# A Bayesian Heirarchical Model Simulation of the English Premier League Season 

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## Introduction

The 2022 FIFA World Cup is a unique tournament, taking place over 29 days from late November to mid-December in the Middle Eastern country of Qatar. It is the first World Cup to be hosted in an Arab country and the first to occur in the middle of Europe's domestic league schedule, which spans from August to May. Because of this, most European Leagues are on an extended break with around one third of the season already played.

Poisson distribution was developed by 19th century French mathematician Siméon Denis Poisson. It is a probability theory used to model the amount of times an event occurs in a specific length. One popular application of Poisson distribution is the number of goals scored by a team in a 90 minute football match. This can be further applied to model the results of matches over an entire season. By separating the home and away team effects, we can calculate the likelihood of each possible score.

Our goal in this project is to predict the final standings of the English Premier League through a Bayesian Hierarchical Model and Monte Carlo simulation. Using the completed portion of the Premier League season as a prior, we will simulate the rest of the season to predict final standings.

## Data

The English Premier League follows a very simple schedule. The league consists of twenty teams, each of which plays every other team twice: once at home and once away. This leads to a total of thirty-eight games for each team over the entire season.

Here is the current real table:
Table 1: Premier League Table as of Dec 12, 2022

| Team | Games | Wins | Draws | Losses | Scored | Allowed | Goal Diff | Points |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Arsenal | 14 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 33 | 11 | 22 | 37 |
| Manchester City | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 14 | 26 | 32 |
| Newcastle United | 15 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 29 | 11 | 18 | 30 |
| Tottenham Hotspur | 15 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 31 | 21 | 10 | 29 |
| Manchester United | 14 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 26 |
| Liverpool | 14 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 28 | 17 | 11 | 22 |
| Brighton \& Hove Albion | 14 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 23 | 19 | 4 | 21 |
| Chelsea | 14 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 17 | 0 | 21 |
| Fulham | 15 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 24 | 26 | -2 | 19 |
| Brentford | 15 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 23 | 25 | -2 | 19 |
| Crystal Palace | 14 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 15 | 18 | -3 | 19 |
| Aston Villa | 15 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 16 | 22 | -6 | 18 |
| Leicester City | 15 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 25 | 25 | 0 | 17 |
| AFC Bournemouth | 15 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 18 | 32 | -14 | 16 |
| Leeds United | 14 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 22 | 26 | -4 | 15 |
| West Ham United | 15 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 12 | 17 | -5 | 14 |
| Everton | 15 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 17 | -6 | 14 |
| Nottingham Forest | 15 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 11 | 30 | -19 | 13 |
| Southampton | 15 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 13 | 27 | -14 | 12 |


| Team | Games | Wins | Draws | Losses | Scored | Allowed | Goal Diff | Points |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Wolverhampton | 15 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 24 | -16 | 10 |
| Wanderers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Each team has played around fourteen to fifteen games, and it is at this point in the season where the table begins to resemble it's final form, after initial variation.

The simplicity of the schedule allows it to be represented by two 20-by-20 matrices displaying the goals scored by the home and away teams in each matchup, respectively. The row names display the name of the home team and the column names display the name of the away team.

Here is a sample of the home dataset:
Table 2: Sample of home dataset

|  | Arsenal | Aston Villa | Bournemouth | Brentford | Brighton |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Arsenal | NA | 2 | NA | NA | NA |
| Aston Villa | NA | NA | NA | 4 | NA |
| Bournemouth | 0 | 2 | NA | 0 | NA |
| Brentford | 0 | NA | NA | NA | 2 |
| Brighton | NA | 1 | NA | NA | NA |

The cells that are already filled represent games that already happened. The value $\mathbf{2}$ in the [Arsenal, Aston Villa] column represents the two goals scored by Arsenal in their 2-1 home victory over Aston Villa on August 31. In the away dataset, this cell is populated with the value 1 .

Cells that display an NA value represent games that have not happened yet. For example, the NA in [Aston Villa, Arsenal] shows that Aston Villa has not yet hosted Arsenal this season. The main objective in this project is to simulate the value for each unplayed game. While this game will not truly occur until February 18, we can use prior season information to predict the outcome.

This matrix also includes NA values through the diagonal. These are the games that will never happen, as a team does not play against itself. These values will later be removed from the model.

