

EXPERIMENT REPORT

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Project Name	AT1 - Kaggle Competition Week 1
Date	18th August 2023
Deliverables	dhawale_kritika-24587661-week1_logistic_reg.ipynb `log_reg_week1.joblib` `ohe.joblib` `scaler.joblib` + <i>preprocessed data files</i>
Github Link	adv_mla_at1

1. EXPERIMENT BACKGROUND

Provide information about the problem/project such as the scope, the overall objective, expectations. Lay down the goal of this experiment and what are the insights, answers you want to gain or level of performance you are expecting to reach.

1.a. Business Objective

- The goal is to provide NBA teams, sports commentators, and fans with a reliable predictive model that evaluates the likelihood of college basketball players being drafted into the NBA based on their current season's performance statistics.
- The model aims to provide valuable insights into player potential by leveraging machine learning, assisting teams in making informed draught decisions and fostering a data-driven approach to talent selection.

1.b. Hypothesis

- Does the current season performance metrics of college basketball players have a discernible impact on their likelihood of being drafted into the NBA?
- It is expected that by analysing these statistics, a predictive model that effectively distinguishes between players who are drafted and those who are not will be developed.
- The hypothesis assumes that the model's predictive power will outperform random chance, as demonstrated by an AUROC score greater than 0.5.
- Furthermore, the hypothesis predicts that certain key metrics will emerge as important factors in the draught selection process.

1.c. Experiment Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A selective list of factors from given 63 features in the dataset that have a constructive relationship with the target “drafted”. - Create and test a logistic regression model that fits the selected data accurately with a meaningful level of predictive accuracy, as measured by the AUROC score, so that we can predict the players that can be drafted in the NBA on certain given factors. - Possible scenarios: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The model achieves an AUROC score (>0.50) and differentiates (could be/could not be exceptionally predictive) between drafted and undrafted players. Key player performance metrics that influence draught selection are identified, providing teams and analysts with actionable insights. 2. The model's AUROC score remains near 0.5, indicating difficulties in accurately predicting expected outcomes. If the model is not accurate enough, it cannot be relied on for decision-making for business aspects. 3. There might be several other factors that affect the probability of being drafted, so we can't state a fact based on this given dataset. 4. Several ethical concerns can be raised such as bias and discrimination that can have an impact on certain groups of individuals or society as a whole. The model may perpetuate biases if certain groups of players are systematically favored or disadvantaged.
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2. EXPERIMENT DETAILS	
Elaborate on the approach taken for this experiment. List the different steps/techniques used and explain the rationale for choosing them.	
2.a. Data Preparation *Includes feature engineering	<p>Data Cleaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed 32162 duplicates from the data (repeated player IDs) - Removed high missing values column and unnecessary features. - Filled Nan values with 0. - Repeated the same steps for test set. <p>Data Preprocessing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Separated numerical and categorical columns to perform standard scaling and one hot encoding respectively. - Repeated the same steps for test set. <p>Data Split:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Split the train set into train and val with a ratio of 30% (used stratify to create unbiased split) - Copied given test set into a data frame - Shape check

