

# Data mining, big data visualization, data integration:

modern approaches to basketball analytics

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Ghent, 24th April 2017

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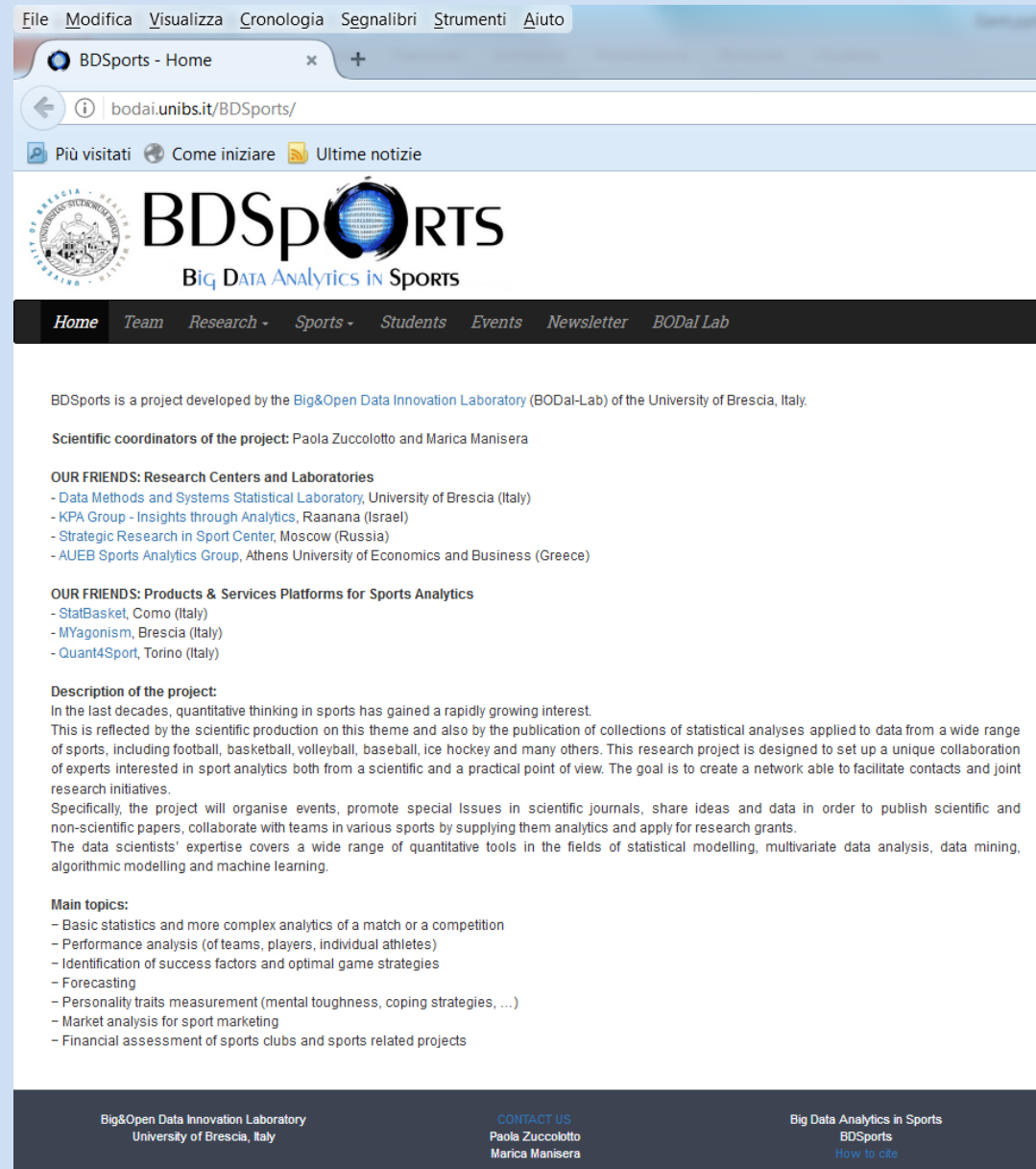


[paola.zuccolotto@unibs.it](mailto:paola.zuccolotto@unibs.it)



# BDSports, a network of people interested in Sports Analytics

<http://bodai.unibs.it/BDSports/>




The screenshot shows the BDSports website homepage. At the top is a navigation bar with links: File, Modifica, Visualizza, Cronologia, Segnalibri, Strumenti, and Aiuto. Below this is a browser tab for 'BDSports - Home' and an address bar showing 'bodai.unibs.it/BDSports/'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'Più visitati', 'Come iniziare', and 'Ultime notizie'. The main header features the University of Brescia logo and the 'BDSports' logo with the tagline 'Big DATA Analytics in Sports'. A dark navigation bar contains links: Home, Team, Research, Sports, Students, Events, Newsletter, and BODaL Lab. The main content area starts with a paragraph about the project's origin at the University of Brescia. It then lists scientific coordinators (Paola Zuccolotto and Marica Manisera) and two sections of partners: 'OUR FRIENDS: Research Centers and Laboratories' (listing Data Methods and Systems, KPA Group, Strategic Research in Sport Center, and AUEB) and 'OUR FRIENDS: Products & Services Platforms for Sports Analytics' (listing StatBasket, MYagonism, and Quant4Sport). A 'Description of the project' section follows, detailing the project's goals and the expertise of the data scientists. A 'Main topics' section lists various areas of research. The footer contains contact information for the Big&Open Data Innovation Laboratory and the project coordinators.

File Modifica Visualizza Cronologia Segnalibri Strumenti Aiuto

BDSports - Home

bodai.unibs.it/BDSports/

Più visitati Come iniziare Ultime notizie

 **BDSports**  
Big DATA Analytics in Sports

Home Team Research Sports Students Events Newsletter BODaL Lab

BDSports is a project developed by the [Big&Open Data Innovation Laboratory \(BODaL-Lab\)](#) of the University of Brescia, Italy.

**Scientific coordinators of the project:** Paola Zuccolotto and Marica Manisera

**OUR FRIENDS: Research Centers and Laboratories**

- Data Methods and Systems Statistical Laboratory, University of Brescia (Italy)
- KPA Group - Insights through Analytics, Raanana (Israel)
- Strategic Research in Sport Center, Moscow (Russia)
- AUEB Sports Analytics Group, Athens University of Economics and Business (Greece)

**OUR FRIENDS: Products & Services Platforms for Sports Analytics**

- StatBasket, Como (Italy)
- MYagonism, Brescia (Italy)
- Quant4Sport, Torino (Italy)

**Description of the project:**

In the last decades, quantitative thinking in sports has gained a rapidly growing interest. This is reflected by the scientific production on this theme and also by the publication of collections of statistical analyses applied to data from a wide range of sports, including football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, ice hockey and many others. This research project is designed to set up a unique collaboration of experts interested in sport analytics both from a scientific and a practical point of view. The goal is to create a network able to facilitate contacts and joint research initiatives.

Specifically, the project will organise events, promote special Issues in scientific journals, share ideas and data in order to publish scientific and non-scientific papers, collaborate with teams in various sports by supplying them analytics and apply for research grants.

The data scientists' expertise covers a wide range of quantitative tools in the fields of statistical modelling, multivariate data analysis, data mining, algorithmic modelling and machine learning.

**Main topics:**

- Basic statistics and more complex analytics of a match or a competition
- Performance analysis (of teams, players, individual athletes)
- Identification of success factors and optimal game strategies
- Forecasting
- Personality traits measurement (mental toughness, coping strategies, ...)
- Market analysis for sport marketing
- Financial assessment of sports clubs and sports related projects





Big&Open Data Innovation Laboratory  
University of Brescia, Italy

CONTACT US  
Paola Zuccolotto  
Marica Manisera

Big Data Analytics in Sports  
BDSports  
[How to cite](#)

- Basketball Analytics: state of the art
- Basketball datasets
- CS1: new positions in basketball
- CS2: scoring probability under high-pressure
- CS3: performance variability and teamwork
- CS4: sensor data analysis

## AGENDA:

- Basketball analytics: state of the art
- Basketball datasets
- Case studies:
  -  CS1: new positions in basketball
  -  CS2: scoring probability when shooting under high-pressure conditions
  -  CS3: performance variability and teamwork assessment
  -  CS4: sensor data analysis
- Concluding remarks

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# BASKETBALL ANALYTICS



Official  
Statistics



Sport  
Analytics  
Services



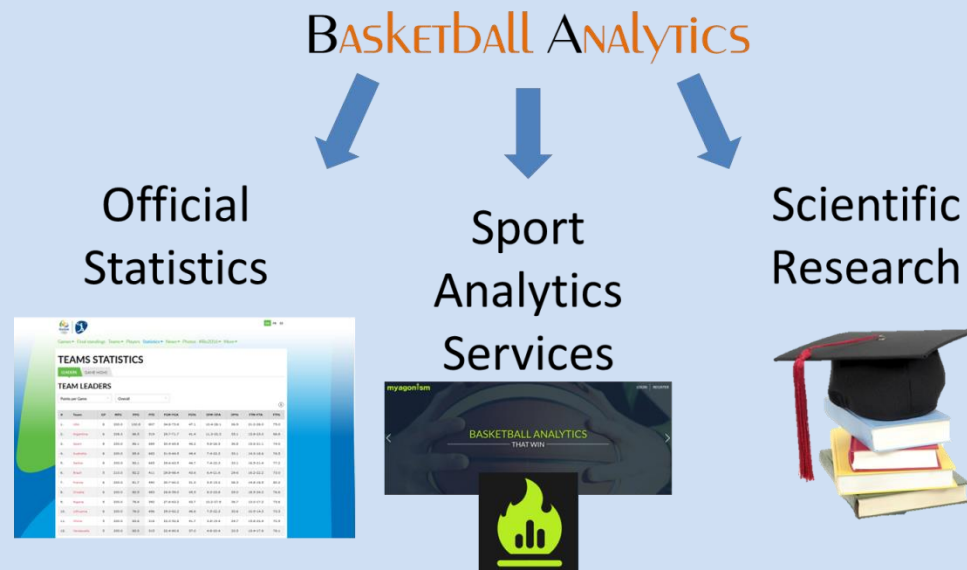
Scientific  
Research



#	Team	GP	MPG	PPG	FPG	FG%	FT%	3P%	3P%	3P%	3P%	3P%
1.	USA	8	200.0	100.9	807	34.8-73.8	47.1	10.4-28.1	36.9	21.0-28.0	75.0	
2.	Argentina	6	208.3	84.3	519	29.7-71.7	41.4	11.3-32.3	35.1	15.9-23.0	68.8	
3.	Spain	8	200.0	84.1	689	32.4-65.8	46.2	9.9-26.9	36.8	15.6-21.1	74.0	
4.	Australia	8	200.0	82.4	603	31.9-64.3	49.4	7.4-22.3	33.1	14.3-18.6	76.5	
5.	Serbia	8	200.0	83.1	603	29.6-63.3	46.7	7.4-22.3	33.1	16.5-21.4	77.2	
6.	Brazil	5	210.0	82.2	411	29.6-65.4	43.6	6.4-21.6	29.6	16.2-22.2	73.0	
7.	France	6	200.0	81.7	490	30.7-60.1	51.0	9.3-19.3	30.3	14.8-18.9	80.0	
8.	Croatia	6	200.0	80.5	483	26.8-59.3	45.5	8.3-23.8	35.0	16.5-24.2	76.6	
9.	Nigeria	8	200.0	78.4	392	27.6-63.3	43.7	10.2-27.8	36.7	13.0-17.3	75.4	
10.	Lithuania	6	200.0	74.0	406	29.0-62.2	46.6	7.0-22.3	33.6	10.5-14.3	73.3	
11.	China	5	200.0	63.6	318	22.0-52.8	41.7	3.0-15.4	24.7	15.8-22.4	70.9	
12.	Venezuela	5	200.0	63.0	315	22.4-60.4	37.0	4.0-20.4	23.5	13.4-17.6	76.1	



- **Basketball Analytics: state of the art**
- Basketball datasets
- CS1: new positions in basketball
- CS2: scoring probability under high-pressure
- CS3: performance variability and teamwork
- CS4: sensor data analysis

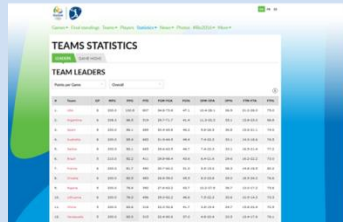




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## BASKETBALL ANALYTICS

Official  
Statistics



TEAMS STATISTICS											
TEAM LEADERS											
Rank	Player	PTS	REB	AST	STL	BLK	FT%	3P%	TS%	PER	PER100
1	LeBron James	27.1	7.5	7.4	1.5	0.6	70.6	33.0	58.3	28.1	28.1
2	Carmelo Anthony	25.0	5.5	3.9	1.2	0.4	78.5	35.4	55.5	26.5	26.5
3	Chris Paul	21.7	4.0	9.0	2.0	0.2	88.0	39.0	62.0	24.0	24.0
4	Kevin Durant	20.3	7.9	4.0	1.1	0.7	88.7	32.7	59.0	25.0	25.0
5	Stephen Curry	20.3	5.4	6.7	1.6	0.1	88.0	42.4	62.0	24.0	24.0

