# A Consideration of Probability and Runs Scored Major League Baseball Extra-Inning Games

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#### Abstract

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# Introduction

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the subsequent pandemic led to a plethora of questions and concerns in the sporting world, including whether leagues would commit to a 2020 season. For those leagues that did decide to host a 2020 seasons, various protocols were required to ensure the health and safety of the athletes and staff. For instance, the National Hockey League (NHL) Implemented bubbles with all teams within the Western Conference playing within Edmonton, Alberta and all teams within the Eastern Conference within Toronto, Ontario (Gatto, 2020). In a similar move, the National Basketball Association (NBA) established a bubble in Orlando, Florida within which teams could play out the season (Haislop, 2020). However, unlike the use of a bubbled league like the NHL and NBA, Major League Baseball (MLB) permitted teams to play games within their own stadiums, excluding the Toronto Blue Jays who were denied access to play within Canada by the Canadian federal government (McNamara, 2020; Wagner, 2020). In choosing this approach, MLB implemented other policies such as no spitting, masks being required in the dugout and bullpen, and no saunas, and twice-a-day temperature and symptom checks to name a few (Wagner, 2020). One such policy was to also introduce a new rule regarding extra-inning games, tied games that go beyond the regulation nine innings, in hopes of shortening the exposure experienced by players between teams (Allen, 2020). The rule was that if at the completion of the regulation innings a game was tied, each team would begin the subsequent half-inning with the last player to make an out on second base (Allen, 2020). As a rule change to a sport or game should ensure the fairness of the playing field, this paper looks to examine this rule change regarding whether it provides an advantage to the away team in extra-inning games through the probabilities of runs scored based on the state of events in a half-inning. Moreover, it considers whether extra-inning games in general provide an advantage to the away team through the probabilities of runs scored based on the state of events in a half-inning, and discusses strategy within the context of extra-inning games.

# Data

#### Location

This analysis uses game-log and play-by-play data from the 2000 MLB season to the 2020 MLB season. Game-logs and play-by-play files were obtained free of charge from are copyrighted by Retrosheet. Interested parties may contact Retrosheet at "www.retrosheet.org". The play-by-play files were accessed using the parse\_retrosheet\_pbp() function from GitHub user "beanumber", with the process described by Marchi et al. in 'Appendix A' of 'Analyzing Baseball Data with R' (2019c).

Other data files include the fields dataset, which provides the Retrosheet event headers. This can be accessed from from "the baseball\_R GitHub repository maintained by user maxtoki".

# Missing Values

Regarding game-log data, four missing values were found in the regulation length games and two missing values were found in extra-inning games due to tie-games creating neither a winner nor loser. These values were removed from their respective datasets leaving 45,283 observations in regulation length games and 4,197 in extra-inning games.

Play-by-play files were also examined for missing values; however, all missing values belonged to event-type variables (e.g. the play on runner on second), so these values were not removed as doing so would create issues within the data regarding analysis.

# **Exploratory Analysis**

An exploratory analysis comparing home wins against visitor wins for both extra-inning games and regulation length games for all seasons revealed that over all seasons the home team won more games, for both extra-inning games and regulation games (see Figure 1). Breaking down regulation length games by season also showed that across all seasons the home team won more games than the visiting team (see Figure 2 and Table 1). Additionally, breaking down each extra-inning game by season, generally shows the same pattern of the home team winning more games than the visitor, with the home team winning more games in 15 of the 21 seasons (see Figure 2 and Table 2). However, in the 2000 and 2012 seasons both the home team and visitor won an equal number of extra-inning games at 101 and 96 games apiece respectively (see Figure 2 and Table 2). Meanwhile, the visitor won more extra-inning games than the home team in 2001, 2014, 2019, and 2020 (see Figure 2 and Table 2).

