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Evaluation: From metrics to business impact

Data Science Toolkit & Applications

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Evaluation: Measuring the Power of Your Model

From Metrics to Business Impact in CRISP-DM

Core Objective:

- Ensure the **model meets business goals** and performs well on unseen data.

Example:

- A churn prediction model with 95% accuracy **is useless if it doesn't reduce customer attrition.**

"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted." — Albert Einstein

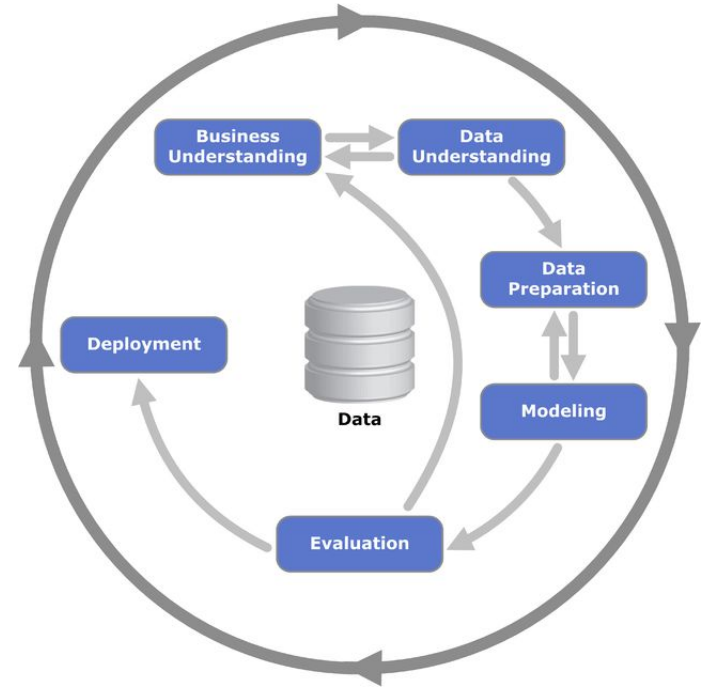
Where Does Evaluation Fit?

CRISP-DM Steps:

1. Business Understanding ✓
2. Data Understanding ✓
3. Data Preparation ✓
4. Modeling ✓
5. **Evaluation** (Current focus) 🔍
6. Deployment

Evaluation Goal:

- **Assess model performance**
- **align with business objectives.**



What Does Evaluation Involve?

- **Review Results**: Check model performance on test data. 
- **Assess Business Impact**: Does the model solve the problem? 
- **Validate with Stakeholders**: Get feedback from domain experts. 
- **Iterate or Proceed**: Decide if the model is ready for deployment or needs improvement. 

Technical Evaluation – Metrics / Measuring Model Performance



Problem Type	Metrics	When to Use
Classification	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score, ROC-AUC, Confusion Matrix	Spam detection, churn prediction
Regression	MAE, MSE, RMSE, R^2	House price prediction, sales forecasting
Clustering	Silhouette Score, Davies-Bouldin Index, Elbow Method	Customer segmentation
Association	Support, Confidence, Lift	Market basket analysis

Business Evaluation – Aligning with Goals

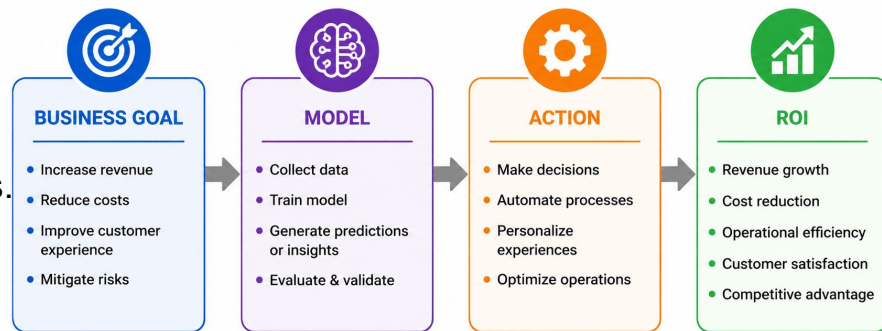
Does the Model Solve the Business Problem?

Key Questions:

- Does the model meet the **success criteria**? e.g., reduce churn by 10%
- Is the model **actionable**? Can business teams **use** the predictions?
- What is the **ROI**? **Cost** of implementation vs. **benefits**.

Example:

- **Business Goal:** Reduce customer churn by 10%.
- **Model Impact:** Predicts churn with 90% accuracy
- **Action:** Target high-risk customers with retention offers.



Remember:

- **Business Goal:** What business problem are we trying to solve?
- **Model:** AI/ML model that generates predictions or recommendations.
- **Action:** Decisions or processes driven by the model's output.
- **ROI:** Measurable business value (revenue, savings, productivity, customer satisfaction, etc.).

