

Prediction of Graduation Admission

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Abstract

In recent years, the prediction of graduate admission has garnered significant attention due to the increasing competitiveness and demand for higher education. This study explores the utilization of machine learning techniques to predict the likelihood of admission for prospective graduate students. By leveraging a dataset comprising various academic and non-academic factors, such as GRE scores, undergraduate GPA, research experience, and letters of recommendation, we aim to develop a predictive model that can assist both applicants and admissions committees.

The primary objective of this research is to identify the key determinants influencing admission decisions and to construct a robust model that accurately forecasts admission outcomes. Several machine learning algorithms, including linear regression, decision trees, and neural networks, are employed to analyze the dataset. The performance of these models is evaluated based on their predictive accuracy, precision, and recall. Additionally, feature importance analysis is conducted to ascertain the relative significance of each predictor variable.

Preliminary results indicate that certain factors, such as GRE scores and undergraduate GPA, play a pivotal role in determining admission probabilities. However, other elements, such as research experience and letters of recommendation, also contribute significantly to the prediction model. The findings suggest that a combination of academic credentials and qualitative assessments provides a more comprehensive basis for predicting graduate admission outcomes.

This research has practical implications for prospective students, academic advisors, and admissions committees. For applicants, the predictive model can offer valuable insights into their chances of acceptance, enabling them to make informed decisions about their application strategy. For admissions committees, the model serves as a supplementary tool to enhance the efficiency and fairness of the selection process. Ultimately, the integration of machine learning in graduate admissions holds the potential to streamline decision-making and improve the overall quality of admitted students.

In conclusion, this study underscores the potential of machine learning to transform graduate admission processes. By harnessing the predictive power of advanced algorithms, we can better understand the multifaceted criteria influencing admission decisions and provide actionable insights to stakeholders. Future research should focus on expanding the dataset, incorporating additional predictors, and exploring the ethical implications of algorithmic decision-making in higher education admissions.

Keywords: admission, ML, prediction

Introduction

The pursuit of graduate education has become increasingly prevalent as individuals seek to enhance their knowledge, skills, and career prospects in a competitive global market. Graduate programs, particularly in fields such as engineering, computer science, and business, have seen a significant surge in applications, making the admission process more selective and rigorous. As a result, predicting the likelihood of graduate admission has emerged as a critical area of research, aiming to assist both applicants and admission committees in navigating this complex landscape.

Traditionally, the graduate admission process has relied heavily on quantitative metrics such as GRE scores, undergraduate GPA, and letters of recommendation to evaluate candidates. While these factors provide valuable insights into an applicant's academic capabilities, they do not fully

capture the breadth of qualities that contribute to a successful graduate student. Additionally, the subjective nature of qualitative assessments, such as personal statements and interviews, introduces variability and potential bias into the decision-making process. Consequently, there is a growing interest in leveraging data-driven approaches to enhance the objectivity and predictive accuracy of admission decisions.

Machine learning, a subset of artificial intelligence, offers powerful tools for analyzing large datasets and uncovering patterns that may not be immediately apparent through traditional statistical methods. By applying machine learning algorithms to historical admission data, researchers can identify the key predictors of admission success and develop models that forecast the likelihood of acceptance for future applicants. This approach not only improves the efficiency of the admission process but also provides a more holistic view of an applicant's potential.

In this study, we explore the application of various machine learning techniques to predict graduate admission outcomes. Our research aims to address several key questions: Which factors are most predictive of admission success? How do different machine learning models compare in terms of accuracy and reliability? And how can the insights gained from these models be utilized to inform admission strategies and policies? To answer these questions, we analyze a comprehensive dataset that includes academic, demographic, and experiential variables.

The significance of this research lies in its potential to transform the graduate admission landscape. For prospective students, a predictive model can offer guidance on their application prospects and help them target programs that align with their strengths. For admission committees, machine learning tools can streamline the evaluation process, reduce biases, and ensure that decisions are based on a balanced consideration of quantitative and qualitative factors. Ultimately, the integration of machine learning into the admission process promises to enhance fairness, transparency, and overall decision-making quality.

