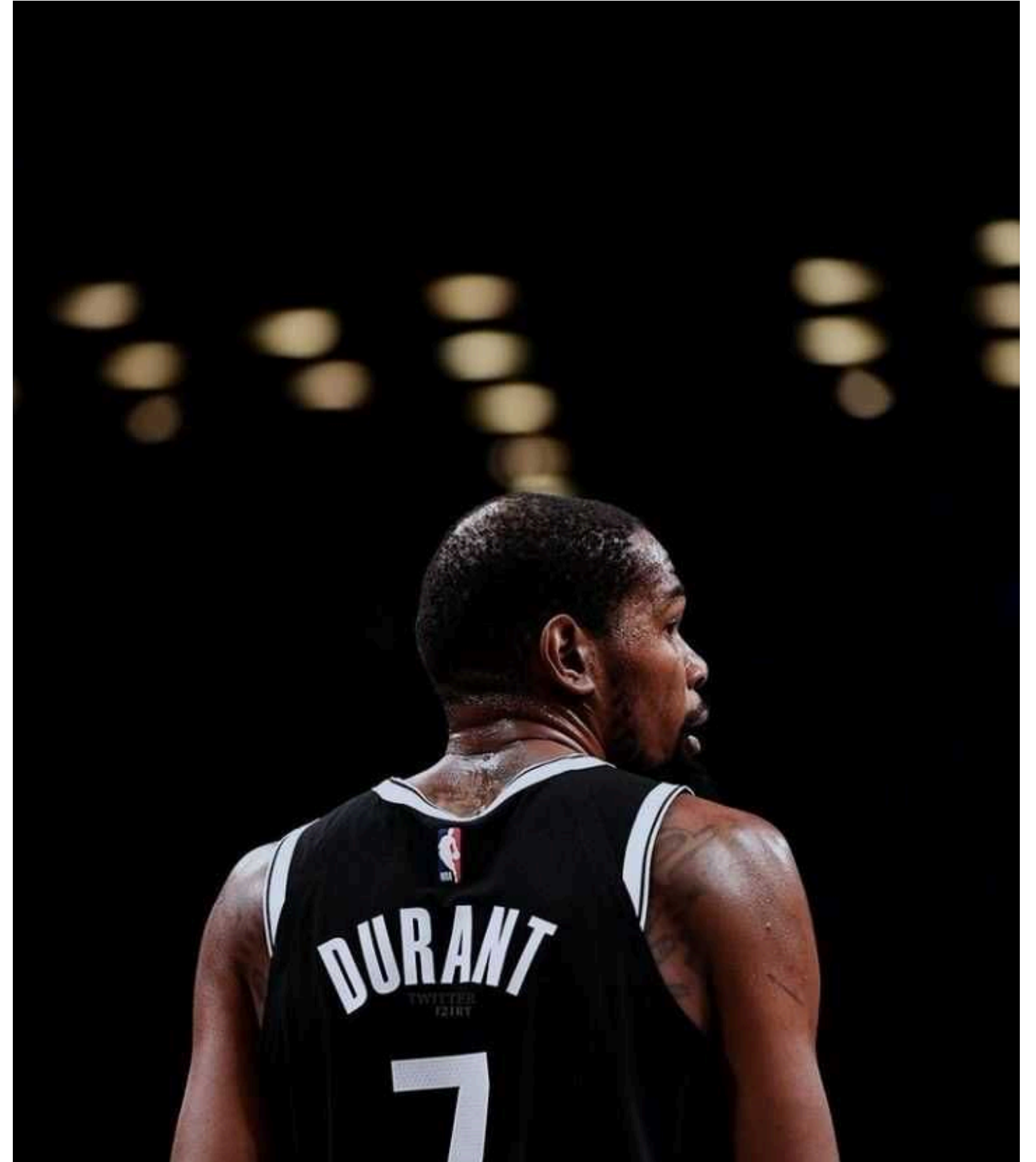
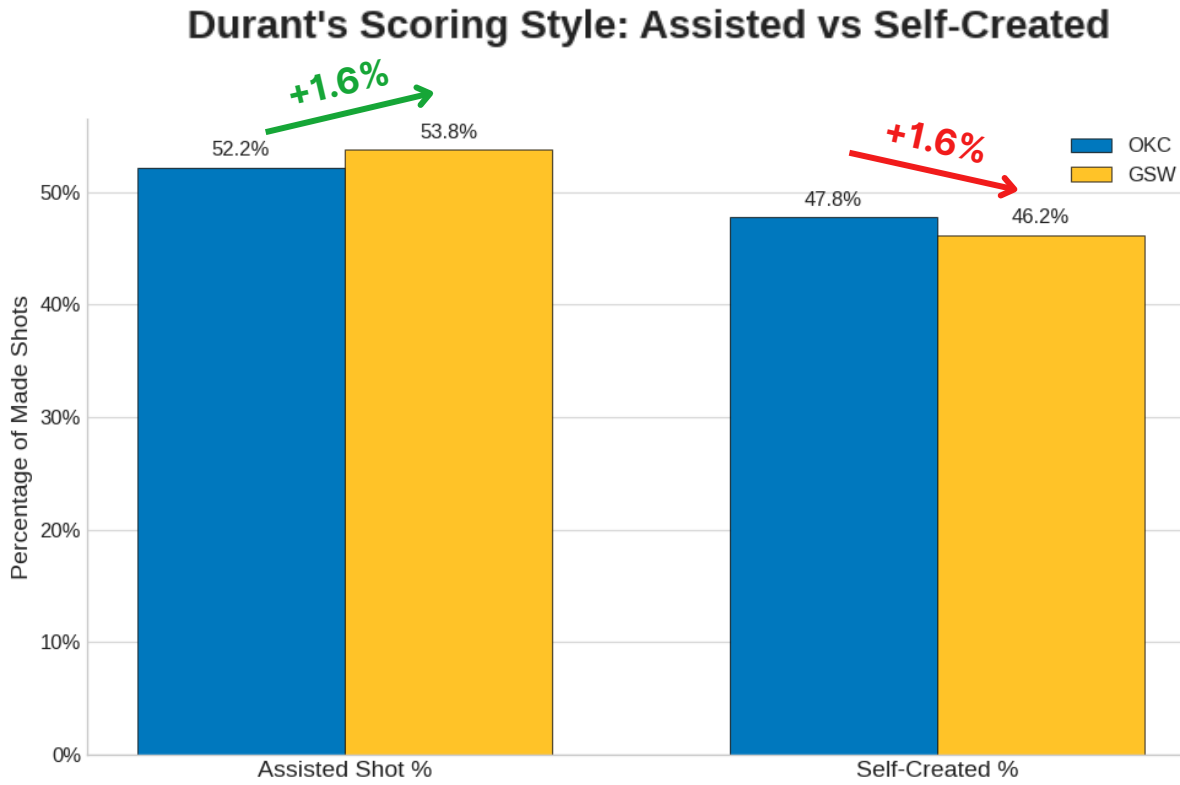


