# Use JSL to Scrape Data from the Web and Predict Football Wins!



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#### Just for Fun!



- I'm an avid American football fan
- Sports statistics are easily accessible, online
- My goal: to predict total wins in a season, by team
- These techniques can be applied to any web data
- It's fun to see how JMP Scripting Language [JSL] can, at once, automate data clean up and perform modeling
- With a little JSL code this really is easy!
  - JMP actually helps you write the code through platforms
  - It's straightforward and can be quite powerful
  - Saves a lot of time when updating models with new data

#### JSL Resources



- As a newcomer to JMP Scripting Language [JSL]
  - I did not always know the best place to turn for answers
  - Many resources exist
- JMP online community: JMP website & online forums
- Excellent resources are available from JMP:
  - Help Menu > JSL functions
  - Online Scripting Guide & Syntax Reference
    - <a href="http://www.jmp.com/support/help/Scripting\_Guide.shtml">http://www.jmp.com/support/help/Scripting\_Guide.shtml</a>
    - http://www.jmp.com/support/help/JSL\_Syntax\_Reference.shtml
  - Books that will save you loads of time:
    - Jump Into JMP Scripting, by Wendy Murphrey and Mary Lucas
    - **JSL Companion**, by Theresa Utlaut, Georgia Morgan, & Kevin Anderson

### Preparation

Name	Date modified	Турс
📗 Fantasy Football 2014	9/24/2014 12:44 A	File folder
PositionsAII	9/10/2014 8:59 PM	File folder
Scripts	10/9/2014 4:20 PM	File folder
	9/7/2014 9:14 AM	File folder

- Create folders to store files:
  - Any required directories or subdirectories
  - Good way to organize files created from different data sources
  - Directory names will be used in JSL scripts

### Scrape Data: Team Statistics

#### Offense, Defense, Special Teams

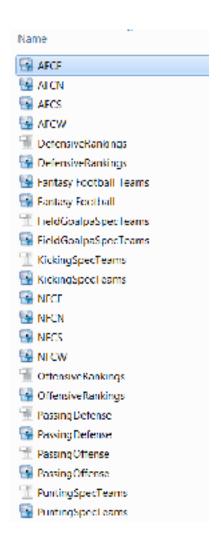
- 1. Set local path for file storage:
- dir = Pick Directory("Select directory for file storage", show files(0));
- 2. Get data from a website & save the file (one for each HTML table):
- ObjectName=Open("http//:url\_name1.com", HTML Table(#))
   << Set Name("Name") << Save(dir||"filename.csv");</li>
- Simply copy and paste URL names into your code from your browser
- To put a link to the website directly in your script helps to open webpage while editing code: Web("http://url\_name.com");
- 3. Why save as CSV file first?
- Data Import Options, to support automated data import:
  - Import Settings(...), Labels(1), Column Names Start(2), Data Starts(3), etc.
- Delete empty columns! Can also use For loop to eliminate them.

### The Code: Scrape Data

```
todt1 Open("http://SportsSite.com", HTML Table(1));
todt1<<Set Name("Total Offense") <<delete columns(2,4,6,0,10) <<save(dir||"TotalOffense.csv");
close (Current data table());

todt1=Open(dir||"TotalOffense.csv",invisible,Import Settings(End Of Line(CRLF,CR,LF),
End Of Field(Comma,CSV(0)),Strip Quotes(1),Use Apostrophe as Quotation Mark(0),
Scan Whole File(1),Treat empty columns as numeric(0),
Labels(1),Column Names Start(1),Data Starts(2),Lines To Read("All"),Year Rule("20xx")));
todt1<<save(dir||"TotalOffense.jmp"); close (Current data table());</pre>
```

#### The Files



- JMP will now automatically pull the information from the web and save the files.
- Testing may be required!
- No need to save these files, but:
  - Data can be a bit messy
  - Easier for debugging
  - One can see the imported tables and adjust the code

# Standings Data

(Wins, Losses, etc.)

