# Project C

```
# R studio API
setwd(dirname(rstudioapi::getActiveDocumentContext()$path))
```

### Libraries

```
library(tidyverse)
library(caret)
library(careless)
library(xgboost)
```

### Data import and cleaning

```
# Data import
c_tbl <- read_csv("../data/project c data.csv") %>%
              = factor(id))
 mutate(id
## Parsed with column specification:
##
     .default = col_double(),
     Gender = col_character()
## )
## See spec(...) for full column specifications.
# Data cleaning
# identify long strings
  # Personality scale
BFAS_longstring <- c_tbl %>%
  select(BFAS_A_1:BFAS_A_100) %>%
  longstring(., avg = T) %>%
  # add unique ID
  mutate(id
                         = c_tbl$id) %>%
  # rename longstr varaible
  rename(BFAS_longstr
                              = longstr) %>%
  select(-avgstr) %>%
  # reorder variables
  select(id, everything())
  # Self-efficacy scale
SE_longstring <- c_tbl %>%
  select(SE_1:SE_16) %>%
  longstring(., avg = T) %>%
  # add unique ID
```

```
mutate(id
                        = c_tbl$id) %>%
 # rename longstr varaible
 rename(SE_longstr
                         = longstr) %>%
 select(-avgstr) %>%
 # reorder variables
 select(id, everything())
 # Test anxiety scale
anx_longstring <- c_tbl %>%
 select(anx_1:anx_10) %>%
 longstring(., avg = T) %>%
 # add unique ID
 mutate(id
                        = c tbl$id) %>%
 # rename longstr varaible
 rename(anx_longstr
                           = longstr) %>%
 select(-avgstr) %>%
 # reorder variables
 select(id, everything())
# Cleaned dataset
c_tbl_cleaned <- c_tbl %>%
 # combine longstring variables to data
 full_join(BFAS_longstring, by = "id") %>%
 full_join(SE_longstring, by = "id") %>%
 full_join(anx_longstring, by = "id") %>%
 # drop missing values in dependent variable: Final exam
 drop_na(Final) %>%
 # convert variables to appropriate type
 mutate(Gender = factor(Gender)) %>%
 # remove id column
 select(-id) %>%
 # reorder to make DV as 1st column
 select(Final, everything())
```

## **Analysis**

#### **XGBoost**

#### OLS

```
lm_mod <- train(Final ~ .,</pre>
                  data = training_data,
                  # lm
                  method = "lm",
                  # treat missing values
                  na.action = na.pass,
                  # set cross-validation to be 10 fold
                  trControl = trainControl("cv", number = 10))
## Warning in predict.lm(modelFit, newdata): prediction from a rank-deficient fit
## may be misleading
## Warning in predict.lm(modelFit, newdata): prediction from a rank-deficient fit
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## may be misleading
## Warning in predict.lm(modelFit, newdata): prediction from a rank-deficient fit
## may be misleading
## Warning in predict.lm(modelFit, newdata): prediction from a rank-deficient fit
## may be misleading
summary(lm_mod)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = .outcome ~ ., data = dat)
## Residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                 3Q
                                        Max
## -55.870 -3.648
                     0.053
                              4.336 20.449
##
## Coefficients: (14 not defined because of singularities)
##
                                                    Estimate Std. Error t value
## (Intercept)
                                                   75.866470
                                                               0.491540 154.344
## Exam1
                                                    4.215631
                                                               0.617380
                                                                           6.828
                                                               0.664597
## Exam2
                                                    2.997457
                                                                           4.510
## Exam3
                                                    8.500612
                                                               0.643594
                                                                         13.208
## HS_GPA
                                                    1.044435
                                                               0.408324
                                                                           2.558
## COMP_ACT_SCORE
                                                    0.694911
                                                               0.503792
                                                                           1.379
## TRANS_TOT_CR
                                                               0.406810
                                                                           1.255
                                                    0.510570
## BFAS A 1
                                                    2.932787
                                                               2.253267
                                                                           1.302
## BFAS_A_2
                                                   -0.103385
                                                               0.457177
                                                                          -0.226
## BFAS_A_3
                                                   -0.216738
                                                               0.476626
                                                                          -0.455
## BFAS_A_4
                                                    0.180124
                                                               0.519963
                                                                          0.346
## BFAS A 5
                                                   -0.532785
                                                               0.488227
                                                                          -1.091
## BFAS_A_6
                                                    0.635110
                                                               0.538998
                                                                           1.178