ANALYZING DURANT'S TRANSITION FROM OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER TO GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS



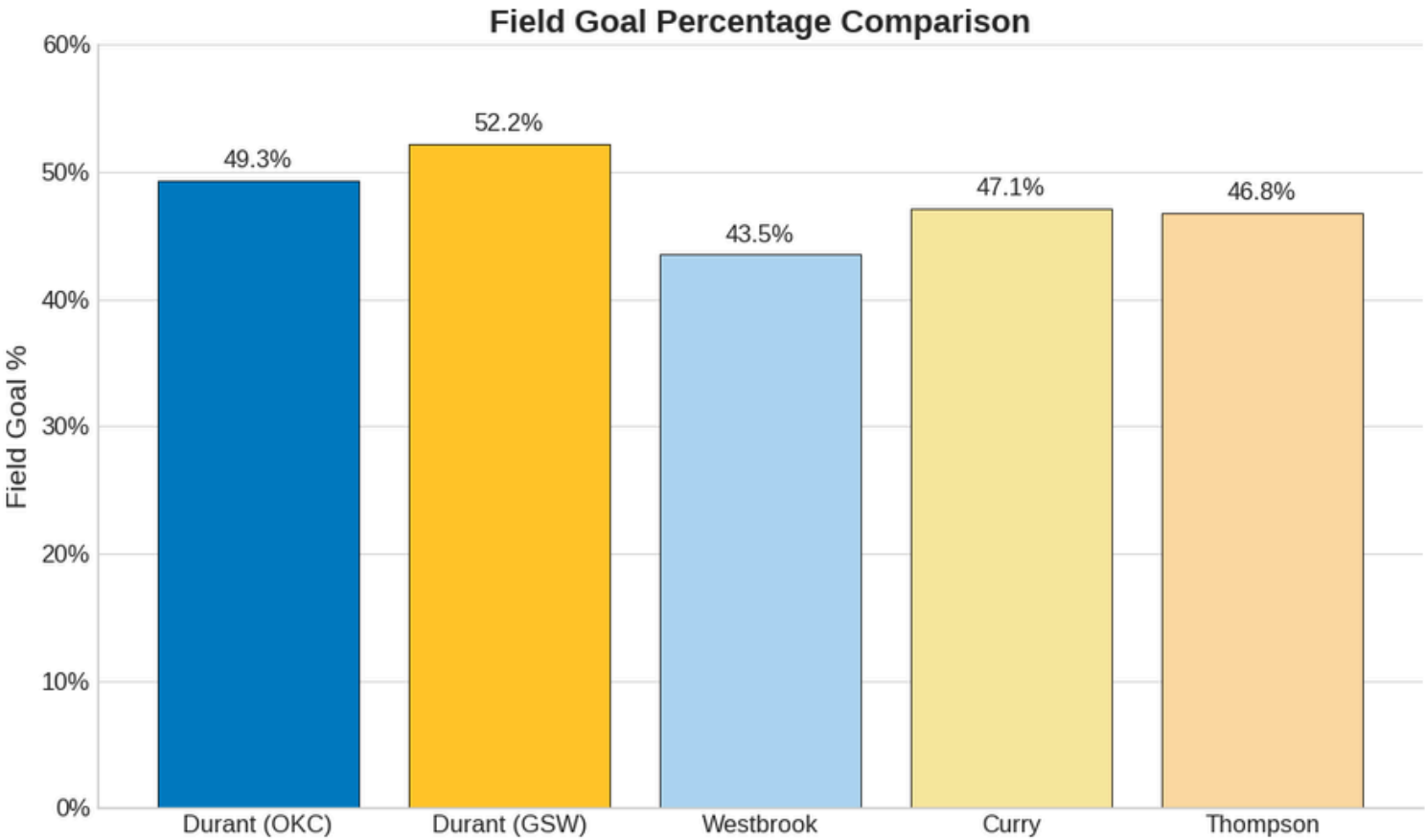
DURANT’S SHIFT FROM ISOLATION TO TEAM EFFICIENCY

