# Adjusted Home Run Frequencies

#### Jason Osborne and Rich Levine

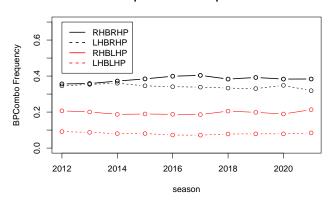
# Adjusted hr frequencies, 2012-2021.

Let us see how the batter-pitcher combination (bpcombo) frequencies have varied over time

```
##
              PIT_HAND_CD
## BAT_HAND_CD
             L 0.08054097 0.34107305
##
##
             R 0.19685160 0.38153439
## [1] "by Batter Hand (row sums)"
## 0.421614 0.578386
## [1] "by Pitcher Hand (col sums)"
##
           L
## 0.2773926 0.7226074
## [1] "Conditionally on Batter Hand"
##
              PIT_HAND_CD
## BAT_HAND_CD
                                  R
                       L
             L 0.1910301 0.8089699
##
             R 0.3403464 0.6596536
##
  [1] "Conditionally on Pitcher Hand"
              PIT_HAND_CD
## BAT_HAND_CD
                                  R
                       L
             L 0.2903501 0.4720032
##
             R 0.7096499 0.5279968
##
  [1] "All four relative freqs as a vector"
##
     BAT_HAND_CD PIT_HAND_CD
                                    Freq
## 1
               L
                           L 0.08054097
## 2
               R
                           L 0.19685160
## 3
                           R 0.34107305
               L
## 4
               R
                           R 0.38153439
```

These four bycombo frequencies have changed little over time, though the preference for LHB when facing RHP may have decreased slightly.

#### Batter/pitcher combo frqs over time

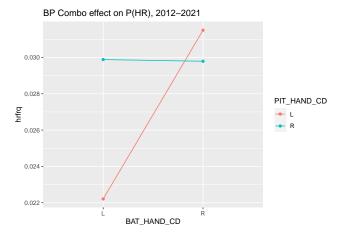


The effects of bycombo on home run frequency can be investigated with an interaction plot, generated with data from 2012-2021:

allyrs.12vars %>% group\_by(BAT\_HAND\_CD,PIT\_HAND\_CD) %>% summarize(hrfrq=mean(hr)) -> hrfrq.bp.era hrfrq.bp.era

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
                BAT HAND CD [2]
  # Groups:
     BAT_HAND_CD PIT_HAND_CD
##
                               hrfrq
##
     <chr>>
                  <chr>
                                <dbl>
## 1 L
                  L
                               0.0222
## 2 L
                  R
                               0.0299
## 3 R
                  L
                               0.0315
## 4 R
                               0.0298
```

```
ggplot(hrfrq.bp.era,aes(y=hrfrq,x=BAT_HAND_CD,color=PIT_HAND_CD)) +
geom_line(aes(group=PIT_HAND_CD)) + geom_point() +
ggtitle("BP Combo effect on P(HR), 2012-2021")
```



Looking over this 10 year period, it can be seen that home runs are least likely when a LHB is facing a LHP. Remarkably, the effect of the batter hand only appears to matter when facing lefties. Wow!

For a given park, the frequencies of the four combinations can vary dramatically from one season to the next, depending upon the personnel of the home team and with the unbalanced schedules of years past, upon the personnel of other teams in the division. In light of bpcombo effects, home run frequencies for each park can be adjusted to league-wide bpcombo frequencies simply by reweighting the four conditional home run rates

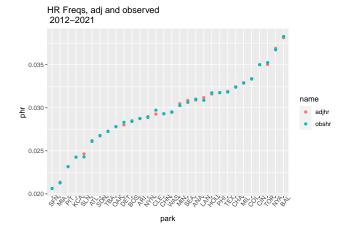
to the these frequencies.

These adjusted frequencies can be plotted against park, along with the unadjusted frequencies. Further investigation of changes over time is warranted though, as a glance at 10-year averages still shows considerable variability in bpcombo frequencies across parks. It must be kept in mind that many players reside with the same team for long periods of time, so these 10 years are not at all independent. However, we average anyway

A technique worth mentioning in the construction of this plot is to achieve an ordering of parks on the horizontal axis according to either the observed or adjusted home run rate by so ordering the levels of park as a factor.

Now ggplot can be used ...

