Introduction

Literature Review

Scant rigorous or academic research has been conducted within the scope of Pokémon-related topics. The most frequent publications focusing on Pokémon have been strategies guides for each new Pokémon iteration. However these publications have focused more specifically on the games, not necessarily the mechanics of the battling in the games. Nonetheless recent publications have focused on both the game and the underlying system (*The Official Hoenn Region Strategy Guide*). Given the depth of the decision-making process involved in Pokémon battling, this fact is especially resonant.

Typically academic papers have focused on the use of algorithms to simulate and play against human players in Pokémon Showdown. One paper gives a rudimentary background on Pokémon battling and focuses explicitly on 1v1 battles (*Gildardo 2013*). Recent literature following that followed included more nuance. The most relevant publication focuses on the most current framework of Pokémon battling (*Ho et al. 2016*). This publication used the latest iteration of Pokémon Showdown, available at http://pokemonshowdown.com/. The host site of this game is Smogon University, found at http://www.smogon.com/. This website offers a wide variety of resources, ranging from Pokémon usage statistics to open forums discussing team compositions.

The two battle formats being covered are Over Used (OU) and Random Battles (Randbats). The former has a variety of different team compositions, found at http://pokemonshowdownteams.com/over-used-ou/. The latter format focuses more specifically on move strategies, which often give basis for a number of team strategies. The introduction to this battle format is found at http://www.smogon.com/smog/issue35/randbats-exper.

References

- Sanchez-Ante, Gildardo (2013, Dec) Sistemas Inteligentes: Reportes Finales Ago-Dic 2013. Retrieved from: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gildardo_Sanchez-Ante/publication/259343975_Sistemas_Inteligentes_Reportes_Finales_Ago-Dic_2013/links/0c96052b1d0b582e95000000.pdf#page=140
- Ho, Harrison & Ramesh, Varun (2016) Percymon: A Pokemon Showdown Artifical Intelligence. Retrieved from: http://robots.stanford.edu/cs221/2016/restricted/projects/vramesh2/final.pdf
- Usage Stats (2016). Retrieved from: http://sweepercalc.com/stats/
- Smogon University (2016). Retrieved from: http://www.smogon.com/
- Pokémon Showdown (2016). Retrieved from: http://pokemonshowdown.com/
- Ariely, Dan. Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions. New York, NY: Harper, 2009. Print. Chapter 8: Keeping Doors Open (pp. 139-154)
- Erickson, Paul. The World the Game Theorists Made. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print. Chapter 6: Game Theory without Rationality (pp. 204-239)
- Random Battle Format (2016). Retrieved from: http://www.smogon.com/smog/issue35/randbats-expert
- Over Used Teams (2016). Retrieved from: http://pokemonshowdownteams.com/over-used-ou/
- Pokémon Omega Ruby & Pokémon Alpha Sapphire: The Official Hoenn Region Strategy Guide. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- Camerer, Colin. Behavioral Game Theory: Experiments in Strategic Interaction. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation, 2003. Print.
- Over Used Teams (2016). Retrieved from: http://pokemonshowdownteams.com/over-used-ou/

End thesis Chapter 1

MARKDOWN TEMPLATE

R Markdown Basics

Here is a brief introduction into using *R Markdown*. *Markdown* is a simple formatting syntax for authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. *R Markdown* provides the flexibility of *Markdown* with the implementation of **R** input and output. For more details on using *R Markdown* see http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com.

Be careful with your spacing in *Markdown* documents. While whitespace largely is ignored, it does at times give *Markdown* signals as to how to proceed. As a habit, try to keep everything left aligned whenever possible, especially as you type a new paragraph. In other words, there is no need to indent basic text in the Rmd document (in fact, it might cause your text to do funny things if you do).

Lists

It's easy to create a list. It can be unordered like

- Item 1
- Item 2

or it can be ordered like

1. Item 1
2. Item 2

Notice that I intentionally mislabeled Item 2 as number 4. *Markdown* automatically figures this out! You can put any numbers in the list and it will create the list. Check it out below.