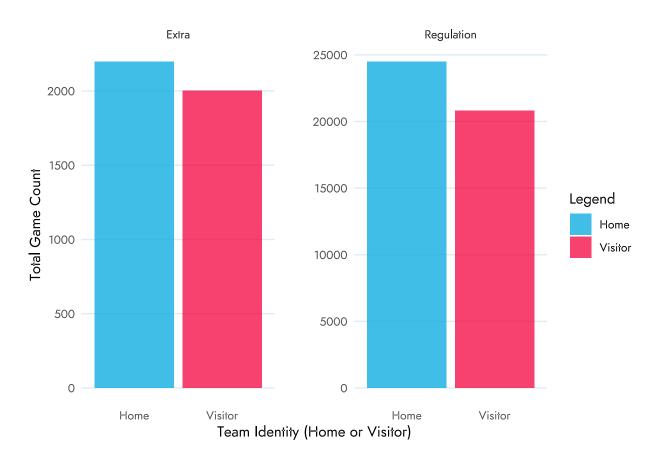


Figure 1: Home vs. Visitor Wins for Extra-Inning Games and Regulation Length Games for MLB Seasons 2000-2020



Figure 2: Home vs. Visitor Wins for Regulation Length Games for MLB Seasons 2000-2020



Figure 3: Home vs. Visitor Wins for Extra-Inning Games for MLB Seasons 2000-2020

Table 1: Regular Inning Win Count for Home and Visitor by Season

| He   | ome    | Visitor |        |  |  |  |
|------|--------|---------|--------|--|--|--|
| Wins | Season | Wins    | Season |  |  |  |
| 1211 | 2000   | 1015    | 2000   |  |  |  |
| 1179 | 2001   | 1054    | 2001   |  |  |  |
| 1199 | 2002   | 1026    | 2002   |  |  |  |
| 1227 | 2003   | 1005    | 2003   |  |  |  |
| 1184 | 2004   | 1026    | 2004   |  |  |  |
| 1209 | 2005   | 1039    | 2005   |  |  |  |
| 1222 | 2006   | 1022    | 2006   |  |  |  |
| 1201 | 2007   | 1010    | 2007   |  |  |  |
| 1243 | 2008   | 977     | 2008   |  |  |  |
| 1227 | 2009   | 1008    | 2009   |  |  |  |
| 1242 | 2010   | 968     | 2010   |  |  |  |
| 1143 | 2011   | 1049    | 2011   |  |  |  |
| 1199 | 2012   | 1039    | 2012   |  |  |  |
| 1182 | 2013   | 1006    | 2013   |  |  |  |
| 1176 | 2014   | 1022    | 2014   |  |  |  |
| 1205 | 2015   | 1012    | 2015   |  |  |  |
| 1194 | 2016   | 1048    | 2016   |  |  |  |
| 1215 | 2017   | 1033    | 2017   |  |  |  |
| 1166 | 2018   | 1049    | 2018   |  |  |  |
| 1187 | 2019   | 1034    | 2019   |  |  |  |
| 462  | 2020   | 368     | 2020   |  |  |  |

Table 2: Extra Inning Win Count for Home and Visitor by Season

| Н    | ome    | Visitor |        |  |  |  |
|------|--------|---------|--------|--|--|--|
| Wins | Season | Wins    | Season |  |  |  |
| 101  | 2000   | 101     | 2000   |  |  |  |
| 94   | 2001   | 101     | 2001   |  |  |  |
| 115  | 2002   | 85      | 2002   |  |  |  |
| 108  | 2003   | 89      | 2003   |  |  |  |
| 115  | 2004   | 103     | 2004   |  |  |  |
| 97   | 2005   | 85      | 2005   |  |  |  |
| 105  | 2006   | 80      | 2006   |  |  |  |
| 117  | 2007   | 103     | 2007   |  |  |  |
| 108  | 2008   | 100     | 2008   |  |  |  |
| 106  | 2009   | 89      | 2009   |  |  |  |
| 116  | 2010   | 104     | 2010   |  |  |  |
| 133  | 2011   | 104     | 2011   |  |  |  |
| 96   | 2012   | 96      | 2012   |  |  |  |
| 125  | 2013   | 118     | 2013   |  |  |  |
| 112  | 2014   | 120     | 2014   |  |  |  |
| 111  | 2015   | 101     | 2015   |  |  |  |
| 93   | 2016   | 92      | 2016   |  |  |  |
| 96   | 2017   | 86      | 2017   |  |  |  |
| 117  | 2018   | 99      | 2018   |  |  |  |
| 99   | 2019   | 109     | 2019   |  |  |  |
| 32   | 2020   | 36      | 2020   |  |  |  |

