



# Improving Tax Administration with **Artificial**Intelligence: Bringing Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) into Practice

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#### **Contents** (and caveats)

- Introduction and conception
- Live demo
- The real case using administrative data





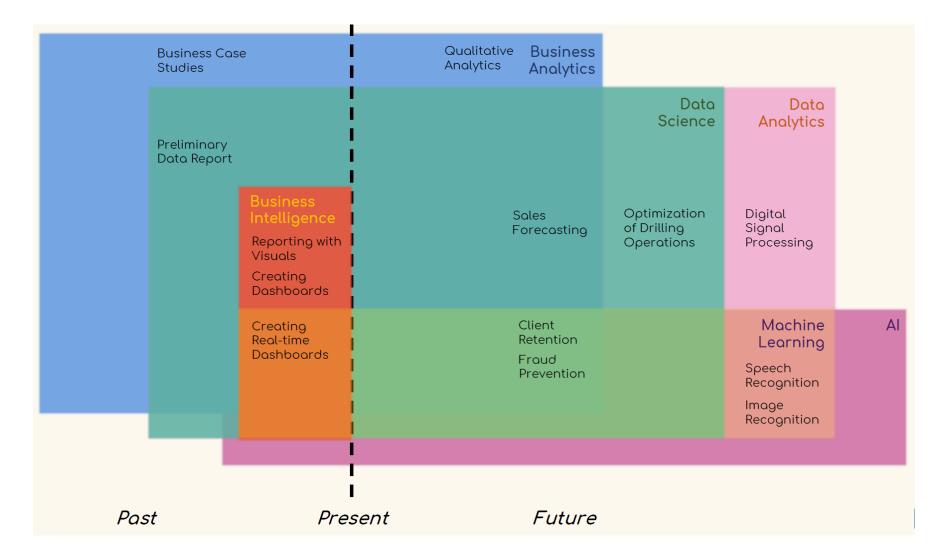
#### What Makes AI So Popular Today?

- All is the science and engineering of making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs. It is related to the similar task of using computers to understand human intelligence.
- Artificial intelligence leverages computers and machines to mimic the problem-solving and decision-making capabilities of the human mind.
- Gaining popularity due to: (i) increased computing power and storage, (ii) availability of big data, (iii) advancement in algorithms.





#### Where are we?







#### **Machine Learning**

- Machine learning is a branch of artificial intelligence (AI) and computer science which focuses on the use of data and algorithms to imitate the way that **humans learn**, gradually improving its accuracy
- Machine learning is an important component of the growing field of data science.
- Through the use of statistical methods, algorithms are trained to make classifications or predictions, and to uncover key insights in data mining projects.





#### What is ANN?

- An artificial neural network (ANN), also known as neural network (NN), is a computational structure composed of a number of interconnected data processors called neurons or nodes.
- They are inspired from the structure of biological nervous systems.
- Neural networks are powerful modeling tools because they can detect complex, nonlinear relationships between inputs and outputs.







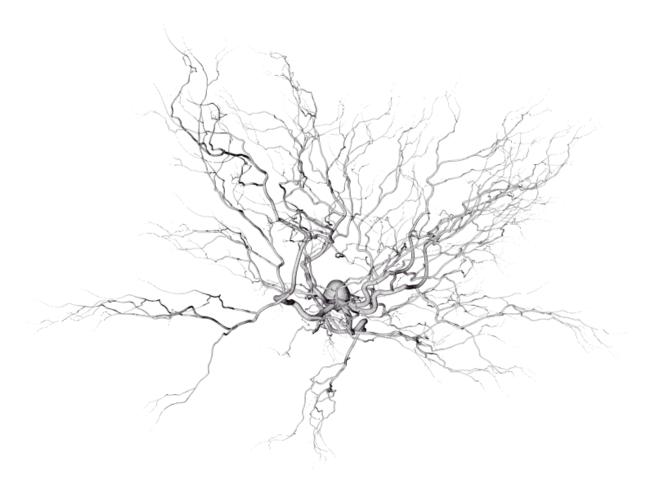
#### Overview the classification algorithms

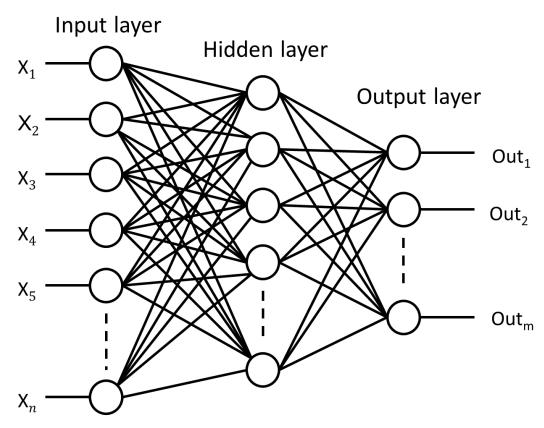
	Advantages	Disadvantages
Logistic regression	<ul> <li>Models are often very accurate</li> <li>Works well on small datasets</li> <li>Predicts probabilities</li> <li>Easy to interpret, in particular, the influence of each input variable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>It can only provide linear solutions</li> <li>Problems with high collinearity of the input variables</li> </ul>
Linear discriminant analysis	<ul> <li>Typically, very fast building the model</li> <li>Works well on small datasets</li> <li>Optimal if data assumptions are fulfilled</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More restrictive assumptions than other methods (e.g., logistic regression)</li> <li>Usually, needs data preparation</li> <li>Sensitive to outliers, only applicable to linear problems</li> </ul>
Decision trees	<ul> <li>Robust to outliers</li> <li>Model and decision rules are easy to understand</li> <li>Can handle different data types</li> <li>Fast in prediction and no assumptions on variable distributions needed.</li> <li>Can handle missing values</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can be computationally expensive to train</li> <li>Large trees tend to overfitting</li> <li>Most of the time it does not find the optimal solution</li> <li>Prefers variables with many categories or numerical data</li> </ul>
Neural networks	<ul> <li>Good performance on large datasets</li> <li>Very good at allowing nonlinear relations and can generate very complex decision boundaries</li> <li>Non-parametric, no distribution assumptions needed</li> <li>Can handle noisy data</li> <li>Often outperforms other methods</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Training can be computationally expensive</li> <li>Results and effects of input variables are hard to interpret (black box algorithm)</li> <li>Tends to overfitting and does not always find the optimal solution</li> </ul>





#### **Biological NN vs ANN architecture**









#### **Two Classes of ANN**

The neural networks could be divided into two big classes:

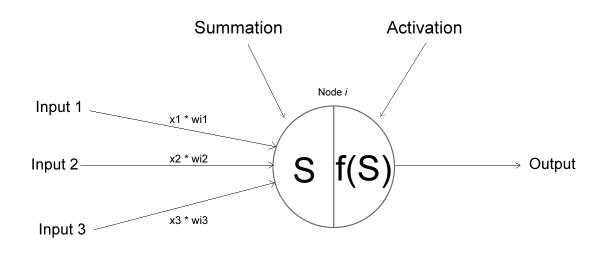
- Feedforward networks. In a feedforward network, the information (signals) is transmitted in one direction only: from the input to the output layer (passing through the hidden layers).
- **Recurrent networks** (aka feedback or interactive networks). In a recurrent network, the information can travel both ways (from input to output and conversely) by using loops.