Confusion Matrix – Deep Dive

Understanding Classification Errors

Derived Metrics:

- **Accuracy:** $(TP + TN) / \text{Total}$
- **Precision:** $TP / (TP + FP)$
- **Recall:** $TP / (TP + FN)$
- **F1-Score:** $2 * (\text{Precision} * \text{Recall}) / (\text{Precision} + \text{Recall})$

Confusion Matrix

	Actually Positive (1)	Actually Negative (0)
Predicted Positive (1)	True Positives (TPs)	False Positives (FPs)
Predicted Negative (0)	False Negatives (FNs)	True Negatives (TNs)

FN (false negatives) are often more costly than FP (false positives) in applications like fraud detection or medical diagnosis

Visualizing Model Trade-offs



ROC Curve:

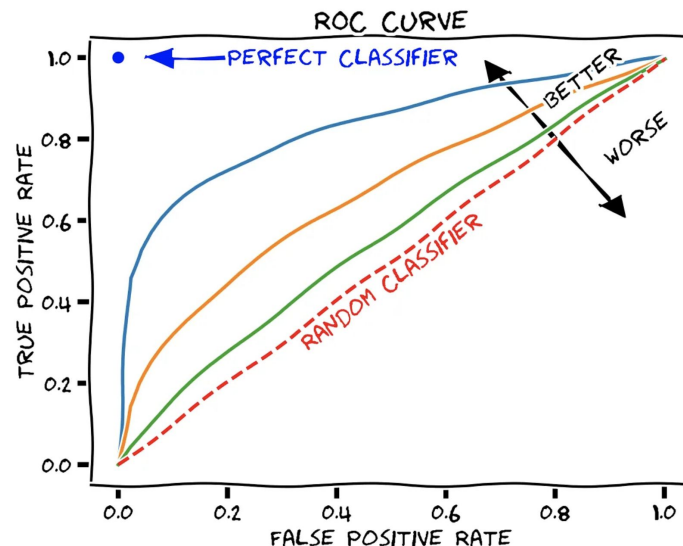
- Plots True Positive Rate (TPR) vs. False Positive Rate (FPR) at different thresholds.

AUC (Area Under Curve):

- $AUC = 1.0$: Perfect model.
- $AUC = 0.5$: Random guessing.
- $AUC > 0.7$: Generally acceptable.

Example:

- A model with $AUC = 0.9$ can distinguish classes well.



Choosing the Best Model

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	Training Time	Interpretability
Logistic Regression	85%	82%	80%	81%	Fast	High
Random Forest	88%	85%	80%	82%	Medium	Medium
XGBoost	89%	86%	81%	83%	Slow	Low
Neural Network	90%	87%	82%	84%	Very Slow	Very Low

Recommendation:

- **Best Performance:** Neural Network (but slow and hard to interpret).
- **Best Trade-off:** XGBoost (high performance, reasonable speed).
- **Best for Interpretability:** Logistic Regression.

Stakeholder Validation Getting Buy-In from the Business

Why Validate with Stakeholders?

- Ensure the **model aligns with business needs** and is trusted by end-users.

How to Present Results:

- **Avoid Technical Jargon**
 - Use business language
 - e.g., 'This model can reduce churn by 10%'
- **Show Impact**
 - Demonstrate ROI
 - e.g., cost savings, revenue increase
- **Address Concerns**
 - Be transparent about limitations.

Example Presentation:

"Our churn model identifies 80% of at-risk customers, allowing us to reduce churn by 10% with targeted retention offers."

Next Steps: Iterate or Deploy?

When to Iterate:

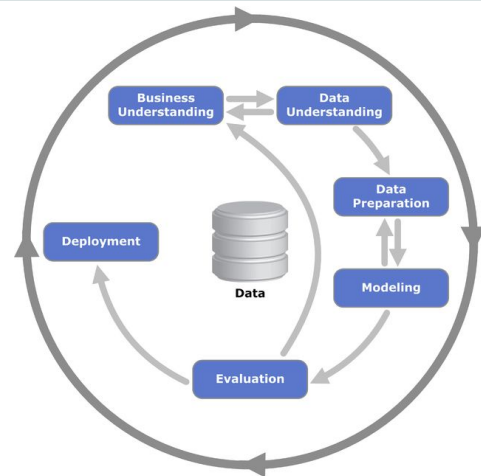
- Model **performance is below business goals**.
- **Stakeholders reject** the model (e.g., low trust, poor alignment with needs).
- **New data** or business requirements emerge.

When to Deploy:

- Model **meets success criteria and is actionable**.
- Stakeholders **approve** the model.
- The **ROI** justifies deployment.

Example:

- If the churn model's recall is 80% but the business needs 90%, iterate by collecting more data or trying new algorithms.



Python Libraries:

- Scikit-learn: accuracy_score, precision_score, confusion_matrix
- Matplotlib/Seaborn: for ROC curves, confusion matrices
- Yellowbrick: for visual diagnostics

Other Tools:

- R (caret, MLmetrics)
- Excel (for business metrics)
- Tableau/Power BI (for visualizing impact)

What to Remember

- **Evaluation is More Than Metrics** – Align technical performance with business goals. 
- **Stakeholders Matter** – A model is only successful if the business uses and trusts it. 
- **Iterate or Deploy** – Use evaluation results to decide the next steps. 