# **Analysis**

# Runs-Expectancy Matrix

To begin, a run expectancy matrix was generated to calculate the average number of runs scored from the different base-out states. In baseball, there are three possible states of outs before an inning is over, e.g., zero, one, or two outs, and each base (i.e., first, second, and third) can either be in a state of being occupied or not occupied. Thereby giving 24 possible base-out states (8 base states x 3 out states = 24 base-out states). This was calculated for each MLB season from 2000 to 2020, as well as for the seasons combined. Table 3 shows the runs-expectancy matrix for the total combined seasons. To read this table, the the first column represents a base state with the next three columns showing an out state. Base states can be read as follows, 0 represents an unoccupied base with 1 representing an occupied base. First base is represented by the first numeral on the left, with second base being the middle numeral, and third base being the right-most numeral. For example, reading the table at the row beginning with 010 means a runner on second with the following average runs in the three out states. Continuing along this row, it can be seen that in this state with no outs an average number of 1.14 runs are scored, which drops to 0.69 average runs with one out, and subsequently 0.33 runs with two outs.

Table 3: Runs Expectancy Matrix for All Seasons (2000-2020) Combined

|     | 0 outs | 1 out | 2 outs |
|-----|--------|-------|--------|
| 000 | 0.51   | 0.27  | 0.10   |
| 001 | 1.42   | 0.97  | 0.37   |
| 010 | 1.14   | 0.69  | 0.33   |
| 011 | 2.01   | 1.41  | 0.58   |
| 100 | 0.89   | 0.53  | 0.23   |
| 101 | 1.80   | 1.18  | 0.50   |
| 110 | 1.49   | 0.92  | 0.44   |
| 111 | 2.32   | 1.58  | 0.77   |

In addition to the average runs scored, the variance and standard deviation of runs scored from a base-out state were also calculated and are displayed in Table 4. Here it can be seen that the base-out state with the greatest standard deviation is the bases loaded and no one out (111 0), with a variance of  $\sigma^2 = 3.34$  and a standard deviation of  $\sigma = 1.83$ . Additionally, the base-out state with the lowest standard deviation is no one on and two outs (000 2), with a variance of  $\sigma^2 = 0.19$  and standard deviation of  $\sigma = 0.44$ . Notably, the base-out state of runner on second and no one out is towards the middle of the base-out states in terms of standard deviation at position 11 of 24 and with a variance of  $\sigma^2 = 1.75$  and standard deviation of  $\sigma = 1.32$  (see Table 4).

Table 4: Distribution and Central Tendency for Expected Runs for All Seasons (2000-2020) Combined

| State | Mean      | Median | Variance  | SD        | Range |
|-------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 000 2 | 0.1046424 | 0      | 0.1932411 | 0.4395920 | 0-9   |
| 100 2 | 0.2302677 | 0      | 0.4787442 | 0.6919134 | 0-9   |
| 010 2 | 0.3271166 | 0      | 0.5500225 | 0.7416350 | 0-10  |
| 000 1 | 0.2710119 | 0      | 0.5524525 | 0.7432715 | 0-12  |
| 001 2 | 0.3675043 | 0      | 0.5692348 | 0.7544765 | 0-11  |
| 110 2 | 0.4414346 | 0      | 0.9641316 | 0.9819020 | 0-11  |
| 101 2 | 0.5005371 | 0      | 1.0014179 | 1.0007087 | 0-12  |
| 000 0 | 0.5073049 | 0      | 1.0712216 | 1.0349984 | 0-14  |
| 001 1 | 0.9651565 | 1      | 1.0829098 | 1.0406295 | 0-11  |
| 100 1 | 0.5301370 | 0      | 1.1275103 | 1.0618429 | 0-12  |
| 010 1 | 0.6884575 | 0      | 1.1835046 | 1.0878900 | 0-12  |
| 011 2 | 0.5810501 | 0      | 1.2328890 | 1.1103553 | 0-10  |
| 001 0 | 1.4167235 | 1      | 1.5863636 | 1.2595093 | 0-11  |
| 010 0 | 1.1377177 | 1      | 1.7483712 | 1.3222599 | 0-14  |
| 101 1 | 1.1820328 | 1      | 1.7944072 | 1.3395549 | 0-12  |
| 111 2 | 0.7683975 | 0      | 1.8166367 | 1.3478267 | 0-11  |
| 100 0 | 0.8898628 | 0      | 1.8304100 | 1.3529265 | 0-14  |
| 110 1 | 0.9208802 | 0      | 1.9351109 | 1.3910827 | 0-12  |
| 011 1 | 1.4071204 | 1      | 2.0222704 | 1.4220655 | 0-12  |
| 101 0 | 1.8008865 | 1      | 2.3904744 | 1.5461159 | 0-13  |
| 011 0 | 2.0092898 | 2      | 2.4080953 | 1.5518039 | 0-13  |
| 110 0 | 1.4887929 | 1      | 2.7390837 | 1.6550177 | 0-14  |
| 111 1 | 1.5750796 | 1      | 2.7714777 | 1.6647756 | 0-11  |
| 111 0 | 2.3238272 | 2      | 3.3451838 | 1.8289844 | 0-13  |