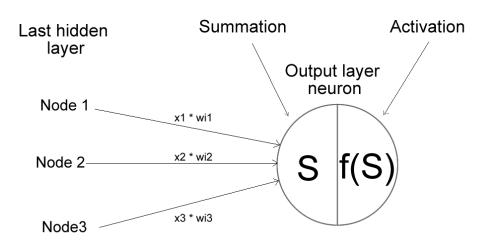


#### What Happens Inside of a Neuron?

Operations performed in a neuron: (i) summation and (ii) activation



$$S = \sum_{j} x_{j} w_{ij} + b_{i}$$



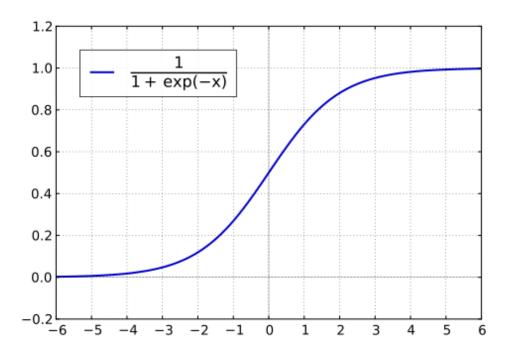
$$S = \sum_{j} x_{j} w_{ij} + b_{i}$$



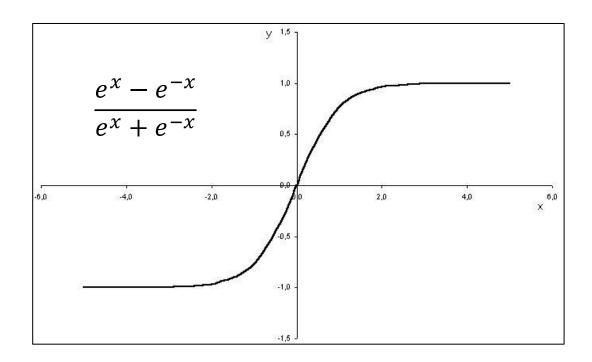


#### **Types of Activation Functions**

Logistic function (sigmoid)



Hyperbolic tangent function (tanh)

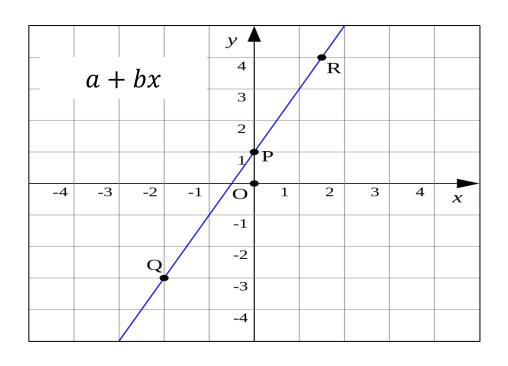




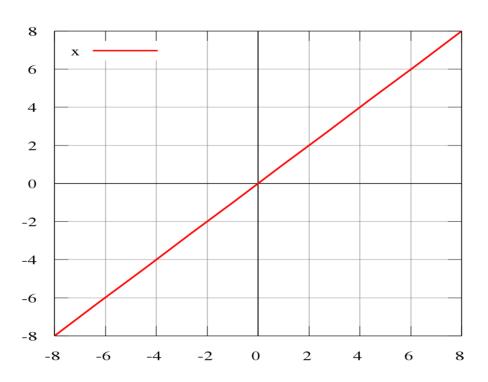


#### **Types of Activation Functions**

#### Linear function



#### Identity function







#### **Multilayer Perceptron (MLP)**

- A feedforward network with three or more layers (one input, one output and one or more hidden layers) is called multilayer perceptron (MLP).
- It usually employs a sigmoid or a hyperbolic tangent function as an activation function.
- A feedforward network that uses a radial basis function as an activation function is called RBF neural network (not discussed here).





#### **Neural Networks Learning Process**

The learning process of a neural network is composed of four phases:

- 1. Initialization
- 2. Feed forward
- 3. Error evaluation
- 4. Backpropagation and weights adjustment





#### **Neural Networks Learning Process (2)**

**Phase 1—Initialization:** At this phase, the first set of weights is generated (usually at random).

Phase 2—Feed forward: At this phase, the signal is transmitted from the input layer to the output layer, passing through the hidden layer(s). The hidden layer neurons perform the operations of summation and activation.





#### **Neural Networks Learning Process (3)**

#### Phase 3—Error evaluation

Here, the output of the network is compared with the actual values of the dependent variable. Usually, the sum squared error is computed, with this formula:

$$SSE = \sum (y - \hat{y})^2$$

At each step of the learning process, the algorithm checks whether the error has improved (i.e., decreased) compared to the previous step. If the improvement is under a given threshold, the algorithm stops. If not, it goes to the next phase.





#### **Neural Networks Learning Process (4)**

#### Phase 4—Backpropagation and weights adjustment

The error is propagated backwards through the network and the weights are adjusted with the goal of reducing the error. The learning process starts over. This process continues until the error decrease falls under the specified threshold.

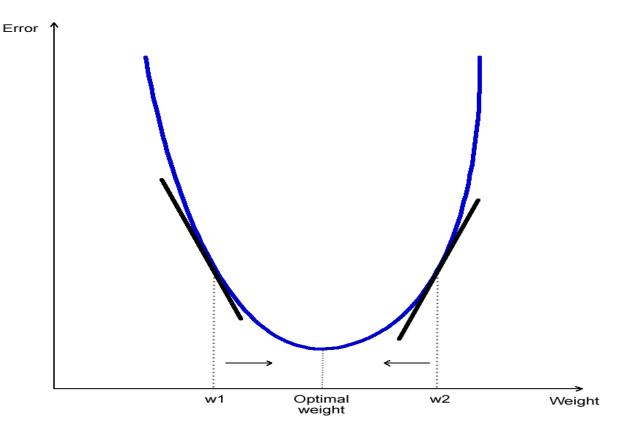
To adjust the weights (and the biases) in the hidden layer neurons, the gradient descent technique is used.





#### **Gradient Descent**

- Gradient descent is an optimization algorithm which is commonly-used to train machine learning models and neural networks.
- Training data helps these models learn over time, and the cost function within gradient descent specifically acts as a barometer, gauging its accuracy with each iteration of parameter updates.







