**Capstone Project: NCAA Basketball Tournament Predictions** 

**DSTC 691: Default Machine Learning Project** 

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#### Introduction

The National Collegiate Basketball Association (NCAA) has over 350 colleges all competing to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament, with the ultimate goal of winning the tournament. Only 68 colleges are able to play well enough to earn a spot in the tournament. The lowest 8 teams play against each other to whittle down the field to 64 teams, from which a typical bracket style tournament can be created.

For the most part, picking the winner of each game comes down to guessing or using your general basketball knowledge where it's impossible to consistently predict games correctly. The NCAA tournament at first glance may appear to have a lot of randomness, which has led many people to leverage the vast amount of college basketball data out there to create algorithms that can have more predictability than the simple guessing or just picking the consensus favorite for each game.

I will use regular season data to help predict how that translates to success in the NCAA tournament. All of the features I will be using are averages or on a per game basis because all teams don't play an equal amount of games in the regular season. Many of these features will not be used if they do not appear significant or are too similar to other features. I will predict winners of matchups in the NCAA tournament through predicting a final score differential, which can be interpreted as a positive differential means one team wins or negative would mean the other team.

I was able to acquire the necessary data through 2 sources: the sportsreference website and through a csv uploaded by someone performing a similar project on the data.world website. The first source (sportsreference website) actually has a library in sklearn that is able to pull data directly through the site. From there I was able to pull 10 years of regular season data with 40 columns and 3478 rows of data. The second source(data.world) requires you to make an account on the site to actually download the csv. I was able to get tournament data dating back to 1985 with 2205 rows and 10 columns of data. Merging these datasets to eventually get to the relvant feature set was difficult where many of the team names that were supposed to match were actually different between the datasets. After cleaning and merging the data, I then did some exploratory analysis to narrow down the features to 29.

Those 29 features were scaled and then trained using different machine learning models with final score difference being the response variable. The regression models I used are Gradient Boosting, Random Forest, Decision Tree, K-Nearest Neigbors, Voting Ensemble of those 4 previous models, and ANN with tensorflow. Using MSE as a performance metric to determining the best performing model. The benchmark models I created to compare against were a model predicting by the better seed and the other predicting by the better record.

Flask was then used to deploy the best performing model. Using the Flask application, the feature data for a a tournament game matchup is fed to the application and a prediction on the final score difference will be provided using the best performing model.

# **Data Description**

#### Source #1: https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/

This dataset has 10 years of data with give or take 350 teams of season data per year. Some teams were added in the time period of the data resulting in an uneven amount of teams with data per year. For each team looking at a single year, I collected 40 variables of data that were either statistical game averages or rankings/ratings they were given or earned in that same year. The csv file that I downloaded from the API that directly pulls data from the sportsreference website was 789KB. Definition of each column can be found here:https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/about/glossary.html

# Source #2: https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file? filename=Big\_Dance\_CSV.csv

This dataset has tournament games dating back to 1985. For the range of data used in the models, only games from 2010-2019 are relevant. The only feature from this file are the seeds and

the response variable of final score difference is from this dataset. The full dataset downloaded from the website has 2205 rows and 10 columns of data. The csv file size is 101KB.

#### Libraries

#### **General Libraries**

```
In [1]:
         import pandas as pd
         import numpy as np
         import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
         import seaborn as sns
         from sportsreference.ncaab.teams import Teams
         from statsmodels.api import OLS
         from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
         from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
         from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
         from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
         from sklearn.decomposition import PCA
         from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
         from sklearn.ensemble import GradientBoostingRegressor
         from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
         from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeRegressor
         from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsRegressor
         from sklearn.ensemble import VotingRegressor
         from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error
         import tensorflow as tf
         from tensorflow import keras
         from tensorflow.keras import layers
         import pickle
         import os
         import flask
         from flask import Flask, redirect, url_for,request, render_template
         import math
```

#### **Table of Contents install**

```
In []: #pip install --user jupyter_contrib_nbextensions
    #jupyter contrib nbextension install --user
    #jupyter nbextension enable toc2/main
```

### API to download data from sports reference website

Doesn't need to be run because data from here was stored in a csv, so that I wouldn't have to repeat this process each time I opened the notebook. The csv file will be provided in the Google Drive.

```
In [63]: | # #pip install pandas sklearn sportsreference --> in terminal
          # #Source: https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/
          # #!!!The code below will take minimum 5 minutes to run
          # #to see what data/features are available
          # #teams2019.dataframes.columns
          # #creating an empty dataset to be filled
          # #all columns except for those with totals as all teams don't play the same amount of games
          # dataset = pd.DataFrame(columns = ['year', 'name', 'abbreviation', 'assist percentage', 'block percentage',
          #
                                                   'effective_field_goal_percentage',
                                                   'field_goal_percentage', 'free_throw_attempt_rate', 'free_throw_percentage',
                                                   'free throws per field goal attempt',
                                                   'offensive_rating', 'offensive_rebound_percentage',
                                                   'opp_assist_percentage',
                                                   'opp_block_percentage',
                                                   'opp_effective_field_goal_percentage', 'opp_field_goal_percentage',
                                                   'opp_free_throw_attempt_rate',
                                                   'opp_free_throw_percentage',
                                                   'opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt', 'opp_offensive_rating',
                                                   'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage',
                                                   'opp_steal_percentage',
                                                   'opp_three_point_attempt_rate','opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage',
                                                   'opp two point field goal percentage', 'opp total rebound percentage',
                                                   'opp true shooting percentage', 'opp turnover percentage',
                                                   'pace', 'simple rating system', 'steal percentage',
                                                   'strength_of_schedule', 'three_point_attempt_rate',
                                                   'three point field goal percentage',
                                                   'two point field goal percentage', 'two point field goals',
                                                   'total rebound percentage',
                                                   'true_shooting_percentage', 'turnover_percentage', 'win_percentage'])
          # for yearVal in range(2010,2020,1):
                team = Teams(year = str(yearVal))
                temp = {'year':[str(yearVal)]*sum(team.dataframes['name'].value_counts()), 'name':team.dataframes.name,'abbreviation':team.dataframes.abbreviation,
          #
                                           'assist_percentage':team.dataframes.assist_percentage,'block_percentage':team.dataframes.block_percentage,
          #
                                           'effective_field_goal_percentage' : team.dataframes.effective_field_goal_percentage,
                                           'field_goal_percentage':team.dataframes.field_goal_percentage, 'free_throw_attempt_rate':team.dataframes.free_throw_attempt_rate,
                                           'free throw percentage':team.dataframes.free throw percentage,
                                           'free throws per field goal attempt':team.dataframes.free throws per field goal attempt, 'offensive rating': team.dataframes.offensive
                                           'offensive rebound percentage':team.dataframes.offensive rebound percentage,'opp assist percentage':team.dataframes.opp assist percentd
                                           'opp block percentage': team.dataframes.opp block percentage,'opp effective field goal percentage':team.dataframes.opp effective field
                                           'opp field qoal percentage':team.dataframes.opp field qoal percentage, 'opp free throw attempt rate':team.dataframes.opp free throw att
                                           'opp_free_throw_percentage': team.dataframes.opp_free_throw_percentage,
                                           opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt': team.dataframes.opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt, 'opp_offensive_rating':team.dataframe'
                                           'opp offensive rebound percentage': team.dataframes.opp offensive rebound percentage,
                                           'opp steal percentage': team.dataframes.opp steal percentage,
                                           'opp_three_point_attempt_rate': team.dataframes.opp_three_point_attempt_rate,
                                           'opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage' : team.dataframes.opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage,
                                           'opp two point field goal percentage': team.dataframes.opp two point field goal percentage,
                                           'opp total rebound percentage' : team.dataframes.opp total rebound percentage,
                                           opp_true_shooting_percentage': team.dataframes.opp_true_shooting_percentage, 'opp_turnover_percentage':team.dataframes.opp_turnover_p
                                           'pace': team.dataframes.pace, 'simple_rating_system': team.dataframes.simple_rating_system, 'steal_percentage': team.dataframes.steal_k
                                           'strength_of_schedule': team.dataframes.strength_of_schedule, 'three_point_attempt_rate':team.dataframes.three_point_attempt_rate,
                                           'three point field goal percentage': team.dataframes.three point field goal percentage,
          #
                                           'two_point_field_goal_percentage': team.dataframes.two_point_field_goal_percentage, 'two_point_field_goals':team.dataframes.two_point_j
```

```
# 'total_rebound_percentage': team.dataframes.total_rebound_percentage, 'true_shooting_percentage':team.dataframes.true_shooting_percentage
# 'turnover_percentage': team.dataframes.turnover_percentage, 'win_percentage':team.dataframes.win_percentage}
# df_temp = pd.DataFrame(data=temp)
# dataset = dataset.append(df_temp,ignore_index=True)
# dataset.to_csv('season_results.csv')
# dataset
```

Out[63]:		year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_f
_	0	2010	Air Force	AIR-FORCE	61.6	6.2	0.504	0.443	0.367	0.635	
	1	2010	Akron	AKRON	53.9	8.5	0.491	0.433	0.363	0.657	
	2	2010	Alabama A&M	ALABAMA-AM	48.1	12.7	0.416	0.382	0.474	0.635	
	3	2010	UAB	ALABAMA- BIRMINGHAM	51.1	7.3	0.471	0.422	0.457	0.694	
	4	2010	Alabama State	ALABAMA- STATE	60.0	11.1	0.462	0.404	0.448	0.641	
	•••										
	3473	2019	Wright State	WRIGHT-STATE	54.7	6.1	0.506	0.436	0.341	0.737	
	3474	2019	Wyoming	WYOMING	48.0	7.9	0.492	0.417	0.399	0.723	
	3475	2019	Xavier	XAVIER	56.3	10.6	0.528	0.466	0.326	0.679	
	3476	2019	Yale	YALE	56.3	11.2	0.556	0.493	0.307	0.738	
	3477	2019	Youngstown State	YOUNGSTOWN- STATE	51.1	9.9	0.501	0.427	0.246	0.701	
3	3478 r	ows ×	40 columns								

4

# **Import Data**

#### Import season results from csv file created through API

This dataset has 10 years of data with give or take 350 teams of season data per year. Some teams were added in the time period of the data resulting in an uneven amount of teams with data per year. For each team looking at a single year, I collected 40 variables of data that were either statistical game averages or rankings/ratings they were given or earned in that same year. The csv file that I downloaded from the API that directly pulls data from the sportsreference website was 101KB.

```
In [2]: #Import data from file named below
    fileName = "season_results.csv"
    season_results = pd.read_csv(fileName)
    #Drop index column, year should be the first column with real data
```

season\_results = season\_results.iloc[: , 1:]
season\_results

Out[2]:		year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_f
	0	2010	Air Force	AIR-FORCE	61.6	6.2	0.504	0.443	0.367	0.635	
	1	2010	Akron	AKRON	53.9	8.5	0.491	0.433	0.363	0.657	
	2	2010	Alabama A&M	ALABAMA-AM	48.1	12.7	0.416	0.382	0.474	0.635	
	3	2010	UAB	ALABAMA- BIRMINGHAM	51.1	7.3	0.471	0.422	0.457	0.694	
	4	2010	Alabama State	ALABAMA- STATE	60.0	11.1	0.462	0.404	0.448	0.641	
34	73	2019	Wright State	WRIGHT-STATE	54.7	6.1	0.506	0.436	0.341	0.737	
34	74	2019	Wyoming	WYOMING	48.0	7.9	0.492	0.417	0.399	0.723	
34	75	2019	Xavier	XAVIER	56.3	10.6	0.528	0.466	0.326	0.679	
34	76	2019	Yale	YALE	56.3	11.2	0.556	0.493	0.307	0.738	
34	77	2019	Youngstown State	YOUNGSTOWN- STATE	51.1	9.9	0.501	0.427	0.246	0.701	

3478 rows × 40 columns



In [3]:

#Get statistics on each column
season\_results.describe()

Out[3]:		year	assist_percentage	block_percentage	$effective\_field\_goal\_percentage$	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt	off
	count	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	3478.000000	
	mean	2014.537378	52.964232	9.377343	0.498732	0.438739	0.364334	0.697412	0.254014	
	std	2.864129	5.291287	2.653611	0.031027	0.025613	0.051574	0.037643	0.037891	
	min	2010.000000	34.700000	2.900000	0.397000	0.347000	0.210000	0.541000	0.141000	
	25%	2012.000000	49.300000	7.400000	0.478000	0.422000	0.329000	0.672000	0.228000	
	50%	2015.000000	52.900000	9.200000	0.499000	0.439000	0.363000	0.698000	0.253000	
	75%	2017.000000	56.475000	11.100000	0.520000	0.456000	0.398000	0.723000	0.279000	
	max	2019.000000	74.000000	20.400000	0.605000	0.526000	0.593000	0.818000	0.415000	

8 rows × 38 columns



```
In [4]:
          #Some percentages were listed as 50.0 instead of .500
          #To be consistent with all features, any feature with percentage in the name will be less than 1
          season_results['assist_percentage'] = season_results['assist_percentage']/100
          season_results['block_percentage'] = season_results['block_percentage']/100
          season_results['offensive_rebound_percentage'] = season_results['offensive_rebound_percentage']/100
          season_results['opp_assist_percentage'] = season_results['opp_assist_percentage']/100
          season results['opp block percentage'] = season results['opp block percentage']/100
          season_results['opp_offensive_rebound_percentage'] = season_results['opp_offensive_rebound_percentage']/100
          season results['opp steal percentage'] = season results['opp steal percentage']/100
          season results['opp total rebound percentage'] = season results['opp total rebound percentage']/100
          season results['opp turnover percentage'] = season results['opp turnover percentage']/100
          season results['steal percentage'] = season results['steal percentage']/100
          season results['opp turnover percentage'] = season results['opp turnover percentage']/100
          season results['total rebound percentage'] = season results['total rebound percentage']/100
          season results['turnover percentage'] = season results['turnover percentage']/100
In [5]:
          season results.describe()
                      year assist percentage block percentage effective field goal percentage field goal percentage free throw attempt rate free throw percentage free throws per field goal attempt off
         count 3478.000000
                                3478.000000
                                                3478.000000
                                                                             3478.000000
                                                                                                 3478.000000
                                                                                                                       3478.000000
                                                                                                                                            3478.000000
                                                                                                                                                                           3478.000000
         mean 2014.537378
                                   0.529642
                                                   0.093773
                                                                                0.498732
                                                                                                    0.438739
                                                                                                                          0.364334
                                                                                                                                               0.697412
                                                                                                                                                                              0.254014
           std
                  2.864129
                                   0.052913
                                                   0.026536
                                                                                0.031027
                                                                                                    0.025613
                                                                                                                          0.051574
                                                                                                                                               0.037643
                                                                                                                                                                              0.037891
           min 2010.000000
                                   0.347000
                                                   0.029000
                                                                                0.397000
                                                                                                   0.347000
                                                                                                                                                                              0.141000
                                                                                                                          0.210000
                                                                                                                                               0.541000
                                   0.493000
                                                                                0.478000
          25% 2012.000000
                                                   0.074000
                                                                                                   0.422000
                                                                                                                          0.329000
                                                                                                                                               0.672000
                                                                                                                                                                              0.228000
          50% 2015.000000
                                   0.529000
                                                   0.092000
                                                                                0.499000
                                                                                                    0.439000
                                                                                                                          0.363000
                                                                                                                                               0.698000
                                                                                                                                                                              0.253000
          75% 2017.000000
                                   0.564750
                                                   0.111000
                                                                                0.520000
                                                                                                    0.456000
                                                                                                                          0.398000
                                                                                                                                               0.723000
                                                                                                                                                                              0.279000
          max 2019.000000
                                   0.740000
                                                   0.204000
                                                                                0.605000
                                                                                                    0.526000
                                                                                                                          0.593000
                                                                                                                                               0.818000
                                                                                                                                                                              0.415000
        8 rows × 38 columns
In [6]:
          #See if there are any missing cells of data
          season_results.isnull().sum()
                                                        0
Out[6]: year
                                                        0
         abbreviation
                                                        0
         assist_percentage
                                                         0
         block percentage
                                                         0
         effective_field_goal_percentage
                                                         a
         field_goal_percentage
         free_throw_attempt_rate
         free throw percentage
         free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt
         offensive rating
                                                         0
         offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                        0
                                                        0
         opp_assist_percentage
                                                        a
         opp block percentage
```

```
opp_effective_field_goal_percentage
                                             0
opp_field_goal_percentage
                                             0
                                             0
opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
opp free throw percentage
                                             0
opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt
                                             0
opp offensive rating
                                          3478
opp_offensive_rebound_percentage
opp_steal_percentage
                                             0
                                             0
opp_three_point_attempt_rate
opp three point field goal percentage
                                             0
opp two point field goal percentage
opp_total_rebound_percentage
opp_true_shooting_percentage
opp_turnover_percentage
pace
simple_rating_system
steal percentage
strength of schedule
three_point_attempt_rate
three_point_field_goal_percentage
two point field goal percentage
two_point_field_goals
total_rebound_percentage
true_shooting_percentage
                                             0
turnover percentage
                                             0
                                             0
win percentage
dtype: int64
```

# Completely empty column and so it is impossible to impute values to fill it up season\_results=season\_results.drop(columns=['opp\_offensive\_rating'])

#### Import Tournament Results Data from csv file found online

```
In [8]: #Import data from file named below
#Source: https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file?filename=Big_Dance_CSV.csv
fileName = "Big_Dance_CSV.csv"
tourney_results = pd.read_csv(fileName)
tourney_results
```

ut[8]:		Year	Round	Region Number	Region Name	Seed	Score	Team	Team.1	Score.1	Seed.1
	0	1985	1	1	West	1	83	St Johns	Southern	59	16
	1	1985	1	1	West	2	81	VCU	Marshall	65	15
	2	1985	1	1	West	3	65	NC State	Nevada	56	14
	3	1985	1	1	West	4	85	UNLV	San Diego St	80	13
	4	1985	1	1	West	5	58	Washington	Kentucky	65	12
				•••							
	2200	2019	4	3	East	1	80	Virginia	Purdue	75	3
	2201	2019	4	4	Midwest	5	77	Auburn	Kentucky	71	2
	2202	2019	5	1	Final Four	2	51	Michigan St	Texas Tech	61	3

	Year	Round	Region Number	Region Name	Seed	Score	Team	Team.1	Score.1	Seed.1
2203	2019	5	2	Final Four	1	63	Virginia	Auburn	62	5
2204	2019	6	1	Championship	3	77	Texas Tech	Virginia	85	1

2205 rows × 10 columns

In [9]:

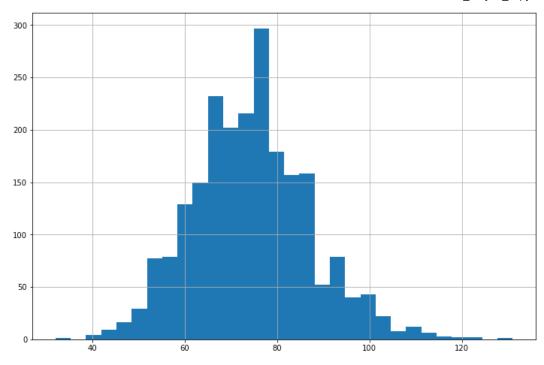
tourney\_results.describe()