How does the play of Kevin Durant change with new teammates?



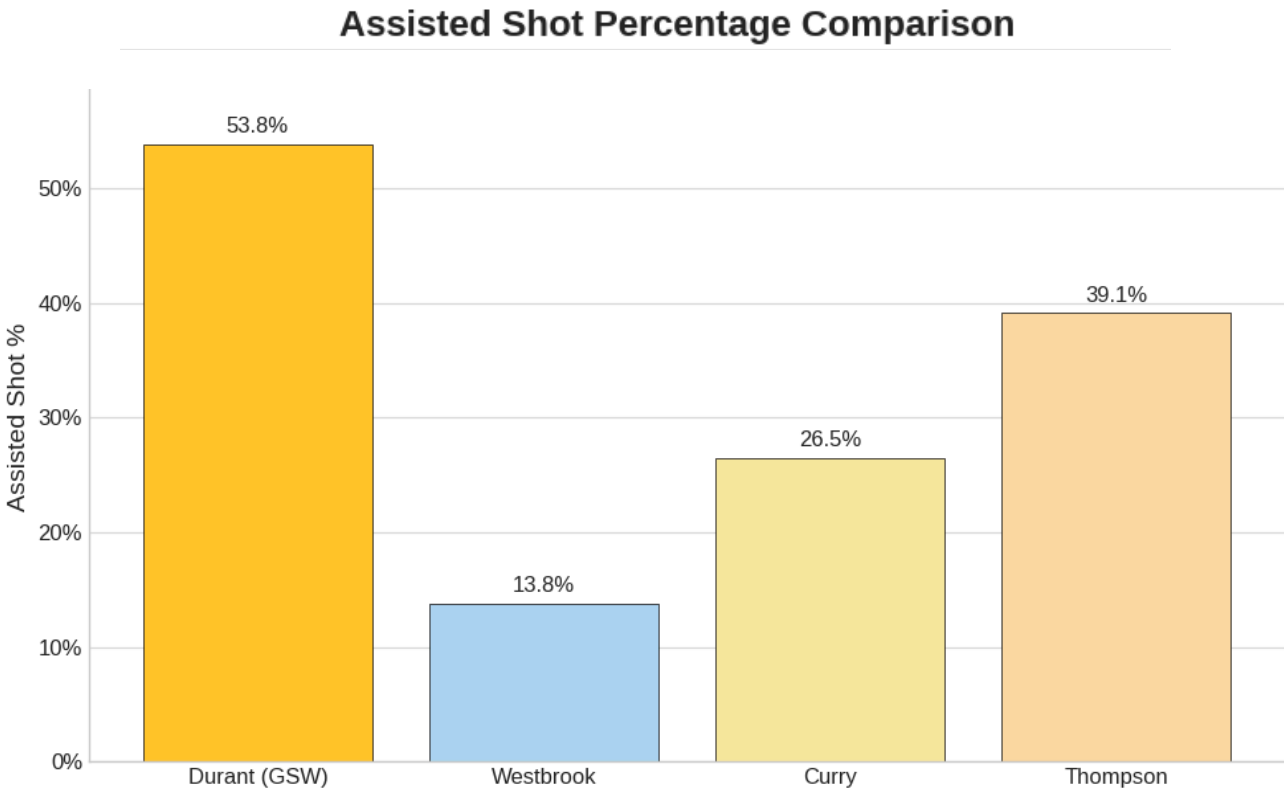
Graph 1: Scoring Style Shift: From Isolation to System

