

**Task 4: Your Big Data Big Idea (25 marks)**

# Aims and Objectives

## Aims

My aim is to explore all the information within Official Site of The English Premier League which will give me a better understands of English Premier league teams and how they play.

## Reason

The whole world was shocked when Leicester City when they won the English Premier League in 2015/16 season, where in season 2014/15 it was fighting for relegation from the Primer League. I am a very passionate football fan of Liverpool FC and have been waiting for my team to win the Premier League, unfortunately they haven't won it since 1990, this was 25 years ago, I am going to analyse data of Leicester City's 2015/16 season to find out the factors that helped to win the Premier League with the lowest budget squad in the league. This will be a very useful analysis as it will allow me to forecast as what Liverpool FC or any other club may need to do in-order to win the Premier League.

## Objectives

- Collect the data from the official site of the English Premier League
- Create a dataset using Microsoft Excel
- Analyse the data
- Visualisation of the progress
- Results and findings
- Future development

## Acquiring the data

For collecting the data, I have used Microsoft Excel. Microsoft Excel has the option to add data into the tables and the data in the tables can be manipulated to create different sets of data and features like charts to help visualize those data.

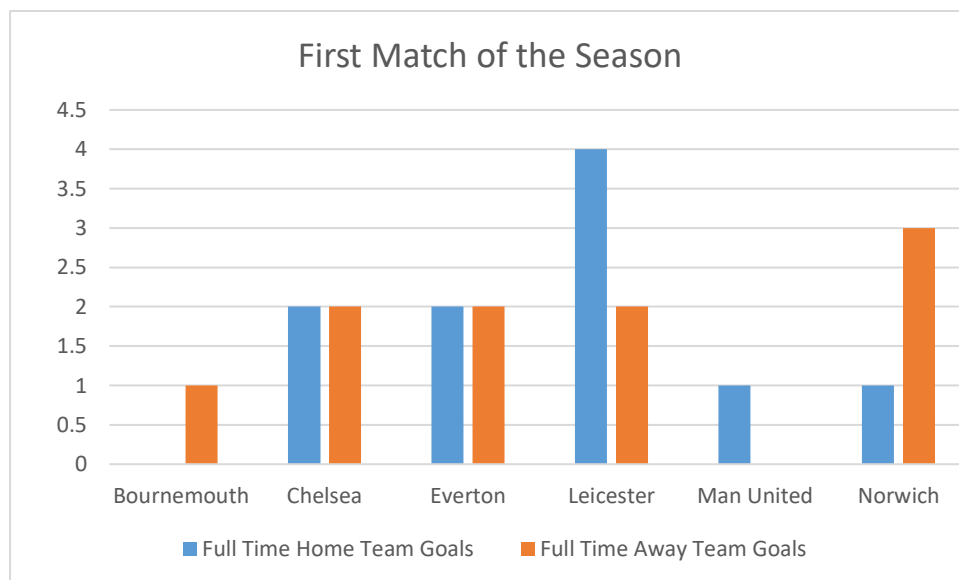
I have gathered more than 380 data of fixtures and results of the premiere league from season 2015/16.

In the screen shot below you will be able to see the actual data that I have gathered in Microsoft Excel.

