# HW2 1

## February 17, 2021

```
[1]: import pandas as pd
  import numpy as np
  from scipy.special import logit, expit
  import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
  from sklearn.metrics import brier_score_loss
  import warnings
  warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
  rng = np.random.default_rng(seed = 456)
```

# 1 1a. For each game compute the historical average goal differentials for each team

```
[2]: df = pd.read_csv('soccer18.csv', parse_dates = ['Date'])
     df = df.replace('Evian Thonon Gaillard', 'Evian')
     df['GameID'] = df.index
     df['PD_H'] = df.FTHG - df.FTAG
     df['PD_A'] = df.FTAG - df.FTHG
     df = df.sort_values('Date')
[3]: df['homeWin'] = 1*(df.FTHG > df.FTAG)
[4]: df_melt = pd.melt(df, id_vars='GameID', value_vars=['HomeTeam', 'AwayTeam'],

¬var_name='isHome', value_name='Team')
     df_melt['isHome'] = np.where(df_melt.isHome =='HomeTeam', 'H', 'A')
[5]: df_melt2 = pd.melt(df, id_vars='GameID', value_vars=['PD_H', 'PD_A'],
     →var_name='isHome', value_name='PD')
     df_melt2['isHome'] = np.where(df_melt2.isHome =='PD_H', 'H', 'A')
[6]: df_merge = df_melt.merge(df_melt2, on=['GameID', 'isHome']).merge(df[['GameID', u
     →'Date']], on='GameID').sort_values('Date')
     df_merge['hAGD'] = df_merge.groupby('Team').PD.transform(lambda x : x.
     →expanding().mean().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
     df_merge['GP'] = df_merge.groupby('Team').PD.transform(lambda x : x.expanding().

count().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
```

1.1 i. Give a table containing the 7 games with the largest absolute disparity

```
[9]: train.sort_values('goalDisp', ascending=False).head(7).drop('GameID', 1).

→reset_index(drop=True)
```

```
[9]:
                 Y
                                 AwayTeam hAGD_H
           Div
                      HomeTeam
                                                    hAGD_A
                                                            GP_H GP_A
                                                                        goalDisp
                      Sassuolo
                                Sampdoria
                                             -3.5
                                                  1.000000
                                                               2
                                                                        4.500000
    O Serie_A 14
                                 Paris SG
                                             -3.5
                                                  1.000000
                                                               2
                                                                     2 4.500000
    1 Ligue_1 14
                         Evian
    2 Ligue_1 17
                    Strasbourg
                                    Lille
                                             -4.0 0.078261
                                                               1
                                                                   115
                                                                        4.078261
    3 Serie_A 14
                       Palermo
                                    Inter
                                             -0.5 3.500000
                                                               2
                                                                     2 4.000000
    4 La_Liga 14
                       Cordoba
                                             -2.0 2.000000
                                                               1
                                                                        4.000000
                                    Celta
                                                                     1
    5 Serie A 14
                        Empoli
                                     Roma
                                             -2.0 2.000000
                                                               1
                                                                     1
                                                                        4.000000
    6 La_Liga
                         Elche
                                             -3.0 1.000000
                                                               1
                                                                        4.000000
               14
                                  Granada
                                                                     1
```

1.2 ii. Repeat the previous part restricted to games where each team had previously played at least 100 games in our dataset (that is, 100 or more)

```
[10]: train.loc[(train.GP_H >= 100) & (train.GP_A >= 100)].sort_values('goalDisp', __ 

→ascending=False).head(7).drop('GameID', 1).reset_index(drop=True)
```

```
[10]:
            Div
                  Y
                       HomeTeam
                                    AwayTeam
                                               hAGD_H
                                                         hAGD_A
                                                                 GP_H GP_A \
     0 La_Liga 16
                        Granada
                                   Barcelona -0.875000 2.192308
                                                                  104
                                                                        104
     1 La_Liga 17
                        Levante
                                   Barcelona -0.705357
                                                                        150
                                                       2.140000
                                                                  112
     2 La Liga 16
                        Granada Real Madrid -0.936937 1.900000
                                                                        110
                                                                  111
                                   Barcelona -0.623762 2.208633
     3 La_Liga 17
                    Las Palmas
                                                                  101
                                                                        139
     4 La_Liga 17
                      La Coruna
                                   Barcelona -0.621622 2.142857
                                                                  148
                                                                        147
     5 La_Liga 16
                      La Coruna
                                   Barcelona -0.519608 2.225490
                                                                  102
                                                                        102
     6 La_Liga
                      Barcelona
                                   La Coruna 2.186047 -0.527132
                                                                  129
                                                                        129
                17
```

goalDisp

<sup>0 3.067308</sup> 

<sup>1 2.845357</sup> 

<sup>2 2.836937</sup> 

```
3 2.832395
4 2.764479
```

- 5 2.745098
- 6 2.713178
- 1.3 iii. Almost all games in the solution to part (i) come from the 2014 season (the first season in our dataset), but one comes from the 2017 season. In a few words, explain what is special about it