Durant evolved from a self-creator in OKC to a system scorer in GSW, relying more on **off-ball movement** and spacing for easier looks. His **assisted shot rate rose from 52.2% to 53.8%**, showing a shift from **isolation-heavy creation** to leveraging the **Warriors' motion offense**.



Graph 3: Durant Became More Efficient in Golden State

Durant’s **field goal percentage increased from 49.3% in OKC to 52.2% in GSW**, even while taking fewer shots per game (20.1 → 17.9). This **efficiency boost** reflects how **GSW's spacing and ball movement** created higher-quality scoring opportunities.



Graph 2: Team Context Shaped Kevin Durant’s Role

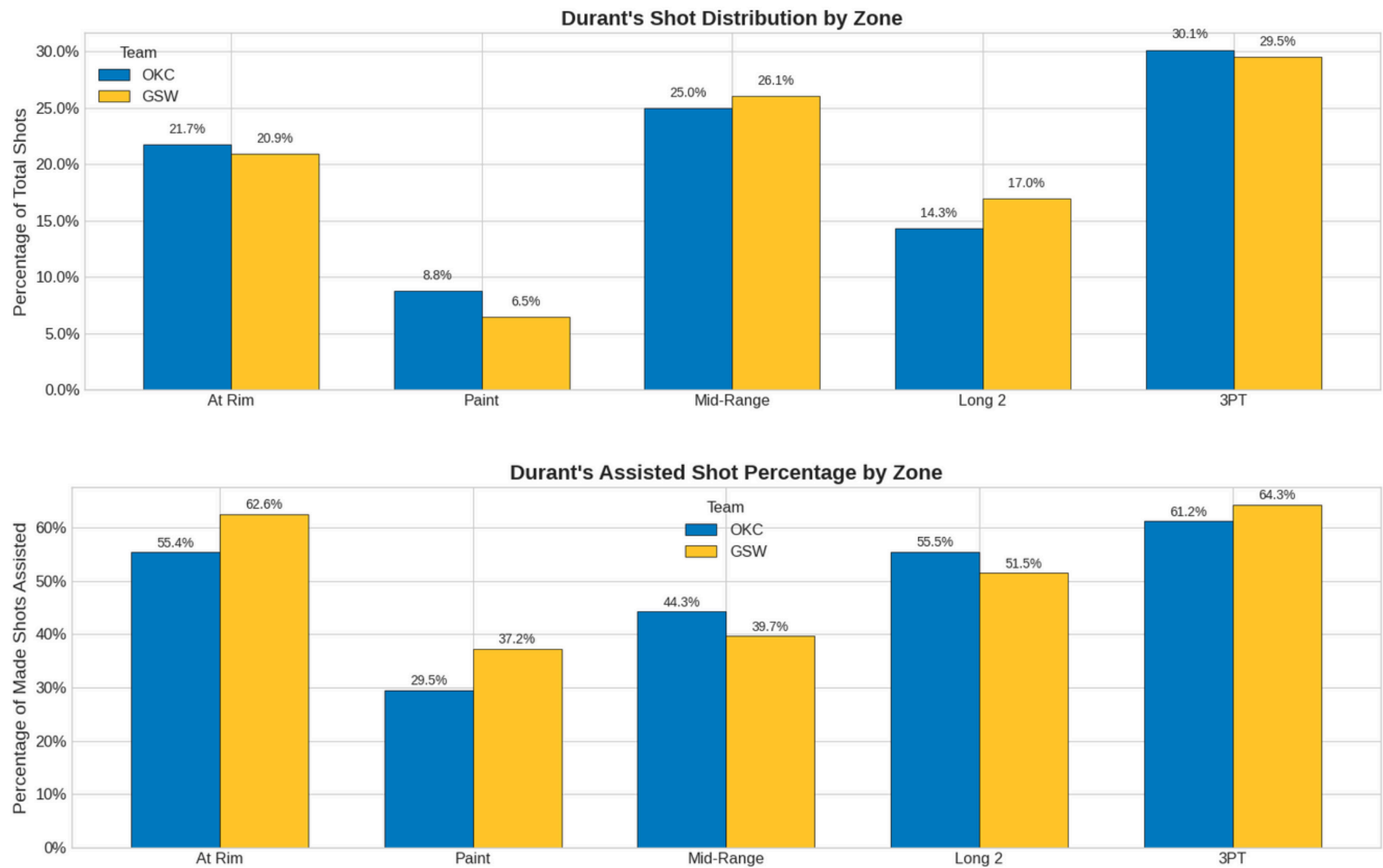
In OKC's isolation-heavy offense, **Westbrook created most of his own shots (13.8% assisted)**. In contrast, **GSW's ball movement system** with **Curry (26.5%)** and **Thompson (39.1%)** helped Durant integrate. Durant's environment shifted from a two-man game to a **balanced attack with multiple elite shooters**.

