



The Evolution of Shooting in the NBA

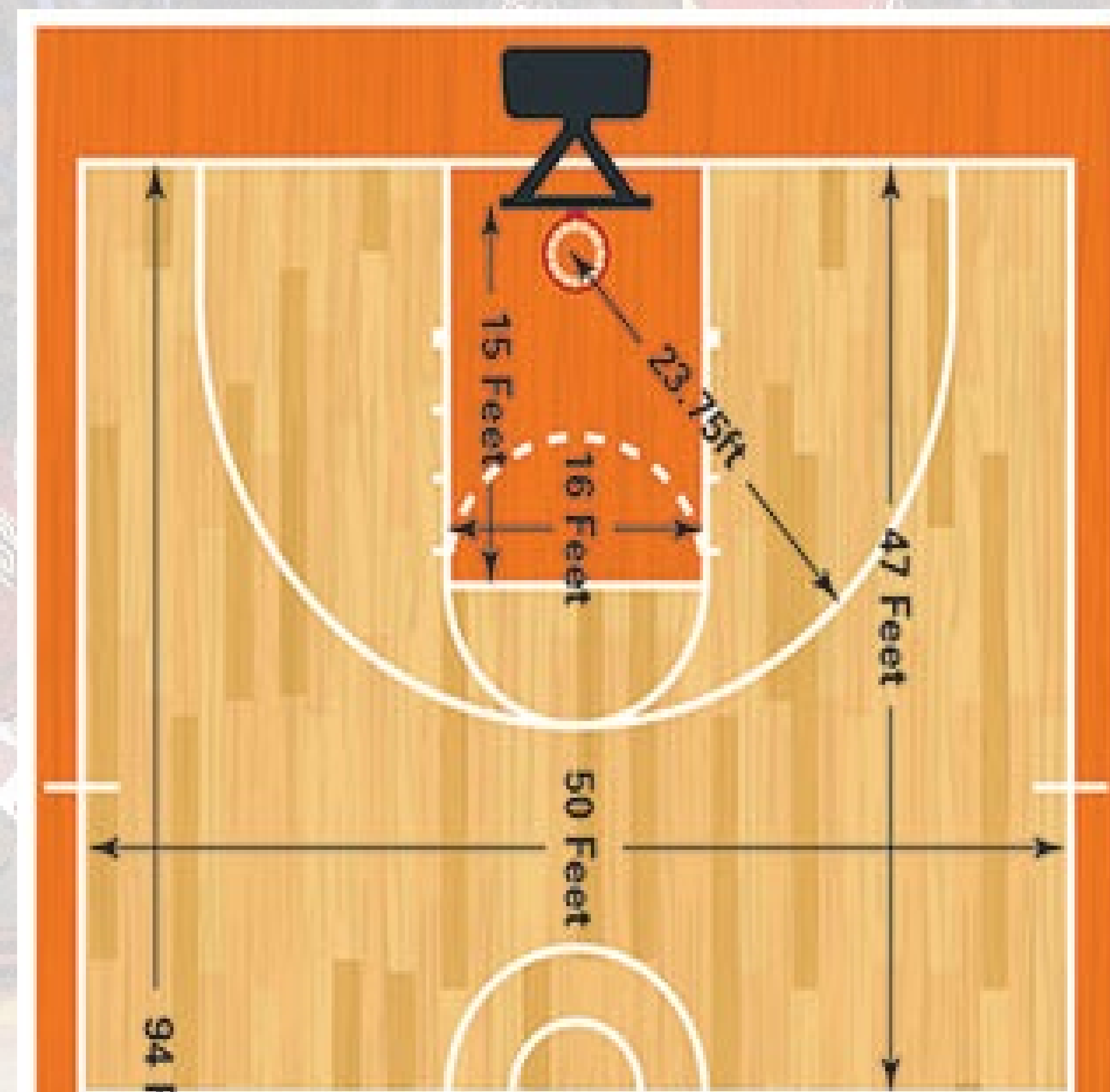
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INTRODUCTION

- We visualized how shots have changed in terms of range and distance, and the subsequent effect on team wins, losses, and overall performance.
- This is important for understanding ways in which the game is changing and how players of various sizes & skillsets are affected.
- We visualized ways in which the game is evolving and what is necessary for players to be effective using Tableau.

NBA Advanced Stats. (n.d.). Retrieved March 29, 2019, from <https://stats.nba.com/players/shooting/>



RESULTS



METHODS

- We analyzed shot selection with approximately 2500 rows across 5 seasons of shot data in 5 ft increments from the basket looking at FGM, FGA, and overall FG percentage.
- We focused on earlier decades, such as 1996-1997, to analyze shots during Jordan's career, and compared it to more recent seasons, specifically 2012-2013 & 2016-2018.

DISCUSSION

- Initially, we found that with championship teams during the 96-97 season, players shot from 25-29 ft at about 40-50 percent, similar to finals players in 2018.
- We identified leaders from 2012-2015 in 3-point percentage & 3-point cumulative score.
- Trends in data showed that games won by players with higher 3-point cumulative scores is greater.

CONCLUSION

- In conclusion, FG percentage remained relatively similar, while increased 3-point shooting percentage contributed to more wins.
- Future studies will explore the precise range at which shooting is the highest percentage for players contributing to increased wins.
- Based on our data analysis & visualizations, the NBA seems to be evolving into a shooters league, requiring players to adapt and improve their range in terms of shooting with increased accuracy.