Processing Steps and Data Sources

- Plan:
 - What factors bring in most money for a baseball team?
 - Ticket sales/attendance, attendance per game

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- Playoff appearances, playoff wins
- All-Star players on roster
- Merchandise sales
 - Correlated to having star players?
- Analyzing how both payroll and franchise value correlates to team wins.
 What aspects should teams pursue to win games?
 - Create 2 scatter plots with payroll/franchise value on x-axis and win percentage on y-axis. Analyze correlation.
 - Create map visualizing these statistics
- Considering if a player's payroll is consistent with his performance?
 - Developing a model that uses various in game stats to determine how much a player should be paid
 - Adjusting predicted payroll for price level of city and comparing it to actual payroll
 - Analyze correlation between predicted payroll and actual payroll
 - Correlation strength and visual via scatterplot

<u>Players more valuable in 20s but paid more in 30s</u>

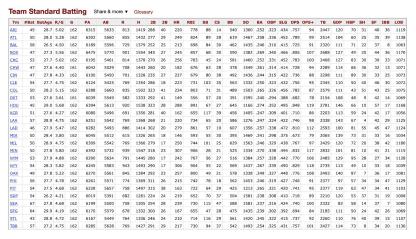
Players are most valuable in their 20s – but get paid more in their 30s

Looking at all MLB players from 1995 to 2018, the average wins above replacement per 100 plate appearances drops after players enter their 30s – which is just when average salaries start to explode.

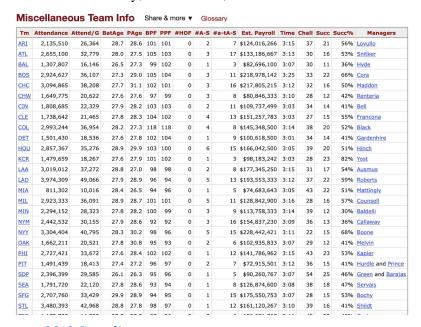


- What data sources could be useful?
 - Lahman Database: Player Analytics (hitting, fielding, pitching) for every team and every player since 1871 (already in R) <u>Lahman</u>
 - Documentation
 - More player/team on-field stats, not much on payroll

- Player ID: first five letters of last name + first two of first + ID number
- Ex: Clayton Kershaw = kershcl01
- Baseball-Reference.com: Massive trove of data on all teams and players since 1871. All databases below can be accessed for any year of interest
 - MLB 2019



- Misc. Franchise Information 2019
 - Money, attendance, etc



2019 Standings



Batter Value

Tm	G	PA	Rbat	Rbaser	Rdp	Rfield	Rpos	RAA	WAA	Rrep	RAR	WAR	waaWL%	162WL%	oWAR	dWAR	oRAR	Salary
ARI		6315	-55	19	1	68	61	94	6.6	193	287	25.3	.504	.504	20.3	5.6	219	\$119,116,666
ATL		6302	-9	5	3	26	59	84	5.5	189	273	24.0	.503	.505	23.2	1.1	247	\$131,711,667
BAL		6189	-69	2	4	-76	-4	-144	-11.8	219	76	8.9	.492	.496	14.9	-5.8	151	\$82,696,100
BOS		6475	61	6	-1	-42	-2	22	4.1	224	245	25.3	.501	.504	27.9	-2.5	287	\$207,205,000
CHC		6195	-9	1	-2	6	62	60	3.2	189	249	21.7	.502	.503	22.7	-0.9	243	\$204,630,215
CHW		6042	-39	2	-2	-67	-5	-111	-8.8	214	103	11.5	.493	.499	16.6	-5.2	171	\$79,991,333
CIN		6100	-105	-19	-3	34	59	-34	-6.1	187	153	12.1	.499	.500	10.4	1.7	119	\$109,737,499
CLE		6124	-52	7	-1	53	-5	3	2.4	217	220	22.9	.500	.503	16.4	6.5	167	\$121,390,783
COL		6288	-112	6	1	4	59	-43	-7.1	191	148	11.5	.498	.500	12.8	-0.8	144	\$145,148,500
DET		6039	-188	2	0	-83	-6	-275	-24.7	215	-60	-4.4	.483	.492	2.3	-6.8	23	\$97,818,500
HOU		6394	151	-5	-7	81	-5	214	22.6	225	439	44.0	.512	.510	34.7	9.2	358	\$161,942,500
KCR		6080	-115	-8	2	11	-3	-114	-9.1	215	102	11.3	.493	.498	8.9	2.5	91	\$86,327,892
LAA		6251	-14	2	-5	8	-2	-11	0.7	222	211	21.7	.499	.502	19.5	2.6	203	\$177,245,250
LAD		6282	87	5	1	72	60	226	19.8	192	418	38.6	.509	.508	33.1	5.3	346	\$166,203,333
MIA		6045	-154	-17	-2	-3	51	-125	-15.3	187	62	3.1	.495	.498	5.0	-1.9	65	\$69,583,643
MIL		6309	-33	3	-5	26	53	45	1.5	195	240	20.5	.502	.502	19.7	1.2	214	\$120,934,500
MIN		6392	135	-10	5	-14	-4	113	13.1	225	338	34.4	.506	.505	34.3	0.1	351	\$104,498,333
NYM		6290	57	-13	0	-59	59	44	1.6	192	236	20.4	.502	.503	28.0	-7.8	295	\$115,979,730
NYY		6245	140	-5	-1	-6	-3	126	14.3	220	346	35.2	.507	.507	34.4	0.9	352	\$205,999,564
OAK		6269	72	3	-5	50	-3	116	13.3	221	338	34.2	.506	.507	28.0	6.4	287	\$101,610,833
PHI		6261	-84	9	5	39	58	27	0.0	191	218	18.6	.501	.502	16.5	2.6	179	\$141,686,962
PIT		6228	-33	-4	2	-71	53	-53	-8.0	192	139	10.7	.498	.499	19.5	-8.5	210	\$68,906,001
SDP		6019	-84	-6	-2	-8	51	-48	-7.5	186	138	10.6	.498	.499	13.1	-2.4	145	\$74,081,300
SEA		6199	11	-3	2	-70	-6	-67	-4.3	220	154	16.5	.496	.498	21.9	-5.6	224	\$126,574,600
SFG		6170	-116	-8	0	19	51	-54	-8.2	191	137	10.5	.498	.499	10.4	0.2	118	\$175,450,753
STL		6167	-45	11	1	69	56	93	6.8	190	283	25.3	.504	.504	20.1	5.5	214	\$152,815,167
TBR		6285	11	-5	10	14	-3	27	4.7	223	249	25.8	.501	.502	23.1	2.9	235	\$55,971,767
TEX		6204	-92	11	4	-41	-2	-121	-9.6	220	100	11.2	.493	.496	13.8	-2.4	140	\$102,677,499

