



Basketball III



Produced by Dr. Mario
UNC STOR 390





NBA Lineup Analysis



- **Facts About Lineups**

- Few Players on NBA Teams are Traded
- Important Coach Decision: Lineups
- What Players Should Play Together
- What Players Should Play Against Opponents
- Approximately 300-600 Unique Lineups in a Season

- **Statistics Measured on the Lineup (NBA.com)**

LINEUPS	TEAM	GP	MIN	OFFRTG	DEFRTG	NETRTG	AST%	AST/TO	AST RATIO	OREB%	DREB%	REB%
.D. Augustin, .N. Vucevic, .E. Fournier, .A. Gordon, .J. Isaac	ORL	66	852	108.4	106.0	2.4	64.4	1.94	19.4	27.8	78.5	53.2
.R. Rubio, .J. Crowder, .R. Gobert, .J. Ingles, .D. Mitchell	UTA	60	478	115.7	102.9	12.8	62.1	1.99	18.4	26.3	73.4	50.7
.R. Westbrook, .P. George, .S. Adams, .J. Grant, .T. Ferguson	OKC	58	919	112.5	103.3	9.2	58.2	1.86	18.0	29.5	76.9	52.7



NBA Lineup Analysis

- Statistics Measured on the Lineup (82games.com)

#	Team	Unit	Min	Off	Def	Net	W	L	W%
1	SA	Parker-Jackson-Bowen-Duncan-Robinson	16.40%	97.7	83.8	+13.9	35	15	70.0
2	DAL	Nash-Finley-Griffin-Nowitzki-Bradley	6.39%	100.2	88.3	+11.9	16	14	53.3
3	MIN	Hudson-Peeler-Szczerbiak-Garnett-Nesterovic	14.24%	105.5	94.7	+10.8	23	14	62.1
4	UTA	Stockton-Cheaney-Harpring-Malone-Ostertag	21.92%	95.5	85.2	+10.3	41	23	64.0
5	SAC	Bibby-Christie-Stojakovic-Webber-Divac	21.20%	108.1	98.0	+10.1	26	11	70.2
6	TOR	Williams-Carter-Peterson-WilliamsJ-Davis	7.68%	99.1	89.2	+10.0	14	6	70.0
7	POR	Anderson-Wells-Pippen-Wallace-Davis	17.15%	98.8	88.9	+9.8	23	12	65.7
8	LAL	Fisher-Bryant-Fox-Horry-O'Neal	13.57%	105.6	97.1	+8.6	34	16	68.0
9	NO	Davis-Wesley-Mashburn-Brown-Magloire	18.17%	97.9	89.3	+8.6	24	12	66.6
10	BOS	Delk-Pierce-Williams-Walker-Battie	12.97%	95.8	89.4	+6.4	23	16	58.9
11	HOU	Francis-Mobley-Posey-Griffin-Ming	18.03%	95.9	89.7	+6.2	22	17	56.4
12	IND	Tinsley-MillerR-Artest-O'Neal-Miller	13.77%	100.2	95.6	+4.6	22	14	61.1
13	NJ	Kidd-Kittles-Jefferson-Martin-Collins	16.17%	93.1	88.6	+4.6	29	15	65.9
14	WAS	Hughes-Stackhouse-Jordan-Laettner-Haywood	14.98%	94.6	89.9	+4.6	20	17	54.0
15	ATL	Terry-Glover-Robinson-Abdur-Rahim-Ratliff	16.82%	97.7	93.3	+4.3	27	16	62.7





NBA Lineup Analysis

- **Example: Adjusted +/- for the NBA Lineup**
 - Pacers Lineup A={JO,DG,JT,TM,MD} Played 326 Minutes
 - This is Equivalent to 6.79 Full Games
 - Outscored Opponents by 11 Points (Pure +/-)
 - Scaled to 48 Minutes
$$\frac{11}{6.79} = +1.61 \text{ Points Per 48 Minutes}$$
 - Lineup Played Against Opposition Lineups Averaging +1.89 Points Better Than Average Team
 - Pacers Lineup A has Adjusted +/- of $1.61 + 1.89 = +3.5$ Points Better Than Average Lineup





