

# Prediction Project (Machine Learning)

## Introduction

This is an attempt to predict how well one of six people performed various barbell exercises. Data was collected using accelerometers on the belt, forearm, arm, and dumbbell of the six subjects. The subjects were asked to perform the lifts correctly and incorrectly in 5 different ways. This is given by the "classe" variable in the data set and takes values A-E. I will attempt to predict what "grade" was given to the particular movement based on the accelerometer data provided.

This seemed to be a classification problem, and as such I chose a random forest algorithm for predicting the classe variable rather than a regression. I split the data into a training and test set, trained the algorithm on the training set, then tested it to gauge the out-of-sample performance.

## Data Cleaning

For brevity, I won't show the code to download the data and read.csv.

```
download.file("https://d396qusza40orc.cloudfront.net/predmachlearn/pml-training.csv", destfile = "training.csv")
train_data <- read.csv("training.csv")
library(caret)
```

```
## Loading required package: lattice
## Loading required package: ggplot2
```

I quickly checked the data using some simple summary functions:

```
str(train_data)
```

```

## 'data.frame':   19622 obs. of  160 variables:
## $ X                      : int  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
## $ user_name              : Factor w/ 6 levels "adelmo","carlitos",...: 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
## $ raw_timestamp_part_1   : int  1323084231 1323084231 1323084231 1323084232 1323084232 1323084232 1323084232 ...
## $ raw_timestamp_part_2   : int  788290 808298 820366 120339 196328 304277 368296 440390 484323 484434 ...
## $ cvtd_timestamp        : Factor w/ 20 levels "02/12/2011 13:32",...: 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 ...
## $ new_window             : Factor w/ 2 levels "no","yes": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ num_window             : int  11 11 11 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 ...
## $ roll_belt              : num  1.41 1.41 1.42 1.48 1.48 1.45 1.42 1.42 1.43 1.45 ...
## $ pitch_belt             : num  8.07 8.07 8.07 8.05 8.07 8.06 8.09 8.13 8.16 8.17 ...
## $ yaw_belt               : num  -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 -94.4 ...
## $ total_accel_belt       : int  3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...
## $ kurtosis_roll_belt     : Factor w/ 397 levels "", "-0.016850",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ kurtosis_pitch_belt    : Factor w/ 317 levels "", "-0.021887",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ kurtosis_yaw_belt      : Factor w/ 2 levels "", "#DIV/0!": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_roll_belt     : Factor w/ 395 levels "", "-0.003095",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_roll_belt.1   : Factor w/ 338 levels "", "-0.005928",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_yaw_belt      : Factor w/ 2 levels "", "#DIV/0!": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ max_roll_belt          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_pitch_belt         : int  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_yaw_belt           : Factor w/ 68 levels "", "-0.1", "-0.2",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ min_roll_belt          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_pitch_belt         : int  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_yaw_belt           : Factor w/ 68 levels "", "-0.1", "-0.2",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ amplitude_roll_belt    : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ amplitude_pitch_belt   : int  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ amplitude_yaw_belt     : Factor w/ 4 levels "", "#DIV/0!", "0.00",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ var_total_accel_belt   : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_roll_belt          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_roll_belt       : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ var_roll_belt          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_pitch_belt         : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_pitch_belt      : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ var_pitch_belt         : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_yaw_belt           : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_yaw_belt        : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...

