Analyzing Football Clubs in the U.K. ¶

December 20, 2020

- 0.1 by Feng Gu
- 0.2 Introduction
- 0.2.1 The objective of this data science project is evaluating the performance of football clubs in the U.K. from 2010 to 2019 and hopefully getting insights on the general trends of British and Wales football. This tutorial will try to discover patterns hiding in plain sight. The football clubs are selected from the Premier League, the EFL League One, etc. The football data used in this tutorial can be found here, under the 2010s folder.
- 0.3 Required Libraries
- 0.3.1 pandas (data manipulation) Regular Expression (processing data) matplotlib (plotting graphs) scikit-learn (machine learning) numpy (calculation)

```
[1]: import pandas as pd
import re
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
from sklearn import linear_model
from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
import numpy as np
import warnings
from pandas.core.common import SettingWithCopyWarning
warnings.simplefilter(action="ignore", category=SettingWithCopyWarning)
```

0.4 Data collection

- 0.4.1 This is the process where we gather the information from GitHub and put it in a pandas DataFrame. A DataFrame is a 2-dimentional table in which we store our data. The DataFrame allows us to extract and filter data whenever we need. The GitHub repository provides an archive file consisting of csv tables.
- 0.4.2 For convenience purposes, I renamed the csv tables (to '10.csv', '11.csv', etc.) after unzipping the archived file. We use the $read_csv()$ function in pandas to read the csv tables and put them in a list sequentially. We print out the content of the first file to give you a general idea. Each line represents a football match, containing the competing teams, score, date, and round, as you can see below.

```
Round
                          Date
                                                      Team 1
                                                                FT
                                                                    \
0
             Sat Aug 14 2010
                                        Bolton Wanderers FC
          1
                                                              0 - 0
1
          1
              Sat Aug 14 2010
                                          Wigan Athletic FC
                                                               0 - 4
2
          1
              Sat Aug 14 2010
                                             Aston Villa FC
                                                               3-0
3
              Sat Aug 14 2010
                                Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
                                                               2-1
4
              Sat Aug 14 2010
                                             Sunderland AFC
                                                               2-2
2031
         46
               Sat May 7 2011
                                          Leicester City FC
                                                               4-2
2032
               Sat May 7 2011
                                          Crystal Palace FC
         46
                                                               0 - 3
               Sat May 7 2011
2033
         46
                                                 Burnley FC
                                                               1-1
2034
         46
               Sat May 7 2011
                                            Bristol City FC
                                                               3-0
2035
         46
               Sat May 7 2011
                                                Barnsley FC
                                                               1-0
                     Team 2
                  Fulham FC
0
1
               Blackpool FC
2
        West Ham United FC
3
              Stoke City FC
4
        Birmingham City FC
2031
           Ipswich Town FC
      Nottingham Forest FC
2032
2033
           Cardiff City FC
2034
              Hull City AFC
                Millwall FC
2035
```

[2036 rows x 5 columns]

0.4.3 Next, we need to combine data from each year. We can do so by using the concat() function in pandas. Now, we have a DataFrame containing all the information needed to do an analysis.

```
[3]: data = pd.concat(frames, ignore_index=True)
data
```

```
[3]:
           Round
                              Date
                                                          Team 1
                                                                   FT
                                                                  0-0
     0
               1
                  Sat Aug 14 2010
                                            Bolton Wanderers FC
     1
                  Sat Aug 14 2010
                                              Wigan Athletic FC
     2
                  Sat Aug 14 2010
                                                 Aston Villa FC
                                                                  3-0
     3
                  Sat Aug 14 2010
                                    Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
                                                                  2-1
     4
                  Sat Aug 14 2010
                                                 Sunderland AFC
                                                                  2-2
     18405
              46
                  Sat Apr 25 2020
                                           Hartlepool United FC
                                                                  NaN
     18406
              46
                  Sat Apr 25 2020
                                           Maidenhead United FC
                                                                  NaN
                  Sat Apr 25 2020
                                                Notts County FC
     18407
                                                                  NaN
                  Sat Apr 25 2020
                                              Solihull Moors FC
     18408
              46
                                                                  NaN
     18409
              46
                  Sat Apr 25 2020
                                            Stockport County FC
                                                                  NaN
                         Team 2
     0
                      Fulham FC
     1
                  Blackpool FC
     2
            West Ham United FC
                 Stoke City FC
     3
     4
            Birmingham City FC
     18405
             Torquay United FC
     18406
              Sutton United FC
                Yeovil Town FC
     18407
     18408
               FC Halifax Town
     18409
                    Wrexham AFC
     [18410 rows x 5 columns]
```