## BFAS A 7
                                                    0.080832
                                                               0.467412
                                                                           0.173
## BFAS_A_8
                                                   -0.017610
                                                               0.456882 -0.039
## BFAS A 9
                                                    0.436678
                                                               0.549782
                                                                          0.794
## BFAS_A_10
                                                    0.273037
                                                               0.431320
                                                                          0.633
## BFAS_A_11
                                                   -2.764270
                                                               2.182637
                                                                         -1.266
## BFAS_A_12
                                                    0.127435
                                                               0.520473
                                                                          0.245
                                                               0.530412
## BFAS_A_13
                                                    0.945562
                                                                           1.783
## BFAS_A_14
                                                    0.270178
                                                               0.506129
                                                                           0.534
## BFAS_A_15
                                                   -0.306098
                                                               0.466574
                                                                         -0.656
## BFAS_A_16
                                                    0.466785
                                                               0.548794
                                                                           0.851
## BFAS_A_17
                                                   -0.546214
                                                               0.470563
                                                                         -1.161
## BFAS_A_18
                                                    0.505520
                                                               0.508093
                                                                          0.995
## BFAS_A_19
                                                    0.511996
                                                               0.497364
                                                                          1.029
## BFAS A 20
                                                   -0.361061
                                                               0.535605
                                                                         -0.674
## BFAS_A_21
                                                    2.385145
                                                               1.860463
                                                                           1.282
## BFAS_A_22
                                                    0.451083
                                                               0.499589
                                                                           0.903
## BFAS_A_23
                                                   -0.392410
                                                               0.537500 -0.730
## BFAS A 24
                                                   -0.355601
                                                               0.477901
                                                                         -0.744
## BFAS A 25
                                                                         -0.271
                                                   -0.137632
                                                               0.507179
## BFAS A 26
                                                    0.782219
                                                               0.541618
                                                                          1.444
## BFAS_A_27
                                                   -0.295686
                                                               0.414439
                                                                         -0.713
## BFAS_A_28
                                                   -0.414004
                                                               0.514628
                                                                         -0.804
## BFAS_A_29
                                                                         -0.847
                                                   -0.404503
                                                               0.477652
## BFAS_A_30
                                                    0.355571
                                                               0.429888
                                                                          0.827
## BFAS_A_31
                                                   -3.151001
                                                               2.027961
                                                                         -1.554
## BFAS_A_32
                                                    0.709984
                                                               0.466622
                                                                          1.522
## BFAS_A_33
                                                   -0.458714
                                                               0.468226
                                                                          -0.980
## BFAS_A_34
                                                               0.508852
                                                    0.262689
                                                                          0.516
