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Metis Blog
Week 1

I was very concerned about my ineptitude at programming going into the camp, and those fears were affirmed during the data cleaning process. It seemed that my group was speeding ahead with great progress and I felt that raising my concerns about my lack of knowledge with data cleaning would slow them down. Regardless, they were a great team. I grew a chip on my shoulder and wanted to make an impression on them, so when it came time to perform our individual analyses, I ran off with the radical, and in hindsight rash, idea of analyzing shifts in the MTA framework as a result of significant events. I knew that NYC could easily be home to large events over the span of a single month, it was just a question of which ones and how big? I did not perform this analysis with an end result in mind. When I ended up coming across numerous events, I was disappointed to either find that a) they weren't even close to a subway station, meaning that it would be difficult to attribute it to MTA traffic, or b) the event would have little impact on MTA traffic. On the other hand, there were events such as the Climate Protest of 2019, which didn't even involve the MTA system, much to my chagrin. Even the US Open, which i thought would have been a great source of data, turned out to yield data that was insufficient for creating new peaks. Ultimately everything had uselessly low yields because the traffic at larger sites was just too massive to be offset by one-off weeks. Since it was 5 AM Friday morning, I elected just to say that my analysis would embolden the original claim of the other sites, and prayed that it wouldn't get that much attention during the presentation. Turns out that was false. At least I got some good cleaning, analysis, and presentation to do on my own. In the context of practicing data-relevant skills, I would say that this project was a massive success, but if I could do it again, I would have more than certainly worked on a different topic to analyze.