

This problem set is intended to guide you through installation of different required software and get you familiar with GitHub classroom. It will also help me learn a bit more about your research interests.

In completing this assignment, you will be writing TeX code, either using [overleaf.com](https://overleaf.com) or a local TeX editor like TeX Live. You will also be using Git, and publishing your work to GitHub.

You will submit your problem set by pushing the document to *your* fork of Problem Set 0, big-data-PS0. You will put this and all other problem sets in the repository big-data-PSX, where X is the problem set number. Name your files PSX\_LastName.extension.

1. Create an account at [GitHub.com](https://github.com) and “star” our class repository (<https://github.com/ECON368-fall2023-big-data-and-economics>). Please add a photo of yourself to your profile; this will make it easier for all of us to interact throughout the course.
2. Navigate to <https://education.github.com/students> and Sign Up for Global Campus. This will give you access to GitHub Pro for free, which will give you access to more repositories and GitHub CoPilot. You must enroll using your bates.edu email and a photo of your student ID.
3. Fork the class repository to your own account. Once you have forked, go to “Settings” and click on “Collaborators” on the left hand bar. Enter my GitHub username so that I will be able to view your completed assignments.
4. Download Git and GitHub Desktop. You can download Git at <https://git-scm.com/downloads>. You can download GitHub Desktop from <https://desktop.github.com/>.
5. Clone your fork of the class repository to your local machine. There are two ways to do this (instructions with pictures—<https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/creating-and-managing-repositories/cloning-a-repository>):
  1. GitHub Desktop:
    - (a) **Sign in to Your GitHub Account:** Sign in to your GitHub account using your username and password.
    - (b) **Configure GitHub Desktop (if required):** GitHub Desktop may prompt you to configure your default settings, including your name, email, and text editor. Configure these settings as needed.
    - (c) **Clone a Repository:** Click the "File" menu, then select "Clone Repository."
    - (d) **Choose a Repository to Clone:** In the "Clone a Repository" window, you can:

- Choose your fork of the repository
- Choose a local directory where you want to clone the repository.

Click the "Clone" button to proceed.

- (e) **Wait for Cloning to Complete:** GitHub Desktop will download all the files and history from the repository. Depending on the size of the repository and your internet connection, this may take some time.
  - (f) **Access Your Cloned Repository:** Once cloning is complete, you will have a local copy of the Git repository in the directory you specified. You can access it through GitHub Desktop and start working on your project.
2. Command line (challenging):
- (a) **Open Terminal/Command Prompt:**
    - **Windows:** Open the Command Prompt or PowerShell.
    - **Mac:** Open the Terminal application located in the Utilities folder within the Applications folder.
  - (b) **Navigate to the Directory:** Use the `cd` (Change Directory) command to navigate to the directory where you want to clone the Git repository. Below I use the Documents folder, your choice where!
    - **Mac Example:** `cd ~/Documents`
    - **Windows Example:** `cd C:\Users\YourUsername\Documents`
  - (c) **Clone the Repository:** To clone your fork of the Git repository, use the `git clone` command followed by the repository URL, which is the green "Clone or download" button on your forked repository webpage and copying the link.
    - Example: `git clone https://github.com/username/repository.git`
  - (d) **Enter GitHub Credentials (if required):** If the repository is private and you haven't set up SSH keys or a credential manager, Git may prompt you to enter your GitHub username and password.
  - (e) **Wait for Cloning to Complete:** Git will download all the files and history from the repository. Depending on the size of the repository and your internet connection, this may take some time.
  - (f) **Verify the Clone:** Once the cloning process is complete, you will have a local copy of the Git repository in the directory you specified. You can navigate to the cloned directory using the `cd` command and verify its contents. You can also navigate their by pointing and clicking.

- Double check that your big-data-PS0/solutions folder (in your local copy of the forked repository) has two files in it: PS0-solutions.tex and PS0-solutions.pdf.

- From the command line type the following:
  - `git add PS0-solutions.tex PS0-solutions.pdf`
  - `git commit -m "Turning in my PS0"`
  - `git push origin master`

Are you still confused about Git? I definitely recommend going through [these slides](#). I also invite you to check out the “Learn by doing” resources on <https://try.github.io/>. Also, learning Git requires patience and with enough practice, you’ll get it!

## 1 More advanced Programming with VS Code – not required, but recommended

I had suggested that you download Visual Studio Code and use that in this course. I still do! It is a highly useful tool. At this time, RStudio will accomplish all of the goals WITHOUT needing you to install VS Code. I’ve included some tips for how to install below.

Download Visual Studio Code (or similar text editor). You can download Visual Studio Code from <https://code.visualstudio.com/>. You may also use Sublime Text, <https://www.sublimetext.com/>, or another text editor of your choice. I will be able to provide less guidance on how to optimize those.

If you will be actively using VSCode in this class to do assignments, navigate to the extensions tab on the LHS utility bar – `ctrl+shift+X` will also pull it up. It looks like a square with four squares inside – the top-right has been removed. Search for and install the following extensions:

1. The R extension by REditorSupport – <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/languages/r>
2. *LaTeX Workshop* by James Yu – <https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=James-Yu.latex-workshop>
3. Install Anaconda – <https://www.anaconda.com/products/individual>
4. Follow the Radian installation instructions – <https://github.com/randy3k/radian>
5. GitHub CoPilot – <https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=GitHub.copilot>

6. GitHub Classroom – <https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=GitHub.classroom>

Follow installation instructions and setup.