**Neural Network Model Analysis Report**

**Overview**

* Client

The client for this project is the nonprofit foundation, Alphabet Soup.

* Purpose

The purpose of this project is to create a binary classifier that can predict whether applicants will be successful if backed by Alphabet Soup’s funding. This will allow Alphabet Soup to select applicants for funding with the best chance of success in their ventures.

**Results**

* Data Preprocessing
  + What variable(s) are the target(s) for your model?

The target variable for the model is the “IS\_SUCCESSFUL” column.

* + What variable(s) are the features for your model?

The features for the model include all the variables included in the data other than “IS\_SUCCESSFUL”, and the two columns that were initially dropped in preprocessing, “EIN” and “NAME”. These features include “APPLICATION\_TYPE”, “AFFILIATION”, “CLASSIFICATION”, “USE\_CASE, ORGANIZATION”, “STATUS”, “INCOME\_AMT”, “SPECIAL\_CONSIDERATIONS”, “ASK\_AMT”.

* + What variable(s) should be removed from the input data because they are neither targets nor features?

The variables that should be removed from the input data are “EIN” and “NAME” because they are indicators of each entry rather than features.

* Compiling, Training, and Evaluating the Model

**How many neurons, layers, and activation functions did you select for your neural network model, and why?**

The neural network model utilizes three layers because an ideal starting point for NNM’s is 2-4 layers. There are 43 features so 100 neurons, or 2-3 times the amount of input features were used for the first hidden node. The second and third hidden nodes used 60 and 40 neurons respectively. The reLU activation function was utilized because it is ideal for modeling positive, nonlinear input data for classification or regression.The sigmoid function was utilized because its values are normalized to a probability between 0 and 1, which is ideal for a binary classification dataset.

**Were you able to achieve the target model performance?**

The first model had an accuracy score of 72.7%. After increasing the number of neurons and layers, the second model had an accuracy score of 72.5%. After increasing the epochs, the third model also had an accuracy score of 72.5%. After increasing the number of neurons, layers and epochs again, the fourth model had an accuracy score of 72.6%. These models did not reach the target model performance of 75%.

**What steps did you take in your attempts to increase model performance?**

To increase model performance, the model’s neurons, layers and epochs were changed. In the second attempt at modeling, the neurons in each hidden layer were increased and a fourth hidden reLU layer was added. Adding more neurons speeds up the model and may reduce loss. Adding more layers considers more interactions between variables. In the third attempt at modeling, the epochs were increased from 100 to 200. As the number of epochs increases, so does the amount of information provided to each neuron. Adding more epochs also increases likelihood that model will achieve optimal weight coefficient.

**Summary**

**Summary**: Summarize the overall results of the deep learning model. Include a recommendation for how a different model could solve this classification problem, and then explain your recommendation.