Overall Analysis:

- Durant became a **more efficient scorer** not just by shooting better, but by playing smarter. He adapted from a **high-volume, isolation-heavy role** to a **system-based scorer**.
- Surrounded by elite shooters, Durant capitalized on **higher-quality shots**, proving that **when stars adapt to the right system, efficiency increases even with reduced volume**.

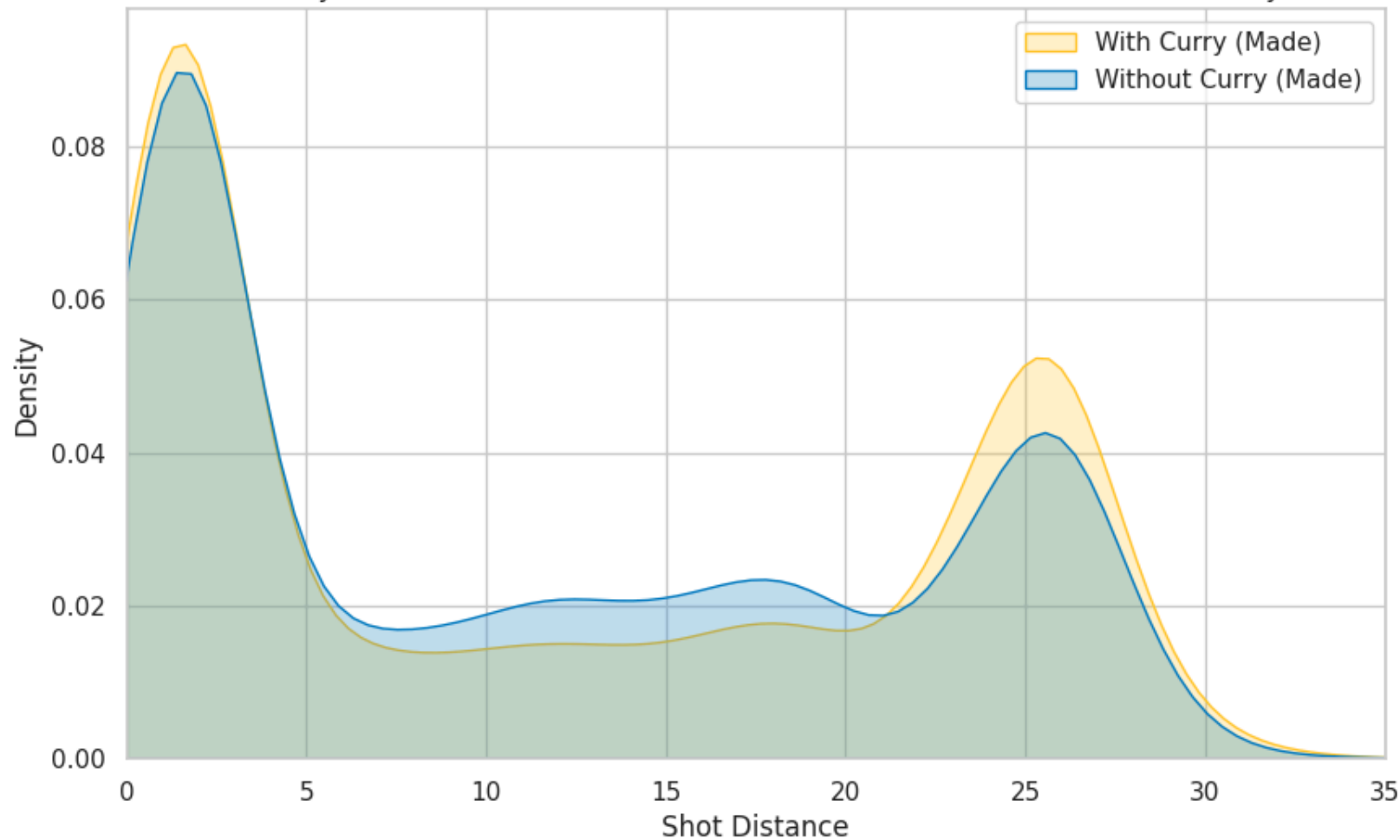
FROM ISOLATION TO EFFICIENCY: DURANT'S SHOT PROFILE SHIFT

Durant's Shot Creation and Distribution Changes



- Durant took slightly **more long 2s and mid-ranges** with the Warriors compared to OKC. This suggests a shift towards a **perimeter-oriented offense**, likely influenced by GSW's emphasis on spacing and farther shooting.
- Higher Assisted Rate** in GSW: Durant's assisted shot percentage increased across all zones in Golden State, most notably at the **rim (55.4% → 62.6%)** and in the **paint (29.5% → 37.2%)**. This suggests that he played in a more **structured, pass-heavy system in GSW** compared to the **isolation-heavy offense in OKC**.

Density Plot of Durant's Shot Distance for Made Shots: With vs. Without Curry



- More Efficient 3PTs with Curry:** The density of made **three-pointers increased in GSW**, especially in the 25-30 foot range.
- Shot Distribution Shifted **Without Curry:** When Curry was not on the floor, Durant's **shot distance distribution** became **more similar to his OKC days**, meaning he took more mid-range and long 2s.

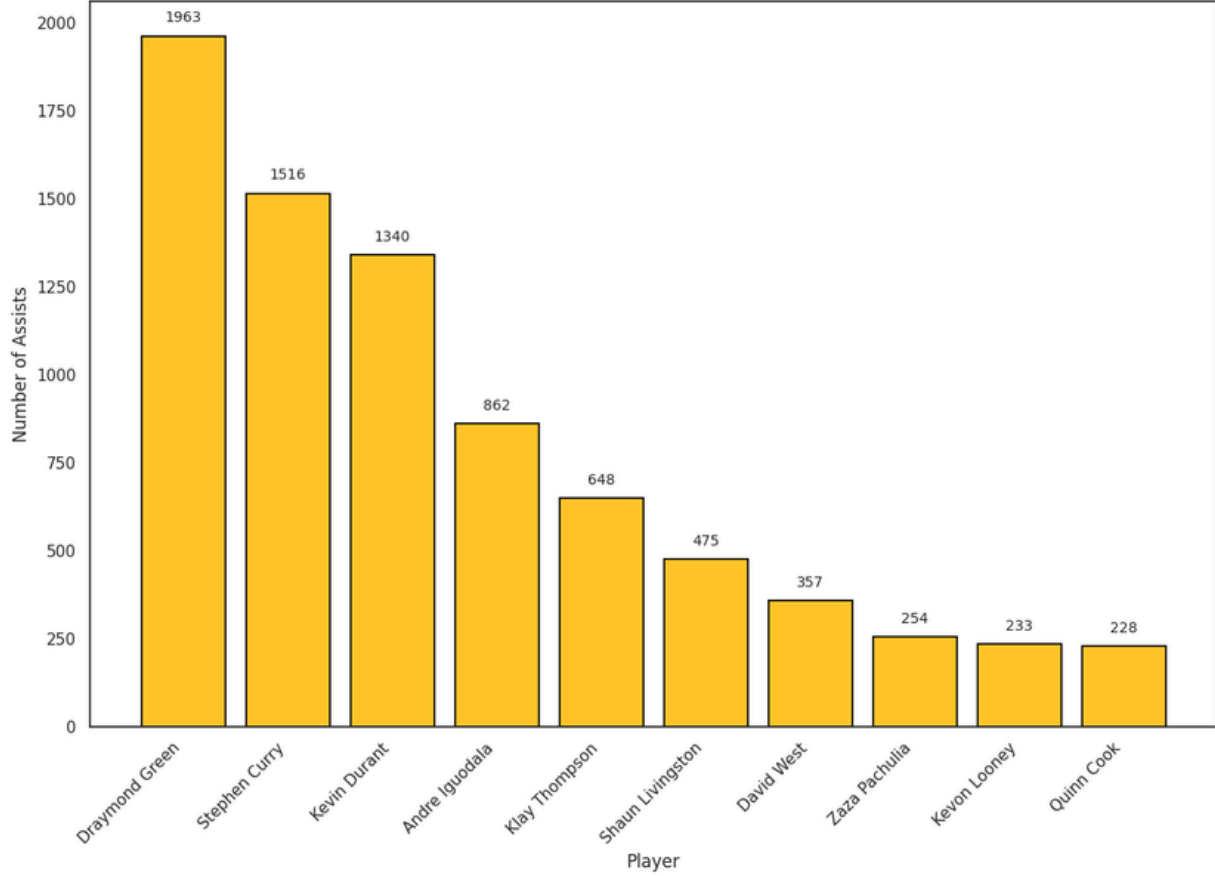
Overall Analysis:

- Durant adapted to GSW's system by taking **more threes** and relying on teammates for **assisted buckets**.
- Playing with **Curry improved his shot quality**, particularly at the three-point line, where he had more open looks.