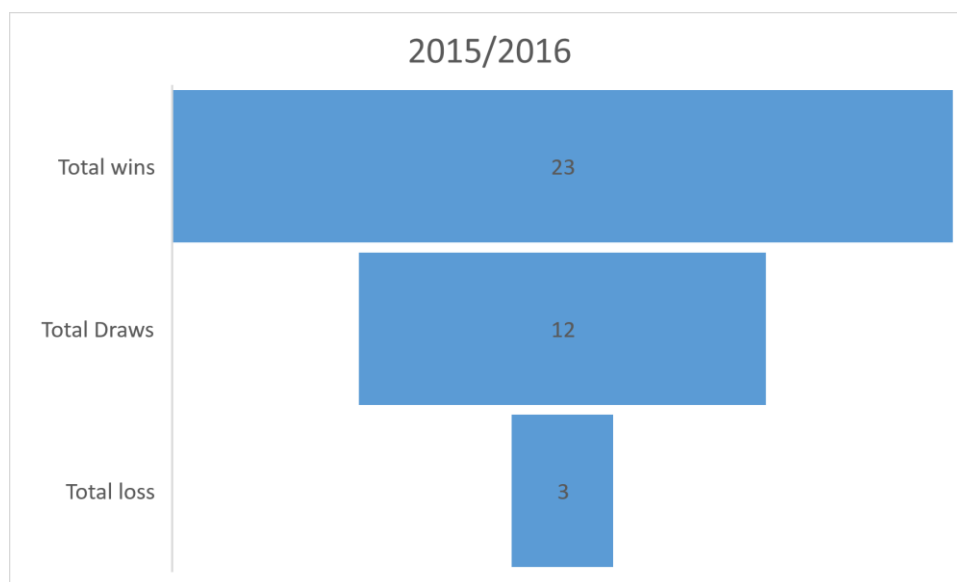
Date	Home Team	Away Team	Full Time Home Team Goals	Full Time Away Team Goals	Full Time Result (H=Home Win, D=Draw, A=Away Win)	Half Time Home Team Goals	Half Time Away Team Goals	Half Time Result	Referee	Home Team Shots
08/08/2015	Bournemouth	Aston Villa	0	1	A	0	0	D	M Clattenburg	11
08/08/2015	Chelsea	Swansea	2	2	D	2	1	H	M Oliver	11
08/08/2015	Everton	Watford	2	0	A	1	0	A	M Jones	10
08/08/2015	Leicester	Sunderland	4	2	H	3	0	H	L Mason	19
08/08/2015	Man United	Tottenham	1	0	H	1	0	H	J Moss	9
08/08/2015	Norwich	Crystal Palace	1	3	A	0	1	A	S Hooper	17
09/08/2015	Arsenal	West Ham	0	2	A	0	1	A	M Atkinson	22
09/08/2015	Newcastle	Southampton	2	1	D	1	1	D	C Pawson	9
09/08/2015	Stoke	Liverpool	0	1	A	0	0	D	A Taylor	7
10/08/2015	West Brom	Man City	0	3	A	0	2	A	M Dean	9
14/08/2015	Aston Villa	Man United	0	1	A	0	1	A	M Dean	5
15/08/2015	Southampton	Everton	0	3	A	0	2	A	M Oliver	17
15/08/2015	Sunderland	Norwich	1	3	A	0	2	A	K Friend	6
15/08/2015	Swansea	Newcastle	2	0	H	1	0	H	M Jones	19
15/08/2015	Tottenham	Stoke	2	2	D	2	0	H	R Madley	13
15/08/2015	Watford	West Brom	0	0	D	0	0	D	P Tierney	16
15/08/2015	West Ham	Leicester	1	2	A	0	2	A	A Taylor	10
16/08/2015	Crystal Palace	Arsenal	1	2	A	1	1	D	L Mason	11
16/08/2015	Man City	Chelsea	3	0	H	1	0	H	M Atkinson	18
17/08/2015	Liverpool	Bournemouth	1	0	H	1	0	H	C Pawson	18
22/08/2015	Crystal Palace	Aston Villa	2	1	H	0	0	D	K Stroud	16
22/08/2015	Leicester	Tottenham	1	1	D	0	0	D	M Atkinson	13
22/08/2015	Man United	Newcastle	0	0	D	0	0	D	C Pawson	20
22/08/2015	Norwich	Stoke	1	1	D	1	1	D	M Dean	21
22/08/2015	Sunderland	Swansea	1	1	D	0	1	A	N Swarbrick	10
22/08/2015	West Ham	Bournemouth	3	4	A	0	2	A	J Moss	10
23/08/2015	Everton	Man City	0	2	A	0	0	D	A Taylor	10

