Defense Win Championships?



V E R S U S



Jiaheng Wang

Proposal

- Research Question: Better Defense or Offense leads to team success?
 - Defense or offense made playoffs/win championships?
 - What are the key elements lead to the team success?
 - Predict the championship this year if possible

- Product:
 - Select a team + season
 - Show predicted playoff/championship probability
 - Visualize offensive/defensive contribution



Data Collection

- Collected regular season + playoff team stats (2014–2024) using nba_api
- Integrated top 3 player performance data for each team
- Added advanced metrics: OFF_RATING, DEF_RATING, NET_RATING
- Created playoff and championship labels using merged data

Initial EDA





