Housekeeping: FM 5990 Spring 2019

Pritam Dalal

Welcome & Course Website

- Welcome to the Spring 2019 offering of FM 5990 - *Financial Data Analysis and Visualization in Python*.
- The course website is be the repository for all things related to this class:

  https://pritamdalal.github.io/fm5990_python_site/

- Please take a moment and navigate to this website and bookmark it.

Finding the Course Website

- Google: "pritamdalal github"
- click on the **second** search result
- click on **Repositories**
- click the repository called **fm5990_python_site**
- scroll down to the bottom of the page and you should find a link to the site:

  https://pritamdalal.github.io/fm5990_python_site/

Syllabus

- Let's take a few moments and walk through the syllabus that is detailed on the course website:
  - office hours and contact info
  - we meet once a week on Tuesdays
  - course overview
  - hardware and software
  - texts: required and supplemental
  - grading
  - project
  - homework
- Please refer to the **Weekly Plan** for reading assignments and exercises.

Installing Anaconda

The easiest way to get all the software that you will need for this course is by installing the *Anaconda* distribution. Here are the instructions:

1. Google "anaconda distribution".
2. Click on the first search result.
3. Download the 3.7 version for your platform (Windows, MacOSX).
4. Follow the installation instructions.
5. Let's take a few minutes so folks can get started on this.

Course Philosophy

- Learning data analysis is best done in a particular context.
- I'd rather you be a little uncomfortable, than a little bored.
- This course is for beginners, but not a programming 101 class.
  - you don't need prior programming experience
  - I'll introduce programming topics as they are needed
- The best way to learn is by doing actual work. If any of you have a data related project that you're interested in, then I encourage you start working on it as soon as possible, even as part of this class.

Introductions

Let's get to know each other:

1. name
2. day job
3. background in data analyis and programming
   - e.g. nothing, Excel/VBA, Matlab, C#, SQL
4. background in finance

Firing Up Jupyter

1. Go to the class website.
2. Click on the `Tutorials & Exercises` tab.
3. Click on the link to download all tutorials and exercises.
4. Unzip this folder and put it on your Desktop.
5. Launch Jupyter Notebook and navigate to *Tutorial 01 - Jupyter Introdution*.