

A New Perspective on NHL Shot Mapping

Michael Schuckers¹ and Lexi Joy '19^{1,2}

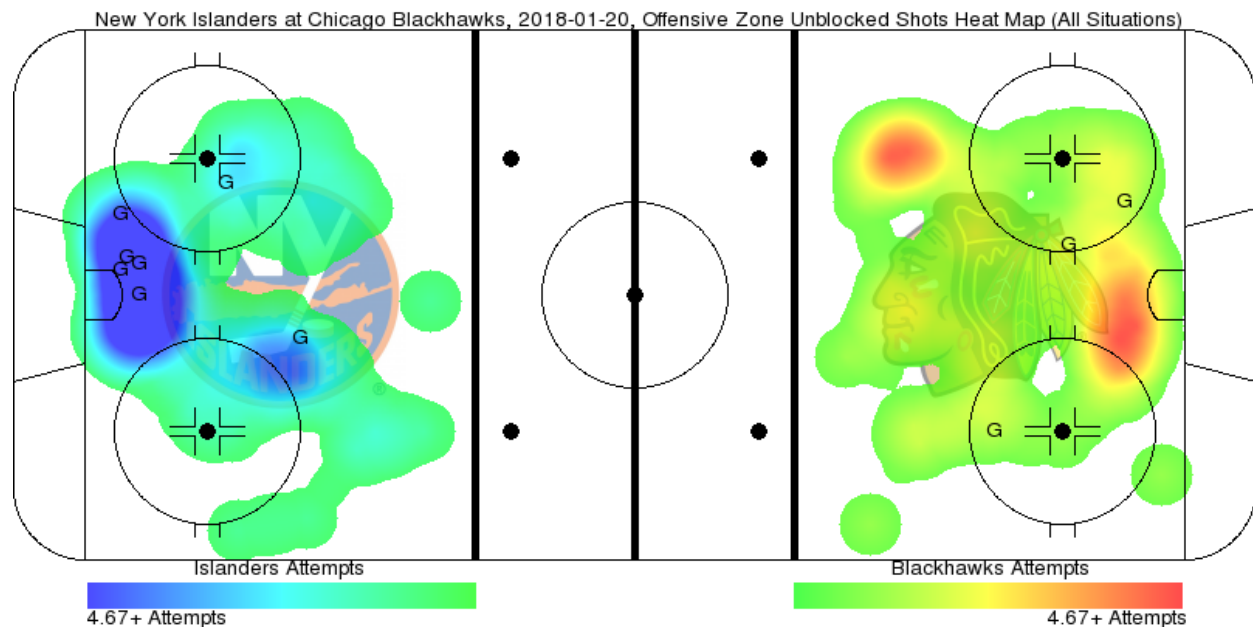
¹St. Lawrence University

²STOP Domestic Violence/Behavioral Health Services North

RITSAC19

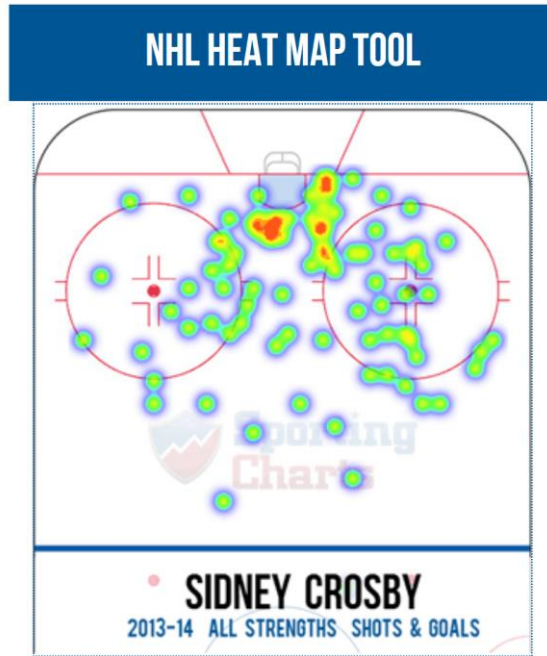
September 14, 2019

<https://www.sny.tv/islanders/news/islanders-scratchpad-the-rocky-balboa-of-the-nhl/265088142/>
<http://www.NaturalStatTrick.com>