Out[9]:		Year	Round	Region Number	Seed	Score	Score.1	Seed.1
	count	2205.000000	2205.000000	2205.000000	2205.000000	2205.000000	2205.000000	2205.000000
	mean	2002.000000	1.904762	2.444444	3.887528	74.304308	68.051701	9.474830
	std	10.101796	1.191698	1.123993	2.900662	12.753399	12.295443	4.138256
	min	1985.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	32.000000	29.000000	1.000000
	25%	1993.000000	1.000000	1.000000	2.000000	65.000000	59.000000	6.000000
	50%	2002.000000	1.000000	2.000000	3.000000	74.000000	67.000000	10.000000
	75%	2011.000000	2.000000	3.000000	6.000000	82.000000	76.000000	13.000000
	max	2019.000000	6.000000	4.000000	16.000000	131.000000	149.000000	16.000000

In [10]:

#See distribution of score column that will be used in the calculation of the response variable tourney\_results['Score'].hist(bins=30, figsize=(12, 8))

Out[10]: <AxesSubplot:>



```
In [11]: #Looking into unusually high score found
tourney_results.iloc[tourney_results['Score'].idxmax()]
```

Out[11]:	Year				1990
	Round				4
	Region	Numb	per		2
	Region	Name	2		West
	Seed				1
	Score				131
	Team				UNLV
	Team.1			Loyola	Marymount
	Score.1	L			101
	Seed.1				11
	Name: 3	372.	dtvpe:	obiect	t

Confirmed on the sportsreference website at: https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/boxscores/1990-03-25-loyola-marymount.html

### Nevada-Las Vegas vs. Loyola Marymount Box Score, March 25, 1990







121

**Loyola Marymount** 

101

« Prev Game

« Prev Game

March 25, 1990
Oracle Arena, Oakland, California
West - Regional Final
Logos via Sports Logos.net / About logos

Next Game >>

```
#Confirm there is no missing values
          tourney_results.isnull().sum()
Out[12]:
         Year
                           0
         Round
         Region Number
         Region Name
         Seed
         Score
         Team
         Team.1
         Score.1
                           0
         Seed.1
         dtype: int64
In [13]:
          #Select columns needed from dataframe created using the csv file
          tourney_results = pd.DataFrame(tourney_results,columns =['Year','Seed','Score','Team','Team.1','Score.1','Seed.1'])
          #Only need tournament games from 2010-2019
          tourney_results_features = tourney_results[(tourney_results['Year'] > 2009) & (tourney_results['Year'] < 2020)]</pre>
          tourney_results_features
Out[13]:
               Year Seed Score
                                                  Team.1 Score.1 Seed.1
                                      Team
          1575 2010
                             90
                                                                    16
                                     Kansas
                                                  Lehigh
                                                             74
          1576 2010
                        2
                             68
                                     Ohio St
                                            Santa Barbara
                                                             51
                                                                    15
```

Ohio

14

83 Georgetown

**1577** 2010

3

	Year	Seed	Score	Team	Team.1	Score.1	Seed.1
1578	2010	4	89	Maryland	Houston	77	13
1579	2010	5	70	Michigan St	New Mexico St	67	12
			•••			•••	
2200	2019	1	80	Virginia	Purdue	75	3
2201	2019	5	77	Auburn	Kentucky	71	2
2202	2019	2	51	Michigan St	Texas Tech	61	3
2203	2019	1	63	Virginia	Auburn	62	5
2204	2019	3	77	Texas Tech	Virginia	85	1

630 rows × 7 columns

# Merge Season Results & Tourney Results DataFrames

The goal here is to first get the 2 data sources(Tournament Results & Season Results) into the right state to be merged together. The process will be to merge the season results of the home team in the tournament games into 1 DataFrame. The other DataFrame would be the merge of the away team. Then simply taking the Home Team DataFrame and subracting from it the Away Team DataFrame would give the required Season Statistic Differentials that could be used as the features with the final game score differential in each tournament game being the response. Using the data like this would accomplish my initial goal of trying to find/establish a relationship between how teams performed in the regular season would lead to success in the tournament.

# Rename team names in tournament results DataFrame to match with correct team names in season result DataFrame

```
In [14]:
                         # Using exported csvs from both data sources, exported csvs stored in Google Drive
                          # Compared both datasets to compare and change team names to match
                         # Manually change ' to \' for 5 team names
                         tourney_results_features = tourney_results_features.replace({'Alabama St':'Alabama State','Albany':'Albany (NY)','Alcorn St':'Alcorn State','Arizona St':'Arizona State','Alabama State','Albany':'Albany (NY)','Alcorn State','Arizona St':'Arizona St':'Arizona State','Alabama State','Albany (NY)','Alcorn State','Arizona St':'Arizona State','Alabama State','Albany (NY)','Alcorn State','Alabama State
                                                                                                              'Arkansas Little Rock':'Little Rock','Arkansas Pine Bluff':'Arkansas-Pine Bluff','Ball St':'Ball State','Boise St':'Boise State',
                                                                                                              'BYU': 'Brigham Young', 'Cal Irvine': 'UC Irvine', 'Cal St Bakersfield': 'Cal State Bakersfield', 'Cal St Fullerton': 'Cal State Fullerton'
                                                                                                              'Central Connecticut St': 'Central Connecticut State', 'Cleveland St': 'Cleveland State',
                                                                                                                     'Colorado St':'Colorado State',
                                                                                                                     'Coppin St':'Coppin State',
                                                                                                                     'Delaware St': 'Delaware State',
                                                                                                                     'Detroit': 'Detroit Mercy',
                                                                                                                     'East Tennessee St': 'East Tennessee State',
                                                                                                                     'Florida St': 'Florida State',
                                                                                                                     'Fresno St': 'Fresno State',
                                                                                                                     'Gardner Webb': 'Gardner-Webb',
                                                                                                                     'Georgia St': 'Georgia State',
                                                                                                                     'Idaho St':'Idaho State',
                                                                                                                     'Illinois Chicago': 'Illinois-Chicago',
                                                                                                                     'Illinois St':'Illinois State',
                                                                                                                     'Indiana St': 'Indiana State',
                                                                                                                     'Iowa St':'Iowa State',
                                                                                                                     'Jackson St':'Jackson State',
                                                                                                                     'Jacksonville St':'Jacksonville State',
                                                                                                                     'Kansas St': 'Kansas State',
                                                                                                                     'Kent St':'Kent State',
```

```
'Long Beach St': 'Long Beach State',
'Long Island Brooklyn': 'Long Island University',
'Louisiana Lafayette': 'Lafayette',
'Louisiana Monroe': 'Louisiana-Monroe',
'Loyola Chicago':'Loyola (IL)',
'Loyola Illinois':'Loyola (IL)',
'Loyola Maryland':'Loyola (MD)',
'LSU': 'Louisiana State',
'McNeese St': 'McNeese State',
'Miami': 'Miami (FL)',
'Miami Ohio':'Miami (OH)',
'Michigan St': 'Michigan State',
'Middle Tennessee St': 'Middle Tennessee',
'Mississippi St':'Mississippi State',
'Mississippi Valley St': 'Mississippi Valley State',
'Montana St': 'Montana State',
'Morehead St': 'Morehead State',
'Morgan St':'Morgan State',
'Mount St Marys': 'Mount St. Mary\'s',
'Murray St': 'Murray State',
'New Mexico St':'New Mexico State',
'Nicholls St':'Nicholls State',
'Norfolk St': 'Norfolk State',
'North Dakota St': 'North Dakota State',
'North Texas St': 'North Texas',
'Northwestern St': 'Northwestern State',
'Ohio St':'Ohio State',
'Oklahoma St':'Oklahoma State',
'Ole Miss': 'Mississippi',
'Oregon St':'Oregon State',
'Penn St': 'Penn State',
'Portland St': 'Portland State',
'Sam Houston St': 'Sam Houston State',
'San Diego St':'San Diego State',
'San Jose St': 'San Jose State',
'Santa Barbara': 'UC Santa Barbara',
'SMU': 'Southern Methodist',
'South Carolina St': 'South Carolina State',
'South Dakota St': 'South Dakota State',
'Southeast Missouri St': 'Southeast Missouri State',
'Southwest Missouri St': 'Missouri State',
'Southwest Texas St':'Texas State',
'St Bonaventure': 'St. Bonaventure',
'St Francis': 'Saint Francis (PA)',
'St Johns': 'St. John\'s (NY)',
'St Josephs': 'Saint Joseph\'s',
'St Louis': 'Saint Louis',
'St Marys': 'Saint Mary\'s (CA)',
'St Peters': 'Saint Peter\'s',
'Stephen F Austin': 'Stephen F. Austin',
'Tennessee St':'Tennessee State',
'Texas A&M Corpus Christi': 'Texas A&M-Corpus Christi',
'Texas Arlington':'UT Arlington',
'Texas San Antonio':'UTSA'.
'UMBC': 'Maryland-Baltimore County',
'UNLV':'Nevada-Las Vegas',
'USC': 'Southern California',
'Utah St':'Utah State',
'VCU':'Virginia Commonwealth',
'Washington St':'Washington State',
```

#### Prepare DataFrames to be merged

```
In [15]:
          #Rename features
          tourney_results_features = tourney_results_features.rename(columns={"Seed":"Home_Seed","Score":"Home_Score","Team":"Home_Team","Team.1":"Away_Team",
                                                  "Score.1": "Away_Score", "Seed.1": "Away_Seed"})
In [16]:
          season results['name'].value counts()
         Campbell
                                 10
         South Florida
                                 10
         Coastal Carolina
                                 10
         North Texas
                                 10
         Montana State
         Incarnate Word
         Massachusetts-Lowell
                                  6
         Centenary (LA)
                                  2
         California Baptist
                                  1
         North Alabama
         Name: name, Length: 354, dtype: int64
         tourney results features['Home Team'].value counts()
         Kentucky
                                31
         Kansas
                                30
         Duke
                                27
         North Carolina
                                25
         Michigan State
                                21
         Illinois
                                 1
         Loyola (IL)
                                 1
         Lehigh
         Wofford
                                 1
         Southern California
                                 1
         Name: Home_Team, Length: 109, dtype: int64
```

```
In [18]: | #Looking into dtypes for both datasets to make sure matching columns also have matching dtypes
          tourney_results.dtypes
                     int64
Out[18]: Year
         Seed
                     int64
         Score
                     int64
         Team
                     object
         Team.1
                     object
                     int64
         Score.1
         Seed.1
                     int64
         dtype: object
In [19]:
          season_results.dtypes
                                                      int64
Out[19]: year
                                                     object
         abbreviation
                                                     object
         assist_percentage
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         block_percentage
         effective field goal percentage
                                                    float64
         field goal percentage
                                                    float64
         free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                    float64
         free_throw_percentage
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         free throws per field goal attempt
         offensive_rating
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_assist_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp block percentage
         opp effective field goal percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_field_goal_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                    float64
         opp_free_throw_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt
                                                    float64
         opp_offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_steal_percentage
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         opp three point attempt rate
         opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         opp_total_rebound_percentage
                                                    float64
         opp_true_shooting_percentage
         opp turnover percentage
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         pace
         simple_rating_system
                                                    float64
         steal percentage
                                                    float64
         strength of schedule
                                                    float64
                                                    float64
         three_point_attempt_rate
         three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    float64
         two point field goal percentage
                                                    float64
         two_point_field_goals
                                                      int64
                                                    float64
         total_rebound_percentage
         true_shooting_percentage
                                                    float64
         turnover percentage
                                                    float64
         win percentage
                                                    float64
         dtype: object
In [20]:
          #Initially had issues with merging because season_results was a different data type between the 2 sources
          season_results['year'] = pd.to_numeric(season_results['year'])
          season results.dtypes
                                                      int64
Out[20]: year
                                                     object
         name
```

object

abbreviation

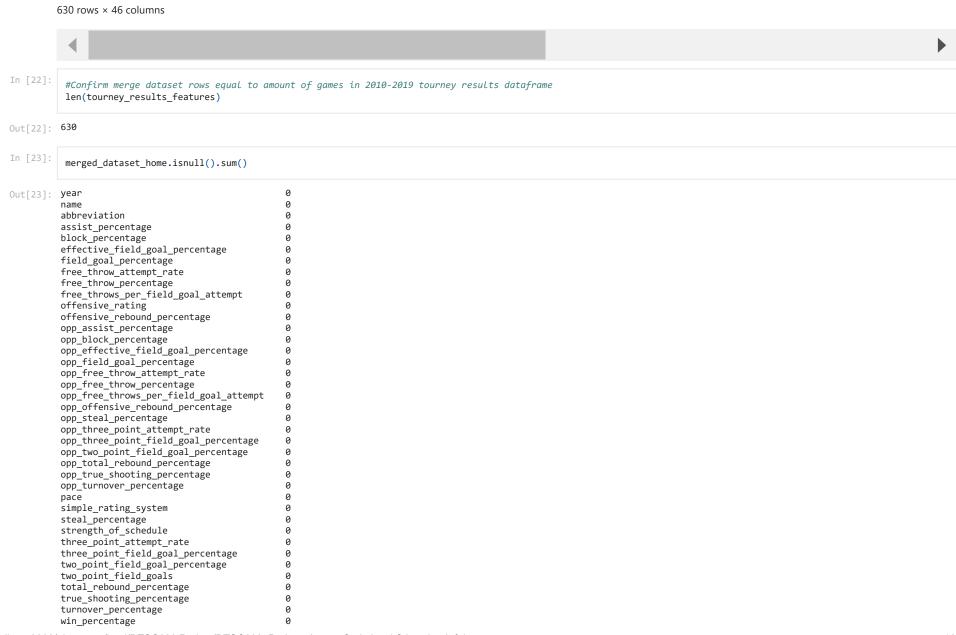
uvi	
assist_percentage block_percentage effective_field_goal_percentage field_goal_percentage free_throw_attempt_rate free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt offensive_rating offensive_rebound_percentage opp_assist_percentage opp_field_goal_percentage opp_field_goal_percentage opp_free_throw_attempt_rate opp_free_throw_percentage opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt opp_offensive_rebound_percentage	float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64 float64
opp_offensive_rebound_percentage	float64
<pre>opp_steal_percentage opp_three_point_attempt_rate</pre>	float64 float64
opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage	float64
opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage	float64
opp_total_rebound_percentage	float64
opp_true_shooting_percentage	float64
opp_turnover_percentage	float64
pace	float64
simple_rating_system	float64
steal_percentage	float64
strength_of_schedule	float64
three_point_attempt_rate	float64
three_point_field_goal_percentage	float64
two_point_field_goal_percentage	float64
two_point_field_goals	int64
total_rebound_percentage	float64
true_shooting_percentage	float64
turnover_percentage	float64
win_percentage dtype: object	float64

# Merge home team tournament games to the season results in that year

#Merge home team tournament games to the season results in that year
merged\_dataset\_home = pd.merge(season\_results,tourney\_results\_features,how='inner',left\_on=['year','name'],right\_on=['Year','Home\_Team'],validate="1:m")
merged\_dataset\_home

Out[21]:		year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_field_g
	0 2	2010	Baylor	BAYLOR	0.512	0.174	0.549	0.487	0.358	0.725	
	1 :	2010	Baylor	BAYLOR	0.512	0.174	0.549	0.487	0.358	0.725	
	2	2010	Brigham Young	BRIGHAM- YOUNG	0.553	0.091	0.552	0.483	0.388	0.790	
	3 2	2010	Butler	BUTLER	0.549	0.065	0.510	0.442	0.469	0.738	
	4	2010	Butler	BUTLER	0.549	0.065	0.510	0.442	0.469	0.738	
	625	2019	Virginia	VIRGINIA	0.559	0.130	0.552	0.474	0.291	0.744	

	year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	$effective\_field\_goal\_percentage$	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_field_g
626	2019	Virginia	VIRGINIA	0.559	0.130	0.552	0.474	0.291	0.744	
627	2019	Virginia	VIRGINIA	0.559	0.130	0.552	0.474	0.291	0.744	
628	2019	Wisconsin	WISCONSIN	0.492	0.110	0.511	0.449	0.273	0.648	
629	2019	Wofford	WOFFORD	0.506	0.091	0.580	0.490	0.271	0.704	



Year	0
Home_Seed	0
Home_Score	0
Home_Team	0
Away_Team	0
Away_Score	0
Away_Seed	0
dtype: int64	

#### Merge away team tournament games to the season results in that year

```
In [24]:
           merged_dataset_away = pd.merge(season_results,tourney_results_features,how='inner',left_on=['year','name'],right_on=['Year','Away_Team'],validate="1:m")
           merged_dataset_away
Out[24]:
                year
                            name
                                   abbreviation assist_percentage block_percentage effective_field_goal_percentage field_goal_percentage free_throw_attempt_rate free_throw_percentage free_throws_per_field
                                     ARKANSAS-
                        Arkansas-
             0 2010
                                                            0.581
                                                                              0.102
                                                                                                             0.447
                                                                                                                                  0.408
                                                                                                                                                           0.484
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.668
                         Pine Bluff
                                     PINE-BLUFF
             1 2010
                                        BAYLOR
                                                            0.512
                                                                              0.174
                                                                                                             0.549
                                                                                                                                  0.487
                                                                                                                                                           0.358
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.725
                           Baylor
             2 2010
                           Baylor
                                        BAYLOR
                                                            0.512
                                                                              0.174
                                                                                                             0.549
                                                                                                                                  0.487
                                                                                                                                                           0.358
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.725
                                      BRIGHAM-
                         Brigham
             3 2010
                                                            0.553
                                                                              0.091
                                                                                                            0.552
                                                                                                                                  0.483
                                                                                                                                                           0.388
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.790
                                         YOUNG
                           Young
             4 2010
                                        BUTLER
                                                            0.549
                                                                              0.065
                                                                                                            0.510
                                                                                                                                  0.442
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.738
                           Butler
                                                                                                                                                           0.469
           625 2019
                          Virginia
                                       VIRGINIA
                                                            0.559
                                                                              0.130
                                                                                                             0.552
                                                                                                                                  0.474
                                                                                                                                                           0.291
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.744
           626 2019
                      Washington WASHINGTON
                                                            0.475
                                                                              0.163
                                                                                                             0.521
                                                                                                                                  0.451
                                                                                                                                                           0.347
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.695
           627 2019
                      Washington WASHINGTON
                                                            0.475
                                                                              0.163
                                                                                                            0.521
                                                                                                                                  0.451
                                                                                                                                                           0.347
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.695
                                      WOFFORD
                                                                                                                                                           0.271
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.704
           628 2019
                         Wofford
                                                            0.506
                                                                              0.091
                                                                                                             0.580
                                                                                                                                  0.490
           629 2019
                             Yale
                                           YALE
                                                            0.563
                                                                              0.112
                                                                                                            0.556
                                                                                                                                  0.493
                                                                                                                                                           0.307
                                                                                                                                                                                 0.738
          630 rows × 46 columns
```