0.5 Data Processing

0.5.1 There are a few things we need to do to tidy the data. 1. We notived that there are missing values in some rows. We need to remove them to improve accuracy.
2. We need to split the score from the FT column and find out the winning team. We can do so using regular expression 3. We can also ignore the round, month, and day because they are relatively insignificant in our quantitative analysis.

```
[4]: # process data
data = data.dropna() # remove the rows with missing values
data['Team 1 goals'] = 0 # creating new columns to record the new information_

-obtained
```

```
data['Team 2 goals'] = 0
     data['winning team'] = ''
     # iterate by rows
     for idx, row in data.iterrows():
         date_regex = re.compile(r'(\d{4})') # the regular expression to find the
      →year in the 'Date' column
         ft_regex = re.compile(r'(d)') # the regular expression to find the scores
      \rightarrow in the 'FT' column
         s1, s2 = re.findall(ft_regex, row['FT']) # s1 represents the score for team_
      \rightarrow1, s2 for team 2
         year = re.findall(date_regex, row['Date']) # find the year in the 'Date'_
      \rightarrow column
         # putting the values in the new columns
         data.at[idx, 'Team 1 goals'] = s1
         data.at[idx, 'Team 2 goals'] = s2
         # remove month and day from date
         data.at[idx, 'Date'] = int(year[0])
         # find the winning team
         if s1 > s2:
             data.at[idx, 'winning team'] = row['Team 1']
         elif s2 > s1:
             data.at[idx, 'winning team'] = row['Team 2']
         else:
             data.at[idx, 'winning team'] = 'draw'
     # remove the 'Round' and 'FT' since they are no longer useful
     data = data.drop(columns=['Round', 'FT'])
     data
[4]:
            Date
                                       Team 1
                                                              Team 2
                                                                      Team 1 goals
            2010
                         Bolton Wanderers FC
                                                           Fulham FC
     1
            2010
                           Wigan Athletic FC
                                                        Blackpool FC
                                                                                  0
     2
            2010
                               Aston Villa FC
                                                 West Ham United FC
                                                                                  3
                  Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
     3
            2010
                                                       Stoke City FC
                                                                                  2
                               Sunderland AFC
     4
            2010
                                                 Birmingham City FC
                                                                                  2
     18306 2020
                           Dover Athletic FC
                                                     Chesterfield FC
                                                                                  1
                                                                                  1
     18307 2020
                             Sutton United FC
                                               Hartlepool United FC
     18309 2020
                              Notts County FC
                                                       Eastleigh FC
                                                                                  4
     18310 2020
                        Maidenhead United FC
                                                 Stockport County FC
                                                                                  1
     18313 2020
                                                  Aldershot Town FC
                                    AFC Fylde
            Team 2 goals
                                         winning team
     0
                                                 draw
     1
                       4
                                         Blackpool FC
     2
                       0
                                       Aston Villa FC
     3
                          Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
```

draw

1

```
18306 1 draw
18307 1 draw
18309 0 Notts County FC
18310 2 Stockport County FC
18313 0 AFC Fylde
```

[18029 rows x 6 columns]

0.5.2 Now we have a better DataFrame. The next step is to format the data to gain information about each football club. Thus, we can create a new DataFrame with respect to the clubs instead of the football matches. We want to know how many goals they made, how many games they win, etc. from 2010 to 2019. To obtain a list of the clubs, we can just look at the Team 1 and Team 2 columns from our previous DataFrame. Notice that we use the $drop_duplicates()$ function so that no club is listed multiple times. We have now created a template to record team standing information.

```
[5]: # creates a stat table for teams
     # create a list containing all the teams
    teams1 = data['Team 1'].drop_duplicates().tolist()
    teams2 = data['Team 2'].drop_duplicates().tolist()
    teams1.extend(x for x in teams2 if x not in teams1)
     # creates a new dataframe with the following columns
    teams_db = pd.DataFrame(columns=['team', 'games', 'wins', 'losses', 'winrate', _
     teams db['team'] = teams1 # initialize the teams
    teams_db = teams_db.set_index('team') # set the teams as the index
     # initializing all the numerical values
    teams db['games'] = 0
    teams db['wins'] = 0
    teams_db['losses'] = 0
    teams_db['draws'] = 0
    teams_db['winrate'] = 0.0
    teams_db['goals'] = 0
    teams_db['opponent_goals'] = 0
    teams_db['goal_ratio'] = 0.0
    teams db
```

```
[5]:
                                                  losses
                                                          winrate
                                                                     goals
                                                                             draws
                                    games
                                            wins
     team
     Bolton Wanderers FC
                                               0
                                                                0.0
                                                                          0
                                                                                  0
                                         0
                                                        0
     Wigan Athletic FC
                                         0
                                               0
                                                        0
                                                                0.0
                                                                          0
                                                                                  0
     Aston Villa FC
                                         0
                                               0
                                                        0
                                                                0.0
                                                                          0
                                                                                  0
     Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
                                         0
                                               0
                                                        0
                                                                0.0
                                                                          0
                                                                                  0
                                               0
     Sunderland AFC
                                         0
                                                                0.0
                                                                          0
                                                                                  0
```