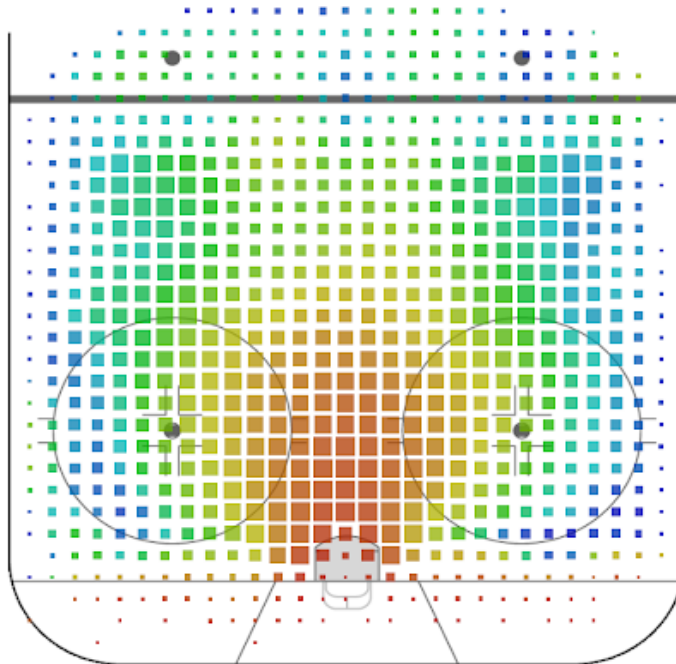


www.NaturalStatTrick.com

<https://www.sportingcharts.com/nhl/>

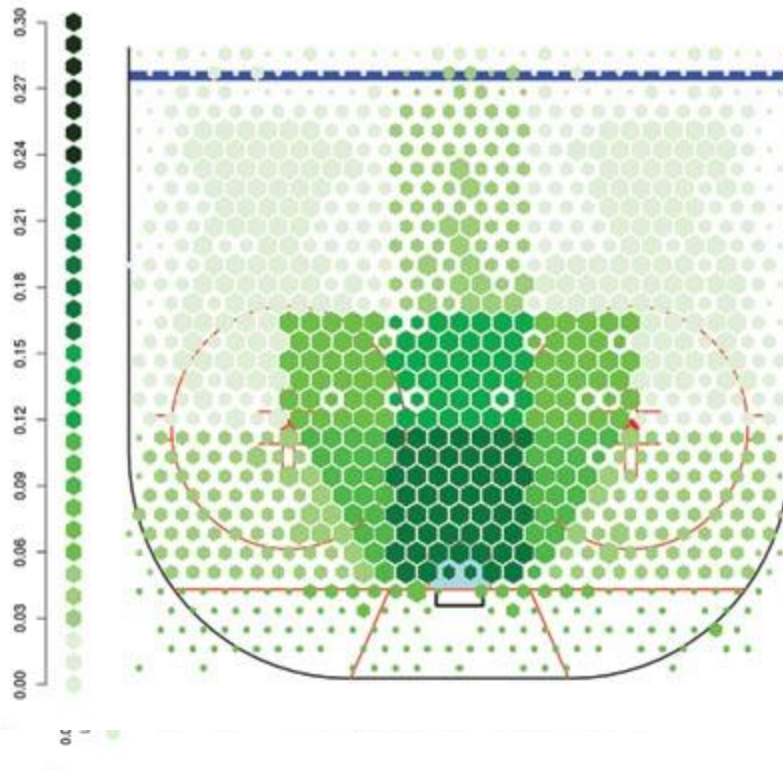


<https://www.greaterthanplusminus.com/2014/04/nhl-heat-map.html>



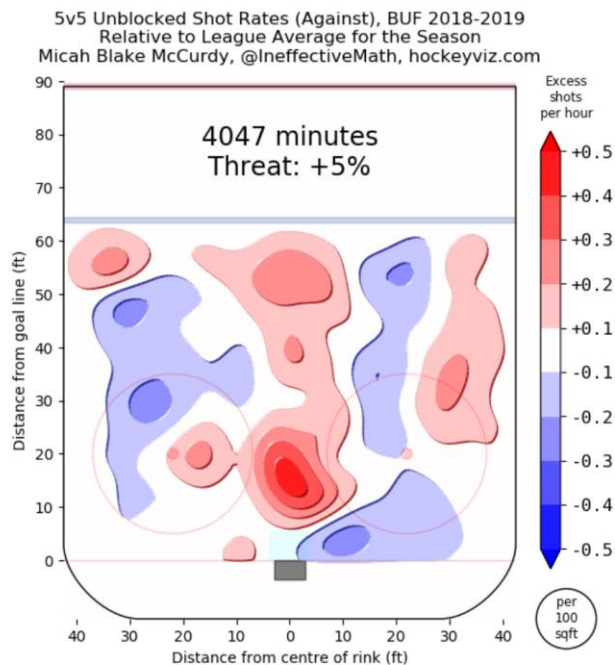
<https://chance.ar>

League-Wide Success Rate

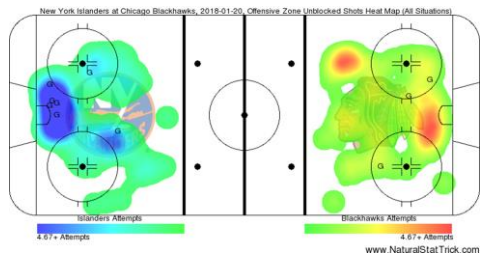


<https://hockeyviz.com/team/BUF/1819>

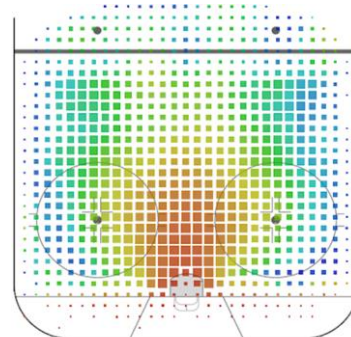
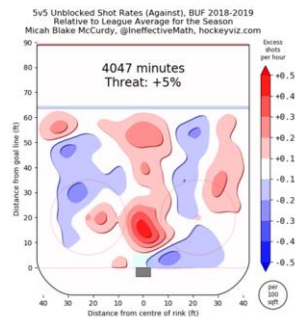
Shots Allowed 5v5 (Animated)



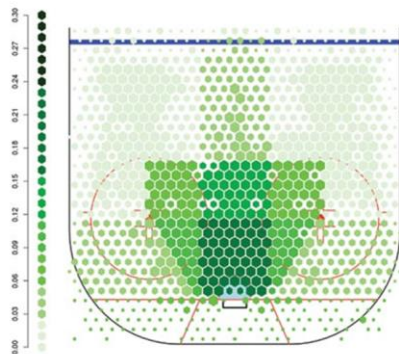
NHL Shot Maps



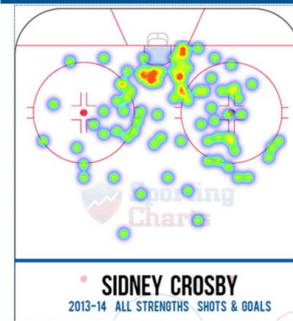
Shots Allowed 5v5 (Animated)



