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CS 129.1 - FINAL PROJECT REPORT

A. Approved Big Data Proposal

The question that the group aims to answer is how much has the 3-point percentage increased in all of the positions (point guard, shooting guard, small forward, power forward, and center) from NBA seasons 1979-2016? Change in percentage will be measured on a five-year interval.

B. Description of Dataset

The dataset is a CSV file containing various basketball statistics of various players of the NBA from 1950 up to 2016. The dataset was sourced from Kaggle.

C. Description of the Output

According to the data we gathered, we can see that the average 3-point percentage in the NBA from 1980 to 2014 is rising. We can also see that the position with the most significant rise in 3P% is with the power forward. This is most likely because the NBA is moving towards being position-less, meaning, any player, regardless of size, can now shoot, handle the ball, and score more often (before, shooting guards are the primary scorers).

As expected, shooting guards are leading all positions with the highest 3P%. This is probably due to the game evolving in a very dynamic manner as compared to before. Now, the game is more fast-paced due to the more different defensive schemes. Before, teams were more focused on protecting the paint rather than outside the arc, in response, players chose to shoot more 3s.

D. Visualization

