Project Proposal

Jaylen Keith, Darren Chang, Jack Vaughan, Zach Schaffer October 2020

1 Question

The question we will be answering through this project is can we find the best Fantasy Football point projection model for this years season? We will use a wide variety of football statistics to formulate the most accurate projections for players based on their match up and their current team status.

2 Dataset

One of the datasets that we could use to answer the question is weekly fantasy football data sorted by player from 1970 to 1999 available from Fantasy Football Data Pros at this link: Fantasy Football CSV Files. This data will be helpful as a backtest for our model to test over several years (or even decades) whether our projections of fantasy points are accurate. We can also separate several years (or different weeks of different seasons) into training and test sets in order to find the factors (such as receptions or yard for wide receivers, interceptions or touchdowns for quarterbacks, and different measures for defenses) that influence fantasy points and projections week to week.

3 Why the question is important

Fantasy football is a very popular sports activity across the country and there are several applications which allow for participants to play. Along with the chance of winning bragging rights among your friend group, many people like to put some money on the table as well. Thus, it is very important that one can be able to maximize their chances of winning by picking the best team possible. This brings importance to the question at hand as we are trying to build the best fantasy football team.

4 Why the dataset will help

The dataset contains all of the important stats that are needed for projecting the amount of fantasy points a player will generate in a given week. The dataset has a large number of players to look at and also has the data for the past 50 years.