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CSCS530: Information for Friday

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To: cscs530-w2015@ctools.umich.edu

Cc: Sarah Cherng <scherng@umich.edu>

Hello all,

Hope your classes are off to a good start this week despite the chill!

As promised yesterday, we have granted permission for all those on the waitlist to join the class. If you are still on the waitlist and have not received a message indicating you can join, please send us a note and we'll investigate.




Anaconda

First, as discussed, please go to the Anaconda site below. Anaconda is a “distribution” of Python that includes “over 195 of the most popular Python packages for science, math, engineering, data analysis.”

Once there, please download the installer for Anaconda 2.7 that matches your operating system. For example, Anaconda detected Windows for me:

Download Anaconda

Anaconda is a completely free Python distribution (including for commercial use and redistribution). It includes over 195 of the most popular [Python packages](#) for science, math, engineering, data analysis.

CHOOSE YOUR INSTALLER:    [I WANT PYTHON 3.4*](#)

**Windows 64-Bit
Python 2.7
Graphical Installer**

Size: 366M

OTHER INSTALLERS:

[Windows 32-bit – Python 2.7 –
Graphical Installer](#)

Size: 310M

[Zipped Windows Installers](#)
zipped Windows executable files
for those behind firewalls

INSTALLATION

After downloading the installer, double click the .exe file and follow the instructions on the screen.

For more information on installation, please read the [documentation](#).

If you're feeling brave, you can install Anaconda on your own. If not, just make sure you've saved the installer somewhere you can remember on Friday.

Books

For those of you who weren't able to attend Wednesday, apologies for the late notice on books. That said, we will happily be relying on two books that are freely available in HTML and PDF format:

Think Python: How to Think Like a Computer Scientist. Allen B. Downey.

- **Website:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkpython/>
- **HTML:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkpython/html/index.html>
- **PDF:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkpython/thinkpython.pdf>
- **Amazon:** <http://amzn.to/Owtmjv>

Think Complexity. Allen B. Downey.

- **Website:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/compmod/>
- **HTML:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/compmod/html/index.html>
- **PDF:** <http://www.greenteapress.com/compmod/thinkcomplexity.pdf>
- **Amazon:** http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1449314635/ref=as_li_qf_sp_asin_tl?ie=UTF8&tag=greenteapre01-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=1449314635

In addition to these two “primary” books, we’ll also be excerpting sections from the two books below:

Complexity: A Guided Tour. Melanie Mitchell.

- **Amazon** (Kindle version available!): <http://www.amazon.com/Complexity-Guided-Tour-Melanie-Mitchell/dp/0199798109>

Agent-Based Models (Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences). Nigel Gilbert.

- **Amazon** (Kindle version available!): http://www.amazon.com/Agent-Based-Models-Quantitative-Applications-Sciences/dp/1412949645/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1420754066&sr=1-3

Again, apologies for the delay in getting you this information. Hopefully the cost and ease of access will help



Class Material

In general, we will be posting all class material online. Source code will be available from Github here: <https://github.com/mjbommar/cscs-530-w2015>

For lecture material like slides, as well as other references and links, we will be using a wiki. More info on that Friday. A complete syllabus with dates will also be coming tomorrow or Saturday.

To start, if you'd like to review the IPython notebooks from class Wednesday before installing Anaconda, you can use these links:

- http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/mjbommar/cscs-530-w2015/blob/master/code/001-basic-random/001-basic_distributions.ipynb
- http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/mjbommar/cscs-530-w2015/blob/master/code/001-basic-random/002-monte_carlo.ipynb
- http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/mjbommar/cscs-530-w2015/blob/master/code/002-basic-space/001-basic_grid.ipynb
- <http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/mjbommar/cscs-530-w2015/blob/master/code/002-basic-space/002-schelling.ipynb>

NBViewer is a great place to browse and share IPython notebooks. If you're interested in some self-directed learning, try these resources:

- <http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/ipython/ipython/blob/2.x/examples/Notebook/Index.ipynb>
- <http://ipython.org/ipython-doc/dev/interactive/index.html>
- <http://nbviewer.ipython.org/github/FRidh/ipython/blob/master/examples/Interactive%20Widgets/Lorenz%20Differential%20Equations.ipynb>

Otherwise, stay tuned for Friday's class, where we'll dive into the basics of IPython, and modeling.

Thanks, and see you tomorrow!
Mike and Sarah

Thanks,
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