4

# Sort merge away and merge home to make sure same games are in correct order for both DataFrames before finding differences

	year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_field_g
0	2010	Old Dominion	OLD- DOMINION	0.601	0.086	0.488	0.447	0.303	0.648	
1	2010	Sam Houston State	SAM- HOUSTON- STATE	0.740	0.070	0.536	0.463	0.370	0.703	
2	2010	Florida	FLORIDA	0.538	0.072	0.494	0.444	0.334	0.703	
3	2010	Duke	DUKE	0.529	0.098	0.505	0.442	0.379	0.759	
4	2010	Kansas State	KANSAS- STATE	0.551	0.132	0.508	0.450	0.503	0.668	
625	2019	Central Florida	CENTRAL- FLORIDA	0.536	0.126	0.529	0.465	0.453	0.649	
626	2019	Liberty	LIBERTY	0.552	0.081	0.569	0.487	0.265	0.775	
627	2019	Saint Louis	SAINT-LOUIS	0.538	0.119	0.467	0.417	0.394	0.598	
628	2019	Oregon	OREGON	0.523	0.146	0.520	0.451	0.294	0.721	
629	2019	Seton Hall	SETON-HALL	0.517	0.112	0.499	0.439	0.345	0.706	

630 rows × 46 columns

In [26]:
 merged\_dataset\_home = merged\_dataset\_home.sort\_values(by=['year', 'Home\_Team','Away\_Team'])
 merged\_dataset\_home = merged\_dataset\_home.reset\_index(drop=True)
 merged\_dataset\_home

Out[26]:	;	year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_I
	0 2	2010	Baylor	BAYLOR	0.512	0.174	0.549	0.487	0.358	0.725	
	1 2	2010	Baylor	BAYLOR	0.512	0.174	0.549	0.487	0.358	0.725	
	2 2	2010	Brigham Young	BRIGHAM-YOUNG	0.553	0.091	0.552	0.483	0.388	0.790	
	3 2	2010	Butler	BUTLER	0.549	0.065	0.510	0.442	0.469	0.738	
	4 2	2010	Butler	BUTLER	0.549	0.065	0.510	0.442	0.469	0.738	
	<b>625</b> 2	2019	Virginia Commonwealth	VIRGINIA- COMMONWEALTH	0.549	0.122	0.501	0.438	0.357	0.701	
	<b>626</b> 2	2019	Virginia Tech	VIRGINIA-TECH	0.595	0.084	0.556	0.470	0.319	0.761	
	627 2	2019	Virginia Tech	VIRGINIA-TECH	0.595	0.084	0.556	0.470	0.319	0.761	

	year	name	abbreviation	assist_percentage	block_percentage	$effective\_field\_goal\_percentage$	field_goal_percentage	$free\_throw\_attempt\_rate$	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_r
628	2019	Wisconsin	WISCONSIN	0.492	0.110	0.511	0.449	0.273	0.648	
629	2019	Wofford	WOFFORD	0.506	0.091	0.580	0.490	0.271	0.704	

630 rows × 46 columns

game\_info

```
In [27]: # Splitting out this data as it's not needed when finding difference/analysis between features of the merged DataFrames game_info = merged_dataset_home[['Year','Home_Team','Away_Team']]
```

Out[27]: Year Home\_Team Away\_Team 0 2010 Baylor Old Dominion **1** 2010 Baylor Sam Houston State **2** 2010 **Brigham Young** Florida **3** 2010 Butler Duke **4** 2010 Butler Kansas State **625** 2019 Virginia Commonwealth Central Florida 626 2019 Virginia Tech Liberty **627** 2019 Virginia Tech Saint Louis

Wisconsin

Wofford

630 rows × 3 columns

**628** 2019

629 2019

```
In [28]: #Difference in points that will be used as response
    response = merged_dataset_home['Home_Score']-merged_dataset_home['Away_Score']
    response
```

```
Out[28]: 0 8
1 9
2 7
3 -2
4 7
...
625 -15
626 9
627 14
628 -18
629 16
Length: 630, dtype: int64
```

Oregon

Seton Hall

In [29]: #Difference in seeds that will be a feature added into the feature set used

```
seed_differential = merged_dataset_home['Home_Seed']-merged_dataset_home['Away_Seed']
                        seed_differential
                                       -8
Out[29]: 0
                                     -11
                      2
                                       -3
                                         4
                                         3
                                       . .
                      625
                                       -1
                      626
                                       -8
                      627
                                       -9
                                       -7
                      628
                                       -3
                      629
                      Length: 630, dtype: int64
In [30]:
                        merged_dataset_home=merged_dataset_home.drop(columns=['year', 'name', 'abbreviation', 'Year', 'Home_Seed', 'Home_Seed', 'Home_Team', 'Away_Team', 'Away_Seed'])
                        merged_dataset_home
Out[30]:
                                  assist percentage block percentage effective field goal percentage free throw attempt rate free throw percentage free throws per field goal attempt offensive rating of the percentage free throw percentage free throws per field goal attempt offensive rating of the percentage free throws per field goal per field go
                          0
                                                        0.512
                                                                                              0.174
                                                                                                                                                            0.549
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.487
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.358
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.725
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.260
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   113.8
                           1
                                                        0.512
                                                                                              0.174
                                                                                                                                                            0.549
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.487
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           0.358
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.725
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.260
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   113.8
                           2
                                                        0.553
                                                                                              0.091
                                                                                                                                                            0.552
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.483
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.388
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.790
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.307
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   116.1
                           3
                                                        0.549
                                                                                              0.065
                                                                                                                                                            0.510
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.442
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.469
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.738
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.346
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   106.8
                           4
                                                        0.549
                                                                                              0.065
                                                                                                                                                            0.510
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.442
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.469
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.738
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.346
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   106.8
                       625
                                                        0.549
                                                                                              0.122
                                                                                                                                                            0.501
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.438
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.357
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.701
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.251
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   102.1
                       626
                                                        0.595
                                                                                              0.084
                                                                                                                                                            0.556
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.470
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.319
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.761
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.243
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   113.3
                                                        0.595
                                                                                                                                                            0.556
                       627
                                                                                              0.084
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.470
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           0.319
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.761
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.243
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   113.3
                                                        0.492
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.273
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.177
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   103.9
                       628
                                                                                              0.110
                                                                                                                                                            0.511
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.449
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.648
                       629
                                                         0.506
                                                                                              0.091
                                                                                                                                                            0.580
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.490
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.271
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.704
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.190
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   119.2
                     630 rows × 36 columns
In [31]:
                         merged_dataset_away=merged_dataset_away.drop(columns=['year','name','abbreviation','Year','Home_Seed','Home_Seed','Home_Team','Away_Team','Away_Seed'])
                        merged dataset away
                                  assist_percentage block_percentage effective_field_goal_percentage field_goal_percentage free_throw_attempt_rate free_throw_percentage free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt offensive_rating of the percentage free_throw_attempt.
                          0
                                                                                              0.086
                                                                                                                                                            0.488
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.447
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.648
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                                                        0.601
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   106.2
                           1
                                                        0.740
                                                                                              0.070
                                                                                                                                                            0.536
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.463
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           0.370
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.703
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.260
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   111.5
                           2
                                                        0.538
                                                                                              0.072
                                                                                                                                                            0.494
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.444
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            0.334
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.703
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.235
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   107.4
                          3
                                                        0.529
                                                                                              0.098
                                                                                                                                                            0.505
                                                                                                                                                                                                         0.442
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           0.379
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          0.759
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 0.287
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   115.7
```

	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	$free\_throw\_attempt\_rate$	free_throw_percentage	$free\_throws\_per\_field\_goal\_attempt$	$of fensive\_rating$	O
4	0.551	0.132	0.508	0.450	0.503	0.668	0.336	110.5	
625	0.536	0.126	0.529	0.465	0.453	0.649	0.294	107.0	
626	0.552	0.081	0.569	0.487	0.265	0.775	0.205	112.8	
627	0.538	0.119	0.467	0.417	0.394	0.598	0.236	99.4	
628	0.523	0.146	0.520	0.451	0.294	0.721	0.212	106.2	
629	0.517	0.112	0.499	0.439	0.345	0.706	0.243	104.1	

630 rows × 36 columns



In [32]: #Features created from the difference of away and home teams season results features\_differentials = merged\_dataset\_home-merged\_dataset\_away.values

features\_differentials

Out[32]:	assist_percentage	block_percentage	effective_field_goal_percentage	field_goal_percentage	free_throw_attempt_rate	free_throw_percentage	free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt	offensive_rating o
0	-0.089	0.088	0.061	0.040	0.055	0.077	0.063	7.6
1	-0.228	0.104	0.013	0.024	-0.012	0.022	0.000	2.3
2	0.015	0.019	0.058	0.039	0.054	0.087	0.072	8.7
3	0.020	-0.033	0.005	0.000	0.090	-0.021	0.059	-8.9
4	-0.002	-0.067	0.002	-0.008	-0.034	0.070	0.010	-3.7
625	0.013	-0.004	-0.028	-0.027	-0.096	0.052	-0.043	-4.9
626	0.043	0.003	-0.013	-0.017	0.054	-0.014	0.038	0.5
627	0.057	-0.035	0.089	0.053	-0.075	0.163	0.007	13.9
628	-0.031	-0.036	-0.009	-0.002	-0.021	-0.073	-0.035	-2.3
629	-0.011	-0.021	0.081	0.051	-0.074	-0.002	-0.053	15.1

630 rows × 36 columns

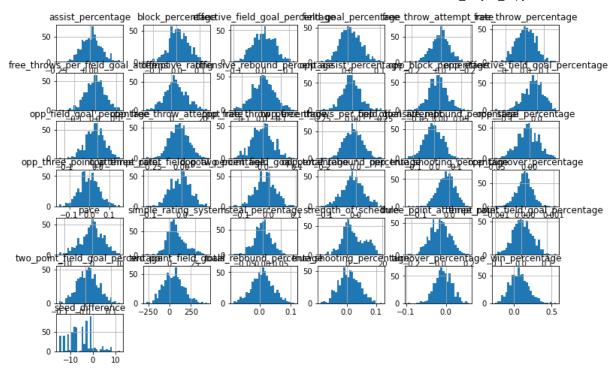


In [33]: features\_differentials['seed\_difference'] = seed\_differential features\_differentials['seed\_difference']

Out[33]: 0 -8 -11 2 -3

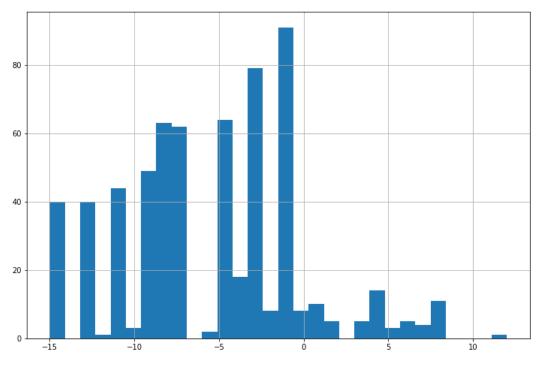
# Do exploratory analysis on features in after merged dataset

```
In [34]:
          features_differentials.hist(bins=30, figsize=(12, 8))
          #looking at the histrograms, the features all roughly follow a normal distribution
Out[34]: array([[<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'assist_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'block_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'effective_field_goal_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'field_goal_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'free_throw_attempt_rate'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'free_throw_percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'free throws per field goal attempt'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'offensive rating'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'offensive rebound percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_assist_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp block percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_effective_field_goal_percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_field_goal_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_free_throw_attempt_rate'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_free_throw_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp free throws per field goal attempt'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_steal_percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp three point attempt rate'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp total rebound percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp true shooting percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'opp turnover percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'pace'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'simple_rating_system'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'steal_percentage'}>,
                 <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'strength of schedule'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'three_point_attempt_rate'}>,
                 <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'three_point_field_goal_percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'two point field goal percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'two_point_field_goals'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'total_rebound_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'true_shooting_percentage'}>,
                  <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'turnover percentage'}>,
                 <AxesSubplot:title={'center':'win percentage'}>],
                [<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'seed difference'}>, <AxesSubplot:>,
                  <AxesSubplot:>, <AxesSubplot:>, <AxesSubplot:>]],
               dtype=object)
```

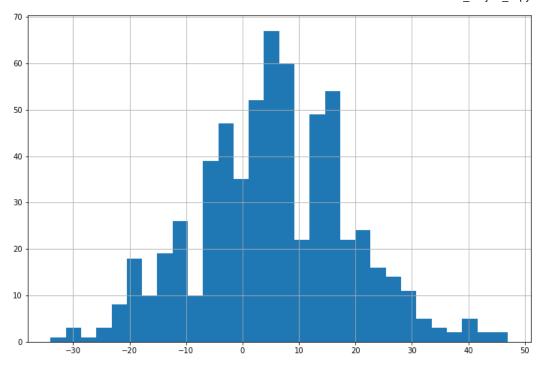


#Only feature that is not normally distributed, which the skewness makes sense because the home team(usally the lower seed/better team) is more likely to advance and presented the features\_differentials['seed\_difference'].hist(bins=30, figsize=(12, 8))

Out[35]: <AxesSubplot:>



```
In [36]:
          features_differentials['seed_difference'].describe()
                  630.000000
Out[36]: count
                   -5.569841
         mean
         std
                    5.261739
         min
                  -15.000000
         25%
                   -9.000000
         50%
                   -5.000000
         75%
                   -2.000000
                   12.000000
         max
         Name: seed_difference, dtype: float64
In [37]:
          #Confirming reponse(score difference) makes sense and show mainly close games
          response.hist(bins=30, figsize=(12, 8))
Out[37]: <AxesSubplot:>
```

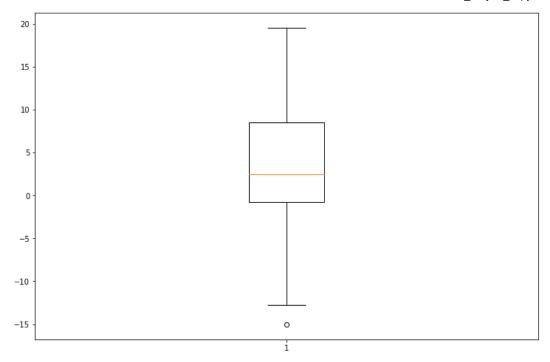


```
fig = plt.figure(figsize =(12, 8))

# Creating plot
plt.boxplot(features_differentials['strength_of_schedule'])

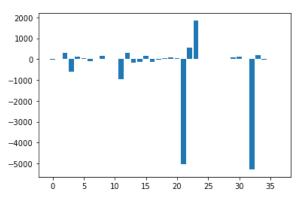
#Scaling might make sense because features reflecting % difference on diffete scale than features such as strength of schedule with much higher difference

Out[38]: {'whiskers': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1b5f08d5be0>,
```



## High level and brief look into significance and correlation of possible features to be used

```
In [39]:
          #Using Linear Regression for a quick peek at coefficients if current feature set is used in the regression
          initial model = LinearRegression()
          initial_model.fit(features_differentials, response)
          print('coefficients:', initial model.coef )
         coefficients: [-1.33607618e+01 3.22644002e-01 2.93523402e+02 -6.16955601e+02
           1.08753896e+02 5.05948140e+01 -1.10691725e+02 -9.01442385e-01
           1.58029176e+02 -6.02907253e+00 9.46155653e+00 -9.46357446e+02
           3.18007344e+02 -1.69773439e+02 -1.49978144e+02 1.52682540e+02
          -1.41696441e+02 -2.91429095e+01 6.56152316e+01 7.35410643e+01
           4.95037445e+01 -5.02749370e+03 5.59350057e+02 1.84273052e+03
          -1.10859128e+00 3.14594756e-01 2.77665443e+01 7.04248532e-01
           6.99537143e+00 9.83687502e+01 1.15923815e+02 9.65019465e-02
          -5.28740809e+03 2.07483512e+02 -1.15353377e+01 1.21708795e+01
           4.61385685e-01]
          #Using coefficients to get a rough view of feature importance
          LinReg_importance = initial_model.coef_
          plt.bar([x for x in range(len(LinReg_importance))],LinReg_importance)
          plt.show
Out[40]: <function matplotlib.pyplot.show(close=None, block=None)>
```



In [41]: OLS(response, features\_differentials).fit().summary()

nonrobust

Out[41]: OLS Regression Results

**Covariance Type:** 

0.606 Dep. Variable: R-squared (uncentered): Model: OLS Adj. R-squared (uncentered): 0.581 Least Squares Method: F-statistic: 24.62 **Date:** Sat, 23 Apr 2022 Prob (F-statistic): 4.82e-96 21:30:36 Log-Likelihood: -2285.9 Time: 4646. No. Observations: 630 AIC: **Df Residuals:** 593 BIC: 4810. Df Model: 37

t P>|t| [0.025 0.975] std err coef assist\_percentage -13.5106 6.447 -2.096 0.037 -26.172 -0.849 -29.538 block\_percentage 0.1451 15.114 0.010 0.992 29.828 effective\_field\_goal\_percentage 284.6147 525.781 0.541 0.588 -748.004 1317.233 field\_goal\_percentage -601.3151 499.300 -1.204 0.229 -1581.927 379.297 -110.194 111.6183 112.941 0.988 0.323 333.431 free\_throw\_attempt\_rate 52.4844 58.206 0.902 0.368 -61.830 166.799 free\_throw\_percentage  $free\_throws\_per\_field\_goal\_attempt$ -115.8065 176.829 -0.655 0.513 -463.094 231.481 offensive\_rating -0.8429 0.916 -0.920 0.358 -2.641 0.956 150.5522 -32.288 333.392 offensive\_rebound\_percentage 93.097 1.617 0.106 opp\_assist\_percentage -5.9503 8.278 -0.719 0.473 -22.208 10.307 opp\_block\_percentage 11.5401 22.581 0.511 0.610 -32.808 55.888 opp\_effective\_field\_goal\_percentage -984.9155 518.665 -1.899 0.058 -2003.559 33.728 367.2397 552.470 0.665 0.506 -717.795 1452.275 opp\_field\_goal\_percentage

opp_free_throw_attempt_rate	-169.7085	168.485	-1.007	0.314	-500.609	161.192
opp_free_throw_percentage	-149.8185	77.593	-1.931	0.054	-302.209	2.572
opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt	153.4094	257.187	0.596	0.551	-351.699	658.518
opp_offensive_rebound_percentage	-137.0293	77.838	-1.760	0.079	-289.900	15.842
opp_steal_percentage	-28.4637	44.555	-0.639	0.523	-115.969	59.042
opp_three_point_attempt_rate	73.3286	87.430	0.839	0.402	-98.381	245.038
$opp\_three\_point\_field\_goal\_percentage$	78.5765	86.510	0.908	0.364	-91.326	248.479
opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage	46.2667	133.233	0.347	0.729	-215.400	307.933
opp_total_rebound_percentage	-4775.4105	6844.410	-0.698	0.486	-1.82e+04	8666.822
opp_true_shooting_percentage	556.0650	376.553	1.477	0.140	-183.476	1295.606
opp_turnover_percentage	1817.9955	5063.455	0.359	0.720	-8126.492	1.18e+04
pace	-1.1033	0.149	-7.423	0.000	-1.395	-0.811
simple_rating_system	0.3318	0.417	0.795	0.427	-0.488	1.151
steal_percentage	29.1303	35.284	0.826	0.409	-40.166	98.426
strength_of_schedule	0.7214	0.464	1.556	0.120	-0.189	1.632
three_point_attempt_rate	8.4207	87.418	0.096	0.923	-163.267	180.108
three_point_field_goal_percentage	96.1881	76.146	1.263	0.207	-53.361	245.737
two_point_field_goal_percentage	112.4929	115.022	0.978	0.328	-113.407	338.393
two_point_field_goals	0.0953	0.009	11.204	0.000	0.079	0.112
total_rebound_percentage	-5024.8247	6844.598	-0.734	0.463	-1.85e+04	8417.778
true_shooting_percentage	196.8160	385.671	0.510	0.610	-560.632	954.264
turnover_percentage	-5.0203	134.354	-0.037	0.970	-268.888	258.847
win_percentage	12.4589	6.548	1.903	0.058	-0.400	25.318
seed_difference	0.5545	0.153	3.632	0.000	0.255	0.854