```
ggplot(hrsummary.tall) + geom_point(aes(y=phr,x=park,color=name)) +
theme(axis.text.x=element_text(angle=50)) +
ggtitle("HR Freqs, adj and observed \n 2012-2021")
```



Ok, let us consider those teams for which the observed and adjusted hr freqs were different.

```
hrsummary.wide %>% mutate(adjmnt=adjhr-obshr) %>%
  arrange(abs(adjmnt)) -> hrsummary.wide; hrsummary.wide %>% tail
## # A tibble: 6 x 8
## # Groups:
               park [6]
##
     park
              L_L
                     L_R
                                   R_R adjhr
                                                         adjmnt
                            R_L
                                               obshr
##
            <dbl>
                  <dbl>
                          <dbl>
                                 <dbl>
                                        <dbl>
                                               <dbl>
                                                          <dbl>
           0.0252 0.0330 0.0359 0.0384 0.0350 0.0352 -0.000223
## 1 TOR
## 2 MIN
           0.0187 0.0275 0.0352 0.0332 0.0305 0.0302
## 3 DET
           0.0218 0.0261 0.0342 0.0278 0.0280 0.0283 -0.000294
## 4 LAN
           0.0266 0.0340 0.0294 0.0305 0.0312 0.0309
           0.0184\ 0.0243\ 0.0312\ 0.0229\ 0.0246\ 0.0243
## 5 SLN
                                                       0.000357
## 6 CLE
           0.0184 0.0322 0.0290 0.0291 0.0293 0.0297 -0.000453
```

These differences between observed relative frequencies are small, but the number of plate appearances is large:

```
allyrs.12vars %>% group_by(park) %>% summarize(pa=n(),hr=sum(hr)) %>%
inner_join(hrsummary.wide) %>% mutate(hrdiff=adjmnt*pa) %>%
arrange(abs(hrdiff)) -> hrsummary.wide ; hrsummary.wide %>% tail
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 11
##
     park
              pa
                    hr
                          L_L
                                 L_R
                                        R_L
                                               R_R adjhr
                                                           obshr
                                                                     adjmnt hrdiff
##
     <chr> <int> <int>
                       <dbl>
                              <dbl> <dbl>
                                            <dbl>
                                                    <dbl>
                                                           <dbl>
                                                                      <dbl>
                                                                             <dbl>
                  2022 0.0252 0.0330 0.0359 0.0384 0.0350 0.0352 -0.000223
                                                                             -12.8
## 2 MIN
           58421
                  1767 0.0187 0.0275 0.0352 0.0332 0.0305 0.0302
                                                                  0.000225
                                                                              13.1
                  1623 0.0218 0.0261 0.0342 0.0278 0.0280 0.0283 -0.000294
## 3 DET
           57347
                                                                             -16.9
## 4 LAN
           56243
                  1736 0.0266 0.0340 0.0294 0.0305 0.0312 0.0309 0.000307
                                                                              17.2
## 5 SLN
           56990
                  1384 0.0184 0.0243 0.0312 0.0229 0.0246 0.0243 0.000357
                                                                              20.4
## 6 CLE
           57104 1697 0.0184 0.0322 0.0290 0.0291 0.0293 0.0297 -0.000453
```

Each of the six teams that have the largest absolute adjustment have an extreme value either for proportion of LHB or proportion of LHP. First the parks that host the *fewest* plate appearances by LHB:

```
allyrs.12vars %% select(park,BAT_HAND_CD) %% table %% prop.table(margin="park") %>%
  as.data.frame() %>% pivot_wider(values_from=Freq,names_from=BAT_HAND_CD) %>%
  arrange(L) -> BHbyPark
BHbyPark %>% head
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     park
               L
##
     <fct> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 ANA
           0.380 0.620
## 2 DET
           0.382 0.618
## 3 TOR
           0.383 0.617
## 4 CHA
           0.390 0.610
## 5 HOU
           0.396 0.604
## 6 MIA
           0.397 0.603
```

Now for the *most* plate appearances by LHB

#### BHbyPark %>% tail

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     park
               L
                      R
##
     <fct> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 SFN
           0.444 0.556
## 2 PHI
           0.455 0.545
## 3 NYN
           0.457 0.543
## 4 MIN
           0.458 0.542
## 5 SEA
           0.468 0.532
## 6 CLE
           0.519 0.481
```

Note that DET and TOR both see large downward adjustment and host the  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  lowest LHB frequencies at 38%. CLE and MIN see large upward adjustment and host the most and third most LHB, respectively (52% and 46% LHB!).

