Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling for Home Run Totals in the MLB Josh Tracy

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Markov chains are discrete sequences of numbers such that $p(x_n|x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}, ...x_2, x_1) = p(x_n|x_{n-1})$. Markov chains are named such because they exhibit the Markov property. Derived by Russian mathematician Andrey Markov, the Markov property refers to the memorylessness of a stochastic proces. That is, the probability of state x_n is dependent on only the previous state x_{n-1} . You only need to know the current state to predict the subsequent state. Knowing the past history of states won't provide additional information regarding any future state.

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Bibliography