***	•••	•••	•••	•••			
Maldon & Tiptree FC		0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Kingstonian FC		0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Boston United FC		0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Altrincham FC		0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Chichester City FC		0	0	0	0.0	0	0
	opp	onen	t_goals	goal_	ratio		
team							
Bolton Wanderers FC			0		0.0		
Wigan Athletic FC			0		0.0		
Aston Villa FC			0		0.0		
Wolverhampton Wanderers FC			0		0.0		
Sunderland AFC			0		0.0		
•••			•••	•••			
Maldon & Tiptree FC			0		0.0		
Kingstonian FC			0		0.0		
Boston United FC			0		0.0		
Altrincham FC			0		0.0		
Chichester City FC			0		0.0		

[145 rows x 8 columns]

0.5.3 For every year between 2010 and 2019 (inclusive), we record the team standing and calculate the $win\ rate$ and $goal\ ratio$. Note that we dropped rows with games=0 or missing values (NaN). We also need to calculate the $win\ rate$ and the $goal_ratio$ for each team as the match data is recorded. We can use the following formula to calculate the $win\ rate$: $winrate=\frac{wins}{games}$ (the greater the better), and the $goal_ratio$ using: $goal\ ratio=\frac{goals}{opponent\ goals}$ (the greater the better)

```
[6]: team_standing_by_year = []
     for year in range(2010,2020): # iterate over year
         temp = teams_db.copy() # create a copy of the empty table
         for idx, row in data.iterrows():
             if row['Date'] == year: # check the year value is correct
                 team1 = row['Team 1']
                 team2 = row['Team 2']
                 wt = row['winning team']
                 # increment the corresponding game and goal value in the new_
      \rightarrow dataframe
                 temp.loc[[team1, team2], ['games']] += 1
                 temp.loc[[team1], ['goals']] += row['Team 1 goals']
                 temp.loc[[team1], ['opponent_goals']] += row['Team 2 goals']
                 temp.loc[[team2], ['goals']] += row['Team 2 goals']
                 temp.loc[[team2], ['opponent_goals']] += row['Team 1 goals']
                 # check for the winning and losing team and update the value
```

```
if wt == 'draw':
                temp.loc[[team1, team2], ['draws']] += 1
            elif wt == team1:
                temp.loc[[team1], ['wins']] += 1
                temp.loc[[team2], ['losses']] += 1
            else:
                temp.loc[[team2], ['wins']] += 1
                temp.loc[[team1], ['losses']] += 1
   temp = temp.dropna() # drop teams with missing values
   temp_filtered = temp[temp['games'] > 0] # drop teams with O games
   team standing by year.append(temp filtered) # put the dataframe in a list
for standing in team standing by year:
   for idx,row in standing.iterrows():
        if row['games'] > 0:
            wr = row['wins'] / row['games'] # calculating win rate
            standing.at[idx, 'winrate'] = wr
        if row['opponent_goals'] > 0:
            gr = row['goals'] / row['opponent_goals'] # calculating goal ratio
            standing.at[idx, 'goal_ratio'] = gr
```

