

# Assignment 1-A

## Setting up your Anaconda Python Environment

### What is Anaconda?

Anaconda is a python distribution that comes with its own package manager conda which comes prebuilt with and enables easy installation of several data science and machine learning packages. It also enables you to create and manage virtual environments with ease.

### Installing Anaconda

Head on over to Anaconda's download page: <https://www.anaconda.com/download/> and download the Anaconda 5.1 client for Python 3.6

### Running a Python Script

Once Anaconda is installed you will be able to run python scripts using Anaconda Prompt.

Now open Anaconda Prompt and navigate to your folder containing first\_run.py and run the script by entering the command

**python first\_run.py**

It will generate a python\_first\_run.txt file in the same folder.

**Note:** Linux users will have to give permissions using

**chmod +x <filename>**

**./<filename>**

## Viewing a Jupyter Notebook

You can use Anaconda Navigator to launch a Jupyter Notebook to view .ipynb files.  
Use it to view `first_notebook.ipynb`

The notebook is capable of running lines of code within different cells and makes it easy to visualize and prototype when approaching any machine learning problems. It also makes it possible to write formatted text in markdown inside markdown cells.

## Scripts vs Notebooks

Scripts	Notebooks
Runs all the code from top to bottom.	Runs cells of code and markdown.
Ideal for running completed, working code in projects.	Ideal for interactive data exploration, analysis and rapid prototyping.

Throughout the duration of this series we will mostly be using notebooks for communicating concepts, tutorials and assignments.