Sport  
Analytics  
Services



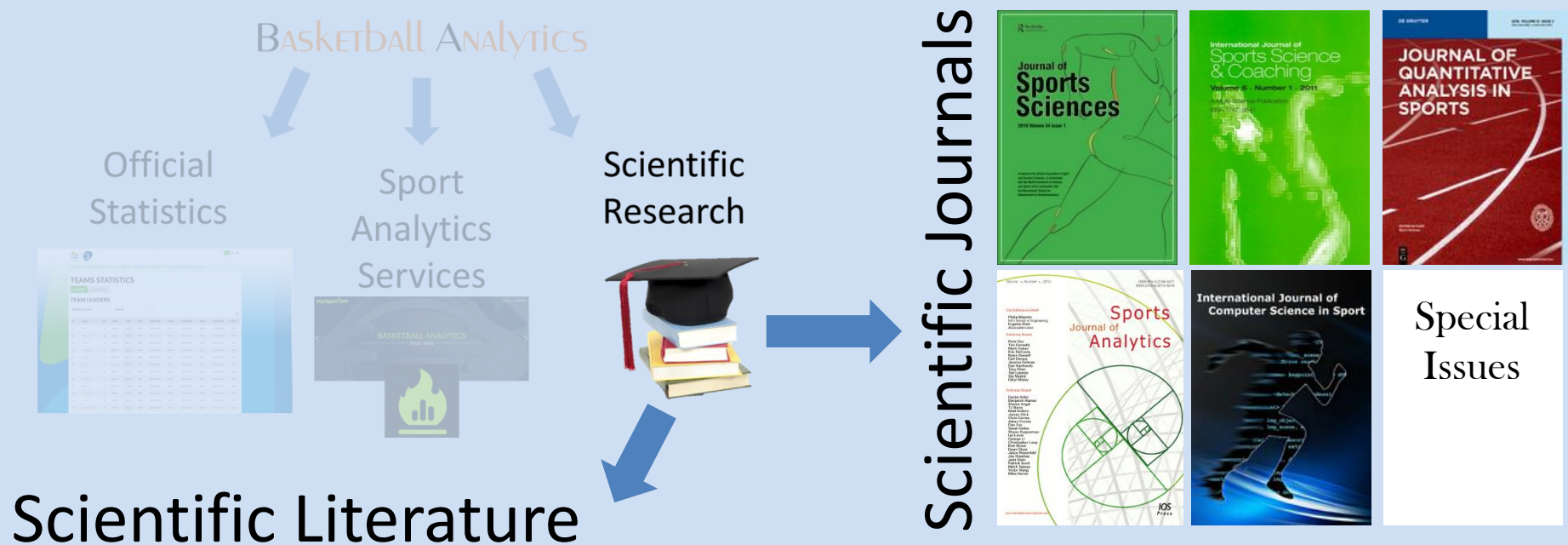
Scientific  
Research



Our analyses often  
**integrate** machine  
learning tools and  
experts' suggestions



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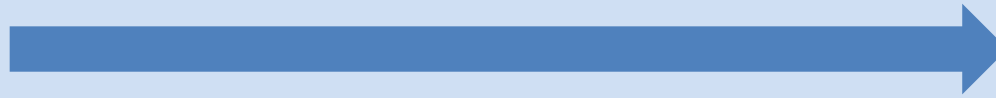
As concerns basketball, several statistical techniques have been applied to analyze data with a great variety of different aims, ranging from simply depicting the main features of a game by means of descriptive statistics (Kubatko et al., 2007) to the investigation of more complex problems, such as forecasting the outcomes of a game or a tournament (West et al., 2008; Loeffelholz et al., 2009; Brown et al., 2010; Gupta, 2015; Lopez and Matthews, 2015; Ruiz and Perez-Cruz, 2015; Yuan et al., 2015; Manner, 2016), analysing players' performance (Page et al., 2007; Cooper et al., 2009; Piette et al., 2010; Fearnhead and Taylor, 2011; Ozmen, 2012; Page et al., 2013; Deshpande and Jensen, 2016), studying the network of players' pathways from the in-bounds pass to the basket (Skinner, 2010) and their spatial positioning (Shortridge et al., 2014), or identifying optimal game strategies (Annis et al., 2006).





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**Data**



**Big Data**



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Data

Big Data

Year: 2016-17

TEAM LEADERS

<b>POINTS</b>	<b>REBOUNDS</b>	<b>ASSISTS</b>	<b>STEALS</b>	<b>BLOCKS</b>
Kevin Durant #35 25.8	Kevin Durant #35 8.3	Draymond Green #23 7.3	Draymond Green #23 2.1	Kevin Durant #35 1.7

Splits

TOTAL SPLITS

GAME STATISTICS	GP	GS	MIN	PPG	OFFR	DEFR	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	FPG	A/TO	PER
PLAYER	56	56	34.1	25.8	0.6	7.6	8.3	4.9	1.13	1.70	2.3	1.9	2.1	27.6
Kevin Durant, SF	55	55	33.4	24.7	0.6	3.7	4.3	6.4	1.65	0.20	2.9	2.2	1.1	17.1
Stephen Curry, PG	54	54	34.1	22.1	0.7	3.1	3.8	2.0	0.81	0.46	1.8	1.9	1.1	17.2
Klay Thompson, SG	53	53	32.9	10.2	1.4	6.8	8.2	7.3	2.09	1.51	2.3	3.0	1.9	13.5
Draymond Green, PF	51	0	14.3	6.5	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	23.7
Ian Clark, SG	54	0	25.6	6.4	0.7	3.2	3.9	3.4	0.93	0.39	0.7	1.2	4.9	15.9
Andre Iguodala, SF	51	10	9.5	6.2	1.1	2.0	3.0	2.0	0.24	0.69	0.6	1.5	0.4	10.1
JaVale McGee, C	51	1	17.3	5.2	0.4	1.6	1.9	1.7	0.47	0.22	0.8	1.6	2.1	16.6
Zaza Pachulia, C	44	44	18.8	5.9	2.1	3.9	6.0	2.0	0.95	0.41	1.3	2.4	1.6	7.9
Shaun Livingston, PG	42	0	11.5	4.1	0.6	2.1	2.7	2.1	0.67	0.45	1.0	1.4	1.9	14.5
David West, PF	46	3	12.4	3.3	0.2	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.35	0.22	0.5	0.8	2.0	11.6
Patrick McCaw, PG	43	3	9.3	2.9	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.6	0.30	0.37	0.3	1.4	1.9	6.0
Kevon Looney, SF	29	0	9.1	2.8	0.4	1.1	1.5	0.4	0.24	0.52	0.4	0.9	1.0	5.0
James Michael McAdoo, SF	5	0	8.2	1.6	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.40	0.20	0.4	0.6	2.5	9.4
Briante Weber, PG	8	0	5.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.0	0.13	0.25	0.6	1.1	1.3	--
Damian Jones, C	14	1	6.6	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	0.21	0.21	0.6	1.1	1.3	--
Anderson Varejao, C	56	--	--	--	118.2	8.8	35.7	44.5	31.0	9.55	6.57	14.4	19.2	2.2
Totals	56	--	--	--	118.2	8.8	35.7	44.5	31.0	9.55	6.57	14.4	19.2	2.2

Stats  
CS1

www.espn.com/nba  
stats.nba.com  
www.fiba.com  
Leagues

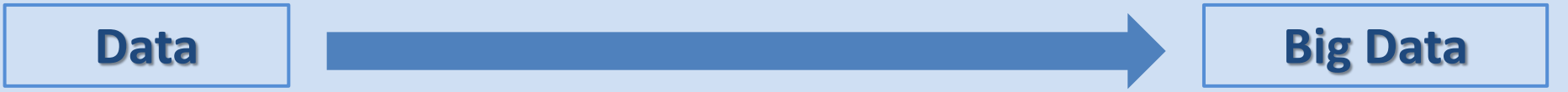
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**BDSports**  
BIG DATA Analytics in Sports

MARICA MANISERA  
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- Basketball Analytics: state of the art
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Year: 2016-17

TEAM LEADERS

POINTS

Kevin Durant  
#35  
25.8

REBOUNDS

Kevin Durant  
#35  
8.3

ASSISTS

Draymond Green  
#23  
7.3

STEALS

Draymond Green  
#23  
2.1

BLOCKS

Kevin Durant  
#35  
1.7

TOTAL SPLITS

Game Statistics

PLAYER	GP	GS	MIN	PPG	FG	3PT	FT	ORB	DRB	REB	AST	STL	BLK	TO	PF	PTS
Kevin Durant, SF	56	56	34.1	25.8	47.6	37.7	88.3	6.4	6.4	12.8	4.1	1.1	1.1	2.1	2.1	27.6
Stephen Curry, PG	55	55	33.4	24.7	46.6	37.7	88.3	6.4	6.4	12.8	4.1	1.1	1.1	2.1	2.1	24.0
Klay Thompson, SG	54	54	34.1	22.1	47.6	37.7	88.3	6.4	6.4	12.8	4.1	1.1	1.1	2.1	2.1	17.1
Draymond Green, PF	53	53	32.9	10.2	1.4	6.8	8.2	7.3	2.09	1.51	2.3	3.0	3.2	1.9	1.9	13.5
Ian Clark, SG	51	0	14.3	6.5	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	23.7
Andre Iguodala, SF	54	0	25.6	6.4	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	15.9
JaVale McGee, C	51	10	9.5	6.2	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	10.1
Zaza Pachulia, C	44	44	18.8	5.9	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	10.1
Shaun Livingston, PG	51	1	17.3	5.2	0.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	10.1
David West, PF	42	0	11.5	4.1	0.6	2.1	2.7	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.8	1.7	2.6
Patrick McCaw, PG	43	3	9.3	2.9	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.8	1.7	2.6
Kevon Looney, SF	29	0	9.1	2.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6
James Michael McAdoo, SF	5	0	8.2	1.6	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4
Briante Weber, PG	8	0	5.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4
Damian Jones, C	14	1	6.6	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9
Anderson Varejao, C	14	1	6.6	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.1	1.9
Totals	56	--	--	--	118.2	8.8	35.7	44.5								

Stats  
CS1

NBA ALL-STAR GAME

Final

Eastern Conf All-Stars 182

Western Conf All-Stars 192

1st Quarter

TIME	TEAM	PLAY	SCORE
12:00	LeBron James vs. Anthony Davis	(Stephen Curry gains possession)	0 - 0
11:45	Anthony Davis	makes 21-foot jumper	0 - 2
11:33	DeMar DeRozan	bad pass (Kawhi Leonard steals)	0 - 2
11:29	Kawhi Leonard	makes dunk	0 - 4
11:19	Giannis Antetokounmpo	makes dunk (Jimmy Butler assists)	2 - 4
11:10	Anthony Davis	misses three point jumper	2 - 4
11:08	LeBron James	defensive rebound	2 - 4
11:02	LeBron James	makes 27-foot three point jumper (DeMar DeRozan assists)	5 - 4
10:51	Stephen Curry	makes 26-foot three point jumper	5 - 7
10:42	Jimmy Butler	makes dunk (DeMar DeRozan assists)	7 - 7
10:29	Anthony Davis	makes layup	7 - 9
10:12	Kyrie Irving	makes 25-foot three point jumper (DeMar DeRozan assists)	10 - 9
10:00	Kevin Durant	misses layup	10 - 9
10:00	Kyrie Irving	defensive rebound	10 - 9
9:53	LeBron James	misses layup	10 - 9
9:52	Kawhi Leonard	defensive rebound	10 - 9

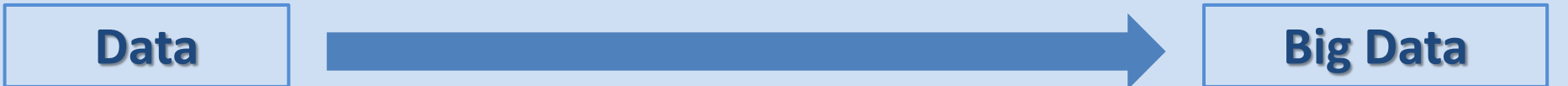
play-by-play  
CS2 – CS3

string input;  
int length, in;  
double dlim;  
bool again = true;  
  
while (again) {  
 in = -1;  
 again = false;  
 getline(cin, input);  
 system("cls");  
 stringstream(input) >> dlim;  
 length = input.length();  
 if (length < 4) {  
 if (again = true) {  
 continue; } } } }

WEB SCRAPING SOFTWARE



- Basketball Analytics: state of the art
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Year: 2016-17