2.b. Modelling	<p>1. Logistic Regression (Wanted to start off with a basic algorithm)</p> <p>Hyperparameters: As the data was large, had to maximize the number of iterations (default was 100). Set it to 2000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AUROC on validation set. <p>Models that I didn't use: This is the first model that I have built. Didn't think of any other models in a short span.</p> <p>Future models that can be used: Future experiments could involve various feature engineering methods/hyperparameter tuning, to optimize model performance such as min-max scaling or normalization. Analyze feature importance to understand which statistics contribute most significantly to predicting draft selection. Furthermore, we might consider employing more sophisticated models like Multinomial or Polynomial Logistic Regression as there are a lot of features involved.</p>
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3. EXPERIMENT RESULTS	
Analyse in detail the results achieved from this experiment from a technical and business perspective. Not only report performance metrics results but also any interpretation on model features, incorrect results, risks identified.	
3.a. Technical Performance	<p>Logistic regression model -</p> <p>AUROC score on the val set - 0.9907</p> <p>Reason: There are very less samples of players being drafted into the NBA. Visualizations show that only 0.9% of players are drafted out of total train set samples. This results in an imbalance dataset giving us a straight line in ROC curve. Implementing oversampling techniques might help.</p>
3.b. Business Impact	<p>This result could be presented to our stakeholders. For example: Proving a hypothesis that players with a high number of points and from sophomore year have a high chance of being drafted into the NBA could result in enhanced decision-making for teams. It can also be helpful in assisting business professionals in stimulating discussions and engaging debates about draft prospects and potential team selections in fans.</p> <p>To have a powerful impact on them, we need to improve the model.</p>
3.c. Encountered Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Setup - Was not able to initialize the Python version in poetry. I was trying to use the 3.9 version, but the smart detection said 3.10 to use. So I tried putting 3.9, which didn't work (specifying 3.9.13 worked). Also needed to tell which python version to use `poetry env use 3.9.13` 2. Confusion about which features to choose. Following basic strategies, removed high null value columns. There still are some features that make no/less impact on the target variable. Maybe getting correlation values would help. 3. Didn't get enough time to perform feature engineering.

4. FUTURE EXPERIMENT

Reflect on the experiment and highlight the key information/insights you gained from it that are valuable for the overall project objectives from a technical and business perspective.

4.a. Key Learning

- Data Processing: We learned how to handle missing values and categorical variables. Encoding categorical features and imputing missing values are essential for data quality and model performance. Model Selection: Logistic regression was our baseline model. It performed well, but more complex models are needed to capture non-linear relationships and interactions in the data. Model Evaluation: The AUROC metric clearly measured the model's predictive power.
- There are still chances for more research and experimentation, though. For instance, we might think about employing complex machine learning models, such as Multinomial or Polynomial Regression, to see if they enhance the AUROC of our prediction. We could also look into additional variables for ex: teamwork, personality, and coachability that influence decisions about a player being drafted.

Overall, our current strategy has delivered insightful information, but there is still room for investigation and experimentation.

4.b. Suggestions / Recommendations

1. Data balancing was something that was lacking in this experiment and surely has some improvement scope.
2. Feature engineering can be investigated to produce more pertinent features that will assist the model to perform better by better capturing the variation in the data.

Deployment Scope: Advanced modelling, feature engineering, and data augmentation should improve predictive accuracy if this model needs to be deployed. Model interpretability, class imbalance, privacy, and ethics are also crucial.

1. Ensuring data quality: This can be achieved by doing data cleansing when required and running routine data quality checks.
2. Optimising the model: Refining and optimizing the model created originally..
3. Deploying the pipeline: A user-friendly interface, continuous monitoring, and retraining are essential for team members. With the model complementing their expertise, analysts, scouts, and decision-makers must collaborate.
4. After the pipeline has been installed, it is essential to constantly check on its operation and take care of any problems as soon as they appear. To match dynamic player performance and team strategies, the model should be deployed iteratively with user feedback and continuous improvement.

Appendix

1. McKinney, W., & others. (2010). Data structures for statistical computing in python. In Proceedings of the 9th Python in Science Conference (Vol. 445, pp. 51–56).
2. Harris, C. R., Millman, K. J., van der Walt, S. J., Gommers, R., Virtanen, P., Cournapeau, D., ... Oliphant, T. E. (2020). Array programming with NumPy. *Nature*, 585, 357–362.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2649-2>
3. Waskom, M., Botvinnik, Olga, O’Kane, Drew, Hobson, Paul, Lukauskas, Saulius, Gemperline, David C, ... Qalieh, Adel. (2017). mwaskom/seaborn: v0.8.1 (September 2017). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.883859>
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