#### **ROC Curve**

- The ROC curve summarizes the performance of a neural network.
- ROC stands for Receiver Operating Characteristics.
- It is built based on two indicators:
  - sensitivity the ability of the model to predict that an event will happen when it actually happens (in other words, the ability to predict the true positives)
  - specificity the ability of the model to predict that an event will not happen when it actually does not happen (in other words, the ability to predict the *true negatives*).

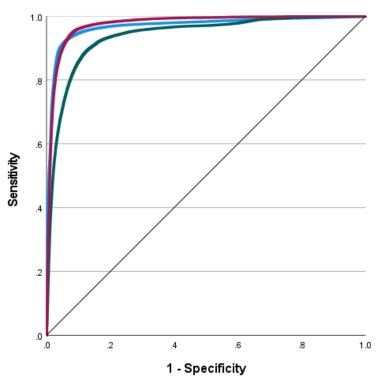


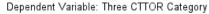


#### **ROC Curve (2)**

The accuracy of the model is given by the area under the curve (AUC). This area is comprised between 0.50 and 1.

- if AUC is close to 0.50, the model is useless for prediction
- the closer AUC is to 1, the better the model

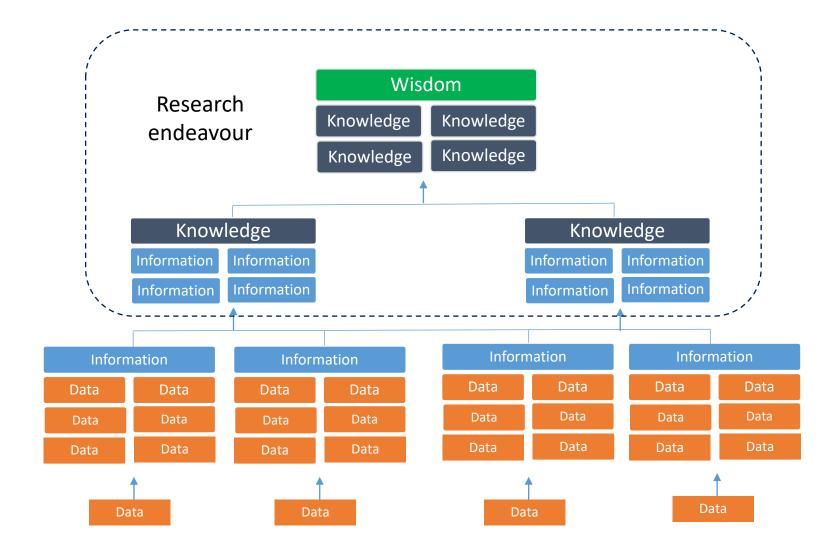








#### **DIKW Model—a research perspective**







#### **Usage of and Familiarity with Analytics Software**

	SAS E Guide	SAS E Miner	SAS Other	SPSS	IBM Modeller	IBM Other	SQL	Oracle Data Miner	Stata	R
Australia										
Canada										
China										
Finland										
France										
Ireland										
Malaysia										
Mexico										
Netherlands										
New Zealand										
Singapore										
Sweden										
Switzerland										
United Kingdom										
United States										

Key: Level of familiarity

Very high High Medium Low Very low

Source: Forum on Tax Administrations, Advanced Analytics survey (2015)





#### So, Let's Build Our ANN Model (based on historical data)

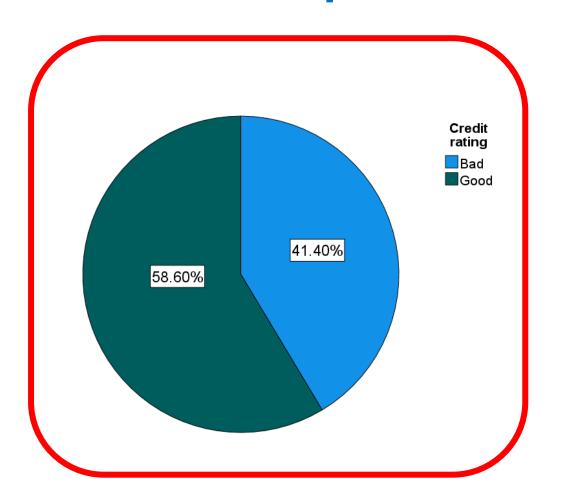
The data set contains information about the credit ratings of 2.464 subjects. We will use the multilayer perceptron **to predict** the credit rating category using five variables in the data set as predictors.

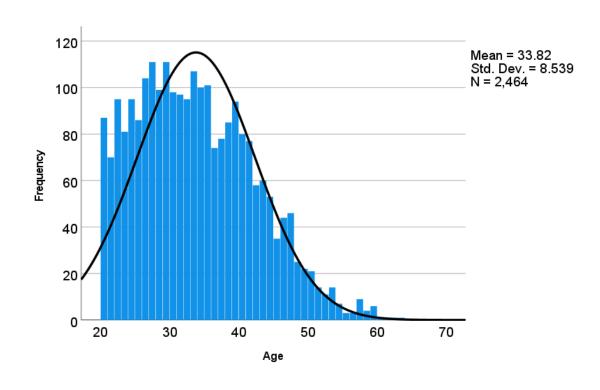
Variables	Measurement scale	Labels
Credit rating	Categorical	0=bad, 1=good, 9=no data
Age	Ratio	_
Income level	Ordinal	1=low, 2=medium, 3=high
Number of credit cards	Ordinal	1=<5, 2=5 or more
Education	Ordinal	1=high school, 2=college
Car loans	Ordinal	1= none or 1, 2=>2