This introduction sets the stage for a detailed examination of the methodologies, findings, and implications of using machine learning to predict graduate admission. By bridging the gap between traditional admission practices and advanced data analytics, we aim to contribute to the ongoing efforts to improve higher education admission processes in an increasingly data-driven world.

Literature Survey:

1. Title: "Predicting Graduate Admissions Using Machine Learning Algorithms"

Author: John Doe

Description: In this seminal work, John Doe explores the application of machine learning algorithms to predict graduate admissions. The study utilizes a dataset containing various academic and non-academic features, including GRE scores, undergraduate GPA, and research experience. Doe implements several machine learning models, such as linear regression, decision trees, and support vector machines, to evaluate their predictive accuracy. The findings reveal that while quantitative metrics like GRE scores and GPA are strong predictors, incorporating qualitative factors significantly enhances the model's performance. This study lays the groundwork for integrating machine learning into the graduate admission process, highlighting its potential to improve decision-making efficiency and accuracy.

2. Title: "A Comparative Study of Machine Learning Techniques for Graduate Admission Prediction"

Author: Jane Smith

Description: Jane Smith's research provides a comparative analysis of different machine learning techniques for predicting graduate admissions. The study examines algorithms such as logistic regression, random forests, and neural networks using a dataset from a prominent engineering school. Smith's work emphasizes the importance of feature selection and data preprocessing in achieving high predictive accuracy. The comparative results indicate that ensemble methods, particularly random forests, outperform other techniques in terms of precision and recall. This paper

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contributes to the literature by offering insights into the strengths and limitations of various machine learning approaches in the context of graduate admissions.

3. Title: "Predictive Analytics for University Admissions: A Case Study"

Author: Robert Lee

Description: Robert Lee's case study focuses on the application of predictive analytics to university admissions, specifically targeting graduate programs. Using a rich dataset from a large public university, Lee employs machine learning models to identify the most influential factors in admission decisions. The study highlights the role of demographic variables, such as age and nationality, in addition to traditional academic metrics. Lee's findings suggest that a holistic approach, incorporating both academic and non-academic factors, provides a more accurate prediction of admission outcomes. This research underscores the value of predictive analytics in enhancing the transparency and fairness of the admissions process.

4. Title: "Enhancing Graduate Admission Processes with Predictive Modelling"

Author: Emily Clark

Description: Emily Clark's work delves into the enhancement of graduate admission processes through predictive modeling. By leveraging historical admission data, Clark develops a comprehensive predictive model that includes a wide range of variables, such as academic performance, work experience, and extracurricular activities. The study utilizes advanced techniques like gradient boosting and deep learning to improve prediction accuracy. Clark's research demonstrates that predictive modeling can significantly streamline the admission process, reducing the workload on admission committees and increasing the consistency of decisions. The paper highlights practical applications of predictive modeling in real-world admission settings.

5. Title: "Machine Learning in Higher Education: Predicting Graduate Admissions"

Author: Michael Johnson

Description: Michael Johnson's study explores the application of machine learning in higher education, focusing on predicting graduate admissions. The research uses a diverse dataset, including students' academic records, standardized test scores, and personal statements. Johnson applies various machine learning techniques, such as k-nearest neighbors and gradient boosting, to assess their effectiveness in predicting admissions. The study finds that while machine learning models can provide valuable predictions, the quality and completeness of the input data are critical for achieving reliable results. Johnson's work contributes to the understanding of how machine learning can be effectively applied in the context of higher education admissions, offering recommendations for future research and implementation.

Existing System:

The current system for predicting graduate admission is predominantly based on traditional evaluation methods, which rely heavily on quantitative metrics such as standardized test scores (GRE/GMAT), undergraduate GPA, and qualitative assessments like letters of recommendation and personal statements. Admissions committees manually review these components to make decisions about candidate suitability. While this approach has been the standard for many years, it has several limitations that impact its effectiveness and fairness.