## BFAS_A_35
                                                    0.517100
                                                               0.470442
                                                                           1.099
## BFAS_A_36
                                                    0.336879
                                                               0.496665
                                                                           0.678
## BFAS A 37
                                                   -0.664902
                                                               0.485470 - 1.370
```

##	BFAS_A_38	-0.052027	0.533889	-0.097
##	BFAS_A_39	-0.361264	0.508074	-0.711
##	BFAS_A_40	0.194333	0.448810	0.433
##	BFAS_A_41	3.299097	2.400076	1.375
##	BFAS_A_42	0.341514	0.587679	0.581
##	BFAS_A_43	-0.059866	0.519882	-0.115
##	BFAS_A_44	-0.760806	0.483261	-1.574
##	BFAS_A_45	0.291558	0.437824	0.666
	BFAS_A_46	-0.738640	0.564113	-1.309
##	BFAS_A_47	-0.004057	0.442685	-0.009
##	BFAS_A_48	0.441416	0.492919	0.896
	BFAS_A_49	0.337607	0.561618	0.601
	BFAS_A_50	-0.917309		-1.911
	BFAS_A_51	-3.563735	2.011085	-1.772
	BFAS_A_52	-0.200247		-0.388
	BFAS_A_53	0.713140	0.492214	1.449
	BFAS_A_54	-0.639630		-1.426
	BFAS_A_55	0.392177		0.821
	BFAS_A_56	0.192479	0.475552	0.405
	BFAS_A_57	-0.516177		-1.134
	BFAS_A_58	0.035542	0.478124	0.074
	BFAS_A_59	0.163394	0.549761	0.297
	BFAS A 60	-0.850998	0.455176	-1.870
	BFAS_A_61	-2.176133	2.106125	-1.033
	BFAS_A_62	0.212199	0.479145	0.443
	BFAS_A_63	0.362414	0.472247	0.767
	BFAS_A_64	-0.352013		-0.718
	BFAS_A_65	0.557750	0.496202	1.124
	BFAS_A_66	0.344678	0.622629	0.554
	BFAS_A_67	0.758817	0.477040	1.591
	BFAS_A_68	-0.299286	0.469655	-0.637
	BFAS_A_69	0.004460	0.455963	0.010
	BFAS_A_70	0.202976	0.474020	0.428
	BFAS_A_71	2.883904	2.189006	1.317
	BFAS_A_72	0.004506	0.508686	0.009
	BFAS_A_73	0.655486	0.473535	1.384
	BFAS_A_74	0.464689	0.475588	0.977
	BFAS_A_75	-0.690007	0.495016	-1.394
	BFAS_A_76	-0.778898	0.514672	-1.513
	BFAS_A_77	0.580344	0.469625	1.236
	BFAS_A_78	-0.246796	0.454377	-0.543
	BFAS_A_79	0.501116	0.488258	1.026
	BFAS_A_80	-0.540058	0.488489	-1.106
	BFAS_A_81	-2.667568	2.097710	-1.100
	BFAS_A_82		0.449834	-0.070
	BFAS_A_83	-0.031430 0.502235	0.449034	1.069
	BFAS_A_84	-0.086651 -0.296168	0.514070	-0.169
	BFAS_A_85	-0.296168 -0.026612	0.508433	-0.583 -0.048
	BFAS_A_86	-0.026612 -0.255034	0.552301	-0.048
	BFAS_A_87	-0.255934	0.494509	-0.518
	BFAS_A_88	-0.505397	0.468690	-1.078
	BFAS_A_89	0.578696	0.491739	1.177
	BFAS_A_90	0.709477	0.482119	1.472
##	BFAS_A_91	-3.053313	2.118226	-1.441

```
## BFAS_A_92
                                                  -0.056678
                                                              0.466177 -0.122
## BFAS_A_93
                                                  -0.297854
                                                              0.468344 -0.636
## BFAS A 94
                                                  -0.152065
                                                              0.501058 -0.303
## BFAS_A_95
                                                  -0.495248
                                                              0.464416 -1.066
## BFAS_A_96
                                                  -0.222362
                                                              0.504156 -0.441
## BFAS A 97
                                                  -0.412823
                                                              0.439437 - 0.939
                                                  -0.340200
## BFAS A 98
                                                              0.467943 -0.727
## BFAS_A_99
                                                   0.207038
                                                              0.488916
                                                                         0.423
## BFAS_A_100
                                                  -1.153003
                                                              0.494458 -2.332
## BFAS_Withdrawal
                                                  18.242964
                                                             13.109926
                                                                        1.392
## BFAS_Volatility
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_5_N
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Compassion
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Politeness
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_5_A
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Industriousness
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Orderliness
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS 5 C
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
## BFAS_Enthusiasm
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS Assertiveness
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_5_E
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Intellect
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_Openness
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## BFAS_5_0
                                                         NA
                                                                     NA
                                                                             NA
## SE 1
                                                   0.285941
                                                              0.599894
                                                                          0.477
## SE 2
                                                   0.477737
                                                              0.513070
                                                                          0.931
## SE_3
                                                   0.492383
                                                              0.590333
                                                                          0.834
## SE_4
                                                   0.296404
                                                              0.556910
                                                                         0.532
## SE_5
                                                   1.090473
