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Data Article

Exploration of UK Lotto results classified into two periods



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ABSTRACT

United Kingdom Lotto results are obtained from urn containing some numbers of which six winning numbers and one bonus are drawn at each draw event. There is always a need from prospective players for analysis that can aid them in increasing their chances of winning. In this paper, historical data of the United Kingdom Lotto results were grouped into two periods (19/11/1994–7/10/2015 and 10/10/2015–10/5/2017). The classification was as a result of increase of the lotto numbers from 49 to 59. Exploratory statistical and mathematical tools were used to obtain new patterns of winning numbers. The data can provide insights on the random nature and distribution of the winning numbers and help prospective players in increasing their chances of winning the lotto.

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Specification Table

Subject area	Decision Science
More specific subject area	Lottery Statistics/Gambling Theory
Type of data	Table

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How data was acquired	The data was retrieved from www.lottery.co.uk [1]
Data format	Processed data from November 19, 1994 to May 10, 2017
Experimental factors	Data refined from the results archived in www.lottery.co.uk , only the single cases were considered
Experimental features	Statistical analysis, digital root analysis.
Data source location	United Kingdom
Data accessibility	All the data are in this data article.
Software	Microsoft Excel and Minitab 17 Statistical Software

Value of the data

- The data analysis provides a different approach of classifying winning numbers of the UK lotto results [1–6].
- The data analysis can be extended to winning pairs and triples.
- The use of digital root provides another avenue for studying probabilities of winning [7,8].
- Discovery of new patterns can encourage more players thereby improving the economic conditions and welfare of the country [9–11].
- The data can be useful for educational purposes and gambling researchers, number theorists, lotto operators, statisticians, journalists and so on.
- The method and analysis can be replicated for other lotto game results.

1. Data

The data for this study has been analysed to a certain extent, archived and updated at each draw in [1]. This data article contains data generated from different approach other than what was contained in [1] and it is publicly available. The data was on gathered on draw by draw basis. The data is divided into two periods; period A: when the lotto numbers are from one to forty nine (19/11/1994–7/10/2015) and period B: when the lotto numbers are from one to fifty nine (10/10/2015–10/5/2017). The draws for periods A and B are 2065 and 166 respectively. The data obtained for periods A and B when the winning numbers are classified using certain number criteria are shown in Tables 1–4. The fre-

Table 1

The lotto single winning numbers classified in decimal (base 10).

Numbers	Period A	Period B
1–10	2488	157
11–20	2423	174
21–30	2577	165
31–40	2601	181
41–50	2301	157
51–59		162

The most single winning numbers from period A corresponds to 31–40 and the least corresponds to 41–50. Understandingly, the last class contains only 9 numbers for period A. Currently, from the analysis, prospective players with numbers 31–40 and 11–20 has more frequency than other classes.

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