 Omnibus:
 12.714
 Durbin-Watson:
 2.002

 Prob(Omnibus):
 0.002
 Jarque-Bera (JB):
 18.351

 Skew:
 0.176
 Prob(JB):
 0.000104

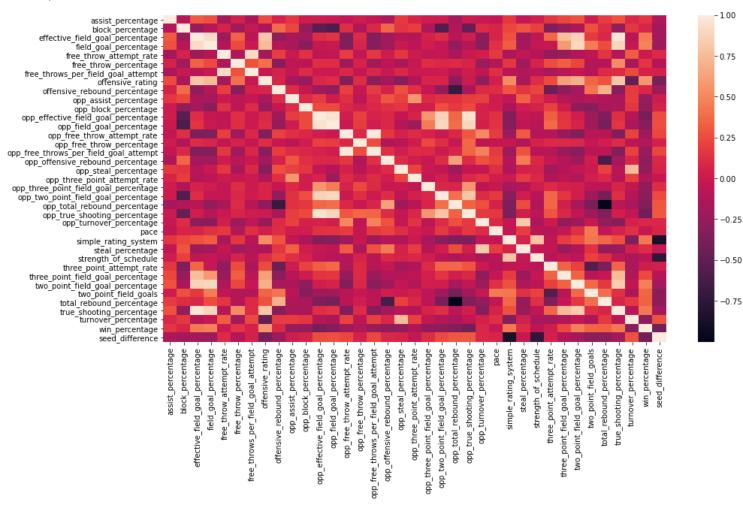
 Kurtosis:
 3.758
 Cond. No.
 3.18e+06

#### Notes:

- [1] R<sup>2</sup> is computed without centering (uncentered) since the model does not contain a constant.
- [2] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.
- [3] The condition number is large, 3.18e+06. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

```
In [42]: #Correlation plot involving all current features
    plt.figure(figsize = (15,8))
    sns.heatmap(features_differentials.corr())
```

Out[42]: <AxesSubplot:>



#### Focusing on features involving data on offense

OLS(response,features\_differentials\_offense).fit().summary()

$\cap$		Гиэл	
U	uч	45	

OLS Regression Results									
Dep. Variable:	у	R-squared (uncentered):	0.245						
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared (uncentered):	0.229						
Method:	ethod: Least Squares F-statistic:								
Date:	ee: Sat, 23 Apr 2022 Prob (F-statistic):								
Time:	21:30:43	Log-Likelihood:	-2490.8						
No. Observations:	630	AIC:	5008.						
Df Residuals:	617	BIC:	5065.						
Df Model:									
Covariance Type:	nonrobust								

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
assist_percentage	-15.8171	7.888	-2.005	0.045	-31.308	-0.326
effective_field_goal_percentage	-579.3802	656.698	-0.882	0.378	-1869.015	710.254
field_goal_percentage	576.9386	639.549	0.902	0.367	-679.017	1832.894
free_throw_attempt_rate	-29.4427	145.340	-0.203	0.840	-314.863	255.978
free_throw_percentage	-3.5894	76.755	-0.047	0.963	-154.323	147.144
$free\_throws\_per\_field\_goal\_attempt$	20.3267	222.509	0.091	0.927	-416.640	457.294
offensive_rating	1.1227	0.166	6.762	0.000	0.797	1.449
offensive_rebound_percentage	37.2494	14.215	2.620	0.009	9.333	65.166
pace	-0.3225	0.133	-2.429	0.015	-0.583	-0.062
three_point_attempt_rate	106.9348	112.602	0.950	0.343	-114.195	328.065
three_point_field_goal_percentage	95.8262	99.863	0.960	0.338	-100.286	291.938
two_point_field_goal_percentage	21.2871	149.214	0.143	0.887	-271.742	314.317
true_shooting_percentage	-83.7715	420.809	-0.199	0.842	-910.162	742.619

 Omnibus:
 0.532
 Durbin-Watson:
 1.910

 Prob(Omnibus):
 0.766
 Jarque-Bera (JB):
 0.389

 Skew:
 0.040
 Prob(JB):
 0.823

 Kurtosis:
 3.092
 Cond. No.
 1.26e+04

#### Notes:

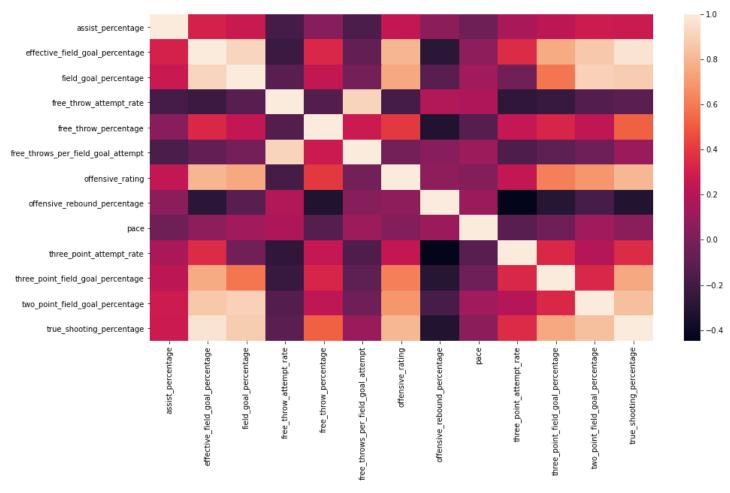
<sup>[1]</sup>  $R^2$  is computed without centering (uncentered) since the model does not contain a constant.

<sup>[2]</sup> Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

[3] The condition number is large, 1.26e+04. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

```
In [44]: #Correlation plot involving all offensive features
plt.figure(figsize = (15,8))
sns.heatmap(features_differentials_offense.corr())
```

Out[44]: <AxesSubplot:>



### Focusing on features involving data on defense

```
'opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt',
                                                         'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage',
                                                         'opp_steal_percentage',
                                                         'opp_three_point_attempt_rate','opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage',
                                                         'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage','opp_total_rebound_percentage',
                                                         'opp_true_shooting_percentage', 'opp_turnover_percentage',
                                                         'steal_percentage']]
           OLS(response, features differentials defense).fit().summary()
                                     OLS Regression Results
Out[45]:
                                                                             0.259
              Dep. Variable:
                                                  R-squared (uncentered):
                     Model:
                                        OLS Adj. R-squared (uncentered):
                                                                             0.238
                    Method:
                                Least Squares
                                                               F-statistic:
                                                                             12.57
                       Date: Sat, 23 Apr 2022
                                                         Prob (F-statistic):
                                                                          2.25e-30
                      Time:
                                     21:30:48
                                                          Log-Likelihood:
                                                                           -2484.9
           No. Observations:
                                        630
                                                                     AIC:
                                                                             5004.
                Df Residuals:
                                        613
                                                                     BIC:
                                                                             5079.
                  Df Model:
                                         17
            Covariance Type:
                                   nonrobust
                                                               std err
                                                                           t P>|t|
                                                                                        [0.025
                                                                                                  0.975]
                                                       coef
                                                    23.3786
                                                               19.317
                                                                       1.210 0.227
                                                                                       -14.557
                                                                                                  61.314
                                block_percentage
                                                     -8.6142
                           opp_assist_percentage
                                                               10.212
                                                                       -0.844
                                                                              0.399
                                                                                       -28.668
                                                                                                  11.440
                                                    29.5726
                                                                                                  82.732
                                                               27.069
                                                                        1.092 0.275
                                                                                       -23.587
                           opp_block_percentage
                                                  -608.2020
               opp_effective_field_goal_percentage
                                                              661.480
                                                                       -0.919
                                                                              0.358
                                                                                     -1907.244
                                                                                                 690.840
                        opp_field_goal_percentage
                                                  -431.8069
                                                              710.826
                                                                       -0.607
                                                                              0.544
                                                                                     -1827.756
                                                                                                 964.142
                     opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                  -447.3955
                                                              218.971
                                                                       -2.043
                                                                              0.041
                                                                                      -877.420
                                                                                                 -17.371
                       opp_free_throw_percentage
                                                  -219.4898
                                                              100.809
                                                                       -2.177
                                                                              0.030
                                                                                      -417.462
                                                                                                 -21.517
           opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt
                                                   510.8092
                                                              330.982
                                                                        1.543 0.123
                                                                                      -139.187
                                                                                                1160.805
                opp_offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                    39.2037
                                                               20.883
                                                                        1.877 0.061
                                                                                        -1.807
                                                                                                  80.214
                                                  -211.8354
                                                               38.049
                                                                       -5.567 0.000
                                                                                      -286.557
                                                                                                -137.113
                            opp_steal_percentage
                                                                                      -272.585
                    opp_three_point_attempt_rate
                                                   -50.8714
                                                              112.898
                                                                       -0.451 0.652
                                                                                                 170.842
            opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                   194.6839
                                                              113.402
                                                                       1.717 0.087
                                                                                       -28.019
                                                                                                 417.387
              opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                   382.9942
                                                              171.322
                                                                        2.236 0.026
                                                                                                 719,444
                                                                                        46.544
                    opp_total_rebound_percentage
                                                  -148.2268
                                                               23.001
                                                                       -6.444 0.000
                                                                                      -193.396
                                                                                                -103.057
                                                   484.3657
                    opp_true_shooting_percentage
                                                              431.214
                                                                       1.123 0.262
                                                                                      -362.470
                                                                                                1331.201
                                                 3744.2056
                        opp_turnover_percentage
                                                             3896.346
                                                                        0.961
                                                                              0.337
                                                                                     -3907.601
                                                                                               1.14e+04
                                 steal_percentage
                                                    98.4518
                                                               44.416
                                                                      2.217 0.027
                                                                                        11.226
                                                                                                 185.677
```

Omnibus: 3.206 Durbin-Watson: 1.882

```
        Prob(Omnibus):
        0.201
        Jarque-Bera (JB):
        3.026

        Skew:
        0.140
        Prob(JB):
        0.220
```

Kurtosis: 3.192

Notes:

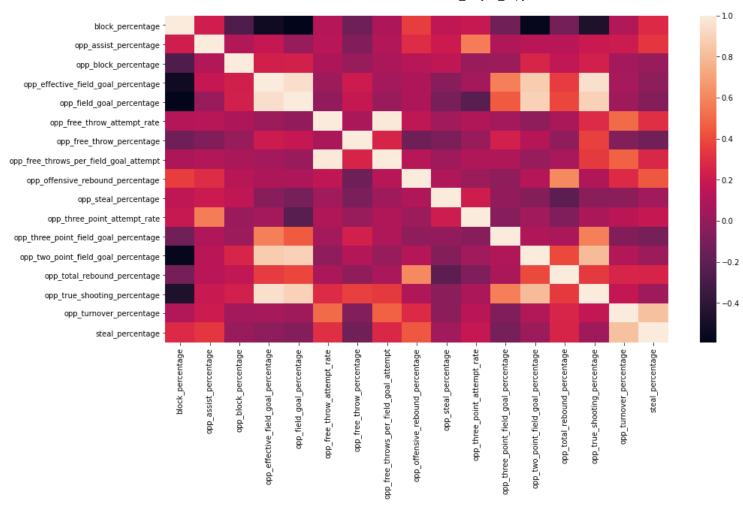
[1] R<sup>2</sup> is computed without centering (uncentered) since the model does not contain a constant.

[2] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

Cond. No. 782.

```
In [46]: #Correlation plot involving all defensive features
plt.figure(figsize = (15,8))
sns.heatmap(features_differentials_defense.corr())
```

Out[46]: <AxesSubplot:>



#### **Feature Selection**

- Anything with significance under .5 and most significant representing groups with high correlation(ex:effective\_field\_goal\_percentage over true\_shooting\_percentage)
- Removed from defense: 'opp\_effective\_field\_goal\_percentage','opp\_field\_goal\_percentage',opp\_turnover\_percentage,'opp\_three\_point\_attempt\_rate',
- Removed from offense: 'effective\_field\_goal\_percentage','field\_goal\_percentage','free\_throw\_attempt\_rate', 'free\_throw\_percentage','free\_throws\_per\_field\_goal\_attempt', 'true\_shooting\_percentage',
- Keeping 'two\_point\_field\_goal\_percentage' from offense to be consistent with defense features ('opp\_two\_point\_field\_goal\_percentage')

```
'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage',
'opp_steal_percentage',
'opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage',
'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage','opp_total_rebound_percentage',
'opp_true_shooting_percentage',
'pace', 'simple_rating_system', 'steal_percentage',
'strength_of_schedule', 'three_point_attempt_rate',
'three_point_field_goal_percentage',
'two_point_field_goal_percentage',
'true_shooting_percentage',
'turnover_percentage', 'win_percentage','seed_difference']]

features_differentials_final
```

Out[47]:	assist_p	ercentage	block_percentage	offensive_rating	$of fensive\_rebound\_percentage$	opp_assist_percentage	opp_block_percentage	$opp\_free\_throw\_attempt\_rate$	opp_free_throw_percentage	opp_
	0	-0.089	0.088	7.6	-0.039	0.042	-0.022	0.034	0.014	
	1	-0.228	0.104	2.3	0.036	-0.112	-0.017	-0.071	-0.002	
	2	0.015	0.019	8.7	-0.058	0.010	-0.025	0.081	0.002	
	3	0.020	-0.033	-8.9	-0.099	0.016	0.007	0.006	-0.008	
	4	-0.002	-0.067	-3.7	-0.100	-0.010	0.020	-0.123	-0.022	
6	525	0.013	-0.004	-4.9	0.020	-0.028	-0.002	0.074	0.040	
6	526	0.043	0.003	0.5	0.041	0.106	0.012	-0.047	0.045	
6	527	0.057	-0.035	13.9	-0.065	0.017	-0.001	-0.072	0.000	
6	528	-0.031	-0.036	-2.3	-0.048	-0.096	0.028	-0.081	-0.034	
6	529	-0.011	-0.021	15.1	0.029	-0.046	-0.044	-0.024	-0.039	

630 rows × 26 columns



In [48]: #Making sure the team names and years of games are combined with the same team statistic differentials before train/test split
 pre\_training\_features = pd.concat([features\_differentials\_final,game\_info], axis=1)
 pre\_training\_features

Out[48]:		assist_percentage	block_percentage	$of fensive\_rating$	$of fensive\_rebound\_percentage$	opp_assist_percentage	opp_block_percentage	$opp\_free\_throw\_attempt\_rate$	opp_free_throw_percentage	opp
	0	-0.089	0.088	7.6	-0.039	0.042	-0.022	0.034	0.014	
	1	-0.228	0.104	2.3	0.036	-0.112	-0.017	-0.071	-0.002	
	2	0.015	0.019	8.7	-0.058	0.010	-0.025	0.081	0.002	
	3	0.020	-0.033	-8.9	-0.099	0.016	0.007	0.006	-0.008	
	4	-0.002	-0.067	-3.7	-0.100	-0.010	0.020	-0.123	-0.022	

	assist_percentage	block_percentage	offensive_rating	offensive_rebound_percentage	opp_assist_percentage	opp_block_percentage	opp_free_throw_attempt_rate	opp_free_throw_percentage	opp_
625	0.013	-0.004	-4.9	0.020	-0.028	-0.002	0.074	0.040	
626	0.043	0.003	0.5	0.041	0.106	0.012	-0.047	0.045	
627	0.057	-0.035	13.9	-0.065	0.017	-0.001	-0.072	0.000	
628	-0.031	-0.036	-2.3	-0.048	-0.096	0.028	-0.081	-0.034	
629	-0.011	-0.021	15.1	0.029	-0.046	-0.044	-0.024	-0.039	

4

630 rows × 29 columns

# Create training set

```
#Create training(75%) and test(25%) data
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(pre_training_features,response,random_state=42)

game_info_train = X_train[['Year','Home_Team','Away_Team']]

game_info_test = X_test[['Year','Home_Team','Away_Team']]

#This data below will not be needed in model making but used later for result analysis using the above game_info DataFrames
X_train=X_train.drop(columns=['Year','Home_Team','Away_Team'])
X_test=X_test.drop(columns=['Year','Home_Team','Away_Team'])
```

#### Scale the data

```
In [50]: scaler = StandardScaler()

X_train_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X_train)
X_test_scaled = scaler.transform(X_test)
```

# Creating benchmark feature sets

#### **Better Seed Benchmark**

```
In [51]: #Only input feature is seed differential, with the assumption that better seed will win in each prediction
    X_train_BetterSeed = X_train[['seed_difference']]
    X_train_BetterSeed_Scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X_train_BetterSeed)

X_test_BetterSeed = X_test[['seed_difference']]
    X_test_BetterSeed_Scaled = scaler.transform(X_test_BetterSeed)
```

#### **Better Record Benchmark**

```
In [52]: #Similar to seed_differential benchmark, but teams with worse seeds can still have better records than teams with better seeds
X_train_BetterRecord = X_train[['win_percentage']]
X_train_BetterRecord = Scaler.fit_transform(X_train_BetterRecord)

X_test_BetterRecord = X_test[['win_percentage']]
X_test_BetterRecord_Scaled = scaler.transform(X_test_BetterRecord)
```

# **Using PCA (Scaled & Not-Scaled)**

### Not scaled

```
In [53]:
           pca = PCA(.95)
           pca.fit(X_train)
          pca.n_components_
Out[53]: 4
In [54]:
          X_train_PCA = pca.transform(X_train)
          X test PCA = pca.transform(X test)
In [55]:
           plt.plot(pca.explained_variance_ratio_.cumsum())
Out[55]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1b5f2a40190>]
          0.95
          0.90
          0.85
          0.80
          0.75
          0.70
               0.0
                       0.5
                              1.0
                                      1.5
                                              2.0
                                                     2.5
                                                            3.0
```

