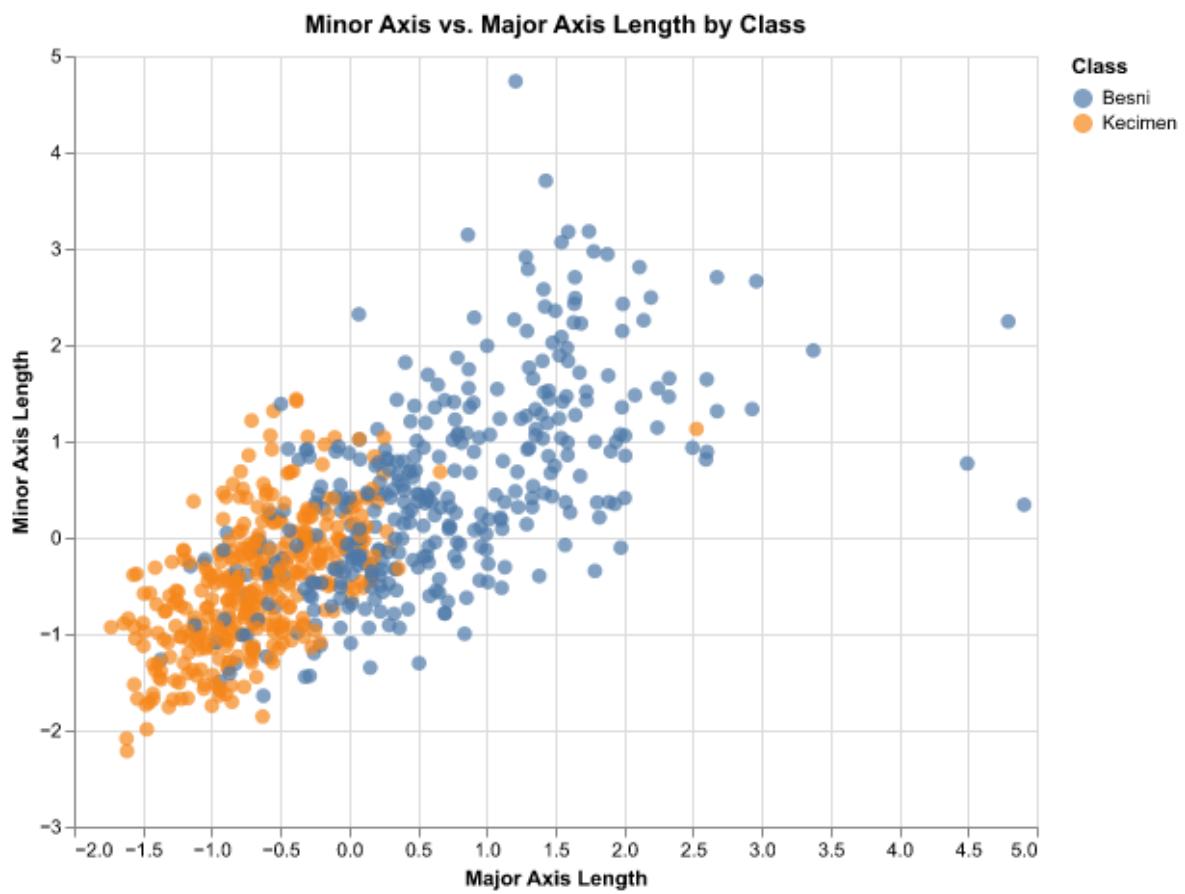


Figure 1: Scatterplot of the two major measurements.