#### **Data Description**

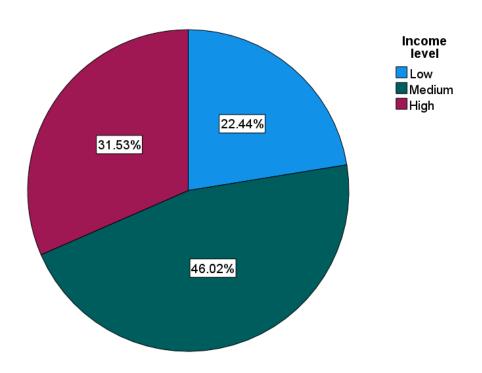


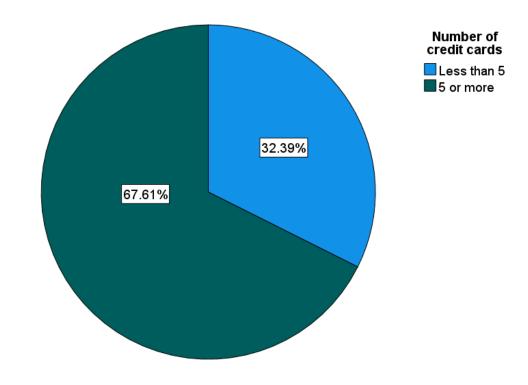






#### **Data Description (2)**

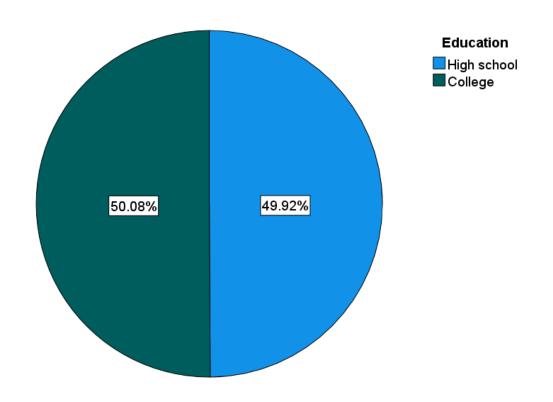


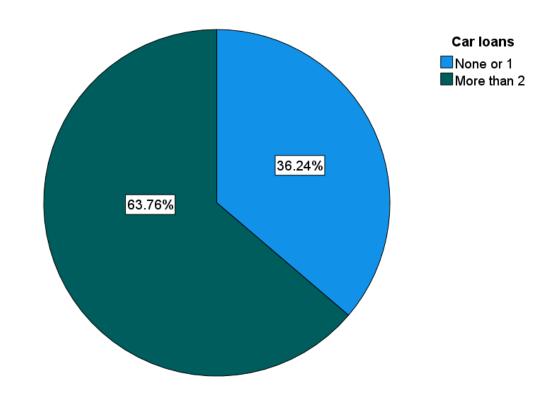






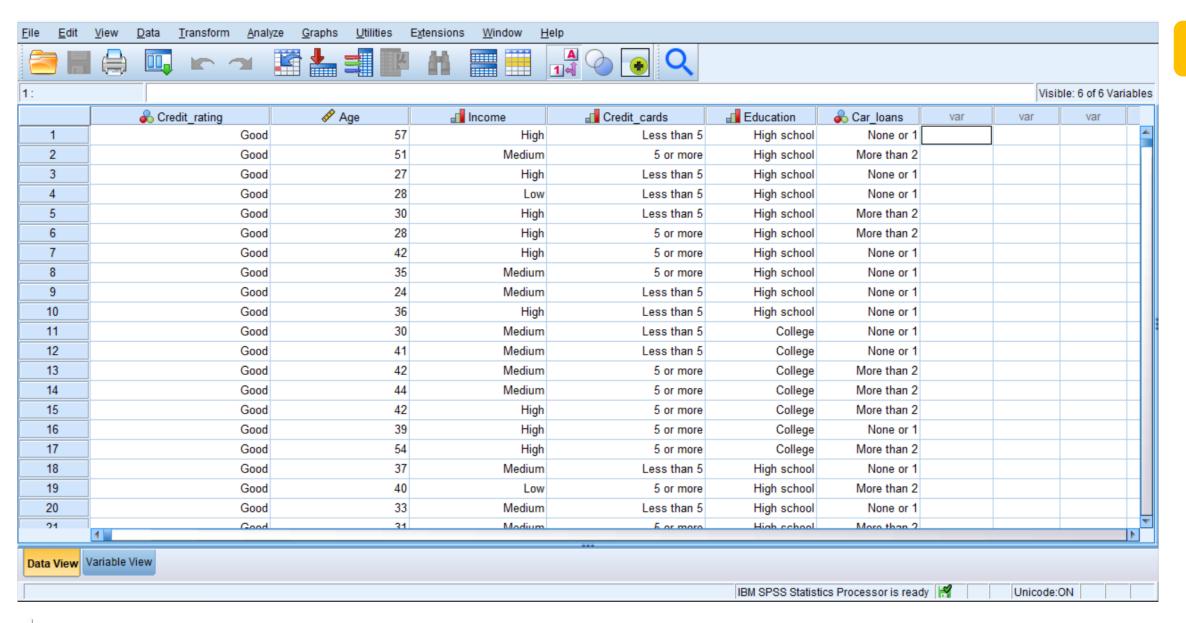
#### **Data Description (3)**





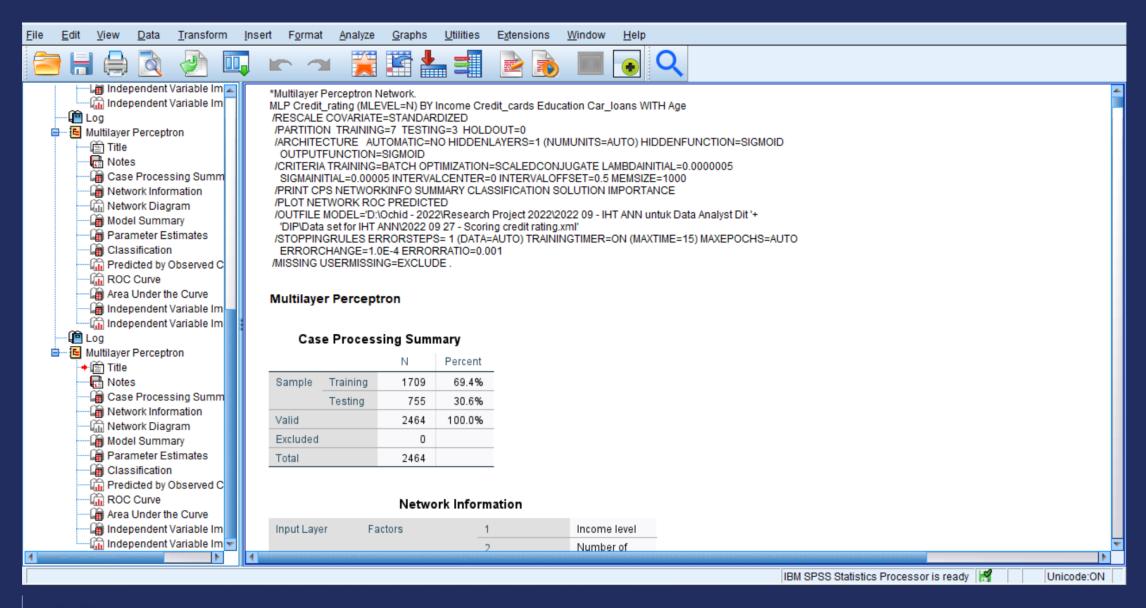
















## Let's go to a live demo!





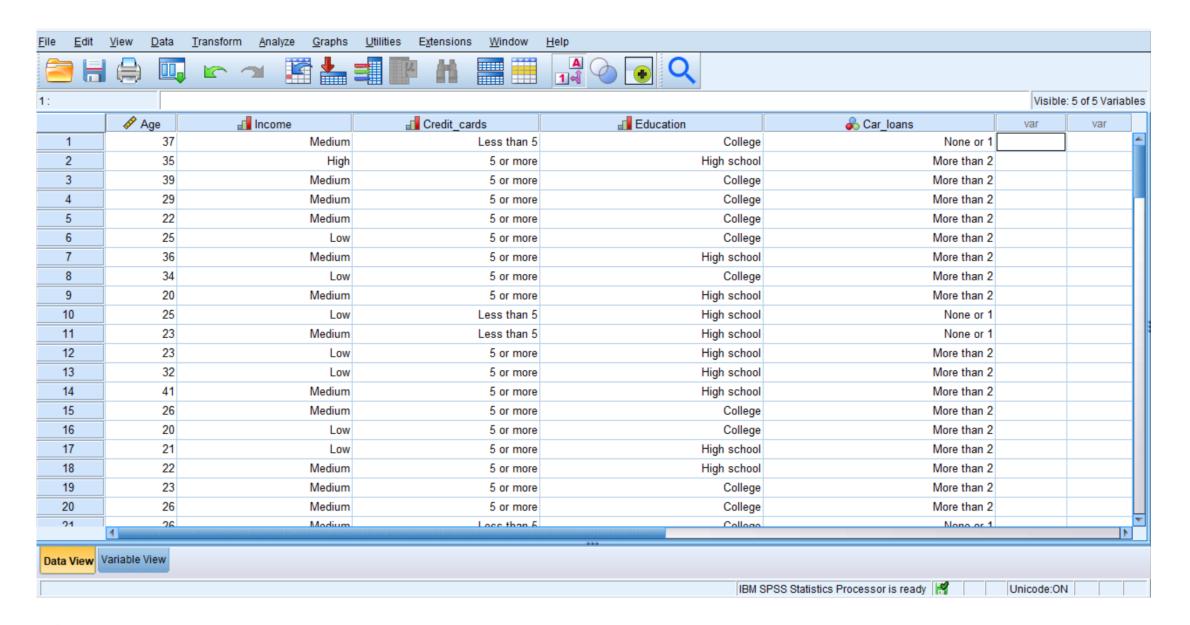
#### How do we predict the credit rating of future client?

The data set contains information about 100 subjects without credit rating categories. We will use the multilayer perceptron to predict the credit rating category using five variables in the data set as predictors.

Variables	Measurement scale	Labels
