# NBA Shot Data Visualization

FROM SCRATCH TO AN APPIN 60 MINUTES

Anna Matlin amatlin@princeton.edu

#### Overview

The world of sports data is vast, and significant quantities of information are publicly available online. The ability to access, capture, analyze, and illustrate that data is extremely valuable.

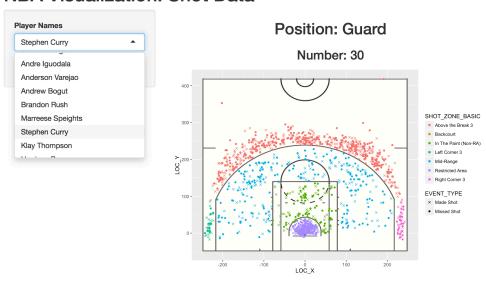
In this workshop, we will:

- scrape data from the web using Python
- process it in R
- guide participants (you) through the basics of making a Shiny app in R

By the end of the workshop, each participant will have made a visualization of player data as a web application.

# End goal

#### **NBA Visualization: Shot Data**



#### Resource dump

- All code used in this workshop: <a href="https://github.com/amatlin/NBAvis">https://github.com/amatlin/NBAvis</a>
- > Stats data retrieved from http://www.nba.com/warriors/stats
- > Scraping:
  - https://www.crummy.com/software/BeautifulSoup/bs4/doc/
  - http://web.stanford.edu/~zlotnick/TextAsData/Web\_Scraping\_with\_Beautiful\_Soup.html (tutorial)
- > Shiny:
  - http://shiny.rstudio.com/
  - > http://shiny.rstudio.com/articles/cheatsheet.html
- > Download python: https://www.python.org/downloads/
- ➤ Download R and Rstudio:
  - http://lib.stat.cmu.edu/R/CRA N/
  - https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/
- ➤ ggplot2:
  - http://ggplot2.org/
  - https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ggplot2-cheatsheet.pdf
- Lots of code used from http://thedatagame.com.au/2015/09/27/how-to-create-nba-shot-charts-in-r/

## Step 1: Have Python and R installed

Python needed for web scraping

R, RStudio needed for visualization + Shiny

## Step 2: go to Github repository

https://github.com/amatlin/NBAvis

→ open README and follow instructions for installation of necessary packages

#### Step 3: Scraping

Go to <a href="http://www.nba.com/warriors/stats">http://www.nba.com/warriors/stats</a> to get a look for what we will be scraping.

Player IDs come from image links in HTML.

Find image of player, right click and select "Inspect"

Frameworks/APIs we will be using to scrape:

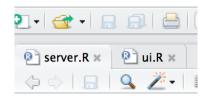
→ Beautiful Soup

```
0.4
 0.9
 2.3
▼
▼
 ▼<div class="player-name__inner-wrapper">
   <img src="http://stats.nba.com/media/players/</pre>
   230x185/203110.png" width="60px" alt>
  ▶ <span class="playerInfo">...</span>
  </div>
 74
 13.8
 4.9
 48.6%
 39%
```

#### What is a Shiny app?

Check out <a href="http://shiny.rstudio.com/">http://shiny.rstudio.com/</a> for documentation + tutorials

- → "A web application framework for R; Turn your analyses into interactive web applications; No HTML, CSS, or JavaScript knowledge required"
  - → each app is made containing two files
    - server.R: behind the scenes calculations
    - ui.R: what the user sees
  - → designed for development in RStudio
  - → Terms to keep in mind: render, reactive, input/output



## Step 4: Start making our app

#### What does our data look like?

#### Column names:

```
GRID_TYPE GAME_ID GAME_EVENT_ID PLAYER_ID PLAYER_NAME TEAM_ID TEAM_NAME PERIOD MINUTES_REMAINING SECONDS_REMAINING EVENT_TYPE ACTION_TYPE SHOT_TYPE SHOT_ZONE_BASIC SHOT_ZONE_AREA SHOT_ZONE_RANGE SHOT_DISTANCE LOC_X LOC_Y SHOT_ATTEMPTED_FLAG SHOT MADE FLAG
```

#### > First data point

```
Shot Chart Detail 0021400014 50 201939 Stephen Curry 1610612744 Golden State Warriors 1 7 29 Made Shot Running Jump Shot 2PT Field Goal Mid-Range Left Side(L) 8-16 ft. 10 -81 72
```

> Total data points for Steph Curry: 1341

#### Step 5: ggplot2

#### For more info check out

- http://ggplot2.org/
- https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ggplot2-cheatsheet.pdf

"ggplot2 is a plotting system for R, based on the grammar of graphics, which tries to take the good parts of base and lattice graphics and none of the bad parts. It takes care of many of the fiddly details that make plotting a hassle (like drawing legends) as well as providing a powerful model of graphics that makes it easy to produce complex multi-layered graphics."

# Launch and run app

## Questions?

# Thank you!

http://princeton-data-science.github.io/