For the game in 2017, Strasbourg played it's first game since being relegated in the 2007-08 season. Since the data we have starts in 2014, it is considered their first game in the data set, thus why the average point differential is so high.

2 1b. Fit a logit model to predict the probability of the home team winning (draws count as non-wins) using only an intercept term.

```
[11]: df = pd.merge(df, df_pivot[['GameID', 'hAGD_H', 'hAGD_A']], how='left')
    train = df[df.Y < 18]
    test = df[df.Y == 18]</pre>
[12]: result = smf.logit('homeWin ~ 1', data = train).fit()
    result.summary()
```

Optimization terminated successfully.

Current function value: 0.689679

Iterations 3

[12]: <class 'statsmodels.iolib.summary.Summary'>

### Logit Regression Results

Dep. Variable	e:	hom	neWin No	. Observation	ons:	7304
Model:		I	ogit Df	Residuals:		7303
Method:			MLE Df	Model:		0
Date:		Wed, 17 Feb	2021 Ps	eudo R-squ.:		4.042e-12
Time:		18:4	2:47 Lo	g-Likelihood	l:	-5037.4
converged:			True LI	-Null:		-5037.4
Covariance T	ype:	nonro	bust LI	R p-value:		nan
=========	======	========	=======	========	=========	========
	coef	std err		z P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.1669	0.023	-7.10	6 0.000	0.213	-0.121

11 11 11

2.1 i. Report your coefficient value.

```
[13]: print('The coefficient is:', result.params.values[0])
```

The coefficient is: -0.16687026113323677

2.2 ii. Report the Brier score of your out-of-sample predictions on 2018 (Y=18)

```
[14]: y_pred = result.predict(test)
print('Brier Score:', brier_score_loss(test['homeWin'], y_pred))
```

Brier Score: 0.2473559477379797

3 1c. The intercept coefficient from the previous part is negative. Does this imply there is no home field advantage? In other words, if home teams are favored, shouldn't the intercept be positive?

The intercept and the logit model as a whole cannot be used to interpret probability. To do that we have to implement the expit function in order to translate the probabilities and whether or not there is home field advantage. Since the expit function exponentiates the values given to create a probability the resulting value will always be between 0 and 1.

4 1d. Repeat part (b) using the intercept, and the historical average goal differentials from each team as features (three features in total)

```
[15]: result = smf.logit('homeWin ~ hAGD_H + hAGD_A + 1', data = train).fit()
result.summary()
```

 ${\tt Optimization} \ {\tt terminated} \ {\tt successfully}.$ 

Current function value: 0.630677

Iterations 5

[15]: <class 'statsmodels.iolib.summary.Summary'>

Logit Regression Results

Dep. Variable: homeWin No. Observations: 7304
Model: Logit Df Residuals: 7301
Method: MLE Df Model: 2

Date: Wed, 17 Feb 2021 Pseudo R-squ.: 0.08555 Time: 18:42:47 Log-Likelihood: -4606.5 True LL-Null: converged: -5037.4nonrobust LLR p-value: 6.933e-188 Covariance Type: \_\_\_\_\_\_ P>|z| [0.025 0.975coef std err 0.025 0.000 -0.228 -0.130 Intercept -0.1791 -7.183  $hAGD_H$ 0.7853 0.039 20.128 0.000 0.709 0.862 hAGD A -0.76190.040 -19.082 0.000 -0.840 -0.684

[16]: print('The coefficients are:', result.params.values)

The coefficients are: [-0.17910355 0.78534468 -0.76193982]

[17]: y\_pred = result.predict(test)
print('Brier Score:', brier\_score\_loss(test['homeWin'], y\_pred))

