Concluding Probability and Statistics

This course has taught me a lot in the ways of statistics, but also taught me more practical skills through our programming assignments and class discussions about career building. When working on the first iteration of this project, I felt I was unable to keep up with the amount of work ahead of me. Our programming projects have a lot of unique parts to them. These divisions make them easier to solve in pieces, but become overwhelming at a certain point, and I did feel overwhelmed. However, I didn’t think it was necessarily a bad thing, either. I enjoyed the challenge of keeping tabs on various small projects, working piece by piece to gradually build up a variety of programming skills exemplified by my work. The StatsLibrary in particular helped me to see the importance of using helper methods to build larger methods, such as factorial methods to use in larger formulas. Finishing the StatsLibrary in the final iteration felt like an achievement and reflected my time in the course excellently. Designing the Monty Hall and Birthday problems were also excellent examples to compliment the course material.

Moving into the final iteration, we had a new set of challenges ahead of us to work on. Most notably, we were assigned a research project to design problems around a database of our choice. I’ve already written a smaller report in that part of the project, but I did think it was fun to reverse engineer statistic problems from our textbook and served to help touch up and practice with older problems. Finally, we had to focus on graphing information using CSV file manipulation and other programs. First using only Java, then with MatLab, then with another API such as JFreeChart and Apache Math commons. I did not particularly enjoy this challenge, mostly because I realized how much I don’t really like Java. Despite having started learning with Java, ever since I started learning Python, I felt coming back to Java was hard to do. I also did not really have any passion for programming something to handle numerical data and graphing; it didn’t interest me. Admittedly, senioritis proved to be my biggest hurdle, but I hope that my overall work from this semester shows what remains of my drive. I’m excited to move on from college and enter the work force.