## Model

In order to predict the outcome of a match, we need to model for the goals scored by each team. As mentioned above, this follows a Poisson distribution.

For game between teams $i$ and $j$, the goals scored, $Y H o m e e_{i, j}$ and $Y A w a y_{i, j}$ can be modeled as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { YHome }_{i, j} \sim \operatorname{Poisson}\left(\lambda_{i, j}^{(A)}\right) \\
& \text { YAway }_{i, j} \sim \operatorname{Poisson}\left(\lambda_{i, j}^{(A)}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

The indices, $i$ and $j$ determine the home and away teams in a match, repectively. They are both discrete, beginning at 1 and ending at 20.

$$
i, j=1,2,3, \ldots, 19,20
$$

The $\lambda$ value describes the mean expected goals for each side in the match. While it may be simpler to model a $\lambda_{i}$ as the mean goals scored by team $i$, there are other factors at play in each game. Instead, it is better to model each $\lambda_{i, j}$ as a combination of one team's offensive ability and the other team's defensive ability.

Offensive ability for team $i$ is modeled as $\alpha_{i}$, which follows the assumes distribution:

$$
\alpha_{i} \sim \operatorname{Normal}\left(0, \sigma_{\alpha}^{2}\right)
$$

The standard deviation value $\sigma_{\alpha}$ is set to follow a non-informative exponential prior.

$$
\sigma_{\alpha} \sim \text { Exponential }(0.001)
$$

Similarly, defensive ability for team $i$ is modeled as $\beta_{i}$, which assumes the following distribution:

$$
\beta_{i} \sim \operatorname{Normal}\left(0, \sigma_{\beta}^{2}\right)
$$

The standard deviation value $\sigma_{\beta}^{2}$ is set to follow a non-informative exponential prior.

$$
\sigma_{\beta} \sim \operatorname{Exponential}(0.001)
$$

Teams with stronger offensive abilities will have larger $\alpha_{i}$ values. Teams with stronger defensive abilities will have larger $\beta_{i}$ values.

Another important factor to consider is the game's location. Traditionally, the home team performs better than the away team, due to crowd, familiarity, and other factors.

To account for this, we implement adjusters for home and away into the model, $\mu_{H}$ and $\mu_{A}$, respectively. The parameters also assume normal distribution, with large variation.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mu_{H} \sim N \operatorname{Normal}(0,1 e+6) \\
& \mu_{A} \sim N \operatorname{Normal}(0,1 e+6)
\end{aligned}
$$

As the model iterates, it is expected for $m u_{H}$ to approach a significantly larger value than $m u_{A}$. It is also expected for the best teams to exhibit higher values of $\alpha_{i}$ and $\beta_{i}$, with the lesser teams having negative values for these parameters.

It is also important to note that the JAGS language defaults to the use of precision $\left(\tau^{2}\right)$ instead of variance $\left(\sigma^{2}\right)$. This is accounted for in the JAGS model code, and explains the perceived inconsistencies between the above distributions and written code.

Now that we have defined $\mu, \alpha$, and $\beta$, we return to the mean goals scored by each team in a single game, $\lambda_{i, j}$.
For home teams, $\lambda_{i, j}^{(H)}$ is now better represented as:

$$
\log \left(\lambda_{i, j}^{(H)}\right)=\mu_{H}+\alpha_{i}-\beta_{j}
$$

For away teams, $\lambda_{i, j}^{(A)}$ is now better represented as:

$$
\log \left(\lambda_{i, j}^{(A)}\right)=\mu_{A}+\alpha_{j}-\beta_{i}
$$

The purpose of the logarithm is to maintain the positive quality of goals scored. It is now clear to see how game location, team offensive strength, and opponent defensive strength play a role in determining the goals scored in a match.


Figure 1: Bayesian Hierarchical Model for YHome $_{i, j}$

The following image depicts the relationship between the aforementioned parameters in the hierarchical model:

As an example, say we have three teams: A, B and C. From these teams, the games A vs. B and B vs. C have already occurred. The data from these two games is enough to roughly estimate $\mu_{H}, \mu_{A}$ and an $\alpha$ and $\beta$ for each team. In order to predict the result and goals in A vs. C ( A is the home team and C is the away team), we can use the formulae:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \log \left(\lambda_{A, C}^{(H)}\right)=\mu_{H}+\alpha_{A}-\beta_{C} \\
& \log \left(\lambda_{A, C}^{(A)}\right)=\mu_{A}+\alpha_{C}-\beta_{A}
\end{aligned}
$$

Poisson distribution will sample from these lambdas in order to create simulated results for this game, just as every remaining game will be estimated and simulated for the remainder of the season.

