

Predictive Modeling of IPL First Innings Final Scores

Executive Presentation

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Context

The Indian Premier League (IPL) is a premier cricket league that attracts global attention. Predicting the final scores in the first innings is crucial for strategic decision-making and enhances the viewing experience. This project aims to leverage historical data to forecast these scores accurately.

Problem Statement

Accurately predicting the final score of the first innings in IPL matches presents a significant analytical challenge. The ability to make such predictions would be highly beneficial for team strategies, betting markets, and fan engagement.

Criteria for Success

The project's success will be evaluated based on the Mean Absolute Error (MAE) of the predictive model, with the goal to outperform the baseline model's MAE and provide actionable insights for stakeholders.

Data Sources

Comprehensive ball-by-ball match data from 2008 to 2022 was used, including detailed statistics and match outcomes. This rich dataset provides the foundation for our predictive modeling efforts.

Data Wrangling and Feature Engineering

Data cleaning and preparation were performed to ensure quality inputs for the model. Features were engineered to encapsulate important aspects of the game such as total runs, wickets, balls faced, and more.

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

An initial exploration of the data was conducted to understand the distributions and relationships between different variables. This analysis included examining the correlation between current scores, wickets fallen, and the final scores of the innings.

Results Overview

The predictive models were evaluated, and the results indicate that:

- Linear Model MAE: 14.09
- Mean Model MAE: 23.14
- Random Forest Model MAE: 0.52
- XGBoost Model MAE: 5.85

The Random Forest model significantly outperformed other models, suggesting its robustness in predicting the final scores.

Feature Importances

The Random Forest model identified several key features that impact the final score prediction. These include the current score, wickets fallen, and historical performance metrics. Understanding the importance of these features can help refine the model further.

Future Work and Enhancements

Future improvements will focus on integrating real-time data and exploring advanced modeling techniques. Further refinement of the feature set and model parameters is also planned to enhance prediction accuracy.

Conclusion

The project has successfully developed a model that predicts the final score of the first innings in IPL matches with high accuracy. These predictions can provide valuable insights for teams and other stakeholders involved in the IPL.