

My Experience at Meetup

It has been some months since I became a member of the Houston Data Science community which has about 1,800 members. The admin usually set up series of meetups focusing on several topics related to Data Science. I got a chance to attend one of the meetups which was titled by “Data Science from the Trenches”. Four members gave presentations on different data science topics/projects they have worked on through their career. Before the presentation, I had an opportunity to chat with Chad who works for Chase as software engineer. We share our experiences for a little bit. As the presentation started, David Jones took the stage and discussed his data science and machine learning tools in predicting the stock market. He clearly discussed his experience on the topics of financial engineering, data science application and what he called it “honest gambling”. He also showed us how he has been utilizing data science to guide his investment decisions. The second presenter was Micah Miller who is a petrophysicist turned data scientist. He discussed his transition to the Google Cloud Platform and how its vast array of tools support a data science workflow. After him, Paige Bailey took the stage and discussed on predicting Houston Hub Electricity Prices using historic ERCOT and weather data. She walked us through her data science approach taken to accomplish her predictions. The last presenter, Roy keyes, talked about his work on the Python library slots he built used for building multi-armed bandits. When the presentation ended, I had a conversation with one of the participants and discussed about different topics. All in all, my first experience at meetup was very successful and I found the meeting so much interesting where you can learn and make many friends.