NBA Lineup Analysis

- Examples of Poor Lineup Decision Making
 - Miami Heat (2017-2018)

#	Unit	Min	Off	Def	+/-	W	L	Win%
1	Dragic-T.Johnson-Richardson-J.Johnson-Whiteside	199.7	1.06	1.05	-4	9	16	36.0
2	Ellington-Richardson-Winslow-Olynyk-Adebayo	142.6	1.15	0.93	+59	9	5	64.2



LINEUPS	TEAM	GP	MIN	OFFRTG	DEFRTG	NETRTG	AST%	AST/TO	AST RATIO	OREB%	DREB%	REB%
.G. Dragic, .J. Johnson, .H. Whiteside, .T. Johnson, .J. Richardson	MIA	26	202	101.4	101.9	-0.5	58.3	1.42	16.9	27.1	77.0	52.0
.W. Ellington, .K. Olynyk, .J. Winslow, .J. Richardson, .B. Adebayo	MIA	16	144	108.6	89.5	19.1	73.9	2.26	21.2	28.9	81.3	55.2

- Which Lineup Should Play More?



NBA Lineup Analysis

- Problem's With Lineup Analysis

- Many Lineups Don't Play Many Minutes (High Variability)
- Less Than 10% of All Lineups Have More than 27 Offensive Possessions
- Median Number of Possessions Across All Lineups = 6 Possessions

- Superiority Hypothesis Testing

- Null Hypothesis: Lineups are Equal
- Alternative Hypothesis: Lineup 1 is Superior to Lineup 2
- P-Value < 0.05: Indicates Team 1 Superior to Team 2
- Estimate of Lineup's Ability Above Average Team = Adjusted +/-
- Standard Error of Estimate

$$\sigma = \frac{12}{\sqrt{\text{Number of Games}}}$$

Needs Justification





NBA Lineup Analysis

- Example: Competing Cavs Lineups (2006-2007)
 - Lineup 1 {DG,LH,LJ,SP,AV} with Adjusted +/- of -14
 - Lineup 2 {DG,LH,LJ,ES,AV} with Adjusted +/- of +25
 - Lineup 1 Played 124 Minutes or 2.6 Games
 - Lineup 2 Played 156 Minutes or 3.3 Games
 - Question: Was Lineup 1 Significantly Better than Lineup 2?



Hughes/Varejao/James/Gooden/5th Player				
5th Player	Lineup #	Rating	Minutes	Games
Pavlovic	1	25	124	2.583333333
Snow	2	-14	156	3.25
Difference	Variance difference	Sigma difference	Probability Lineup 1 is better	
39	100.0496278	10.00248108	0.999980064	



NBA Lineup Analysis

- Lineup Chemistry
 - How Would You Define Good Chemistry?
 - Let LAPM Represent Lineup Adjusted +/- Rating
 - Let PAPM Represent Player Adjusted +/- Rating for Player

$$Chemistry = LAPM - \sum_{i=1}^5 PAPM_i$$

- Example (2006-2007):

Team						Chemistry
Detroit	Billups	Hamilton	Maxiell	Prince	Webber	25.6
Golden State	Barnes	Biedrins	Davis	Ellis	Pietrus	-10.1
Memphis	Gasol	Jones	Miller	Roberts	Stoudamire	-20.1
Atlanta	Childress	Johnson	Pachulia	J. Smith	M. Williams	19.6
Boston	Jefferson	Perkins	Pierce	Scalabrine	West	-16.2
Charlotte	Carroll	Felton	Morrison	Okafor	G. Wallace	20.2
Chicago	Deng	Duhon	Hinrich	Thomas	B. Wallace	-21.7
Cleveland	Hughes	Ilgauskas	James	Pavlovic	Varejao	-23.6
Dallas	Diop	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	27.4
Denver	Hilario	Kleiza	Najera	J. R. Smith	Iverson	-14.5
Phoenix	Barbosa	Bell	Diaw	Marion	Stoudemire	18.5
San Antonio	Bowen	Duncan	Ginobili	Horry	Parker	-9.3