The exact JAGS code used can be found in the appendix.

## Results

JAGS was used to run through 10,000 iterations of a simulated season using Gibbs Sampling, substantially enough to estimate the true posterior. The values of $\mu_{H}, \mu_{A}, \sigma_{\alpha}$, and $\sigma_{\beta}$ were initialized into three chains at various values. Model parameters, most importantly $\mu_{H}$ and $\mu_{A}$, demonstrated convergence near the 100 iteration mark.

Just as expected, $m u_{H}$ converged to a higher value than $m u_{A}$.

- $m u_{H}=0.48112$
- $m u_{A}=0.05644$

This amounts to an expected difference of approximately 0.55 goals in favor of the home team in every match, a significant advantage that adequately models reality.

JAGS's coda.samples() function allowed for the extraction of statistics from each of the iterations, which were used to form a final table for each simulated season. As an example, here is the table from the very first simulation:

Table 3: Final Table from First SImulation

|  | Team | Points | GD |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 1. | Arsenal | 85 | 47 |
| 2. | Newcastle | 79 | 43 |
| 3. | Man City | 78 | 44 |
| 4. | Man United | 75 | 17 |
| 5. | Liverpool | 66 | 20 |
| 6. | Chelsea | 66 | 15 |
| 7. | Fulham | 61 | 7 |
| 8. | Spurs | 60 | 16 |
| 9. | Brighton | 58 | -1 |
| 10. | Brentford | 53 | 1 |
| 11. | Leicester | 46 | 0 |
| 12. | Aston Villa | 46 | -9 |
| 13. | Crystal Palace | 45 | -9 |
| 14. | Leeds | 45 | -14 |
| 15. | Everton | 43 | -12 |
| 16. | Southampton | 37 | -29 |
| 17. | West Ham | 31 | -24 |
| 18. | Nottingham Forest | 31 | -34 |
| 19. | Bournemouth | 28 | -37 |
| 20. | Wolves | 27 | -41 |

This simulation, like many others, resulted in a Premier League Championship for Arsenal, the league's current leader. To maintain a realistic prediction and avoid alphabetical bias, the real tiebreaker of goal difference was used to order teams who finished with equal points. This happens quite often, four times in this simulation alone. In this case, goal difference saved West Ham's season, as Nottingham Forest's inferior number sent them into a relegation position at 18 .

Compliling data from every simulation produces the following table, describing each team's mean performance and posterior probabilities of certain accomplishments:
For background, UCL\% shows the probability that each team will finish in a position to qualify for next season's UEFA Champions League. In the English Premier League, this is awarded to the top four teams. Relegated\% shows the probability that each team will finish in a position that gets them relegated from the Premier League into England's second tier, The Championship, for the next season. Finishing positions 18, 19, 20 are relegated.

Table 4: Mean SUmmary Table of All Simulations

|  | Team | Points | SD | GoalDiff | First | UCL | Relegated |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Arsenal | 82.2 | 7.4 | 42.8 | $57.47 \%$ | $97.86 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 2. | Man City | 78.4 | 7.5 | 49.9 | $33.86 \%$ | $95.18 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 3. | Newcastle | 68.5 | 7.6 | 28.7 | $4.74 \%$ | $65.14 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 4. | Spurs | 66.4 | 7.5 | 19.0 | $2.39 \%$ | $52.58 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 5. | Man United | 62.6 | 7.6 | 4.7 | $0.68 \%$ | $30.3 \%$ | $0.06 \%$ |
| 6. | Liverpool | 61.4 | 7.6 | 20.8 | $0.63 \%$ | $27.15 \%$ | $0.08 \%$ |
| 7. | Brighton | 57.4 | 7.7 | 8.6 | $0.16 \%$ | $13.11 \%$ | $0.35 \%$ |
| 8. | Chelsea | 53.7 | 7.5 | -1.7 | $0.02 \%$ | $5.44 \%$ | $1.08 \%$ |
| 9. | Brentford | 52.2 | 7.5 | -0.5 | $0.03 \%$ | $4.02 \%$ | $1.75 \%$ |
| 10. | Fulham | 51.7 | 7.4 | -1.0 | $0 \%$ | $2.99 \%$ | $2.06 \%$ |
| 11. | Leicester | 50.6 | 7.3 | 1.9 | $0 \%$ | $2.26 \%$ | $2.31 \%$ |