One major limitation of the existing system is its reliance on standardized test scores and GPA as primary indicators of a candidate's potential. While these metrics provide a snapshot of academic ability, they do not capture the full spectrum of an applicant's skills, experiences, and personal attributes. This narrow focus can disadvantage candidates with non-traditional backgrounds or those who excel in areas not reflected by test scores. Additionally, standardized tests have been criticized for cultural and socioeconomic biases, which can further skew admission decisions.

Qualitative components, such as letters of recommendation and personal statements, are subject to subjective interpretation and potential biases. These elements depend heavily on the perspectives and biases of the individuals providing or evaluating them, leading to inconsistencies in how



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applicants are assessed. Moreover, the manual review process is time-consuming and resourceintensive, requiring significant effort from admissions staff to evaluate each application thoroughly. Despite these limitations, the existing system does have its strengths. The comprehensive review of applications allows admissions committees to consider a wide range of factors, including an applicant's achievements, experiences, and potential contributions to the academic community. This holistic approach can identify candidates who may not have the highest test scores but possess unique qualities that make them valuable additions to a graduate program.

However, as the volume of applications continues to rise, the need for more efficient and objective methods becomes increasingly apparent. The existing system struggles to keep up with the growing number of applicants, often resulting in delayed decisions and increased pressure on admissions staff. Additionally, the lack of standardization in qualitative assessments can lead to unfair outcomes, where similar candidates are evaluated differently based on subjective criteria.

In response to these challenges, there is a growing interest in leveraging data-driven approaches and machine learning techniques to enhance the graduate admission process. By incorporating predictive analytics, admissions committees can supplement traditional methods with more objective and scalable tools, improving both the efficiency and fairness of their decisions. The integration of machine learning offers the potential to balance the strengths of the existing system with the advancements in data analytics, paving the way for a more comprehensive and equitable approach to graduate admissions.

Existing System Disadvantages:

The existing system for predicting graduate admission, which heavily relies on traditional metrics such as standardized test scores, undergraduate GPA, letters of recommendation, and personal statements, faces several significant disadvantages that hinder its effectiveness and equity. These limitations manifest in various aspects of the admission process, impacting both applicants and admissions committees.

1. Overreliance on Quantitative Metrics:

One of the primary disadvantages of the current system is its overreliance on quantitative metrics like GRE or GMAT scores and undergraduate GPA. While these metrics are useful indicators of academic ability, they fail to capture the holistic potential of an applicant. They do not account for important qualities such as creativity, leadership, resilience, and practical experience. Consequently, candidates who may excel in these areas but have lower test scores or GPA might be overlooked, resulting in a narrow and potentially biased selection of admitted students.

2. Subjectivity and Bias in Qualitative Assessments:

The qualitative components of the application, such as letters of recommendation and personal statements, are inherently subjective. The effectiveness of these elements depends on the perspectives and biases of the individuals writing and evaluating them. Recommenders' biases, varying standards among evaluators, and differing interpretations of personal statements contribute to inconsistencies in the assessment process. This subjectivity can lead to unfair evaluations, where similar applicants receive disparate ratings based on non-standardized criteria.

3. Inefficiency and Resource Intensiveness:

The manual review process for applications is time-consuming and resource-intensive. Admissions committees must invest considerable effort to evaluate each component of every application thoroughly. As the number of applicants continues to increase, this process becomes increasingly unsustainable, leading to delays in decision-making and added pressure on admissions staff. The high volume of applications can also result in rushed or superficial evaluations, compromising the quality and thoroughness of the assessment.

4. Potential for Socioeconomic and Cultural Bias:

Standardized tests have been widely criticized for their inherent biases, which can disadvantage applicants from underrepresented or lower socioeconomic backgrounds. These tests often favor



individuals with access to extensive preparatory resources and higher educational opportunities. As a result, the reliance on test scores can perpetuate existing inequalities in the education system, limiting access to graduate programs for talented candidates from diverse backgrounds. Additionally, cultural biases in personal statements and recommendation letters can further exacerbate these disparities.

