BILKENT UNIVERSITY EEE 485: STATISTICAL LEARNING AND DATA ANALYTICS



Term Project: First Report
Prediction of Song Popularity

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Introduction

In the scope of this project, our objective is to implement a regression analysis utilising the comprehensive "Spotify HUGE database" dataset. This dataset encompasses approximately 170,000 instances, incorporating features associated with music, such as energy, danceability, tempo, and sentimentality. Our primary goal is to develop a machine learning model that leverages the Spotify dataset to accurately predict the popularity of songs.

To achieve this, we will employ a variety of regression techniques, including linear regression, decision tree regression, and neural network regression. In the final report, we will refine the decision tree regression and neural network regression methods, as well as identify a more effective cost function that accurately captures the true error. This will ultimately enhance the model's performance and improve the reliability of our predictions.

Dataset Description:

The dataset comprises daily records of songs exceeding 8 minutes in duration that have ranked in the top 200. It contains a total of 170,633 samples, of which approximately 41.1% include sentiment analysis. To ensure data consistency and reliability, we have excluded samples lacking sentiment analysis, resulting in a final dataset of 70,489 samples.

The key attributes in this dataset include popularity, country, danceability, energy, key, loudness, mode, speechiness, acousticness, instrumentalness, liveness, valence, tempo, duration, time signature, days since release, explicitness, single/album classification, genre, and the presence of words associated with specific emotions. Both genre and country are class-based features, and the dataset conveniently incorporates one-hot encoded variables for these classes.

Popularity was determined through a combination of reverse scoring and uneven multiplication. Each sample received an intermediate score ranging from 1 to 200, with the most popular song assigned a score of 200 and the least popular assigned a score of 1. These scores were then multiplied according to the following table:

Popularity Ranking	Multiplier	
#1	3	
#2	2.2	
#3	1.7	
#4 - #10	1.3	
#11 - #50	1	
#51 - #100	0.85	
#101 - #200	0.8	

Subsequently, the scores for each song within the same country were added together. Below is a detailed explanation of some of the less obvious features:

- Danceability: This metric assesses a track's suitability for dancing, taking into account factors such as tempo, rhythm stability, beat strength, and overall regularity. Values range from 0.0 (least danceable) to 1.0 (most danceable).
- Energy: Ranging from 0.0 to 1.0, this measure reflects a track's intensity and activity level, with energetic tracks typically characterised by faster tempo, louder volume, and higher levels of noise. Contributing perceptual features include dynamic range, perceived loudness, timbre, onset rate, and general entropy.
- Key: This feature represents the estimated overall key of a track, utilising standard Pitch Class notation to map integers to pitches. For instance, 0 corresponds to C, 1 to C♯/D ♭, 2 to D, and so forth. If no key is detected, the value defaults to -1.
- Loudness: This measure denotes the average loudness of a track in decibels (dB), facilitating comparisons of relative loudness between tracks. Typically, values range between -60 and 0 dB.
- Mode: This feature indicates a track's modality, or the type of scale from which its melodic content is derived. A value of 1 represents a major modality, while 0 denotes a minor modality.
- Speechiness: This metric detects the presence of spoken words within a track, with values closer to 1.0 indicating a higher proportion of speech-like content. Values above 0.66 suggest that the track likely consists entirely of spoken words, while values between 0.33 and 0.66 imply a mixture of music and speech. Values below 0.33 generally indicate music and other non-speech content.
- Acousticness: This confidence measure, ranging from 0.0 to 1.0, estimates the likelihood that a track is acoustic. A value of 1.0 signifies high confidence in the track's acoustic nature.
- Instrumentalness: This feature predicts the absence of vocals within a track, treating "ooh" and "aah" sounds as instrumental. Rap or spoken word tracks are considered "vocal." As the instrumentalness value approaches 1.0, the likelihood of the track lacking vocal content increases. Values above 0.5 typically represent instrumental tracks.
- Liveness: This metric detects the presence of a live audience in a recording, with higher values indicating a greater probability of a live performance. A value above 0.8 suggests a strong likelihood that the track was performed live.
- Valence: Ranging from 0.0 to 1.0, this measure describes the musical positivity conveyed by a track. High-valence tracks evoke positive emotions (e.g., happiness, cheerfulness, euphoria), while low-valence tracks convey more negative feelings (e.g., sadness, depression, anger).
- Tempo: This feature estimates a track's overall tempo in beats per minute (BPM), which, in musical terminology, refers to the speed or pace of a given piece and is derived directly from the average beat duration.