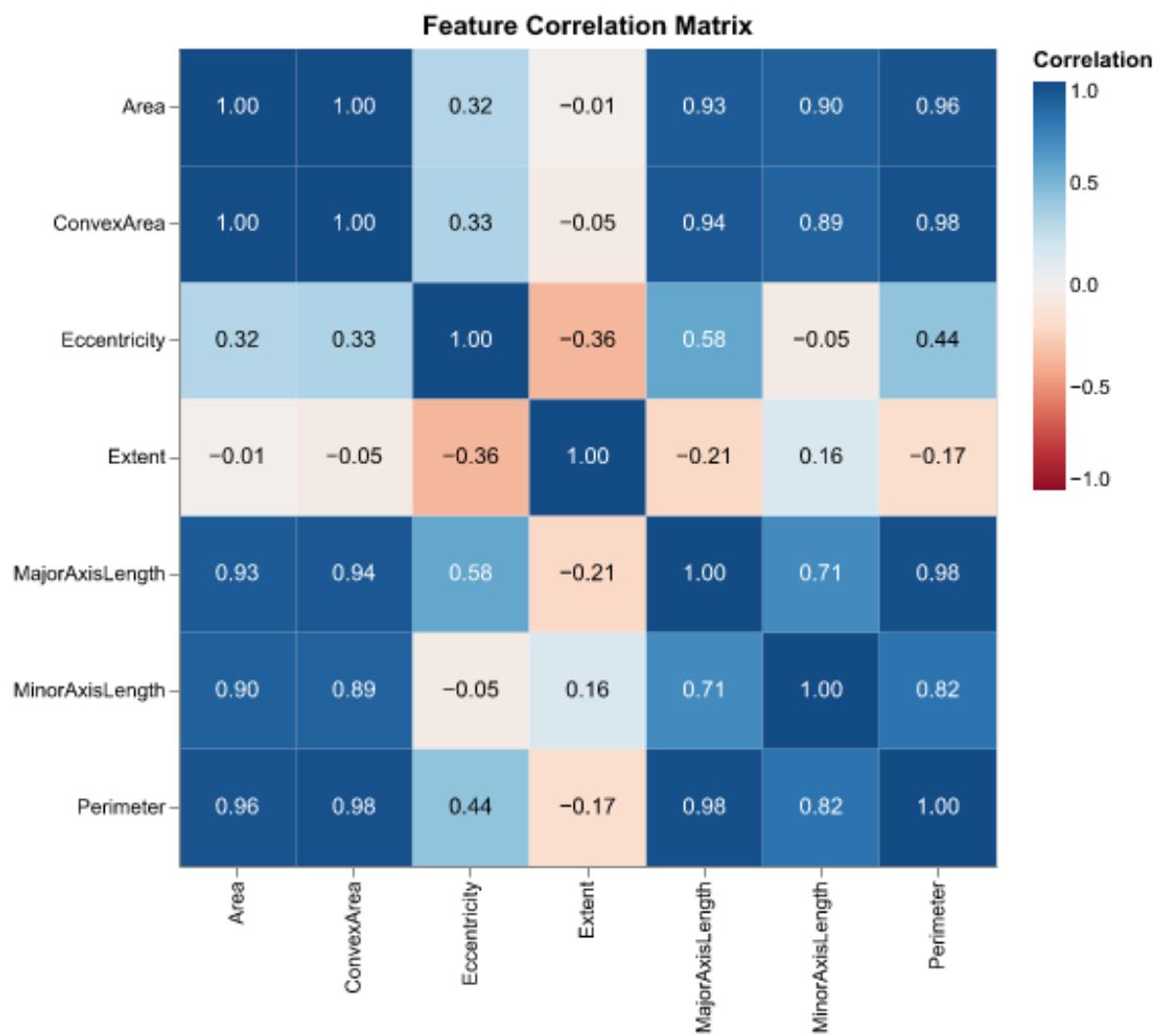


Figure 2: Pearson correlation matrix of each numerical feature.