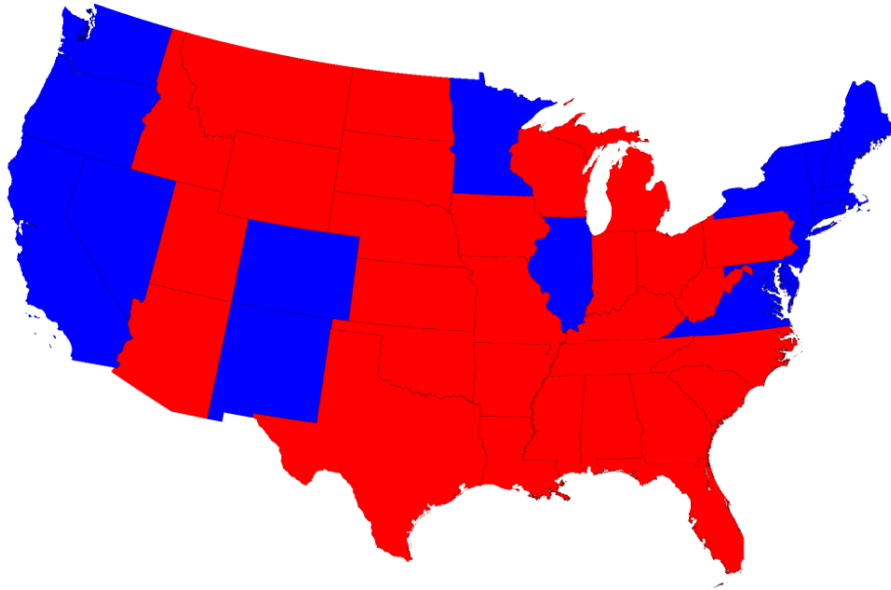
League-Wide Success Rate



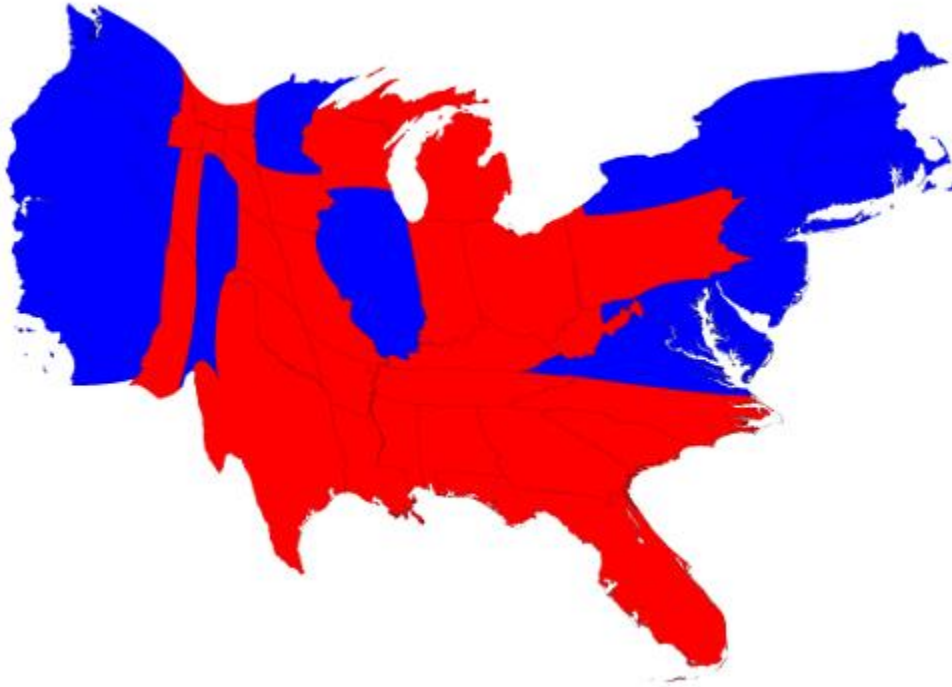
NHL HEAT MAP TOOL



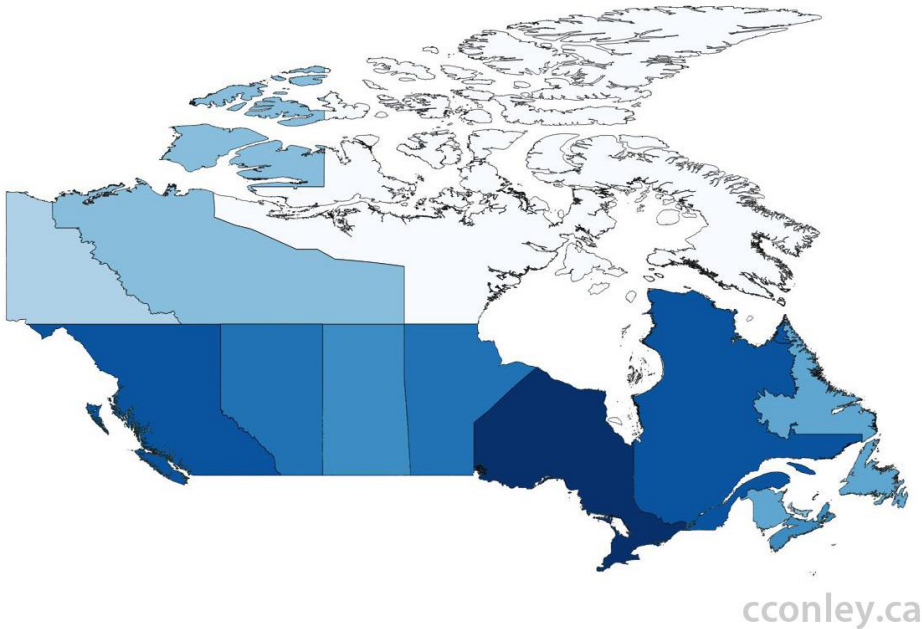
US States (Lower 48) by Area & Politics



Cartogram: US States (Lower 48) by Area & Politics

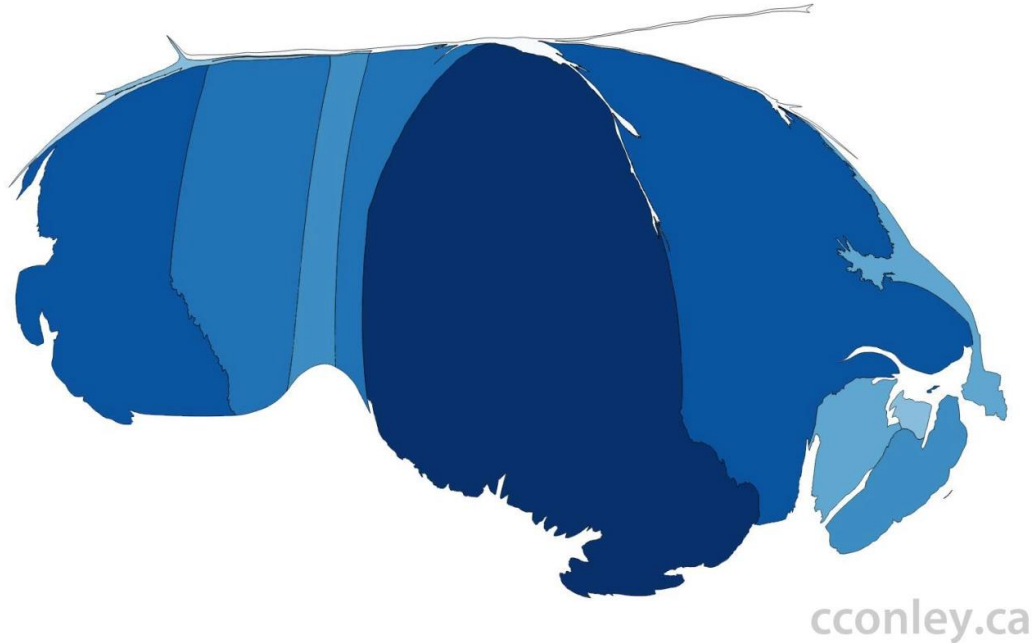


Cartograms: Canadian Provinces by Area



<https://cconley.ca/2012/05/06/reshaping-the-country/>

Cartograms: Canadian Provinces by Population