```

```

## $ var_yaw_belt      : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ gyros_belt_x      : num  0 0.02 0 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.03 ...
## $ gyros_belt_y      : num  0 0 0 0 0.02 0 0 0 0 0 ...
## $ gyros_belt_z      : num  -0.02 -0.02 -0.02 -0.03 -0.02 -0.02 -0.02 -0.02 -0.0
2 0 ...
## $ accel_belt_x      : int   -21 -22 -20 -22 -21 -21 -22 -22 -20 -21 ...
## $ accel_belt_y      : int    4 4 5 3 2 4 3 4 2 4 ...
## $ accel_belt_z      : int   22 22 23 21 24 21 21 21 24 22 ...
## $ magnet_belt_x     : int   -3 -7 -2 -6 -6 0 -4 -2 1 -3 ...
## $ magnet_belt_y     : int  599 608 600 604 600 603 599 603 602 609 ...
## $ magnet_belt_z     : int  -313 -311 -305 -310 -302 -312 -311 -313 -312 -308
...
## $ roll_arm          : num  -128 -128 -128 -128 -128 -128 -128 -128 -128 -128
...
## $ pitch_arm         : num  22.5 22.5 22.5 22.1 22.1 22 21.9 21.8 21.7 21.6 ...
## $ yaw_arm           : num  -161 -161 -161 -161 -161 -161 -161 -161 -161 -161
...
## $ total_accel_arm   : int   34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 ...
## $ var_accel_arm     : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_roll_arm      : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_roll_arm   : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ var_roll_arm      : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_pitch_arm     : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_pitch_arm  : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ var_pitch_arm     : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ avg_yaw_arm       : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ stddev_yaw_arm    : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ var_yaw_arm       : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ gyros_arm_x       : num  0 0.02 0.02 0.02 0 0.02 0 0.02 0.02 0.02 ...
## $ gyros_arm_y       : num  0 -0.02 -0.02 -0.03 -0.03 -0.03 -0.03 -0.02 -0.03
-0.03 ...
## $ gyros_arm_z       : num  -0.02 -0.02 -0.02 0.02 0 0 0 0 -0.02 -0.02 ...
## $ accel_arm_x       : int  -288 -290 -289 -289 -289 -289 -289 -289 -288 -288
...
## $ accel_arm_y       : int   109 110 110 111 111 111 111 111 109 110 ...
## $ accel_arm_z       : int  -123 -125 -126 -123 -123 -122 -125 -124 -122 -124
...
## $ magnet_arm_x      : int  -368 -369 -368 -372 -374 -369 -373 -372 -369 -376
...
## $ magnet_arm_y      : int   337 337 344 344 337 342 336 338 341 334 ...
## $ magnet_arm_z      : int   516 513 513 512 506 513 509 510 518 516 ...
## $ kurtosis_roll_arm : Factor w/ 330 levels "", "-0.02438",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 ...
## $ kurtosis_pitch_arm : Factor w/ 328 levels "", "-0.00484",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 ...
## $ kurtosis_yaw_arm   : Factor w/ 395 levels "", "-0.01548",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 ...
## $ skewness_roll_arm  : Factor w/ 331 levels "", "-0.00051",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 ...
## $ skewness_pitch_arm : Factor w/ 328 levels "", "-0.00184",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1

```

```

1 ...
## $ skewness_yaw_arm      : Factor w/ 395 levels "", "-0.00311", ...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 ...
## $ max_roll_arm          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_pitch_arm         : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_yaw_arm           : int   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_roll_arm          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_pitch_arm         : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_yaw_arm           : int   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ amplitude_roll_arm    : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ amplitude_pitch_arm   : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ amplitude_yaw_arm     : int   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ roll_dumbbell         : num   13.1 13.1 12.9 13.4 13.4 ...
## $ pitch_dumbbell        : num  -70.5 -70.6 -70.3 -70.4 -70.4 ...
## $ yaw_dumbbell          : num  -84.9 -84.7 -85.1 -84.9 -84.9 ...
## $ kurtosis_roll_dumbbell : Factor w/ 398 levels "", "-0.0035", "-0.0073", ...: 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ kurtosis_pitch_dumbbell : Factor w/ 401 levels "", "-0.0163", "-0.0233", ...: 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ kurtosis_yaw_dumbbell  : Factor w/ 2 levels "", "#DIV/0!": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_roll_dumbbell : Factor w/ 401 levels "", "-0.0082", "-0.0096", ...: 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_pitch_dumbbell : Factor w/ 402 levels "", "-0.0053", "-0.0084", ...: 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ skewness_yaw_dumbbell  : Factor w/ 2 levels "", "#DIV/0!": 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ max_roll_dumbbell      : num   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_pitch_dumbbell     : num   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ max_yaw_dumbbell       : Factor w/ 73 levels "", "-0.1", "-0.2", ...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 ...
## $ min_roll_dumbbell      : num   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_pitch_dumbbell     : num   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ min_yaw_dumbbell       : Factor w/ 73 levels "", "-0.1", "-0.2", ...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 ...
## $ amplitude_roll_dumbbell : num   NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## [list output truncated]

