Data Science 3337 Status Report – Task 3: Hurricane Analysis

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To begin, we have been focusing more on the upcoming exam or other classes than this group project, and the whole group is aware of that. Therefore, the progress so far does not extend much beyond the first part. Our group members started to work with the API to collect the data regarding the cities and their locations. We have the visualization of the storm tracks together, though we are working on cleaning it up a bit. For those group members who are not working with the API right now, they are looking into weather terms and researching how hurricanes are classified and what information is important for a risk-profile.

The plan is right now to place what we have so far onto GitHub so that we can all access the code relating to the hurricane stats. From there, our main plan is to meet as a team across the next week and a half and then in the meetings themselves we will figure out who will do what. As stated above, right now there are a few of us researching hurricanes while a few others work on trying to get the data from the website referenced in the project. However, we think it would be best to do the density estimation functions all as one since that is the “bulk” of the project.

The real hard part of the project is mostly learning how the API works. None of us have any history with the TroPyCal library and therefore we all are learning. We give assistance to each other where we can. We also want to make sure our visualizations are clean, so even after we get things graphed or mapped out, we find ourselves going back and trying to make it more readable. It doesn’t help that most of us have very little experience or knowledge regarding hurricanes, so we’re trying to get a grasp on the terminology and how hurricane intensity is measured (wind speed, mostly, but width also plays a part). Overall, we’re confident we’ll be fine with our project.