|  | Team | Points | SD | GoalDiff | First | UCL | Relegated |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12. | Leeds | 48.5 | 7.7 | -4.8 | $0.02 \%$ | $1.5 \%$ | $5.34 \%$ |
| 13. | Crystal Palace | 48.5 | 7.5 | -9.0 | $0 \%$ | $1.68 \%$ | $4.79 \%$ |
| 14. | Aston Villa | 46.4 | 7.2 | -11.8 | $0 \%$ | $0.54 \%$ | $7.6 \%$ |
| 15. | Bournemouth | 42.7 | 7.3 | -23.0 | $0 \%$ | $0.21 \%$ | $19.79 \%$ |
| 16. | Everton | 38.8 | 6.9 | -16.8 | $0 \%$ | $0.02 \%$ | $35.68 \%$ |
| 17. | West Ham | 38.2 | 6.8 | -17.2 | $0 \%$ | $0.02 \%$ | $37.77 \%$ |
| 18. | Southampton | 37.5 | 7.1 | -24.2 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $43.88 \%$ |
| 19. | Nottingham Forest | 35.4 | 6.9 | -33.8 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $58.33 \%$ |
| 20. | Wolves | 31.1 | 6.5 | -32.7 | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $79.13 \%$ |

By our model, the Premier League is essentially a two-horse race, with Arsenal leading with a $57.47 \%$ chance of victory. Last season's champions, Manchester City, are currently in second place with a $33.86 \%$ chance. Other teams such as Newcastle United and Tottenham Hotspur are still in the race but have an uphill climb to the top.

The above table showed mean values, which are conservative by nature. In the immense volume of 10,000 iterations, wild responses can, and will, occur. The below table shows the most extreme results for each team.

Table 5: Summary of Extreme Simulation Values

|  | Team | BestRank | WorstRank | MaxPoints | MinPoints | MaxGD | MinGD |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Arsenal | 1 | 10 | 106 | 55 | 98 | -6 |
| 2. | Man City | 1 | 13 | 102 | 45 | 109 | -4 |
| 3. | Newcastle | 1 | 16 | 94 | 43 | 82 | -11 |
| 4. | Liverpool | 1 | 19 | 91 | 36 | 79 | -29 |
| 5. | Spurs | 1 | 17 | 91 | 40 | 73 | -29 |
| 6. | Man United | 1 | 19 | 90 | 36 | 53 | -37 |
| 7. | Chelsea | 1 | 20 | 85 | 30 | 53 | -50 |
| 8. | Brighton | 1 | 20 | 83 | 29 | 65 | -36 |
| 9. | Brentford | 1 | 20 | 81 | 29 | 45 | -41 |
| 10. | Leeds | 1 | 20 | 78 | 22 | 46 | -54 |
| 11. | Fulham | 2 | 20 | 78 | 24 | 47 | -43 |
| 12. | Leicester | 2 | 20 | 77 | 23 | 47 | -56 |
| 13. | Crystal Palace | 2 | 20 | 77 | 24 | 30 | -50 |
| 14. | Aston Villa | 2 | 20 | 74 | 25 | 34 | -52 |
| 15. | Bournemouth | 2 | 20 | 71 | 20 | 28 | -69 |
| 16. | West Ham | 3 | 20 | 67 | 16 | 24 | -56 |
| 17. | Everton | 4 | 20 | 65 | 17 | 20 | -57 |
| 18. | Southampton | 5 | 20 | 67 | 16 | 14 | -65 |
| 19. | Nottingham Forest | 5 | 20 | 63 | 16 | 3 | -75 |
| 20. | Wolves | 7 | 20 | 58 | 12 | 3 | -70 |

Despite the probabilistic two-horse race described above, the model demonstrates winning outcomes for ten different teams. On the flip side, only Arsenal, Man City, Newcastle, and Spurs are never relegated, with thirteen teams possibly finishing at the very bottom.