<b>Credit rating (?????)</b>	Categorical	0=bad, 1=good, 9=no data
Age	Ratio	_
Income level	Ordinal	1=low, 2=medium, 3=high
Number of credit cards	Ordinal	1=<5, 2=5 or more
Education	Ordinal	1=high school, 2=college
Car loans	Ordinal	1= none or 1, 2=>2

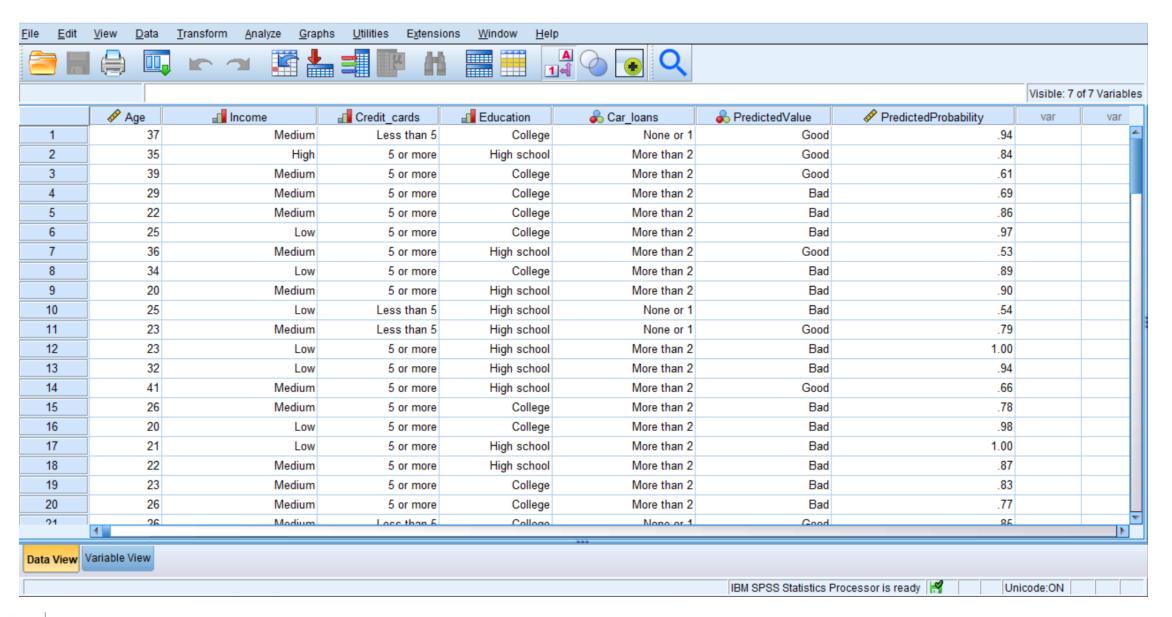








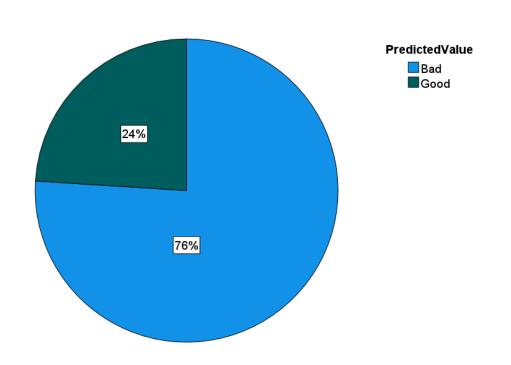


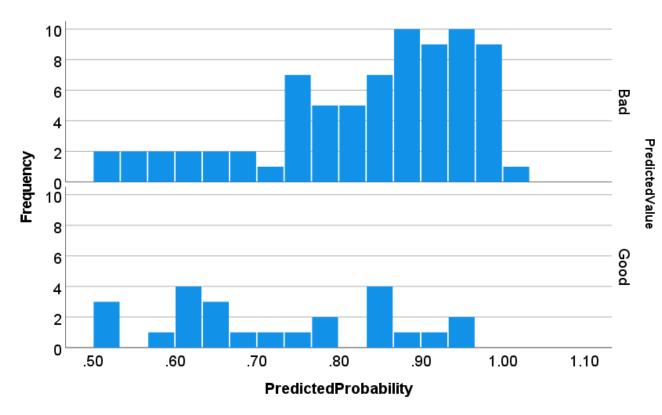






#### **Results: Predicted Value and Predicted Probability**









### Let's go to a live demo!

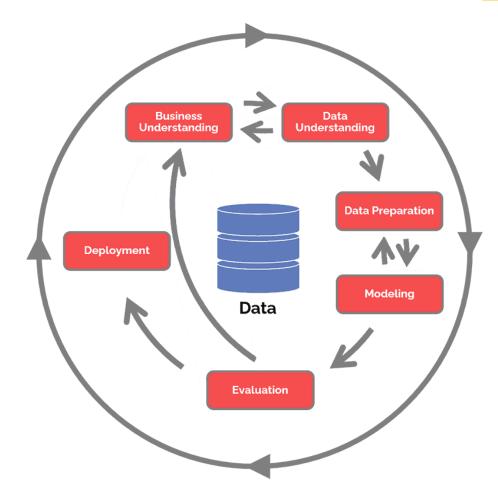




#### **Bringing ANN into Practice: A CRISP-DM Perspective**

The **CR**oss Industry **S**tandard **P**rocess for **D**ata Mining (CRISP-DM) is a process model that serves as the base for a **data science** process.

