Introduction to Pluto

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Tasks in week 1

- · Everything in this course will be done using a computer
 - Practical exercises,
 - Mock tests/exams
 - ► Formal evaluation moments: tests/exams

Tasks in week 1

- We have to install two programs on your computer:
 - Julia programming language
 - ▶ Pluto.jl (one package developed for Julia)
- Week 1 deals only with the introduction to Pluto notebooks
- · No macroeconomics will be taught during this week
- Do not worry: this is a macroeconomics course, not a computational one

1. Installing Julia

• The following slides are a short version of more detailed information available here

Installing Julia on Windows

- Download the correct executable for the Windows OS, by clicking here: Windows installer Julia v1.11.3
- Save the downloaded executable somewhere on your computer, or keep it in the *Downloads* folder.
- Click on top of the executable to install Julia
- Allow the installation to be done in the default directory
- Click on: Title of the document Add Julia to PATH
- Click on: Finish
- Installation completed

Installing Julia on a Mac

1. Choose the correct Apple executable according to the processor (*Intel/Rosetta* or *Apple Silicon*) on your Mac: this means that you have to choose either (2) or (3) below.

- 2. If your Mac has an Intel or Rosetta processor, you can download the correct executable from here: *macOS x86 (Intel or Rosetta) Julia v1.11.3*
- 3. If your Mac has an Apple Silicon processor, you can download the correct executable from here: *macOS* (*Apple Silicon*) *Julia v1.11.3*
- 4. Check the **Downloads** folder and drag the executable to the **Applications** folder. Installation completed.

Installing Julia on Linux

See detailed information available here

2. Running Julia

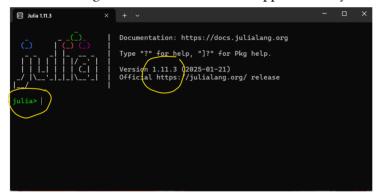
Starting Julia

• To start Julia, click on its icon on the desktop:



Starting Julia

• The following black window will appear on your monitor:



- Julia runs in Two modes: Julia mode and Pkg mode
- what are these modes for? Next slides

Julia mode

• When we start Julia, by default it runs in Julia mode. In the image below, \$\color{red}{\text{julia>}}\$ indicates that we are in this mode:

```
| Documentation: https://docs.julialang.org | Type "?" for help, "]?" for Pkg help. | Version 1.11.3 (2025-01-21) | Official https://julialang.org/ release | julia> |
```

Julia mode

- If you type after $\operatorname{color}{red}{\det } 4 + 4$, followed by clicking on Enter, you will get 8 as the output.
- Julia is installed and running well.
- Julia mode is for doing computation, but its window is ugly and not very handy
- So for computation, we will use **Pluto** instead.

Pkg mode

- To move from Julia mode to Pkg mode, in mode $\color{red}{\text{julia>}}$ type the following character: $\color{red}{\text{julia>}}$
- Different keyboards have different ways of typing \$\color{red}{\text{]}}\$
 - ► Alt Gr and 9 (usually do it on Windows)
 - Option and 9 (usually do it on Mac)

Pkg mode

• Now, we see $\color{blue}{\text{(@v1.11) pkg>}}\$ in the black window indicating that we are in Pkg mode:

• To go back to Julia mode, click on backspace: ←

3. Installing Pluto

Installing Pluto

- Start Julia, if it is not already running
- Go to Pkg mode: \$\color{blue}{\text{(@v1.11) pkg>}}\$
- Once in Pkg mode, type:
 - add Pluto followed by clicking on Enter
- Let the computer do the installation: no further intervention by you is required
- When the installation is finished, go back to mode \$\color{red}{\text{julia>}}\$ by clicking on backspace: ←
- That is it: Pluto is installed on your computer.

4. Updating your installation

Updating Pluto

- From time to time, new versions of Pluto come out
- We recommend you to update your Pluto installation every two weeks
- It is very simple and takes around 1 minute

Updating Pluto

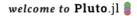
- Start Julia and go to mode: \$\color{blue}{\text{(@v1.11) pkg>}}\$
- Once in Pkg mode, type:
 - Update followed by clicking on Enter
- Let the computer update your system (you do not need to intervene during this process)
- When the updating is finished, go back to mode \$\color{red}{\text{julia>}}\$ by clicking on back-space: ←.
- It is done.

5. Using Pluto

See more detailed information available here

Starting Pluto

- Start Julia and keep it in mode \$\color{red}{\text{julia>}}\$
- Type in its black window: import Pluto; Pluto.run()
- Click on Enter and Julia will open Pluto in your browser:





Opening a Pluto notebook

- To open a Pluto notebook, the double-click on top of the file *does not work*
- · Neither do the usual drag-and-drop in Mac
- Even if the drag-and-drop seems to work, do not do it ... you will loose your work

Opening a Pluto notebook

You have to tell Pluto where your notebook is located. For this, you have to:

- Put the Pluto notebook in a folder on your computer.
- So your notebook has an address (Path) on your computer
- You have to copy that address and paste it into Pluto's Open a notebook window
- How to get the address (Path) of your notebook?
- See next slide

Copy your notebook's path: Windows

Put the cursor on top of your file

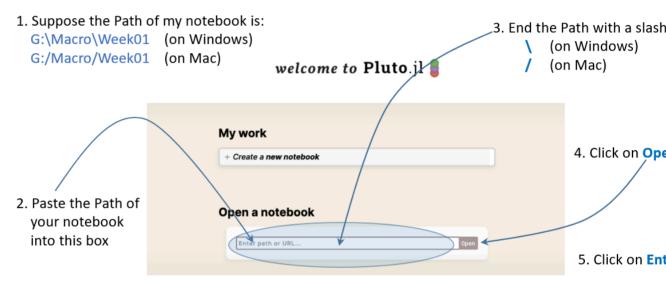
- Mouse right-click on your file
- Choose: Properties
- Copy the path in *Location*:
- The Path will looke like this: G:\Macro\Week01
- Once you have copied the path of your notebook, you canp aste it into the Open a notebook box in the Pluto window
- · See next slide

Copy your notebook's path: Mac

Put the cursor on top of your file

- Mouse right-click on your file
- · Choose: Get info
- Copy the path in Where:
- The Path will looke like this: G:/Macro/Week01
- Once you have copied the path of your notebook, you can paste it into the Open a notebook box in the Pluto window
- · See next slide

Paste the Path of your notebook into Pluto



6. Your Pluto notebook will be opened and running in your browser

End

Bibliography