However, while these tables show the average expected runs from a given base-out state, there is also the question as to the probability of a run actually scoring given a base-out state. Table 5 shows the mean of value of at least one run scored given each base-out state. Looking at this table, the base-out state with the greatest probability of one or more runs scoring is the bases loaded and no outs (111 0) with a probability of 0.86, and the lowest probability of one or more runs scoring is no one on and two outs (000 2) with a probability of 0.07. Looking to the base-out state of a runner on second and no outs (010 0), or the starting state for each extra-inning game in the 2020 MLB season, it can be seen that at least one run scoring given that state has a probability of 0.62. This is compared to the standard state of beginning of an inning with no runners and no outs (000 0), which has a probability of 0.28 for at least one or more runs scoring from that state.

Table 5: Probability of Scoring at least One Run from a Given Base-Out State

| State | Run Probability |
|-------|-----------------|
| 111 0 | 0.8599573       |
| 101 0 | 0.8545246       |
| 011 0 | 0.8530866       |
| 001 0 | 0.8394893       |
| 011 1 | 0.6786357       |
| 111 1 | 0.6611908       |
| 001 1 | 0.6556419       |
| 101 1 | 0.6377960       |
| 110 0 | 0.6198359       |
| 010 0 | 0.6184847       |
| 100 0 | 0.4203736       |
| 110 1 | 0.4132753       |
| 010 1 | 0.4012692       |
| 111 2 | 0.3194076       |
| 000 0 | 0.2766934       |
| 101 2 | 0.2739754       |
| 100 1 | 0.2694704       |
| 011 2 | 0.2596885       |
| 001 2 | 0.2578975       |
| 110 2 | 0.2251555       |
| 010 2 | 0.2174605       |
| 000 1 | 0.1625228       |
| 100 2 | 0.1286415       |
| 000 2 | 0.0708171       |

### **State Transitions**

A half-inning of baseball lasts until a third out is made and up to that point the game moves between the various possible base-out states. For example, a regulation half-inning could progress from the first batter as follows: no runners and no outs (000 0), to a runner on first with no outs (100 0), to no runners and two outs (000 2), to runner on second and two outs (010 2), to finally three outs and the end of the half-inning. Using the current base-out and the subsequent new base-out state, a transition table was produced to calculate the frequency at which one state followed another. From this transition table a proportional table was then produced to view the proportion at which one state moved to another. This table is displayed in Table 5. To read this table, each row and column represents a state, with the values in each cell representing the proportion of moving from the base-out state of that row to the corresponding column base-out state. For example, the first row of the table represents the starting state of a half-inning with no runners and no outs (000 0). Looking along this row, the next most likely state is no runners and one out (000 1) at 0.67. Following that, the next most likely state to follow no runners and no outs is runner on first and no outs (100 0) at 0.24. Lastly, any cell with a value of 0 represents a base-out state for which it is not possible for the base-out state of that row to transition. For example, it would not be possible to transition from no runners no outs (000 0) to runner on third and one out (001 1). Looking at the above example, the probability of those series of events would be 0.0009 or  $0.24 \times 0.12 \times 0.05 \times 0.63$ .

