Reflection 2

My following fifty hours were mainly spent more on researching the different methods alluded to in my previous reflection. I decided my main focus would first be on finding data-sorting programs. While there are ones I expected, like Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets, I found a few interesting ones. I learned that Python, a programming language, also has a data-sorting utility. Tableau is an interchangeable, AI analytic software that focuses directly on data visualization tools and methods (Dambrioso, 2023). After about a day of searching, I was recommended a software known as Google Refine by my roommate. My roommate has a background in data sorting and computer science and is currently a graduate student. I decided to check this software out because of that. I learned Google Refine was a tool created by Google focusing on working with messy data, cleaning it up, transforming, and linking databases (Google, 2024). This was one of the biggest research developments found throughout my internship. I spent around two to three hours learning the basics of Refine and decided to implement it on some of the amateur data sorting I did previously. The difference was night and day. A few of the tools I found myself using mainly were the sorting options and duplicate identification methods. By first using these and then implementing data into specific groups, I was able to clean up and sort data far quickly than before. About a month into my internship, I was given an email with a new list of data. My task was to find any duplicates throughout the entire list. I decided to go above and beyond to clean and sort the data numerically from dates of implementation. This was all a breeze with Refine. I decided my next focus would be on further delving into Refine, Excel, and Sheets.

References

Dambrosio, L. (2023, May 24). *What is Tableau & What is it used for? an analyst's guide*. Mode. https://mode.com/blog/what-is-tableau

Google. (n.d.). *Google code archive - long-term storage for google code project hosting.* Google. https://code.google.com/archive/p/google-refine/