0.5.4 team_standing_by_year now has the data separated by year. We create a new DataFrame containing data from 2010 to 2019. That is, adding all the data together.

```
[7]: for idx, row in data.iterrows():
         # getting teams that are playing and winning
         team1 = row['Team 1']
         team2 = row['Team 2']
         wt = row['winning team']
         # increment the corresponding game and goal value in the new dataframe
         teams_db.loc[[team1, team2], ['games']] += 1
         teams db.loc[[team1], ['goals']] += row['Team 1 goals']
         teams_db.loc[[team1], ['opponent_goals']] += row['Team 2 goals']
         teams_db.loc[[team2], ['goals']] += row['Team 2 goals']
         teams_db.loc[[team2], ['opponent_goals']] += row['Team 1 goals']
         # check for the winning and losing team and update the value
         if wt == 'draw':
             teams_db.loc[[team1, team2], ['draws']] += 1
         elif wt == team1:
             teams_db.loc[[team1], ['wins']] += 1
             teams_db.loc[[team2], ['losses']] += 1
         else:
             teams_db.loc[[team2], ['wins']] += 1
             teams_db.loc[[team1], ['losses']] += 1
```

```
[8]: # calculate winrate
for idx,row in teams_db.iterrows():
    wr = row['wins'] / row['games']
    gr = row['goals'] / row['opponent_goals']
    teams_db.at[idx, 'winrate'] = wr
    teams_db.at[idx, 'goal_ratio'] = gr
teams_db
```

[8]:		games	wins	losses	winrate	goals	draws	١
	team							
	Bolton Wanderers FC	342	86	163	0.251462	383	93	
	Wigan Athletic FC	341	109	137	0.319648	407	95	
	Aston Villa FC	314	81	145	0.257962	353	88	
	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC	344	132	122	0.383721	463	90	
	Sunderland AFC	353	103	139	0.291785	412	111	
			•••					
	Maldon & Tiptree FC	2	1	1	0.500000	2	0	
	Kingstonian FC	2	1	1	0.500000	4	0	
	Boston United FC	3	1	1	0.333333	5	1	
	Altrincham FC	2	1	1	0.500000	2	0	
	Chichester City FC	1	0	1	0.000000	1	0	

	opponent_goals	goal_ratio
team		
Bolton Wanderers FC	550	0.696364
Wigan Athletic FC	473	0.860465
Aston Villa FC	508	0.694882
Wolverhampton Wanderers FC	457	1.013129
Sunderland AFC	483	0.853002
•••	•••	•••
Maldon & Tiptree FC	2	1.000000
Kingstonian FC	2	2.000000
Boston United FC	3	1.666667
Altrincham FC	2	1.000000
Chichester City FC	5	0.200000

[145 rows x 8 columns]

0.5.5 Now, we noticed that there are teams with inadequate data. Let's filter out teams with games < 30 to maintain data integrity. Data processing is now finished.

```
[9]: # filter teams using games
team_filtered = teams_db[teams_db['games'] >= 30]
team_filtered
```

[9]:		games	wins	losses	winrate	goals	draws	\
	team							
	Bolton Wanderers FC	342	86	163	0.251462	383	93	
	Wigan Athletic FC	341	109	137	0.319648	407	95	
	Aston Villa FC	314	81	145	0.257962	353	88	
	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC	344	132	122	0.383721	463	90	
	Sunderland AFC	353	103	139	0.291785	412	111	
	•••		•••		•••			
	Dover Athletic FC	87	32	34	0.367816	108	21	
	Eastleigh FC	87	34	30	0.390805	112	23	
	Harrogate Town AFC	84	40	24	0.476190	140	20	
	Gateshead FC	48	19	20	0.395833	54	9	
	Havant & Waterlooville FC	46	9	24	0.195652	62	13	
		opponent_goals		ls goal	goal_ratio			
	team			_				
	Bolton Wanderers FC		5	50 0.	696364			
	Wigan Athletic FC		4	73 0.	860465			
	Aston Villa FC		5	08 0.	694882			
	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC		4	57 1.	013129			
	Sunderland AFC		4	83 0.	853002			
	•••		•••		•			
	Dover Athletic FC		1	21 0.	892562			
	Eastleigh FC		1	24 0.	903226			
	Harrogate Town AFC		1	03 1.	359223			
	Gateshead FC			52 1.	038462			
	Havant & Waterlooville FC			84 0.	738095			

[122 rows x 8 columns]

0.6 Exploratory Analysis and Data Visualization

0.6.1 Remeber that our objective includes finding patterns from the data. To begin with, we can try to find the relationship between win rate and goal ratio. We can rearrange the rows by their win rate in the descending order using the sort_values() function:

[10]:	<pre>team_filtered.sort_values('winrate', ascending=False)</pre>										
[10]:		games	wins	losses	winrate	goals	draws	\			
	team										
	Manchester City FC	391	265	65	0.677749	895	61				
	Chelsea FC	388	223	83	0.574742	706	82				
	Manchester United FC	390	223	76	0.571795	701	91				
	Liverpool FC	385	214	82	0.555844	734	89				
	Arsenal FC	387	210	89	0.542636	715	88				
					•••						

Hereford FC (2014-)	92	22	39	0.239130	100	31
Macclesfield Town FC	177	39	83	0.220339	179	55
Maidstone United FC	50	11	32	0.220000	41	7
Havant & Waterlooville FC	46	9	24	0.195652	62	13
Chorley FC	41	4	22	0.097561	33	15

	opponent_goals	goal_ratio
team		
Manchester City FC	342	2.616959
Chelsea FC	398	1.773869
Manchester United FC	382	1.835079
Liverpool FC	416	1.764423
Arsenal FC	441	1.621315
•••	•••	•••
Hereford FC (2014-)	136	0.735294
Macclesfield Town FC	264	0.678030
Maidstone United FC	88	0.465909
Havant & Waterlooville FC	84	0.738095
Chorley FC	75	0.440000

[122 rows x 8 columns]

0.6.2 And by goal ratio:

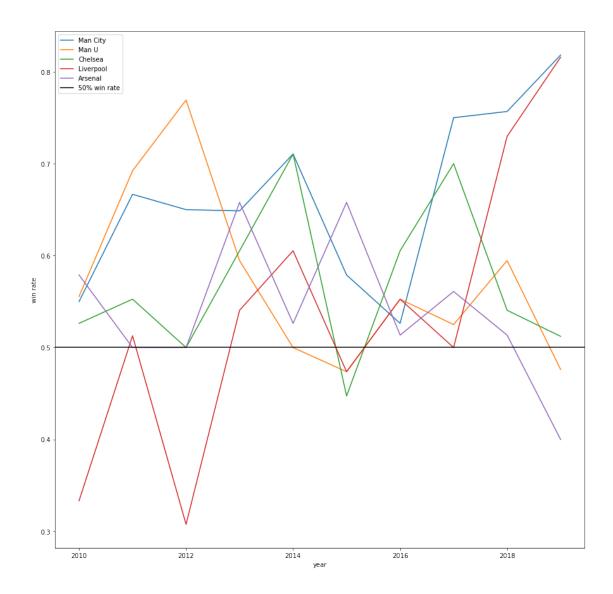
[11]:	<pre>team_filtered.sort_values('goal_ratio', ascending=False)</pre>	
-------	---	--

			, <u>-</u>	,		,			
1]:		games	wins	losses	winrate	goals	draws	\	
te	eam								
Ma	anchester City FC	391	265	65	0.677749	895	61		
Ma	anchester United FC	390	223	76	0.571795	701	91		
Cl	helsea FC	388	223	83	0.574742	706	82		
L	iverpool FC	385	214	82	0.555844	734	89		
A	rsenal FC	387	210	89	0.542636	715	88		
			•••		•••				
St	tockport County FC	87	26	37	0.298851	102	24		
Ma	aidenhead United FC	86	28	47	0.325581	90	11		
В	raintree Town FC	46	11	27	0.239130	48	8		
Ma	aidstone United FC	50	11	32	0.220000	41	7		
Cl	horley FC	41	4	22	0.097561	33	15		
		oppone	nt_goa	ls goal	goal_ratio				
te	eam								
Ma	anchester City FC		3	42 2.	2.616959				
Ma	anchester United FC		3	82 1.	1.835079				
Cl	helsea FC		3	98 1.	773869				
L:	iverpool FC		4	16 1.	764423				
A	rsenal FC		4	41 1.	621315				

```
Stockport County FC
                                  152
                                         0.671053
Maidenhead United FC
                                  135
                                         0.666667
Braintree Town FC
                                   78
                                         0.615385
Maidstone United FC
                                   88
                                         0.465909
                                         0.440000
Chorley FC
                                   75
[122 rows x 8 columns]
```