Table 6: Proportional Matrix for Transitions Between Base-Out States

| 000           | 0 000 1    | 000 2  | 001 0  | 001 1  | 001 2  | 010 0  | 010 1  | 010 2  | 011 0  | 011 1  | 011 2  | 100 0  | 100 1  | 100 2  | 101 0  | 101 1  | 101 2  | 110 0  | 110 1  | 110 2  | 111 0  | 111 1  | 111 2  | 3      |
|---------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 000 0 0.030   | 6 0.6732   | 0.0000 | 0.0057 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0512 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2393 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 000 1 0.000   | 0 0.0276   | 0.6808 | 0.0000 | 0.0051 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0478 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2386 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 000 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0277 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0046 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0471 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2443 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.6763 |
| 001 0 0.024   | 5 0.2238   | 0.0039 | 0.0062 | 0.4014 | 0.0000 | 0.0506 | 0.0010 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1726 | 0.0048 | 0.0000 | 0.1111 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 001 1 0.000   | 0.0232     | 0.2101 | 0.0000 | 0.0071 | 0.3480 | 0.0000 | 0.0500 | 0.0056 | 0.0000 | 0.0002 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1742 | 0.0232 | 0.0000 | 0.1482 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0103 |
| 001 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0223 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0049 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0433 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1308 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1645 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.6342 |
| 010 0 0.022   | 5 0.0026   | 0.0063 | 0.0052 | 0.2698 | 0.0000 | 0.0481 | 0.3768 | 0.0000 | 0.0044 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0471 | 0.0138 | 0.0000 | 0.0981 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1053 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 010 1 0.000   | 0 0.0244   | 0.0037 | 0.0000 | 0.0058 | 0.1866 | 0.0000 | 0.0514 | 0.4354 | 0.0000 | 0.0032 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0575 | 0.0100 | 0.0000 | 0.0685 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1457 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0078 |
| 010 2   0.000 | 0.0000     | 0.0223 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0062 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0567 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0004 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0801 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0309 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1688 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.6346 |
| 011 0 0.022   | 9 0.0028   | 0.0024 | 0.0057 | 0.1519 | 0.0038 | 0.0526 | 0.0897 | 0.0024 | 0.0057 | 0.3550 | 0.0000 | 0.0504 | 0.0029 | 0.0000 | 0.0935 | 0.0082 | 0.0000 | 0.0084 | 0.0068 | 0.0000 | 0.1347 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 |
| 011 1 0.000   | 0.0183     | 0.0037 | 0.0000 | 0.0060 | 0.1293 | 0.0000 | 0.0483 | 0.0864 | 0.0000 | 0.0054 | 0.2870 | 0.0000 | 0.0542 | 0.0048 | 0.0000 | 0.0772 | 0.0228 | 0.0000 | 0.0069 | 0.0090 | 0.0000 | 0.2277 | 0.0000 | 0.0130 |
| 011 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0202 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0055 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0508 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0718 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0278 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0002 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2033 | 0.6198 |
| 100 0 0.029   | 1 0.0005   | 0.1211 | 0.0054 | 0.0026 | 0.0000 | 0.0144 | 0.1127 | 0.0000 | 0.0357 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 | 0.4341 | 0.0000 | 0.0411 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2031 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 100 1 0.000   | 0.0293     | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0061 | 0.0028 | 0.0000 | 0.0158 | 0.0833 | 0.0000 | 0.0330 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0002 | 0.4483 | 0.0000 | 0.0439 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.2073 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1293 |
| 100 2   0.000 | 0.0000     | 0.0290 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0068 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0226 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0224 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0482 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1930 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.6772 |
| 101 0 0.029   | 5 0.0009   | 0.0846 | 0.0061 | 0.0025 | 0.0105 | 0.0144 | 0.0488 | 0.0034 | 0.0374 | 0.0460 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 | 0.1720 | 0.0039 | 0.0362 | 0.2508 | 0.0000 | 0.1505 | 0.0224 | 0.0000 | 0.0798 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0004 |
| 101 1   0.000 | 0.0270     | 0.0007 | 0.0000 | 0.0065 | 0.0031 | 0.0000 | 0.0157 | 0.0634 | 0.0000 | 0.0364 | 0.0274 | 0.0000 | 0.0002 | 0.1702 | 0.0000 | 0.0403 | 0.2327 | 0.0000 | 0.1424 | 0.0172 | 0.0000 | 0.0831 | 0.0000 | 0.1336 |
| 101 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0246 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0074 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0225 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0226 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0440 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1058 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1023 | 0.6702 |
| 110 0   0.028 | 5   0.0005 | 0.0002 | 0.0055 | 0.0012 | 0.0913 | 0.0134 | 0.0025 | 0.0110 | 0.0349 | 0.1265 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 | 0.0023 | 0.0088 | 0.0251 | 0.1020 | 0.0000 | 0.0387 | 0.3391 | 0.0000 | 0.1673 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0011 |
| 110 1 0.000   | 0.0283     | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0062 | 0.0016 | 0.0000 | 0.0162 | 0.0040 | 0.0000 | 0.0356 | 0.0711 | 0.0000 | 0.0002 | 0.0036 | 0.0000 | 0.0302 | 0.0973 | 0.0000 | 0.0482 | 0.3717 | 0.0000 | 0.1553 | 0.0000 | 0.1299 |
| 110 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0254 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0078 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0239 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0264 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0005 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0430 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0495 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1267 | 0.6968 |
| 111 0 0.027   | 8 0.0006   | 0.0002 | 0.0057 | 0.0022 | 0.0751 | 0.0144 | 0.0034 | 0.0033 | 0.0429 | 0.0419 | 0.0273 | 0.0001 | 0.0027 | 0.0015 | 0.0236 | 0.0993 | 0.0036 | 0.0458 | 0.0695 | 0.0057 | 0.1725 | 0.3303 | 0.0000 | 0.0008 |
| 111 1 0.000   | 0 0.0274   | 0.0008 | 0.0000 | 0.0072 | 0.0016 | 0.0000 | 0.0148 | 0.0033 | 0.0000 | 0.0405 | 0.0476 | 0.0000 | 0.0001 | 0.0033 | 0.0000 | 0.0270 | 0.0966 | 0.0000 | 0.0478 | 0.0793 | 0.0000 | 0.1591 | 0.3085 | 0.1352 |
| 111 2 0.000   | 0.0000     | 0.0257 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0094 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0249 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0280 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0006 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0439 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0486 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.1157 | 0.7033 |
| 0.000         | 0.0000     | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 1.0000 |

