2020 Swing State Presidential Election Predictions

Team5K
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For our final project, we studied donation and voting data in six swing states (Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin). Our team found this topic fascinating and of great importance. We had the combined interest of researching presidential election information. This was important to us, given the current state of affairs and all that is happening in our country with financial and health crises, during an election year. Donations provided an important area of study, given that campaign financing heavily drives election outcomes, and is consistently a hotly contested topic.

Self-Assessment: Throughout this project, I was able to learn a lot about how machine learning models are constructed, and why certain datasets might be best suited to other models. I was able to contribute strongly in helping our team manage the timely delivery of all content, building stories, frameworks and explanations around our data analysis and models, and curate content in our GitHub account. While I was able to make these contributions, in the future I would hope to make further contributions in building machine learning models. Though this skillset is fairly new to me, I remain excited about the opportunity to build out complex data modeling.

Team Assesment: Our team managed communication and tasks effortlessly. By using tools like Coda, Zoom, and Slack, we were able to produce 'Mastery' level work remotely, and quickly clarify tasks and accountability. Each teammate showed deep understanding and ownership of each of their tasks, and made measurable contributions, ensuring that each member was always aware of and party to any decisions being made. In the times there were disagreements, team members took the time to explain rationale and arrive at agreeable conclusions. All in all, I was fortunate to be a part of my team! I believe we put together a great project with the guidance of our TAs and instructors, and I am proud of our end result.

Advice for future cohorts: Don't be afraid to change the parameters of the topic selected for the group project! If each team member in the group can be clear and honest about their timelines, interests, responsibilities and efforts, the project is the best place to show off all the skills collected during the bootcamp.