To create a sublist, just indent the values a bit (at least four spaces or a tab). (Here's one case where indentation is key!)

1. Item 1
2. Item 2
3. Item 3
    - Item 3a
    - Item 3b

Line breaks

Make sure to add white space between lines if you'd like to start a new paragraph. Look at what happens below in the outputted document if you don't:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph. This should be a new paragraph.

Now for the correct way:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph.

This should be a new paragraph.

R chunks

When you click the **Knit** button above a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded **R** code chunks within the document. You can embed an **R** code chunk like this (`cars` is a built-in **R** dataset):

```
summary(cars)
```

```
##      speed           dist
##  Min.   : 4.0   Min.   :  2.00
##  1st Qu.:12.0   1st Qu.: 26.00
##  Median :15.0   Median : 36.00
##  Mean   :15.4   Mean   : 42.98
##  3rd Qu.:19.0   3rd Qu.: 56.00
##  Max.   :25.0   Max.   :120.00
```

Inline code

If you'd like to put the results of your analysis directly into your discussion, add inline code like this:

> The `cos` of 2π is 1.

Another example would be the direct calculation of the standard deviation:

> The standard deviation of `speed` in `cars` is 5.2876444.

One last neat feature is the use of the `ifelse` conditional statement which can be used to output text depending on the result of an **R** calculation:

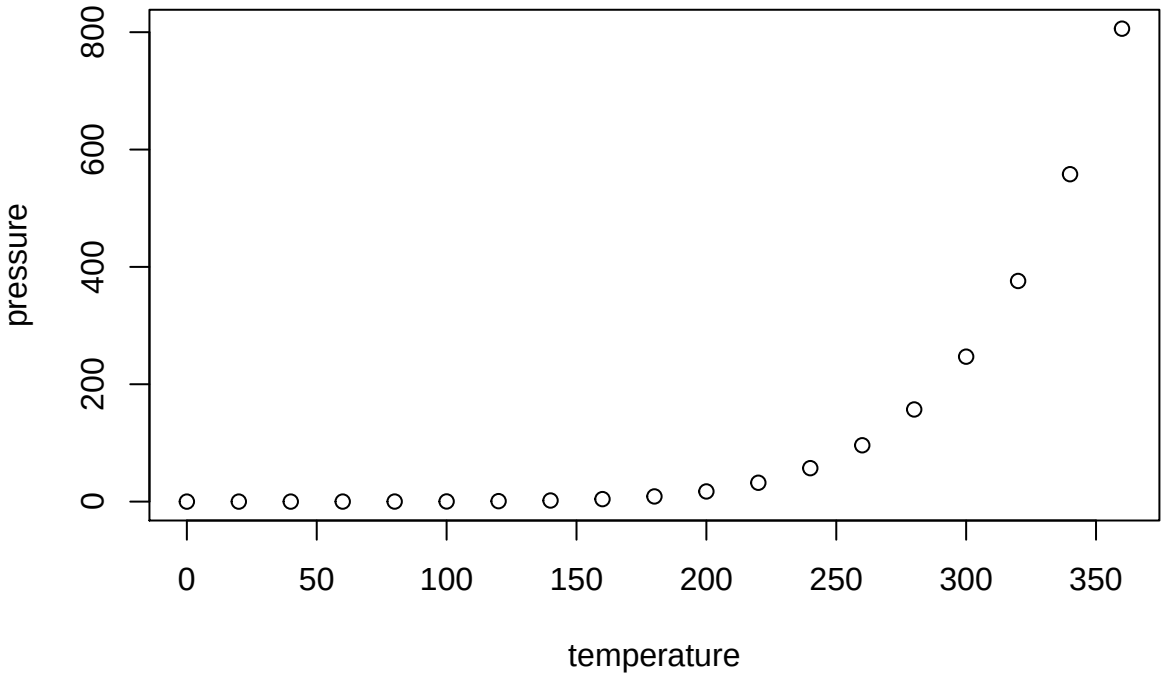
> The standard deviation is less than 6.