The other two teams for which adjustments are largest have extremes for plate appearances involving LHP:

```
allyrs.12vars %>% select(park,PIT_HAND_CD) %>% table %>% prop.table(margin="park") %>%
  as.data.frame() %>% pivot_wider(values_from=Freq,names_from=PIT_HAND_CD) %>%
  arrange(L) -> PHbyPark
PHbyPark %>% head
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
                      R
     park
               L
     <fct> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 MIL
           0.206 0.794
## 2 SLN
           0.206 0.794
## 3 CIN
           0.206 0.794
## 4 CLE
           0.215 0.785
## 5 MIA
           0.243 0.757
## 6 NYN
           0.243 0.757
PHbyPark %>% tail
```

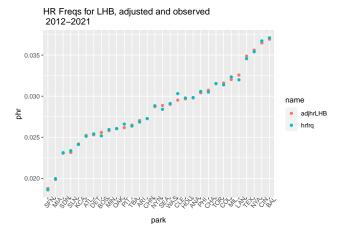
```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
               L
     park
     <fct> <dbl> <dbl>
##
## 1 SFN
           0.320 0.680
## 2 CHA
           0.323 0.677
## 3 TEX
           0.326 0.674
## 4 BOS
           0.327 0.673
## 5 SEA
           0.339 0.661
           0.362 0.638
## 6 LAN
```

Dodger Stadium (LAN) has seen the greatest number of plate appearances with a LHP (36%) while Busch (SLN) has seen the second fewest (21%.) The variation in frequency of LHB across parks (38% for ANA up to 52% for CLE) and LHP (21% for MIL up to 36% for LAN) is remarkable. Lineups and rotations are perhaps more stable than one might think given all the personnel changes by high-profile free agents.

## HR v park plots separated by batterhand

The adjusted HR Frequency for LHB is the weighted average of observed HR frequencies against LHP and RHP, with weights given by the conditionals from bpcombos on page 1

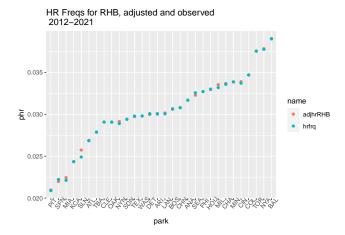
```
allyrs.12vars %>% select(BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>% table %>%
  prop.table(margin="BAT_HAND_CD") -> bhtable
# compute observed hr frqs by park
allyrs.12vars %>% group_by(park,BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>%
 summarize(hrfrq=mean(hr)) %>%
 pivot wider(values from=hrfrq,
              names from=c("BAT HAND CD", "PIT HAND CD")) ->
 hrsummary.wide
# compute weighted HR freq for LHB and for RHB
hrsummary.wide %>%
  mutate(adjhrLHB=bhtable[1,1]*L_L+bhtable[1,2]*L_R,
         adjhrRHB=bhtable[2,1]*R_L+bhtable[2,2]*R_R) ->
hrsummary.wide
# hrfrs by hand not adjusted for pitcher hand
allyrs.12vars %>% group_by(park,BAT_HAND_CD) %>%
  summarize(hrfrq=mean(hr)) %>%
  inner_join(hrsummary.wide) -> hrsummary.wide
# make LHB tall
hrsummary.wide %>% filter(BAT_HAND_CD=="L") -> hrsummary.wide.LHB
hrsummary.wide.LHB$park <- factor(hrsummary.wide.LHB$park,</pre>
levels=hrsummary.wide.LHB$park[order(hrsummary.wide.LHB$adjhrLHB)])
hrsummary.wide.LHB %>%
  pivot_longer(cols=c("adjhrLHB","hrfrq"),values_to="phr") ->
 hrsummary.tall.LHB
# plot LHB
ggplot(hrsummary.tall.LHB) + geom_point(aes(y=phr,x=park,color=name))+
  theme(axis.text.x=element_text(angle=50)) +
  ggtitle("HR Freqs for LHB, adjusted and observed \n 2012-2021")
```



