

Anaconda Installation Instructions for Windows

FTC 2024 - Introduction to Python and Statistical Machine Learning

September 2024

Contents

1	Download the Anaconda Distribution	2
2	Install the Distribution	4
3	Launch Python	10
4	Access Google Colab	13

Introduction

Installing Python can sometimes be somewhat painful (even for advanced users). Here, we try to make it as simple as possible by using the beginner-friendly Anaconda distribution.

While this guide might look long, most of it is just pictures. The entire process should take under 20 minutes.

1 Download the Anaconda Distribution

Go to the Anaconda download website by clicking [here](#).

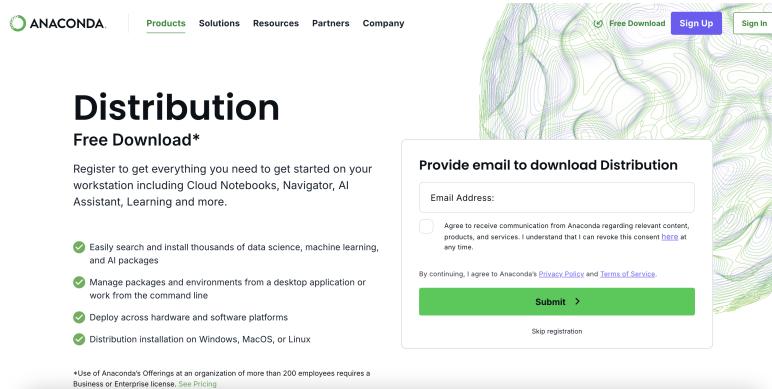


Figure 1: The download website.

Making an account is not necessary. You can simply click on the “*Skip Registration*” Button.

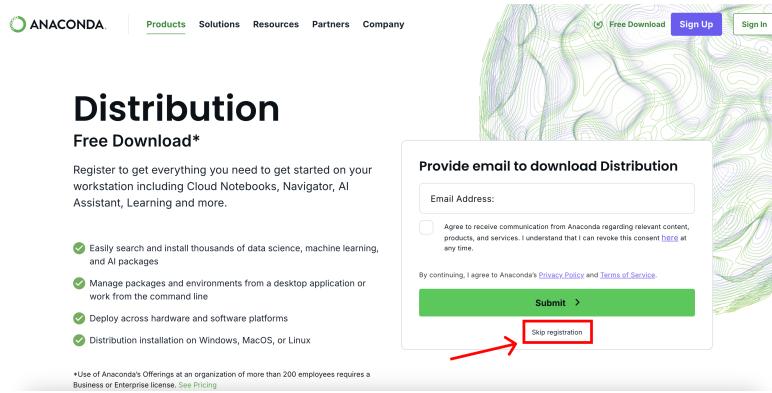


Figure 2: Registration is not even needed.

You will now pick the “*Graphical Installer*” on the Windows column.

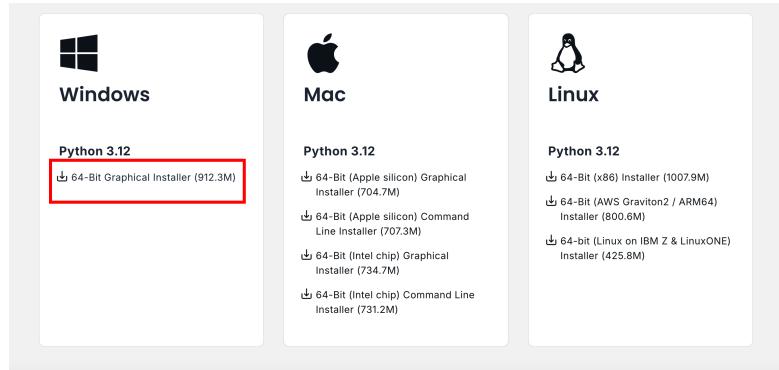


Figure 3: Select the graphical installer.

Check that your download was successful by going to your “*Downloads*” folder and finding the file that starts with “*Anaconda3*”.

2 Install the Distribution

Double click on the installer. It should look like this:

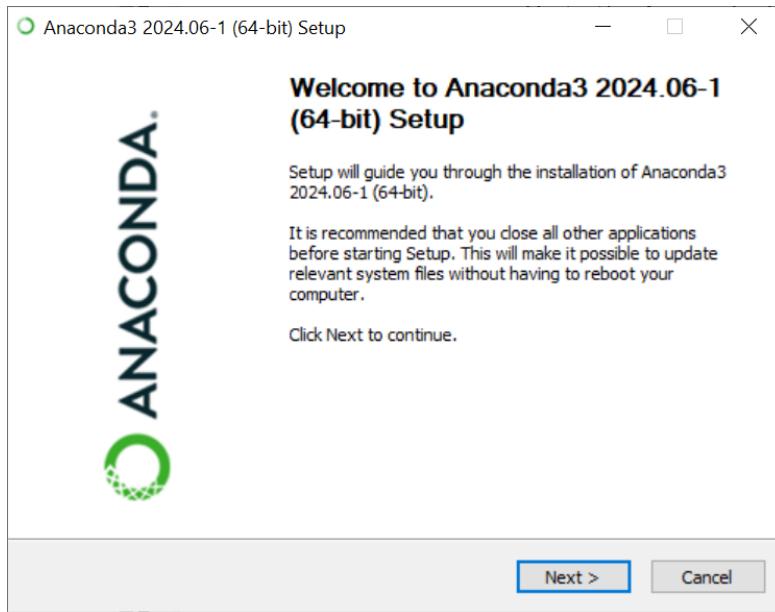


Figure 4: The Anaconda installer.