                                                              0.608917
                                                                         1.791
## SE_6
                                                  -1.001878
                                                              0.603675 -1.660
## SE_7
                                                  -0.047313
                                                              0.518281
                                                                        -0.091
## SE_8
                                                  -0.038050
                                                              0.534501 -0.071
## SE_9
                                                   0.588384
                                                              0.617487
                                                                         0.953
## SE_10
                                                   0.700095
                                                              0.710953
                                                                          0.985
## SE 11
                                                  -0.218111
                                                              0.559421
                                                                        -0.390
## SE_12
                                                   0.501176
                                                              0.755256
                                                                        0.664
## SE 13
                                                   0.345520
                                                              0.687469
                                                                         0.503
## SE_14
                                                   1.352819
                                                              0.615581
                                                                          2.198
## SE 15
                                                  -0.655073
                                                              0.639307 -1.025
## SE_16
                                                  -0.356446
                                                              0.699707 -0.509
## SE total
                                                  -1.571482
                                                              2.720277 -0.578
## anx 1
                                                  -0.987686
                                                              0.663915 -1.488
## anx 2
                                                  -0.696662
                                                              0.733947
                                                                        -0.949
## anx_3
                                                  -0.068077
                                                              0.760319 -0.090
## anx_4
                                                  -0.490145
                                                              0.760537
                                                                        -0.644
## anx_5
                                                  -0.291324
                                                                       -0.406
                                                              0.717409
## anx_6
                                                  -0.837412
                                                              0.795892 -1.052
## anx_7
                                                   0.510422
                                                              0.775104
                                                                        0.659
## anx_8
                                                  -0.544927
                                                              0.790532 -0.689
## anx_9
                                                  -0.599267
                                                              0.778561
                                                                         -0.770
## anx_10
                                                  -0.793429
                                                              0.766022
                                                                        -1.036
## anxiety total
                                                   3.022281
                                                              3.941469
                                                                         0.767
## `GenderI prefer to not answer this question.` -8.789992
                                                              3.495701 -2.515
## GenderMale
                                                  -0.905185
                                                              0.920823 -0.983
```

```
## `GenderTransgender/non-binary/gender fluid`
                                                     4.125398
                                                                 3.902009
                                                                            1.057
## BFAS_longstr
                                                     0.442921
                                                                 0.390283
                                                                            1.135
                                                                           -0.498
## SE longstr
                                                    -0.220002
                                                                 0.441985
## anx_longstr
                                                    -0.760786
                                                                 0.383238
                                                                           -1.985
##
                                                    Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                                     < 2e-16 ***
## Exam1
                                                    2.43e-11 ***
## Exam2
                                                    8.03e-06 ***
## Exam3
                                                     < 2e-16 ***
