

```
18
     theme_reach <- function() {</pre>
19
       theme_fivethirtyeight() +
20
         theme(
21
           legend.position = "none",
22
           plot.title = element_text(size = 22, hjust = 0.5, face = "bold"),
           plot.subtitle = element_text(size = 18, hjust = 0.5),
23
24
           plot.caption = element_text(size = 16),
25
           axis.title.x = element_text(size=18),
26
           axis.title.y = element_text(size=18),
27
           axis.text = element_text(size = 14),
           strip.text = element_text(size = 16, face = "bold"),
28
           legend.text = element_text(size = 14)
29
30
31
    }
32
33
    # Load in play-by-play data
     pbp <- load_pbp(2014:2021)</pre>
34
35
36
    # Check what type of plays happen on 4th down
37
     pbp %>%
      filter(down == 4) %>%
38
39
       group_by(play_type) %>%
       tally(sort = T)
40
41
42
     # Get 4th downs
     fourth downs <- pbp %>%
43
       filter(down == 4, !play_type %in% c("no_play", "qb_kneel", NA)) %>%
44
      mutate(went_for_it = ifelse(play_type %in% c("pass", "run"), 1, 0)) %>%
45
       select(posteam, defteam, home_team, season, week, game_id, play_id, desc,
46
47
              play_type, down, yardline_100, ydstogo, half_seconds_remaining, wp,
              wpa, score differential, ep, epa, temp, wind, went for it) %>%
48
49
       filter(!is.na(epa))
50
51
    # Check for NA's
52
     colSums(is.na(fourth downs))
53
54
    fourth downs <- fourth downs %>%
```

```
55
       mutate(temp = ifelse(is.na(temp), 70, temp),
              wind = ifelse(is.na(wind), 0, wind))
56
57
     # Select the data we want for the model
58
59
     model_data <- fourth_downs %>%
60
       select(went_for_it, yardline_100, ydstogo, half_seconds_remaining, wp,
              score_differential, ep, temp, wind, season)
61
62
     # Build our random forest
63
     rf_4th <- ranger(went_for_it ~ ., data = model_data,</pre>
64
                      num.trees = 100, importance = "impurity")
65
66
     # Check variable importance of random forest
67
     vip(rf_4th) + theme_reach()
68
69
70
     # Make a grid for tuning
     dim(model_data)
71
     rf_grid \leftarrow expand_grid(mtry = seq(2, 8, by = 1),
72
73
                   splitrule = "variance") # For classification
74
75
     set.seed(2014) # go lions
76
77
     # Use the tuning grid
78
     rf_4th_tune <-
       train(went_for_it ~ ., data = model_data,
79
             method = "ranger", num.trees = 100,
80
             trControl = trainControl(method = "cv", number = 5),
81
             tuneGrid = rf_grid)
82
83
     # Get the results from the best tune
84
85
     rf_4th_tune$bestTune
86
87
     # Remake random forest with tuning parameters
     rf_4th_best <- ranger(went_for_it ~ ., data = model_data,</pre>
88
89
                            num.trees = 100, importance = "impurity",
90
                            mtrv = 5
91
```

```
# Get predictions
92
93
     rf_preds <- data.frame(predict(rf_4th_best, data.frame(model_data))$predictions)</pre>
94
     names(rf preds)
95
96
97
     rf_preds <- rf_preds %>%
       rename(exp_go = predict.rf_4th_best..data.frame.model_data...predictions)
98
99
     # Bind the original dataset and predictions together
100
     fourth_downs_rf_projs <- cbind(fourth_downs, rf_preds)</pre>
101
102
103
     fourth_downs_rf_projs <- fourth_downs_rf_projs %>%
       mutate(go_over_expected = went_for_it - exp_go)
104
105
     # Check 2021 stats
106
107
     rf team stats <- fourth downs rf projs %>%
       filter(season == 2021) %>%
108
109
       group_by(posteam) %>%
       summarize(avg_gooe = 100*mean(go_over_expected),
110
                 wpa = 100*mean(wpa)) %>%
111
       left join(teams colors logos, by = c("posteam" = "team abbr"))
