

Wins from Finance? An Analysis of NFL Contract Data

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Question

- Can how an NFL team spends its money meaningfully predict its success?
- Which positions give the greatest return on investment?

- Scraped from [spotrac.com](https://www.sportstracker.com)
- Salaries for each position group for all 32 teams
- Injured reserve, active salaries, and dead cap
- Entirety of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement

- A 60-20-20 train, validate, and test split
- Lasso model with parameter found from the validation set.
- Final model trained on train and validate, then tested

1. Active Contracts
2. Injured Reserve
3. Dead Cap
4. Defensive Line
5. Quarterback
6. Special Teams
7. Offensive Line

Error Metrics

- Training RMSE of 2.404
- Testing RMSE 2.843
- Around 0.4 difference in error over a 16 game season

