

**ZMATH 2016a.00829**

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**The James function.**

Math. Mag. 88, No. 1, 54-71 (2015).

Summary: We investigate the properties of the James function, associated with Bill James's so-called "log 5 method," which assigns a probability to the result of a game between two teams based on their respective winning percentages. We also introduce and study a class of functions, which we call *Jamesian*, that satisfy the same *a priori* conditions that were originally used to describe the James function.

*Classification:* I60

*Keywords:* James function; Jamesian function; James condition; hyper-James function

doi:10.4169/math.mag.88.1.54