Stage 16 — Lifecycle Review

Reading Text

Purpose

This stage brings closure to the Applied Financial Engineering Lifecycle.
The goal is synthesis: connecting all prior stages into a coherent workflow.

Key Concepts

- **Lifecycle thinking**: organizing messy work into structured, reusable workflows.
- **Documentation and clarity**: critical for maintainability and team collaboration.
- **Polish and handoff**: code must be usable by others, not just you.

Why This Matters

In industry, success is not just building a model — it's delivering a system others can use, maintain, and trust.
Final polish and documentation are what separate student projects from professional deliverables.

Example

Consider two repos:

- Repo A has raw code, missing docs, inconsistent naming.
- Repo B has clear structure, lifecycle mapping, and stakeholder summary.
  Repo B is vastly more valuable — not because of different models, but because of **clarity and usability**.

Self-Reflection Prompts

- Where might my pipeline fail if run tomorrow?
- How can I make my work easier for future me (or teammates)?
- Which lifecycle stage did I grow most in during this course?

Looking Ahead

Future electives will explore production-grade ML systems, governance, and infrastructure.
This stage is your bridge from classroom to professional workflows.