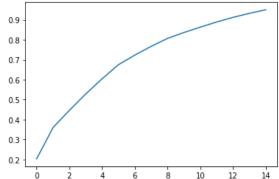
### Scaled

```
In [56]:    pca_scaled = PCA(.95)
    pca_scaled.fit(X_train_scaled)
    pca_scaled.n_components_

Out[56]:    15

In [57]:    X_train_scaled_PCA = pca_scaled.transform(X_train_scaled)
    X_test_scaled_PCA = pca_scaled.transform(X_test_scaled)
```

```
In [58]: plt.plot(pca_scaled.explained_variance_ratio_.cumsum())
Out[58]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1b5f2dd35b0>]
```



# Run benchmark models using Linear Regression

#### **Better Seed Benchmark Model**

```
In [59]: #Not scaled BetterSeed Model, find MSE
BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel = LinearRegression()

BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel.fit(X_train_BetterSeed, y_train)

y_pred_BetterSeed = BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel.predict(X_test_BetterSeed)

mse_BetterSeed = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_BetterSeed)

#Scaled BetterSeed Model, find MSE
BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel_Scaled = LinearRegression()

BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel_Scaled.fit(X_train_BetterSeed_Scaled, y_train)

y_pred_BetterSeed_Scaled = BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel_Scaled.predict(X_test_BetterSeed_Scaled)

mse_BetterSeed_Scaled = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_BetterSeed_Scaled)
```

### Better Record Benchmark Model

```
In [60]: #Not scaled BetterRecord Model, find MSE
BetterRecord_BenchmarkModel = LinearRegression()

BetterRecord_BenchmarkModel.fit(X_train_BetterRecord, y_train)

y_pred_BetterRecord = BetterSeed_BenchmarkModel.predict(X_test_BetterRecord)

mse_BetterRecord = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_BetterRecord)
```

```
#Scaled BetterRecord Model, find MSE
BetterRecord_BenchmarkModel_Scaled = LinearRegression()

BetterRecord_BenchmarkModel_Scaled.fit(X_train_BetterRecord_Scaled, y_train)

y_pred_BetterRecord_Scaled = BetterRecord_BenchmarkModel_Scaled.predict(X_test_BetterRecord_Scaled)

mse_BetterRecord_Scaled = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_BetterRecord_Scaled)
```

## **Perform Grid Searches**

#### Perform Individual Model Grid Searches

#### GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch

```
In [61]:
          # Coarse-Grained GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'learning rate': [.01,.1,.2,.3,.4,.5,.6,.7,.8,.9,1]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 792 candidates, totalling 2376 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning rate': 0.01, 'max depth': 1, 'n estimators': 600}
In [60]:
          # Refined GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # _____
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2], 'n_estimators': list(range(500, 700, 50)), 'learning_rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.01, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 550}
In [38]:
         # ----
          # Final GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch
          # Repeated search to make sure that optimal hyperparameter values found are indeed optimal
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2], 'n_estimators': list(range(500, 600, 25)), 'learning_rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
```

```
grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.01, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 550}

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the GradientBoostingRegressor class are:

• learning_rate = 0.01
• max_depth = 1
```

#### GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch w/Scaling

n\_estimators = 550

```
In [32]:
          # Coarse-Grained GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param_grid={\max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], \n_estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), \learning_rate': [.01,.1,.2,.3,.4,.5,.6,.7,.8,.9,1]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train scaled, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 792 candidates, totalling 2376 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.01, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 600}
In [33]:
          # Refined GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2], 'n_estimators': list(range(500, 700, 50)), 'learning_rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train scaled, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.01, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 600}
In [34]:
         # ----
          # Final GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
          # Repeated search to make sure that optimal hyperparameter values found are indeed optimal
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2], 'n_estimators': list(range(550, 650, 25)), 'learning_rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
```

Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits

The best parameters are: {'learning\_rate': 0.01, 'max\_depth': 1, 'n\_estimators': 600}

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the GradientBoostingRegressor class w/Scaling are:

- learning\_rate = 0.01
- max\_depth = 1
- n estimators = 600

### GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch PCA

```
In [32]:
          # ----
          # Coarse-Grained GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'learning rate': [.01,.1,.2,.3,.4,.5,.6,.7,.8,.9,1]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train PCA, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 792 candidates, totalling 2376 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning rate': 0.01, 'max depth': 1, 'n estimators': 600}
In [33]:
         # ----
          # Refined GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2], 'n estimators': list(range(500, 700, 50)), 'learning rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning rate': 0.01, 'max depth': 1, 'n estimators': 550}
In [34]:
          # Final GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA
          # Repeated search to make sure that optimal hyperparameter values found are indeed optimal
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2], 'n_estimators': list(range(500, 600, 25)), 'learning_rate': [.005,.01,.015]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train PCA, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.01, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 550}
```

• learning\_rate = 0.01

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the GradientBoostingRegressor class PCA are:

```
max_depth = 1n estimators = 550
```

#### GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch PCA w/Scaling

```
In [35]:
          # Coarse-Grained GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param_grid={\text{'max_depth'}: [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'learning_rate': [.01,.1,.2,.3,.4,.5,.6,.7,.8,.9,1]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 792 candidates, totalling 2376 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.1, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 100}
In [36]:
          # Refined GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2], 'n estimators': list(range(50, 150, 50)), 'learning rate': [.05,.1,.15]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.15, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 100}
In [37]: | # -----
          # Final GradientBoostingRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
          # Repeated search to make sure that optimal hyperparameter values found are indeed optimal
          # ----
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2], 'n estimators': list(range(75, 125, 25)), 'learning rate': [.125,.15,.175]}
          classifier = GradientBoostingRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'learning_rate': 0.15, 'max_depth': 1, 'n_estimators': 100}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the GradientBoostingRegressor class PCA w/Scaling are:
          • learning_rate = 0.15
          max_depth = 1
          n estimators = 100
```

#### RandomForestRegressor GridSearch

```
In [62]:
          # Coarse-Grained RandomForestRegressor GridSearch
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3)))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 432 candidates, totalling 1296 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max_depth': 4, 'min_samples_split': 5, 'n_estimators': 200}
In [37]: | # ----
          # Refined RandomForestRegressor GridSearch
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [3,4,5], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 300, 50)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 3, 1))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 4, 'min samples split': 2, 'n estimators': 200}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the RandomForestRegressor class are:
          max depth = 4
          • n estimators = 200
          min_samples_split = 2
```

### RandomForestRegressor GridSearch w/Scaling

```
In [51]:

# Coarse-Grained RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features

# Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided

# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}

classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)

grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)

grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)

print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Fitting 3 folds for each of 432 candidates, totalling 1296 fits
The best parameters are: {'max_depth': 4, 'min_samples_split': 5, 'n_estimators': 200}

In [39]:

# -----

# Refined RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
```

```
# Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [3,4,5], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 300, 50)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(4, 6, 1))}
classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)
grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)

grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)
print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Eitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates_totalling 72 fits
```

Fitting 3 folds for each of 24 candidates, totalling 72 fits
The best parameters are: {'max\_depth': 4, 'min\_samples\_split': 5, 'n\_estimators': 200}

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the RandomForestRegressor class w/Scaling are:

- max\_depth = 4
- n\_estimators = 200
- min\_samples\_split = 5

• min samples split = 2

### RandomForestRegressor GridSearch PCA

```
In [38]:
          # Coarse-Grained RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with PCA
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'min samples split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train PCA, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 432 candidates, totalling 1296 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 2, 'min samples split': 2, 'n estimators': 100}
In [40]:
         # ----
          # Refined RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with PCA
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3], 'n_estimators': list(range(50, 150, 50)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 3, 1))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 6 candidates, totalling 18 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 2, 'min samples split': 2, 'n estimators': 100}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the RandomForestRegressor class PCA are:
          • max depth = 2
          • n estimators = 100
```

#### RandomForestRegressor GridSearch PCA w/Scaling

```
In [41]:
          # Coarse-Grained RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'n_estimators': list(range(100, 1000, 100)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 432 candidates, totalling 1296 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max_depth': 8, 'min_samples_split': 5, 'n_estimators': 900}
In [42]:
         # ----
          # Refined RandomForestRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [7,8,9], 'n_estimators': list(range(850, 950, 50)), 'min_samples_split': list(range(4, 6, 1))}
          classifier = RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 7, 'min samples split': 5, 'n estimators': 900}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the RandomForestRegressor class PCA w/Scaling are:
         max depth = 7
          • n estimators = 900
          min_samples_split = 5
```

### DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch

```
In [43]:

# Coarse-Grained DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch

# Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided

# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'splitter': ["best", "random"],'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}

classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)

grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)

grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)

print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Fitting 3 folds for each of 96 candidates, totalling 288 fits
The best parameters are: {'max_depth': 3, 'min_samples_split': 14, 'splitter': 'best'}

In [44]:

# -----

# Refined DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch
```

```
# Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [2,3,4], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(13, 15, 1))}
classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)
grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier, param_grid=param_grid, verbose=1, cv=3)

grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Eitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates_totalling 36 fits
```

Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
The best parameters are: {'max\_depth': 3, 'min\_samples\_split': 13, 'splitter': 'best'}

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the DecisionTreeRegressor class are:

- splitter = 'bestmax\_depth = 3
- min\_samples\_split = 13

#### DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch w/Scaling

```
In [37]:
          # Coarse-Grained DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param grid={'max depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min samples split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}
          classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train scaled, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 96 candidates, totalling 288 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 3, 'min samples split': 14, 'splitter': 'best'}
In [38]:
         # ----
          # Refined DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with Scaled features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [2,3,4], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(13, 15, 1))}
          classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random state=42)
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 3, 'min samples split': 13, 'splitter': 'best'}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the DecisionTreeRegressor class w/Scaling are:
          • splitter = 'best
          • max depth = 3
          • min samples split = 13
```

#### DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch PCA

```
In [47]:
          # Coarse-Grained DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with PCA features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}
          classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 96 candidates, totalling 288 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 5, 'min samples split': 17, 'splitter': 'random'}
In [48]:
         # ----
          # Refined DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with PCA features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'max_depth': [5,6,7], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(15, 20, 1))}
          classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_PCA, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 30 candidates, totalling 90 fits
         The best parameters are: {'max depth': 6, 'min samples split': 18, 'splitter': 'random'}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the DecisionTreeRegressor class PCA are:
         • splitter = 'random
          • max depth = 6
         min_samples_split = 18
```

### DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch PCA w/Scaling

```
In [49]:

# Coarse-Grained DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features

# Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided

# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [1,2,3,4,5,8,16,32], 'splitter': ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 20, 3))}

classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)

grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier, param_grid=param_grid, verbose=1, cv=3)

grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)

print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)

Fitting 3 folds for each of 96 candidates, totalling 288 fits
The best parameters are: {'max_depth': 3, 'min_samples_split': 2, 'splitter': 'random'}

In [40]: # ----

# Refined DecisionTreeRegressor GridSearch with PCA & Scaled features
```

```
# Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
# -----

param_grid={'max_depth': [2,3,4], 'splitter' : ["best", "random"], 'min_samples_split': list(range(2, 3, 1))}
classifier = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=42)
grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA, y_train)
print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
```

Fitting 3 folds for each of 6 candidates, totalling 18 fits
The best parameters are: {'max\_depth': 3, 'min\_samples\_split': 2, 'splitter': 'random'}

On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the DecisionTreeRegressor class PCA w/Scaling are:

```
splitter = 'randommax_depth = 3min_samples_split = 2
```

#### K-Neighbors GridSearch

```
In [97]:
          # Coarse-Grained KNeighborsRegressor GridSearch
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param grid={'n neighbors': [11,21,31,41,51], 'weights' : ["uniform", "distance"], 'metric': ["euclidean", "manhattan"]}
          classifier = KNeighborsRegressor()
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid search cv.fit(X train, y train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 20 candidates, totalling 60 fits
         The best parameters are: {'metric': 'euclidean', 'n neighbors': 21, 'weights': 'distance'}
In [99]:
         # ----
          # Refined KNeighborsRegressor GridSearch
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          # ----
          param_grid={'n_neighbors': [17,19,21,23], 'weights' : ["uniform", "distance"], 'metric': ["euclidean", "manhattan"]}
          classifier = KNeighborsRegressor()
          grid search cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param grid=param grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid search cv.best params )
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 16 candidates, totalling 48 fits
         The best parameters are: {'metric': 'manhattan', 'n neighbors': 19, 'weights': 'distance'}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the KNeighborsRegressor class are:
          metric = 'manhattan
          • n neighbors = 19
          weights = 'distance
```

#### K-Neighbors Scaled GridSearch

```
In [100...
          # Coarse-Grained KNeighborsRegressor GridSearch with scaled features
          # Wide search based on hyperparameter ranges provided
          param_grid={'n_neighbors': [11,21,31,41,51], 'weights' : ["uniform", "distance"], 'metric': ["euclidean", "manhattan"]}
          classifier = KNeighborsRegressor()
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 20 candidates, totalling 60 fits
         The best parameters are: {'metric': 'manhattan', 'n_neighbors': 11, 'weights': 'distance'}
In [41]:
         # ----
          # Refined KNeighborsRegressor GridSearch with scaled features
          # Smaller window search based on optimal hyperparameter values found in initial broad search
          param_grid={'n_neighbors': [19,11,13], 'weights' : ["uniform", "distance"], 'metric': ["euclidean", "manhattan"]}
          classifier = KNeighborsRegressor()
          grid_search_cv = GridSearchCV(estimator = classifier,param_grid=param_grid,verbose=1,cv=3)
          grid_search_cv.fit(X_train_scaled, y_train)
          print("The best parameters are: ", grid_search_cv.best_params_)
         Fitting 3 folds for each of 12 candidates, totalling 36 fits
         The best parameters are: {'metric': 'manhattan', 'n neighbors': 11, 'weights': 'distance'}
        On this dataset, the optimal model parameters for the KNeighborsRegressor class are:
         metric = 'manhattan
          • n neighbors = 11
          weights = 'distance
```

# **Fit Optimal Models**

Using the optimal parameters found in the GridSearch for each model

# Gradient Boosting Regressor

```
gbrt = GradientBoostingRegressor(max_depth=1,n_estimators =550,learning_rate=.01,random_state=42)
gbrt.fit(X_train,y_train)

Out[62]: GradientBoostingRegressor(learning_rate=0.01, max_depth=1, n_estimators=550,
```

## **GradientBoostingRegressor w/Scaling**

```
In [63]: gbrt scaled = GradientBoostingRegressor(max depth=1,n estimators =600,learning rate=.01,random state=42)
```

random state=42)

```
gbrt_scaled.fit(X_train_scaled,y_train)
```

Out[63]: GradientBoostingRegressor(learning\_rate=0.01, max\_depth=1, n\_estimators=600, random\_state=42)

# **GradientBoostingRegressor PCA**

```
gbrt_PCA = GradientBoostingRegressor(max_depth=1,n_estimators =550,learning_rate=.01,random_state=42)
gbrt_PCA.fit(X_train_PCA,y_train)
```

Out[64]: GradientBoostingRegressor(learning\_rate=0.01, max\_depth=1, n\_estimators=550, random\_state=42)

### GradientBoostingRegressor PCA w/Scaling

```
gbrt_scaled_PCA = GradientBoostingRegressor(max_depth=1,n_estimators =100,learning_rate=.15,random_state=42)
gbrt_scaled_PCA.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA,y_train)
```

Out[65]: GradientBoostingRegressor(learning\_rate=0.15, max\_depth=1, random\_state=42)

## Random Forest Regressor

```
rnd_reg = RandomForestRegressor(max_depth=4,n_estimators =200,min_samples_split=2,random_state=42)
rnd_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
```

Out[66]: RandomForestRegressor(max\_depth=4, n\_estimators=200, random\_state=42)

### RandomForestRegressor w/Scaling

```
In [67]:
    rnd_reg_scaled = RandomForestRegressor(max_depth=4,n_estimators =200,min_samples_split=5,random_state=42)
    rnd_reg_scaled.fit(X_train_scaled,y_train)
```

Out[67]: RandomForestRegressor(max\_depth=4, min\_samples\_split=5, n\_estimators=200, random state=42)

# RandomForestRegressor PCA

```
In [68]:
    rnd_reg_PCA = RandomForestRegressor(max_depth=2,n_estimators =100,min_samples_split=2,random_state=42)
    rnd_reg_PCA.fit(X_train_PCA,y_train)
```

Out[68]: RandomForestRegressor(max\_depth=2, random\_state=42)

### RandomForestRegressor PCA w/Scaling

```
In [69]:
    rnd_reg_scaled_PCA = RandomForestRegressor(max_depth=7,n_estimators =900,min_samples_split=5,random_state=42)
    rnd_reg_scaled_PCA.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA,y_train)
```

```
Out[69]: RandomForestRegressor(max_depth=7, min_samples_split=5, n_estimators=900, random state=42)
```

## DecisionTreeRegressor

```
In [70]: tree_reg = DecisionTreeRegressor(splitter='best', max_depth=3, min_samples_split=13, random_state=42)
    tree_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
```

Out[70]: DecisionTreeRegressor(max\_depth=3, min\_samples\_split=13, random\_state=42)

## DecisionTreeRegressor w/Scaling

```
In [71]: tree_reg_scaled = DecisionTreeRegressor(splitter='best', max_depth=3, min_samples_split=13, random_state=42)
    tree_reg_scaled.fit(X_train_scaled,y_train)
```

Out[71]: DecisionTreeRegressor(max\_depth=3, min\_samples\_split=13, random\_state=42)

# DecisionTreeRegressor PCA

```
tree_reg_PCA = DecisionTreeRegressor(splitter='random', max_depth=6, min_samples_split=18, random_state=42)
tree_reg_PCA.fit(X_train_PCA,y_train)
```

Out[72]: DecisionTreeRegressor(max\_depth=6, min\_samples\_split=18, random\_state=42, splitter='random')

### DecisionTreeRegressor PCA w/Scaling

```
In [73]:
    tree_reg_scaled_PCA = DecisionTreeRegressor(splitter='random', max_depth=3, min_samples_split=2, random_state=42)
    tree_reg_scaled_PCA.fit(X_train_scaled_PCA,y_train)
```

Out[73]: DecisionTreeRegressor(max\_depth=3, random\_state=42, splitter='random')

# KNeighborsRegressor

```
In [74]:
knn_reg = KNeighborsRegressor(metric= 'manhattan', n_neighbors= 19, weights= 'distance')
knn_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
```

Out[74]: KNeighborsRegressor(metric='manhattan', n\_neighbors=19, weights='distance')

# KNeighborsRegressor w/Scaling

```
In [75]:
knn_scaled_reg = KNeighborsRegressor(metric= 'manhattan', n_neighbors= 11, weights= 'distance')
knn_scaled_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
```

Out[75]: KNeighborsRegressor(metric='manhattan', n\_neighbors=11, weights='distance')