‘STAR’ PLAYERS - ARE THEY IMPACTFUL?

Golden State Warriors (Won championships 2017-2018)

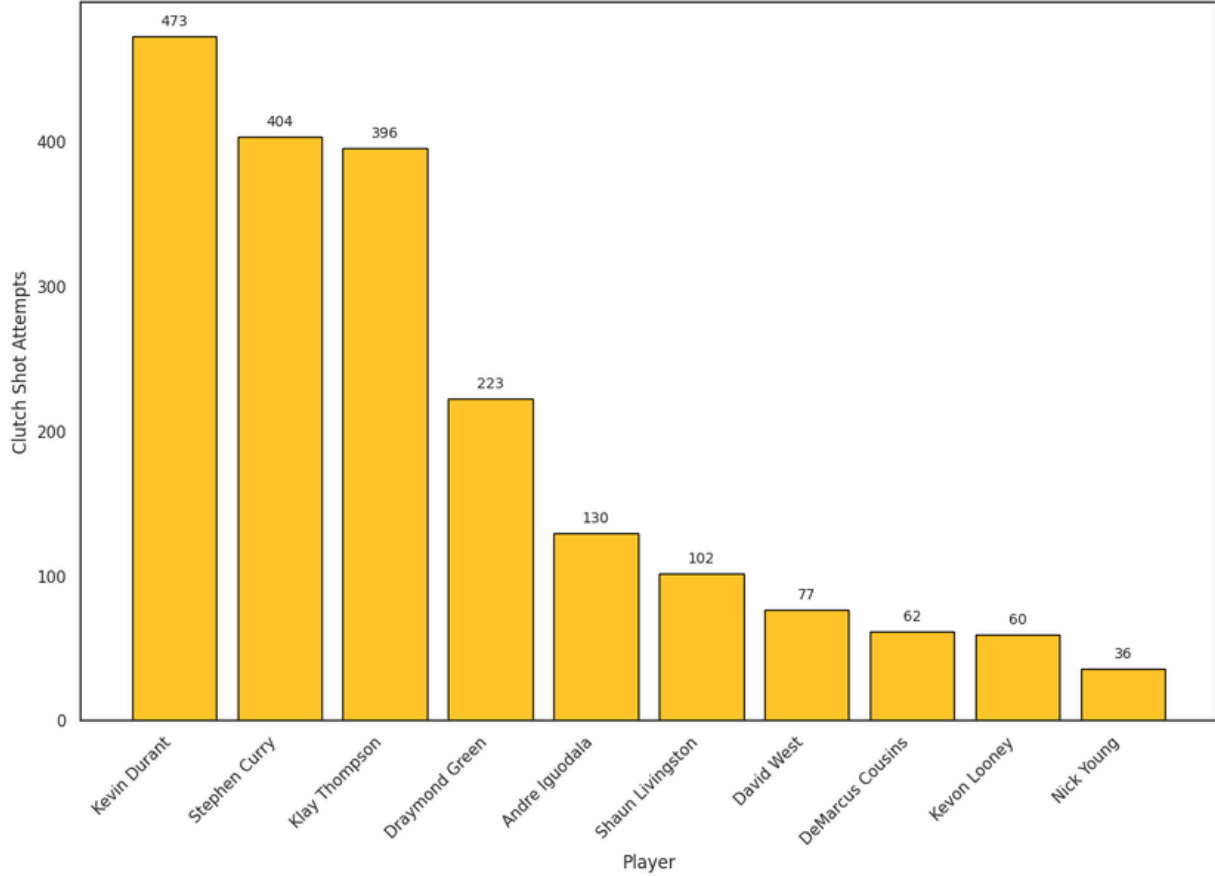
GSW Top 10 Players by Number of Assists



Graph 1: Top assist makers on the Golden State Warriors.