Brier Score: 0.21726101075298782

# HW2 2

## February 17, 2021

```
[1]: import pandas as pd
  import numpy as np
  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
  import statsmodels.api as sm
  from scipy.special import logit, expit
  from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
  from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
  from sklearn.metrics import brier_score_loss

import warnings
  warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
  rng = np.random.default_rng(seed = 456)
```

/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/statsmodels/tools/\_testing.py:19:
FutureWarning: pandas.util.testing is deprecated. Use the functions in the public API at pandas.testing instead.
import pandas.util.testing as tm

```
[2]: def forward_selection(data, target, significance_level=0.05):
         initial_features = data.columns.tolist()
         best_features = []
         while (len(initial_features)>0):
             remaining_features = list(set(initial_features)-set(best_features))
             new_pval = pd.Series(index=remaining_features)
             for new_column in remaining_features:
                 model = sm.OLS(target, sm.
      →add_constant(data[best_features+[new_column]])).fit()
                 new pval[new column] = model.pvalues[new column]
             min_p_value = new_pval.min()
             if(min p value<significance level):</pre>
                 best_features.append(new_pval.idxmin())
             else:
                 break
         return best_features
     def backward_elimination(data, target,significance_level = 0.05):
```

```
features = data.columns.tolist()
while(len(features)>0):
    features_with_constant = sm.add_constant(data[features])
    p_values = sm.OLS(target, features_with_constant).fit().pvalues[1:]
    max_p_value = p_values.max()
    if(max_p_value >= significance_level):
        excluded_feature = p_values.idxmax()
        features.remove(excluded_feature)
    else:
        break
return features
```

```
[3]: def to_df(X, y):
    df = X.copy()
    df['homeWin'] = y
    return df

def logit(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test):
    f = y_train.name + ' ~ ' + ' + '.join([col for col in X_train.columns])
    result = smf.logit(f, data=to_df(X_train, y_train)).fit()
    y_pred = result.predict(X_test)
    return brier_score_loss(y_test, y_pred)

def randomForest(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test):
    rf = RandomForestClassifier()
    rf.fit(X_train, y_train)
    y_pred = rf.predict_proba(X_test)[:, 1]
    return brier_score_loss(y_test, y_pred)
```

```
[4]: df = pd.read_csv('soccer18.csv', parse_dates = ['Date'])
df = df.replace('Evian Thonon Gaillard', 'Evian')
df['GameID'] = df.index
df['PD_H'] = df.FTHG - df.FTAG
df['PD_A'] = df.FTAG - df.FTHG
df = df.sort_values('Date')
```

We can add a few metrics based off data we have to add dimensionality to the dataset.

From Q1 \* h/a historical goal differential \* absolute disparity

```
[6]: train = df[df.Y < 18]
test = df[df.Y == 18]
```

Using Question 1d Intercept + historical goal differential

```
[7]: result = smf.logit('homeWin ~ 1+hAGD_H+hAGD_A', data=train).fit()
    y_pred = result.predict(test)
    brier_score_loss(test['homeWin'], y_pred)
```

Optimization terminated successfully.

Current function value: 0.630677

Iterations 5

[7]: 0.21726101075298782

Here we have the baseline model with a brier score of **0.21727** 

```
[8]: X_{train}, y_{train} = df[df.Y < 18][['hAGD_H', 'hAGD_A']], df[df.Y < 18].homeWin X_test, y_{test} = df[df.Y == 18][['hAGD_H', 'hAGD_A']], df[df.Y == 18].homeWin
```

```
[9]: bsl = randomForest(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
print('Random forest brier score:', bsl)
```

