

Elliot Lee
Activity 1 write up

The data that I chose to work on was the career statistics of NBA player LeBron James. I wanted to see how LeBron's yearly averages compared to the average of his statistics over his entire career. To do this, I wrote a Python script to determine the number of years in which LeBron's various statistics were greater than his career averages. One finding of note was that all of LeBron's shooting statistics returned a high number of seasons spent in which his shooting percentages were higher than the average. This backs up the widely popular claim that LeBron is an inconsistent shooter - looking at the CSV file, it can be observed that in many of LeBron's seasons, his shooting percentages were either far below his career average or far above it. Besides his shooting statistics, LeBron also had many seasons in which his rebounding and assists season averages were higher than his career average. This can be explained by the transition in LeBron's play style - as he grew older, he became more muscular, allowing him to grab more rebounds than he could have in his younger years, and assumed control of the ball more often, leading to an increase in his assists.

The largest struggle that I faced in completing this assignment was in tracking the statistics that I wanted to. Initially, I wanted to write a script to traverse down the columns of the statistics of interest in order to do a year to year comparison of his statistics. The script would go down the rows of each column and would add 1 to a counter if LeBron's statistics for the year surpassed his averages from the previous season. However, I ran into many problems trying to write a script to traverse the column, and this initial idea was scrapped for the current script that compares his season statistics to his career averages.