

Turner Schwiebert

Seminar in Data Analytics

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### Ethical Statement

The performance data I will use for my research comes from FBRef: a free, open-source platform for professional soccer data. It is a data source I am familiar with because I have web scraped this website for a previous independent project. Thus, this data is not sensitive since it measures the performance of professional soccer players from Europe's top five leagues: Premier League, Bundesliga, Ligue 1, Serie A, and La Liga. Data security is not a large focus of my project because the collected data is not sensitive and comes from an open-source website.

Furthermore, the data I am collecting does not pose any risk to the human subjects being measured, even though it is identifiable. As previously stated, it measures performance data of professional soccer players in Europe. This performance data will be used to profile these players into modern positional roles. One potential future implication of this research could influence team recruitment decisions due to its ability to evaluate team needs. However, the research poses little to no risk to their careers since all players being studied are currently under contract. Even though this research could determine which teams want which players, these professional players will be in demand regardless of which cluster they end up in through this project. This is because team needs vary from team to team. Thus, this research will have little negative impact on the players' careers. It is also worth noting that this research poses no risk of physical or emotional harm to these players.

When conducting my analysis, I will comment on my code and keep my files organized in a GitHub repository and README file to ensure a reproducible research process with genuine results. This sentiment will also be prioritized in my use of analytical methods, especially with “black box” methods such as k-means and hierarchical clustering.

It is also worth noting that I have no conflict of interest with this research. I am not conducting this research with any external organization. The motivation behind this project is simply to produce insights about modern professional soccer and not for any other benefit.