**Python for Trading – Installation**

Below are installation instructions for the packages you will need. If you are having any issues please flag these by contacting the hosts before the event. We want to avoid spending time setting up during the meetup itself. Above all please ensure you are in a position where you can install and update new packages easily, and that you have access to data.

* **Anaconda installation:**

<https://www.anaconda.com/download/>

Select the Python 2.7 version.

* **PyCharm installation:**

<https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download/#section=windows>

Select Community edition

* **Testing that everything installed:**

Open Jupyter Notebook or PyCharm and run:

**import** numpy **as** np  
**import** pandas **as** pd  
**import** matplotlib **as** mpl  
**import** matplotlib.pyplot **as** plt

(Note that you can run the Jupyter Notebook by opening up the command prompt and typing “jupyter notebook”)

* **Data sources:**

The most popular free data services are Yahoo and Quandl. Yahoo tends to experience more issues therefore I would recommend using Quandl. The Quandl API is easy to use, has an accompanying data browser and supports a wide range of financial data beyond just stocks (e.g. futures, currency, fundamental and economic data). I’d recommend signing up to a free account as well (although this isn’t necessary to get data).

* **Installing Quandl API:**

Depending on your configuration you should be able to install quandl using one of the following commands in the command line/terminal:

conda install -c anaconda quandl

pip install quandl

Alternatively you can download from here:

<https://www.quandl.com/tools/python>

* **Quandl data browser:**

<https://www.quandl.com/search?query>=

This allows you to search for the securities or economic data you are interested in. To make the search easier select free databases only. For daily US stock price data the WIKI database is best. For example in the test code below we have searched for “Apple stock” in the data browser and found the ticker symbol “AAPL” which is accessible in the “WIKI” database.

* **Testing for Quandl installation:**

Run a test query:

**import** quandl

start\_date = **'2015-01-01'**end\_date = **'2017-10-31'**aapl = quandl.get(**"WIKI/AAPL"**, start\_date=start\_date, end\_date=end\_date)

* **Getting data ahead of the meetup:**

To avoid any issues with pulling in data during the session I’d recommend downloading at least one sample set of data ahead of time. Then at the very least you have this dataset of prices to work with if all else fails.

If you’ve connected to quandl at home and pulled in data for a stock then save this to a csv using the built-in pandas method “to\_csv”.

Alternatively you download a csv straight from your browser by typing the following URL and replacing the final part (WIKI/AAPL) with the security of your choice:

<https://www.quandl.com/api/v3/datasets/WIKI/AAPL.csv>