# Similarly for RHB,

```
hrsummary.wide %>% filter(BAT_HAND_CD=="R") -> hrsummary.wide.RHB
hrsummary.wide.RHB$park <- factor(hrsummary.wide.RHB$park,
  levels=hrsummary.wide.RHB$park[order(hrsummary.wide.RHB$adjhrRHB)])
hrsummary.wide.RHB %>%
  pivot_longer(cols=c("adjhrRHB","hrfrq"),values_to="phr") ->
  hrsummary.tall.RHB

# plot RHB
ggplot(hrsummary.tall.RHB) + geom_point(aes(y=phr,x=park,color=name)) +
  theme(axis.text.x=element_text(angle=50)) +
  ggtitle("HR Freqs for RHB, adjusted and observed \n 2012-2021")
```

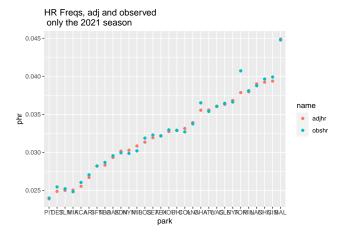


To investigate variability of adjusted and unadjusted HR freqs and also variability among rankings, we will here obtain graphs for the 2021 season alone. Firstly, HR freqs averaged over BH, to be followed by separate plots for LHB and RHB.

```
bpfrqs.2021 <- bpfrq.byyear[,,10] # computed earlier</pre>
allyrs.12vars %>% filter(season==2021) %>%
  group_by(park,BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>%
  summarize(hrfrq=mean(hr)) %>% pivot_wider(values_from=hrfrq,
                                names from=c("BAT HAND CD", "PIT HAND CD")) ->
 hrsummary.wide.2021
hrsummary.wide.2021 %>% mutate(adjhr=bpfrqs.2021[1,1]*L_L + bpfrqs.2021[1,2]*L_R +
                                bpfrqs.2021[2,1]*R_L + bpfrqs.2021[2,2]*R_R) ->
 hrsummary.wide.2021
# unadjusted
allyrs.12vars %>% filter(season==2021) %>% group_by(park) %>% summarize(obshr=mean(hr)) -> hrfrqs.bypar
hrsummary.wide.2021 %% inner_join(hrfrqs.bypark.2021) -> hrsummary.wide.2021
hrsummary.wide.2021$park <- factor(hrsummary.wide.2021$park,
                     levels=hrsummary.wide.2021$park[order(hrsummary.wide.2021$adjhr)])
hrsummary.wide.2021 %>% pivot_longer(cols=c("adjhr", "obshr"), values_to="phr") ->
  hrsummary.tall.2021
```

Now ggplot can be used ...

```
ggplot(hrsummary.tall.2021) + geom_point(aes(y=phr,x=park,color=name)) +
   ggtitle("HR Freqs, adj and observed \n only the 2021 season")
```