#### Get additional data from another website

- Again, using a little object-oriented scripting
- This time, the data do not require any pre-processing to parse correctly - Nice!
- Imported directly into JMP and saved

### The Code: Standings Data

```
stnddtl=Open("http://SportsSite.com",HTML Table(1))<<Set Name("AFC East")<<save(dir||"AFCE.jmp");
close(Current data table());</pre>
```

```
ObjectName = Open("http://url_name2", HTML Table(#) << Set Name("TableName") << Save(dir||"FileName.jmp")
```

### Cell Processing

- Sometimes even slight variations in individual strings can foul up your results
- In this case, the playoffs are near...
- To indicate New England has clinched a division title, a "z" is inserted into their nama

•	Team	w	L	т	Pct	PF	PA	Net Pts
1	z New England	12	4	0	0.75	168	313	155
2	Buffalo	9	7	0	0.563	343	289	54
3	Miami	8	8	0	0.5	388	373	15
4	NY Jets	4	12	0	0.25	283	401	-118

### The Code: Cell Processing

- Cell processing to the rescue!
- JMP loops through each row of the Team name column
- For Each Row command makes for easy looping
- Conditional "If, then" phrase
- Respectively, "Contains" and "Substr" commands:
  - returns the position of a specified item within a string
  - returns part of a string: starting at a specified position, returns a specified number of characters

### Reopen Files, Concatenate & Sort

- Reopen the files, invisibly
- Concatenate different rows, same columns
- Sort the rows of the resultant file by team name, alphabetically, to ensure like rows are matched during the joining process, later on
- Save the new table, which contains the aggregate information
- Join different columns, same row labels

### The Code: Open, Concatenate & Sort

#### Create a Fresh Table

- Add the appropriate number of rows:
   one for each team
- Create columns with various attributes
  - In this example, JMP simply creates a column of team names in a new table
  - It is often useful to create a new table to ensure the data are used appropriately during script execution, and are not accidentally lost or altered

#### The Code: Create a Fresh Table

```
//Create Fantasy Football
wow=New Table ( "Fantasy Football Teams",
    \Deltadd Rows ( 32 ),
   New Column( "Team",
        Character,
        Nominal.
        Set Values (
            {"Arizona Cardinals", "Atlanta Falcons", "Baltimore Ravens",
            "Buffalo Bills", "Carolina Panthers", "Chicago Bears",
            "Cincinnati Bengals", "Cleveland Browns", "Dallas Cowboys",
            "Denver Broncos", "Detroit Lions", "Green Bay Packers", "Houston Texans",
            "Indianapolis Colts", "Jacksonville Jaquars", "Kansas City Chiefs",
            "Miami Dolphins", "Minnesota Vikings", "New England Patriots",
            "New Orleans Saints", "New York Giants", "New York Jets",
            "Oakland Raiders", "Philadelphia Eagles", "Pittsburgh Steelers",
            "San Diego Chargers", "San Francisco 49ers", "Seattle Seahawks",
            "St. Louis Rams", "Tampa Bay Buccaneers", "Tennessee Titans",
            "Washington Redskins" }
1 :
wow(Ksave(dir||"Fantasy Football Teams.jmp"); close(Current data table());
```

### Joining Tables

- This can be annoying without JMP:
  - JMP has a nice GUI for joining tables Tables platform
- Naming conventions are important, but...
  - JMP automatically renames columns originating from different tables that share the same name
- Once you have joined the tables, simply copy and paste the table script of the resultant table into your larger, custom script
- Repeat, as necessary, for each join

### The Code: Joining Tables

```
Data Table ( "Fantasy Football Teams" ) << Join (
    With ( Data Table ( "TotalOffense" ) ).
    Copy Tormula ( 0 ).
    SelectWith(
        :Team.
        : C.
        :Name ( "Pts/0" ),
        :Name ( "Yds/0" ),
        :Name ( "PassYds/C" ),
        :Name ( "RushYds/G" ),
        :Name ( "1stD/G" ),
        :Name ( "3rdM" ),
        :Name ( "3rdD%" ),
        :Name ( "4thM" ),
        :Name ( "4thD%" ),
        :Pen,
        : PYds.
        : TOP
    By Matching Columns ( : Team = : Team ),
    Drop multiples (0, 0),
    Name( "Include non-matches" )(0, 0),
    Preserve main table order( 1 ),
    Output Table( "FF1" )
); Close(dt, No Save); Close(dtl);
```

#### Rename & Reformat Columns

- To replace odd-sounding column names:
- First, create a list of preferred names, then rename the columns using the combination of a "For Loop" and the "Set Name" function