SOURCE: <https://cconley.ca/2012/05/06/reshaping-the-country/c>

Goal:

Make a

‘nice’ graphical representation of the ice
that (approx.) conveys:

- x,y locations

- shot probability at x,y

- shot density at x,y

Data

[Source: www.moneypuck.com](http://www.moneypuck.com)

Even Strength

Goalies in net

2007-08 to 2018-19 NHL Seasons

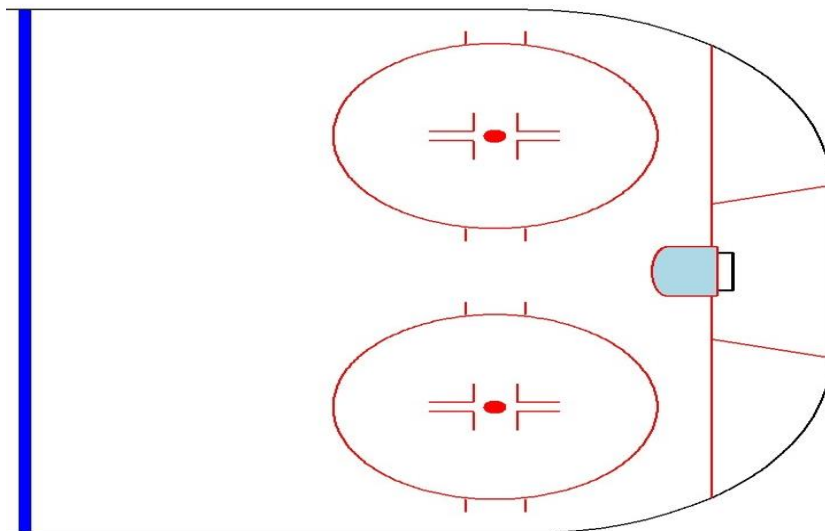
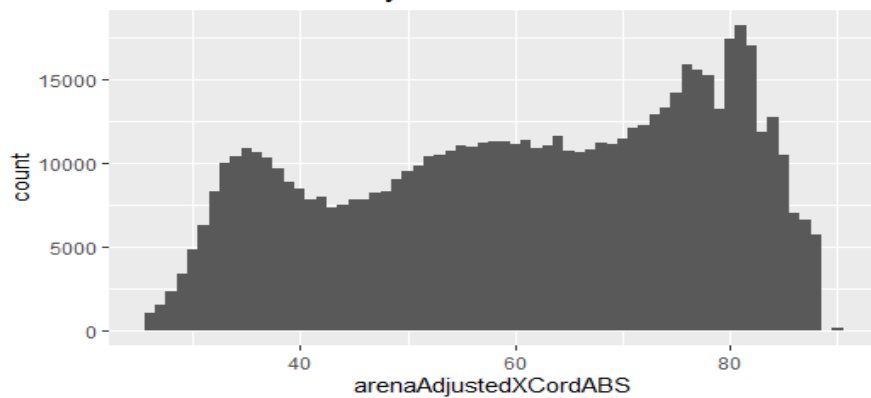
Regular season games