The data:

```
hrsummary.tall.2021 %>% print(n=60)
```

```
## # A tibble: 60 x 7
##
  # Groups:
           park [30]
##
    park
            L L
                 L_R
                       R_L
                            R R name
                                      phr
          <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
##
    <fct>
                                     <dbl>
         0.0465 0.0374 0.0323 0.0291 adjhr 0.0339
##
   1 ANA
##
   2 ANA
         0.0465  0.0374  0.0323  0.0291 obshr  0.0337
   3 ARI
         0.0187 0.0303 0.0282 0.0246 adjhr 0.0267
         ##
   4 ARI
##
  5 ATL
         0.0302 0.0364 0.0312 0.0385 adjhr 0.0356
         ##
  6 ATL
##
  7 BAL
         0.0336 0.0490 0.0458 0.0435 adjhr 0.0449
         ## 8 BAL
```

```
## 9 BOS
          0.0127 0.0293 0.0355 0.0349 adjhr 0.0313
          ## 10 BOS
## 11 CHA
          0.00968 0.0404 0.0357 0.0371 adjhr 0.0355
## 12 CHA
          0.00968 0.0404 0.0357 0.0371 obshr 0.0365
## 13 CHN
          0.0147   0.0421   0.0457   0.0387   adjhr   0.0392
## 14 CHN
          0.0147 0.0421 0.0457 0.0387 obshr 0.0396
## 15 CIN
          0.0272 0.0438 0.0346 0.0410 adjhr 0.0394
## 16 CIN
          ## 17 CLE
          0.0205 0.0363 0.0467 0.0340 adjhr 0.0363
## 18 CLE
          ## 19 COL
          0.0250 0.0306 0.0393 0.0336 adjhr 0.0331
## 20 COL
          ## 21 DET
          0.005
                 0.0223 0.0328 0.0269 adjhr 0.0249
## 22 DET
          0.005
                  0.0223 0.0328 0.0269 obshr 0.0255
## 23 HOU
          0.0426 0.0308 0.0295 0.0340 adjhr 0.0327
## 24 HOU
          0.0426
                 0.0308 0.0295 0.0340 obshr 0.0330
## 25 KCA
          0.0120
                 0.0269 0.0336 0.0229 adjhr 0.0255
## 26 KCA
          0.0120
                 0.0269 0.0336 0.0229 obshr 0.0261
## 27 LAN
          0.0316  0.0366  0.0468  0.0383 adjhr  0.0390
## 28 LAN
          0.0316
                 0.0366 0.0468 0.0383 obshr 0.0388
## 29 MIA
          0.0148 0.0301 0.0274 0.0218 adjhr 0.0250
## 30 MIA
          0.0148
                 0.0301 0.0274 0.0218 obshr 0.0248
                 0.0232 0.0407 0.0332 adjhr 0.0308
## 31 MIL
          0.0240
                 0.0232 0.0407 0.0332 obshr 0.0302
## 32 MIL
          0.0240
## 33 MIN
          0.0189 0.0400 0.0407 0.0390 adjhr 0.0380
## 34 MIN
          ## 35 NYA
          0.0332 0.0389 0.0374 0.0356 adjhr 0.0368
          ## 36 NYA
## 37 NYN
          0.00837 0.0318 0.04
                              0.0285 adjhr 0.0303
## 38 NYN
          0.00837 0.0318 0.04
                              0.0285 obshr 0.0299
## 39 OAK
          0.0454
                 0.0318 0.0312 0.0227 adjhr 0.0293
## 40 OAK
          0.0454
                 0.0318 0.0312 0.0227 obshr 0.0296
## 41 PHI
          0.0201
                 0.0350 0.0347 0.0329 adjhr 0.0329
## 42 PHI
                 0.0350 0.0347 0.0329 obshr 0.0329
          0.0201
## 43 PIT
          0.0195
                 0.0277 0.0304 0.0181 adjhr 0.0239
## 44 PIT
          0.0195   0.0277   0.0304   0.0181 obshr   0.0240
## 45 SDN
          0.0212 0.0263 0.0320 0.0343 adjhr 0.0302
## 46 SDN
          0.0212
                 0.0263 0.0320 0.0343 obshr 0.0299
## 47 SEA
          0.0223
                 0.0358 0.0454 0.0233 adjhr 0.0319
## 48 SEA
          ## 49 SFN
                 0.0323 0.0255 0.0280 adjhr 0.0282
          0.0204
## 50 SFN
          0.0204
                 0.0323 0.0255 0.0280 obshr 0.0282
## 51 SLN
          0.0206
                 0.0189 0.0322 0.0271 adjhr 0.0250
## 52 SLN
          0.0206  0.0189  0.0322  0.0271 obshr  0.0252
## 53 TBA
          0.0151
                 0.0295 0.0376 0.0251 adjhr 0.0283
## 54 TBA
                 0.0295 0.0376 0.0251 obshr 0.0287
          0.0151
## 55 TEX
          0.0312
                 0.0327 0.0282 0.0341 adjhr 0.0322
## 56 TEX
          0.0312
                 0.0327 0.0282 0.0341 obshr 0.0322
## 57 TOR
          0.0318
                 0.0260 0.0419 0.0468 adjhr 0.0379
## 58 TOR
          0.0318
                0.0260 0.0419 0.0468 obshr 0.0407
          0.0224 0.0407 0.0378 0.0342 adjhr 0.0360
## 59 WAS
## 60 WAS
          0.0224 0.0407 0.0378 0.0342 obshr 0.0361
```