Random forest brier score: 0.26095649642657215

Now we have the baseline model, we can add more features with the other available columns of data (HS/AS, HST/AST, home\_xG/away\_xG). Since these stats are only calculated during/after the game, we can convert this data into historical features like we did the goal differentials.

```
[10]: df['STD_H'] = df.HST - df.AST
df['STD_A'] = df.AST - df.HST
df['xGD_H'] = df.home_xG - df.away_xG
df['xGD_A'] = df.away_xG - df.home_xG
```

```
[11]: df_melt3 = pd.melt(df, id_vars='GameID', value_vars=['xGD_H', 'xGD_A'], 

→var_name='isHome', value_name='xGD')
```

```
df melt3['isHome'] = np.where(df melt3.isHome =='xGD H', 'H', 'A')
     df_merge = df_melt.merge(df_melt3, on=['GameID', 'isHome']).merge(df[['GameID', L
      → 'Date', 'Y']], on='GameID').sort_values('Date')
     df_merge['hxGD'] = df_merge.groupby(['Team', 'Y']).xGD.transform(lambda x : x.
      →expanding().mean().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
     df_pivot = df_merge.pivot(index='GameID', columns='isHome')
     df_pivot.columns = [f'{i}_{j}' for i, j in df_pivot.columns]
     df_pivot = df_pivot.reset_index()
     df_pivot = df[['GameID', 'Div', 'Y', 'HomeTeam', 'AwayTeam']].
      →merge(df_pivot[['GameID', 'hxGD_H', 'hxGD_A']], on='GameID')
     df = pd.merge(df, df_pivot[['GameID', 'hxGD_H', 'hxGD_A']], how='left')
[12]: df_melt4 = pd.melt(df, id_vars='GameID', value_vars=['STD_H', 'STD_A'],
      →var_name='isHome', value_name='STD')
     df_melt4['isHome'] = np.where(df_melt4.isHome =='STD_H', 'H', 'A')
     df_merge = df_melt.merge(df_melt4, on=['GameID', 'isHome']).merge(df[['GameID', _
      → 'Date', 'Y']], on='GameID').sort_values('Date')
     df_merge['hST'] = df_merge.groupby(['Team', 'Y']).STD.transform(lambda x : x.
      →expanding().mean().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
     df_pivot = df_merge.pivot(index='GameID', columns='isHome')
     df_pivot.columns = [f'{i}_{j}' for i, j in df_pivot.columns]
     df_pivot = df_pivot.reset_index()
     df_pivot = df[['GameID', 'Div', 'Y', 'HomeTeam', 'AwayTeam']].
      →merge(df_pivot[['GameID', 'hST_H', 'hST_A']], on='GameID')
     df = pd.merge(df, df_pivot[['GameID', 'hST_H', 'hST_A']], how='left')
[13]: # Drop all game and post game stats
     pgs = ['FTHG', 'FTAG', 'HTHG', 'HTAG', 'HS', 'AS', 'HST', 'AST', 'home_xG', |
      df_hs = df.drop(pgs, 1)
[14]: # Drop GameID and Y after train/test splits
     X_train, y_train = df_hs[df.Y < 18].drop('homeWin', 1), df_hs[df.Y < 18].homeWin</pre>
     X_test, y_test = df_hs[df.Y == 18].drop('homeWin', 1), df_hs[df.Y == 18].homeWin
     X_train = X_train.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
     X_test = X_test.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
[15]: randomForest(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
[15]: 0.22452999892117875
[16]: logit(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
     Optimization terminated successfully.
              Current function value: 0.623677
              Iterations 5
```

#### [16]: 0.21519929870245788

Let's add a few more metrics using available data \* Home Shot Quantity = FTHG / HS \* Home Shot Quality = FTHG / HST \* Away Shot Quantity = FTAG / AS \* Away Shot Quality = FTAG / AST \* Home Win Percentage =  $\frac{\sum I \cdot \text{homeWin}}{totalgames}$ 

