

CMSC 320 - Introduction to Data Science

Final Tutorial

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Instructor

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1 Summary

In lieu of a final exam, CMSC320 students will turn in a tutorial that will walk users through the entire data science pipeline: data curation, parsing, and management; exploratory data analysis; hypothesis testing and machine learning to provide analysis; and then the curation of a message or messages covering insights learned during the tutorial. Students may choose an application area and dataset(s) that are of interest to them; please feel free to be creative about this! (For some ideas and possible data sources, see the slides from the first lecture.) The tutorial should be self-contained, a mix of Markdown prose and Python code, and delivered as a GitHub statically-hosted Page (described below).

As example tutorials, check out:

- The Effect of Storms in the United States: <https://shahsean.github.io/>
- An Evaluation of American Presidential Elections: <https://jcurran0499.github.io/>
- Evaluation of Zika virus research collaboration: <https://meteosr.github.io/>
- Analysis of S&P 500 Companies: <https://neo-zhao.github.io/>
- Analysis of Life Expectancy Data: <https://josephiyevev.github.io/>
- Identifying Hateful Twitter Users: <https://chorsch.github.io/>

In general, the tutorial should contain at least 1500 words of prose and 150 lines of (nonpadded, legitimate) Python code, along with appropriate documentation, visualization, and links to any external information that might help the reader. You are welcome to do this project individually or in a group of size at most three; we'll scale up the expectations accordingly as group size increases.

1.1 Github Pages

GitHub provides a service called Pages (<https://pages.github.com/>) that provides website hosting functionality backed by a GitHub-based git repository. We would like you to host your final project on a GitHub Pages project site. To do this, you will need to:

1. Create a GitHub account (or use the one you already have) with username `<username>`.
2. Create a git repository titled `username.github.io`; make sure username is the same as whatever you chose for your global GitHub account.

3. Create a project within this repository. This is where you'll dump your iPython Notebook file and an HTML export of that Notebook file.

These instructions are also given directly on the front page of <https://pages.github.com/>; following those instructions should be fine!

The deliverable to the CMSC320 staff will then be a single URL pointing to this publicly-hosted GitHub Pages-backed website. It is due by **11:59PM on Friday, Dec. 17th**. We will not (*cannot*) accept late assignments.

Please make sure to include your name (and the names of all group members) at the top of your deliverable, after the title.

2 Grading

We will assign a numeric score between 1 and 10 for each of the following six dimensions:

1. **Motivation.** Does the tutorial make the reader believe the topic is relevant or important (i) in general and (ii) with respect to data science?
2. **Understanding.** After reading through the tutorial, does an uninformed reader feel informed about the topic? Would a reader who already knew about the topic feel like s/he learned more about it?
3. **Other resources.** Does the tutorial link out to other resources (on the web, in books, etc) that would give a lagging reader additional help on specific topics, or an advanced reader the ability to dive more deeply into a specific application area or technique?
4. **Prose.** Does the prose portion of the tutorial actually add to the content of the deliverable?
5. **Code.** Is the code well written, well documented, reproducible, and does it help the reader understand the tutorial? Does it give good examples of specific techniques?
6. **Subjective evaluation.** If somebody linked to this tutorial from, say, Hacker News, would people actually read through the entire thing?

Dimension	Max Points
Motivation	10
Understanding	10
Further Resources	10
Prose	10
Code	10
Subjective Evaluation	10
Total	60