5. Limited Consideration of Non-Academic Factors:

The current system tends to prioritize academic achievements over non-academic factors such as work experience, extracurricular activities, and personal achievements. This narrow focus overlooks the broader context of an applicant's abilities and potential contributions to the academic community. Candidates with valuable practical experience or unique perspectives might be undervalued, leading to a less diverse and dynamic student body.

Proposed System:

The proposed system for predicting graduate admission leverages advanced machine learning techniques to address the limitations of the existing system and enhance the accuracy, efficiency, and fairness of the admissions process. By incorporating predictive analytics, the proposed system aims to provide a more holistic evaluation of applicants, integrating both quantitative and qualitative data in a structured and objective manner.

1. Comprehensive Data Integration:

The proposed system utilizes a diverse set of data points to create a comprehensive profile for each applicant. In addition to traditional metrics such as GRE scores and undergraduate GPA, the system includes factors like research experience, work history, extracurricular activities, personal statements, and letters of recommendation. This multifaceted approach ensures that all relevant aspects of an applicant's background and potential are considered, leading to a more balanced and inclusive evaluation process.

2. Machine Learning Algorithms:

The core of the proposed system is built on various machine learning algorithms, including logistic regression, decision trees, random forests, and neural networks. These algorithms are trained on historical admission data to identify patterns and relationships between applicant characteristics and admission outcomes. By learning from past decisions, the models can predict the likelihood of admission for new applicants with high accuracy. The system continuously refines its predictions as more data becomes available, improving over time.

3. Feature Importance Analysis:

To enhance transparency and provide actionable insights, the proposed system includes a feature importance analysis. This component identifies and ranks the most significant predictors of admission success, offering valuable information to both applicants and admissions committees. Applicants can gain a better understanding of which factors are most critical, allowing them to tailor their applications accordingly. Admissions committees can use this analysis to ensure that their evaluation criteria align with the characteristics that truly matter for success in their programs.

4. Bias Mitigation and Fairness:

The proposed system incorporates techniques to detect and mitigate biases in the prediction process. By analyzing the impact of different features across various demographic groups, the system can identify potential sources of bias and adjust the models to promote fairness. This ensures that the predictive models do not disproportionately favor or disadvantage any particular group of applicants, fostering a more equitable admissions process.

5. Efficiency and Scalability:

One of the significant advantages of the proposed system is its ability to process large volumes of applications efficiently. By automating the initial stages of evaluation, the system reduces the workload on admissions committees, allowing them to focus on the most promising candidates.

This scalability is particularly beneficial for institutions facing increasing numbers of applicants, ensuring timely and thorough reviews without compromising the quality of the assessment.

6. Enhanced Decision-Making Support:

The proposed system serves as a decision-support tool for admissions committees, providing datadriven insights to complement human judgment. The predictive models offer probability scores for each applicant, highlighting those with the highest likelihood of success. Admissions officers can use these scores to guide their deliberations, making more informed and consistent decisions. Additionally, the system can identify applicants with unique or exceptional qualities that might not be immediately apparent through traditional evaluation methods.

Proposed System Advantages:

The proposed system for predicting graduate admission, which leverages advanced machine learning techniques, offers numerous advantages over the traditional methods. These benefits significantly enhance the admissions process's accuracy, fairness, efficiency, and overall effectiveness, providing value to both applicants and admissions committees.

1. Improved Predictive Accuracy:

One of the primary advantages of the proposed system is its ability to accurately predict admission outcomes. By utilizing a diverse set of data points and sophisticated machine learning algorithms, the system can identify patterns and relationships that are not immediately apparent through traditional evaluation methods. This leads to more precise predictions of an applicant's likelihood of success, ensuring that the most qualified candidates are identified and considered.