To specifically examine the transition states following runner on second and no outs, Table 7 was created to filter for only the transition proportions following that state. Looking at this table it can be seen that the next most likely state following a runner on second and no outs is a runner on second with one out (010 1) at 0.38. This state is followed in likelihood by a runner on third with one out (001 1) at 0.27. However, this table only shows the next most likely base-out state after one at-bat. Alternatively, Table 8 shows the the likelihood of new base-out states after two at-bats, from which it can be seen that the most likely base-out state is runner on third and two outs (001 2) at 0.174. This is additionally followed in likelihood by runner on second and two outs (010 2) at 0.168. Lastly, Table 89shows the likelihood of base-out states after three at-bats from the beginning state of runner on second and no outs. In this table it can be seen that the most likely state is three outs at 0.33. This is followed in likelihood by runner on first and two outs at 0.12.

Table 7: Probability of Next Base-Out State After One At-Bat for Man on Second no Outs

| state | new_state | prob   |
|-------|-----------|--------|
| 010 0 | 010 1     | 0.3768 |
| 010 0 | 001 1     | 0.2698 |
| 010 0 | 110 0     | 0.1053 |
| 010 0 | 101 0     | 0.0981 |
| 010 0 | 010 0     | 0.0481 |
| 010 0 | 100 0     | 0.0471 |
| 010 0 | 000 0     | 0.0225 |
| 010 0 | 100 1     | 0.0138 |
| 010 0 | 000 2     | 0.0063 |
| 010 0 | 001 0     | 0.0052 |
| 010 0 | 011 0     | 0.0044 |
| 010 0 | 000 1     | 0.0026 |
| 010 0 | 001 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 010 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 011 1     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 011 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 100 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 101 1     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 101 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 110 1     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 110 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 111 0     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 111 1     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 111 2     | 0.0000 |
| 010 0 | 3         | 0.0000 |
|       |           |        |