```

```
colSums(is.na(train_data))
```

```

##          X          user_name  raw_timestamp_part_1
##          0          0          0
##  raw_timestamp_part_2  cvtd_timestamp  new_window
##          0          0          0
##          num_window  roll_belt  pitch_belt
##          0          0          0
##          yaw_belt  total_accel_belt  kurtosis_roll_belt
##          0          0          0
##  kurtosis_picth_belt  kurtosis_yaw_belt  skewness_roll_belt
##          0          0          0
##  skewness_roll_belt.1  skewness_yaw_belt  max_roll_belt
##          0          0          19216
##  max_picth_belt  max_yaw_belt  min_roll_belt
##          19216          0          19216
##  min_pitch_belt  min_yaw_belt  amplitude_roll_belt
##          19216          0          19216
##  amplitude_pitch_belt  amplitude_yaw_belt  var_total_accel_belt
##          19216          0          19216
##  avg_roll_belt  stddev_roll_belt  var_roll_belt
##          19216          19216          19216
##  avg_pitch_belt  stddev_pitch_belt  var_pitch_belt
##          19216          19216          19216
##  avg_yaw_belt  stddev_yaw_belt  var_yaw_belt
##          19216          19216          19216
##  gyros_belt_x  gyros_belt_y  gyros_belt_z
##          0          0          0
##  accel_belt_x  accel_belt_y  accel_belt_z
##          0          0          0
##  magnet_belt_x  magnet_belt_y  magnet_belt_z
##          0          0          0
##  roll_arm  pitch_arm  yaw_arm
##          0          0          0
##  total_accel_arm  var_accel_arm  avg_roll_arm
##          0          19216          19216
##  stddev_roll_arm  var_roll_arm  avg_pitch_arm
##          19216          19216          19216
##  stddev_pitch_arm  var_pitch_arm  avg_yaw_arm
##          19216          19216          19216
##  stddev_yaw_arm  var_yaw_arm  gyros_arm_x
##          19216          19216          0
##  gyros_arm_y  gyros_arm_z  accel_arm_x
##          0          0          0
##  accel_arm_y  accel_arm_z  magnet_arm_x
##          0          0          0
##  magnet_arm_y  magnet_arm_z  kurtosis_roll_arm
##          0          0          0
##  kurtosis_picth_arm  kurtosis_yaw_arm  skewness_roll_arm
##          0          0          0
##  skewness_pitch_arm  skewness_yaw_arm  max_roll_arm
##          0          0          19216

```

##	max_picth_arm	max_yaw_arm	min_roll_arm
##	19216	19216	19216
##	min_pitch_arm	min_yaw_arm	amplitude_roll_arm
##	19216	19216	19216
##	amplitude_pitch_arm	amplitude_yaw_arm	roll_dumbbell
##	19216	19216	0
##	pitch_dumbbell	yaw_dumbbell	kurtosis_roll_dumbbell
##	0	0	0
##	kurtosis_picth_dumbbell	kurtosis_yaw_dumbbell	skewness_roll_dumbbell
##	0	0	0
##	skewness_pitch_dumbbell	skewness_yaw_dumbbell	max_roll_dumbbell
##	0	0	19216
##	max_picth_dumbbell	max_yaw_dumbbell	min_roll_dumbbell
##	19216	0	19216
##	min_pitch_dumbbell	min_yaw_dumbbell	amplitude_roll_dumbbell
##	19216	0	19216
##	amplitude_pitch_dumbbell	amplitude_yaw_dumbbell	total_accel_dumbbell
##	19216	0	0
##	var_accel_dumbbell	avg_roll_dumbbell	stddev_roll_dumbbell
##	19216	19216	19216
##	var_roll_dumbbell	avg_pitch_dumbbell	stddev_pitch_dumbbell
##	19216	19216	19216
##	var_pitch_dumbbell	avg_yaw_dumbbell	stddev_yaw_dumbbell
##	19216	19216	19216
##	var_yaw_dumbbell	gyros_dumbbell_x	gyros_dumbbell_y
##	19216	0	0
##	gyros_dumbbell_z	accel_dumbbell_x	accel_dumbbell_y
##	0	0	0
##	accel_dumbbell_z	magnet_dumbbell_x	magnet_dumbbell_y
##	0	0	0
##	magnet_dumbbell_z	roll_forearm	pitch_forearm
##	0	0	0
##	yaw_forearm	kurtosis_roll_forearm	kurtosis_picth_forearm
##	0	0	0
##	kurtosis_yaw_forearm	skewness_roll_forearm	skewness_pitch_forearm
##	0	0	0
##	skewness_yaw_forearm	max_roll_forearm	max_picth_forearm
##	0	19216	19216
##	max_yaw_forearm	min_roll_forearm	min_pitch_forearm
##	0	19216	19216
##	min_yaw_forearm	amplitude_roll_forearm	amplitude_pitch_forearm
##	0	19216	19216
##	amplitude_yaw_forearm	total_accel_forearm	var_accel_forearm
##	0	0	19216
##	avg_roll_forearm	stddev_roll_forearm	var_roll_forearm
##	19216	19216	19216
##	avg_pitch_forearm	stddev_pitch_forearm	var_pitch_forearm
##	19216	19216	19216
##	avg_yaw_forearm	stddev_yaw_forearm	var_yaw_forearm
##	19216	19216	19216

```
##      gyros_forearm_x      gyros_forearm_y      gyros_forearm_z
##              0              0              0
##      accel_forearm_x      accel_forearm_y      accel_forearm_z
##              0              0              0
##      magnet_forearm_x      magnet_forearm_y      magnet_forearm_z
##              0              0              0
##              classe
##              0
```