### Automate Column Reorganization

```
//Reorganize columns:
GoObj=Open(dir||"Fantasy Football 2014.jmp");
CoObj<< Co To( "TeamName" );
Wait( 0.1 );
GoObj<< Move Selected Columns( To first );
GoObj<< Go To( "G" );
Wait( 0.1 );
CoObj<< Move Selected Columns( After(:T) );</pre>
```

- Once the data is collected and new columns are created, one may want to change the order of columns in the data table
- It is nice to do this automatically with JSL
- Easy with "Move Selected Columns" command

### Data Table View

•	TeamName	Location	g	w	L	,	Pet	PF	PΔ	Net Pts	Streak	PtsG_TatOff	VdsG_TotOff	Pass/dsG_TotOf f	RushYdsG_Tot0	FirstDG_TotOff
1	Arizona Cardinals	Atizona	12	9	3	0	9.73	255	224	34	1-2	21.5	3219	247.2	74.8	19
2	Atlanta falcors	Adanta	12	5	7	0	0.417	291	299	-8	W-1	24.3	374	2768	972	23.8
3	Baltimore Favers	Baltimere	12	7	5	0	0.583	328	242	86	l-1	27.3	3706	2388	131.8	22.1
4	Buffalo Bills	Buffalo	12	7	5	0	0.583	264	217	47	W-2	22	3199	2218	98.2	17.1
5	Carolina Panthers	Carclina	12	3	8	1	0.292	228	331	-103	1-6	19	3289	2258	133.2	23.9
6	Chicago Bears	Chicago	12	5	7	0	0.417	253	337	-84	1-1	21.1	3401	2469	93.2	21.2
7	Cincimati Eengals	Cincinnati	12	8	3	1	0.703	260	247	13	W-3	2L7	3436	2191	1245	19.5
1	Cleveland Frowns	Cleveland	12	7	5	0	0.583	252	245	7	1-1	21	3626	2487	113.9	20.9
9	Dallas Cowboys	Dallas	12	8	4	0	700.0	302	273	29	l-1	25.2	3773	231.9	1453	23.8
10	Denver Eronces	Derwer	12	9	3	0	0.75	361	276	85	W-2	30.1	4139	3044	1395	23.3
11	Devot Lions	Detroit	12	8	4	0	0.667	231	207	24	W-1	19.3	3443	2627	81.7	19.3
12	Green Bay Packers	Green Bay	12	9	3	0	0.75	380	267	113	W-4	3L.7	3779	269	1389	21.7
13	Houston Texans	Houston	12	6	6	Ó	0.5	287	247	40	W-1	23.9	3541	220	134.1	19.8
14	Indiarapolis Colts	Indianapolis	12	8	4	0	0.667	382	283	99	W-2	3L8	4383	3263	112	24.6
15	Jacksonville Jaguars	Jacksonville	12	2	10	0	0.167	186	329	-143	W-1	15.5	3003	202	983	17.6
16	Kansas Gty Chiefs	Kansas City	12	7	5	0	0.583	277	234	53	1-2	23.1	312	1829	129.1	19.8
17	Miami Dolphins	Miami	12	7	5	0	0.583	301	232	69	W-L	25.1	340.7	2203	1203	21.9
18	Minnesota Vikings	Minnesota	12	5	7	0	0.417	233	257	-24	W-1	19.4	3008	1863	1145	17.8
19	New England Patriots	New England	12	9	3	0	0.75	378	253	125	L-1	31.5	380.4	269.5	1109	23.4
20	New Orleans Saints	New Orleans	12	5	7	0	0.417	323	318	5	W-1	26.9	4303	3039	1263	25.8
21	New York Giants	NV Giants	12	3	9	0	0.25	257	319	-62	1-7	21.4	3473	2466	130.7	21.6
22	New York Jets	NY Jets	12	2	10	0	0.167	190	319	-129	1-2	15.8	3115	1633	1482	15.3
23	Oaldand Raiders	Oakland	12	1	11	0	0.083	176	337	-161	l-1	14.7	2799	207.4	725	15.3
24	Philadelphia Eagles	Philadelphia	12	9	3	0	0.75	375	215	90	W-2	31.3	4162	286	1302	22.9
25	Pittsburgh Steelers	Pittsourgh	12	7	5	0	0583	320	298	22	l-1	26.7	4173	2993	1181	24.6
26	San Diego Chargers	San Diego	12	8	4	Ó	0.667	279	249	30	W-3	23.3	3462	2588	37.3	20.3
27	San Francisco 49ers	San Francisco	12	7	5	0	0.583	231	244	-13	l-1	19.3	3253	2105	1148	19.3
28	Seattle Seanawks	Seattle	12	8	4	0	0.667	298	221	77	W-2	24.8	361	1924	158.6	20.3
29	St. Louis Rams	St. Louie	12	5	7	0	0.417	261	215	-24	W-1	21.8	2162	2089	1373	18.2
30	Tampa Bay Buccaree	Tampa Bay	12	2	10	0	0.167	220	314	-94	1-2	18.3	3136	2303	53.3	17.4
31	Ternessee Titans	Tenresiee	12	2	10	0	0.167	213	318	-125	l-6	17.8	3134	2251	383	15.8
32	Washington Raddiss	Washington	12	3	9	0	0.25	244	322	-78	L-4	20.3	370.2	2605	139.7	20.3