1. Linear Regression

Linear regression analysis is a widely-used statistical method for predicting a dependent variable based on one or more independent variables [1]. The underlying mathematical concept of linear regression can be summarised by the equation:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + ... + \beta_p x_p[2]$$

In this equation, x represents the input data, and β denotes the learning parameters.

To implement linear regression, we utilised a pre-processed dataset in conjunction with the gradient descent optimization technique. Gradient descent is an iterative algorithm that aims to find the local minimum/maximum of a given function. It successively calculates the next point by evaluating the gradient at the current position, scaling it with a learning rate, and subtracting the obtained value from the current location. This process can be expressed by the following equation:

$$p_{n+1} = p_n - \eta \nabla f(p_n)$$

The parameter η is crucial because it scales the gradient and controls the step size. In summary, gradient descent involves the following steps [3]:

- 1. Choose a starting point
- 2. Calculate the gradient at this point
- 3. Take a scaled step in the opposite direction

Steps 2 and 3 are repeated until the maximum number of iterations is reached. We implemented this algorithm in our code, as shown below:

```
def gradient_descent(X, Y, beta, iterations, learning_rate):
    costs = np.zeros(iterations)
    for i in range(iterations):
        H = np.dot(X, beta.T)
        beta = beta - (learning_rate/len(X)) * np.sum(X * (H - Y), axis=0)
        costs[i] = compute_cost(X, Y, beta)

    if ((i+1) % 100 == 0):
        print(f"Iteration: {i+1}, Cost: {costs[i]}")
    return beta, costs
```

After implementing gradient descent, we generated the following cost vs iteration plot:

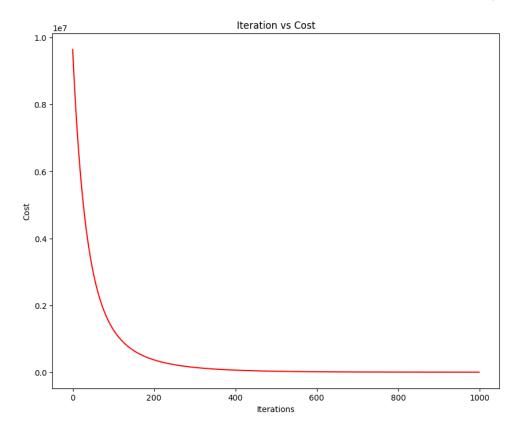


Figure 1: Cost vs Iteration Plot

The plot reveals that as the number of iterations increases, the error approaches zero. After 400 iterations, the error remains virtually unchanged and is very close to zero. Training performance is satisfactory, averaging around 10 iterations per second.

2. Decision Tree Regression

Decision trees are versatile tools for constructing regression or classification models in a tree structure. The algorithm recursively splits the dataset into smaller subsets, gradually developing the decision tree. Here is an illustration of a typical decision tree algorithm:

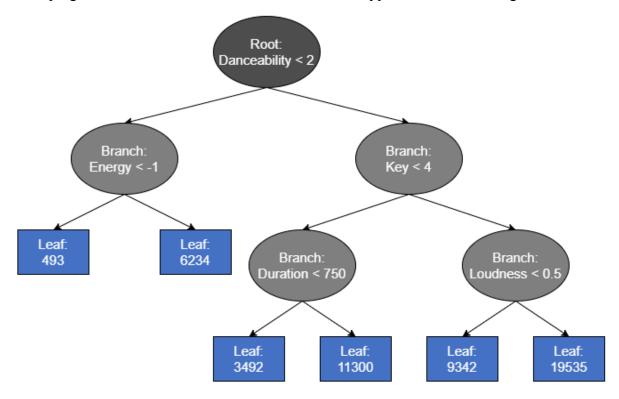


Figure 2: Decision Tree Algorithm [4]

As shown in the figure, decision trees consist of three types of nodes: root nodes, interior nodes, and leaf nodes. The root node encompasses the entire sample, branch nodes signify dataset features, and branches represent decision rules. The leaf nodes denote the outcome of the decision tree. Starting from the root node and following the conditions at each node, a leaf node is eventually reached.

Owing to the inefficient nature of finding the best split when training a decision tree, we first sampled our dataset to obtain a smaller subset for training and testing, dividing it into 80% training data and 20% test data. With a subset of 5,000 samples and a maximum tree depth of 20, the mean squared error was found to be 269,505. This value is quite high for our dataset, particularly considering its highly linear nature. Examining the Y_test vs Y prediction reveals the reason:

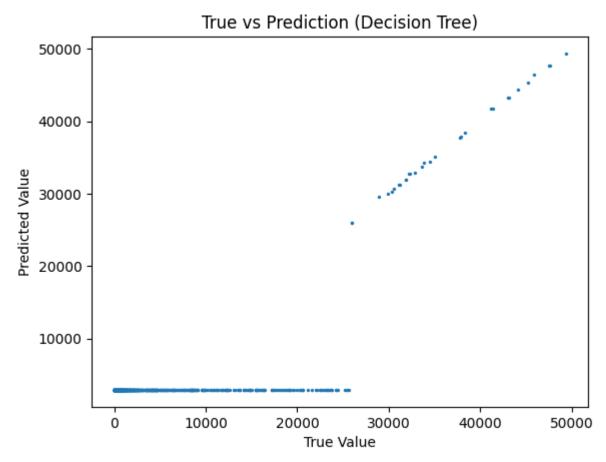


Figure 3: True Value vs Prediction (Decision Tree)

Figure 3 demonstrates that higher popularity scores have been mostly accurately identified, while samples with lower popularity scores have been clustered at a single lower prediction. This result also occurred when the lower side was more accurate. This highlights the primary limitations of decision tree regression, including the method's discrete nature. If the data is imbalanced or the tree depth is insufficient, the decision tree may completely disregard a portion of the dataset. Increasing the maximum tree depth can improve the results, but the computational cost may render it inefficient.

In the next phase of the project, we will implement a random forest regression algorithm that utilises multiple decision trees, each mapping different sections of the dataset, to obtain a more comprehensive regressor. Additionally, we are exploring ways to enhance the training performance of the decision tree, as training a decision tree with 5,000 samples and a maximum tree depth of 20 takes 15 minutes on the most powerful computer available to us.

The random forest algorithm is expected to overcome some of the limitations of individual decision trees by aggregating their outputs, resulting in a more accurate and robust prediction. This ensemble technique should help mitigate the issues caused by imbalanced data and insufficient tree depth.

3. Neural Network

In the development of our third machine learning algorithm, we employed the use of neural networks, which can be characterised as a supervised learning technique. Neural networks are composed of interconnected layers, with each layer containing neurons that connect to other neurons within these layers. Every neuron within a neural network is equipped with an activation function, while the connections between neurons involve the multiplication of the signal by a weight, followed by the addition of a bias [5]. A typical neural network comprises one input layer, one output layer, and one hidden layer. An illustration of a neural network is provided below [6]:

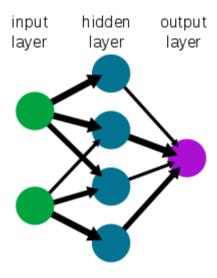


Figure 4: A Simple Neural Network

The mathematical relationships between the input, hidden, and output layers can be represented by the following equation:

$$y = w^T x + b$$

In this equation, y denotes the output, x symbolises the input, b represents the bias, and w signifies the weight matrix. The matrix notation for the neural network can also be expressed as follows [7]:

Input layer Output layer

A simple neural network

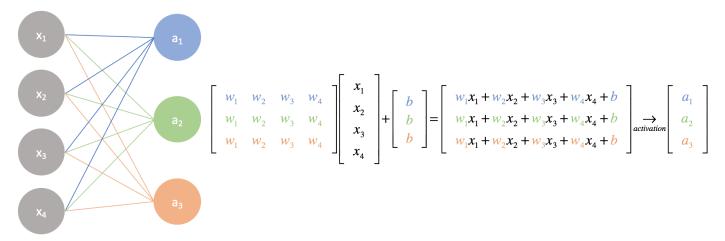


Figure 5: Matrix Representation of Neural Network

For our specific dataset, we executed neural network regression through a series of steps. Initially, we partitioned the dataset into a training set and a test set:

```
#Train/Test Split
#X = X.sample(n=1000).reset_index(drop=True)

X_train = X.sample(frac=0.8).reset_index(drop=True)

X_test = X.drop(X_train.index, axis=0).reset_index(drop=True)

Y_train = Y.iloc[X_train.index, :].values

Y_test = Y.drop(X_train.index, axis=0).values
```

Subsequently, we determined the number of neurons and hidden layers before initialising the weights and biases:

```
# Configure the number of neurons and hidden layers
num_neurons = 96
num_hidden_layers = 2

# Initialize weights and biases
weights = [np.random.randn(num_neurons, num_neurons) for _ in range(num_hidden_layers)]
biases = [np.random.randn(num_neurons) for _ in range(num_hidden_layers)]
```

Next, we defined the activation function utilising the sigmoid function as:

```
def sigmoid(x):
    val = 1 / (1 + np.exp(-x))
    return val
```

We then established the forward propagation process through which each sample advances in the neural network. By defining the backward propagation function, we trained the neural network and integrated a feedback mechanism that updates the parameters in the forward propagation accordingly:

```
def backpropagation(X, Y):
    # Forward pass
    y_pred = forward_propagation(X)

# Calculate loss
loss = loss_function(y_pred, Y)

# Backward pass
gradients = []
for i in reversed(range(num_hidden_layers)):
    # Calculate gradient for weights
    grad_w = np.dot(X.T, (y_pred - Y) * sigmoid(np.dot(X, weights[i]) + biases[i]))

# Calculate gradient for biases
grad_b = np.sum((y_pred - Y) * sigmoid(np.dot(X, weights[i]) + biases[i]), axis=0)

# Append to list of gradients
gradients.append([grad_w, grad_b])

# Update input for next iteration
X = sigmoid(np.dot(X, weights[i]) + biases[i])

# Return gradients and loss
return gradients, loss
```

Lastly, we outlined the training loop and identified the corresponding epochs and losses as follows:

At the current stage of the project, the neural network component is not yet operational; however, we are committed to completing it in accordance with the established timeline.

4. Gantt Chart

Work Package/ Week	17/05 Week	24/05 Week	01/05 Week	08/05 Week	15/05 Week
Linear Regression - Implementation	Tuğcan				
Decision Tree - Reserch / Implementation	Berk	Berk			
Random Forest - Implementation		Berk / Tuğcan	Berk		
Random Forest - Improvements			Tuğcan	Tuğcan	
Neural Network - Research / Implementation		Berk	Berk		
Neural Network - Improvements			Berk / Tuğcan	Tuğcan	
Result Analysis and Method Comparison				Berk / Tuğcan	Berk / Tuğcan
Final Report / Demo Preperation					Berk / Tuğcan

5. References

[1]"About linear regression," *IBM*. [Online]. Available:

https://www.ibm.com/topics/linear-regression#:~:text=Resources-,What%20is%20linear%20regression%3F,is%20called%20the%20independent%20variable. [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

[2]C. Tekin, Class Lecture, Topic: "Linear Regression." EEE485, Bilkent University, Ankara.

