The Quest for A Perfect Bracket

And a Billion Dollars (Warren Buffet)

Sam Hinkie Resignation Letter

1. [Don’t](http://andrewgelman.com/2007/02/05/some_thoughts_o_1/) model the probability of win, model the expected score differential. Yeah, I know, I know, what you really want to know is who wins. But the most efficient way to get there is to model the score differential and then map that back to win probabilities. The exact same issue comes up in election modeling: it makes sense to predict vote differential and then map that to Pr(win), rather than predicting Pr(win) directly. This is most obvious in very close games (or elections) or blowouts; in either of these settings the win/loss outcome provides essentially zero information. But it’s true more generally that there’s a lot of information in the score (or vote) differential that’s thrown away if you just look at win/loss.