

Startup Failure Predictor

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Topic

Why do startups fail, and can we predict it?

Startups drive innovation and job creation, but many fail early due to poor market fit, limited funding, or competition. This project explores whether we can predict startup failure using modeling

Objective



Build a logistic regression model that can classify whether a startup is likely to fail or succeed based on features like funding, industry, and location.



This helps investors and entrepreneurs better understand early-stage risk.

Description of Data



Sources

- Failed Startups CSVs (multiple industries)
- Kaggle dataset of funded startups (assumed successful)



Final Dataset

- ~3,400 startups
- Combined failures and successes
- Label: 1 = failed, 0 = successful



Features

- Industry
- City
- Funding amount
- Years of operation



Preprocessing

- Standardized funding values
- One-hot encoded text fields
- Log-transformed funding
- Missing data handled by imputation or zero-filling

Model: Logistic Regression with L2 Regularization

Interpretable, Good baseline for binary classification, Works well with imbalanced data

Methods:



Train/test split
(80/20)



Hyperparameter
tuning using
GridSearchCV



Evaluated using
5-fold
cross-validation



Primary metric: F1
Score (due to class
imbalance)

Results

Performance on Test Set

Accuracy: **99.7%**

F1 Score: **1.00 (success), 0.99 (failure)**

AUC-ROC: **0.99**

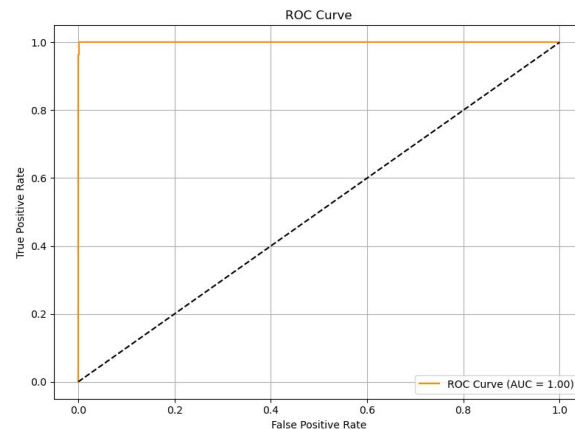
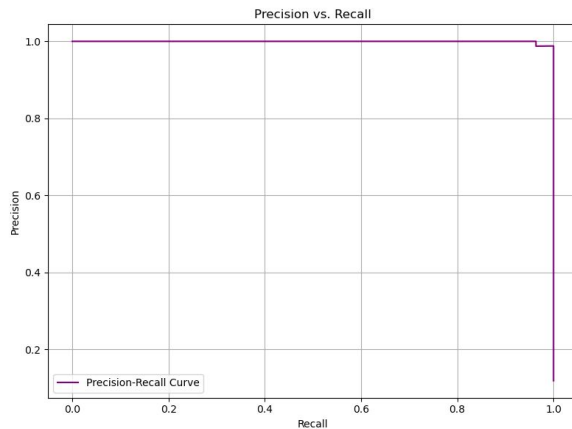
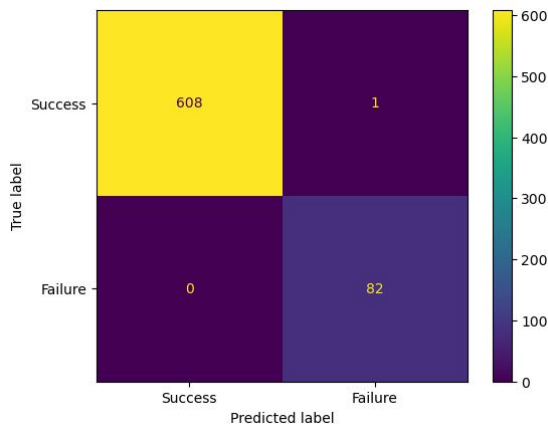
Top Predictive Features

1 Industry Type

2 City Location

3 Funding Amount

Visuals





Thank You!