0.6.3 It seems that the *goal ratio* is associated with the *win rate*: teams that appear in the first few rows in the former DataFrame also appear in the latter DataFrame. We hypothesize that the *goal ratio* is associated with *win rate*. In the next step, we want to see the performance of each team in the top 5 using matplotlib. For each team, we calculate its winrate in each year respectively using the aforementioned formula.

```
[12]: fig= plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
      years = [2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019]
      mc = []
      mu = []
      cfc = \Pi
      lfc = []
      afc = []
      for standing in team_standing_by_year:
          mc.append(standing.loc['Manchester City FC', 'winrate'])
          mu.append(standing.loc['Manchester United FC', 'winrate'])
          cfc.append(standing.loc['Chelsea FC', 'winrate'])
          lfc.append(standing.loc['Liverpool FC', 'winrate'])
          afc.append(standing.loc['Arsenal FC', 'winrate'])
      plt.plot(years, mc, label='Man City')
      plt.plot(years, mu, label ='Man U')
      plt.plot(years, cfc, label='Chelsea')
      plt.plot(years, lfc, label='Liverpool')
      plt.plot(years, afc, label='Arsenal')
      plt.axhline(y=0.5, color='black', linestyle='-', label = '50% win rate')
      plt.legend()
      plt.xlabel('year')
      plt.ylabel('win rate')
      plt.show()
```



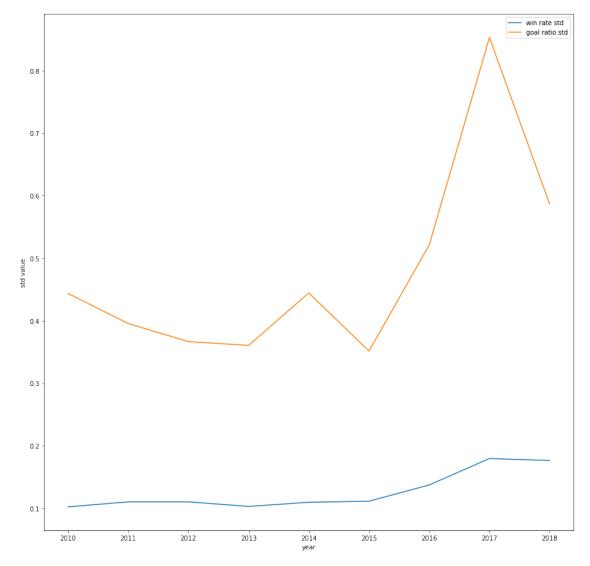
0.6.4 Obviously, the top teams are performing exceptionally well (given the 50% winrate line). Here, we can also plot the trend of standard deviation for win rate and goal ratio. We have to make sure there are no missing values so that the std() function from numpy would work.

```
[13]: wr_std = []
gr_std = []
for standing in team_standing_by_year[:-1]:
    wrs = np.array(standing['winrate']) # getting the winrates
    wrs = wrs[~np.isnan(wrs)] # remove missing value
    wr_std.append(np.std(wrs)) # add to the list

grs = np.array(standing['goal_ratio'])
grs = grs[~np.isnan(grs)]
```

```
gr_std.append(np.std(grs))

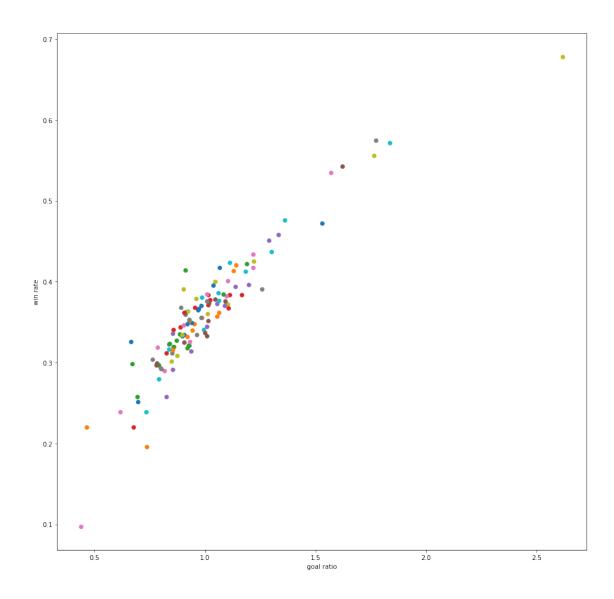
fig= plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
years = [2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018]
plt.plot(years, wr_std, label='win rate std')
plt.plot(years, gr_std, label='goal ratio std')
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('year')
plt.ylabel('std value')
plt.show()
```



