I have connected with many data science groups. The closest one to me was Spark4Healthcare. It is new organization working on big project that can bring analytics, statistics, and data science tools into decision support modules for health care providers and clinical researchers. They asked different data science specialties for volunteer work for at least 5 hours a week as they are still building the blue print of the project. I joined them and now I am one of their members.

The second group is Algorithmic and machine learning group. They basically focusing on understanding mathematic for improving machining learning models. I learned what mathematic do I need for long standing data science.

The third group is Kaggle Austin. They introduce 2 persons every meeting to present their projects. Also, they encourage us to use Kaggle and upload our data sets. For this group, I could not understand their goal. It seems that they advertise to Kaggle website.

One of the groups I met and learned from them is Ascension information. I met them in the second interview for data science job position. They want the data scientist to have some experience and will to work, beside data scientist, as data engineer. They skills they look for is big data wrangling using Hadoop and spark. I learned the principles of these two technologies and will continue with them after finishing my course.