There seems to be a bunch of variables that are factor variables or have an excessive amount of NAs. Additionally, a few of the variables seem to be a lot of very similar values repeated (low variance).

How to deal with the very low variance predictors is not obvious. I elected to eliminate all of them for simplicity, although this is not always optimal, given that even these variables can contain valuable information for the model to use. That said, after looking over the data I felt I'd still get a very accurate model without trying to figure out whether or not I could improve a little by retaining one or two of the low variance predictors.

The following steps address these issues by removing low variance predictors, any predictor with more than 5 NA's, and any non-numeric variables.

```
set.seed(1001)
inTrain <- createDataPartition(y=train_data$classe, p=.75, list=FALSE)
training <- train_data[inTrain,]
testing <- train_data[-inTrain,]

df <- training[, -nearZeroVar(training)]
na1 <- apply(df, 2, function(x) sum(is.na(x)) < 5)
clean_train <- df[, na1]
clean_train2 <- clean_train
clean_train2$user_name <- NULL
clean_train2$raw_timestamp_part_1 <- NULL
clean_train2$raw_timestamp_part_2 <- NULL
clean_train2$cvt_d_timestamp <- NULL
clean_train2$new_window <- NULL
clean_train2$X <- NULL
clean_train2$num_window <- NULL
```

This leaves us with 52 predictors, all of which are movement characteristics that are either of class "integer" or "numeric", and none of which are low variance.

## Model Training

I now train a random forest algorithm on the above cleaned and processed data set. I selected to preprocess the data using a Principle Component Analysis. Given that the remaining predictors are all different movement patterns, a weighted combination of them seemed to make sense, making a PCA appropriate.

```
rf10 <- train(classe~., preProcess="pca", method="rf", ntree=250, data=clean_train2)
```

```
## Loading required package: randomForest
## randomForest 4.6-12
## Type rfNews() to see new features/changes/bug fixes.
##
## Attaching package: 'randomForest'
##
## The following object is masked from 'package:ggplot2':
##
##     margin
```

```
## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid
## mtry: reset to within valid range
```

```
## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid
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## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid
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## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid  
## mtry: reset to within valid range
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## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid  
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```

```
## Warning in randomForest.default(x, y, mtry = param$mtry, ...): invalid  
## mtry: reset to within valid range
```

```
print(rf10$finalModel)
```

```
##
## Call:
## randomForest(x = x, y = y, ntree = 250, mtry = param$mtry)
##           Type of random forest: classification
##           Number of trees: 250
## No. of variables tried at each split: 2
##
##           OOB estimate of  error rate: 2.58%
## Confusion matrix:
##      A      B      C      D      E class.error
## A 4146    18    10     9     2 0.009318996
## B   39 2755    48     3     3 0.032654494
## C    5   49 2474    33     6 0.036229061
## D    3    2   95 2308     4 0.043117745
## E    2   11   18   19 2656 0.018477458
```

I set ntree=250 to cut down on computing time, even though this will sacrifice a little accuracy over the default of 500 trees.

The OOB estimate of error is 2.45%. This is probably generous. Below is the confusion matrix for my testing data. The error rate is about .026 (2.6%), so just north of the estimate provided by R.

```
pred <- predict(rf10, newdata = testing)
testing$predright <- pred==testing$classe
table(pred, testing$classe)
```

```
##
## pred      A      B      C      D      E
## A 1385    11     0     1     0
## B   3  927     8     0     1
## C   5   8  839    25    13
## D   1   1   8  777     6
## E   1   2   0   1  881
```

```
error_rate <- pred==testing$classe
table(error_rate)
```

```
## error_rate
## FALSE  TRUE
##    95 4809
```

```
127/4904
```

```
## [1] 0.02589723
```

In general, the model appears to do pretty well with the A and E values, but struggles a little more to separate between B/C/D.