Note the use of `>` here, which signifies a quotation environment that will be indented.

As you see with `$2 \pi$` above, mathematics can be added by surrounding the mathematical text with dollar signs. More examples of this are in [Mathematics and Science] if you uncomment the code in [Math].

Including plots

You can also embed plots. For example, here is a way to use the base **R** graphics package to produce a plot using the built-in `pressure` dataset:



Note that the `echo=FALSE` parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent printing of the **R** code that generated the plot. There are plenty of other ways to add chunk options. More information is available at http://yihui.name/knitr/options/.

Another useful chunk option is the setting of `cache=TRUE` as you see here. If document rendering becomes time consuming due to long computations or plots that are expensive to generate you can use knitr caching to improve performance. Later in this file, you'll see a way to reference plots created in **R** or external figures.

Loading and exploring data

Included in this template is a file called `flights.csv`. This file includes a subset of the larger dataset of information about all flights that departed from Seattle and Portland in 2014. More information about this dataset and its **R** package is available at http://github.com/ismayc/pnwflights14. This subset includes only Portland flights and only rows that were complete with no missing values. Merges were also done with the `airports` and `airlines` data sets in the `pnwflights14` package to get more descriptive airport and airline names.

We can load in this data set using the following command:

```
flights <- read.csv("data/flights.csv")
```

The data is now stored in the data frame called `flights` in **R**. To get a better feel for the variables included in this dataset we can use a variety of functions. Here we can see the dimensions (rows by columns) and also the names of the columns.

```
dim(flights)
```

```
## [1] 52808    16
```

```
names(flights)
```

```
##  [1] "month"        "day"          "dep_time"     "dep_delay"
##  [5] "arr_time"     "arr_delay"    "carrier"      "tailnum"
##  [9] "flight"       "dest"         "air_time"     "distance"
## [13] "hour"         "minute"       "carrier_name" "dest_name"
```

Another good idea is to take a look at the dataset in table form. With this dataset having more than 50,000 rows, we won't explicitly show the results of the command here. I recommend you enter the command into the Console ***after*** you have run the **R** chunks above to load the data into **R**.

```
View(flights)
```

While not required, it is highly recommended you use the `dplyr` package to manipulate and summarize your data set as needed. It uses a syntax that is easy to understand using chaining operations. Below I've created a few examples of using `dplyr` to get information about the Portland flights in 2014. You will also see the use of the `ggplot2` package, which produces beautiful, high-quality academic visuals.

We begin by checking to ensure that needed packages are installed and then we load them into our current working environment:

```
# List of packages required for this analysis
pkg <- c("dplyr", "ggplot2", "knitr", "bookdown", "devtools")
# Check if packages are not installed and assign the
# names of the packages not installed to the variable new.pkg
new.pkg <- pkg[!(pkg %in% installed.packages())]
# If there are any packages in the list that aren't installed,
# install them
if (length(new.pkg))
  install.packages(new.pkg, repos = "http://cran.rstudio.com")
# Load packages (thesisdown will load all of the packages as well)
library(thesisdown)
```

The example we show here does the following:

- Selects only the `carrier_name` and `arr_delay` from the `flights` dataset and then assigns this subset to a new variable called `flights2`.
- Using `flights2`, we determine the largest arrival delay for each of the carriers.

```
flights2 <- flights %>%
  select(carrier_name, arr_delay)
max_delays <- flights2 %>%
  group_by(carrier_name) %>%
  summarize(max_arr_delay = max(arr_delay, na.rm = TRUE))
```

A useful function in the `knitr` package for making nice tables in *R Markdown* is called `kable`. It is much easier to use than manually entering values into a table by copying and pasting values into Excel or LaTeX. This again goes to show how nice reproducible documents can be! (Note the use of `results="asis"`, which will produce the table instead of the code to create the table.) The `caption.short` argument is used to include a shorter title to appear in the List of Tables.

```
kable(max_delays,
      col.names = c("Airline", "Max Arrival Delay"),
      caption = "Maximum Delays by Airline",
      caption.short = "Max Delays by Airline",
      longtable = TRUE,
      booktabs = TRUE)
```