Team and Individual Matchups

- Example of Coaching Decision
 - Spurs Versus Mavericks in 2006 Playoffs
 - Mavericks Beat Spurs in 7 Games
 - Replaced Adrian Griffin with Devin Harris
 - Mavericks' Season Information



		Production			On Court/Off Court		
Player	Min	Own	Opp	Net	On	Off	Net
Nowitzki	78%	30.1	17.0	+13.1	+7.9	-0.6	+8.5
Terry	70%	19.7	14.8	+4.9	+8.1	+0.9	+7.2
Howard	48%	20.8	13.2	+7.6	+7.9	+4.2	+3.6
Stackhouse	38%	15.6	13.1	+2.5	+4.5	+6.9	-2.5
Daniels	44%	15.9	12.9	+3.0	+4.4	+7.3	-2.9
Dampier	49%	14.8	16.2	-1.4	+5.9	+6.1	-0.2
Harris	32%	18.6	15.4	+3.2	+6.3	+5.8	+0.5
Diop	38%	12.2	16.5	-4.3	+7.7	+4.9	+2.7
Griffin	31%	12.4	14.6	-2.2	+7.1	+5.5	+1.6
Van Horn	27%	14.9	18.7	-3.8	+4.1	+6.7	-2.5
Armstrong	16%	7.9	19.9	-12.0	-1.0	+7.3	-8.3



Team and Individual Matchups

- Example of Coaching Decision
 - Mavericks' Playoff Information

Player	Min	Production			On Court/Off Court		
		Own	Opp	Net	On	Off	Net
Nowitzki	87%	28.5	13.8	+14.8	+5.3	-4.8	+10.1
Howard	73%	17.5	12.4	+5.1	+7.2	-4.6	+11.8
Terry	75%	17.3	13.2	+4.1	+5.2	+0.5	+4.7
Stackhouse	63%	13.6	11.8	+1.8	+5.5	+1.5	+4.0
Griffin	31%	13.7	16.4	-2.7	+3.2	+4.4	-1.2
Dampier	40%	14.1	24.4	-10.2	+6.8	+2.2	+4.6
Harris	50%	12.4	16.6	-4.2	+0.8	+7.2	-6.4
Daniels	20%	12.3	18.4	-6.1	+1.7	+4.6	-2.8
Diop	36%	12.0	19.0	-7.0	+1.4	+5.5	-4.1
Van Horn	15%	6.6	16.8	-10.1	-12.8	+7.1	-19.9
Powell	2%	-8.2	12.4	-20.7	-3.9	+4.2	-8.1
Mbenga	2%	-1.1	23.6	-24.7	+13.5	+3.8	+9.7
Armstrong	4%	2.4	38.4	-36.0	-8.3	+4.5	-12.9





Team and Individual Matchups

- Example of Coaching Decision
 - Why Was This a Good Decision?

Statistics for Harris	Overall Season	Against Spurs
Adjusted +/- (WINVAL)	-2.1	+9.4
Impact Rating	-15%	+8%

Statistics for Griffin	Overall Season	Against Spurs
Adjusted +/- (WINVAL)	NA	-5.0
Impact Rating	NA	-18%

- Adrian Griffin Had a -18 Offensive WINVAL Which Means He Had a +23 Defensive WINVAL (Horrible Impact on the Mavericks' Offense)





Team and Individual Matchups

- **2-Way Lineup Calculator**

- Summarizes Result of Any Combination of Team's Players On or Off the Court Versus Any Combination of Opponent's Players On or Off the Court
- Calculation For Mavericks and Spurs Indicated Devin Harris Could Outperform Tony Parker