### Develop the Associative Array

- Rationale: I wanted to compare information contained in cells located in different rows and columns of my table
- Associative array was very useful for this task
- In this case, the abbreviated city name for each team is a key
  - Values found in another column called "Strength", in the same row.
- My goal was to predict how strong a team's future performance would be, not only based on their own past performance,
- But, also relative to their future opponents' past performance
- "Strength" is calculated from a combination of wins & net pts

# 17-week schedule: Keys

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
BUE	CHI	MIA	SD	HOU	DET	NΓ	MIN	NYI	BYE	KC	MIA	NYI	NYI	ar.	DEN	GB	OAK
DAR	18	DET	PH	BAL	CHL	CIN	GB	SEA	NO	PHL	AIL	BYE	MIN	NO	1B	CLE	ATL
CHI	RUF	SF	NVI	GB	CAR	ATI	MIA	NE	BVF	GB	MIN	TB	DFT	DAI	NO	DET	MIN
CIN	BAL	ATL	TLN	BYL	NL	CAR	IND	BAL	JAX	CLL	NO	HOU	IB	PII	CLL	DLN	PH
II F	191	NO	HAI	BYE	TEN	PH	JAX	OAK	18	CIN	HOU	All	BUE	IND	CIN	CAR	BAL
DAL	SE	TEN	STI	NO	HOU	SEA	NYG	WSII	ARI	IAX	BYE	NYG	PLIT	CHE	PHI	TND	WSI
DEN	IND	KC	SEA	BYE	ARI	NYJ	SH	SD	NE	OAK	SIL	MIA	KC	BUF	SD	CIN	OAK
DET	NYG	CAR	GB	NYI	RUF	MIN	NO	ATI	BYE	MTA	ARI	NF	CHI	TR	MIN	CHI	GB
GB	SLA	NYJ	DLT	CHI	MIN	MIA	CAR	NO	BYL	CHI	PHIL	MIN	NL	AIL	BUI	18	DLT
HOU	WSH	OAK	NVG	BUF	DAL	IND	PIT	TFN	PHI	BYE	CLF	CIN	TFN	IAX	IND	RAI	IAX
IND	DEN	PHI	JAX	TEN	BAL	HOU	CIN	PIT	NYG	BYE	NE	JAX	WSII	CLE	HOU	DAL	TEN
AX	PHI	WSH	IND	SD	191	IEN	CLE	MIA	CIN	DAL	BYE	IND	NYG	HOU	BAL	IEN	HOU
KC.	TEN	DEN	MIA	NΕ	SE	BYE	SD	STI	NYI	BUE	SEA	OAK	DEN	ARI	OAK	PIT	SD
MIA	NL	BUI	KC	OAK	BYL	GB	CHI	JAX	SD	DLI	BUI	DLN	NYJ	BAL	NL	MIN	NYJ
MIN	STI	NE	NO	ATI	GB	DET	BUF	TB	WSH	BYE	CHI	GB	CAR	NYI	DET	MIA	CHT
NE	MIA	MIN	OAK	KC	CIN	BUF	NYJ	CHE	DEN	BYE	IND	DET	GB	SD	MΙΛ	NYJ	BUF
NO	AIL	CLE	MIN	DAL	18	BYE	DEI	GB	CAR	SH	CIN	BAL	111	CAR	CHI	AIL	1B
NYG	DET	ARI	HOU	WSH	ATI	PLIF	DAL	BYE	IND	SEA	SΓ	DAL	IAX	TEN	WSH	STI	PHI
NYJ	OAK	GB	CHL	DEI	SD	DEN	NE	BUF	KC	PLI	BYE	BUF	BUF	MIA	MIN	IEN	NE
OAK	NYI	HOU	NE	MIA	BYE	SD	ARI	CLE	SEA	DEN	SD	KC.	STI	SE	KC.	BUF	DEN
PHIL	JAX	IND	WSH	SI	SIL	NYG	BYL	ARI	HOU	CAR	GB	ILN	DAL	SLA	DAL	WSIT	NYG
21	CLE	BAL	CAR	1B	IAX	CLE	HOU	IND	BAL	NYI	IEN	BYE	NO	CIN	All	KC:	CIN
SD	ARI	SEA	BUE	JAX	NYU	OAK	KC	DEN	MIA	BYE	OAK	STI	BAL	NΕ	DEN	SF	KC
SH	DAL	CHL	AKI	PHL	KC	SIL	DEN	BYE	SIL	NO	NYG	WSH	SEA	OAK	SEA	SD	ARI
SEA	GB	SD	DEN	RVF	WSH	DAI	STI	CAR	OAK	NYG	KC	ARI	SE	PHI	SF	ARI	STI
STL	MIN	18	DAL	BYL	PHIL	SI	SLA	KC	SI	BIA	DLN	SD	OAK	WSII	ARL	NYG	SLA
TB.	CAR	STI	ATI	РΙΤ	NO	RAI	BYE	MIN	CLE	ATI	WSH	CHI	CIN	DFT	CAR	GB	NO
TEN	KC	DAL	CIN	IND	CLE	JAX	WSH	HOU	BYE	BAL	PET	PLO	HOU	NYG	NYJ	JAX	IND
WSH.	HOU	JAX	PHI	NYG	SEA	ARI	IEN	DAL	MIN	BYE	18	SF	IND	SIL	NYG	PHL	DAL

