Academic Reflective Journal

Introduction

In today's run, I checked how machines learn by trying hunches on facts I passed along key takeaways from messing with that model sheet, covering core bits alongside three sticky snags. Going deep made it clear number crunching isn't only formulas or code, it's kind of like cracking riddles, chasing shifts, yet noticing how decisions twist outcomes.

Description of Experience or Topic

In the beginning sections of the notebook, I picked up how to set up a logistic regression model that guesses if someone could quit their job. Instead of just listing variables, I brought in things like time spent working, happiness rating, or pay level to shape those guesses. After that came the challenging part; it meant making an extra feature, trying out various cutoff points, along with handling uneven result categories.

Personal Reflection

I once believed machine learning meant chasing the top score no matter what. Yet after trying things hands-on, I saw bigger scores aren't always better, particularly when one group's barely represented. Take that run with skewed data: boosting weight on scarce labels led to fairer guesses, although correct hits dipped a bit.

Discussion of Improvements and Learning

Back then, things pushed me, didn't just pick different tools, changed my whole mindset on problems. Instead of fixating on a single metric, I started weighing choices like F1-score versus recall to see clearer. When outcomes weren't great, I saw each try as learning, not failure.

Conclusion

This moment pushed me to expand past lectures, straight into tackling tough challenges. All at once, thoughts clicked in real life, shaping my brain to sit with uncertainty rather than bail. It'll come in handy later, especially dealing with data or tricky systems.