Justin Eldridge, Cody Farris

DSCI 235-001

Professor Nathaniel Blanchard

Project Proposal: Age Curves in the NHL/NBA

We want to look at age curves in the NHL to see how player performance changes over time. Specifically, we wish to identify positions in which players can expect to remain competitive the longest. To accomplish this we would scrape data from the reference sites for each sport. This would be player data across multiple years along with various performance metrics. This would allow us to see how player performance changes with age. We suspect that some positions will have longer lives than others. For example, in football, being a kicker is much less physically demanding, and thus kickers tend to remain competitive in the NFL longer than running backs.

The first step would be to acquire six years of player data. We would then have to identify performance metrics that are appropriate for each position. Once that is complete we would need to complete any necessary data cleaning tasks (removing NA's, reformatting, etc.) We would then use some basic plotting tools like a LOESS curve to show how player performance changes with age. If time allows or we find something particularly interesting we would try to find some way to compare trends across the two sports. Each of us would be responsible for finding and cleaning the data for one of the two sports.

- Data Sources:
    - https://www.hockey-reference.com/

We have completed our data collection and cleaning tasks. Next we can start putting all of the data sets together and begin plotting.