# VotingRegressor

Creating a model combining the Gradient Boosting, Random Forest, Decision Tree, and K-Nearest Neighbor Models.

```
In [76]:
          voting_reg = VotingRegressor(
                                   [('gbrt',gbrt),
                                     ('rf', rnd_reg),
                                     ('tree', tree_reg),
                                     ('knn', knn_reg)])
          voting_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
Out[76]: VotingRegressor(estimators=[('gbrt',
                                       GradientBoostingRegressor(learning_rate=0.01,
                                                                  max depth=1,
                                                                  n estimators=550,
                                                                  random_state=42)),
                                      ('rf',
                                       RandomForestRegressor(max depth=4,
                                                              n estimators=200,
                                                              random_state=42)),
                                      ('tree',
                                       DecisionTreeRegressor(max_depth=3,
                                                              min_samples_split=13,
                                                              random_state=42)),
                                      ('knn',
                                       KNeighborsRegressor(metric='manhattan',
                                                            n neighbors=19,
                                                           weights='distance'))])
```

# **Artificial Neural Networks**

```
In [77]:
          #Split training data into smaller training set and validation set
          X train ANN, X valid ANN, y train ANN, y valid ANN = train test split(X train, y train, test size=0.25, random state=42)
In [78]:
          #Check the shape of the training sets for input shape parameter
          X_train_ANN.shape
          #x_test.shape
Out[78]: (354, 26)
In [79]:
          #Run Sequential Class model with 4 layers
          tf.random.set_seed(42)
          model_ANN = keras.models.Sequential()
          model ANN.add(keras.layers.Flatten(input shape=[26]))
          model_ANN.add(keras.layers.Dense(1000,activation="softmax"))
          model ANN.add(keras.layers.Dense(100,activation="softmax"))
          model_ANN.add(keras.layers.Dense(10,activation="softmax"))
          model_ANN.add(keras.layers.Dense(1))
          model ANN.compile(loss="mean squared error",
                         optimizer=keras.optimizers.SGD(lr=0.01))
```

history = model\_ANN.fit(X\_train\_ANN,y\_train\_ANN,epochs=1000,validation\_data=(X\_valid\_ANN,y\_valid\_ANN))

```
C:\Users\gfann\anaconda3\lib\site-packages\keras\optimizer_v2\gradient_descent.py:102: UserWarning: The `lr` argument is deprecated, use `learning rate` instead.
super(SGD, self).__init__(name, **kwargs)
Epoch 1/1000
Epoch 2/1000
Epoch 3/1000
Enoch 4/1000
Epoch 5/1000
Epoch 6/1000
Epoch 7/1000
Epoch 8/1000
Epoch 9/1000
Epoch 10/1000
Epoch 11/1000
Epoch 12/1000
Epoch 13/1000
Epoch 14/1000
Epoch 15/1000
Epoch 16/1000
Epoch 17/1000
Epoch 18/1000
Epoch 19/1000
Epoch 20/1000
Epoch 21/1000
Epoch 22/1000
Epoch 23/1000
Epoch 24/1000
Epoch 25/1000
Epoch 26/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.9797 - val_loss: 212.2142
Epoch 27/1000
Epoch 28/1000
Epoch 29/1000
Epoch 30/1000
```

```
Epoch 31/1000
Epoch 32/1000
Epoch 33/1000
Epoch 34/1000
Epoch 35/1000
Epoch 36/1000
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Epoch 62/1000
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Epoch 63/1000
Epoch 64/1000
Epoch 65/1000
Epoch 66/1000
Epoch 67/1000
Epoch 68/1000
Epoch 69/1000
Epoch 70/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 178.2153 - val_loss: 209.2898
Epoch 71/1000
Epoch 72/1000
Epoch 73/1000
Epoch 74/1000
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Epoch 76/1000
Epoch 77/1000
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Epoch 152/1000
Epoch 153/1000
Epoch 154/1000
Epoch 155/1000
Epoch 156/1000
Epoch 157/1000
Epoch 158/1000
Epoch 159/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8706 - val_loss: 210.7736
Epoch 160/1000
```

```
Epoch 161/1000
Epoch 162/1000
Epoch 163/1000
Epoch 164/1000
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Epoch 193/1000
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Epoch 197/1000
Epoch 198/1000
Epoch 199/1000
Epoch 200/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.7863 - val_loss: 210.9243
Epoch 201/1000
Epoch 203/1000
Epoch 204/1000
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Epoch 258/1000
Epoch 259/1000
Epoch 260/1000
Epoch 261/1000
Epoch 262/1000
Epoch 263/1000
Epoch 264/1000
Epoch 265/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.8471 - val_loss: 209.9728
Epoch 266/1000
Epoch 268/1000
Epoch 269/1000
Epoch 270/1000
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Epoch 281/1000
Epoch 282/1000
Epoch 283/1000
Epoch 284/1000
Epoch 285/1000
Epoch 286/1000
Epoch 287/1000
Epoch 288/1000
Epoch 289/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8134 - val_loss: 210.9858
Epoch 290/1000
```

```
Epoch 291/1000
Epoch 292/1000
Epoch 293/1000
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Epoch 317/1000
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Epoch 319/1000
Epoch 320/1000
Epoch 321/1000
Epoch 322/1000
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Epoch 323/1000
Epoch 324/1000
Epoch 325/1000
Epoch 326/1000
Epoch 327/1000
Epoch 328/1000
Epoch 329/1000
Epoch 330/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.8240 - val_loss: 210.5123
Epoch 331/1000
Epoch 333/1000
Epoch 334/1000
Epoch 335/1000
Epoch 336/1000
Epoch 337/1000
Epoch 338/1000
Epoch 339/1000
Epoch 340/1000
Epoch 341/1000
Epoch 342/1000
Epoch 343/1000
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Epoch 354/1000
Epoch 355/1000
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Epoch 356/1000
Epoch 357/1000
Epoch 358/1000
Epoch 359/1000
Epoch 360/1000
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Epoch 362/1000
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Epoch 381/1000
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Epoch 384/1000
Epoch 385/1000
Epoch 386/1000
Epoch 387/1000
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Epoch 388/1000
Epoch 389/1000
Epoch 390/1000
Epoch 391/1000
Epoch 392/1000
Epoch 393/1000
Epoch 394/1000
Epoch 395/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.9809 - val_loss: 209.8705
Epoch 396/1000
Epoch 398/1000
Epoch 399/1000
Epoch 400/1000
Epoch 401/1000
Epoch 402/1000
Epoch 403/1000
Epoch 404/1000
Epoch 405/1000
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Epoch 408/1000
Epoch 409/1000
Epoch 410/1000
Epoch 411/1000
Epoch 412/1000
Epoch 413/1000
Epoch 414/1000
Epoch 415/1000
Epoch 416/1000
Epoch 417/1000
Epoch 418/1000
Epoch 419/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8333 - val_loss: 210.5680
Epoch 420/1000
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Epoch 421/1000
Epoch 422/1000
Epoch 423/1000
Epoch 424/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 6ms/step - loss: 177.8655 - val_loss: 210.0137
Epoch 425/1000
Epoch 426/1000
Epoch 427/1000
Epoch 428/1000
Epoch 429/1000
Epoch 430/1000
Epoch 431/1000
Epoch 432/1000
Epoch 433/1000
Epoch 434/1000
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Epoch 450/1000
Epoch 451/1000
Epoch 452/1000
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Epoch 453/1000
Epoch 454/1000
Epoch 455/1000
Epoch 456/1000
Epoch 457/1000
Epoch 458/1000
Epoch 459/1000
Epoch 460/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.8293 - val_loss: 210.1362
Epoch 461/1000
Epoch 462/1000
Epoch 463/1000
Epoch 464/1000
Epoch 465/1000
Epoch 466/1000
Epoch 467/1000
Epoch 468/1000
Epoch 469/1000
Epoch 470/1000
Epoch 471/1000
Epoch 472/1000
Epoch 473/1000
Epoch 474/1000
Epoch 475/1000
Epoch 476/1000
Epoch 477/1000
Epoch 478/1000
Epoch 479/1000
Epoch 480/1000
Epoch 481/1000
Epoch 482/1000
Epoch 483/1000
Epoch 484/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.7504 - val_loss: 211.6365
Epoch 485/1000
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Epoch 486/1000
Epoch 487/1000
Epoch 488/1000
Epoch 489/1000
Epoch 490/1000
Epoch 491/1000
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Epoch 511/1000
Epoch 512/1000
Epoch 513/1000
Epoch 514/1000
Epoch 515/1000
Epoch 516/1000
Epoch 517/1000
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Epoch 518/1000
Epoch 519/1000
Epoch 520/1000
Epoch 521/1000
Epoch 522/1000
Epoch 523/1000
Epoch 524/1000
Epoch 525/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.7922 - val_loss: 210.7794
Epoch 526/1000
Epoch 528/1000
Epoch 529/1000
Epoch 530/1000
Epoch 531/1000
Epoch 532/1000
Epoch 533/1000
Epoch 534/1000
Epoch 535/1000
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Epoch 550/1000
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Epoch 551/1000
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Epoch 558/1000
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Epoch 570/1000
Epoch 571/1000
Epoch 572/1000
Epoch 573/1000
Epoch 574/1000
Epoch 575/1000
Epoch 576/1000
Epoch 577/1000
Epoch 578/1000
Epoch 579/1000
Epoch 580/1000
Epoch 581/1000
Epoch 582/1000
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Epoch 583/1000
Epoch 584/1000
Epoch 585/1000
Epoch 586/1000
Epoch 587/1000
Epoch 588/1000
Epoch 589/1000
Epoch 590/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 177.7655 - val_loss: 210.9929
Epoch 591/1000
Epoch 593/1000
Epoch 594/1000
Epoch 595/1000
Epoch 596/1000
Epoch 597/1000
Epoch 598/1000
Epoch 599/1000
Epoch 600/1000
Epoch 601/1000
Epoch 602/1000
Epoch 603/1000
Epoch 604/1000
Epoch 605/1000
Epoch 606/1000
Epoch 607/1000
Epoch 608/1000
Epoch 609/1000
Epoch 610/1000
Epoch 611/1000
Epoch 612/1000
Epoch 613/1000
Epoch 614/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.9509 - val_loss: 209.5023
Epoch 615/1000
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Epoch 616/1000
Epoch 617/1000
Epoch 618/1000
Epoch 619/1000
Epoch 620/1000
Epoch 621/1000
Epoch 622/1000
Epoch 623/1000
Epoch 624/1000
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Epoch 633/1000
Epoch 634/1000
Epoch 635/1000
Epoch 636/1000
Epoch 637/1000
Epoch 638/1000
Epoch 639/1000
Epoch 640/1000
Epoch 641/1000
Epoch 642/1000
Epoch 643/1000
Epoch 644/1000
Epoch 645/1000
Epoch 646/1000
Epoch 647/1000
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Epoch 648/1000
Epoch 649/1000
Epoch 650/1000
Epoch 651/1000
Epoch 652/1000
Epoch 653/1000
Epoch 654/1000
Epoch 655/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.7382 - val_loss: 210.8220
Epoch 656/1000
Epoch 658/1000
Epoch 659/1000
Epoch 660/1000
Epoch 661/1000
Epoch 662/1000
Epoch 663/1000
Epoch 664/1000
Epoch 665/1000
Epoch 666/1000
Epoch 667/1000
Epoch 668/1000
Epoch 669/1000
Epoch 670/1000
Epoch 671/1000
Epoch 672/1000
Epoch 673/1000
Epoch 674/1000
Epoch 675/1000
Epoch 676/1000
Epoch 677/1000
Epoch 678/1000
Epoch 679/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.9975 - val_loss: 212.2414
Epoch 680/1000
```

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Epoch 681/1000
Epoch 682/1000
Epoch 683/1000
Epoch 684/1000
Epoch 685/1000
Epoch 686/1000
Epoch 687/1000
Epoch 688/1000
Epoch 689/1000
Epoch 690/1000
Epoch 691/1000
Epoch 692/1000
Epoch 693/1000
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Epoch 697/1000
Epoch 698/1000
Epoch 699/1000
Epoch 700/1000
Epoch 701/1000
Epoch 702/1000
Epoch 703/1000
Epoch 704/1000
Epoch 705/1000
Epoch 706/1000
Epoch 707/1000
Epoch 708/1000
Epoch 709/1000
Epoch 710/1000
Epoch 711/1000
Epoch 712/1000
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Epoch 713/1000
Epoch 714/1000
Epoch 715/1000
Epoch 716/1000
Epoch 717/1000
Epoch 718/1000
Epoch 719/1000
Epoch 720/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8573 - val_loss: 211.4678
Epoch 721/1000
Epoch 723/1000
Epoch 724/1000
Epoch 725/1000
Epoch 726/1000
Epoch 727/1000
Epoch 728/1000
Epoch 729/1000
Epoch 730/1000
Epoch 731/1000
Epoch 732/1000
Epoch 733/1000
Epoch 734/1000
Epoch 735/1000
Epoch 736/1000
Epoch 737/1000
Epoch 738/1000
Epoch 739/1000
Epoch 740/1000
Epoch 741/1000
Epoch 742/1000
Epoch 743/1000
Epoch 744/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.7995 - val_loss: 210.3204
Epoch 745/1000
```

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Epoch 746/1000
Epoch 747/1000
Epoch 748/1000
Epoch 749/1000
Epoch 750/1000
Epoch 751/1000
Epoch 752/1000
Epoch 753/1000
Epoch 754/1000
Epoch 755/1000
Epoch 756/1000
Epoch 757/1000
Epoch 758/1000
Epoch 759/1000
Epoch 760/1000
Epoch 761/1000
Epoch 762/1000
Epoch 763/1000
Epoch 764/1000
Epoch 765/1000
Epoch 766/1000
Epoch 767/1000
Epoch 768/1000
Epoch 769/1000
Epoch 770/1000
Epoch 771/1000
Epoch 772/1000
Epoch 773/1000
Epoch 774/1000
Epoch 775/1000
Epoch 776/1000
Epoch 777/1000
```

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Epoch 778/1000
Epoch 779/1000
Epoch 780/1000
Epoch 781/1000
Epoch 782/1000
Epoch 783/1000
Epoch 784/1000
Epoch 785/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.7513 - val_loss: 210.9780
Epoch 786/1000
Epoch 787/1000
Epoch 788/1000
Epoch 789/1000
Epoch 790/1000
Epoch 791/1000
Epoch 792/1000
Epoch 793/1000
Epoch 794/1000
Epoch 795/1000
Epoch 796/1000
Epoch 797/1000
Epoch 798/1000
Epoch 799/1000
Epoch 800/1000
Epoch 801/1000
Epoch 802/1000
Epoch 803/1000
Epoch 804/1000
Epoch 805/1000
Epoch 806/1000
Epoch 807/1000
Epoch 808/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8126 - val_loss: 210.4999
Epoch 810/1000
```

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Epoch 811/1000
Epoch 812/1000
Epoch 813/1000
Epoch 814/1000
Epoch 815/1000
Epoch 816/1000
Epoch 817/1000
Epoch 818/1000
Epoch 819/1000
Epoch 820/1000
Epoch 821/1000
Epoch 822/1000
Epoch 823/1000
Epoch 824/1000
Epoch 825/1000
Epoch 826/1000
Epoch 827/1000
Epoch 828/1000
Epoch 829/1000
Epoch 830/1000
Epoch 831/1000
Epoch 832/1000
Epoch 833/1000
Epoch 834/1000
Epoch 835/1000
Epoch 836/1000
Epoch 837/1000
Epoch 838/1000
Epoch 839/1000
Epoch 840/1000
Epoch 841/1000
Epoch 842/1000
```

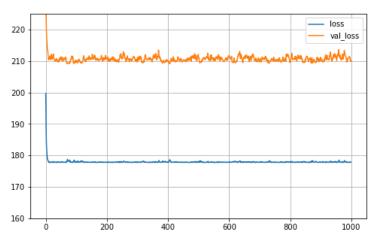
```
Epoch 843/1000
Epoch 844/1000
Epoch 845/1000
Epoch 846/1000
Epoch 847/1000
Epoch 848/1000
Epoch 849/1000
Epoch 850/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.9807 - val_loss: 210.4956
Epoch 851/1000
Epoch 852/1000
Epoch 853/1000
Epoch 854/1000
Epoch 855/1000
Epoch 856/1000
Epoch 857/1000
Epoch 858/1000
Epoch 859/1000
Epoch 860/1000
Epoch 861/1000
Epoch 862/1000
Epoch 863/1000
Epoch 864/1000
Epoch 865/1000
Epoch 866/1000
Epoch 867/1000
Epoch 868/1000
Epoch 869/1000
Epoch 870/1000
Epoch 871/1000
Epoch 872/1000
Epoch 873/1000
Epoch 874/1000
12/12 [==========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 178.0315 - val_loss: 209.3402
Epoch 875/1000
```

```
Epoch 876/1000
Epoch 877/1000
Epoch 878/1000
Epoch 879/1000
Epoch 880/1000
Epoch 881/1000
Epoch 882/1000
Epoch 883/1000
Epoch 884/1000
Epoch 885/1000
Epoch 886/1000
Epoch 887/1000
Epoch 888/1000
Epoch 889/1000
Epoch 890/1000
Epoch 891/1000
Epoch 892/1000
Epoch 893/1000
Epoch 894/1000
Epoch 895/1000
Epoch 896/1000
Epoch 897/1000
Epoch 898/1000
Epoch 899/1000
Epoch 900/1000
Epoch 901/1000
Epoch 902/1000
Epoch 903/1000
Epoch 904/1000
Epoch 905/1000
Epoch 906/1000
Epoch 907/1000
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Epoch 908/1000
Epoch 909/1000
Epoch 910/1000
Epoch 911/1000
Epoch 912/1000
Epoch 913/1000
Epoch 914/1000
Epoch 915/1000
12/12 [===========] - 0s 5ms/step - loss: 177.8270 - val_loss: 210.8424
Epoch 916/1000
Epoch 918/1000
Epoch 919/1000
Epoch 920/1000
Epoch 921/1000
Epoch 922/1000
Epoch 923/1000
Epoch 924/1000
Epoch 925/1000
Epoch 926/1000
Epoch 927/1000
Epoch 928/1000
Epoch 929/1000
Epoch 930/1000
Epoch 931/1000
Epoch 932/1000
Epoch 933/1000
Epoch 934/1000
Epoch 935/1000
Epoch 936/1000
Epoch 937/1000
Epoch 938/1000
Epoch 939/1000
Epoch 940/1000
```

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Epoch 941/1000
Epoch 942/1000
Epoch 943/1000
Epoch 944/1000
Epoch 945/1000
Epoch 946/1000
Epoch 947/1000
Epoch 948/1000
Epoch 949/1000
Epoch 950/1000
Epoch 951/1000
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Epoch 957/1000
Epoch 958/1000
Epoch 959/1000
Epoch 960/1000
Epoch 961/1000
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Epoch 966/1000
Epoch 967/1000
Epoch 968/1000
Epoch 969/1000
Epoch 970/1000
Epoch 971/1000
Epoch 972/1000
```