- **Result in Spurs and Mavericks Playoff Series**

- Harris and Parker On Court = 2 Points Over Spurs
- Harris Off Court and Parker On Court = 15 Points Under Spurs





Team and Individual Matchups

- Lineup Calculation for the Mavericks in Playoffs

						Rating	Minutes	Simple	Raw +/-
<i>Dallas Mavericks</i>									
1	Diop	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Terry	16.36	41.04	1.18	1
2	Dampier	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	29.24	31.06	15.45	10
3	Dampier	Harris	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	60.55	21.34	49.47	22
4	Dampier	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Terry	-1.78	15.89	-18.12	-6
5	Dampier	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	-20.83	14.19	-33.80	-10
6	Diop	Harris	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	15.54	11.48	4.18	1
7	Dampier	Daniels	Howard	Stackhouse	Terry	-65.28	8.92	-75.26	-14
8	Diop	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	-26.13	8.79	-43.62	-8
9	Diop	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	81.91	8.02	65.92	11
10	Daniels	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	78.79	7.82	67.55	11
11	Diop	Howard	Nowitzki	Terry	Griffin	-9.51	6.92	-34.70	-5
12	Harris	Howard	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	44.11	6.78	35.43	5
13	Dampier	Daniels	Nowitzki	Stackhouse	Terry	-42.30	6.37	-52.81	-7





Team and Individual Matchups

- Lineup Calculation for the Mavericks in Playoffs

						Rating	Minutes	Simple	Raw +/-
<i>San Antonio Spurs</i>									
1	Bowen	Duncan	Finley	Ginobili	Parker	21.08	45.83	6.29	6
2	Barry	Bowen	Duncan	Finley	Parker	37.90	33.42	20.12	14
3	Bowen	Duncan	Ginobili	Horry	Parker	17.94	28.23	5.10	3
4	Barry	Bowen	Duncan	Horry	Parker	-26.88	10.05	-47.75	-10
5	Barry	Duncan	Finley	Ginobili	Parker	71.11	9.52	60.37	12
6	Barry	Bowen	Duncan	Ginobili	Parker	-25.71	8.48	-45.28	-8
7	Barry	Duncan	Finley	Ginobili	Van Exel	46.74	7.70	37.35	6
8	Bowen	Duncan	Finley	Ginobili	Van Exel	32.55	7.67	18.79	3
9	Duncan	Finley	Ginobili	Horry	Van Exel	-22.46	5.84	-24.68	-3
10	Barry	Bowen	Duncan	Finley	Van Exel	-53.95	5.66	-59.24	-7
11	Barry	Finley	Ginobili	Horry	Parker	-14.32	5.53	-26.06	-3
12	Bowen	Duncan	Ginobili	Horry	Van Exel	46.51	4.13	34.84	3
13	Barry	Bowen	Finley	Horry	Parker	-179.83	4.11	-186.96	-16





Team and Individual Matchups

- **Non-Transitivity of NBA Matchups**
 - What is Transitivity?
 - Player A > Player B
 - Player B > Player C
 - Then, Player A > Player C
 - Be Careful Not To Assume Transitive Property in Sports
 - Example in 2005-2006 Season
 - Devin Harris > Tony Parker
 - Devin Harris + Jason Terry Against Steve Nash (-23 Points)
 - Jerry Stackhouse + Jason Terry Against Steve Nash (+20 Points)
 - Steve Nash > Devin Harris
 - Does This Imply, Steve Nash > Tony Parker
 - Across Season, Steve Nash Impact was +28%
 - Against Spurs, Steve Nash Impact was 0%
 - Across Season, Tony Parker Impact was -3%
 - Against Suns, Tony Parker Impact was +35%





Final Inspiration

If you are going to foul, foul hard.

- My Father