112
113
     # Make graph
114
115
     rf_team_stats %>%
       ggplot(aes(x = avg\_gooe, y = wpa)) +
116
117
       geom image(aes(image = team logo espn), asp = 16/9, size = 0.05) +
       theme_reach() +
118
       labs(x = "Go For It Rate Over Expected",
119
            y = "WPA Added on 4th Downs",
120
121
            title = "Go For It Rate Over Expected and WPA on 4th Downs in 2021",
122
            subtitle = "WPA = Win Probability Added",
123
            caption = "By Tej Seth | @tejfbanalytics | M-FANS")
124
     gqsave('qo-oe.png', width = 15, height = 10, dpi = "retina")
125
126
     127
128
     # Make xgboost grid
```

```
129
      xgboost_tune_grid <- expand.grid(nrounds = seg(from = 20, to = 200, by = 20),</pre>
130
                                         eta = c(0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 0.3), gamma = 0,
                                        max_depth = c(1, 2, 3, 4), colsample_bytree = 1,
131
                                         min child weight = 1, subsample = 1)
132
      xgboost_tune_control <- trainControl(method = "cv", number = 5, verboseIter = FALSE)</pre>
133
      set.seed(2011) # go lions
134
135
136
      # Tune xgboost grid
137
      xqb tune <- train(x = as.matrix(dplyr::select(model data, -went for it)),</pre>
138
                         y = model_data$went_for_it, trControl = xgboost_tune_control,
139
                         tuneGrid = xqboost tune grid,
                         objective = "reg:squarederror", method = "xgbTree",
140
                         verbose = TRUE)
141
142
      # Get the best tune
143
144
      xgb_tune$bestTune
145
146
      # Set xgboost parameters
      nrounds <- 100
147
148
      params <-
        list(
149
150
          booster = "gbtree",
          objective = "binary:logistic",
151
152
          eval_metric = c("logloss"),
153
          eta = 0.025,
154
          qamma = 5,
          subsample = 0.8,
155
          colsample_bytree = 0.8,
156
157
          max_depth = 4,
158
          min_child_weight = 6,
          base score = mean(model data$went for it)
159
160
161
162
      seasons \leftarrow seg(2014, 2021, 1)
163
164
      # Make the holdout model
165
      cv results <- map dfr(seasons, function(x) {</pre>
```

```
166
        test_data <- model_data %>%
167
          filter(season == x) %>%
          select(-season)
168
169
        train_data <- model_data %>%
170
          filter(season != x) %>%
          select(-season)
171
172
        full_train <- xgboost::xgb.DMatrix(model.matrix(~ . + 0, data = train_data %>% select(-went_for_it)),
173
174
                                            label = train_data$went_for_it
175
        )
        xq 4th <- xgboost::xgboost(params = params, data = full train, nrounds = nrounds, verbose = 2)</pre>
176
177
178
        preds <- as.data.frame(</pre>
179
          matrix(predict(xg_4th, as.matrix(test_data %>% select(-went_for_it))))
        ) %>%
180
          dplyr::rename(exp go = V1)
181
182
183
        cv_data <- bind_cols(test_data, preds) %>% mutate(season = x)
184
        return(cv_data)
185
      })
186
187
      # Get the predictions
188
      xg_preds <- cv_results %>% select(exp_go)
189
      # Put it all together
190
191
      fourth_downs_xg_projs <- cbind(fourth_downs, xg_preds)</pre>
192
193
      fourth downs xq projs <- fourth downs xq projs %>%
194
        mutate(go_oe = went_for_it - exp_go)
195
196
      # Check the team stats from xgboost
197
      xg team stats <- fourth downs xg projs %>%
198
        filter(season == 2021) %>%
199
        group by(posteam) %>%
200
        summarize(avg gooe = 100*mean(go oe),
201
                  wpa = 100*mean(wpa))
202
```

203