### The Code: Simple Associative Array

- Create the associative array, then a formula column
- The formula references the correct value through a subscript of the associative array, using the weekly

Create a new column for each week to compare results:

### Counting Predicted Wins, by Column

- A simple way to count column results:
  - Create a new formula column
  - Sum a series of If-then conditions for each column value

In this case, if the difference in Strength was positive,

the prediction was considered a win and counted.

#### Create Predictive Models

- Use any of several JMP modeling techniques to create predictions:
  - Continuous: Fit Model platform
  - Classification: Neural Net, etc.
- Develop the optimal model in one of JMP's platforms,
- Save the script to the data table, or a new script window, and
- Copy and paste the model script into custom script.
- One can set the model to run automatically, or
- Save future model scripts to the data table, with JSL-
- The model will be available in the list of data table scripts of the newly created table.

#### Create Model & Save to Table

```
/* Model the Data */
MIX=Fit Model(
    Y(:W).
    Effects(
        :KickOffs.
        : PA,
        : Pol. XP,
        : FourthM TotOff,
        :OppRetAvg Punt,
        :Yds KR.
        :IntTD TotD,
        :FumL RecOff,
        :Avg KO,
        :ThirdD% ToLOII
    Center Polynomials ( 0 ),
    Personality( Mixed Model ),
    Run ( Random Effects Covariance Parameter Estimates ( 0 ) )
1:
MIX << Prediction Formula:
MIX << Save Script to Data Table;
```

#### Boosted Neural Net - JMP Pro

```
Neumal (
    Y( :Final 2014 Wins ),
    x (
        : DE's
        :Strength of Schedule by Point Ratio,
        :PtsC TotOff.
        :YdsG TotOff.
        :PassYdsG TotOff,
        :RuchYdeC TotOff,
        :FirstDC TotOff.
        :ThirdM Totoff.
        :ThirdD% TotOff,
        : FourthM TotOff,
        :FourthD% TotOff // etc.
    Nissing Value Coding( U ),
    Validation Method( Holdback, 0.3333 ),
    Fit.(
        NTanH(3).
        Robust Fit( 1 ),
        N Boost ( 10 ).
        Diagram( 1 ),
        Plot Actual by Predicted( 1 )
    ),
    SendToReport (
        Dispatch (
            {"Model NTanH(3) NBoost(10) "},
            "Diagram",
            CutlineBox.
            {Close( 1 )}
```