Table 1: Maximum Delays by Airline

Airline	Max Arrival Delay
Alaska Airlines Inc.	338
American Airlines Inc.	1539
Delta Air Lines Inc.	651
Frontier Airlines Inc.	575
Hawaiian Airlines Inc.	407
JetBlue Airways	273
SkyWest Airlines Inc.	421
Southwest Airlines Co.	694
United Air Lines Inc.	472
US Airways Inc.	347
Virgin America	366

The last two options make the table a little easier-to-read.

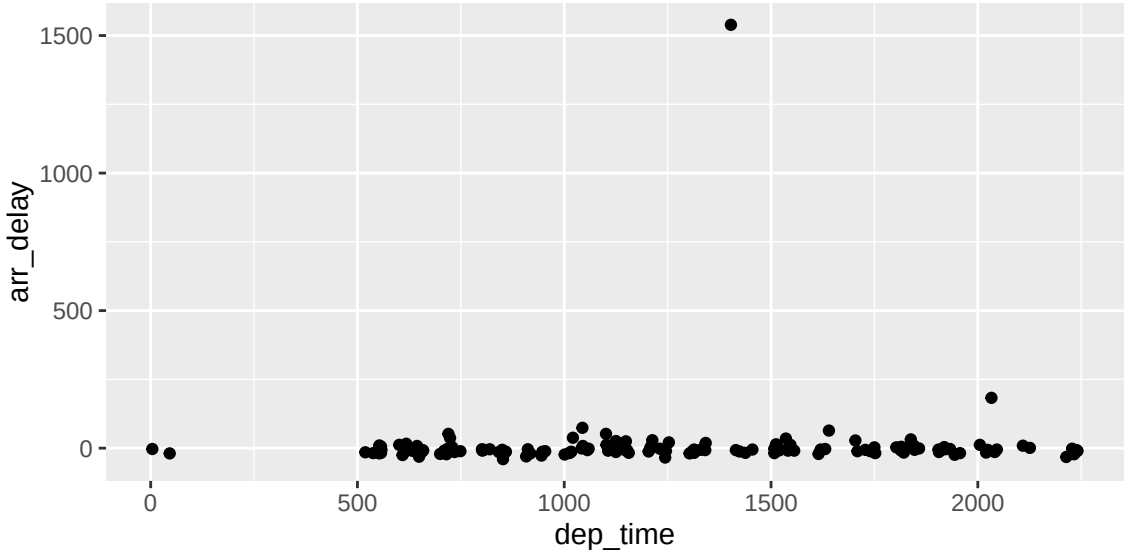
We can further look into the properties of the largest value here for American Airlines Inc. To do so, we can isolate the row corresponding to the arrival delay of 1539 minutes for American in our original `flights` dataset.

```
flights %>% filter(arr_delay == 1539,
                   carrier_name == "American Airlines Inc.") %>%
  select(-c(month, day, carrier, dest_name, hour,
            minute, carrier_name, arr_delay))
```

```
##   dep_time dep_delay arr_time tailnum flight dest air_time distance
## 1     1403      1553     1934  N595AA   1568  DFW      182     1616
```

We see that the flight occurred on March 3rd and departed a little after 2 PM on its way to Dallas/Fort Worth. Lastly, we show how we can visualize the arrival delay of all departing flights from Portland on March 3rd against time of departure.

```
flights %>% filter(month == 3, day == 3) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = dep_time, y = arr_delay)) + geom_point()
```



Additional resources

- *Markdown* Cheatsheet - https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/wiki/Markdown-Cheatsheet
- *R Markdown* Reference Guide - https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf
- Introduction to `dplyr` - https://cran.rstudio.com/web/packages/dplyr/vignettes/introduction.html
- `ggplot2` Documentation - http://docs.ggplot2.org/current/