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DSC 530

Final Write Up

For my final project, I wanted to take a closer look at data from one of my favorite pass times. I chose to take a deeper dive into statistics from the 2019 College Football season. I have always been a big fan of the game of football, but having never played it myself, the strategies behind the game have always seemed foreign to me. On various television programs there is always discussion regarding the statistics each football team boasts, especially around the college football playoff selection. In this exercise I aimed to gain clarity around what statistics are reflective of a strong football team.

I believe that my exploratory data analysis was mildly successful. What I realized during my analysis is that a lot of the skills required of the project were within my capabilities but required that I used pieces of the data that brought about obvious conclusions. I wanted to ensure that I met all of the requirements, but had I been able to do things differently, my conclusions might be more meaningful. It is important to note, that I also may not have the skills currently to accomplish what I would call a meaningful analysis, but I will gain those skills eventually.

What I did conclude that I thought was important was the relationship between a strong offense and a strong defense. In my hypothesis testing I intentionally chose a dependent variable reflecting offensive strength and three explanatory variables indicating defensive strength. What was discovered is a statistically significant relationship between offensive strength and defensive strength.

I feel that I had all of the variables needed, but not all of the skills. I did not feel any assumptions were incorrect. The biggest challenge for me was fulfilling the requirements of the project while acknowledging that some of the results were then obvious outside of analysis.

This has been a great class, and while this may not have been as conclusive as I would have liked, I appreciate that I have grown as a future data scientist and acquired skills that I will use moving forward.