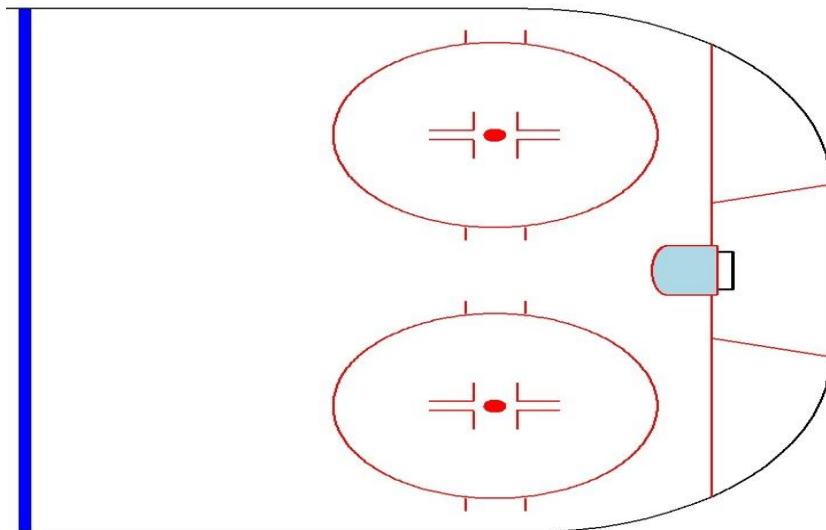
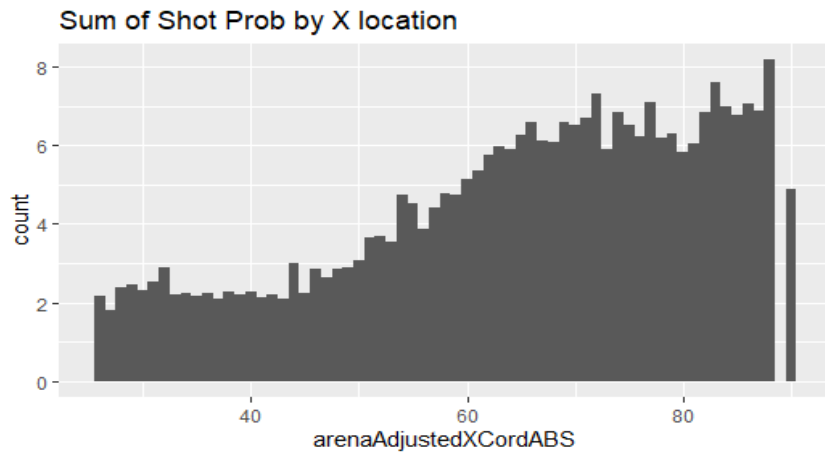
Regulation, no OT

