DATA620 Final Project Proposal:

Social Network Analysis of the NBA

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Introduction:

The NBA is arguably the most covered American professional sports league by sports media. Of all the topics covered, NBA player movement is among the largest by volume and fan engagement.

While sports media talks about player movement they often cite a main reason for movement is to team with other players. Yet, the media does a poor job of clearly depicting some of the most important player networks. Thus, for my final project I decided to uncover those networks with social network analysis, python, and the networkx library.

Goals:

In this project, I have three goals:

1. I aim to visualize the top three players networks: LeBron James, Stephen Curry, and Kawhi Leonard. In these networks, I would like to include all active teammates they have had. This visualization will depict which players they’ve spend the most time with, and possibly which will team up again in the future (current free agents).
2. Find the current NBA players with the highest centrality measures.
3. Identify the NBA teams that have the highest player turnover.

Dataset:

1. Nbaminer.com

I gathered all current player data from nbaminer.com

1. https://www.nba.com/freeagents/2019/tracker

I gathered the current free agent information from nba.com

What am I seeking to accomplish?

I want to view the clique’s of the NBA  
I want to know each All-NBA players network

Yes, I want to take each All-NBA player and view their network