Because these are fractions, there will be NaN values. If there are zero total shots and/or shots on target but a goal was scored for home/away respectively, we can interpret that as self goals. Therefore the shot quantity/quality percentage can be 0%

```
[17]: # Create Shot Quantity and Shot Quality columns for Home/Away
    df['shotQntD_H'] = df.FTHG / df.HS
    df['shotQntD_A'] = df.FTAG / df.AS
    df['shotQltD_H'] = df.FTHG / df.HST
    df['shotQltD_A'] = df.FTAG / df.AST

# Fill the percentages with 0 if Shots / Shots on Target are equal to zero
    df = df.fillna(0)
```

```
[18]: # Replace the columns values with the difference of home/away

df['shotQntD_H'] = df.shotQntD_H - df.shotQntD_A

df['shotQntD_A'] = df.shotQntD_A - df.shotQntD_H

df['shotQltD_H'] = df.shotQltD_H - df.shotQltD_A

df['shotQltD_A'] = df.shotQltD_A - df.shotQltD_H
```

```
df_pivot.columns = [f'{i}_{j}' for i, j in df_pivot.columns]
     df_pivot = df_pivot.reset_index()
     df_pivot = df[['GameID', 'Div', 'Y', 'HomeTeam', 'AwayTeam']].
      →merge(df_pivot[['GameID', 'hsQltD_H', 'hsQltD_A']], on='GameID')
     df = pd.merge(df, df_pivot[['GameID', 'hsQltD_H', 'hsQltD_A']], how='left')
[21]: df_hs = df_hs.merge(df[['GameID', 'hsQntD_H', 'hsQntD_A', 'hsQltD_H', u
      # Create Home Win Percentage Column
     hw = df_hs.groupby(['HomeTeam', 'Y']).homeWin.transform(lambda x : x.
      →expanding().sum().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
     hg = df_hs.groupby(['HomeTeam', 'Y']).homeWin.transform(lambda x : x.
      ⇔expanding().count().shift(1, fill_value = 0))
     df_hs['home_win_pct'] = hw / hg
     df_hs = df_hs.fillna(0)
     df_hs
[21]:
               Div
                         Date
                                Y ... hsQltD_H hsQltD_A home_win_pct
           Ligue 1 2014-08-08 14 ... 0.000000 0.000000
                                                             0.000000
     0
     1
           Ligue 1 2014-08-09 14 ... 0.000000 0.000000
                                                             0.000000
     2
           Ligue 1 2014-08-09 14 ... 0.000000 0.000000
                                                             0.000000
     3
           Ligue_1 2014-08-09 14 ... 0.000000 0.000000
                                                              0.000000
     4
           Ligue_1 2014-08-09 14 ... 0.000000 0.000000
                                                             0.000000
     9125 Serie_A 2019-05-26 18 ... 0.138975 0.093488
                                                             0.277778
     9126 Serie_A 2019-05-26 18 ... 0.223951 0.027068
                                                             0.555556
     9127 Serie_A 2019-05-26 18 ... 0.136268 0.202230
                                                             0.611111
     9128 Serie_A 2019-05-26 18 ... 0.199632 0.282999
                                                              0.500000
     9129 Serie_A 2019-05-26 18 ... 0.119181 0.082793
                                                             0.277778
     [9130 rows x 18 columns]
[22]: # Drop GameID and Y after train/test splits
     X train, y train = df hs[df.Y < 18].drop('homeWin', 1), df hs[df.Y < 18].homeWin
     X_test, y_test = df_hs[df.Y == 18].drop('homeWin', 1), df_hs[df.Y == 18].homeWin
     X_train = X_train.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
     X_test = X_test.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
[23]: | lr_bsl = logit(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
     Optimization terminated successfully.
              Current function value: 0.623616
              Iterations 5
[24]: rf_bsl = randomForest(X_train, y_train, X_test, y_test)
```

Even after all the operations we went through, the random forest model without hyperparameter tuning does not perform better than the logit. From here, I will create a validation set using Y=17 from the training data and perform a Grid Search to optimize the hyperparameters in order to boost performance.

```
[25]: # Create validation splits along with training and testing
      X_train, y_train = df_hs[df.Y < 17].drop('homeWin', 1), df_hs[df.Y < 17].homeWin</pre>
      X_{val}, y_{val} = df_hs[df_Y == 17].drop('homeWin', 1), <math>df_hs[df_Y == 17].homeWin
      X_test, y_test = df_hs[df.Y == 18].drop('homeWin', 1), df_hs[df.Y == 18].homeWin
      X_train = X_train.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
      X_val = X_val.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
      X_test = X_test.drop(['GameID', 'Y'], 1).select_dtypes(include=np.number)
[26]: from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
      param_grid = {
          'n_estimators': [100, 200, 500],
          'max_depth' : [1, 3, 5, 7]
      }
      rf CV = GridSearchCV(estimator=RandomForestClassifier(), param grid=param grid,
      rf_CV.fit(X_val, y_val)
      rf_CV.best_params_
[26]: {'max_depth': 5, 'n_estimators': 500}
[27]: rf = RandomForestClassifier(max_depth=5, n_estimators=200)
      rf.fit(X_train, y_train)
      y_pred = rf.predict_proba(X_test)[:, 1]
      rf_GS_bsl = brier_score_loss(y_test, y_pred)
[28]: # Implementing forward and backward selection
      fs = forward_selection(X_train, y_train)
      bs = backward_elimination(X_train, y_train)
[29]: lr_bsl_fs = logit(X_train[fs], y_train, X_test[fs], y_test)
      rf_bsl_fs = randomForest(X train[fs], y train, X test[fs], y test)
      lr_bsl_bs = logit(X_train[bs], y_train, X_test[bs], y_test)
      rf_bsl_bs = randomForest(X train[bs], y train, X test[bs], y test)
     Optimization terminated successfully.
              Current function value: 0.628785
              Iterations 5
     Optimization terminated successfully.
              Current function value: 0.628785
              Iterations 5
```

```
[30]: lr_bsl_fs, rf_bsl_fs
[30]: (0.21540507985187357, 0.2279123860912145)
[31]: lr_bsl_bs, rf_bsl_bs
[31]: (0.21540507985187352, 0.2304679629872942)
[32]: importances = pd.DataFrame(list(zip(X_train.columns, rf.feature_importances_)),__
       sorted imp = importances.sort values('importance')
      plt.figure(figsize=(18,5))
      plt.bar(sorted_imp['attribute'], sorted_imp['importance'])
[32]: <BarContainer object of 11 artists>
          0.16
          0.14
          0.12
          0.10
          0.08
          0.06
          0.04
                hsOltD H
                      hsΩltΩ Δ
                            hsOntD H
                                   hsOntD A
                                               hST A
                                                     hAGD A
```

```
[33]: bf = sorted_imp[5:].attribute.values
lr_bsl_bf = logit(X_train[bf], y_train, X_test[bf], y_test)
rf_bsl_bf = randomForest(X_train[bf], y_train, X_test[bf], y_test)
```