TEAM LEADERS

POINTS

Kevin Durant #35

25.8

REBOUNDS

Kevin Durant #35

8.3

ASSISTS

Draymond Green #23

7.3

STEALS

Draymond Green #23

2.1

BLOCKS

Kevin Durant #35

1.7

TOTAL SPLITS

Game Statistics

PLAYER	GP	GS	MIN	PPG	FF	D	3P	4P	SPG	BPG	TPG	FPG	A/TO	PER
Kevin Durant, SF	56	56	34.1	25.8	0.6	3.7	4.3	6.4	1.13	1.70	2.3	1.9	2.1	27.6
Stephen Curry, PG	55	55	33.4	24.7	0.7	3.1	3.8	2.0	0.81	0.46	1.8	1.9	1.1	17.1
Klay Thompson, SG	54	54	34.1	22.1	0.7	6.8	8.2	7.3	2.09	1.51	2.3	3.0	3.2	17.2
Draymond Green, PF	53	53	32.9	10.2	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.55	0.12	0.6	1.0	1.9	13.5
Ian Clark, SG	51	0	14.3	6.5	0.2	3.9	3.4	0.93	0.39	0.7	1.2	4.9	0.4	23.7
Andre Iguodala, SF	54	0	25.6	6.4	0.1	2.1	3.0	0.2	0.24	0.69	0.6	1.5	0.4	15.9
JaVale McGee, C	51	10	9.5	6.2	0.1	3.9	3.0	0.1	0.45	0.41	1.3	2.4	1.6	10.1
Zaza Pachulia, C	44	44	18.8	5.9	0.1	1.1	1.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Shaun Livingston, PG	51	1	17.3	5.2	0.1	1.1	2.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
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Patrick McCaw, PG	46	3	12.4	3.3	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Kevon Looney, SF	43	3	9.3	2.9	0.8	1.7	2.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
James Michael McAdoo, SF	29	0	9.1	2.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Briante Weber, PG	5	0	8.2	1.6	0.0	0.6	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Damian Jones, C	8	0	5.6	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Anderson Varejao, C	14	1	6.6	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Totals	56	--	--	118.2	8.8	35.7	44.5							

Stats

CS1



Sensor Data CS4

Eastern Conf All-Stars

182

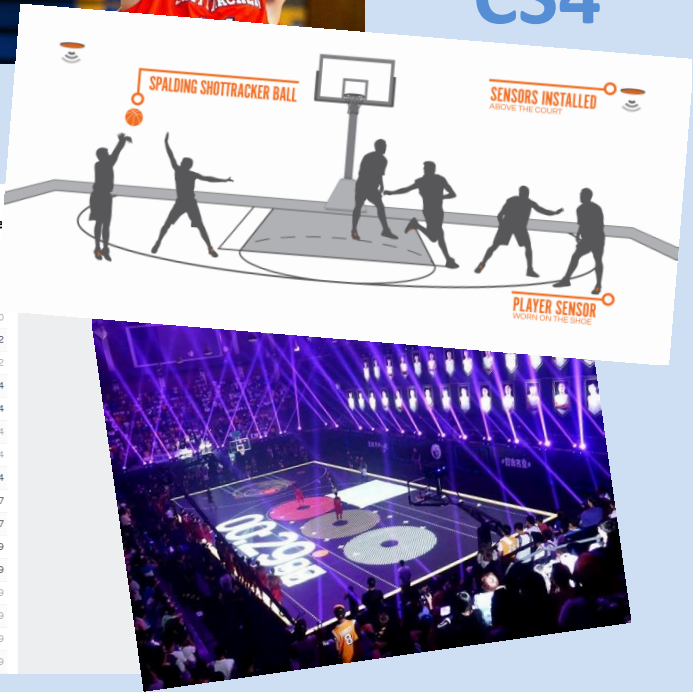
Final

192

1st Quarter

TIME	TEAM	PLAY	SCORE
12:00	LeBron James vs. Anthony Davis	(Stephen Curry gains possession)	0 - 0
11:45	Anthony Davis	makes 21-foot jumper	0 - 2
11:33	DeMar DeRozan	bad pass (Kawhi Leonard steals)	0 - 2
11:29	Kawhi Leonard	misses dunk	0 - 4
11:19	Giannis Antetokounmpo	makes 25-foot three point jumper (LeBron James assists)	0 - 4
11:10	Anthony Davis	makes 25-foot three point jumper (LeBron James assists)	2 - 4
11:08	LeBron James	defensive rebound	2 - 4
11:02	LeBron James	makes 27-foot three point jumper (DeMar DeRozan assists)	5 - 4
10:51	Stephen Curry	makes 26-foot three point jumper	5 - 7
10:42	Jimmy Butler	makes dunk (DeMar DeRozan assists)	7 - 7
10:29	Anthony Davis	makes layup	7 - 9
10:12	Kyrie Irving	makes 25-foot three point jumper (DeMar DeRozan assists)	10 - 9
10:00	Kevin Durant	misses layup	10 - 9
10:00	Kyrie Irving	defensive rebound	10 - 9
9:53	LeBron James	misses layup	10 - 9
9:52	Kawhi Leonard	defensive rebound	10 - 9

play-by-play CS2 – CS3



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# CS1: new positions in basketball



## Role revolution: towards a new meaning of positions in basketball

Federico Bianchi<sup>a</sup>, Tullio Facchinetti <sup>\*a</sup>, and Paola Zuccolotto<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>University of Pavia, via Ferrata, 1, 27100 Pavia, Italy

<sup>b</sup>University of Brescia, c.da S. Chiara 50, 25122 Brescia, Italy

(submitted)

**Stats**

TEAM	POINTS	REBOUNDS	ASSISTS	STEALS	BLOCKS
Atlanta Hawks	25.8	8.3	7.3	2.1	1.7

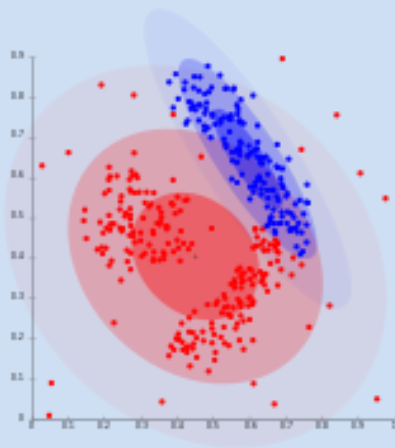
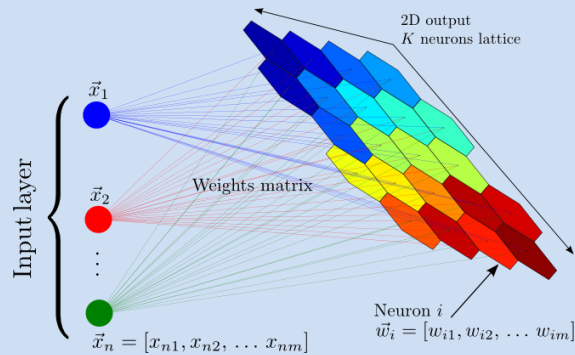
PLAYER	GP	GS	MIN	PPG	ORPG	DRPG	REB	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	FTG	FT%	PER
Alvin Robertson, SF	55	55	24.1	20.5	5.8	5.8	11.6	5.8	1.8	0.8	2.8	7.8	85.5	28.5
Stephen Curry, PG	54	54	34.3	23.1	6.7	5.4	12.1	6.7	1.4	0.2	3.5	9.0	88.0	31.5
Ray Thompson, SG	52	52	26.8	18.2	5.4	5.4	10.8	5.4	1.4	0.2	3.5	9.0	88.0	31.5
Dwight Gooden, PF	52	0	14.3	9.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sam Clark, SG	54	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Charles Smith, SF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Samuel Mitchell, SF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Shane Robinson, SF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Wesley Matthews, SF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
David West, PF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Marvin Williams, SF	52	0	15.4	6.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
James Michael McInnis, SF	29	0	6.1	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
James Michael McInnis, SF	5	0	6.1	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Shane Watson, PG	8	0	6.1	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Samuel Mitchell, SF	14	1	6.1	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Samuel Mitchell, SF	56	56	118.2	9.8	35.7	44.5	80.2	35.7	14.4	19.2	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

**MOTIVATION:** The existing positions - often defined a long time ago - tend to reflect traditional points of view about the game and sometimes they are no longer well-suited to the new concepts arisen with the evolution of the way of playing.

**AIM:** describing new roles of players during the game, by means of the analysis of players' performance statistics with data mining and machine learning tools.

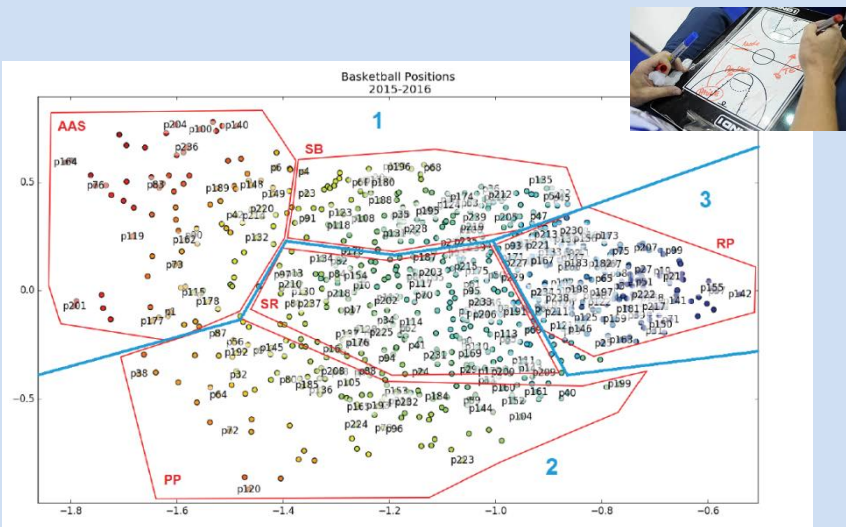
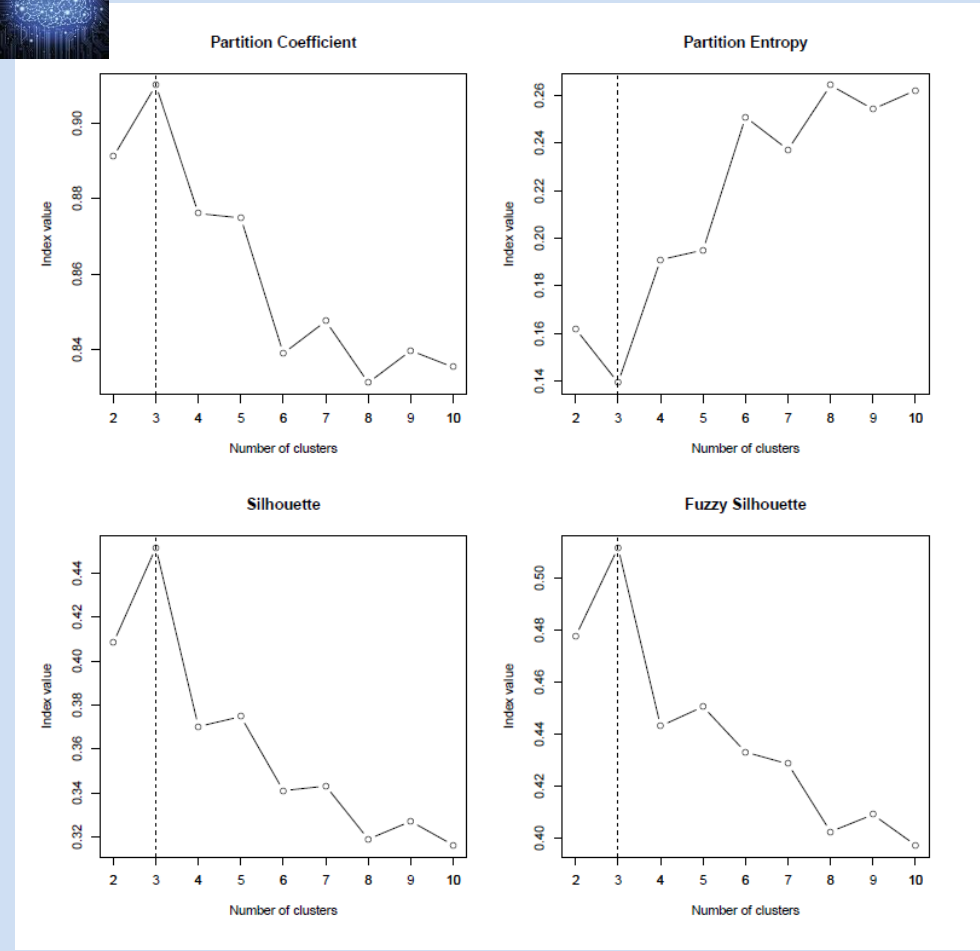


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- «Key-players» training set  
→ 7-dimensional **SOM**
- clusterization of the SOM output layer into a proper number of groups by means of a **fuzzy clustering algorithm**