Table 8: Probability of Next Base-Out State After Two At-Bats for Man on Second no Outs

| state | new_state | prob      |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| 010 0 | 001 2     | 0.1749296 |
| 010 0 | 010 2     | 0.1685183 |
| 010 0 | 100 1     | 0.1075513 |
| 010 0 | 101 1     | 0.1017811 |
| 010 0 | 110 1     | 0.0956951 |
| 010 0 | 000 2     | 0.0743900 |
| 010 0 | 010 1     | 0.0620825 |
| 010 0 | 110 0     | 0.0335071 |
| 010 0 | 000 1     | 0.0325420 |
| 010 0 | 111 0     | 0.0260377 |
| 010 0 | 011 1     | 0.0211102 |
| 010 0 | 001 1     | 0.0204255 |
| 010 0 | 100 2     | 0.0190622 |
| 010 0 | 101 0     | 0.0138378 |
| 010 0 | 3         | 0.0119185 |
| 010 0 | 000 0     | 0.0092645 |
| 010 0 | 011 0     | 0.0092626 |
| 010 0 | 100 0     | 0.0087941 |
| 010 0 | 010 0     | 0.0074621 |
| 010 0 | 001 0     | 0.0018676 |
| 010 0 | 011 2     | 0.0000000 |
| 010 0 | 101 2     | 0.0000000 |
| 010 0 | 110 2     | 0.0000000 |
| 010 0 | 111 1     | 0.0000000 |
| 010 0 | 111 2     | 0.0000000 |
|       |           |           |

Table 9: Probability of Next Base-Out State After Three At-Bats for Man on Second no Outs

| state | new_state | prob      |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| 010 0 | 3         | 0.3339878 |
| 010 0 | 100 2     | 0.1220308 |
| 010 0 | 110 2     | 0.0697838 |
| 010 0 | 101 2     | 0.0684726 |
| 010 0 | 010 2     | 0.0663515 |
| 010 0 | 110 1     | 0.0641374 |
| 010 0 | 000 2     | 0.0395434 |
| 010 0 | 111 1     | 0.0367265 |
| 010 0 | 101 1     | 0.0301724 |
| 010 0 | 001 2     | 0.0297609 |
| 010 0 | 100 1     | 0.0225814 |
| 010 0 | 011 1     | 0.0202319 |
| 010 0 | 000 1     | 0.0186301 |
| 010 0 | 010 1     | 0.0171181 |
| 010 0 | 011 2     | 0.0168566 |
| 010 0 | 111 0     | 0.0124492 |
| 010 0 | 110 0     | 0.0072215 |
| 010 0 | 001 1     | 0.0070335 |
| 010 0 | 101 0     | 0.0041235 |
| 010 0 | 100 0     | 0.0033659 |
| 010 0 | 011 0     | 0.0032037 |
| 010 0 | 000 0     | 0.0030522 |
| 010 0 | 010 0     | 0.0025648 |
| 010 0 | 001 0     | 0.0006206 |
| 010 0 | 111 2     | 0.0000000 |

### **Runs Simulation**

As a final analysis a multi-chain analysis was performed to simulate the number of runs scored in a half-inning across all seasons. For this analysis, runs scored was simulated using the formula  $RUNS = (N_{runners}^{(b)} + O^{(b)} + O^{(b)} + O^{(b)} + O^{(a)})$ , where runs scored RUNS is equal to difference between the sum of runners  $N_{runners}$  and outs O before (b) the event plus one (1) and the number of runners  $N_{runners}$  plus outs O after (a) after the event (Marchi et al., 2019b). The multi-chain analysis was computed by computing the number of runs for a given state using the given formula and then samples of size one (1) were selected for the length of a vector of length 25 using the probability weights from the given transition matrix. Runs were then returned as an indexed location from the calculated runs as weighted by the probabilities provided by the transition matrix. The simulation was then set to run for 20,000 simulations, results of which can be seen in Table 10. From this table it can be seen that the most likely outcome in a half-inning is that no runs are scored at 0.73. Additionally, the probability of scoring only one run can be seen as 0.14, whereas the probability of scoring one or more runs can be seen as 0.27. Lastly, the probability of scoring two or more runs in a half-inning is 0.13, slightly less than the probability of scoring only one run at 0.14.

Table 10: Multi-Chain Analysis: Possible Runs Scored in Half-Inning Across 20,000 Simulations

| runs_simulation | Freq  |
|-----------------|-------|
| 0               | 14760 |
| 1               | 2837  |
| 2               | 1276  |
| 3               | 620   |
| 4               | 286   |
| 5               | 128   |
| 6               | 48    |
| 7               | 27    |
| 8               | 11    |
| 9               | 7     |

### Discussion

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