Startup Success Analysis Report

1. Introduction

This report presents an analysis of startup success factors based on a dataset obtained from <u>Metric</u>. The dataset contains information on various attributes of startups, including funding, team size, industry, and success status. The goal of this analysis is to identify key factors that contribute to the success of startups and provide insights for stakeholders in the startup ecosystem.

2. Dataset Overview

The dataset used for this analysis consists of 472 rows and 116 columns. Each row represents a startup, and each column represents a specific attribute or feature of the startup. The following are the key columns included in the dataset:

- Local or Global Player: Specifies whether the company operates as a local or global player
- Number of Sales Support material: Denotes the quantity of sales support materials available for the company.
- Focus on consumer data: Indicates whether the company's focus is on consumer data
- Machine Learning based business: Denotes whether the company's operations are based on machine learning technology.
- Predictive Analytics Business: Specifies whether the company is involved in predictive analytics.
- Big data Business: Specifies whether the company's operations are related to big data.
- B2C or B2B venture?: Specifies whether the company's target market is consumers (B2C) or other businesses (B2B).
- Experience in selling and building products: Specifies whether the team members have experience in selling and building products.
- Number of Investors in Seed: Specifies the count of investors who participated in the seed funding round.
- Employee Count: Number of employees in the company.
- Number of Investors in Angel: Represents the count of investors who participated in the angel or venture capital funding round.
- Number of Recognitions for Founders and Co-founders: Represents the count of recognitions received by the founders and co-founders.
- Percent skill Leadership: The percentage of leadership in founders and co-founders.
- Percent skill Data Science: The percentage of Data Science skills in founders and co-founders.

3. Data Preprocessing

3.1. Data Cleaning

- Missing Data: Missing values represented as 'No Info' or 'unknown amount' were identified and treated as NaN values.
- Columns with High Missing Percentage: Columns with a missing percentage above 36% were dropped from the dataset.
- Text Data Processing: Text data in object columns were converted to lowercase and stripped of leading and trailing whitespace.

3.2. Handling Missing Values

Missing values in the dataset were treated using the following methods:

- Numerical features: Missing values were replaced with the median of the respective column.
- Categorical features: Missing values were replaced with the mode (most frequent value) of the respective column.

3.3. Feature Engineering

Mainly two features were engineered using the pipe parser.

- investors_count: Represents the total number of investors per company.
- industry count: Represents the total number of industries it focuses on per company.

4. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

4.1. Feature Visualization

- Count plots and bar plots were generated for categorical features to visualize their distributions and relationships with the target variable.
- Histograms and strip plots were created for numerical features to explore their distributions and potential impact on startup success.

4.2. Outlier Detection and Treatment

• Outliers in numerical features were identified using quantile-based thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles) and clipped to reduce their impact on the analysis.

5. Hypothesis Testing

5.1. Impact of Big Investors

• Startups with big investors (e.g., Y Combinator, Andreessen Horowitz) were identified, and their success rates were compared to startups without big investors. If these investors are involved then we are more likely, **85%** of a chance to have a successive startup.

6. Modeling and Predictive Analysis

6.1. Feature Importance

- Decision Tree Classifier was trained to predict startup success based on selected features.
- Feature importance's were calculated to identify the most influential factors in predicting startup success.

7. Findings and Conclusion

7.1. Key Findings

Based on the analysis conducted, the following key findings have been identified:

- Impact of Funding: Startups with big investors, such as Y Combinator and Andreessen Horowitz, exhibit higher success rates compared to those without such backing.
- Team Size and Expertise: Startups with a diverse team possessing skills in leadership, data science, and industry-specific knowledge tend to perform better in terms of success rate.
- Focus on Consumer Data and Technology: Startups leveraging machine learning, predictive analytics, and big data technologies demonstrate higher chances of success, especially when coupled with a consumer-centric approach.
- Industry Experience: Startups led by founders with prior experience in selling and building products tend to achieve greater success compared to those without such expertise.

7.2. Conclusion

In conclusion, the analysis underscores the importance of strategic decision-making and resource allocation in determining the success of startups. By focusing on key factors such as funding, team composition, technology adoption, and industry experience, startups can enhance their likelihood of achieving sustainable growth and market success. Moving forward, continued research and collaboration within the startup ecosystem are essential to drive innovation and foster entrepreneurship in today's dynamic market landscape.