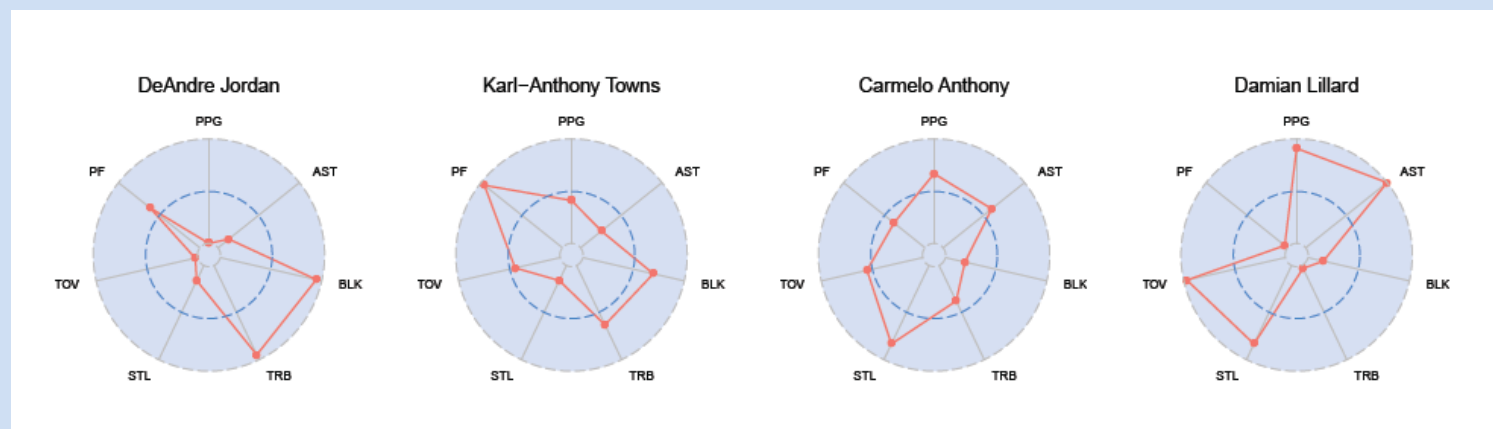
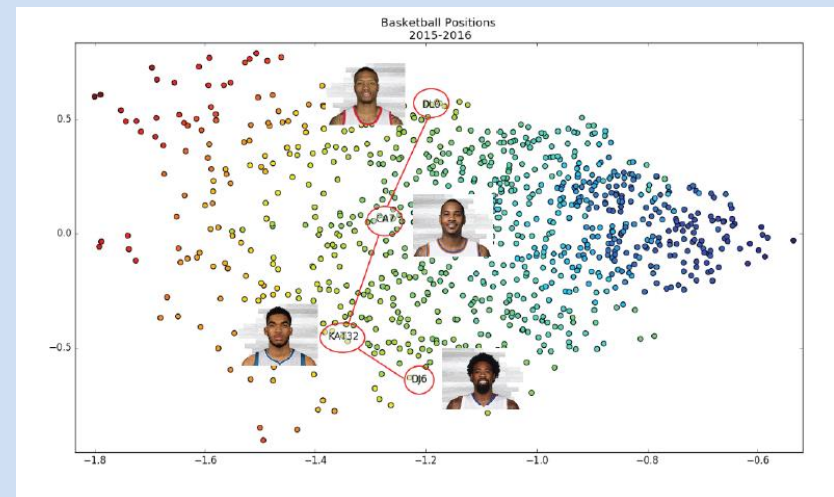
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Position	Short	Players
All-Around All Stars	AAS	LeBron James (LBJ23), Kevind Durant (KD35), Paul George (PG13), Stephen Curry (SC30), James Harden (JH13)
Scoring Backcourt	SB	Kobe Bryant (KB24), Damian Lillard (DL0), Kyrie Irving (KI2), Dwyane Wade (DW3)
Scoring Rebounder	SR	Marc Gasol (MG33), Carmelo Anthony (CA7), Karl-Anthony Towns (KAT32), Anthony Davis (AD23), Blake Griffin (BG32)
Paint Protector	PP	DeAndre Jordan (DJ6), Andrew Bogut (AB12), Steven Adams (SA12), Kenneth Faried (KF35)
Role Players	RP	Marco Belinelli (MB3), J.J. Redick (JJ4), Harrison Barnes (HB40), Jabari Parker (JP12), Avery Bradley (AB0)



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# CS2: scoring probability when shooting under high-pressure conditions

Big data analytics to model scoring probability in basketball: the effect of shooting under high-pressure conditions

(submitted)

Paola Zuccolotto, Marica Manisera and Marco Sandri



**MOTIVATION:** Basketball players have often to face high-pressure game conditions. To be aware of the overall and personal reactions to these situations is of primary importance to coaches.

**AIM:** To develop a model describing the impact of some high-pressure game situations on the probability of scoring and to assess players' personal reactions.

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## HIGH-PRESSURE GAME SITUATIONS:



- when the shot clock is going to expire (SHOT.CLOCK)
- when the score difference with respect to the opponent is small (Sc.DIFF)
- when the team, for some reason, has globally performed bad during the match, up to the considered moment (Miss.T)
- when the player missed the previous shot (Miss.PL)
- the time to the end of quarter (TIME)
- type of action (POSS.TYPE, 24'' or 14'' extratime)



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Dataset	A2ITA	RIO16
Competition	Championship - regular season	Olympic Tournament
Period	2015, 4th Oct - 2016, 23rd Apr	2016, 6th - 21st Aug
Gender	Male	Male
Number of matches	480	38
Number of teams	32	12
Number of players	438	144
Number of 2-point shots	33682 (48.3%, 50.9% Made)	3101 (47.9%, 52.2% Made)
Number of 3-point shots	21163 (30.4%, 34.1% Made)	1780 (27.5%, 33.8% Made)
Number of free throws	14843 (21.3%, 73.5% Made)	1589 (24.6%, 74.8% Made)

69688

6470



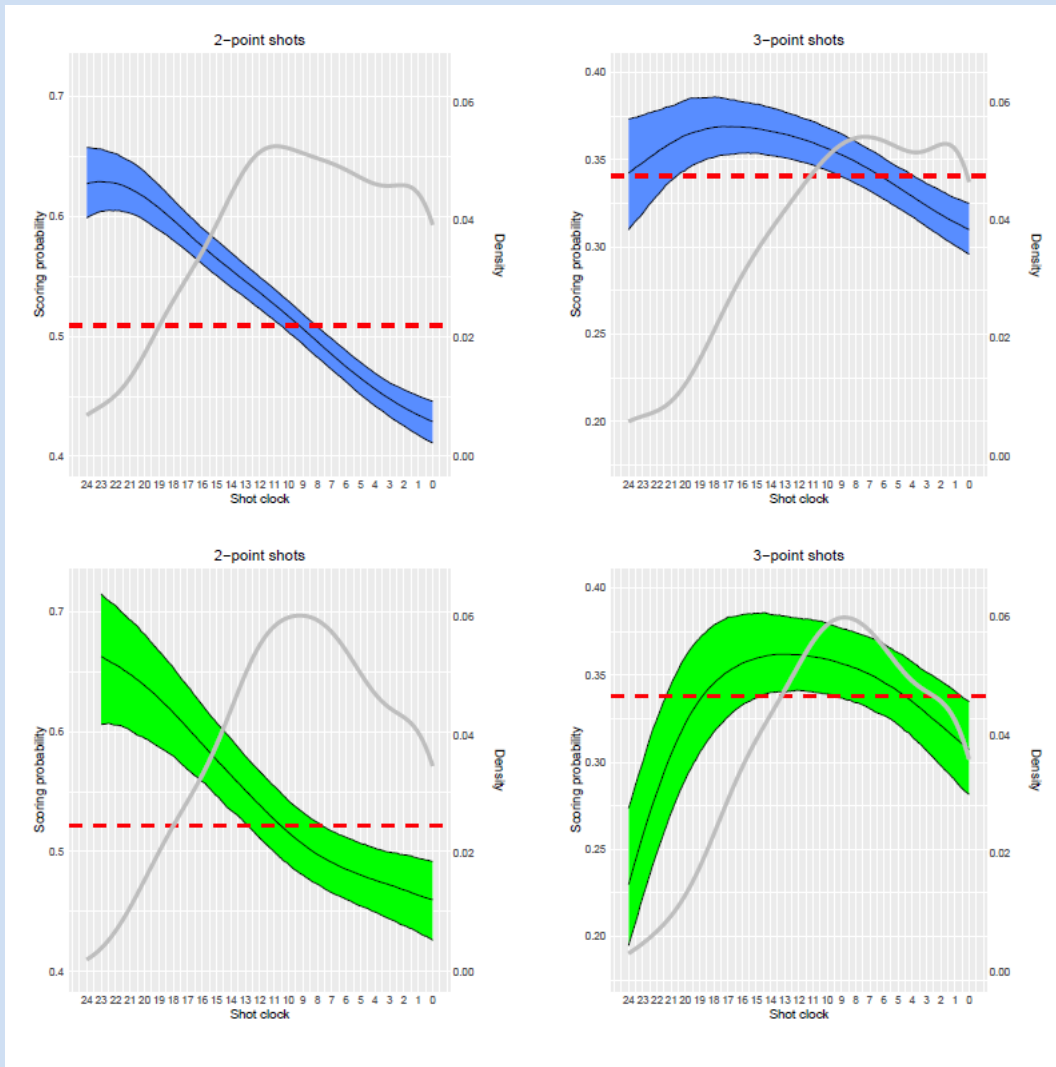
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## DATA MINING Tools:

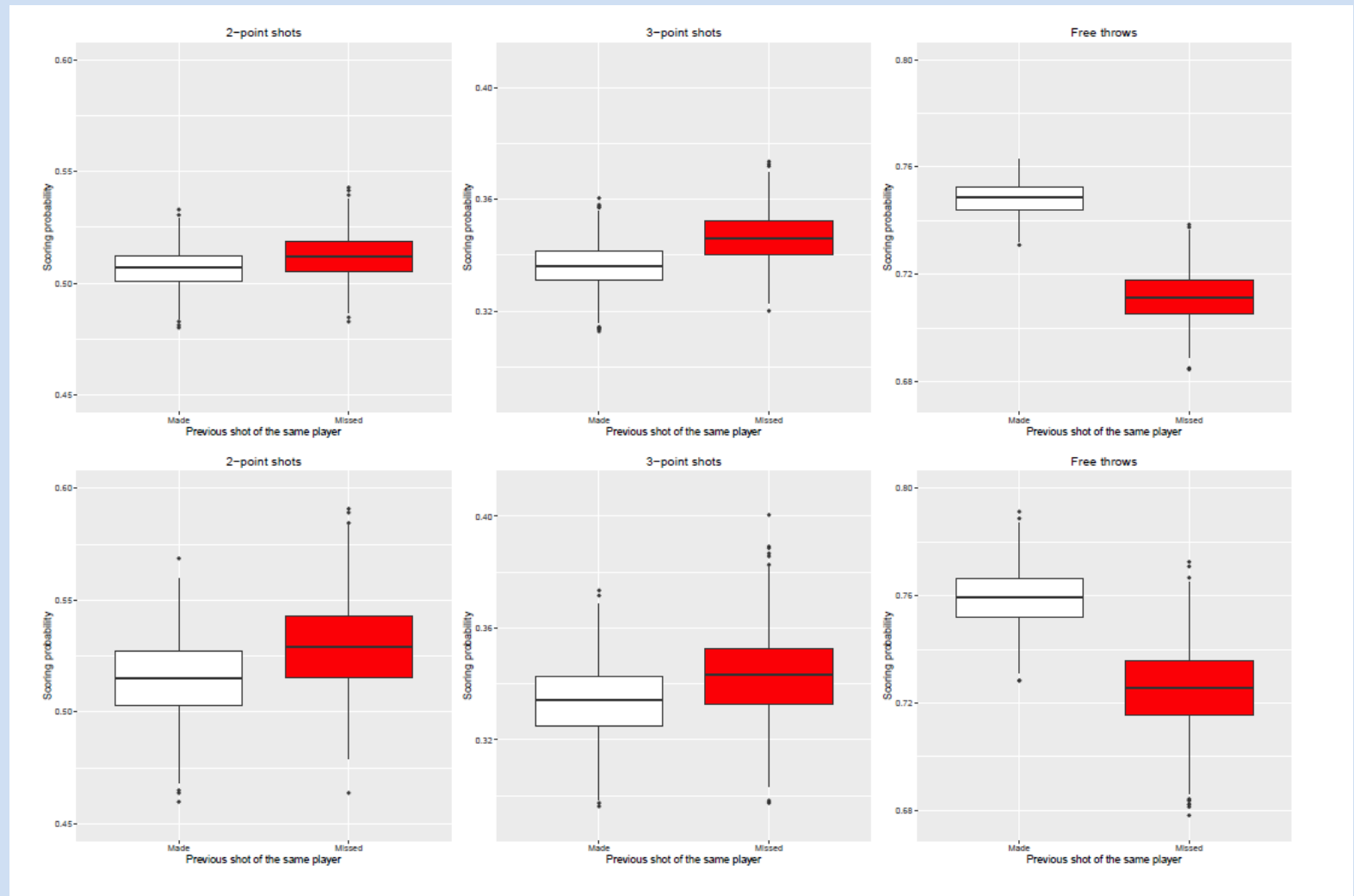
- **univariate** non parametric regressions via kernel smoothing on the dependent variable MADE (assuming values 1 and 0 according to whether, respectively, the attempted shot scored a basket or not)
- 1000 bootstrap samples of size  $nboot = 5000$  and  $nboot = 1000$  for the dataset A2ITA and RIO16, respectively.