## Leftover page from earlier draft

Were bycombo freqs for CLE different from those of the rest of the league?

```
allyrs.12vars %>% select(park,BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>% table %>%
  prop.table(margin=c("park")) %>% as.data.frame -> teambpfrqs.tall
teambpfrqs.tall %>% filter(park=="CLE") %>% print
```

```
park BAT_HAND_CD PIT_HAND_CD
                                         Freq
## 1
     CLE
                    L
                                L 0.06957481
## 2
     CLE
                    R
                                L 0.14536635
## 3 CLE
                                R 0.44986341
                    L
## 4 CLE
                    R
                                R 0.33519543
```

```
# Glancing back at era frequencies:
bpfrqs.era.vec %>% print
```

For whatever reason, there were considerably more PA involving Pitchers and Batters of the same hand (RHBRHP or LHBLHP) at Jacobs Field, resulting in upward adjustment to era frequencies (so long as CLE conditional HR rates not too different.)

For other teams, we compute team combo frequencies relative era combo frequencies

```
allyrs.12vars %>% group_by(BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>% summarize(count=n()) %>%
  ungroup %>% mutate(relFreq=count/sum(count)) -> bptotals
teambpfrqs.tall %>% inner_join(bptotals) %>%
  mutate(team2era = Freq/relFreq) -> team2era
team2era %>% arrange(park,BAT_HAND_CD,PIT_HAND_CD) %>%
  filter(park %in% c("CLE","SLN","LAN","DET","MIN","TOR")) %>% print
```

```
##
      park BAT_HAND_CD PIT_HAND_CD
                                                          relFreq team2era
                                          Freq count
## 1
       CLE
                     L
                                  L 0.06957481 139051 0.08054097 0.8638437
## 2
       CLE
                     L
                                  R 0.44986341 588850 0.34107305 1.3189650
## 3
       CLE
                     R
                                  L 0.14536635 339857 0.19685160 0.7384565
## 4
       CLE
                     R.
                                  R 0.33519543 658705 0.38153439 0.8785458
## 5
       DET
                     L
                                  L 0.06240954 139051 0.08054097 0.7748795
## 6
       DET
                     L
                                  R 0.31973774 588850 0.34107305 0.9374465
## 7
       DET
                     R
                                  L 0.22011614 339857 0.19685160 1.1181831
## 8
       DET
                                  R 0.39773659 658705 0.38153439 1.0424659
                     R
## 9
       LAN
                     L
                                  L 0.11238732 139051 0.08054097 1.3954056
                                  R 0.30554914 588850 0.34107305 0.8958466
## 10
       LAN
                     L
##
  11
       LAN
                     R
                                  L 0.25007556 339857 0.19685160 1.2703761
                                  R 0.33198798 658705 0.38153439 0.8701391
## 12
       LAN
                     R
##
  13
       MIN
                     L
                                  L 0.08060458 139051 0.08054097 1.0007898
                                  R 0.37734719 588850 0.34107305 1.1063530
## 14
       MTN
                     Τ.
## 15
      MIN
                     R
                                  L 0.18827134 339857 0.19685160 0.9564126
## 16
       MIN
                     R
                                  R 0.35377690 658705 0.38153439 0.9272477
## 17
       SLN
                     L
                                  L 0.06211616 139051 0.08054097 0.7712368
## 18
       SLN
                     L
                                  R 0.33967363 588850 0.34107305 0.9958970
                                  L 0.14395508 339857 0.19685160 0.7312873
## 19
       SLN
                     R.
                                  R 0.45425513 658705 0.38153439 1.1906008
## 20
       SLN
                     R
```

```
## 21 TOR L L 0.07205480 139051 0.08054097 0.8946354
## 22 TOR L R 0.31143569 588850 0.34107305 0.9131055
## 23 TOR R L 0.21663500 339857 0.19685160 1.1004991
## 24 TOR R R 0.39987451 658705 0.38153439 1.0480694
```

A reminder of which combos lead to the most HRs

allyrs.12vars %>% group\_by(BAT\_HAND\_CD,PIT\_HAND\_CD) %>% summarize(hrfrq=mean(hr),hrsum=sum(hr))

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
## # Groups: BAT_HAND_CD [2]
    BAT_HAND_CD PIT_HAND_CD hrfrq hrsum
## <chr>
                <chr>
                            <dbl> <int>
## 1 L
                L
                           0.0222 3088
## 2 L
                R
                           0.0299 17597
## 3 R
                L
                           0.0315 10706
## 4 R
                R
                           0.0298 19623
```