```
Epoch 973/1000
 Epoch 974/1000
 Epoch 975/1000
 Epoch 976/1000
 Epoch 977/1000
 Epoch 978/1000
 Epoch 979/1000
 Epoch 980/1000
 12/12 [==========] - 0s 4ms/step - loss: 178.0760 - val_loss: 212.5755
 Epoch 981/1000
 Epoch 983/1000
 Epoch 984/1000
 Epoch 985/1000
 Epoch 986/1000
 Epoch 987/1000
 Epoch 988/1000
 Epoch 989/1000
 Epoch 990/1000
 Epoch 991/1000
 Epoch 992/1000
 Epoch 993/1000
 Epoch 994/1000
 Epoch 995/1000
 Epoch 996/1000
 Epoch 997/1000
 Epoch 998/1000
 Epoch 999/1000
 Epoch 1000/1000
 In [80]:
 pd.DataFrame(history.history).plot(figsize=(8, 5))
 plt.gca().set ylim(160, 225)
 plt.grid(True)
 plt.show()
```



# **Compute Generalization Error**

## **GradientBoostingRegressor Model MSE**

```
In [81]:
    y_pred_gbrt = gbrt.predict(X_test)
    gbrt_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_gbrt)
    print("GradientBoostingRegressor Model MSE:", round(gbrt_mse,3))
```

GradientBoostingRegressor Model MSE: 121.497

## **GradientBoostingRegressor Scaled Model MSE**

```
y_pred_gbrt_scaled = gbrt_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
gbrt_scaled_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_gbrt_scaled)
print("GradientBoostingRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(gbrt_scaled_mse,3))
```

## GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Model MSE

GradientBoostingRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 121.703

```
y_pred_gbrt_PCA = gbrt.predict(X_test)
gbrt_PCA_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_gbrt_PCA)
print("GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Model MSE:", round(gbrt_PCA_mse,3))
```

GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Model MSE: 121.497

## **GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE**

```
In [84]:
    y_pred_gbrt_PCA_scaled = gbrt_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
    gbrt_PCA_scaled_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_gbrt_PCA_scaled)
    print("GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE:", round(gbrt_PCA_scaled_mse,3))
```

GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE: 121.703

#### RandomForestRegressor Model MSE

```
In [85]:
    y_pred_rnd = rnd_reg.predict(X_test)
    rnd_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_rnd)
    print("RandomForestRegressor Model MSE:", round(rnd_mse,3))

RandomForestRegressor Model MSE: 122.449
```

## RandomForestRegressor Scaled Model MSE

```
In [86]:
    y_pred_rnd_scaled = rnd_reg_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
    rnd_scaled_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_rnd_scaled)
    print("RandomForestRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(rnd_scaled_mse,3))
```

#### RandomForestRegressor PCA Model MSE

RandomForestRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 122.489

RandomForestRegressor PCA Model MSE: 122.449

```
In [87]:

y_pred_rnd_PCA = rnd_reg.predict(X_test)
rnd_PCA_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_rnd_PCA)
print("RandomForestRegressor PCA Model MSE:", round(rnd_PCA_mse,3))
```

## RandomForestRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE

```
In [88]:
    y_pred_rnd_PCA_scaled = rnd_reg_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
    rnd_scaled_PCA_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_rnd_PCA_scaled)
    print("RandomForestRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE:", round(rnd_scaled_PCA_mse,3))
```

RandomForestRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE: 122.489

#### DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE

```
In [89]:
    y_pred_tree = tree_reg.predict(X_test)
    tree_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_tree)
    print("DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE:", round(tree_mse,3))
```

DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE: 124.925

## DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE

```
In [90]:
    y_pred_tree_scaled = tree_reg_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
    tree_scaled_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_tree_scaled)
    print("DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(tree_scaled_mse,3))
```

DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 124.925

## DecisionTreeRegressor PCA Model MSE

```
In [91]:
    y_pred_tree_PCA = tree_reg.predict(X_test)
    tree_PCA_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_tree_PCA)
    print("DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE:", round(tree_PCA_mse,3))
```

DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE: 124.925

## DecisionTreeRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE

```
y_pred_tree_PCA_scaled = tree_reg_scaled.predict(X_test_scaled)
tree_scaled_PCA_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_tree_PCA_scaled)
print("DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(tree_scaled_PCA_mse,3))
```

DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 124.925

#### KNeighborsRegressor

```
In [93]:
    y_pred_knn = knn_reg.predict(X_test)
    knn_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_knn)
    print("KNeighborsRegressor Model MSE:", round(knn_mse,3))
```

KNeighborsRegressor Model MSE: 123.247

## KNeighborsRegressor w/Scaling

```
In [94]:
    y_pred_knn_scaled = knn_scaled_reg.predict(X_test_scaled)
    knn_scaled_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_knn_scaled)
    print("KNeighborsRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(knn_scaled_mse,3))
```

KNeighborsRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 196.962

### VotingRegressor

```
In [95]:
    y_pred_voting_reg = voting_reg.predict(X_test_scaled)
    voting_reg_mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_voting_reg)
    print("VotingRegressor Model MSE:", round(voting_reg_mse,3))
```

VotingRegressor Model MSE: 170.702

#### **Artificial Neural Networks MSE**

# **Compare Generalization across models**

```
print("GradientBoostingRegressor Model MSE:", round(gbrt_mse,3))
print("GradientBoostingRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(gbrt_scaled_mse,3))
print("GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Model MSE:", round(gbrt_PCA_mse,3))
print("GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE:", round(gbrt_PCA_scaled_mse,3))
print("RandomForestRegressor Model MSE:", round(rnd_mse,3))
print("RandomForestRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(rnd_scaled_mse,3))
print("RandomForestRegressor PCA Model MSE:", round(rnd_PCA_mse,3))
print("RandomForestRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE:", round(rnd_scaled_PCA_mse,3))
```

```
print("DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE:", round(tree_mse,3))
print("DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(tree_scaled_mse,3))
print("DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE:", round(tree_PCA_mse,3))
print("DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(tree_scaled_PCA_mse,3))
print("KNeighborsRegressor Model MSE:", round(knn_mse,3))
print("KNeighborsRegressor Scaled Model MSE:", round(knn_scaled_mse,3))
print("VotingRegressor Model MSE:", round(voting_reg_mse,3))
print("Intificial Neural Network Scaled Model MSE:", round(ANN_mse,3))
print("Better Seed Benchmark Model MSE:", round(mse_BetterSeed_Scaled,3))
print("Better Record Benchmark Model MSE:", round(mse_BetterRecord_Scaled,3))
```

GradientBoostingRegressor Model MSE: 121.497 GradientBoostingRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 121.703 GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Model MSE: 121.497 GradientBoostingRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE: 121.703 RandomForestRegressor Model MSE: 122.449 RandomForestRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 122.489 RandomForestRegressor PCA Model MSE: 122.449 RandomForestRegressor PCA Scaled Model MSE: 122.489 DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE: 124.925 DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 124.925 DecisionTreeRegressor Model MSE: 124.925 DecisionTreeRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 124.925 KNeighborsRegressor Model MSE: 123.247 KNeighborsRegressor Scaled Model MSE: 196.962 VotingRegressor Model MSE: 170.702 Artificial Neural Network Scaled Model MSE: 166.59 Better Seed Benchmark Model MSE: 139.056 Better Record Benchmark Model MSE: 142.423

Item	Models	No Scaling	Scaling	No Scaling PCA	Scaling PCA
MSE	Gradient Boosting	121.497	121.703	121.497	121.703
	Random Forest	122.449	122.489	122.449	122.489
	Decision Tree	124.925	124.925	124.925	124.925
	KNeighbors	123.247	196.962		
	ANN	166.590			
	VotingReg	170.702			
	BM Better Seed	139.056			
	BM Better Record	142.423			

## **Model Decision**

The Gradient Boosting Model with no scaling was the lowest MSE and is the model I have chosen. The PCA for that non-scaled model didn't seem to make a significant change in the feature set.

The other individual models, according to the MSE, performed very similarly using their respective optimal parameters when fitting. The Voting Regression Model didn't perform as well as I initially thought it would. Upon further reflection that makes sense to me because the individual model optimal parameters and predictions may not actually combine well with the other models to produce a more optimal prediction, with many times the differing models potentially pulling and skewing the results in multiple directions for each prediction.

I was able to show that the individual models I ran, based only on MSE, would be beneficial to use over the benchmark strategies when filling out a tournament bracket to only select the team with the better seed or record.

The features and distribution of those features didn't need to be scaled or narrowed using PCA, and so there wasn't any clear benefit reflected in the MSE using those processes. As a result, the later models I created and fitted I decided that those processes didn't need to be included as they didn't add any clear benefit.

# **Creating Flask Application**

Wasn't too familiar with Flask so used the source provided to me when discussing my project proposal. https://medium.com/analytics-vidhya/deploying-a-machine-learning-model-using-flask-for-beginners-674944714b86

```
In [98]: #serializing model to a file called model.pkl
#using gbrt as the chosen model
pickle.dump(gbrt,open("model.pkl","wb"))

In [99]: #creating instance of the class
app = Flask(_name__,template_folder='templates')
#to tell flask what url should trigger the function index()
@app.route('/')
@app.route('/index')
def index():
    return flask.render_template('index.html')
```

Index and Result html files needed will be stored in templates folder that will also be stored in the Google Drive.

## Finding feature list that will be the inputs on the application

```
In [100...
          X train.columns
Out[100... Index(['assist_percentage', 'block_percentage', 'offensive_rating',
                 'offensive rebound percentage', 'opp assist percentage',
                 'opp_block_percentage', 'opp_free_throw_attempt_rate',
                 'opp_free_throw_percentage', 'opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt',
                 'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage', 'opp_steal_percentage',
                 'opp three point field goal percentage',
                 'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage', 'opp_total_rebound_percentage',
                 'opp_true_shooting_percentage', 'pace', 'simple_rating_system',
                 'steal_percentage', 'strength_of_schedule', 'three_point_attempt_rate',
                'three_point_field_goal_percentage', 'two_point_field_goal_percentage',
                 'true_shooting_percentage', 'turnover_percentage', 'win_percentage',
                 'seed_difference'],
               dtype='object')
In [101...
          #prediction function
          def InputPredictor(to predict inputs):
              to_predict = np.array(to_predict_inputs).reshape(1,26)
              loaded_model = pickle.load(open("model.pkl","rb"))
              result = loaded_model.predict(to_predict)
              return result[0]
          @app.route('/result',methods = ['POST'])
          def result():
              if request.method == 'POST':
                  to_predict_inputs = request.form.values()
                  to_predict_inputs = list(map(float,to_predict_inputs))
```

```
result = InputPredictor(to_predict_inputs)
                  if float(result) > 0:
                      prediction = 'Home Team will win by ' + str(math.ceil(result)) + ' point(s)'
                  elif float(result) < 0:</pre>
                      prediction = 'Away Team will win by ' + str(abs(math.floor(result))) + ' point(s)'
                  elif float(result) == 0:
                      prediction = 'There will be a tie'
                  return render_template("result.html",prediction = prediction)
In [102...
          if __name__ == '__main__':
              app.run(debug=False)
          * Serving Flask app "__main__" (lazy loading)
          * Environment: production
            WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment.
            Use a production WSGI server instead.
          * Debug mode: off
          * Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000/ (Press CTRL+C to quit)
         127.0.0.1 - - [23/Apr/2022 22:03:53] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
         127.0.0.1 - - [23/Apr/2022 22:03:53] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
         127.0.0.1 - - [23/Apr/2022 22:05:26] "POST /result HTTP/1.1" 200 -
         127.0.0.1 - - [23/Apr/2022 22:05:33] "POST /result HTTP/1.1" 200 -
         127.0.0.1 - - [23/Apr/2022 22:41:03] "POST /result HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

# Creating predictions using real games through the Flask Application

```
In [81]: #Combining test set data to make predictions off of and compare to actual results
Flask_predictions = pd.concat([game_info_test, X_test,y_test], axis=1)
Flask_predictions = Flask_predictions.rename(columns={0:"Final_Score_Difference"})
Flask_predictions
```

Out[81]:	Year	Home_Team	Away_Team	assist_percentage	block_percentage	offensive_rating	offensive_rebound_percentage	opp_assist_percentage	opp_block_percentage	opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
497	2017	Villanova	Mount St. Mary's	0.063	-0.006	18.5	0.070	0.131	-0.013	-0.105
244	2013	Syracuse	California	-0.004	0.079	6.6	0.063	0.165	0.008	0.029
552	2018	Texas A&M	Michigan	0.015	0.072	-4.9	0.085	0.139	-0.002	-0.022
213	2013	Louisville	Colorado State	0.052	0.057	-2.3	-0.030	0.059	0.001	-0.015
549	2018	TCU	Syracuse	0.153	-0.080	12.7	-0.005	-0.166	0.023	-0.009
•••										
287	2014	Michigan State	Delaware	0.219	0.049	1.6	0.031	0.054	-0.016	0.023
369	2015	West Virginia	Buffalo	0.050	-0.026	-3.6	0.057	0.040	0.022	0.212
79	2011	Florida	UCLA	-0.056	-0.041	6.5	0.012	-0.015	0.006	-0.052
23	2010	Marquette	Washington	0.086	-0.047	3.4	-0.057	0.101	0.037	-0.152

	Year	Home_Team	Away_Team	assist_percentage	block_percentage	offensive_rating	$of fensive\_rebound\_percentage$	opp_assist_percentage	opp_block_percentage	opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
583	2019	Iowa State	Ohio State	-0.048	0.055	9.5	0.008	-0.002	-0.018	-0.082

158 rows × 30 columns



## •

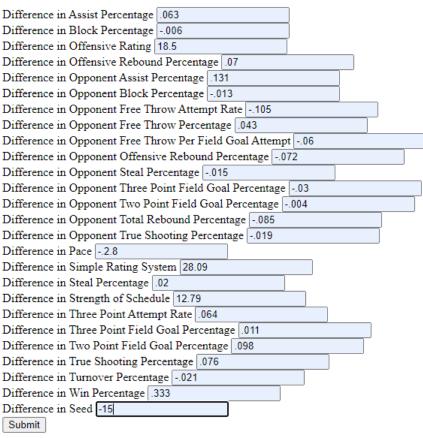
## **First Game Prediction**

In [82]:

#Getting first game shown in the test set
Flask\_predictions.iloc[0]

Out[82]:	Year Home_Team Away_Team assist_percentage block_percentage offensive_rating offensive_rebound_percentage opp_assist_percentage opp_block_percentage opp_free_throw_attempt_rate opp_free_throw_percentage opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt opp_offensive_rebound_percentage opp_steal_percentage opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage opp_true_shooting_percentage opp_true_shooting_percentage simple_rating_system steal_percentage strength_of_schedule three_point_attempt_rate three_point_field_goal_percentage two_point_field_goal_percentage two_point_field_goal_percentage tunover_percentage win_percentage win_percentage win_percentage vood_difference	2017 Villanova Mount St. Mary's 0.063 -0.006 18.5 0.07 0.131 -0.013 -0.105 0.043 -0.06 -0.072 -0.015 -0.03 -0.004 -0.085 -0.019 -2.8 28.09 0.02 12.79 0.064 0.011 0.098 0.076 -0.021 0.333
	turnover_percentage	-0.021

#### NCAA Tournament Game Prediction Based on Home - Away Season Stat Difference



Inputting above data into prediction tool:

# Home Team will win by 18 point(s)

Prediction through Flask:

In line with the 20 point actual win by Villanova(Home Team)

## Confirming Flask model is working as intended

```
In [92]:
          X_test.iloc[0]
Out[92]: assist_percentage
                                                     0.063
         block percentage
                                                     -0.006
         offensive rating
                                                    18.500
         offensive rebound percentage
                                                     0.070
         opp assist percentage
                                                     0.131
         opp block percentage
                                                     -0.013
         opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                    -0.105
         opp_free_throw_percentage
                                                     0.043
         opp free throws per field goal attempt
                                                    -0.060
         opp offensive rebound percentage
                                                    -0.072
         opp steal percentage
                                                    -0.015
         opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    -0.030
```

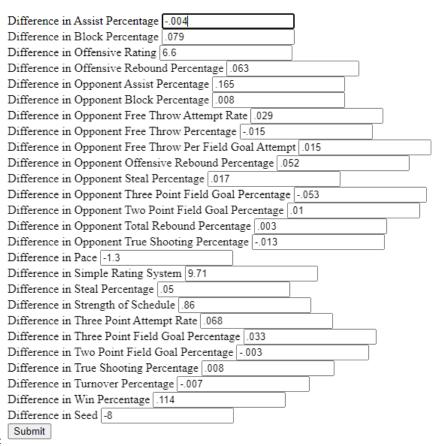
```
opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    -0.004
         opp_total_rebound_percentage
                                                    -0.085
         opp_true_shooting_percentage
                                                    -0.019
                                                    -2.800
         simple_rating_system
                                                   28.090
         steal percentage
                                                    0.020
         strength of schedule
                                                   12.790
         three_point_attempt_rate
                                                    0.064
         three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                    0.011
                                                    0.098
         two point field goal percentage
         true shooting percentage
                                                    0.076
         turnover_percentage
                                                    -0.021
         win_percentage
                                                    0.333
         seed difference
                                                   -15.000
         Name: 497, dtype: float64
In [93]:
         # This result is rounding up to the win by 18 shown above through the application.
         y_pred_gbrt[0]
```

Out[93]: 17.553166233183706

#### **Second Game Prediction**

```
In [83]:
          Flask_predictions.iloc[1]
                                                          2013
Out[83]: Year
                                                      Syracuse
         Home_Team
         Away Team
                                                    California
         assist percentage
                                                        -0.004
                                                         0.079
         block_percentage
         offensive_rating
                                                          6.6
         offensive rebound percentage
                                                         0.063
         opp_assist_percentage
                                                         0.165
                                                         0.008
         opp_block_percentage
         opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                         0.029
         opp free throw percentage
                                                        -0.015
         opp free throws per field goal attempt
                                                         0.015
         opp_offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                         0.052
         opp_steal_percentage
                                                         0.017
         opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                        -0.053
         opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                         0.01
         opp_total_rebound_percentage
                                                         0.003
         opp_true_shooting_percentage
                                                        -0.013
                                                          -1.3
         simple_rating_system
                                                          9.71
         steal percentage
                                                          0.05
         strength_of_schedule
                                                          0.86
         three_point_attempt_rate
                                                         0.068
         three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                                         0.033
                                                        -0.003
         two_point_field_goal_percentage
         true_shooting_percentage
                                                         0.008
         turnover percentage
                                                        -0.007
         win percentage
                                                         0.114
         seed difference
                                                            -8
         Final Score Difference
                                                             6
         Name: 244, dtype: object
```

#### NCAA Tournament Game Prediction Based on Home - Away Season Stat Difference



Inputting above data into prediction tool:

# Home Team will win by 8 point(s)

Prediction through Flask:

In line with the 6 point actual win by Syracuse(Home Team)

## Confirming Flask model is working as intended

```
In [94]:
          X_test.iloc[1]
                                                   -0.004
         assist_percentage
         block percentage
                                                    0.079
         offensive rating
                                                    6.600
         offensive_rebound_percentage
                                                    0.063
         opp assist percentage
                                                    0.165
         opp block percentage
                                                    0.008
         opp_free_throw_attempt_rate
                                                    0.029
         opp_free_throw_percentage
                                                   -0.015
         opp free throws per field goal attempt
                                                    0.015
         opp offensive rebound percentage
                                                    0.052
         opp_steal_percentage
                                                    0.017
```

```
opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage
                                        -0.053
opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                         0.010
opp_total_rebound_percentage
                                         0.003
opp_true_shooting_percentage
                                         -0.013
pace
                                         -1.300
simple_rating_system
                                         9.710
steal_percentage
                                         0.050
strength_of_schedule
                                         0.860
three_point_attempt_rate
                                         0.068
three point field goal percentage
                                         0.033
two_point_field_goal_percentage
                                         -0.003
true_shooting_percentage
                                         0.008
turnover_percentage
                                         -0.007
win_percentage
                                         0.114
seed_difference
                                         -8.000
Name: 244, dtype: float64
```

In [95]:

y\_pred\_gbrt[1]

Out[95]: 7.608803021730753

# DTSC 691 Machine Learning Project Proposal Garrett Fanning

# Goals of the project

The National Collegiate Basketball Association (NCAA) has over 350 colleges all competing to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament, with the ultimate goal of winning the tournament. Only 68 colleges are able to play well enough to earn a spot in the tournament. The lowest 8 teams play against each other to whittle down the field to 64 teams, from which a typical bracket style tournament can be created.