➡ **few univariate relationships detected** - Just [SHOT.CLOK](#) and [MISS.PL](#)

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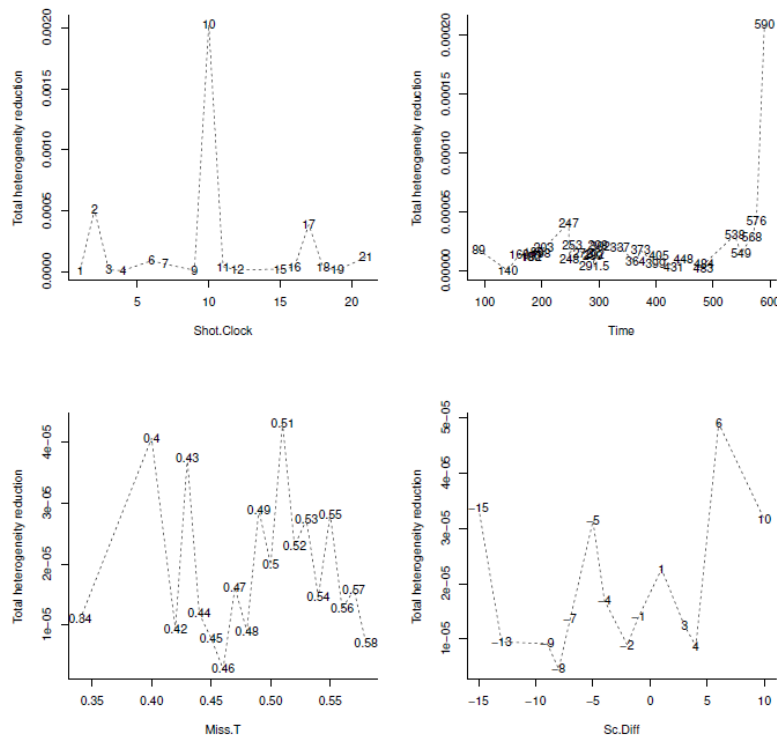
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## DATA MINING Tools:

- **CART** (Classification And Regression Trees), algorithm able to deal with multivariate complex relationships, also detecting interactions among predictors
- we transform numerical into categorical covariates in order to improve interpretability → combination of the results of a **machine learning procedure** and **experts' suggestions**
- pruning



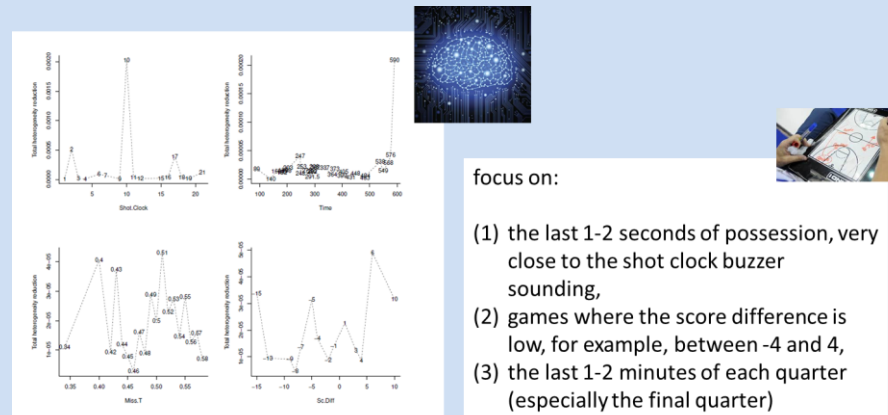
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focus on:

- (1) the last 1-2 seconds of possession, very close to the shot clock buzzer sounding,
- (2) games where the score difference is low, for example, between -4 and 4,
- (3) the last 1-2 minutes of each quarter (especially the final quarter)

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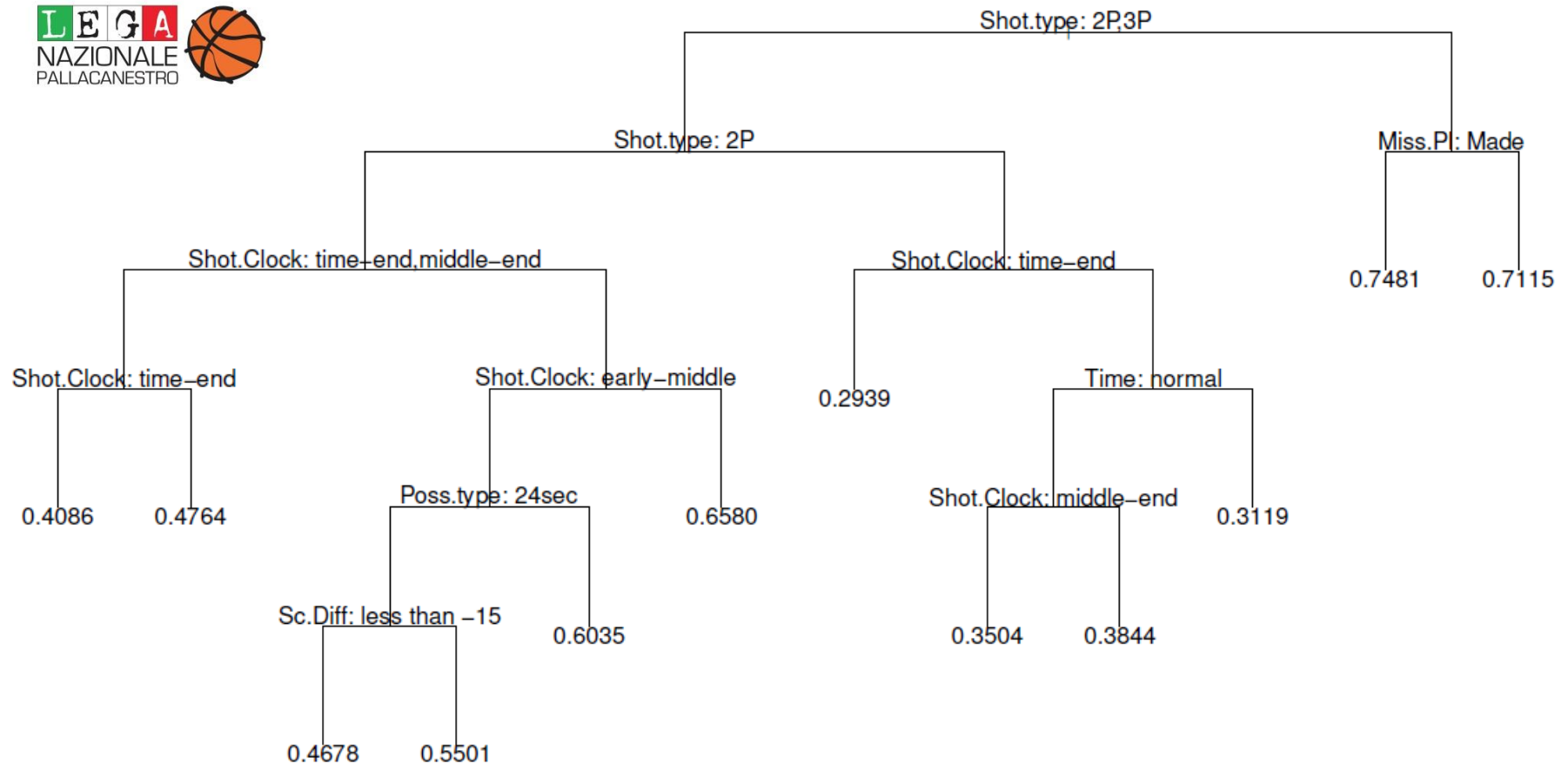
focus on:

- (1) the last 1-2 seconds of possession, very close to the shot clock buzzer sounding,
- (2) games where the score difference is low, for example, between -4 and 4,
- (3) the last 1-2 minutes of each quarter (especially the final quarter)

SHOT.CLOCK	<p>early: <math>\text{SHOT.CLOCK} &gt; 17</math></p> <p>early-middle: <math>10 &lt; \text{SHOT.CLOCK} \leq 17</math></p> <p>middle-end: <math>2 &lt; \text{SHOT.CLOCK} \leq 10</math></p> <p>time-end: <math>\text{SHOT.CLOCK} \leq 2</math></p>
TIME	<p>normal: <math>\text{TIME} \leq 500</math></p> <p>quarter-end: <math>\text{TIME} &gt; 500</math></p>
MISS.T	<p>Bad: <math>\text{MISS.T} \leq 0.44</math> (25th percentile)</p> <p>Medium: <math>0.44 &lt; \text{MISS.T} \leq 0.56</math></p> <p>Good: <math>\text{MISS.T} &gt; 0.56</math> (75th percentile)</p>
SC.DIFF	<p>less than -15: <math>\text{SC.DIFF} \leq -15</math></p> <p>between -15 and -5: <math>-15 &lt; \text{SC.DIFF} \leq -5</math></p> <p>between -5 and 1: <math>-5 &lt; \text{SC.DIFF} \leq 1</math></p> <p>between 1 and 6: <math>1 &lt; \text{SC.DIFF} \leq 6</math></p> <p>more than 6: <math>\text{SC.DIFF} &gt; 6</math></p>

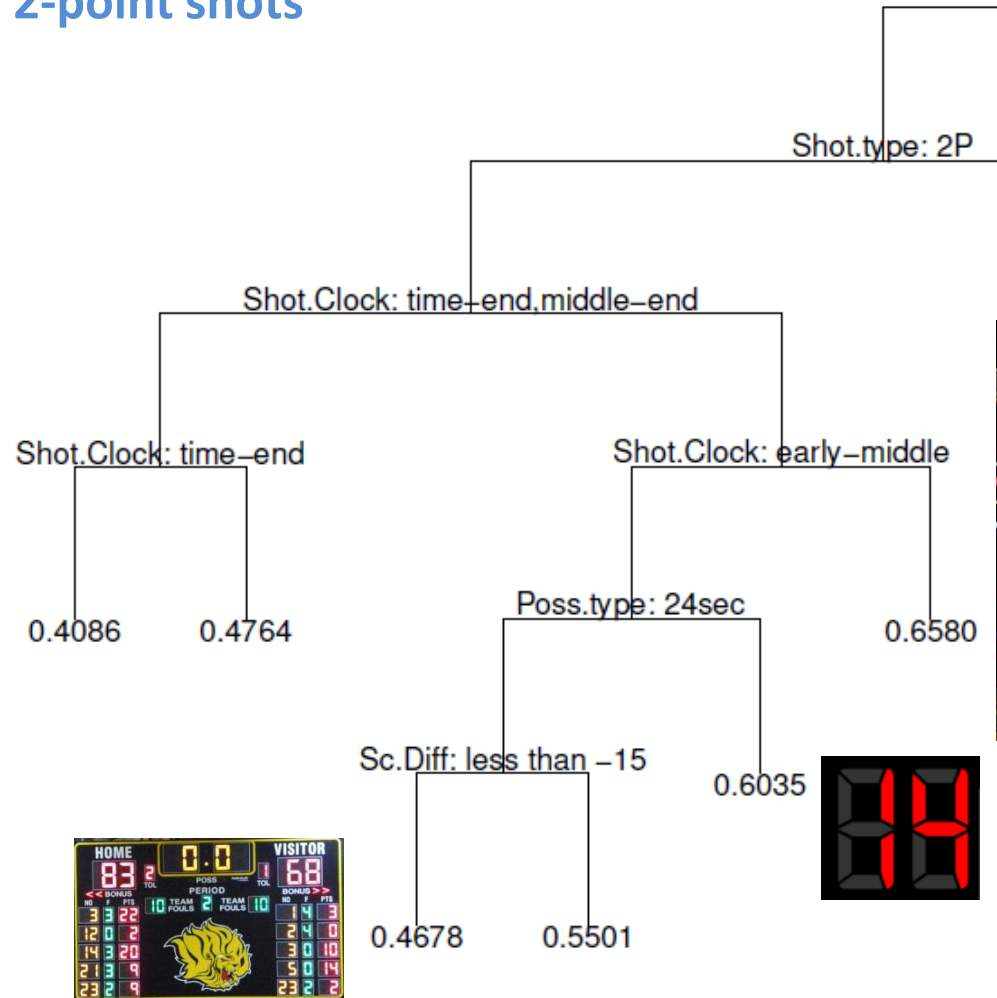
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## Very similar results with Rio 2016 data