Only once has the 100 point mark ever been reached in a Premier League season, by Manchester City in 2017/18. There is still an avenue for both Arsenal and Manchester City to reach this mark, potentially eclipsing it and having the greatest season in history. Manchester City also had the best goal difference ever in that season with +79 , which is in the realm of possibility for four clubs.

At the bottom, the fewest points ever recorded in a Premier League season was Derby County's 11 in 2007/08,
a value below every team's minimum. Derby also had the worst goal difference ever that season at -69, a value that is unfortunately still possible for Bournemouth, Nottingham Forest, and Wolves.
The following graphs show the full distribution of points scored and finishing positions for each team:


Code for these tables and graphs can be found in the appendix.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, our model takes into account each team's offensive and defensive abilities as well as the impact of home-and-away factors on team performance. It makes good use of goal data from the games already played this season to generate samples of the parameters and variables we need for each team. The final predictions are a good indicator of the teams' performances so far this season. For example, Arsenal has the best odds of winning the title this season (greater than 0.5 ) and Man City has the biggest sample mean of goal difference in our prediction. Both of teams are also the current leader in those respective categories.

However, there are some factors we didn't take into consideration in our model that might inhibit our predictive accuracy. For example, the future performance of some teams may be affected by injuries, manager changes, and winter acquisitions, especially after a month of the World Cup tournament. As a result, our predictions may be different from the actual league results in the future. Our prediction is also defined by the constraints of our prior data. We chose to only use the 14-15 games played for each team so far this season. Different popular season predictions may use other factors, such as previous season results, roster valuation, and schedule concentration from participation in outside tournaments.

In the future, we can use this exact model to predict the results in many of Europe's other leagues, such as Spain's La Liga and Germany's Bundesliga. Not only do these leagues follow identical schedule formats, but they begin and end at the same time in the calendar year. In general, this model can predict the results of any football league worldwide.
In its ultimate form, this can be translated into a publicly visible Shiny application that houses predictions for several football leagues around the world. Development of efficient data scraping techniques can permit the app to update daily, displaying the most recent and relevant information.

Not only did this project provide us with an interesting challenge, but it creates inspiration for future projects, deepening our knowledge and understanding of Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling while fueling one of our greatest interests.

## References

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## Appendix

Code for Current Table The current table was copied and pasted from https://www.premierleague.com/ tables and manually edited in excel to create the table shown in the report.

Code for Creating Data The data is derived from the real schedule and results from the Premier League so far in the 2022/23 season.

The results are found here: https://www.premierleague.com/results.
The tables in the website are copied and pasted into an Excel CSV, which looks as such:
Initial Clean

```
# load in packages and data
library(tidyverse)
games = read_csv("data/past-games-raw.csv")
# rename first column
names(games)[1] = "info"
# rename teams with two-word names
for(i in 1:nrow(games)) {
    games$info[i] = str_replace_all(games$info[i], "Aston Villa",
                            "AstonVilla")
```

| 4 | A | B | C | D |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Sunday 13 November 2022 |  |  | F |
| 2 | Brighton 1-2Aston Villa Amex Stadium, Falmer |  |  |  |
| 3 | Fulham 1-2Man Utd Craven Cottage, London |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Saturday 12 November 2022 |  |  |  |
| 6 | Man City 1-2Brentford Etihad Stadium, Manchester |  |  |  |
| 7 | Bournemouth 3-0Everton Vitality Stadium, Bournemouth |  |  |  |
| 8 | Liverpool 3-1Southampton Anfield, Liverpool |  |  |  |
| 9 | Nott'm Forest 1-0Crystal Palace The City Ground, Nottingham |  |  |  |
| 10 | Spurs 4-3Leeds Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London |  |  |  |