- 1. Business understanding What does the business need?
- 2. Data understanding **What data do we have / need? Is it clean?**
- 3. Data preparation **How do we organize the data for modeling?**
- 4. Modeling What modeling techniques should we apply?
- 5. Evaluation Which model best meets the business objectives?
- 6. Deployment **How do stakeholders access the results?**







## Predicting Firms' Taxpaying Behaviour Using Artificial Neural Networks: The Case Of Indonesia

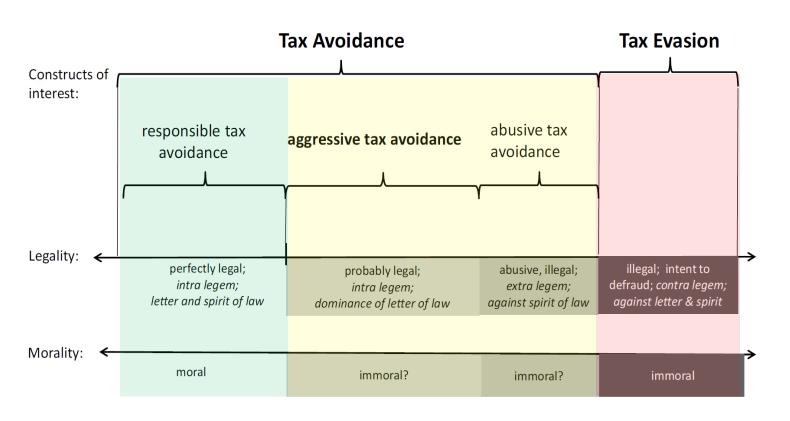
The full working paper is available here:

https://ssrn.com/abstract=4185966 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4185966





### **Tax Compliance Behaviour: A Closer Look**



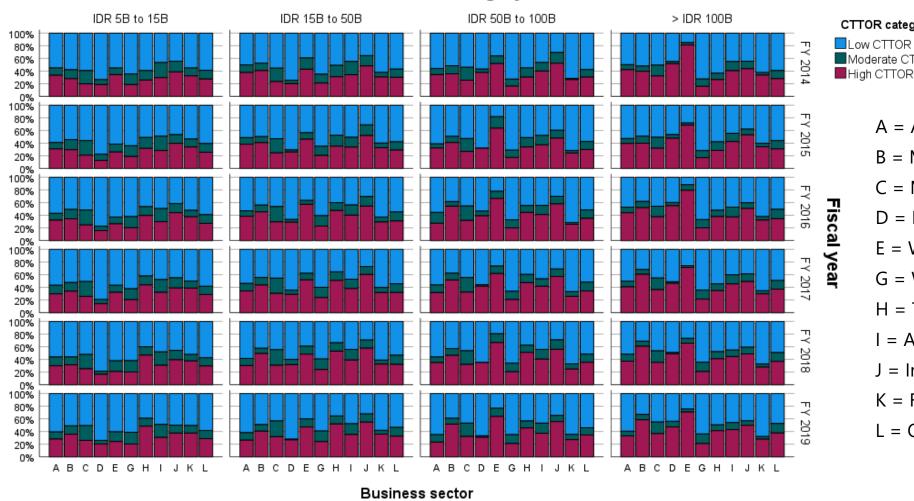
- ☐ Can we accurately **predict** taxpaying behaviour?
- What are the most influential predictors?





### **Empirical Setting**

#### Annual turnover category



A = Agriculture

CTTOR category

Low CTTOR ■Moderate CTTOR

- B = Mining and quarrying
- C = Manufacturing
- D = Electricity and gas
- E = Water supply, sewerage, etc.
- G = Wholesale and retail trade
- H = Transportation and storage
- I = Accommodation and food service
- J = Information and communication
- K = Financial and insurance
- L = Others







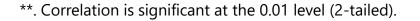
### **Empirical Data**

#### **Descriptive statistics (n = 538,254)**

	Mean	Median	SD	Variance	Min.	Max.
Gross profit margin (%)	20.83	15.17	20.04	401.50	-98.60	100.00
Operating profit margin (%)	4.49	3.02	11.57	133.86	-175.64	100.00
Other income ratio (%)	1.20	0.04	8.62	74.38	-92.59	4,308.28
Other expense ratio (%)	1.59	0.01	9.53	90.87	-70.42	4,332.31
Positive fiscal adjustment ratio (%)	7.24	0.22	21.78	474.50	-104.07	100.00
Negative fiscal adjustment ratio (%)	0.60	0.00	4.51	20.33	-189.45	100.00
CTTOR (%)	0.89	0.42	1.35	1.82	0.00	23.37

#### Relationship between variables under study (n = 538,254)

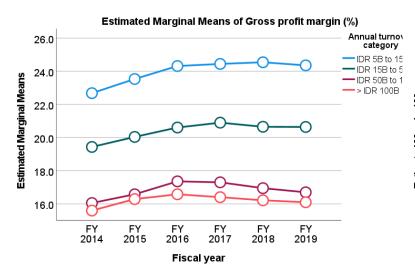
	GPM	ОРМ	OIR	OER	PFAR	NFAR	CTTOR
GPM	1	.476**	.023**	.080**	.065**	.065**	.349**
ОРМ	.476**	1	095**	.018**	.072**	.045**	.410**
OIR	.023**	095**	1	.698**	.020**	.108**	.074**
OER	.080**	.018**	.698**	1	.038**	.073**	.004**
PFAR	.065**	.072**	.020**	.038**	1	.098**	120**
NFAR	.065**	.045**	.108**	.073**	.098**	1	.011**
CTTOR	.349**	.410**	.074**	.004**	120**	.011**	1

