**UCI Heart Disease Classification Analysis**

Group 2

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1. **Introduction**

The dataset chosen for this project is the UCI Heart Disease Classification dataset. This dataset contains information about heart disease, including 14 features: age, sex, chest pain type, resting blood pressure, serum cholesterol, fasting blood sugar, resting electrocardiographic results, maximum heart rate achieved, exercise-induced angina, oldpeak (ST depression induced by exercise relative to rest), the slope of the peak exercise ST segment, number of major vessels colored by fluoroscopy, and Thalassemia. It also includes classifications for different stages of heart disease from four locations: Cleveland, Hungary, Switzerland, and Long Beach. The dataset comprises 303 rows and 14 columns. Initially, several columns had missing values, which were addressed through data cleaning. Columns like 'slope,' 'ca,' 'sex,' and 'thal' had significant missing values and were dropped. The dataset was chosen for its relevance to the healthcare field and the importance of accurately classifying and predicting heart disease stages to improve patient outcomes. Before moving on, here is a list of the columns and what they represent in our dataset.

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1. **Purpose**

The driving question of our analysis was centered around understanding how we could accurately classify different stages of heart disease in patients using the UCI Heart Disease Classification dataset. This inquiry was motivated by the need to determine which symptoms and features were most strongly correlated with heart disease progression. By addressing this question, we aimed to develop visualizations related to different heart disease stages, thereby providing valuable insights into the most significant indicators of heart health. This foundational question guided our choice of various analysis techniques such as subset, comparison and statistic methods as well as through logistic regression. The following will be the questions that we will be addressing for our analysis:

1. How does age distribution differ between patients with and without heart disease?
2. Is there a significant difference in cholesterol levels between male and female patients?
3. How do chest pain types (cp) correlate with the presence of heart disease?
4. How do resting blood pressure (trestbps) and ST depression (oldpeak) vary across different stages of heart disease?
5. How does the maximum heart rate achieved (thalch) differ across different chest pain types (cp) for patients with heart disease?
6. **Data Cleaning Process**

Before we got started into the process of cleaning our data, these were the necessary libraries and modules that we needed to install, load, and import. Then the following steps shows our cleaning process.

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1. Dropping Irrelevant and Excessively Missing Data Columns:
   1. Columns such as 'slope', 'ca', 'thal', and 'id' were removed due to a high number of missing values. These columns were not deemed essential for our analysis and their removal helped in simplifying the dataset.



1. Handling Missing Values:
   1. Categorical Columns: Missing values in categorical columns ('restecg', 'fbs', 'exang') were filled using backward fill method to maintain consistency in categorical data.

A computer screen with text and images

Description automatically generated

* 1. Numerical Columns: Missing values in numerical columns ('thalch', 'oldpeak', 'trestbps', 'chol') were filled with their respective mean values to maintain the numerical integrity of the dataset.

A computer screen shot of text

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1. Cleaned Dataset: The first few rows of our now cleaned dataset.

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1. **Data Analysis**

A graph of age distribution

Description automatically generated After preparing our data for analysis, we are now able to address the questions mentioned above. Regarding age distribution and heart disease the analysis shows that heart disease is more prevalent among older individuals, indicating age as a significant risk factor. Younger patients are more likely to be free of heart disease, as reflected in the wider age range of this group.

A chart of a couple of blue and orange boxes

Description automatically generated When analyzing cholesterol levels by gender we found that both male and female patients have similar cholesterol level ranges, with slight variations. The statistical significance of these differences can be confirmed through a t-test. A significant difference would suggest that gender-based differences in cholesterol levels are relevant to heart disease risk.

Certain chest pain types, such as 'asymptomatic' and 'atypical angina,' are more common among patients with heart disease. A chi-square test would determine if this correlation is statistically significant, highlighting chest pain type as an important factor in diagnosing heart disease.

A graph of different colored squares

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A screenshot of a graph

Description automatically generated Resting blood pressure varies widely across different heart disease stages, while ST depression tends to be higher in advanced stages. This suggests that ST depression could be a more reliable indicator of disease severity. ANOVA results would confirm the statistical significance of these differences.

Patients with 'asymptomatic' chest pain generally achieve a lower maximum heart rate compared to other types. This may indicate less physical capacity or more advanced heart disease. The variability in maximum heart rate among other chest pain types underscores the importance of considering chest pain in assessing disease impact.

A chart of different colored squares

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1. **Data Model**

Before we developed our model, we we performed a correlation analysis. We did a feature analysis on age, chol, trestbps, oldpeak, and num. We used these to compute a correlation matrix. The values closer to 1 indicate strong correlation.

A diagram of a heatmap

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The next stage was to perform logistic regression. First we started with one variable for old peak since it had the highest correlation to target. Our neural network will consist of a normalization layer specifically designed for the oldpeak feature. We performed logistic regression for old peak with a learning rate of 0.01, 35 epochs, adam, and categorical cross entropy. Our experimentation with old peak resulted in the following loss and confusion matrix.

A graph with lines and numbers

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This graph indicates that our model is learning from the data and suggests generalization for the decrease in validation loss.

A graph with numbers and a number in a row

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

This indicates that our data performed well on class 0 with good precision and high recall, class 1 and class 4 had a moderate performance indicating a slightly higher false-positive rate, classes 2 and 3 are at 0 due to the imbalance we observed in our data. Overall accuracy is around 48%.

We furthered our exploration by performing logistic regression with all features. Although the validation loss is decreasing the fluctuations indicate slight overfitting. Our confusion matrix with all features demonstrate a higher performance than with the old peak. Classes 2 and 3 now have values. The overall accuracy is slightly better, around 50%.

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A diagram of a confusion matrix

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1. **Conclusion**

Working on the UCI Heart Disease Classification project has been incredibly beneficial and educational. Throughout this project, we developed a much better understanding of data analysis and learned how to effectively manipulate datasets. We tackled various data cleaning techniques, such as handling missing values and refining the dataset for analysis. Additionally, we honed our skills in applying statistical tests and creating visualizations to draw meaningful insights from the data. Experimenting with machine learning models like logistic regression enhanced our knowledge of these methods and their practical applications in the healthcare field.

However, the project was not without its challenges. One significant hurdle was managing the missing data in crucial columns like 'slope', 'ca', and 'thal'. We overcame this by eliminating columns with excessive missing data and using mean or backward fill methods for others. Another challenge was dealing with the dataset's imbalance, which impacted our models' performance. We addressed this issue by testing different features and models to boost accuracy. Despite these efforts, achieving a highly accurate model was challenging due to the dataset's complexity.

Overall, this project has significantly deepened our understanding of heart disease classification and the practical challenges involved in data analysis and machine learning.