## Tutorial: Run Scripts on Penn's server, but display Spyder on your own computer!



This Spyder instance actually runs a biglab.seas.upenn.edu. It is "tunneled" to my Macbook, so that I can utilize the computational power of BigLab, the friendly IDE of Spyder, while working away from home in my pajamas on this 37°F cold day!

- 1. If you are on a Mac, **download and install** <u>XQuartz</u>, which enables your Mac to accept remote windows. For other Operating Systems, please see <u>this</u>.
- 2. Add the following lines to the ~/.zshrc :

```
# This line enables you to type "biglab" and connect to
biglab.seas.upenn.edu directly:
alias biglab="ssh -tY <pennkey>@biglab.seas.upenn.edu 'screen -S foo -rd
|| screen -S foo zsh'"
# This script allows iTerm to accept X11 windows from remote servers.
Copied from <http://hints.macworld.com/article.php?
story=2004082505230779>.
DISPLAY=""
```

```
for x in 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
do
    if [ -0 /tmp/.X$x-lock ]
        then
        DISPLAY=:$x.0
        break
    fi
    done
    if [ -z "$DISPLAY" ]
        then
        echo "$USER has no X11 DISPLAY open" 1>&2
    fi
    export DISPLAY
```

- 3. **Start XQuartz**, and set it aside. This will be our "client program" accepting windows running on UPenn's servers.
- 4. Open a terminal, and **connect to biglab.seas.upenn.edu** by typing biglab.
- 5. When connected, install Anaconda:

```
wget https://repo.continuum.io/archive/Anaconda2-5.0.1-Linux-x86_64.sh
bash Anaconda2-5.0.1-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

- 6. When finished, you can **set up virtual environments** by following instructions from Homework 4, Part II, 2.3.
- 7. With a virtual environment activated or not, you can **start Spyder** now: **spyder**. After a while, you can see a Spyder instance showing up on your desktop. Keep in mind that this is actually running on biglab!

## **Known Bugs**

- 1. Tensorflow will always throw an error upon finishing, due to its "unqiue" way of quitting a program.
- 2. Button symbols are replaced by weird Korean characters, generating lots of Failed to compute left/right minimum bearings for "FontAwesome" error from the terminal.

Neither of these bugs affect the proper execution of our programs, so I'd let them go for now.