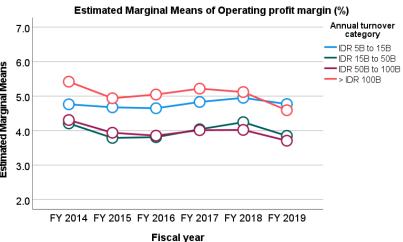


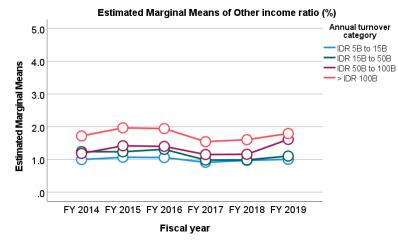


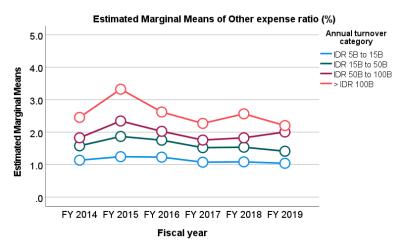


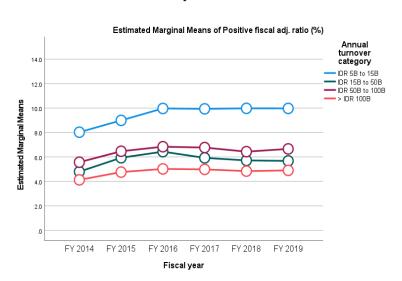
### **Graphical Evidence**

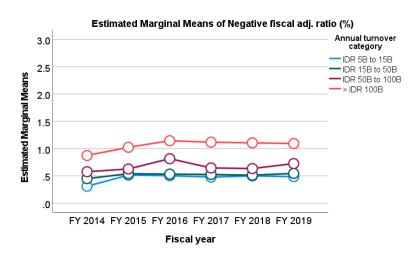
















### **ANN Datasets**

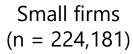
	Small firms		Medium firms		Medium-large firms		Large firms	
	(IDR 5 billion to 15 billion)		(IDR 15 billion to 50 billion)		(IDR 50 billion to 100 billion)		(More than IDR 100 billion)	
Sample	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Training	135,140	60.3%	99,779	60.0%	36,816	59.8%	51,659	59.8%
Testing	44,634	19.9%	33,167	20.0%	12,236	19.9%	17,260	20.0%
Holdout	44,393	19.8%	33,215	20.0%	12,517	20.3%	17,409	20.2%
Valid	224,167	100.0%	166,161	100.0%	61,569	100.0%	86,328	100.0%
Excluded	14		10		3		2	
Total	224,181		166,171		61,572		86,330	





Synaptic Weight > 0

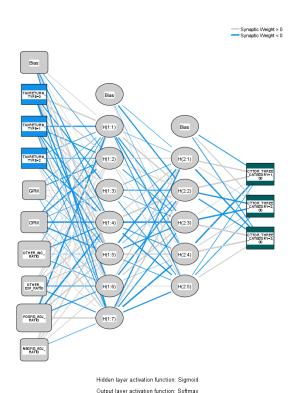
#### Structure of Neural Networks for the Model Prediction

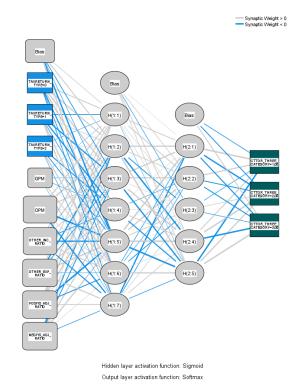


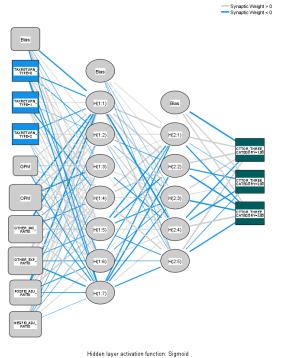
Medium firms (n = 166,171)

Medium-large firms (n = 61,572)

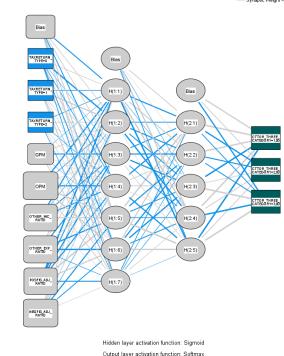
Large firms (n = 86,330)







Output layer activation function: Softmax







## **ANN Model Summary**

		Small firms	Medium firms	Medium-large firms	Large firms
Training	Cross Entropy Error	42,037.16	22,814.93	9,211.94	10,952.95
	Percent Incorrect	10.9%	6.4%	7.7%	6.8%
	Predictions				
	Stopping Rule Used	Max. number of	Max. number of	Max. number	Max. number
		epochs (100)	epochs (100)	of epochs	of epochs
		exceeded	exceeded	(100) exceeded	(100) exceeded
	Training Time	0:00:10,35	0:00:07,97	0:00:03,24	0:00:04,56
Testing	Cross Entropy Error	13,972.8	7,444.7	3,078.6	3,750.5
	Percent Incorrect	10.8%	6.4%	7.6%	7.0%
	Predictions				
Holdout	Percent Incorrect	10.9%	6.4%	6.9%	7.1%
	Predictions				





## **Accuracy of Classification**

			Predicted f	or small firm	Predicted for medium firms					
			(IDR 5 billio	n to 15 billio	n)	(IDR	(IDR 15 billion to 50 billion)			
Sample	Observed	Low	Moderate	High	% Correct	Low	Moderate	High	% Correct	
<b>Training</b>	Low	75,006	3,103	1,847	93.8%	53,201	1,211	1,398	95.3%	
	Moderate	3,472	16,862	2,876	72.6%	1,300	13,690	1,319	83.9%	
	High	947	2,461	28,566	89.3%	474	703	26,483	95.7%	
	Percent	58.8%	16.6%	24.6%	89.1%	55.1%	15.6%	29.3%	93.6%	
Testing	Low	24,762	1,024	604	93.8%	17,716	384	431	95.6%	
	Moderate	1,139	5,586	954	72.7%	418	4,520	467	83.6%	
	High	333	760	9,472	89.7%	183	230	8,818	95.5%	
	Percent	58.8%	16.5%	24.7%	89.2%	55.2%	15.5%	29.3%	93.6%	
Holdout	Low	24,675	1,027	599	93.8%	17,804	396	430	95.6%	
	Moderate	1,174	5,546	961	72.2%	455	4,602	433	83.8%	
	High	270	796	9,345	89.8%	156	258	8,681	95.4%	
	Percent	58.8%	16.6%	24.6%	89.1%	55.4%	15.8%	28.7%	93.6%	





