14 April 2016

Ross and Tanner,

I did a quick review of the Handley article.

Handley prefers BT to Thurston-Mosteller mostly because it has been better developed mathematically.

However, my biggest take-away from this quick review is that Handley **is using maximum-likelihood**, not Bayesian. LARC rejected maximum-likelihood because of the problem of undefeated teams. An undefeated team would have an estimate of an infinite strength.

And as far as I could see, Handley does not compare the methods with anything like we are doing, that is predicting a given game.

I have put this short letter into Wayne’s Comments on Google Doc.

Wayne Larsen