## Big Data Work and analysis with visualization

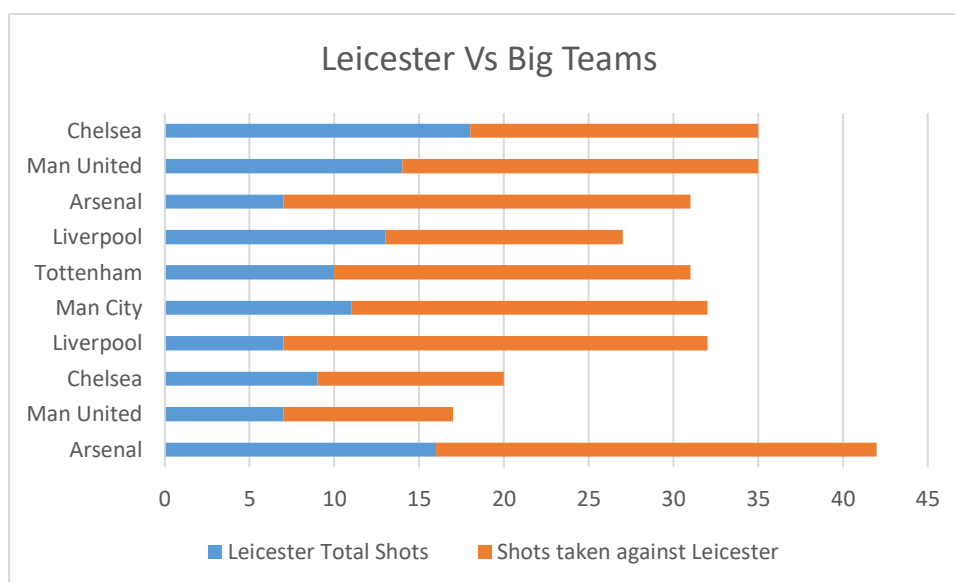
First thing to do with the big data is try to understand the data, because the data is so large I am going to have to select the appropriate data to work with which means I am going to have to select appropriate rows/columns when creating visualization tools as well as doing mathematical solutions.



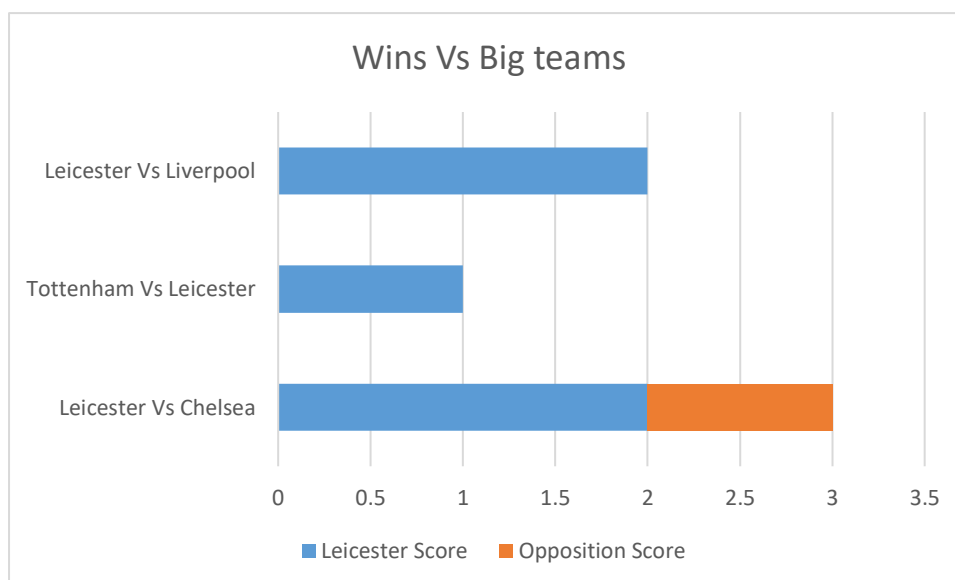
From the first week Leicester city Started strong, they won the game by 4 goals which boosted their confidence going into the next game and this is the game that gave them to go on to go 6 games unbeaten.



