

CCSU
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
COLLOQUIUM

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11:00 – 11:30 AM
Davidson Hall, Room 207

**MODELING THE NBA DRAFT:
PREDICTING THE BEST FUTURE NBA PLAYERS**

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(Data Mining MS Thesis Presentation)

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Abstract: In this study, statistical modeling techniques and collegiate and international league basketball data will be used to project individual player success in the NBA. It is my hypothesis that not only can the career productivity of incoming NBA draft prospects be reliably and accurately predicted using collegiate and international league statistics, but that a well-built draft model is capable of outperforming NBA front offices at the draft, by identifying players that prove to bring their team more value than the players an NBA front office might have drafted without the aid of modeling techniques. In addition to predicting which prospects will develop into the best NBA players over the long term, draft models also help to highlight which standard statistics are most important in dictating success on the basketball court, and which statistics are most representative of more subjective concepts. The research questions that are answered by this analysis are as follows:

- What factors are most important in dictating a player's future NBA production?
- What factors are most important in predicting whether or not a player plays in the NBA?
- Do NBA teams draft efficiently?

For further information:

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