# Contributing Factors to Total Points Scored in an NFL Game

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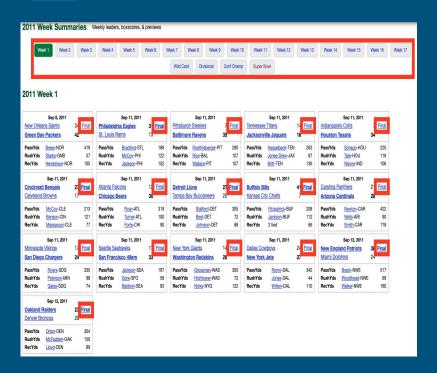
### Motivation







# Data (Decisions)





-8.00 19.92 19.30 0.62 -3.32 23.08 -19.69 -3.92 0.00 1.53 -11.38 4.25 1.07 6.42 1.17

Expe	ctec	I Po	ints	Sun	nma	ry	Share 8	& more	•	Glossa	iry				
	Offense					Defense			Special Teams						
Tm	Total	Tot	Pass	Rush	TOVE	Tot	Pass	Rush	TOVE	Tot	ко	KR	P	PR	FG/XP
Packers	8.00	23.08	19.69	3.92	0.00	19.92	-19.30	-0.62	3.32	-1.53	-4.25	11.38	-6.42	-1.07	-1.17

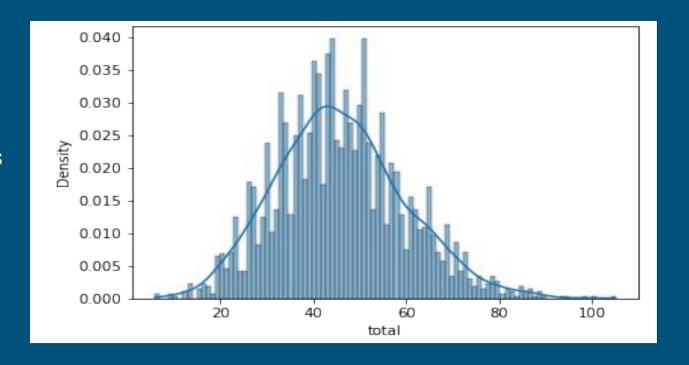
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Saints

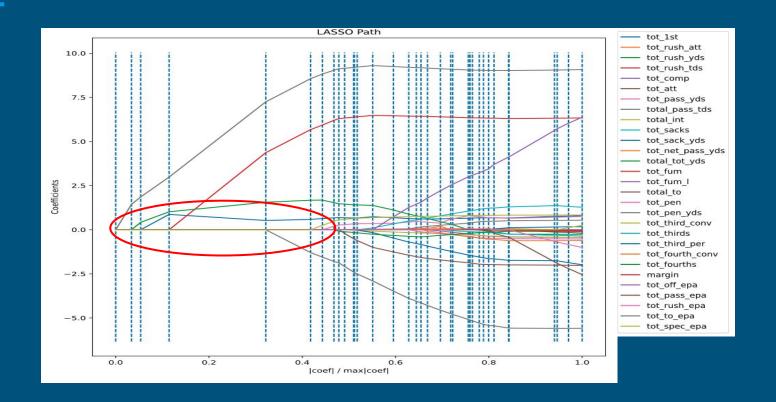
	NOR	GNB
First Downs	27	27
Rush-Yds-TDs	21-81-0	27-103-2
Cmp-Att-Yd-TD-INT	32-49-419-3-0	27-35-312-3-0
Sacked-Yards	3-23	2-16
Net Pass Yards	396	296
Total Yards	477	399
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0
Turnovers	1	0
Penalties-Yards	3-15	6-48
Third Down Conv.	9-14	8-12
Fourth Down Conv.	0-1	0-0
Time of Possession	27:06	32:54

# **Target Distribution**

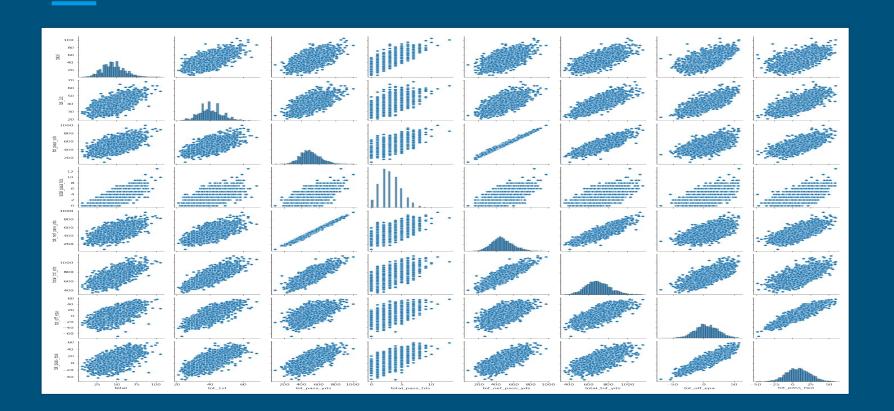
- Mean: 46 points
- Std dev: 14 points
- Most games between 32 - 60



# Feature Insights/Selection



# Feature Interactions



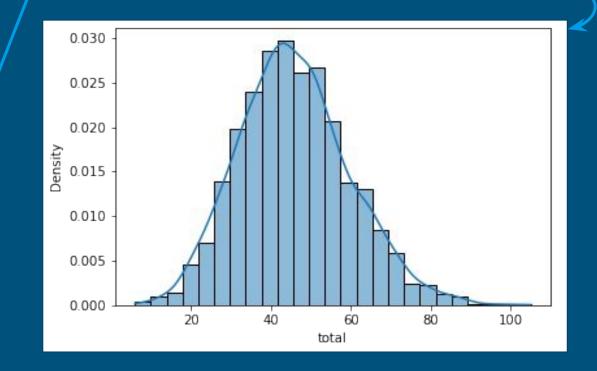
# Regression Results Compared to Target

#### Linear CV:

- $R^2 = 0.67$
- MAE = 6.3 points
  - ~1 TD off

#### LASSO CV:

- $R^2 = 0.86$
- MAE = 4.2 points
  - ~1 FG better



## Takeaways & New Applications

- 1. Passing Touchdowns biggest contributor
- 2. Turnover Expected Points Added biggest detractor
- 3. Get first downs
- 4. Rushing is generally a miss, except near the goal line
- 5. (Football numbers are important)

- Throw away game or huge problem for a team?
- Game plan strategies
- Setting betting lines

### Future Work

- Case studies (2020 Ravens vs 2020 Bucaneers)
- Interaction terms
- Other regression methods(??)
- Break down statistics further
  - Team by team basis
  - o QB by QB
- Use more data (pre-2011)
- Incorporate weather
- Use statistics that can be known before the game

## Appendix

- GitHub repository: <a href="https://github.com/jseemayer2/project-2">https://github.com/jseemayer2/project-2</a>
- Pro-Football-Reference: <a href="https://www.pro-football-reference.com">https://www.pro-football-reference.com</a>