## HS_GPA
                                                      0.0108 *
## COMP_ACT_SCORE
                                                      0.1684
## TRANS_TOT_CR
                                                      0.2100
## BFAS_A_1
                                                      0.1936
## BFAS_A_2
                                                      0.8212
## BFAS_A_3
                                                      0.6495
## BFAS_A_4
                                                      0.7292
## BFAS_A_5
                                                      0.2757
## BFAS A 6
                                                      0.2392
## BFAS_A_7
                                                      0.8628
## BFAS A 8
                                                      0.9693
## BFAS_A_9
                                                      0.4274
## BFAS_A_10
                                                      0.5270
## BFAS_A_11
                                                      0.2059
## BFAS A 12
                                                      0.8067
## BFAS_A_13
                                                      0.0752 .
## BFAS_A_14
                                                      0.5937
## BFAS_A_15
                                                      0.5121
## BFAS_A_16
                                                      0.3954
## BFAS_A_17
                                                      0.2463
## BFAS_A_18
                                                      0.3202
## BFAS_A_19
                                                      0.3038
## BFAS_A_20
                                                      0.5005
## BFAS_A_21
                                                      0.2004
## BFAS_A_22
                                                      0.3670
## BFAS_A_23
                                                      0.4657
## BFAS_A_24
                                                      0.4572
## BFAS A 25
                                                      0.7862
## BFAS_A_26
                                                      0.1493
## BFAS_A_27
                                                      0.4759
## BFAS_A_28
                                                      0.4215
## BFAS A 29
                                                      0.3975
## BFAS_A_30
                                                      0.4086
## BFAS_A_31
                                                      0.1209
## BFAS_A_32
                                                      0.1287
## BFAS_A_33
                                                      0.3277
## BFAS_A_34
                                                      0.6059
## BFAS_A_35
                                                      0.2722
## BFAS_A_36
                                                      0.4979
## BFAS_A_37
                                                      0.1714
## BFAS_A_38
                                                      0.9224
## BFAS_A_39
                                                      0.4774
## BFAS_A_40
                                                      0.6652
## BFAS_A_41
                                                      0.1699
## BFAS_A_42
                                                      0.5614
```

##	BFAS_A_43	0.9084
##	BFAS_A_44	0.1160
##	BFAS_A_45	0.5058
##	BFAS_A_46	0.1910
##	BFAS_A_47	0.9927
##	BFAS_A_48	0.3709
##	BFAS_A_49	0.5480
##	BFAS_A_50	0.0566
##	BFAS_A_51	0.0770
##	BFAS_A_52	0.6985
##	BFAS_A_53	0.1480
##	BFAS_A_54	0.1544
##	BFAS_A_55	0.4118
##	BFAS_A_56	0.6858
##	BFAS_A_57	0.2574
	BFAS_A_58	0.9408
	BFAS_A_59	0.7664
##	BFAS_A_60	0.0621
	BFAS_A_61	0.3020
	BFAS_A_62	0.6580
	BFAS_A_63	0.4432
	BFAS_A_64	0.4734
	BFAS_A_65	0.2615
	BFAS_A_66	0.5801
	BFAS_A_67	0.1123
	BFAS_A_68	0.5242
	BFAS_A_69	0.9922
	BFAS_A_70	0.6687
	BFAS_A_71	0.1883
	BFAS_A_72	0.9929
	BFAS_A_73	0.1669
	BFAS_A_74	0.3290
	BFAS_A_75	0.1639
	BFAS_A_76	0.1308
	BFAS_A_77	0.2171
	BFAS_A_78	0.5873
	BFAS A 79	0.3052
	BFAS_A_80	0.2694
	BFAS_A_81	0.2041
	BFAS_A_82	0.9443
	BFAS_A_83	0.2855
	BFAS_A_84	0.8662
	BFAS_A_85	0.5605
	BFAS_A_86	0.9616
		0.6050
	BFAS_A_87	
	BFAS_A_88	0.2814
	BFAS_A_89	0.2398
	BFAS_A_90	0.1417
	BFAS_A_91	0.1501
	BFAS_A_92	0.9033
	BFAS_A_93	0.5251
	BFAS_A_94	0.7616
	BFAS_A_95	0.2867
##	BFAS_A_96	0.6594

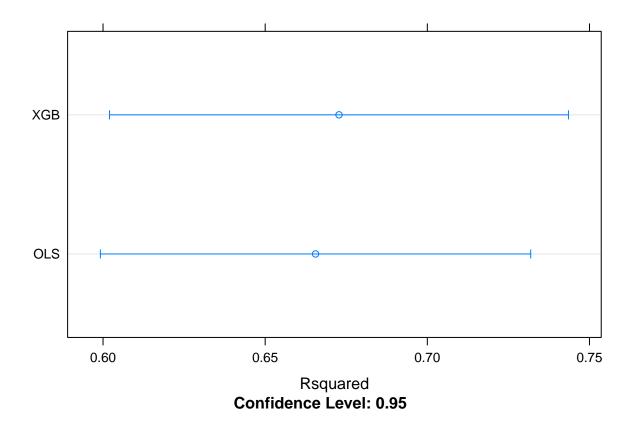
```
## BFAS_A_97
                                                      0.3479
## BFAS_A_98
                                                      0.4675
## BFAS A 99
                                                      0.6721
## BFAS_A_100
                                                      0.0201 *
## BFAS_Withdrawal
                                                      0.1647
## BFAS_Volatility
                                                          NA
## BFAS_5_N
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Compassion
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Politeness
                                                          NA
## BFAS_5_A
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Industriousness
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Orderliness
                                                          NA
## BFAS_5_C
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Enthusiasm
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Assertiveness
                                                          NA
## BFAS_5_E
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Intellect
                                                          NA
## BFAS_Openness
                                                          NA
## BFAS_5_0
                                                          NA
## SE 1
                                                      0.6338
## SE_2
                                                      0.3522
## SE_3
                                                      0.4046
## SE_4
                                                      0.5948
## SE 5
                                                      0.0739 .
## SE_6
                                                      0.0976 .