Ignore shot type

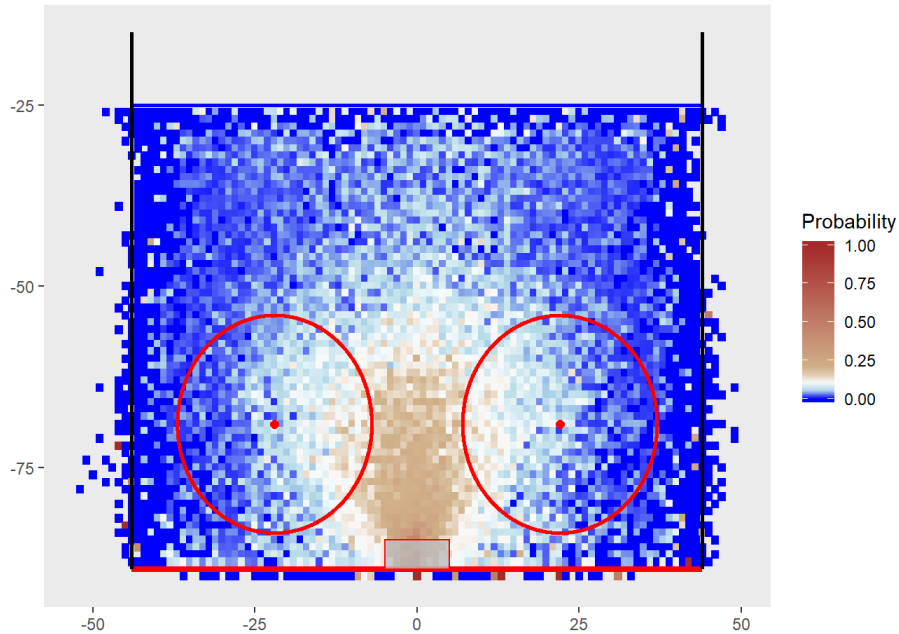
It is after all RTSS data

Sum of Shot count by X location

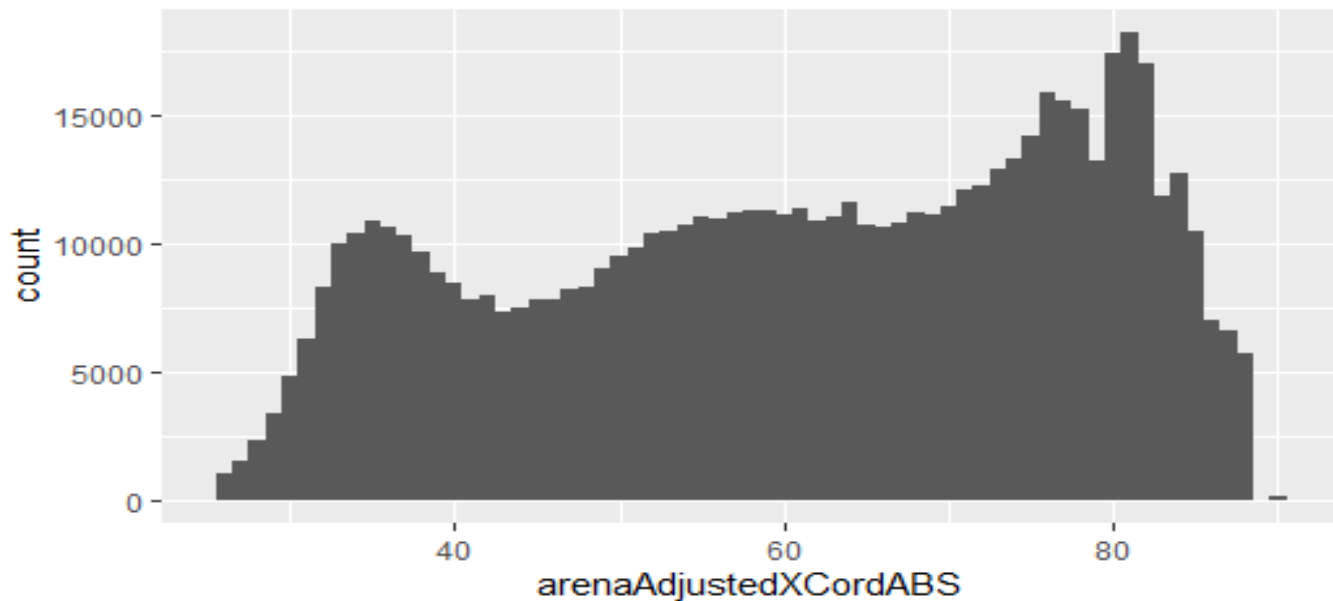


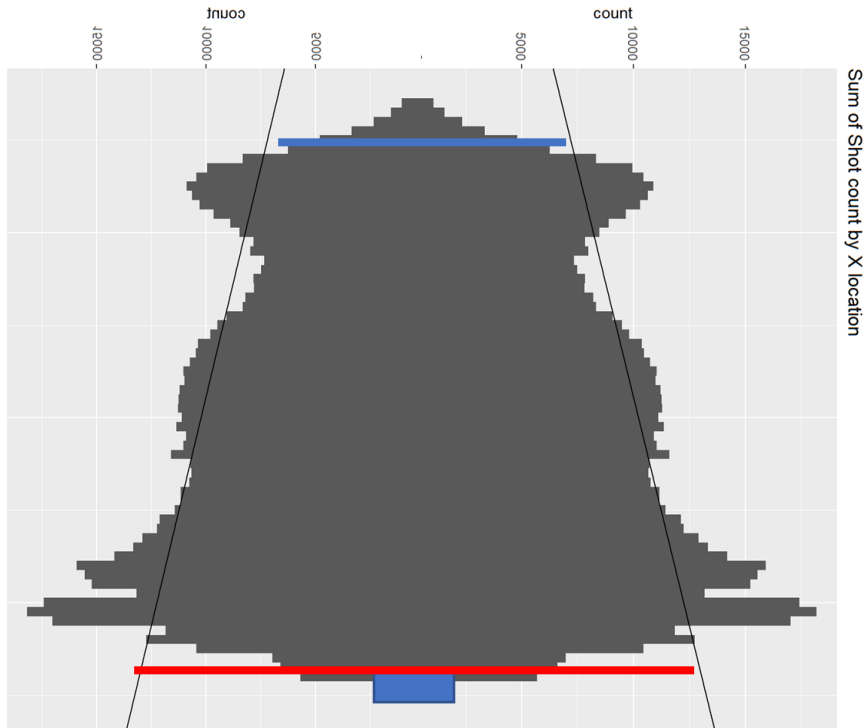