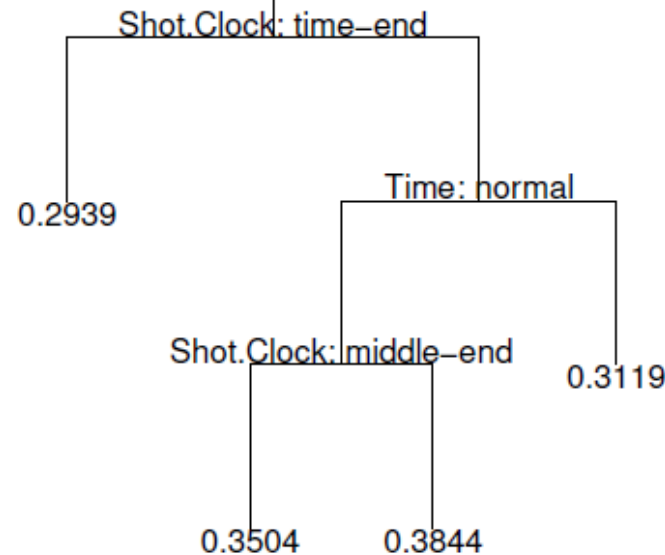
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## 2-point shots



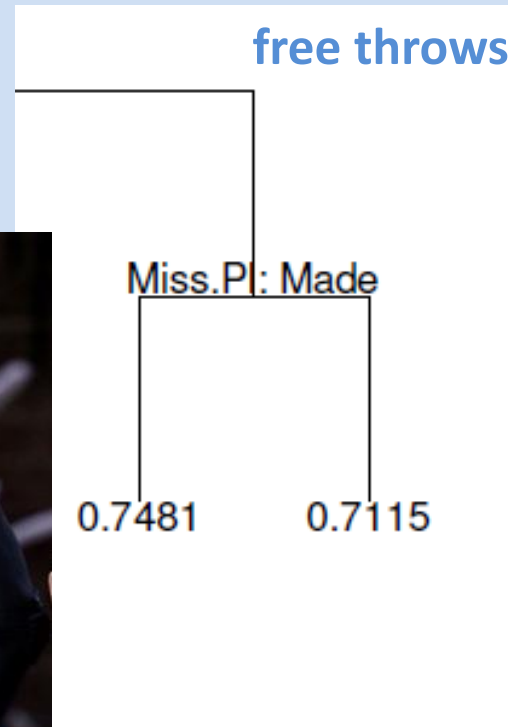
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## 3-point shots





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## NEW SHOOTING PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Takes into account that shots attempted in different moments have different scoring probabilities

Performance of Player  $i$

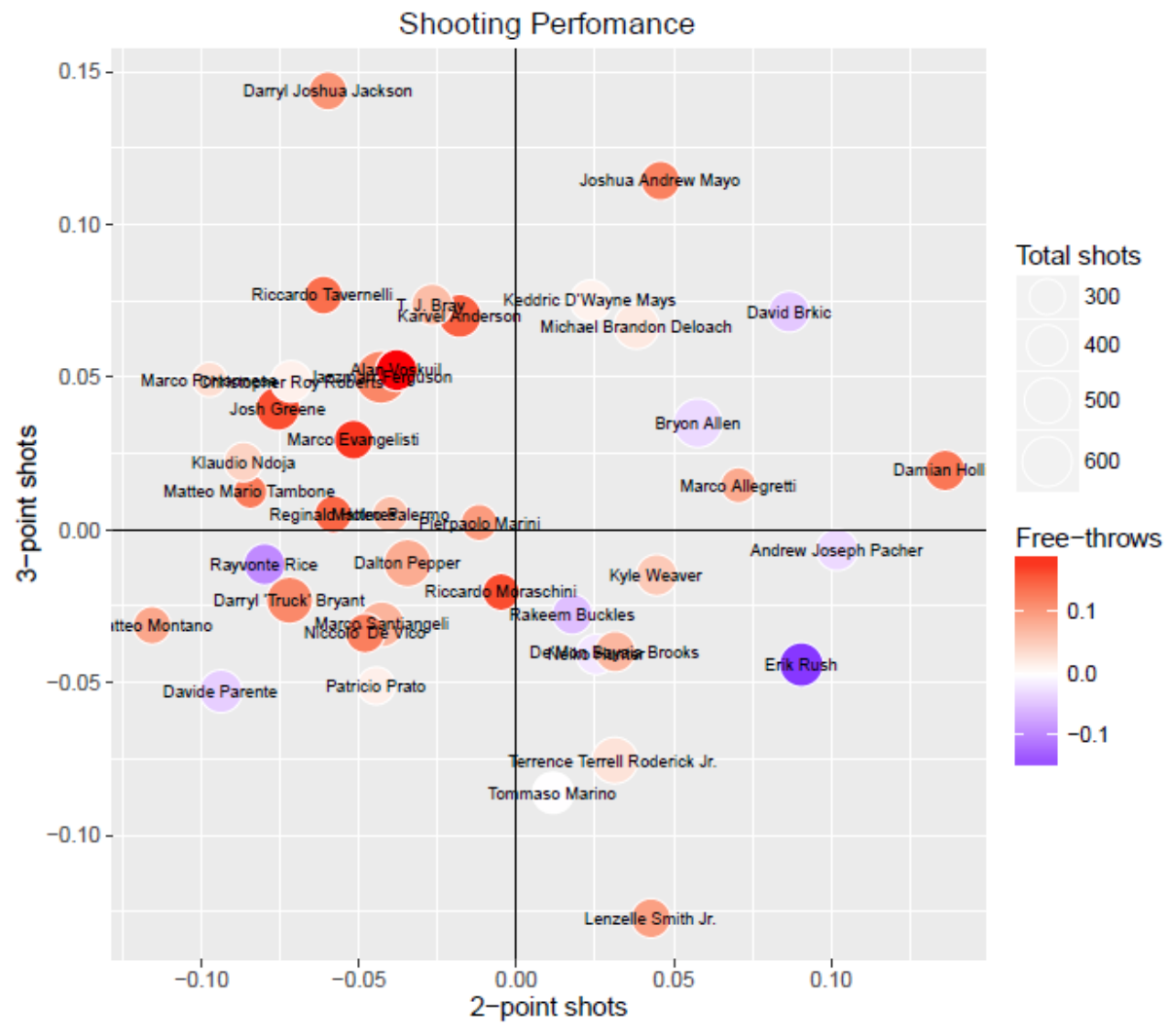
$$P_i(T) = av_{j \in J_T} (x_{ij} - \pi_{ij})$$

for shot type  $T$   
(2P, 3P, FT)

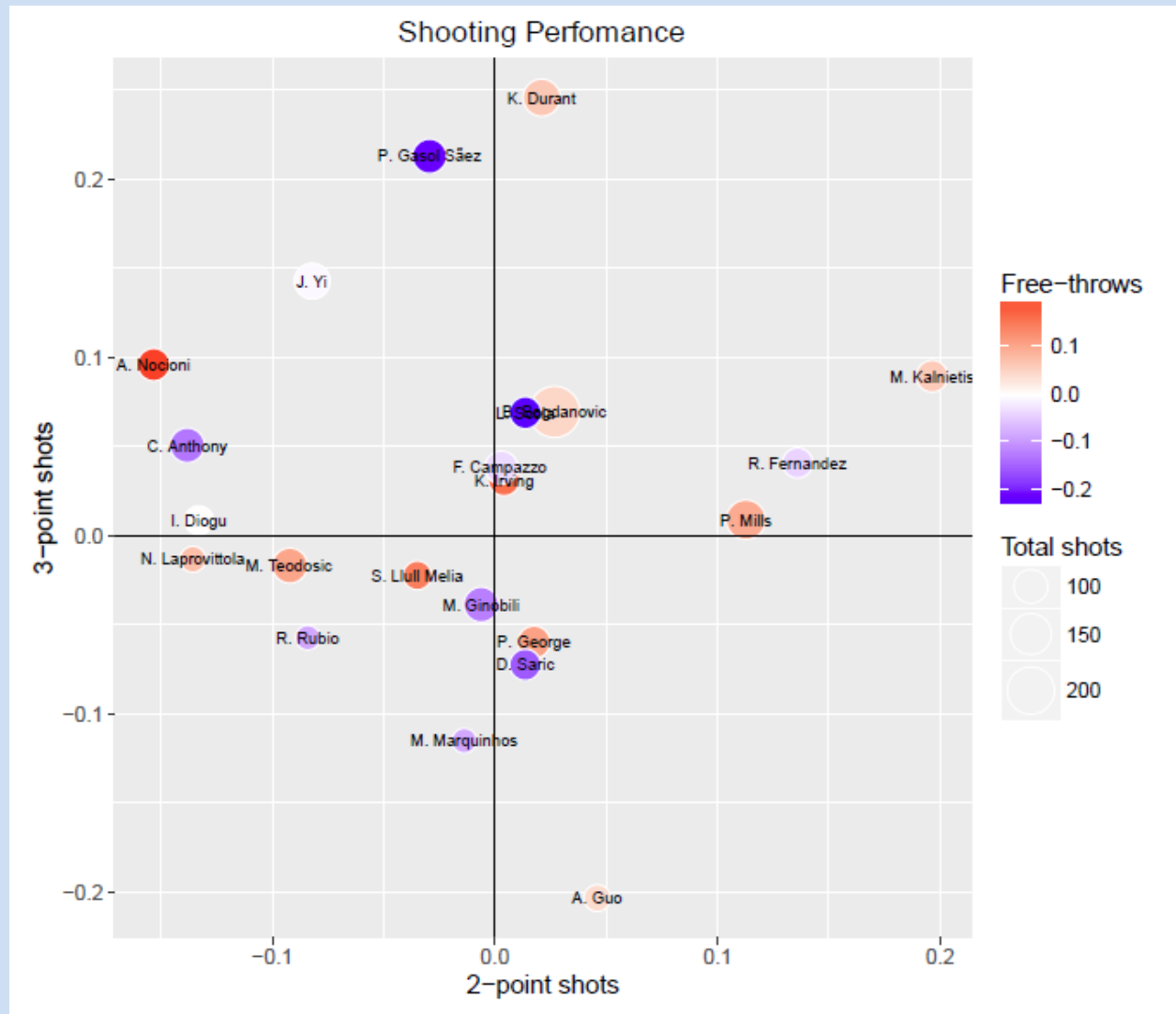
$j$ -th shot made (1)  
or missed (0)

scoring probability  
of  $j$ -th shot  
according to CART

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## FURTHER RESEARCH:

according to psychological studies, some athletes view the competitive situations as challenging, and others perceive the same situations as stressful and anxiety-provoking. For this reason, it may be difficult to statistically detect stressful situations from large datasets including several players, as the overall average performance may remain unchanged as a response to some players improving their performance and some others getting worse.

- Analysis of single players' reactions to stressful game situations (**propension to shot and variation in scoring probability**)
- **Integration** with psychological studies



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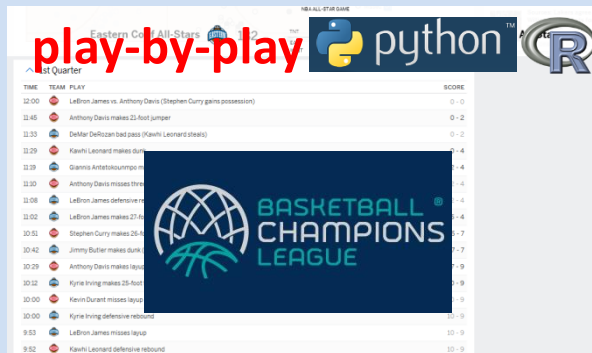


# CS3: performance variability and teamwork

Markov Switching performance modelling for team network analysis in basketball

Paola Zuccolotto, Marica Manisera and Marco Sandri

*(in progress)*



**MOTIVATION:** Psychological studies have pointed out that typical performance is but one attribute of performance, but other aspects should be taken into account, in particular performance variability.

**AIM:** Assessment of players' shooting performance variability and investigation of its relationships with the team composition.