#### Elastic Net - JMP Pro

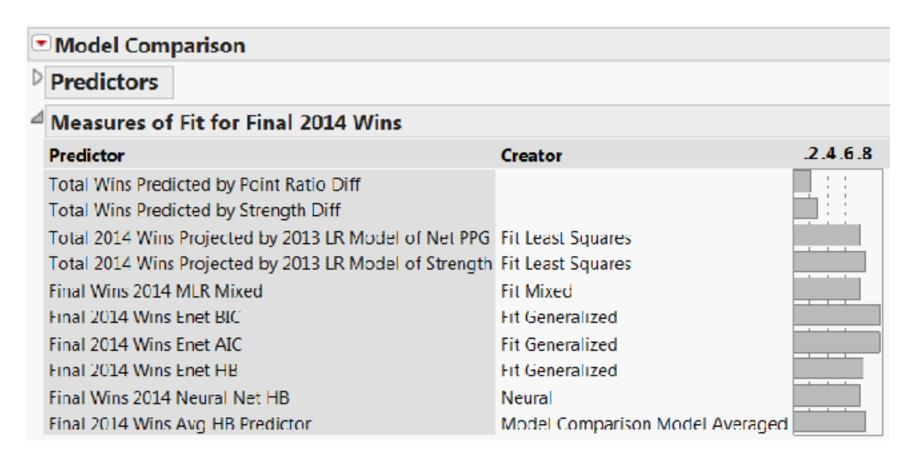
```
Fil. Model (
    Y( :Final 2014 Wins ).
    Effects(
        : PF.
        : P74,
        :Net Pts.
        :Net PPG.
        :Point Ratio,
        :PtsG_TotOff,
        :YdsG TotOff,
        :PassYdsG TotOff,
        :RushYdsG TotOff,
        :FirstDG TotOff,
        :ThirdM TotOff.
        :ThirdD% TotOff,
        :FourthM TotOff,
        :FourthD% TotOff
    ١,
    Personality (Generalized Regression ),
    Generalized Distribution ( Normal ).
    Run (
        Fit (Estimation Method (Elastic Net ), Validation Method (Holdback, 0.333))
    ١,
    SendToReport( Dispatch( {}, "Model Launch", OutlineBox, {Close( 0 )} ) )
):
```

### Model Averaging

The average of multiple model predictions may outperform individual model

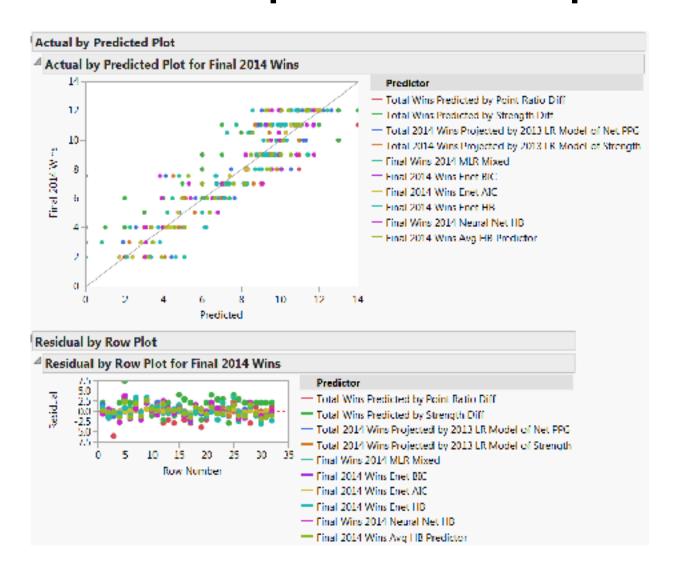
JMP Pro performs this operation with a couple of clicks

### Model Comparison - JMP Pro



Average of Neural Net HB and Elastic Net HB models performed slightly better

### Model Comparison Graphics



#### Conclusions

- With JSL, JMP can scrape data from multiple web sources, process the data, perform multiple predictions, compare them, and display them- all within a single script.
- The effective use of JSL can save a lot of time, especially when one must repeat an analysis on a regular basis.

### Thank you!

- Thanks to Wendy Murphrey, for recommending the JSL reference sources
- Thanks to Peter Mroz, for showing me the usefulness of Associative Arrays
- Thank you for listening!
- Have a great JMP Discovery Summit!

# Questions?