

# The yfinance Python library

The `yfinance` is a Python library that provides a user-friendly interface for downloading historical market data from Yahoo Finance. It allows you to get historical stock prices, dividends, and other financial data for stocks, Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs), and other securities.

This example shows code on how to use `yfinance` to download historical stock prices:

```
1 import yfinance as yf
2
3 # Download historical data for a stock
4 msft = yf.Ticker("MSFT")
5 msft_data = msft.history(period="max")
6
7 # Display the downloaded data
8 msft_data.head()
```

In the above code:

- First, import the `yfinance` library using the alias `yf`.
- Then, create a `Ticker` object for the Microsoft stock ( "MSFT" ).
- Use the `history` method of the Ticker object to download the historical data for the stock. The `period` parameter of the `history` method specifies the time period for which we want to download the data. In this example, set it to `max` to download the maximum amount of available historical data.

Here are some of the possible values for the period parameter and what they represent:

- `period="1d"`: Download 1 day of historical data.
- `period="5d"`: Download 5 days of historical data.
- `period="1mo"`: Download 1 month of historical data.
- `period="3mo"`: Download 3 months of historical data.
- `period="6mo"`: Download 6 months of historical data.
- `period="1y"`: Download 1 year of historical data.
- `period="2y"`: Download 2 years of historical data.
- `period="5y"`: Download 5 years of historical data.
- `period="10y"`: Download 10 years of historical data.
- `period="ytd"`: Download historical data since the beginning of the current year.
- `period="max"`: Download all available historical data.

Finally, we print the downloaded data using the `head` function. This will display a Pandas DataFrame containing the historical stock prices and other financial data for Microsoft.

	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Dividends	Stock Splits
Date							
1986-03-13	0.055241	0.063365	0.055241	0.060657	1031788800	0.0	0.0
1986-03-14	0.060657	0.063907	0.060657	0.062823	308160000	0.0	0.0
1986-03-17	0.062823	0.064448	0.062823	0.063907	133171200	0.0	0.0
1986-03-18	0.063907	0.064448	0.061740	0.062281	67766400	0.0	0.0
1986-03-19	0.062281	0.062823	0.060657	0.061198	47894400	0.0	0.0