Complete Exercise 4 for your introduction.

See attached markdown of introduction with a few notes on my second draft of the introduction. I did some wordsmithing, and added some technical background.

In the forum, please comment on how you think your understanding of the goals for your project is coming along. If you have questions about how the data relate to the project goals, how the data are organized, or anything else about the science of the project, do you have a plan for answering those?

The goals are pretty well stated in the research statement so I’m clear on the scientific objective. I’d like to understand a little bit more of the applications of the work so I can add appropriate technical background material to the introduction. For now I assume the research is most applicable to biofuel production.

I have many questions about the data. I was given an excel spreadsheet with many pages – not all of which seem to be experiments to be included in the research. Of the sheets that do appear to be drying experiments there is not a consistent set of features. Also there are notes on the experiments that might need featurization.

My plan for assessing the data is to take a first pass at converting the excel file to a data frame in R and produce some visualizations. With that in hand I plan to approach the researcher for clarification and validation of my assumptions. I’ll split the excel file into a series of csv files and as much as possible script the process of creating the data frame. This way if I get anything wrong (I will) we can change it in code.