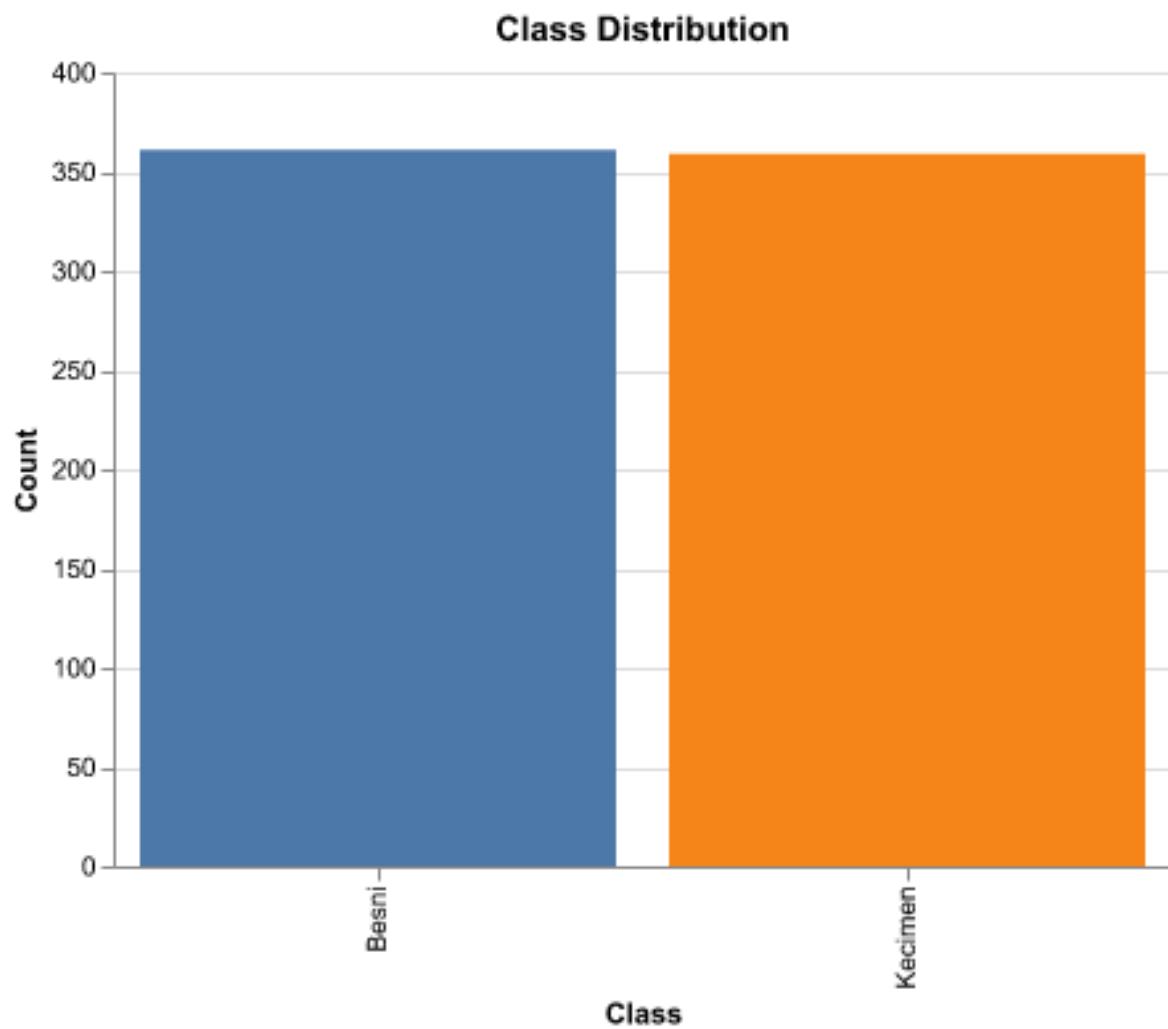


Figure 3: Class Distribution of Raisin Variety.

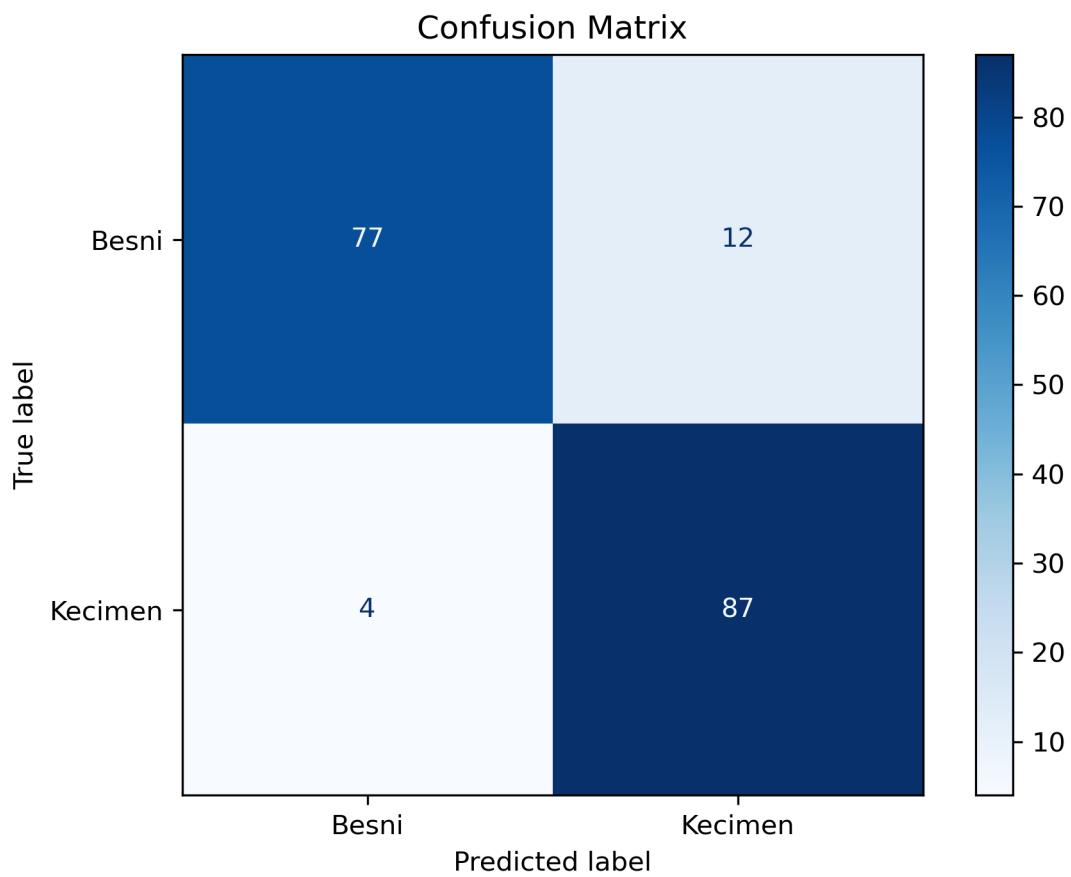


Figure 4: Confusion matrix of the LogisticRegression model.