## SE_7
                                                      0.9273
## SE_8
                                                      0.9433
## SE_9
                                                      0.3411
## SE_10
                                                      0.3252
## SE_11
                                                      0.6968
## SE_12
                                                      0.5073
## SE_13
                                                      0.6155
## SE_14
                                                      0.0284 *
## SE_15
                                                      0.3060
## SE_16
                                                      0.6107
                                                      0.5637
## SE_total
## anx 1
                                                      0.1374
## anx_2
                                                      0.3430
## anx_3
                                                      0.9287
## anx_4
                                                      0.5196
## anx 5
                                                      0.6849
## anx 6
                                                      0.2932
## anx_7
                                                      0.5105
## anx_8
                                                      0.4909
## anx_9
                                                      0.4418
## anx_10
                                                      0.3008
## anxiety_total
                                                      0.4436
## `GenderI prefer to not answer this question.`
                                                      0.0122 *
## GenderMale
                                                      0.3261
## `GenderTransgender/non-binary/gender fluid`
                                                      0.2909
## BFAS_longstr
                                                      0.2570
## SE_longstr
                                                      0.6189
## anx_longstr
                                                      0.0477 *
## ---
```

```
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 8.1 on 515 degrees of freedom
## (52 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8066, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7537
## F-statistic: 15.24 on 141 and 515 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

### **Evaluation**

```
test_preproc <- preProcess(test[, 2:154],</pre>
                            method = c("medianImpute", "scale", "center"))
test_data <- predict(test_preproc, test)</pre>
# XGB predict
xgb_predict <- predict(xgb_mod, test_data, na.action = na.pass)</pre>
# lm predict
lm_predict <- predict(lm_mod, test_data, na.action = na.pass)</pre>
## Warning in predict.lm(modelFit, newdata): prediction from a rank-deficient fit
## may be misleading
# correlation between predicted y and y in test set
xgb_cor <- cor(xgb_predict, test_data$Final, use = "complete.obs")</pre>
lm_cor <- cor(lm_predict, test_data$Final, use = "complete.obs")</pre>
(cor <- list(OLS = round(lm_cor,2),</pre>
             XGB = round(xgb_cor,2)))
## $OLS
## [1] 0.83
##
## $XGB
## [1] 0.87
# Comparing RMSE and R-squared
summary(resamples(list(OLS = lm_mod,
                        XGB = xgb_mod)))
##
## Call:
## summary.resamples(object = resamples(list(OLS = lm_mod, XGB = xgb_mod)))
## Models: OLS, XGB
## Number of resamples: 10
##
## MAE
           Min. 1st Qu.
                            Median
                                       Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                          Max. NA's
## OLS 5.641801 6.397241 6.884397 6.796746 7.177508 7.548654
## XGB 5.513959 6.529132 7.260011 7.133643 7.491283 8.690355
                                                                   0
##
## RMSE
           Min. 1st Qu.
                            Median
                                        Mean
                                                3rd Qu.
## OLS 7.119486 8.890665 9.477239 9.525647 9.916739 12.00183
                                                                     0
## XGB 7.711214 8.420654 9.869469 10.216810 11.280339 14.12245
##
## Rsquared
```

```
Min.
                   1st Qu.
                             Median
                                         Mean
                                                3rd Qu.
## OLS 0.4900355 0.6198587 0.6743851 0.6655303 0.7118295 0.8410604
## XGB 0.5123270 0.6116018 0.6780337 0.6727609 0.7348700 0.8098053
dotplot(resamples(list(OLS = lm_mod,
                      XGB = xgb_mod)), metric="RMSE")
XGB
OLS
                                       10
                   9
                                                           11
                                       RMSE
                            Confidence Level: 0.95
dotplot(resamples(list(OLS = lm_mod,
                      XGB = xgb_mod)), metric="Rsquared")
```



# Data and interretation

The dataset includes academic performance of college students enrolled in Introduction to Psychology course. Their exam scores, HSGPA, ACT scores, number of transfer credits, and gender are predictors of Final exam score. Some individual difference variables are also available: item-level and scale-level personality (coded as BFAS), self-efficacy (coded as SE), and test anxiety (coded as anx). Since both item- and scale-level data are in the dataset, using OLS would return rank-deficient results since scale-level predictors are linear transformation of item-level predictors. Thus, using machine learning is more beneficial.

The question of interest: What predicts performance in students' final exam?

I include all variables as predictors, but no interaction among predictors to reduce the complexity of the analysis. Previous exams are good predictors of performance on final exam. Individual differences can also predict academic performance.