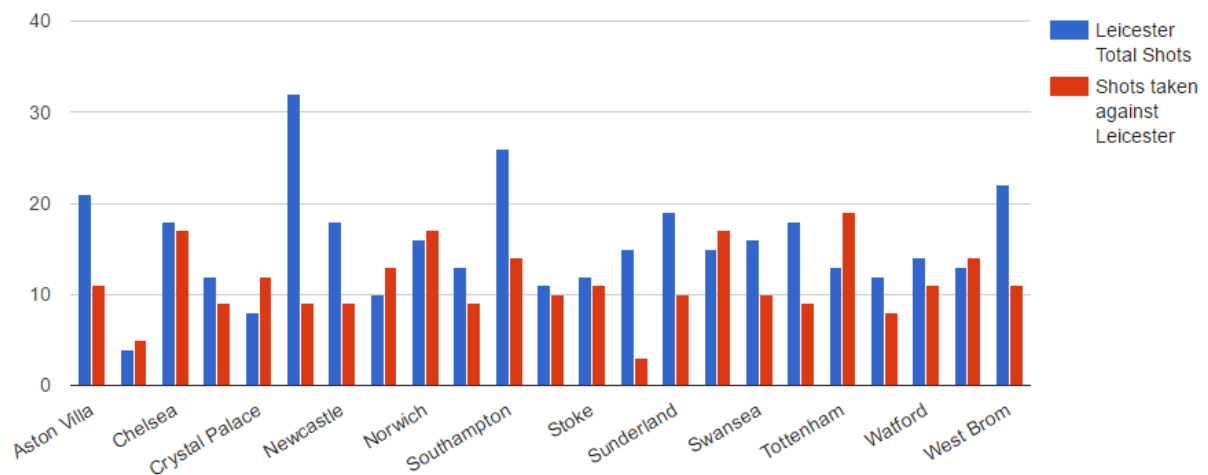
This graph represents how many games Leicester city Won, draw and lost. This graph shows that Leicester city won 23 games out of 38 total games which is the obvious reason they were able to climb the table high, however from this graph I can see that the important thing for Leicester City FC was not to lose a game by drawing 12 of their 38 games, this also suggests to me that they preferred more counter-attacking football than the traditional attacking football, which is again made more sense by them only losing 3 of their 38 games.



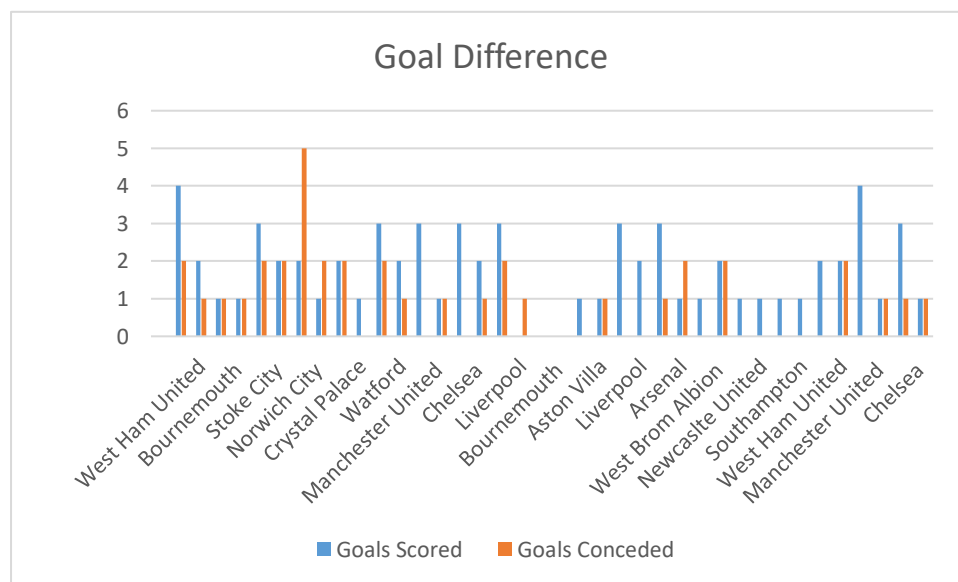
To analyse further, this graph represents shots taken against Leicester City FC by bigger teams. This graph clearly shows the domination of the big team with superior and technical players because they made Leicester defender in their own half and counter attack them instead of playing a free form attacking football.