Optimization terminated successfully.

Current function value: 0.628655

Iterations 5

```
[34]: lr_bsl_bf, rf_bsl_bf
```

[34]: (0.2153547126025551, 0.22501157243688358)

# 1 2a. Your out-of-sample Brier score on 2018.

```
[35]: print('Brier Scores ')
print('\033[1mLogit:', lr_bsl)
print('\033[0mRandom Forest without Hyperparameter tuning:', rf_bsl)
```

```
print('Random Forest with Hyperparameter tuning:', rf_GS_bsl)
```

Brier Scores

Logit: 0.21502632234832797

Random Forest without Hyperparameter tuning: 0.2209693651033026 Random Forest with Hyperparameter tuning: 0.21661814417100592

## 2 2b. The type of model you fit

I used Logit and Random Forest Classifier

# 3 2c. A very brief summary of the features used in your model. Be terse but precise so that the reader can figure out exactly how your features are computed.

Since much of the data is computed after the fact, I decided to use historical representations of the data based on the same stats just from previous games. I also decided to group these by year because stats do not usually translate from season to season.

I implemented historical representations of the following variables \* Goal Differential (hAGD) \* Shots on Target (hST) \* Expected Goals (hxG)

I also created new variables based on the given data and also transformed them into historical representations \* Shot Quantity (hsQntD) \* Shot Quality (hsQltD) \* Team Win Percentage (home\_win\_pct)

# 4 2d. A write-up of the process you used to build your model.

I wanted to start with the baseline model introduced in question 1 of the this assignment. Since it was close enough to market implied probabilities, I decided to see if implementing a simple Random Forest would improve the brier score. However, the result proved that Logit was the better initial baseline.

From there I worked to include some more features - all of which were outlined in question 2c. I thought that combining some of the features available to us could be useful in terms of creating new interactions between variables. Shot quantity was especially intriguing to me because, more opportunities generally lead to better results. Tangentially, shot quality should, ideally, be a better indicator because conversion rate of shots on target are much higher.

With a higher complexity data space available, I turned to feature selection in the form of forward and backward selection. After running brier scores on the data set with the selected features the scores got slightly worse. I then went to feature selection via a feature importance plot. In the plot, 6 features stood above the rest, so I used those "best features" on the train/test data. This again drew poorer results. The drawbacks from these two feature selection approaches could be

attributed to the fact that 11 columns of feature variables may not be enough to warrant greedy selection, so I decided to keep all 11 columns.

Going into the final model selection, I was able to create a Logit model with a brier score of **0.21503** (which beats the initial baseline measure of **0.21727**), but wanted to bring back random forest with some hyperparameter tuning. To do that, I created a validation set with Y=17 from the training set and applied a GridSearch (with variable max\_depth and num\_estimators). Even with this approach, the Logit model still beat out the hyperparameter tuned Random Forest.

Ultimately, the dataset that I created did not lend itself to creative feature selection techniques, cross-validation, or complex machine learning models. It could be due to the limited number of features that were available or due to not having more datapoints, but in the end the result just proves how powerful Logit models are with simple datasets.