Heat Map: Shot Probability

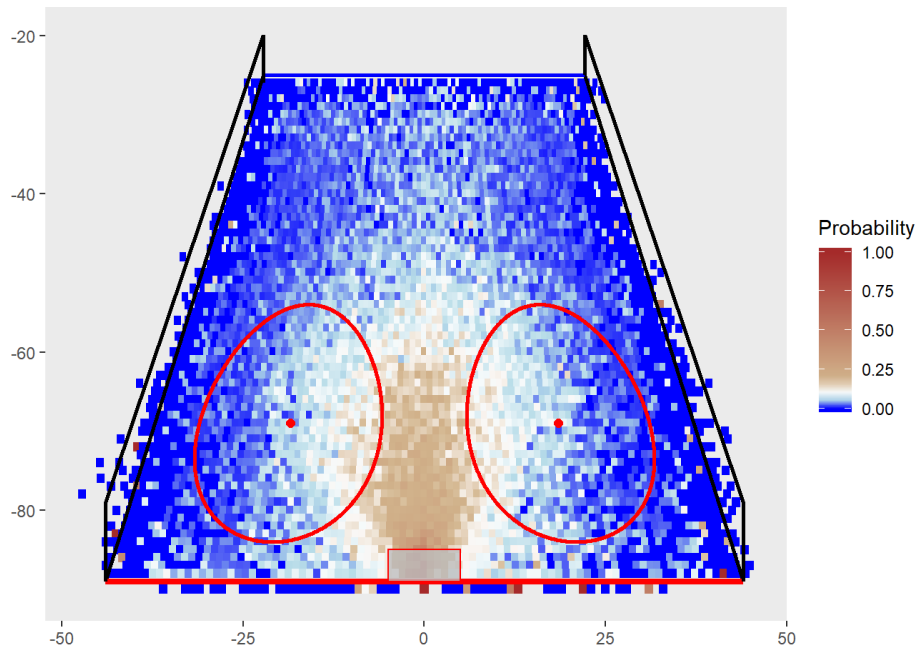


Sum of Shot count by X location





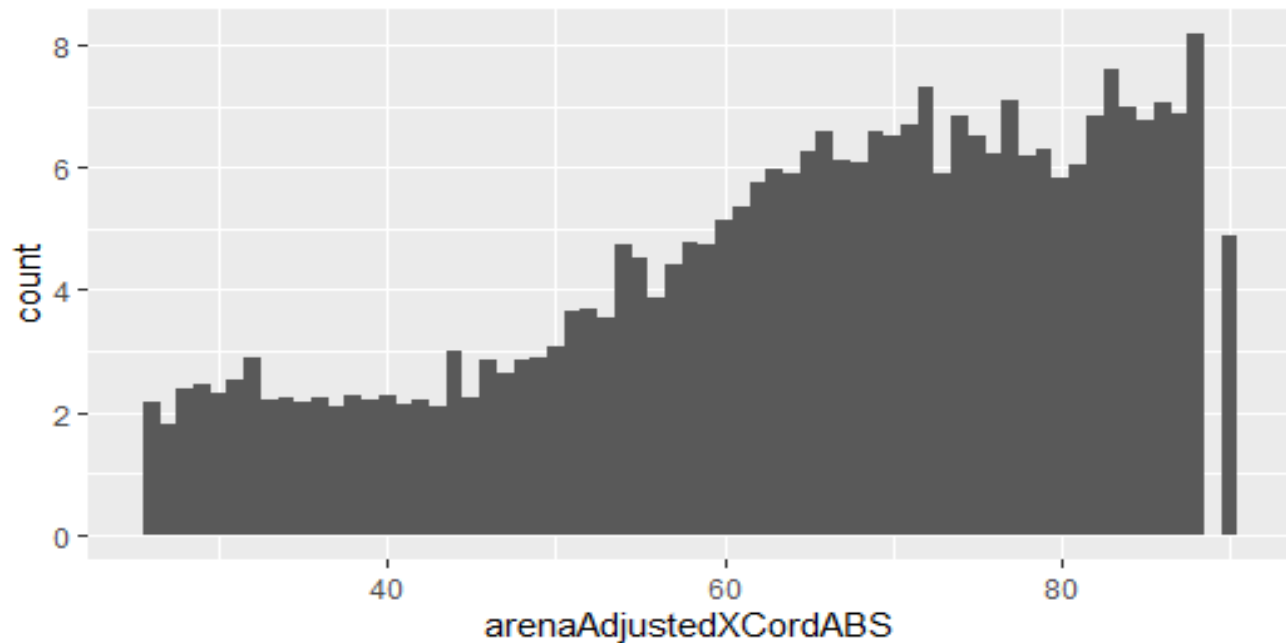
Color = shot probability
Width= Smoothed(# of shots)