- 0.6.5 The standard deviation for win rate maintains the same level over the decade. However, the standard deviation for goal ratio increased dramatically over the decade. This may indicate that the gap between top teams and bottom teams is increasing. However, the bottom teams are losing most games and already having a very low winrate, hence the little increase in the win rate standard deviation. This confirms the hypothesis: as of 12/20/2020, the bottom 5 teams has 7 wins in total, whereas the leading team, Liverpool F.C., has 9.
- 0.6.6 We can do a more in-depth evaluation: scatter-plotting goal ratio on x-axis versus $win \, rate$ on y-axis and find a trend using numpy's polyfit() function if we notice any correlation between them.

```
[14]: fig= plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
for idx, row in team_filtered.iterrows():
        plt.scatter(row['goal_ratio'], row['winrate'])

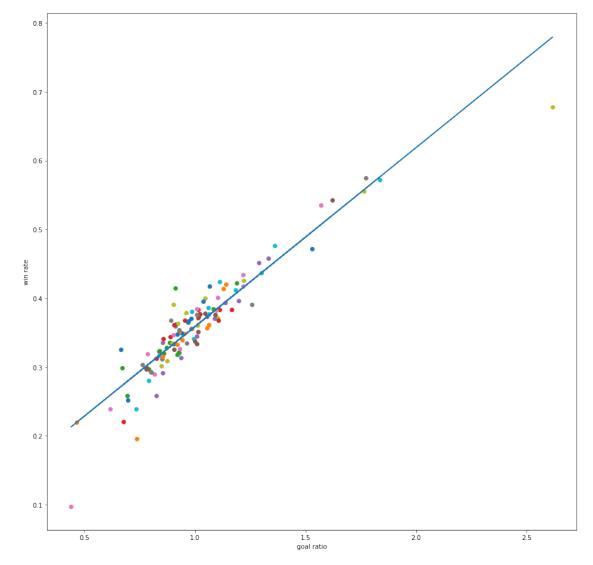
plt.xlabel('goal_ratio')
plt.ylabel('win_rate')
plt.show()
```



0.6.7 From the graph, it is evident that they have an approximately linear relationship. Now, we plot the same graph with a fitted line. We can also print out the coefficient and the intercept of the fitted line. The null hypothesis (i.e., no correlation) is rejected.

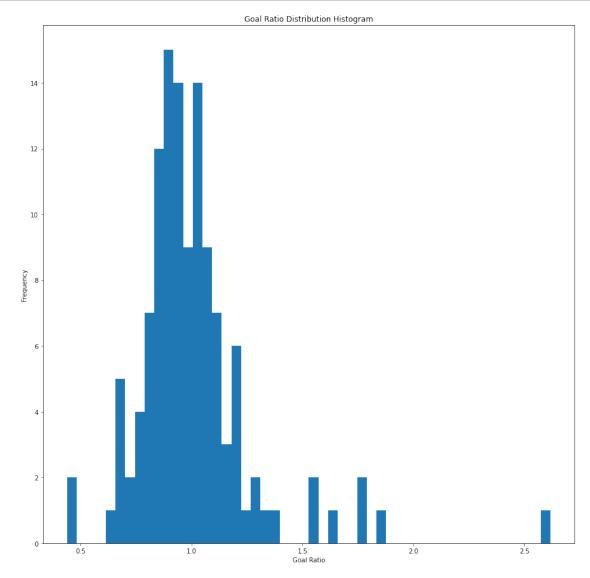
```
[15]: fig= plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
    for idx, row in team_filtered.iterrows():
        plt.scatter(row['goal_ratio'], row['winrate'])
    x = team_filtered['goal_ratio']
    y = team_filtered['winrate']
    rl = []
    # calculating params for the line
    m, b = np.polyfit(x, y, 1)
    for i in x:
```

```
val = b + m * i
    rl.append(val)
plt.plot(x, rl) # plot the fitted line
plt.xlabel('goal ratio')
plt.ylabel('win rate')
plt.show()
print('The intercept is ' + str(b))
print('The coefficient is ' + str(m))
```



The intercept is 0.09849898607609475 The coefficient is 0.2602514809999917

- 0.6.8 The intercept tells us that when the *goal ratio* for a team is 0 (i.e., no goal), the win rate is less than 10%; the coefficient tells us that for a unit increase in the *goal ratio*, there is a 0.26 unit increase in win rate.
- 0.6.9 Another way to visualize the data is using a histogram. We can use 50 buckets to see the distribution of the *goal ratio*.