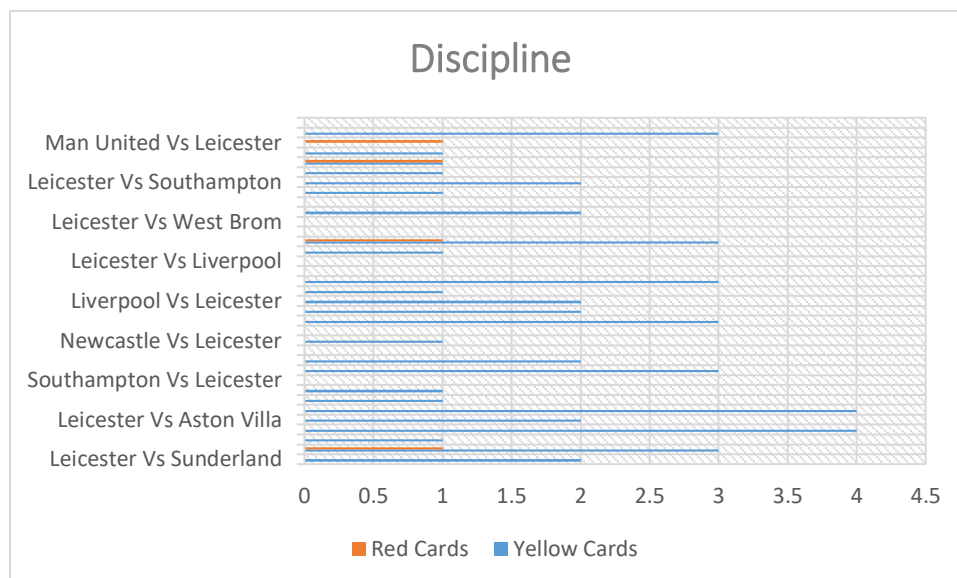
This graph created with the big data shows that their counter attacking did work against big teams which gave them 3 valuable points each game contributing to 9 points in total.



Winning against big teams gave Leicester City FC confidence boost going ahead to other matches and once they played the big teams, it was time to play the small teams. This graph shows that they attacked and pressed more to small teams in search for the victory and stay on top of the table. This shows that Leicester City FC worked hard on both of their approach to football, attacking and defending.



Other thing I noticed when analysing the big data was that Leicester City FC managed to win by more when they score more than one goal, however if/when they didn't score they would go on to draw or lose the game. This show that Leicester City FC did not take risk in trying to score, they rather sat back organised and patiently waiting for the perfect chance to counter attack and score. Although easy to say but hard to do.



Probably the most important bit of all from Leicester City FC was their discipline. It is hard to not get booked when the opposition team is pressing you into your own half but their discipline records show why they could counter attack successfully and hold on to their leads. They managed to get the last red cards in the season, less than any other teams and that meant that the important players could play the next game because there would be no suspension.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, by researching and analysing the huge I could determine certain factors to why Leicester City FC won the league in 2015/2016 season. Factors such as not losing games meant that they did not feel pressured as they could go on to the next game without a losing conscious, which game them confidence to score against big teams and ability to hold the lead and earn valuable points against them. This made the big teams fall short on points as the big teams lost their confidence by losing to Leicester City FC, but Leicester City FC kept winning game consecutively.

This was achieved by playing counter-attacking football which is different to defensive style of play, where counter-attacking approach is defending tight and pressing the opposition and when Leicester City FC had the ball, they moved the ball quickly into dangerous areas which made them score goals with intelligent.

Although counter-attacking is not the culture of Liverpool Fc and many other clubs in the English premier league, this approach is a proven method because Leicester City FC won the league with his method and therefore should be put into consideration if teams wants to win the league in coming years.

### References

- "England - Premier League Table, Stats, Results, Form And Standings". *Soccerstats.com*. N.p., 2016. Web. 9 Dec. 2016.
- "England Football Results Betting Odds | Premiership Results & Betting Odds". *Football-data.co.uk*. N.p., 2016. Web. 9 Dec. 2016.