[3]R. Kwiatkowski, "Gradient descent algorithm-a deep dive," *Medium*, 13-Jul-2022. [Online]. Available:

https://towardsdatascience.com/gradient-descent-algorithm-a-deep-dive-cf04e8115f21#:~:text =Gradient%20descent%20(GD)%20is%20an,e.g.%20in%20a%20linear%20regression). [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

[4]G. M. K, "Machine learning basics: Decision tree regression," *Medium*, 18-Jul-2020. [Online]. Available:

https://towardsdatascience.com/machine-learning-basics-decision-tree-regression-1d73ea003f da. [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

[5]"What are neural networks?," *IBM*. [Online]. Available:

https://www.ibm.com/topics/neural-networks#:~:text=Neural%20networks%2C%20also%20k nown%20as,neurons%20signal%20to%20one%20another. [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

[6] "Neural network," *Wikipedia*, 24-Apr-2023. [Online]. Available: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neural_network. [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

[7] Jeremy Jordan, "Neural networks: Representation.," *Jeremy Jordan*, 26-Jan-2018. [Online]. Available: https://www.jeremyjordan.me/intro-to-neural-networks/. [Accessed: 26-Apr-2023].

6. Appendix A: Code for preprocess.py

```
Import Libraries
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy import stats
data raw = pd.read csv("Final database.csv", low memory=False)
data raw.describe()
wanted columns = ["Popularity", "danceability", "energy", "key",
"loudness", "mode", "speechiness", "acoustics", "instrumentalness",
"Days since release", "Explicit true", "album", "compilation",
"else", "funk", "hip hop", "house", "indie", "jazz", "k-pop", "latin",
'metal", "opm", "pop", "r&b/soul", "rap", "reggae", "reggaeton",
"Denmark",
"New Zealand", "Norway", "Peru", "Philippines", "Poland", "Portugal",
"Singapore", "Spain", "Sweden", "Switzerland", "Taiwan", "Turkey",
"Top50 dummy"]
processed data = data raw.loc[:, wanted columns]
```

```
processed data.replace(["", None], np.nan, inplace=True)
processed data.dropna(inplace=True)
"""#replace invalid values with 0
processed data.replace(["", None, np.nan], 0, inplace=True)"""
# Display the distribution of popularity
sns.displot(processed data["Popularity"], kde=True)
processed data.reset index(drop=True, inplace=True)
print(processed data.shape)
processed data.describe()
processed data = processed data.astype("float64")
processed data.iloc[:, 1:] = (processed data-processed data.min()) /
(processed data.max()-processed data.min()) # min-max normalization
processed_data.replace(["", None, np.nan], 0, inplace=True)
processed data.reset index(drop=True, inplace=True)
print(processed data.shape)
processed data.describe()
try:
    processed data.to csv("processed database.csv", index=False)
except:
```

