**Summary of Informational Interviews**

Over the past few weeks, I have been reaching out to people in the data science field regardless of which company they are in. Some people I have got in contact with work in JP Morgan, IBM, and Google. The data science team in each company plays very distinct role from each other. However, they all have the same advice for me and even recommended me several books to read on to prepare myself for upcoming potential data science interviews.

Skills to learn:

Python:

Packages that I should learn: Pandas, Matplotlib, SKlearn, Numpy, Seaborn, NTLK, Gemsem

SQL:

Learn to query and make sure to be able to understand inner join, outer joins,etc.

Data Visualization:

They all told me that I would have to learn Tableau since it is a very important data visualization language to have. In addition, it is also important to use matplotlib to plot graphs as well as seaborn for data visualization, which both I have learned throughout the SpringBoard bootcamp courses.

Java:

For Java, they told me that I would be asked several programming questions which include data structures and algorithms. So I would have to enhance my skills on this as this would be use for scaling.

Statistics:

I would have to sharpen my statistics and probability skills. For example, if an interviewer asks how to find the square root of 37, I would have to use for instance taylor series to be able to explain it to him to get a reasonable answer. They also recommended me to do a lot of maths puzzles to be able to think statistically.

In general, all of them are very friendly and wanted to help me prepare for my upcoming interviews if I have any. They also expected me to keep in touch with them and allowed me to ask any additional questions to them regarding any technical or anything in general. One of them also mentioned that he would be happy to refer me to his company but only by the time when I am ready.

One final piece of advice they told me is that getting a job is a by product. I should not be nervous or even worry if I will get a job. What I should be really concerned is if I have learned anything new and have a deep understanding on the specific subject matter. Only by being curious and being passionate enough about what I am studying, will I be successful.