The tournament begins in March with games being played nearly on a daily basis through the entire month. The amount of games, exciting finishes, and surprising outcomes/upsets has led this whole experience to be termed as "March Madness". Fans join in on this experience by trying to guess/predict how the entire tournament will play out. It's popular for people to create groups with their family, friends, and coworkers to see who was able to be the most accurate with their picks.

For the most part, picking the winner of each game comes down to guessing or using your general basketball knowledge where it's impossible to consistently predict games correctly. The NCAA tournament at first glance may appear to have a lot of randomness, which has led many people to leverage the vast amount of college basketball data out there to create algorithms that can have more predictability than the simple guessing or just picking the consensus favorite for each game.

Kaggle has many competitions each year to give those with a data science background the opportunity to test their skills trying to create a model to accurately predict any possible matchup between teams in the tournament. There's plenty of other sponsored opportunities across the Internet for the general public to participate, such as when Warren Buffett offered \$1 billion to anyone able to get a perfect bracket, which is virtually impossible. For more context here is a link explaining that opportunity:

<a href="https://bleacherreport.com/articles/1931210-warren-buffet-will-pay-1-billion-to-fan-with-perfect-march-madness-bracket">https://bleacherreport.com/articles/1931210-warren-buffet-will-pay-1-billion-to-fan-with-perfect-march-madness-bracket</a>

My goal is to build a model with better predictability than if I were to simply pick the favorite in each matchup(lower seed, #1 seed is better than #2). Once I am able to train and test a model, I hope to be able to use that model to help me with the current tournament that is about to begin.

I will use regular season data to help predict how that translates to success in the NCAA tournament. All of the features I will be using are averages or on a per game basis because all teams don't play an equal amount of games in the regular season. Many of these features will not be used if they do not appear significant or are too similar to other features. I will predict winners of matchups in the NCAA tournament through predicting a final score differential, which can be interpreted as a positive differential means one team wins or negative would mean the other team.

If I have time then I could build a visualization of a bracket that would automatically populate based on my predictions.

# Data description

I'm planning on pulling from 2 sources:

 pip install pandas sklearn sportsreference → in terminal from sportsreference.ncaab.teams import Teams

The above code is showing that within sklearn there is an api that I can use to pull college basketball data from a vast sports data repository.

The data I would get from here right now is around 40 features of regular season statistics with each team that participated in the NCAA tournament from 2010-2019. Ex: average points scored per game, average points allowed, rebounds per game, etc.

```
Features pulled from data source(All features or used for merging):

'year','name','abbreviation', 'assist_percentage', 'block_percentage',

'effective_field_goal_percentage', 'field_goal_percentage', 'free_throw_attempt_rate',

'free_throw_percentage', 'free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt', 'offensive_rating',

'offensive_rebound_percentage', 'opp_assist_percentage', 'opp_block_percentage',

'opp_effective_field_goal_percentage','opp_field_goal_percentage',

'opp_free_throw_attempt_rate', 'opp_free_throw_percentage',

'opp_free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt', 'opp_offensive_rating',

'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage','opp_steal_percentage',

'opp_three_point_attempt_rate','opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage',

'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage','opp_total_rebound_percentage',

'opp_true_shooting_percentage', 'opp_turnover_percentage',

'pace', 'simple_rating_system', 'steal_percentage',

'strength_of_schedule', 'three_point_attempt_rate',

'three_point_field_goal_percentage', 'two_point_field_goal_percentage', 'two_point_field_goals',
```

'total\_rebound\_percentage', 'true\_shooting\_percentage', 'turnover\_percentage', 'win\_percentage'

2) The second source is a csv with the results of each game from each NCAA tournament dating back to 1985(Right now using only data from 2010-2019). I would use the results from these games (score differential) as the response variable to match up with the features from the prior source.

The csv was found on:

<a href="https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file?filename=Big\_D">https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file?filename=Big\_D</a> ance CSV.csv>

You can either make an account on the site to download the csv or access the copy I placed in the shared Google Drive folder.

Data pulled from Source:

'FinalScore Difference' (Response), 'Seed' (Feature)

'Year' and 'Team' (Merging)

So in total roughly 10 years of data x 68 teams x 40 features would mean around 27200 observations. I'm early in the process so these numbers might slightly change with more/less years or features.

## Software

I'm planning on working in Jupyter notebooks using the necessary data science or machine learning python packages. I won't need any external database software because in my notebook I'll be pulling in my data directly from the sources. I'll mainly use packages from sklearn for training and testing various models/methods. If I need to better visualize, understand, or explain results then I will use Tableau. I will use Google Drive for sharing any relevant files or code.

# Analysis plan & Model Specifications

# Analysis description

I've outlined my steps below that I will accomplish each week throughout the entirety of this project.

# Week 1 goals

- 1) Research topic ideas and submit project proposal
- 2) Find data sources that would make interesting project topics feasible

# Week 2 goals

- 1) Successfully import data into Jupyter Notebook
- 2) Merge and clean data

Much of the work this week will be trying to merge the 2 sources using the year and team. Looking at the data sources, it doesn't appear there will be any issues in cleaning the data, with the only possible missing values emerging from the merging process. At the end of this week I should have a single clean dataset from which I can begin further digging into the relationships and high level significance of the features.

## Week 3 goals

- Do exploratory analysis/preliminary testing to see what features are significant or could be cut from the model
- 2) See if the data needs to be standardized or feature scaling needs to occur
- 3) Split the data into training and test datasets

I will do some high-level regression testing to see if there are some features that are entirely insignificant or appear to be too similar to others. I will split the team and year columns as they are not needed for actual testing/regression. They will be rejoined at the end of the project when I need them to represent

Most of the features are on a similar scale with averages or on a per game level. There may be a few features that if I decide to keep I may need to scale to be more in line with the rest of the data(ex: strength of schedule is a ranking of 1-350 to show relative difficulty of schedules for teams compared with others)

I will split the team and year columns as they are not needed for actual testing/regression. They will be rejoined at the end of the project when I need them to identify the predicted winners of matchups based on the projected score differential. I will make sure to keep the correct order of the teams and years in the tuples in the training and test datasets before I split them off so that I will keep the correct order when I rejoin them.

# Week 4 goals

- 1) Test different models and adjust hyperparameters where needed
- Possible stacking of methods to get an aggregate/average if needed for further confidence

I will use the sklearn data science and machine learning packages to test various models and fine tune the hyperparameters. I will compare predictability across the models. If there are multiple models that I feel comfortable with or it seems that the models are giving significantly different results, then I will use stacking to come to aggregate predictions.

## Week 5 goals

 Settle on a model(s)/method(s) and use visualizations to explain performance of model(s)

The predictions I find from my selected model will be evaluated using metrics and scores found in the sklearn library. I will compare my selected model to the baseline model of selecting the favorite in each model. I will use visualizations through either Python or Tableau to display the comparisons in predictions and scores.

## Week 6 goals

- 1) Build further visualizations to aid presentation/explanations
- 2) Create video walkthrough
- 3) Submit project

The presentation should be straightforward where I will have most of my process described in comments or code in my Jupyter Notebook. I will use video recording software on my computer to show myself walking through my Notebook or whatever other relevant files/visualizations.

## Week 7 goals

1) Flex week in case I get behind schedule

# Delivery plan

In my presentation I will explain my source data and then walk through my Jupyter Notebook to explain my process. I will use visualizations to aid in explaining any decisions or results. Any work that is ready to be shared or can be used when I ask questions will be shared in the "Ready" folder within the shared Google Drive folder. I will use an "In Progress" folder for my personal use for anything I'm currently working on and then paste ready to be shared copies in the "Ready" folder.

#### \*Revised Below Garrett 3/18

I will first explain the process of the gathering of my source data. The difficulties behind it and why I chose those specific sources. Then I will transition to bringing that data into my Jupyter Notebook.

From there I will walk through the Notebook explaining my process. I will first show the steps I took to prepare the data. How I went about feature selection and scaling. Once I have the data I will show the benchmarks and performance metrics that I will be using to evaluate my model.

For the sake of time I will either skip through the runtime or have the results of running the model run before the walkthrough. I'll explain my justification and reasons for choosing/editing the model in this step.

After the model is run I will bring back those performance metrics and benchmarks to compare to and use visualizations to provide more clarity on these comparisons. If there are any visualizations that are not created directly in the Notebook, then I will paste them into a single Word Document that will have a link or comment to show where they are relevant in the Notebook.

Flask will be used to put the model into practice where the user will be given the option to choose a year(within the range of data used) and as long as the 2 inputted teams were in the tournament in the given year, then a predicted winner will be provided.

Any work that is ready to be shared or can be used when I ask questions will be shared in the "Ready" folder within the shared Google Drive folder. I will use an "In Progress" folder for my personal use for anything I'm currently working on and then paste ready to be shared copies in the "Ready" folder.

# DTSC 691 Machine Learning Project Submission Garrett Fanning

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For the most part, picking the winner of each game comes down to guessing or using your general basketball knowledge where it's impossible to consistently predict games correctly. The NCAA tournament at first glance may appear to have a lot of randomness, which has led many people to leverage the vast amount of college basketball data out there to create algorithms that can have more predictability than the simple guessing or just picking the consensus favorite for each game.

Kaggle has many competitions each year to give those with a data science background the opportunity to test their skills trying to create a model to accurately predict any possible matchup between teams in the tournament. There's plenty of other sponsored opportunities across the Internet for the general public to participate, such as when Warren Buffett offered \$1 billion to anyone able to get a perfect bracket, which is virtually impossible. For more context here is a link explaining that opportunity:

<a href="https://bleacherreport.com/articles/1931210-warren-buffet-will-pay-1-billion-to-fan-with-perfect-march-madness-bracket">https://bleacherreport.com/articles/1931210-warren-buffet-will-pay-1-billion-to-fan-with-perfect-march-madness-bracket</a>

My goal is to build a model with better predictability than benchmarks if I were to simply pick the favorite in each matchup(lower seed, #1 seed is better than #2) or pick the team with the better record. Once I am able to train and test a model, I hope to be able to use that model to help me with the current tournament that is about to begin.

I used regular season data to help predict and see how that translates to success in the NCAA tournament. All of the features I will be using are averages or on a per game basis because all teams don't play an equal amount of games in the regular season. Many of these features will not be used if they do not appear significant or are too similar to other features. I will predict winners of matchups in the NCAA tournament through predicting a final score differential, which can be interpreted as a positive differential means one team wins or negative would mean the other team.

I will use the Flask application to show my model in action and the predictions it provides based on the test data.

# Data description

 pip install pandas sklearn sportsreference → in terminal from sportsreference.ncaab.teams import Teams

The above code is showing that within sklearn there is an api that I can use to pull college basketball data from a vast sports data repository.

This dataset has 10 years of data with give or take 350 teams of season data per year. Some teams were added in the time period of the data resulting in an uneven amount of teams with data per year. For each team looking at a single year, I collected 40 variables of data that were either statistical game averages or rankings/ratings they were given or earned in that same year. The csv file that I downloaded from the API that directly pulls data from the sportsreference website was 101KB.

There is a glossary explaining each column of data here: <a href="https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/about/glossary.html">https://www.sports-reference.com/cbb/about/glossary.html</a>

```
Features pulled from data source(All features or used for merging):
'year','name','abbreviation', 'assist_percentage', 'block_percentage',
'effective_field_goal_percentage', 'field_goal_percentage', 'free_throw_attempt_rate',
'free_throw_percentage', 'free_throws_per_field_goal_attempt', 'offensive_rating',
'offensive_rebound_percentage', 'opp_assist_percentage', 'opp_block_percentage',
'opp_effective_field_goal_percentage','opp_field_goal_percentage',
'opp_free_throw_attempt_rate', 'opp_free_throw_percentage',
'opp_offensive_rebound_percentage','opp_steal_percentage',
'opp_three_point_attempt_rate','opp_three_point_field_goal_percentage',
'opp_two_point_field_goal_percentage','opp_total_rebound_percentage',
'opp_true_shooting_percentage', 'opp_turnover_percentage',
```

'pace', 'simple\_rating\_system', 'steal\_percentage', 'strength\_of\_schedule', 'three\_point\_attempt\_rate',

'three\_point\_field\_goal\_percentage', 'two\_point\_field\_goal\_percentage', 'two\_point\_field\_goals', 'total\_rebound\_percentage', 'true\_shooting\_percentage', 'turnover\_percentage', 'win\_percentage'

2) The second source is a dataset that has tournament games dating back to 1985. For the range of data used in the models, only games from 2010-2019 are relevant. The only feature from this file are the seeds and the response variable of final score difference is from this dataset. The full dataset downloaded from the website has 2205 rows and 10 columns of data. The csv file size is 101KB.

The csv was found on:

<a href="https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file?filename=Big\_D">https://data.world/michaelaroy/ncaa-tournament-results/workspace/file?filename=Big\_D</a> ance CSV.csv>

You can either make an account on the site to download the csv or access the copy I placed in the shared Google Drive folder.

Data pulled from Source: 'FinalScore\_Difference' (Response), 'Seed' (Feature) 'Year' and 'Team' (Merging)

# Software

I worked in Jupyter notebooks using the necessary data science or machine learning python packages. I didn't need any external database software because in my notebook I'll be pulling in my data directly from the sources. I mainly used packages from sklearn for training and testing various models/methods. Any visualizations were directly in the notebook. I chose Flask as the application to deploy my machine learning model and show it in use. I will use Google Drive for sharing any relevant files or code.

# **Analyses & Model Specifications**

## Week 1 schedule

- 1) Researched topic ideas and submit project proposal
- 2) Find data sources that would make interesting project topics feasible
  - a) There were many paid sources with extensive usable data for my sports topic, but not too many free sources. Fortunately a free source(sportsreference) I found online had all of the data I needed and even an API available through sklearn. The other source with the tournament data took some searching through the internet before I was able to find someone using that csv file for a similar project.

## Week 2 schedule

- 1) Successfully imported data into Jupyter Notebook
  - a) Running the API took some time to make sure I was getting the proper data. Each run takes 5-10 minutes, so after multiple attempts I was able to get the right data to save as a csv. Now the notebook only needs to quickly import that csv instead of running the csv.
- 2) Merge and clean data
  - a) Rename the columns to more identifiable names
  - b) There were no missing values other than an entire empty column that I removed
  - c) A significant amount of time was spent trying to adjust the team names in both datasets to ensure they would merge appropriately

## Week 3 schedule

- 1) Did exploratory analysis/preliminary testing to see what features are significant or could be cut from the model
  - a) Did linear regression on all columns/potential features to see significance
  - b) Ran correlation matrix to see potential to remove too similar features
  - c) Broke down data into subsets of offensive and defensive statistics for a deeper look
- 2) Split the data into training and test datasets
- 3) See if the data needs to be standardized or feature scaling needs to occur
  - a) Used standard scaler to scale all numerical features

I split the team and year columns as they are not needed for actual testing/regression. They will be rejoined at the end of the project when I need them to identify the predicted winners of matchups based on the projected score differential. I will make sure to keep the correct order of the teams and years in the tuples in the training and test datasets before I split them off so that I will keep the correct order when I rejoin them.

## Week 4 goals

- 1) Use PCA as an alternative method with a reduced feature set
- 2) Create benchmarks to compare final models to
  - a) Created linear regression models where 1) record as only feature 2) seed as only feature
  - b) Will compare MSE of those models with final models to see if those simple models were more accurate than the final models I created
- 3) Tested different models and adjust hyperparameters where needed
  - Used GridSearch for models to find optimal hyperparameters. With the multiple methods and variation of methods used(scaled data,PCA data) this process took a significant amount of processing time

## Week 5 goals

- 1) Fit the models
- 2) Find MSE for all models
- 3) Compare all models and make a decision on chosen/best model
  - a) The `Gradient Boosting Model` with no scaling was the lowest MSE and is the model I have chosen. The PCA for that non-scaled model didn't seem to make a significant change in the feature set.
  - b) The other individual models, according to the MSE, performed very similarly using their respective optimal parameters when fitting. The Voting Regression Model didn't perform as well as I initially thought it would. Upon further reflection that makes sense to me because the individual model optimal parameters and predictions may not actually combine well with the other models to produce a more optimal prediction, with many times the differing models potentially pulling and skewing the results in multiple directions for each prediction.
  - c) I was able to show that the individual models I ran, based only on MSE, would be beneficial to use over the benchmark strategies when filling out a tournament bracket to only select the team with the better seed or record.
  - d) The features and distribution of those features didn't need to be scaled or narrowed using PCA, and so there wasn't any clear benefit reflected in the MSE using those processes. As a result, the later models I created and fitted I decided that those processes didn't need to be included as they didn't add any clear benefit.

# Week 6 goals

- 1) Create Flask Application
- 2) Set up test dataset to be easily inputted into application
- 3) Confirm Flask results are same as results ran directly in Notebook

## Week 7 goals

- Prepare Notebook/Final Materials to be submitted (Project Submission, PDF)
- 2) Create video walkthrough
  - a) Straightforward presentation where I walk through my Jupyter Notebook and show any external sources of data
  - b) Show the use of the Flask Application
- 3) Submit project

# **Deliverables**

1) Video Presentation/Walkthrough

I first explained the process of the gathering of my source data. The difficulties behind it and why I chose those specific sources. Then I transitioned to bringing that data into my Jupyter Notebook.

From there I walk through the Notebook explaining my process. I first showed the steps I took to prepare the data. How I went about feature selection and scaling. Once I have the data I will show the benchmarks and performance metrics that I will be using to evaluate my models.

For the sake of time I either skipped through the runtime or had the results of running the models before the walkthrough.

After the model is run I will bring back those performance metrics and benchmarks to compare to. I then explained my chosen final model using the performance metric.

#### 2) Flask Files

Flask was used to put the model into practice where a user can input the feature data for a specific matchup then a predicted winner and how much that team will win by will be provided. Any necessary external files to run the application will be shared in the Google Drive.

#### 3) Project Submission/PDF

These files will help to summarize and provide all of the relevant files/processes used. They will also be provided in the shared Google Drive.