7. Appendix B: Code for: linear regression.py

```
Import Libraries
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
np.set printoptions(precision=3, suppress=True)
#Read Data
data = pd.read csv("processed database.csv", low memory=False)
features = data.iloc[:, 1:].columns.tolist()
data train = data.sample(frac=0.8)
data test = data.drop(index=data train.index)
X train = data train.iloc[:, 1:].reset index(drop=True)
X test = data test.iloc[:, 1:].reset index(drop=True)
X train.insert(0, "ones", np.ones((X train.shape[0],1)))
X test.insert(0, "ones", np.ones((X test.shape[0],1)))
Y train = data train.iloc[:, :1].values
Y test = data test.iloc[:, :1].values
beta = np.zeros([1, len(features)+1])
print(X_train.shape, X_test.shape, Y_train.shape, Y_test.shape,
beta.shape)
def mse(Y true, Y pred):
```

```
return np.mean((Y true-Y pred) ** 2, axis=0)
def gradient_descent(X, Y, beta, iterations, learning_rate):
    costs = np.zeros(iterations)
    n = len(X)
    for i in range(iterations):
        H = np.matmul(X, beta.T)
        gradient = (1/n) * np.dot(X.T, (H-Y))
        beta = beta - learning_rate * gradient.T
        if ((i+1) % 100 == 0):
            print(f"Iteration: {i+1}, Training Cost: {round(costs[i],
2) } ")
            return beta, costs[:i+1]"""
final_beta, costs = gradient_descent(X_train, Y_train, beta,
iterations=100000, learning rate=0.1)
print(f"Final beta: \n{final beta}")
Y pred = np.dot(X_test, final_beta.T)
test_cost = mse(Y_test, Y_pred)
print(f"Testing cost: {np.squeeze(test cost).round(2)}")
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(np.arange(len(costs)), costs, "r")
ax.set xlabel("Iterations")
ax.set ylabel("Cost")
ax.set title("Iteration vs Cost")
```

```
fig_2, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(Y_test[:1000], Y_pred[:1000], (2))
ax.set_xlabel("True Value")
ax.set_ylabel("Predicted Value")
ax.set_title("True vs Prediction")
```

8. Appendix C: Code for decision_tree_regression.py

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
data = pd.read csv("processed database.csv", low memory=False)
data.reset index(drop=True, inplace=True)
data = data.sample(n=1000)
#Train/Test Split
data train = data.sample(frac=0.8)
data test = data.drop(data train.index)
X train = data train.iloc[:, 1:].reset index(drop=True)
X test = data test.iloc[:, 1:].reset index(drop=True)
Y_train = data_train.iloc[:, :1].values
Y test = data test.iloc[:, :1].values
def mse(Y, Y pred):
    return np.mean((Y-Y pred) ** 2)
def find best split(X, Y):
        for threshold in feature values:
            Y right = Y[X sorted[feature label] > threshold]
```

```
if (len(Y left) == 0 or len(Y right) == 0):
            error right = mse(Y right, np.mean(Y right))
            weighted error = (len(Y left)*error left +
len(Y right)*error right)
            if (weighted error < best error):</pre>
                best_error = weighted_error
                best threshold = threshold
   def __init__(self, max_depth=None):
        self.max depth = max depth
        self. depth = 0
   def _build_three(self, X, Y, depth=0, verbose=False):
        if (verbose):
            print(depth, end=" ")
        if (self. depth < depth):</pre>
           self._depth = depth
        if (depth == self.max_depth or len(np.unique(Y)) == 1):
            return np.mean(Y)
```

```
feature, threshold = find best split(X, Y)
           return np.mean(Y)
        left mask = X[feature] <= threshold</pre>
        right mask = ~left mask
       left_child = self._build_three(X[left_mask], Y[left_mask],
depth+1, verbose=verbose)
        right child = self. build three(X[right mask], Y[right mask],
depth+1, verbose=verbose)
left_child, "right": right_child}
    def fit(self, X, Y, verbose=False):
        self. depth = 0
        self.tree = self. build three(X, Y, verbose=verbose)
   def predict single(self, sample, node):
        if (not isinstance(node, dict)):
       if sample[feature] <= threshold:</pre>
            return self. predict single(sample, node["left"])
            return self._predict_single(sample, node["right"])
    def predict(self, X):
```