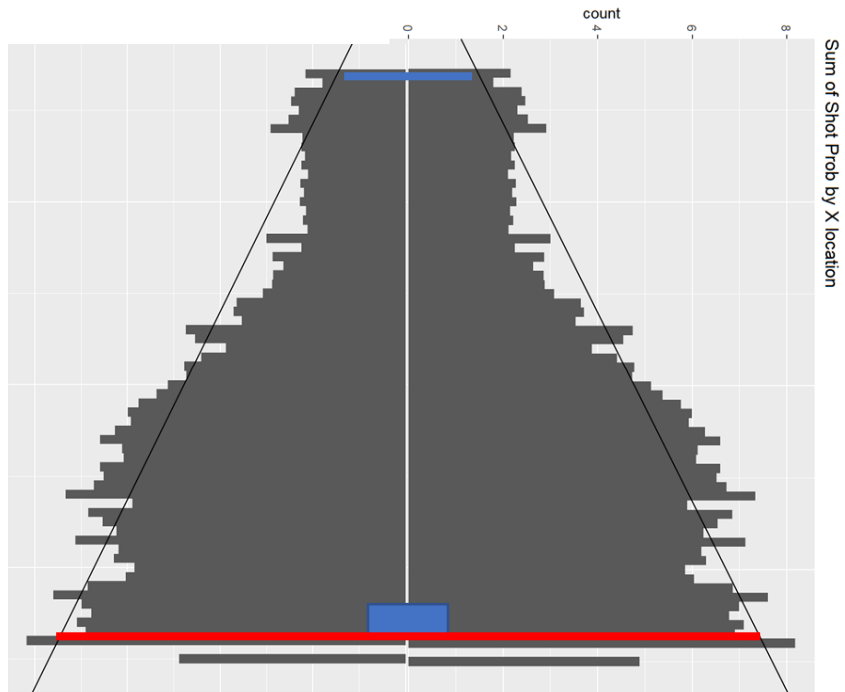


Heat Map: Shot Intensity



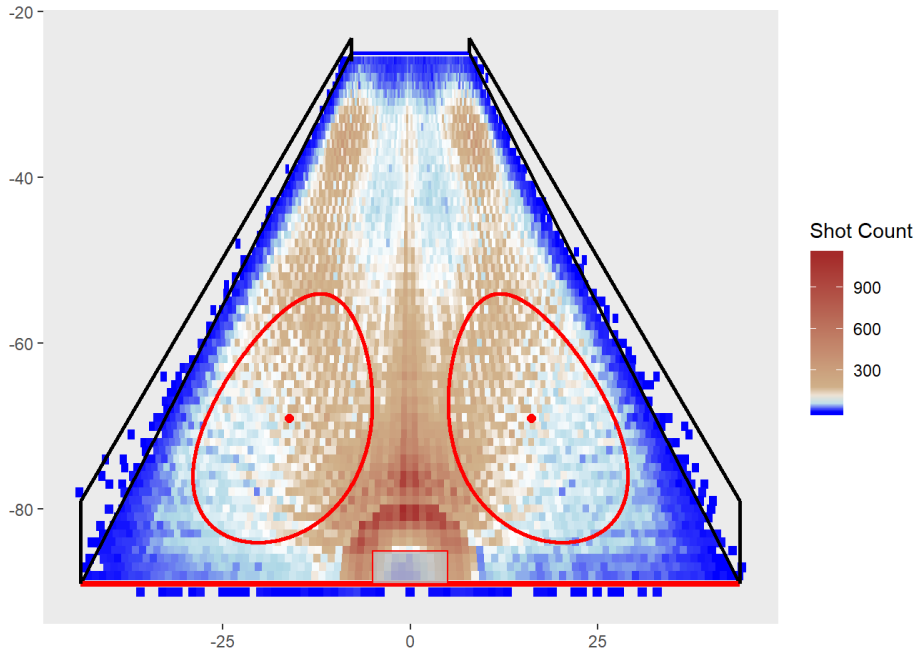
Sum of Shot Prob by X location



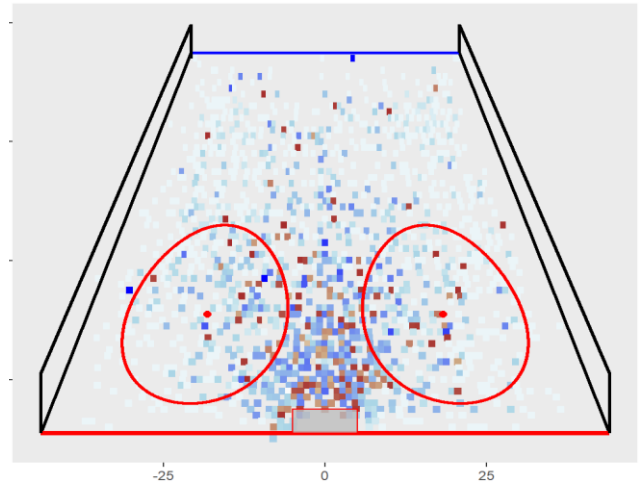
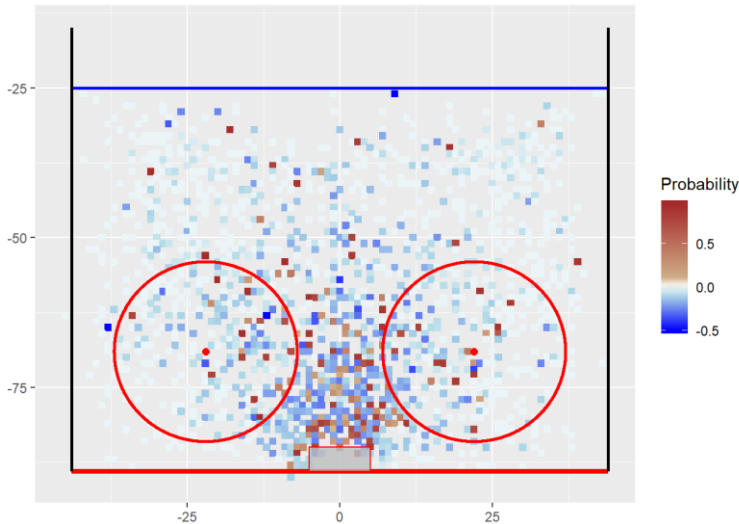


Color = # of shots

Width= Smoothed(shot probability)



Example:
2018-19 Sabres vs League Avg
Mapping of Shot Prob Diff,
Scaling by Number of Shots



Basic Process: Intensity as Color

1. Determine color variable: Intensity

2. Smooth Sum of Probability as linear function, $\hat{f}(x) = a + by$, to shot location t relative to Goal Line. We used OLS regression.

3. Make width of colored pixel at height, y , proportional to

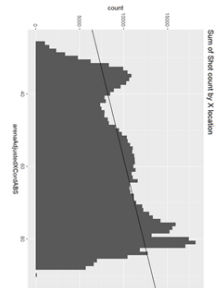
$$\frac{a+by}{a+b(y=\text{Goal Line})}$$

4. Keep height of colored pixels all 1.

For Probability as color exchange Probability for Intensity.

Scaling based upon Intensity $f(\text{Blue Line})/f(\text{Goal Line}) \sim 0.5$

based upon Probability $f(\text{Blue Line})/f(\text{Goal Line}) \sim 0.2$



The Math

- New location, x' , for horizontal coordinate at given vertical coordinate y . For estimated line $a + b y$
- $\gamma = \frac{a+b(-25)}{a+b(-90)}$

Coordinates of the O-zone:

horizontal	-45 to 45
vertical	-90 to -25

$$x' = 45\gamma + \frac{(y-(-25))}{-90-(-25)}(1 - \gamma) x$$

Next Steps

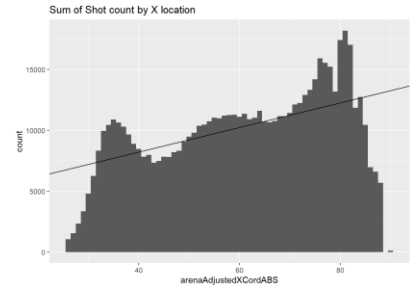
Make more plots

Best smoothing methods for perspective, OLS?

Statistical methods for shot heat maps: validity, reliability

Rmarkdown of the graphs in this talk at:

<http://myslu.stlawu.edu/~msch/NewPerspective.html>



Plots need a name.....

Prymaat Plots

Beldar Plots

Coneheads Plots*



*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQv1-apTJ6U>

- Source: <https://www.discogs.com/artist/1754616-Prymaat-Conehead>


2019 Ottawa Hockey Analytics Conference

November 15, 16

Carleton University

www.statsportsconsulting.com/otthac19

Taking abstracts until Sept 25th



Thank you

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