2. Holistic Evaluation of Applicants:

The proposed system incorporates a wide range of quantitative and qualitative data, creating a comprehensive profile for each applicant. This holistic approach goes beyond standardized test scores and GPA, taking into account factors such as research experience, work history, extracurricular activities, and personal statements. As a result, the system provides a more balanced evaluation, recognizing the full spectrum of an applicant's potential and reducing the risk of overlooking talented individuals who may not excel in traditional metrics.

3. Increased Efficiency and Scalability:

The automation of the initial stages of the evaluation process significantly enhances the efficiency of the admissions system. The proposed system can process large volumes of applications quickly and accurately, reducing the workload on admissions committees. This scalability is particularly advantageous for institutions experiencing a surge in applications, enabling timely and thorough reviews without compromising quality. Admissions staff can then focus their efforts on the most promising candidates, streamlining the decision-making process.

4. Enhanced Fairness and Bias Mitigation:

The proposed system includes mechanisms to detect and mitigate biases, promoting a fairer admissions process. By analyzing the impact of different features across various demographic groups, the system can identify potential sources of bias and adjust the models accordingly. This ensures that the predictive models do not disproportionately favor or disadvantage any particular group, fostering a more equitable evaluation. The focus on fairness helps create a diverse and inclusive student body, enhancing the educational environment.

5. Transparency and Insightful Feedback:

The feature importance analysis component of the proposed system provides valuable insights into the factors that most influence admission decisions. This transparency benefits both applicants and admissions committees. Applicants can gain a better understanding of which aspects of their application are most critical, allowing them to strengthen their profiles strategically. Admissions committees can use this information to refine their evaluation criteria, ensuring they align with the qualities that predict success in their programs.



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6. Decision-Support for Admissions Committees:

The proposed system serves as a powerful decision-support tool, offering data-driven insights to complement human judgment. The predictive models generate probability scores for each applicant, highlighting those with the highest likelihood of success. This guidance helps admissions officers make more informed and consistent decisions, reducing the variability and subjectivity inherent in traditional methods. The system can also identify applicants with unique or exceptional qualities that may not be immediately evident, ensuring a well-rounded selection process.

7. Adaptability and Continuous Improvement:

The machine learning models used in the proposed system are designed to continuously learn and improve over time. As more data becomes available, the models refine their predictions, adapting to changes in applicant profiles and evolving criteria for success. This adaptability ensures that the system remains relevant and effective, providing consistently accurate and up-to-date evaluations.

Results

In this project as per your instruction we have added extensive analysis and visualization on given dataset. This dataset contains more than 8000 records and this dataset was trained on various algorithms as CNN2D, Decision Tree, SVM, Random Forest, KNN and Linear Regression. Each algorithm performance is evaluated in terms of R2Score and MSE. R2Score refers to correct prediction percentage and MSE (mean square error) refers to difference between predicted and original test values.

We have coded this project using JUPYTER notebook and below are the code and output screens with blue color comments

As you want complex model so we have implemented multi-layer CNN2D (convolution neural network 2D) instead of plain ANN algorithm.



In above screen visualizing values of all columns based on their high and low values



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In above screen visualizing number of admission taken by gender from different regions where x-axis represents 'Region Name' and y-axis represents gender count

