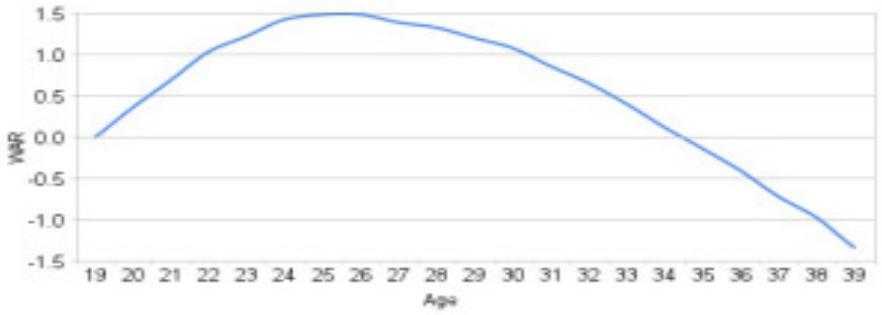
Aging Curves for Baseball Players

It's long been known that major league baseball players traditionally peak in their late twenties, hang on through their decline phase in their thirties, and, if they're lucky, maintain a modicum of value into their late thirties. Various analysts have used various data samples and assumptions to plot the aging curve on a graph. The below curve was stolen directly from Jeremy Greenhouse of The Baseball Analysts, and while I won't comment on the relative merits of this study and other, similar ones, his logic seems reasonable enough for me to use it to draw ridiculous conclusions.



I collected data on all players who played at least 20 seasons in the majors since 1920.

We'll use these data to estimate aging curves.

	playerID	yearID	age	woba	a1	a2
1	aaronha01	1954	20.41096	0.2918608	-0.069964131	0.08684809
2	aaronha01	1955	21.41096	0.3442588	-0.063671877	0.06507224
3	aaronha01	1956	22.41370	0.3644777	-0.057362385	0.04526977
4	aaronha01	1957	23.41370	0.3854394	-0.051070131	0.02754888
5	aaronha01	1958	24.41370	0.3665988	-0.044777877	0.01185271
	...	...	...	...	...	...
200	jacksre01	1975	29.13699	0.2974157	-0.015057753	-0.03491814
201	jacksre01	1976	30.13973	0.3121325	-0.008748261	-0.03903480
202	jacksre01	1977	31.13973	0.3176163	-0.002456007	-0.04111272
203	jacksre01	1978	32.13973	0.2885803	0.003836247	-0.04116594
204	jacksre01	1979	33.13973	0.3192247	0.010128500	-0.03919445
205	jacksre01	1980	34.14247	0.3554744	0.016437993	-0.03518452