Figure 2: Screenshot of Copied Code in Excel

```
    games$info[i] = str_replace_all(games$info[i], "Crystal Palace",
                        "CrystalPalace")
    games$info[i] = str_replace_all(games$info[i], "Man ", "Man")
    games$info[i] = str_replace_all(games$info[i], "Nott'm Forest",
                            "NottinghamForest")
    games$info[i] = str_replace_all(games$info[i], "West Ham", "WestHam")
}
# add new columns to fill later
games = {
    games %>%
        mutate(matchup = NA_character_,
            home = NA_character_,
            away = NA_character_,
            homeTeam = NA_character_,
            awayTeam = NA_character_,
            homeGoals = NA_integer_,
            awayGoals = NA_integer_)
}
# split info column by space
info_split = strsplit(games$info, " ")
# insert first split into matchup
for(i in 1:nrow(games)) {
    games$matchup[i] = info_split[[i]][1]
}
# remove date headers
games = {
    games %>%
        filter(matchup != "Sunday" &
            matchup != "Monday" &
            matchup != "Tuesday" &
            matchup != "Wednesday" &
```

```
    matchup != "Thursday" &
    matchup != "Friday" &
    matchup != "Saturday")
}
# split matchup by hyphen
matchup_split = strsplit(games$matchup, "-")
# fill columns
for(i in 1:nrow(games)) {
    games$home[i] = matchup_split[[i]][1]
    games$away[i] = matchup_split[[i]][2]
    games$homeTeam[i] = substr(games$home[i], 1, nchar(games$home[i])-2)
    games$homeGoals[i] = as.numeric(substr(games$home[i],
                                    nchar(games$home[i]),
                                    nchar(games$home[i])))
    games$awayTeam[i] = substr(games$away[i], 2, nchar(games$away[i])-1)
    games$awayGoals[i] = as.numeric(substr(games$away[i], 1, 1))
}
# select necessary columns
games = {
    games %>%
        select(homeTeam, homeGoals, awayTeam, awayGoals)
}
knitr::kable(head(games,5),
    caption = "Sample of Initial Data Clean")
```

Table 6: Sample of Initial Data Clean

| homeTeam | homeGoals | awayTeam | awayGoals |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Brighton | 1 | AstonVilla | 2 |
| Fulham | 1 | ManUtd | 2 |
| ManCity | 1 | Brentford | 2 |
| Bournemouth | 3 | Everton | 0 |
| Liverpool | 3 | Southampton | 1 |

## Into Matrix

```
# vector of teams
teams = sort(unique(games$homeTeam))
teams[c(2,7,13,14,16,19)] =
    c("Aston Villa", "Crystal Palace", "Man City",
        "Man United", "Nottingham Forest", "West Ham"
        )
# empty matrix
data = matrix(nrow = 20,
    ncol = 20)
# add team names to matrix
```

```
rownames(data) = teams
colnames(data) = teams
# duplicate into home and away
home = data
away = data
# reformat data list
for(i in 1:20) {
    for(j in 1:20) {
        game = {
            games %>%
                filter(homeTeam == teams[i] &
                    awayTeam == teams[j])
        }
        if(nrow(game) == 0) {
            home[i, j] = NA
            away[i, j] = NA
        } else {
            home[i,j] = game$homeGoals[1]
            away[i,j] = game$awayGoals[1]
        }
    }
}
knitr::kable(home[c(1:5), c(1:5)],
                            caption = "Sample of Data Cleaned into Matrix: home")
```

Table 7: Sample of Data Cleaned into Matrix: home

|  | Arsenal | Aston Villa | Bournemouth | Brentford | Brighton |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Arsenal | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Aston Villa | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Bournemouth | 0 | NA | NA | 0 | NA |
| Brentford | 0 | NA | NA | NA | 2 |
| Brighton | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |

knitr::kable(away[c(1:5), c(1:5)],
caption $=$ "Sample of Data Cleaned into Matrix: away")