- Pitcher Value
- ESPN Attendance
- Forbes franchise valuation
 - Forbes valuation of 2019 team
- Do we have all the data needed to observe the outcome we are looking for?
 - Yes. Using the Lahman database which is already loaded in R, as well as the extensive data sources from BaseballReference, we will have a wealth of data with which to complete our analysis. Lahman only has data up to 2016 for some datasets and up to 2018 for others, so we will use baseball reference to supplement the datasets.

- How does each data source contribute to the analysis?
 - The Lahman database for player data is similar to the BaseballReference data, but the BaseballReference website also contains data on team payroll and player contracts, which will also be vital. We will need to join both on-field and contractual information to complete the analysis we are looking for.
- What other data sources could possibly be useful? How can we get them?
 - We may continue looking for other databases from ESPN or other sources, but at the moment it seems that the Lahman and BaseballReference databases will offer us more than enough data.
- Add the schema of each data source. What does it look like?
 - o The Lahman database is included in R. It has 24 different dataframes. We plan to use AwardsPlayers(Player awards), Appearances(Data on the number of and type of game appearances of a player), Teams(General team data), SeriesPost(Postseason data on how a team did in the postseason),
 - The BaseballReference database is organized with rows of players or franchises, and columns representing statistics like batting averages, contract value, team attendance, etc. A screenshot is in the main folder.
- What cleaning and smoothing methods do we think could be appropriate for each data source and for each data column (attribute/feature)?
 - Many of the Lahman and BaseballReference datasets have a lot of statistics which are not necessarily relevant to our project. One step of cleaning will be to eliminate those unnecessary columns
- Do we need to bin/discretize the data samples?
 - What time interval could be useful for aggregating/binning data and extracting features
 - We will bin most of the data by year as we compare year to year values for revenue, statistics, etc. and what affects those values year to year.
- What transformation technique could be more appropriate
 - Normalizing the data?
 - Player payroll should be normalized using the price level of the city
 - Discretizing the data?
 - What data columns need to be normalized or discretized?
- What features would be useful to extract from each data source and data column
 - It will be useful to extract data regarding both player performance and salary as well as data about the value and income structure of franchises as a whole.
- What visualization techniques could be useful for analysis and presentation of findings?
 - Currently we are not set on a particular visualization technique. Although it
 is likely that we will use some type of scatter plot, we will use the
 visualization techniques which best displays our findings as the project
 progresses.

- What other processing steps do we need to consider?
 - We may need to look into merging aspects of the Lahman and Baseball Reference datasets to cover years 2017 through 2019, as the Lahman database only contains financial information through 2016, and player metrics through the 2018 season, while the BaseballReference database has data through the end of the 2019 season for both player performance and compensation.