The feature coefficient plot (Figure 5) highlights which variables contribute most strongly to the model's predictions. Since Logistic Regression coefficients reflect the importance of standardized features, the magnitude of each bar indicates how strongly that feature influences classification. Size-related features appear dominant, reinforcing earlier observations from the correlation matrix.

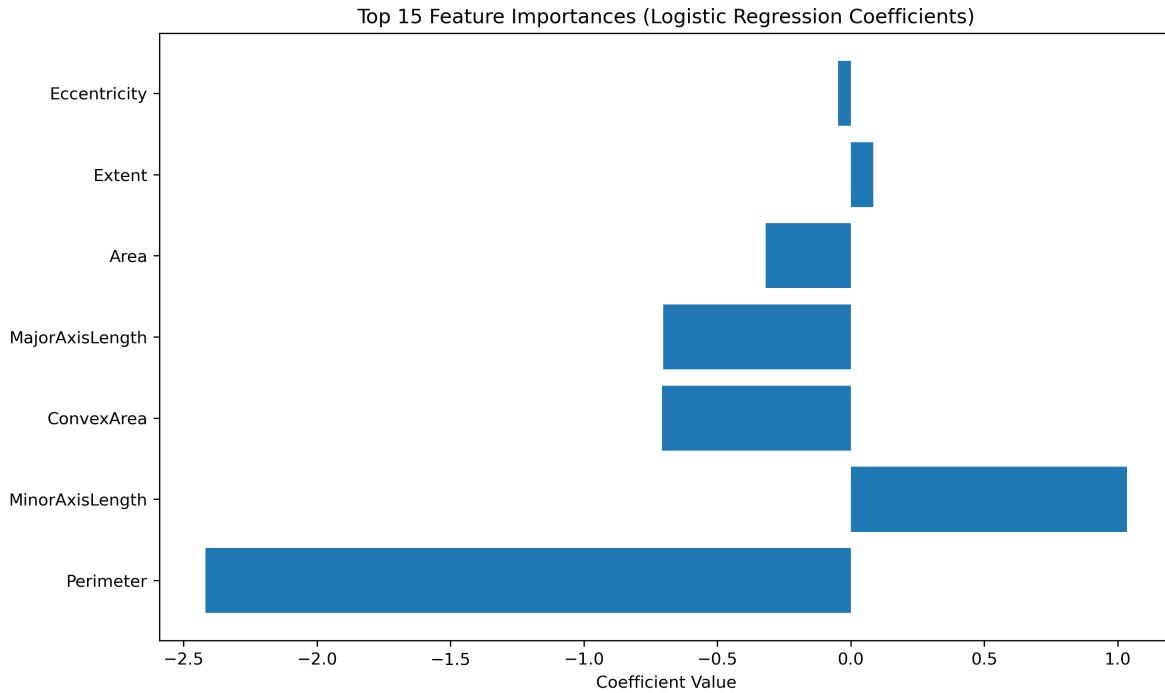


Figure 5: Bar plot of Feature Coefficients.

The model had an accuracy of 0.911 and a weighted f1 score of 0.911 .

6 Discussion

Overall, the Logistic Regression classifier was effective at distinguishing between Besni and Kecimen raisins, achieving high accuracy and balanced performance across classes. The results support the idea that size-based features, such as Area, Perimeter, and ConvexArea, play a major role in classification. However, because these measurements are highly correlated, the model may rely too heavily on redundant information, which could limit generalizability.

The confusion matrix suggests that some samples possess overlapping characteristics that blur the distinction between varieties. This is expected, because if two raisins share similar shape and size profiles, a linear classifier may struggle to separate them cleanly. Incorporating

less correlated features such as texture, color, or weight could help the model capture subtle differences that the current dataset does not include.

Future improvements may include feature engineering to capture non-linear models, training other models such as Tandom FOrests and SVMs, and hyperparameter turning if it is relevant for the chosen model.

These findings indicate that while the current model performs well for basic classification, there is strong potential for further improvement with more sophisticated modeling techniques and a richer feature set.

References

- Çinar, İlkay, Murat Koklu, and Sakir Tasdemir. 2019. “Raisin Dataset.” <https://archive.ics.uci.edu/dataset/850/raisin>.
- Olmo-Cunillera, Alexandra et al. 2019. “Is Eating Raisins Healthy?” *Nutrients* 12 (1): 54. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu12010054>.