Table 8: Sample of Data Cleaned into Matrix: away

|  | Arsenal | Aston Villa | Bournemouth | Brentford | Brighton |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Arsenal | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Aston Villa | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Bournemouth | 3 | NA | NA | 0 | NA |
| Brentford | 3 | NA | NA | NA | 0 |
| Brighton | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |

```
model {
    for(i in 1:20) {
        for(j in 1:20) {
            YHome[i,j] ~ dpois(lambdaHome[i,j])
            YAway[i,j] ~ dpois(lambdaAway[i,j])
            log(lambdaHome[i,j]) <- muHome+alpha[i]-beta[j]
            log(lambdaAway[i,j]) <- muAway+alpha[j]-beta[i]
            resultsHome[i,j] <- ifelse(YHome[i,j] > YAway[i,j], 3,
                                    ifelse(YHome[i,j] == YAway[i,j], 1,
                                    ifelse(YHome[i,j] < YAway[i,j], 0, -1)))
            resultsAway[i,j] <- ifelse(YHome[i,j] > YAway[i,j], 0,
                        ifelse(YHome[i,j] == YAway[i,j], 1,
                        ifelse(YHome[i,j] < YAway[i,j], 3, -1)))
        }
        alpha[i] ~ dnorm(0, 1 / sigma.alpha^2)
        beta[i] ~ dnorm(0, 1 / sigma.beta^2)
        scoreHome[i] <- sum(YHome[i,]) - YHome[i,i]
        scoreAway[i] <- sum(YAway[,i]) - YAway[i,i]
        goalsScored[i] <- scoreHome[i] + scoreAway[i]
        allowHome[i] <- sum(YAway[i,]) - YAway[i,i]
        allowAway[i] <- sum(YHome[,i]) - YHome[i,i]
        goalsAllowed[i] <- allowHome[i] + allowAway[i]
        goalDif[i] <- goalsScored[i] - goalsAllowed[i]
        points[i] <- sum(resultsHome[i,]) + sum(resultsAway[,i]) - resultsHome[i,i] - resultsAway[i,i]
    }
    muHome ~ dnorm(0.0,1.0E-6)
    muAway ~ dnorm(0.0,1.0E-6)
    sigma.alpha ~ dexp(0.001)
    sigma.beta ~ dexp(0.001)
}
```


## JAGS Model Code

```
# load libraries and data
library(rjags)
home = read.table("data/home.txt")
away = read.table("data/away.txt")
# set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(2023)
# declare data and initials
d = list(YHome = home,
    YAway = away)
```

```
inits = list(list(muHome = 0, muAway = 0, sigma.alpha = 1000, sigma.beta = 1000),
    list(muHome = 1, muAway = -1, sigma.alpha = 0.1, sigma.beta = 0.1),
    list(muHome = -1, muAway = 1, sigma.alpha = 10, sigma.beta = 10))
```

\# fit model
$\mathrm{m}=$ jags.model("R/model.bug", d, inits, n. chains $=3$ )

Code for Fitting JAGS Model

```
## Compiling model graph
## Resolving undeclared variables
## Allocating nodes
## Graph information:
## Observed stochastic nodes: 292
## Unobserved stochastic nodes: 552
## Total graph size: 5317
##
## Initializing model
# initial run and convergence check of muHome and muAway
x = coda.samples(m, c("muHome", "muAway"), n.iter=1000)
plot(x, smooth=FALSE, ask=TRUE)
```

Trace of muAway


Trace of muHome


Iterations

Density of muAway


Density of muHome


Figure 4: Convergence Plots of $\mu_{H}$ and $\mu_{A}$ autocorr.plot(x[1], ask=TRUE)


Figure 5: Autocorrelation Plots of $\mu_{H}$ and $\mu_{A}$

```
# full run of 10,000 iterations
x = coda.samples(m, c("muHome", "muAway", "points", "goalDif"), n.iter = 10000)
# Final Value of muHome and muAway after burn in
as.matrix(summary(window(x, 2000))$statistics)[21:22,]
## Mean SD Naive SE Time-series SE
## muAway 0.05918293 0.1246513 0.0007196748 0.002383765
## muHome 0.48405469 0.1163174 0.0006715588 0.002352721
```