0.6.10 We see that most of the team have a $goal \, ratio \approx 1$. In Premier League where 20 teams compete, the bottom 3 teams are relegated. In a hypothetical Premier League with 122 teams, a teams needs to stay away from the bottom $122 \times \frac{3}{20} \approx 19$ position to avoid being relegated. Let's do some slicing:

```
[17]: team = team_filtered.sort_values('goal_ratio')
slice = team[18:20]
slice
```

```
[17]:
                                         losses
                                                   winrate goals
                                                                    draws \
                             games
                                    wins
      team
      Morecambe FC
                               362
                                     105
                                             157
                                                  0.290055
                                                               436
                                                                      100
      Scunthorpe United FC
                               362
                                     113
                                             146
                                                  0.312155
                                                               437
                                                                      103
                             opponent_goals goal_ratio
      team
      Morecambe FC
                                        533
                                               0.818011
      Scunthorpe United FC
                                        530
                                               0.824528
```

- 0.6.11 That is, in order to avoid being relegated, the hypothetical team only needs $goal\ ratio \approx 0.82$ and $win\ rate \approx 30\%$
- 0.6.12 Next, we will predict the performance of randomly selected teams.
- 0.7 Predict the Performance Using Linear Regression
- 0.7.1 The first step for predicting is split the data intro training and test set. We select the first 99 rows as our training data so that $training set : test set \approx 4 : 1$

```
[18]: # split to training and test set
train = team_filtered.iloc[:99,:]
test = team_filtered.iloc[100:,:]
```

0.7.2 We then convert the data into numpy arrays for calculation purposes and use the linear regression model from scikit-learn. We print out the coefficient and intercept. They are almost identical to the result we got from numpy's polyfit() function.

```
[19]: train_X = train['goal_ratio'].to_numpy()
    train_y = train['winrate'].to_numpy()
    train_X = np.array([[h] for h in train_X])
    reg = linear_model.LinearRegression().fit(train_X, train_y)
    print('The coefficient is ' + str(reg.coef_[0]))
    print('The intercept is ' + str(reg.intercept_))
```

The coefficient is 0.25205978278244273 The intercept is 0.10698243379116967 0.7.3 We can judge the quality of the fit using scikit-learn's score() function. The score is not perfect but definitely not low either.

```
[20]: # judge the quality of the fit

test_X = test['goal_ratio'].to_numpy()

test_y = test['winrate'].to_numpy()

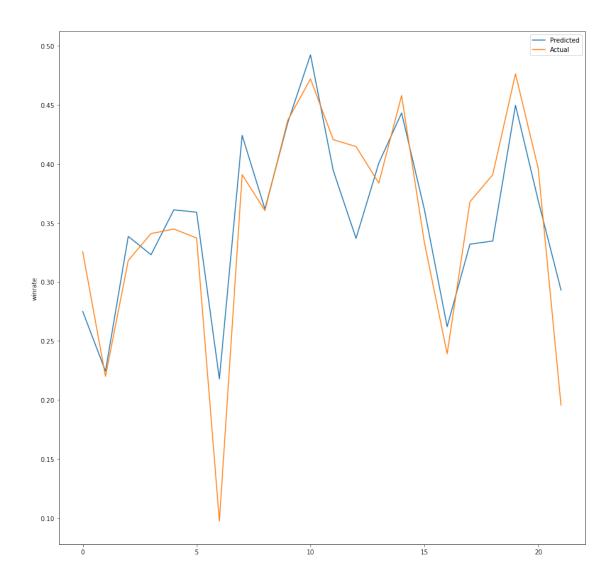
test_X = np.array([[h] for h in test_X])

reg.score(test_X, test_y)
```

[20]: 0.7623100437481832

0.7.4 However, the score does not give a direct feeling of the accuracy of our prediction. We can use visualization to help us by comparing the actual result and the predicted result on the same graph.

```
[21]: predicted = reg.predict(test_X) # getting the predicted result
fig= plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
# plot the results
plt.plot(predicted, label='Predicted')
plt.plot(test_y, label='Actual')
plt.ylabel('winrate')
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```



0.7.5 Actually, we find that our prediction is, to a great extent, accurate!

0.8 Conclusion

0.8.1 In this tutorial, we find out some interesting pattern about the winrate and the goal ratio: winrate of a team is linearly proportional to its goal ratio. We find out that the gap between different football clubs has incrased dramatically over the years. We also use linear regression to model the winrate of a few football clubs and get decent results. This allows us to approximate the winrate of any team with a high accuracy observing its goal ratio. If more detailed data is available, we can perhaps look into how players are affecting the team's winrate, and thus calculate their relative cost efficiency.