```
pred = np.array([self. predict single(sample, self.tree ) for
, sample in X.iterrows()])
        return pred.reshape(pred.shape[0], 1)
regressor = DecisionTree(max depth=10)
regressor.fit(X train, Y train, verbose=True)
Y pred = regressor.predict(X test)
print(f"Mean Squared Error: {mse(Y test, Y pred)}")
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(Y test[:1000], Y pred[:1000], (2))
ax.set xlabel("True Value")
ax.set ylabel("Predicted Value")
ax.set title("True vs Prediction (Decision Tree)")
class RandomForest:
   def init (self, n trees=10, max depth=10):
        self.max depth = max depth
       self. trees = []
   def fit(self, X, Y, verbose=False):
        self.trees = []
            if (verbose):
                print(f"\nTree: {i+1}/{self.n trees}\n")
            tree = DecisionTree(max depth=self.max depth)
            idxs = np.random.choice(X.shape[0], X.shape[0],
replace=True)
            X sample = X.iloc[idxs, :]
```

```
Y = Y[idxs]
            tree.fit(X_sample, Y_sample, verbose=verbose)
            self._trees.append(tree)
   def predict(self, X):
        tree preds = np.array([tree.predict(X) for tree in
self. trees])
        return tree preds.mean()
forest = RandomForest(n_trees=10, max_depth=10)
forest.fit(X train, Y train, verbose=True)
Y pred = forest.predict(X test)
print(f"Mean Squared Error: {mse(Y test, Y pred)}")
fig_2, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(Y_test[:1000], Y_pred[:1000], (2))
ax.set xlabel("True Value")
ax.set ylabel("Predicted Value")
ax.set title("True vs Prediction (Random Forest)")
```

9. Appendix D: Code for neural network regression.py

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
data = pd.read csv("processed database.csv", low memory=False)
data.reset index(drop=True, inplace=True)
data.drop([], axis=1)
X = data.iloc[:, 1:]
Y = data.iloc[:, 0:1]
X.shape, Y.shape
#X = X.sample(n=1000).reset index(drop=True)
X train = X.sample(frac=0.8).reset index(drop=True)
X test = X.drop(X train.index, axis=0).reset index(drop=True)
Y train = Y.iloc[X train.index, :].values
Y test = Y.drop(X train.index, axis=0).values
# Configure the number of neurons and hidden layers
num neurons = 96
num hidden layers = 2
# Initialize weights and biases
weights = [np.random.randn(num neurons, num neurons) for in
range(num hidden layers)]
biases = [np.random.randn(num neurons) for in
range(num hidden layers)]
# Define activation function
```

```
def sigmoid(x):
    val = 1 / (1 + np.exp(-x))
    return val
def forward propagation(X):
    layer input = X
    for i in range(num hidden layers):
        layer output = sigmoid(np.dot(layer input, weights[i]) +
biases[i])
        layer input = layer output
    output = np.dot(layer_input, weights[-1]) + biases[-1]
    return output
def loss function(Y pred, Y true):
    return np.mean((Y_pred - Y_true)**2)
def backpropagation(X, Y):
    y_pred = forward_propagation(X)
    loss = loss function(y pred, Y)
```

```
gradients = []
    for i in reversed(range(num_hidden_layers)):
        grad w = np.dot(X.T, (y pred - Y) * sigmoid(np.dot(X,
weights[i]) + biases[i]))
        grad b = np.sum((y pred - Y) * sigmoid(np.dot(X, weights[i]) +
biases[i]), axis=0)
        gradients.append([grad w, grad b])
       X = sigmoid(np.dot(X, weights[i]) + biases[i])
def train(X, Y, learning rate=0.01, num epochs=1000):
    for epoch in range(num epochs):
       gradients, loss = backpropagation(X, Y)
        for i in range(num hidden layers):
            weights[i] -= learning rate * gradients[i][0]
            biases[i] -= learning_rate * gradients[i][1]
```

```
# Print loss
#if (epoch+1) % 100 == 0:
    print('Epoch {}/{} - Loss: {:.4f}'.format(epoch+1, num_epochs,
loss))
# Train the model
train(X_train, Y_train)
result = forward_propagation(X_test, Y_test)
result
```