Table 9: Final Summary Value of $\mu_{H}$ and $\mu_{A}$

```
# Recall x from previous section
data = x[[1]]
# initialize ranking matrix
ranks_all = matrix(nrow = 10000, ncol = 20)
colnames(ranks_all) = teams
tables = list()
# extract rankings
for(i in 1:10000) {
    table = data.frame(Team = teams,
                                    Points = data[i,23:42],
```

```
                                    GD = data[i,1:20]) %>%
        arrange(desc(Points), desc(GD))
    for(j in 1:20) {
        ranks_all[i, j] = which(table$Team == teams[j])
    }
    tables[[i]] = table
}
# initialize clean ranks matrix
ranks = matrix(nrow = 20,
                            ncol = 20)
colnames(ranks) = teams
rownames(ranks) = as.character(seq(1, 20))
# extract clean ranks
for(i in 1:20) {
    for(j in 1:20) {
        ranks[i, j] = sum(ranks_all[,j] == i)
    }
}
# initialize mean and extreme table columns
gd = colMeans(data)[1:20]
pts = colMeans(data)[23:42]
sd = rep(NA_real_, 20)
win_pct = rep(NA_real_, 20)
ucl_pct = rep(NA_real_, 20)
rel_pct = rep(NA_real_, 20)
maxP = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
minP = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
maxG = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
minG = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
maxR = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
minR = rep(NA_integer_, 20)
# extract columns
for(i in 1:20) {
    sd[i] = sd(data[,22+i])
    win_pct[i] = sum(ranks[1,i]) / 10000
    ucl_pct[i] = sum(ranks[1:4,i]) / 10000
    rel_pct[i] = sum(ranks[18:20,i]) / 10000
    maxP[i] = max(data[,22+i])
    minP[i] = min(data[,22+i])
    maxG[i] = max(data[,i])
    minG[i] = min(data[,i])
    maxR[i] = max(ranks_all[,i])
    minR[i] = min(ranks_all[,i])
}
# create first, mean, extreme tables
s1 = data.frame(Team = teams,
    Points = data[1,23:42],
    GD = data[1, 1:20]) %>% arrange(desc(Points), desc(GD))
```

```
rownames(s1) = paste0(as.character(seq(1,20,1)), ".")
mean_table = data.frame(Team = teams,
    Points = round(pts,1),
    SD = round(sd,1),
    GoalDiff = round(gd,1),
    First = paste0(as.character(win_pct*100),"%"),
    UCL = paste0(as.character(ucl_pct*100),"%"),
    Relegated = paste0(as.character(rel_pct*100),"%")
    ) %>% arrange(desc(Points), desc(GoalDiff))
rownames(mean_table) = paste0(as.character(seq(1,20,1)), ".")
extremes = data.frame(Team = teams,
    BestRank = minR,
    WorstRank = maxR,
    MaxPoints = maxP,
    MinPoints = minP,
    MaxGD = maxG,
    MinGD = minG) %>% arrange(BestRank, desc(MaxPoints), desc(MaxGD))
rownames(extremes) = paste0(as.character(seq(1,20,1)), ".")
```

Code for Extracting Results into Tables

## Code for Creating Graphs Preparation

```
# load packages
library(tidyverse)
library(ggplot2)
library(ggridges)
library(gridExtra)
# create graphing data from previous data
points_all = as.data.frame(data[,23:42])
names(points_all) = teams
points_gg = gather(points_all) %>% arrange(key)
ranks_all = as.data.frame(ranks_all)
ranks_gg = gather(ranks_all) %>% arrange(key)
# team colors vector
team_colors = c("red", "skyblue", "gray25", "navy", "red",
    "red", "blue", "blue", "red", "gray25",
    "blue", "yellow", "blue", "maroon", "red",
    "blue", "maroon", "red", "red", "yellow")
names(team_colors) = mean_table$Team
```


## Graphing

```
# graph of team points
points_graph = {
    ggplot(points_gg, aes(x = value, y = key, fill = key)) +
        geom_density_ridges(color = "black", lwd = 0.6,
                            quantile_lines = TRUE, quantiles = 2) +
        scale_y_discrete(limits = rev(mean_table$Team)) +
        scale_fill_manual(values = team_colors) +
```

```
    guides(fill = FALSE) +
    labs(x = "Total Points", y = "") +
    theme_classic()
}
# graph of team rankings
ranks_graph = {
    ggplot(ranks_gg, aes(x = value, y = key, fill = key)) +
        geom_density_ridges(stat = "binline", bins = 20,
                scale = 2, draw_baseline = FALSE) +
        scale_x_reverse() +
        scale_y_discrete(limits = rev(mean_table$Team),
                position = "right") +
        scale_fill_manual(values = team_colors) +
        guides(fill = FALSE) +
        labs(x = "Finishing Position", y = "") +
        theme(plot.title = element_text(hjust=0.5)) +
        theme_classic()
}
grid.arrange(points_graph, ranks_graph, ncol = 2,
        top = "Simulated Rest of Premier League Season 2022/23")
```