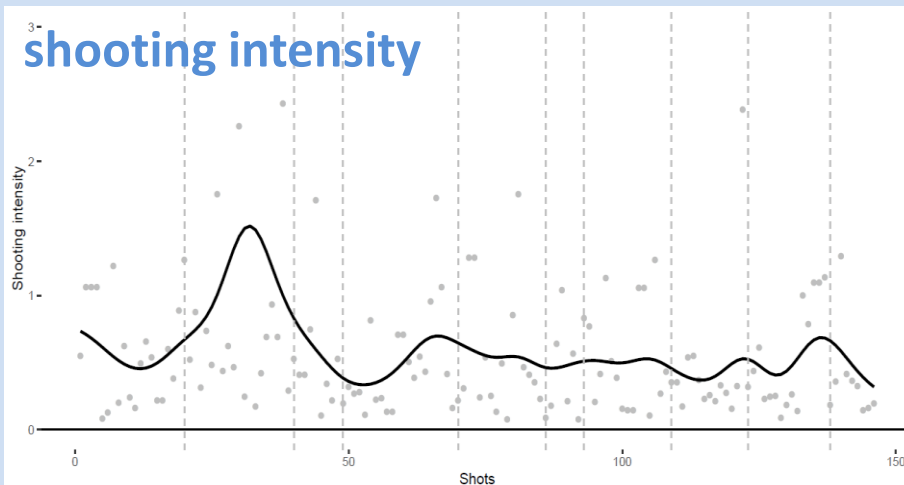




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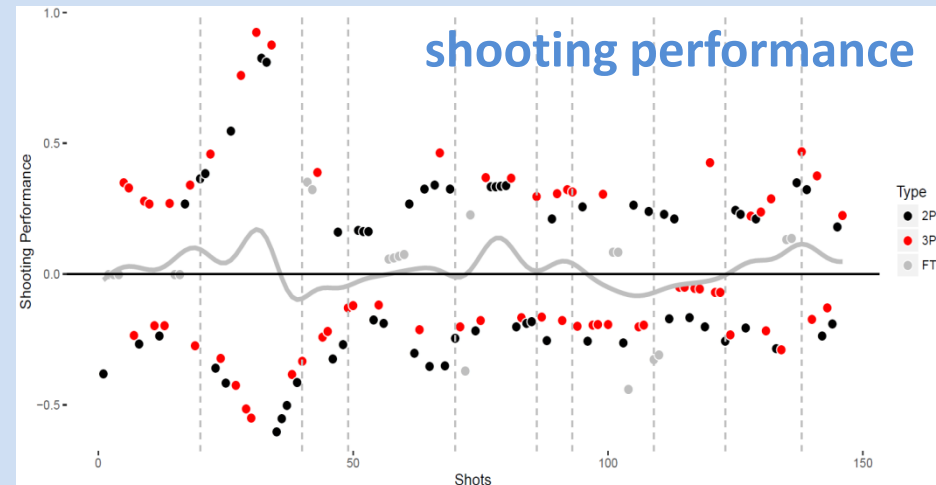
# PERFORMANCE VARIABILITY:

- Definition of a performance index based on the % of attempted shots that scored a basket and on the shooting intensity



$$\tilde{\phi}_{ij} = \frac{1}{t_{ij}}$$

$$\phi_{ij} = \frac{\tilde{\phi}_{ij}}{\phi(m_{ij})}$$



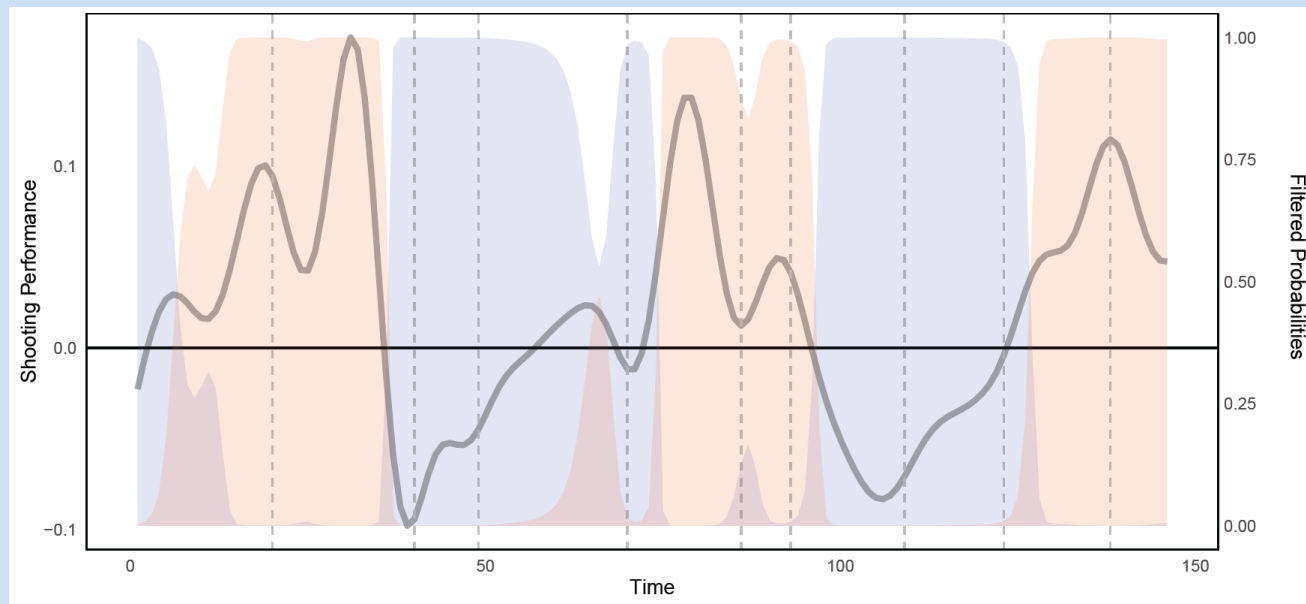
$$E_{ij} = x_{ij} - p_{ij}$$

$$\psi_{ij} = \hat{\phi}_{ij} E_{ij}$$

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## PERFORMANCE VARIABILITY:

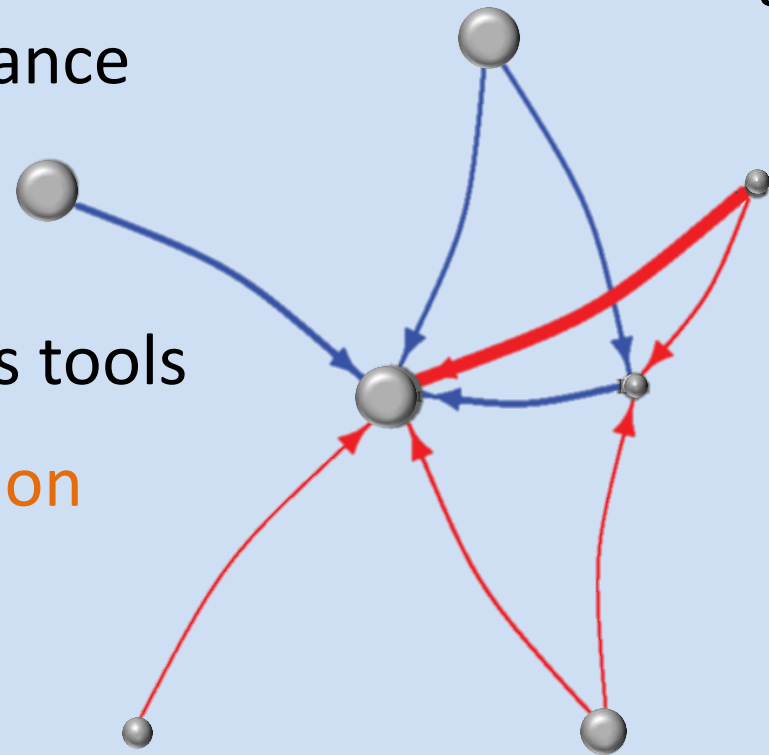
- Fit **Markov Switching models** to the shooting performance index, in order to detect the (significant) presence of periods of good and bad performance



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## TEAMWORK ASSESSMENT:

- determine influence of each teammate on the regime of good and bad performance
- display the significant relationships by means of graphical network analysis tools
- **predict the best substitution** at a given time



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## CS4: sensor data analysis

### Space-Time Analysis of Movements in Basketball using Sensor Data



Marica Manisera <sup>\*1</sup>, Rodolfo Metulini <sup>†1</sup>, and Paola Zuccolotto <sup>‡1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Brescia - Department of Economics and Management, Contrada Santa Chiara,  
50, 25122, Brescia, Italy

MathSport International 2017



SIS2017



**Sensor  
Data  
CS4**



**Aim:** A first approach to sensor data analysis in basketball (visualization tools, cluster analysis, future challenges)

In collaboration with MYagonism



**BDSports**  
BIG DATA Analytics in Sports

MARICA MANISERA  
PAOLA ZUCCOLOTTO – UNIVERSITY OF BRESCIA, Italy

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# Visualization Tools

Department of Economics and Management  
University of Brescia

**SEMINAR**

**“Sensor Analytics in basketball:  
analyzing spatio-temporal movements  
of players around the court”**

Rodolfo Metulini  
Università degli Studi di Brescia

Chair: Prof.ssa Paola Zuccolotto

March 15, 2017 – h. 11.00  
Sala Biblioteca, S. Faustino building

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) are nowadays intensively used in Sport Science as they capture the trajectories of players and/or the ball, sometimes together with play-by-play recording the time of match events, with the aim of infer to supply coaches, experts and analysts with useful information in addition to traditional statistics. To find any regularities and synchronizations in players' trajectories, and to study their relationship with team's performance, however, is a complex task, because of the strong interdependencies among players in the court and because of external factors that can influence players. To this aim, a variety of methods has been proposed in Sport Science literature, which borrow from the disciplines of Machine Learning, Network and Complex Systems, Geographical Information Systems, Computer Vision and Statistics. In this seminar, with an application to basketball, I propose a methodological approach that can be generalized to other team sports. I first demonstrate the usefulness of a visual tool approach in order to extract preliminary insights from trajectories, then, I use data mining techniques such as Cluster Analysis and Multidimensional Scaling to decompose the game into homogeneous phases in terms of spatial relations. To conclude, I present specific research questions, such as: i) who is the most influencing player of the team? ii) how much each player influences the others? iii) how much trajectories are determined by trajectories of other players and by external factors? where the adoption of methods traditionally used in Spatial Statistics and Spatial Econometrics could have a potential. In this regard, the seminar is also intended as a 'platform' to launch new research challenges and to search for collaboration.

Acknowledgements: The research is carried out thanks to sensor data made available by MyAgonism.



Via S. Faustino 74/b, 25122 Brescia – Italy  
Tel 00390302988742 Fax 00390302988703  
email: paqierca.dem@unibs.it

## Spatio-Temporal Movements in Team Sports: A Visualization approach using Motion Charts.

Rodolfo Metulini <sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Department of Economics and Management, University of Brescia, Contrada Santa Chiara, 50, 25122

Brescia BS, Italy,

rodolfo.metulini@unibs.it.

A tool to display data recorded by tracking systems producing spatio-temporal traces of player trajectories with high definition and frequency.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aejyrDnqYVY>



**BDSports**  
BIG DATA Analytics in Sports

MARICA MANISERA  
PAOLA ZUCCOLOTTO

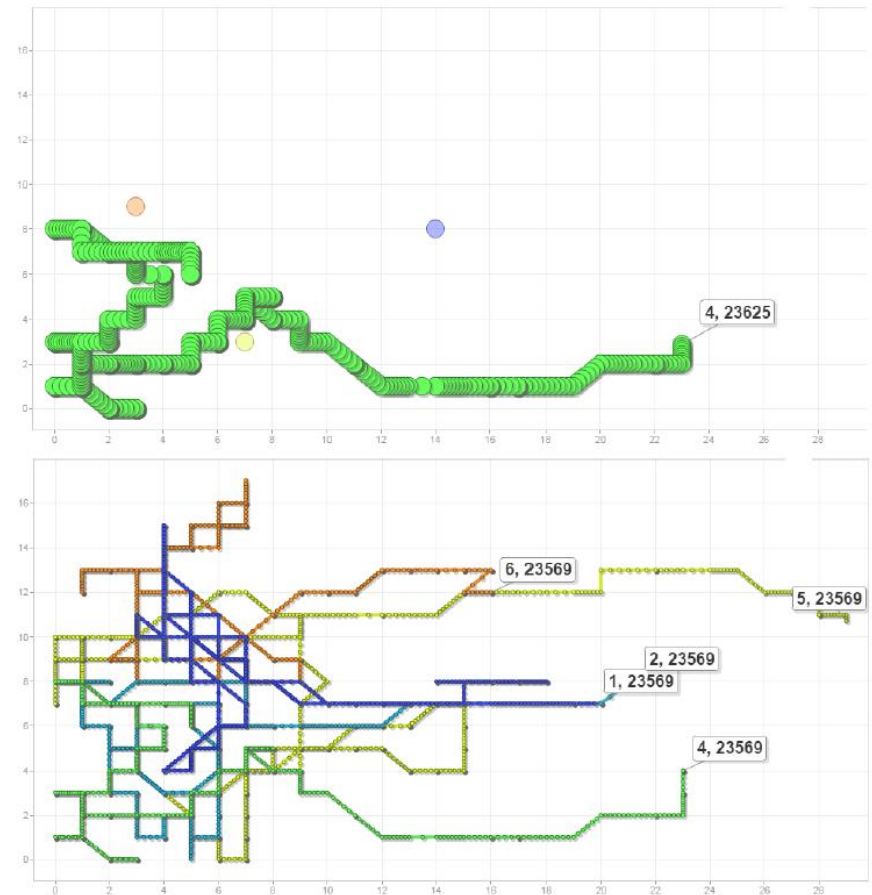
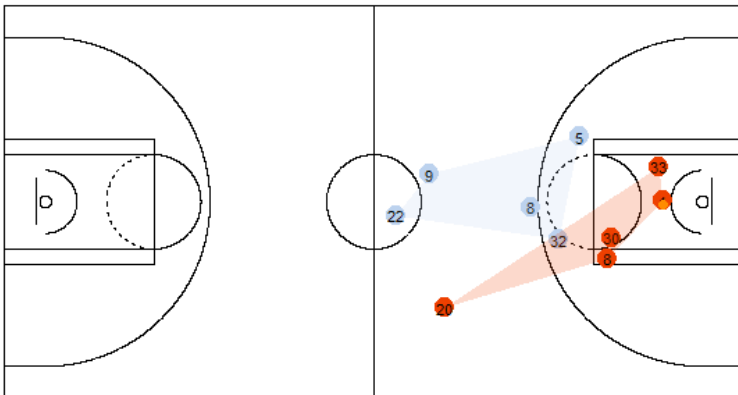
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# Visualization Tools