Draymond Green, Stephen Curry, and Kevin Durant lead the team in assists, showing how they played a key role in moving the ball. This **strong teamwork** from star players helped the team play more efficiently, creating higher scoring chances. (GSW won the game)

GSW Top 10 Shot Takers in Clutch Time (Last 5 Minutes)



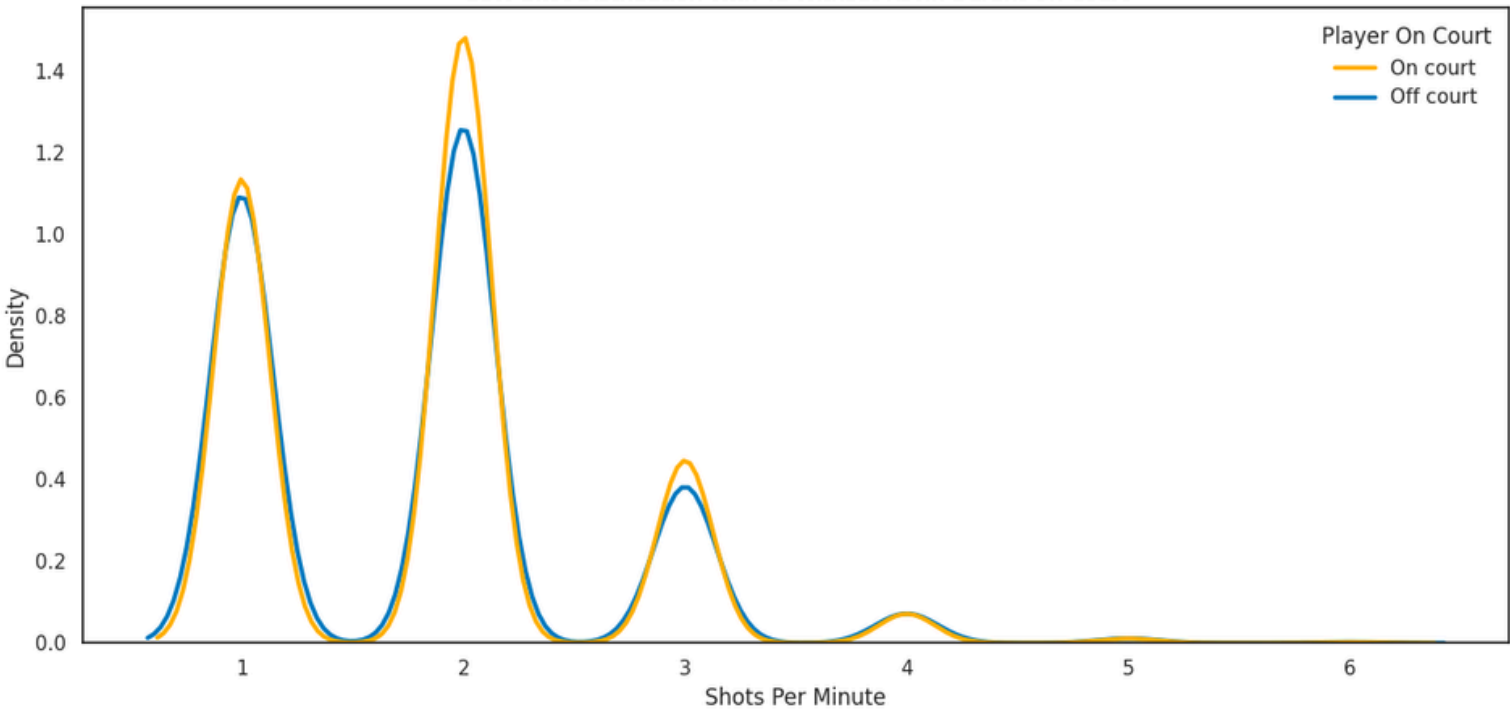
Graph 2: Top players in clutch shots (filtered last 5 minutes of the game).

Kevin Durant had the most clutch shot attempts, followed by Curry and Thompson. This highlights how adding a star like Durant shifted **end-game responsibility** to him. Durant's presence gave GSW an advantage, helping them secure wins in tight games. (GSW won the game)

Playoff Performance Comparison

Metric	Pre-Durant	With Durant	Change
Win %	35.2%	46.6%	+11.4%
Offensive Rating	0.0	0.0	+0.0
Field Goal %	45.7%	48.2%	+2.5%
Clutch Field Goal %	45.4%	45.7%	+0.3%

GSW Shot Distribution With vs Without Kevin Durant On Court



Overall Analysis:

- When Kevin Durant was on the court (BLUE), the team had **higher shot frequency per minute** and **greater play density**.
- Golden State Warriors performed significantly **better with Durant** (as the ‘star’ player), generating more scoring opportunities at a faster pace.