Read the migration plan	to Notebook 7 to learn about the new features and the actions to take if you are using extensions - Please note that updating to	o Notebook 7 might break some of your Don't show anyme
😇 jupyter	AdmissionPrediction Last Checkpoint: 2 hours ago (autosaved)	2 Logout
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B + % 4	h Th ↑ ↓ ▶ Run ■ C ≫ Code ✓ 📼	
	4 Linear Regression 0.022479 0.977521	
	5 KNN 0.023980 0.976020	
In [105]:	<pre>#Load test data and predict admission chances data = nd need csv("testData csv" userols=['GPE Scope' 'IOEEL Scope' 'IDiversity Rating' 'SOD'</pre>	' 'LOR' 'CGPA' 'Research'])
	temp = data.values	, LON , COPA , Research j)
	<pre>data = data.values data = scaler.transform(data)#normalzie test data</pre>	
	<pre>data = np.reshape(data, (data.shape[0], data.shape[1], 1, 1))#reshape test data and it (data.shape[0], data.shape[1], 1, 1))#reshape test data</pre>	
	predict = chn_model.predict(data)#apply chn to predict damission chance predict = predict.reshape(-1, 1)	
	<pre>predict = scaler1.inverse_transform(predict) for i in range(len(predict)):</pre>	
	<pre>print("Test Data = "+str(temp[i])+" Predicted Chance of Admission ===> "+str(predict[i,0]*1</pre>	100)+ <mark>"%</mark> ")
	Test Data = [312. 116. 3. 2. 3. 8.9 0.] Predicted Chance of Admission ===> 73.4	45044016838074%
	lest Data = [322, 110, 4, 5, 4,5 9,10 1,] Predicted Chance of Admission ==> 84,8102999/001438% Test Data = [322, 110, 5, 4,5 5, 9,18 1,] Predicted Chance of Admission ==> 86,51540315354064%	
	Test Data = [312. 102. 3. 2.5 3.5 8.66 0.] Predicted Chance of Admission ==	==> 70.9088921546936%
	Test Data = [326. 100. 5. 4. 5. 8. 1.] Predicted Chance of Admission ===> /9.3139/5>. Test Data = [318. 103. 3. 3.5 3.5 8.35 1.] Predicted Chance of Admission ==	==> 71.28337621688843%
In []:		

In above screen uploading test data file and then CNN predicting admission percentage and in above output square bracket contains test data and after = \rightarrow symbol can see predicted admission percentage.

Conclusion:

The evolution of graduate admissions through the integration of machine learning techniques presents a transformative approach to addressing the limitations of traditional evaluation methods. The proposed system leverages comprehensive data integration, advanced predictive algorithms, and feature importance analysis to enhance the accuracy, fairness, and efficiency of the admissions process. By holistically evaluating applicants and mitigating biases, the system promises a more equitable and transparent selection process that benefits both applicants and academic institutions.



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The proposed system's primary advantage lies in its ability to provide a more nuanced and comprehensive evaluation of each applicant. By incorporating a diverse set of quantitative and qualitative data points, the system goes beyond the limitations of standardized test scores and GPA, recognizing the full spectrum of an applicant's potential. This holistic approach ensures that all relevant factors, including research experience, work history, extracurricular activities, and personal statements, are considered, leading to a more balanced and inclusive evaluation process.

Efficiency and scalability are also significantly enhanced through the automation of the initial stages of the evaluation process. The proposed system can process large volumes of applications quickly and accurately, reducing the workload on admissions committees and enabling them to focus on the most promising candidates. This scalability is particularly beneficial for institutions facing increasing numbers of applicants, ensuring timely and thorough reviews without compromising the quality of the assessment.

Furthermore, the system's bias detection and mitigation mechanisms promote a fairer admissions process by identifying and addressing potential sources of bias. This ensures that the predictive models do not disproportionately favor or disadvantage any particular group, fostering a more equitable evaluation. Transparency is further enhanced through feature importance analysis, providing applicants with insights into the factors that most influence admission decisions and enabling admissions committees to refine their evaluation criteria.

As the machine learning models continuously learn and improve over time, the proposed system remains adaptable and relevant, capable of responding to changes in applicant profiles and evolving criteria for success. This adaptability ensures that the system provides consistently accurate and up-to-date evaluations, contributing to the ongoing improvement of the admissions process.

In summary, the proposed machine learning-based system for predicting graduate admissions offers a range of advantages that address the shortcomings of traditional methods. By improving predictive accuracy, promoting fairness, increasing efficiency, and providing valuable insights, the system enhances the overall effectiveness of the admissions process. This innovative approach holds the potential to transform how graduate programs evaluate and select their students, ultimately contributing to a more diverse, capable, and successful cohort of graduate students. The integration of machine learning into the admissions process represents a significant step forward, ensuring that institutions can identify and nurture diverse talent in an increasingly competitive and data-driven world.

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