## James P. Curley

Curley Social Neurobiology Lab website  
(Psychology Department and Center for Integrative Animal Behavior, Columbia University, New York City)





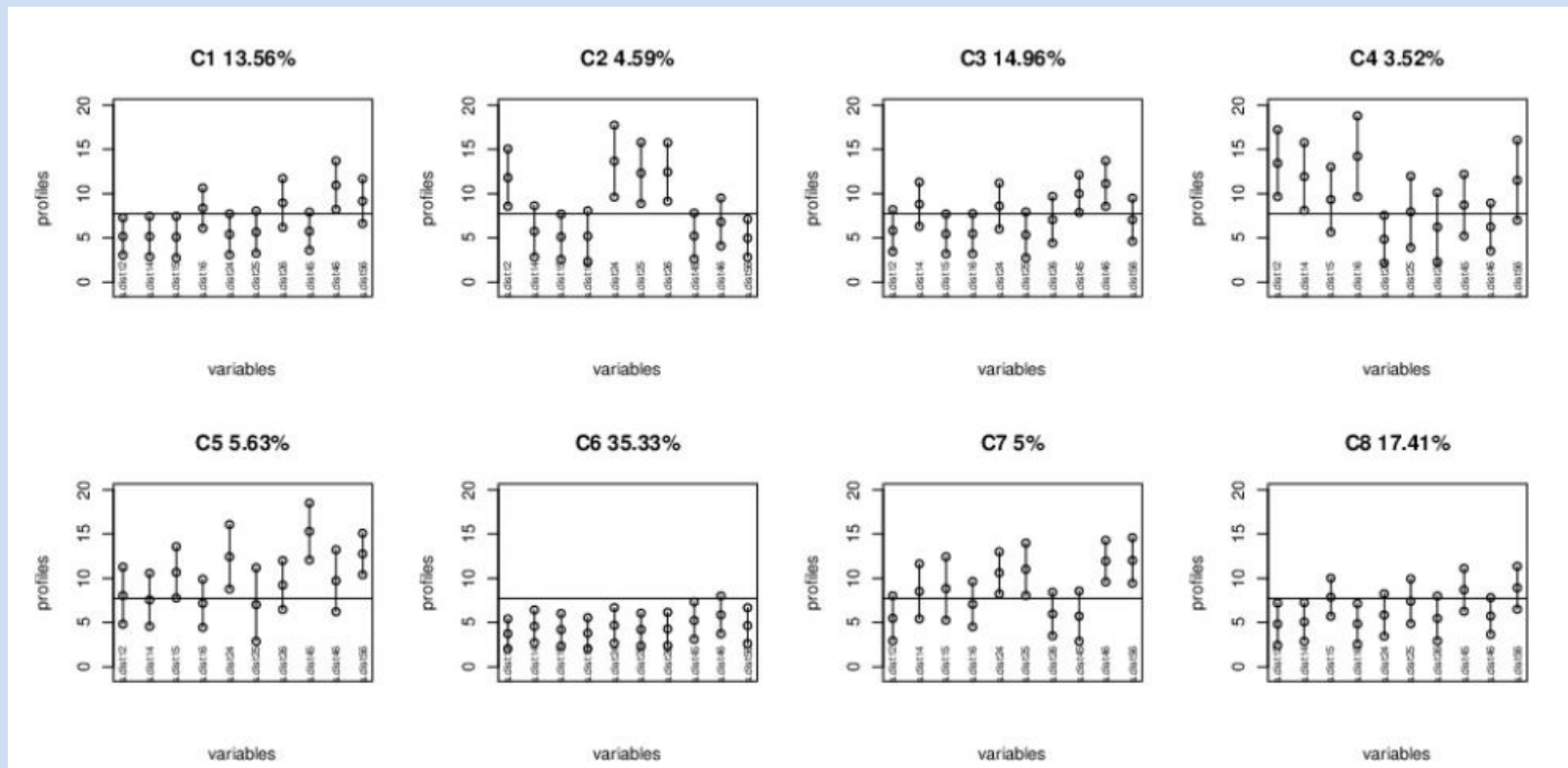
- Basketball Analytics: state of the art
- Basketball datasets
- CS1: new positions in basketball
- CS2: scoring probability under high-pressure
- CS3: performance variability and teamwork
- **CS4: sensor data analysis**

## CONVEX Hulls Analysis

	Average distance		Convex hull area	
	attack	defence	attack	defence
Min	5.418	2.709	11.000	4.500
1st Qu.	7.689	3.942	32.000	12.500
Median	8.745	4.696	56.000	18.500
Mean	8.426	5.548	52.460	32.660
3rd Qu.	9.455	5.611	68.500	27.500
Max	10.260	11.640	99.500	133.500

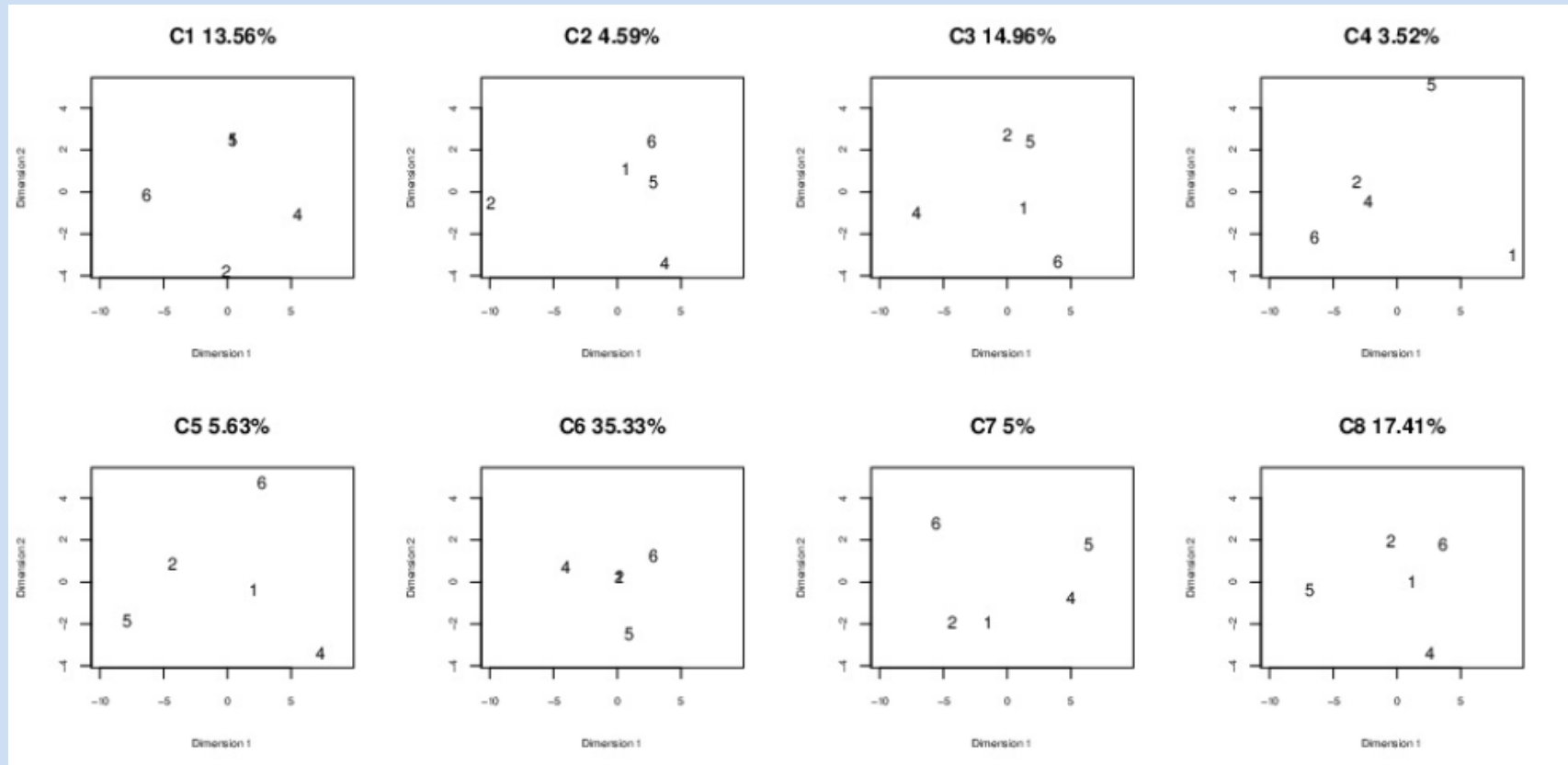
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# CLUSTER ANALYSIS



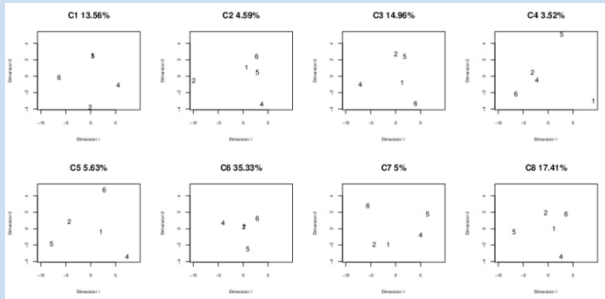
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# CLUSTER ANALYSIS + MULTIDIMENSIONAL SCALING



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# CLUSTER ANALYSIS + MULTIDIMENSIONAL SCALING



D	A
14.12	85.88
14.09	85.91
26.07	73.93
15.38	84.62
57.98	42.02
85.07	14.93
39.53	60.47
39.08	60.92

NA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0	10.71	23.53	47.83	0	20.83	31.25	20.23
2	0.77	0	9.15	0	1.85	2.08	8.33	2.89
3	31.54	42.86	0	8.7	44.44	20.83	18.75	20.23
4	6.15	3.57	1.96	0	7.41	0	10.42	1.16
5	0.77	3.57	16.99	17.39	0	0	16.67	8.09
6	27.69	7.14	18.95	0	1.85	0	0	43.93
7	15.38	21.43	3.92	4.35	18.52	0	0	3.47
8	17.69	10.71	25.49	21.74	25.93	56.25	14.58	0

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## FUTURE CHALLENGES:

- **Integration** with play-by-play data
- **Integration** with video and match analysis
- **Integration** with body metrics (body physiology tracking via “smart clothing” and/or body measurements)
- **Integration** with qualitative assessments
- Network analysis tools
- Spatio-temporal statistical models
- Addition of the other team’s data
- Addition of the ball’s position





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## Concluding ...

### TRUE:

- If people keep thinking that Statistics is merely PPG, AST, REB, ...
- If people don't learn how Stats have to be interpreted (*"Do not put your faith in what statistics say until you have carefully considered what they do not say."* W. W. Watt)

### MARC GASOL SAYS: 'STATS ARE KILLING THE GAME OF BASKETBALL'



Stats have always been important to players, coaches, the media, and fans; this year in particular, we've been closely watching Russell Westbrook as he made triple-double history. Memphis Grizzlies center Marc Gasol made history as well, becoming the first center to record 300 assists, 100 threes and 100 blocks in a season, but he doesn't want to discuss stats, in fact, he says they're killing the game.

Gasol was asked about point guard Mike Conley's breakout season statistically and initially responded with this take:

“We've got 43 wins. If we win (tonight), we'll have 44. That's the only number you guys (media) should care about,” Gasol said. “Stats are great, but wins and losses matter. Stats are killing the game of basketball. Basketball is a subjective game. A lot of things happen that you cannot measure in stats. Different things matter. To me, the most important things in basketball are not measured by stats.”

### FALSE:

- If **modern approaches** to basketball analytics are used
- If we are able to **integrate** analytics and technical experience
- If we are able to spread the **culture of Statistics**





# REFERENCES

Download a (regularly updated) list of references at  
<http://bodai.unibs.it/BDSports/basketball.htm>

# THANK YOU