### **Accuracy of Classification (2)**

		Pre	dicted for m	edium-large	firms	Predicted for large firms				
		(	IDR 50 billio	n to 100 billi	on)	(Mor	(More than IDR 100 billion)			
Sample	Observed	Low	Moderate	High	% Correct	Low	Moderate	High	% Correct	
<b>Training</b>	Low	21,191	335	472	96.3%	27,356	763	1,030	93.8%	
	Moderate	947	3,819	499	72.5%	634	6,064	616	82.9%	
	High	315	252	8,986	94.1%	275	182	14,739	97.0%	
	Percent	61.0%	12.0%	27.0%	92.3%	54.7%	13.6%	31.7%	93.2%	
Testing	Low	7,121	114	169	96.2%	9,162	299	316	93.7%	
	Moderate	308	1,270	159	73.1%	206	2,000	232	82.0%	
	High	104	70	2,921	94.4%	84	63	4,898	97.1%	
	Percent	61.6%	11.9%	26.6%	92.4%	54.8%	13.7%	31.6%	93.0%	
Holdout	Low	7,182	106	136	96.7%	9,177	296	352	93.4%	
	Moderate	299	1,331	139	75.2%	240	1,995	206	81.7%	
	High	104	81	3,139	94.4%	75	72	4,996	97.1%	
	Percent	60.6%	12.1%	27.3%	93.1%	54.5%	13.6%	31.9%	92.9%	





## **Independent Variable Importance**

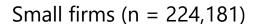
		Small firms	Medium firms		
	(IDR 5 b	oillion to 15 billion)	(IDR 15 billion to 50 billion)		
	Importance			Normalized Importance	
Annual tax return type	0.110	42.6%	0.098	54.5%	
Gross profit margin (%)	0.070	26.9%	0.031	17.1%	
Operating profit margin (%)	0.138	53.2%	0.172	95.8%	
Other income ratio (%)	0.197	76.1%	0.178	99.3%	
Other expense ratio (%)	0.114	43.9%	0.165	92.2%	
Positive fiscal adj. ratio (%)	0.259	100.0%	0.178	99.4%	
Negative fiscal adj. ratio (%)	0.113	43.7%	0.179	100.0%	

	Medi	um-large firms	Large firms		
	(IDR 50 bi	illion to 100 billion)	(More than IDR 100 billion)		
	Importance	Normalized Importance	Importance	Normalized Importance	
Annual tax return type	0.029	13.2%	0.036	17.4%	
Gross profit margin (%)	0.045	20.1%	0.027	13.1%	
Operating profit margin (%)	0.201	90.5%	0.195	93.9%	
Other income ratio (%)	0.176	79.3%	0.178	85.6%	
Other expense ratio (%)	0.222	100.0%	0.208	100.0%	
Positive fiscal adj. ratio (%)	0.120	53.8%	0.166	79.9%	
Negative fiscal adj. ratio (%)	0.207	93.0%	0.191	91.9%	

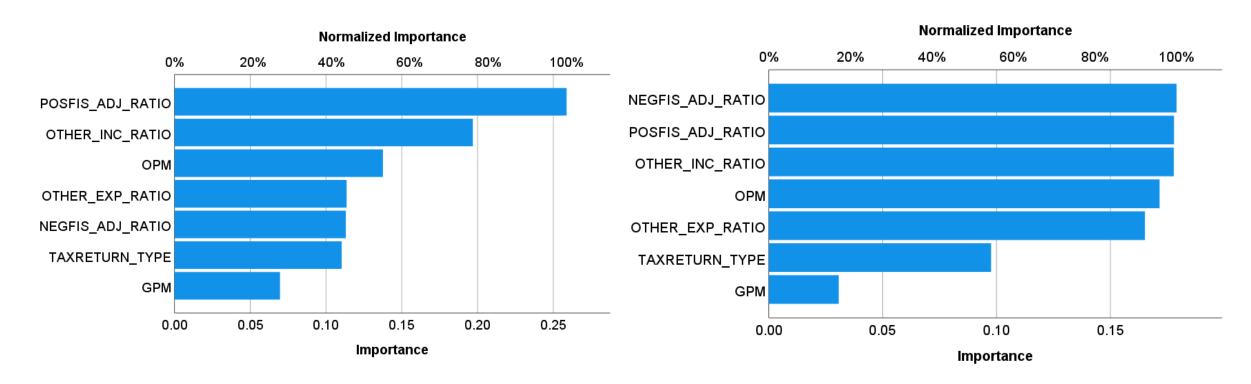




### **Independent Variable Importance Graph**



Medium firms (n = 166,171)



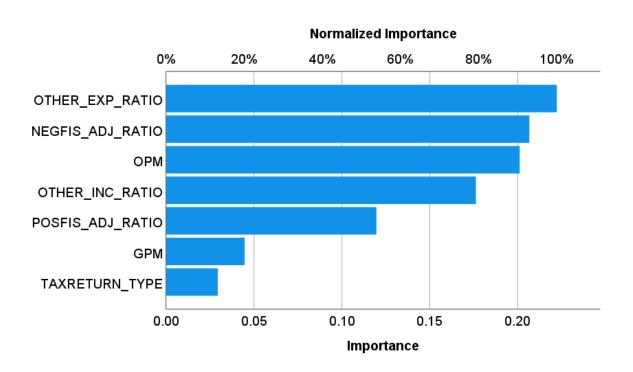


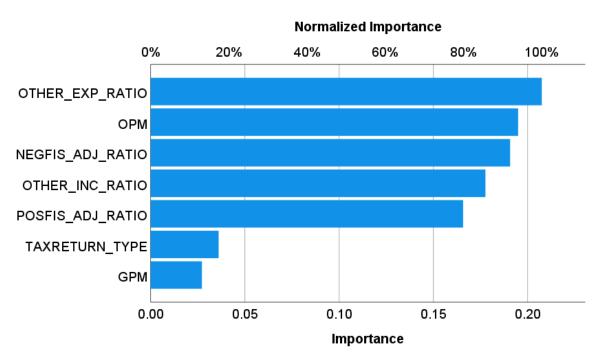


### **Independent Variable Importance Graph (2)**



Large firms (n = 86,330)









### **Summary: Accuracy Rate, Predictors, and Areas of Concern**

	Prominent predictors by firms' category							
	Small firms	Medium firms	Medium-large firms	Large firms				
	(IDR 5B to 15B)	(IDR 15B to 50B)	(IDR 50B to 100B)	(> IDR 100B)				
Accuracy rate*	89.1%	93.6%	93.1%	92.9%				
Annual return type	No	No	No	No				
GPM	No	No	No	No				
OPM	Yes	No	Yes	Yes				
OIR	Yes	Yes	No	No				
OER	No	No	Yes	Yes				
PFAR	Yes	Yes	No	No				
NFAR	No	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Areas of concern	Part 1c Form 1771-I,	Part 1e Form 1771-I,	Part 1c Form 1771-I, part	1e Form 1771-I,				
within annual income tax return	part 1e Form 1771-I, and part 5 Form 1771-I	part 5m Form 1771-I, and 6e Form 1771-I	and part 6e Form 1771-I					





### Final thoughts: Unintended Consequence of ML

- GIGOLO → 'garbage in, garbage out, low outcome'
- Unintended or potentially harmful bias in the models
- User overreliance
- In search of fair and interpretable ML





#### Readings

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# Thank you

Making an impact. Living a legacy.

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