Click “*Next*”.

Now, accept the Anaconda license agreement:

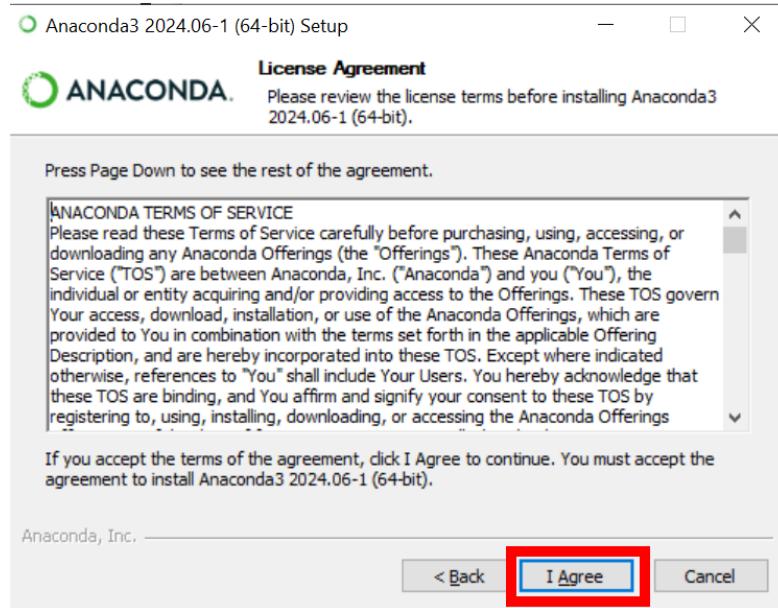


Figure 5: Accept the software license agreement.

In the next screen, select install for “Just Me”:

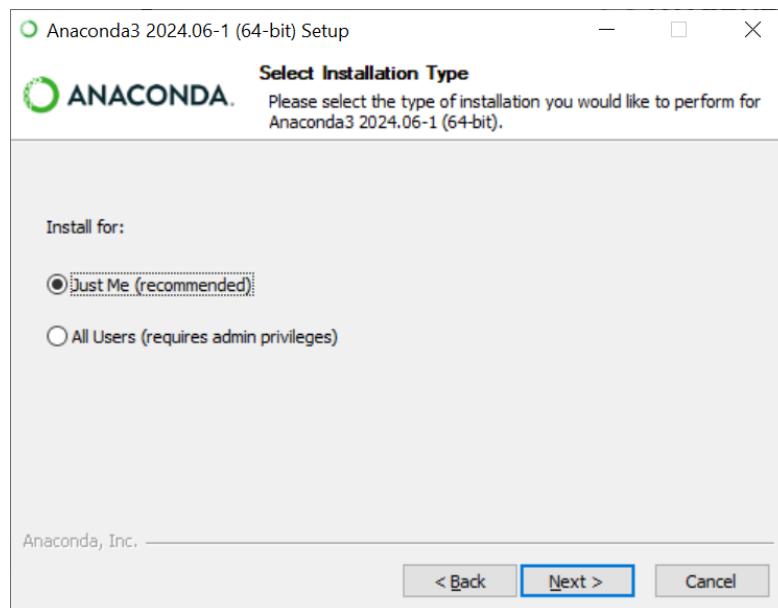


Figure 6: Install for “Just Me”.

In the next page, leave the default location in and click next:

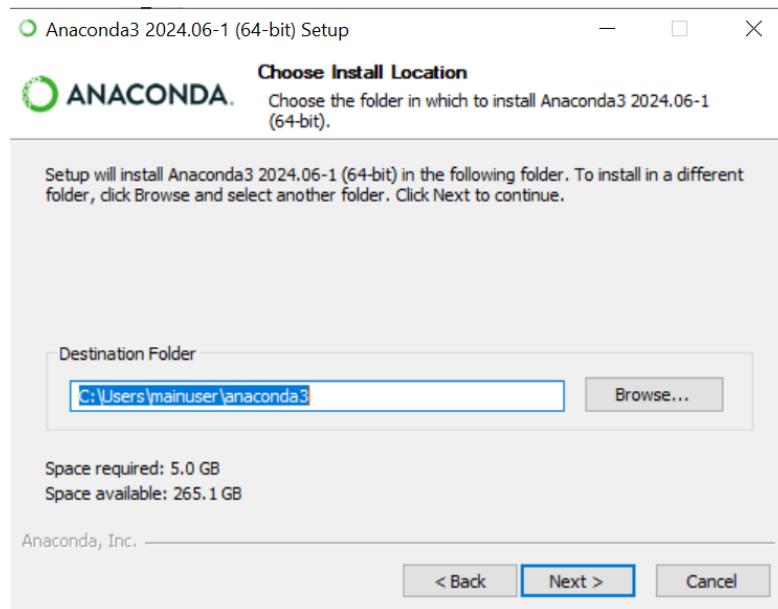


Figure 7: Do not change the default destination.

Now, make sure your advanced installation options match with the ones here:

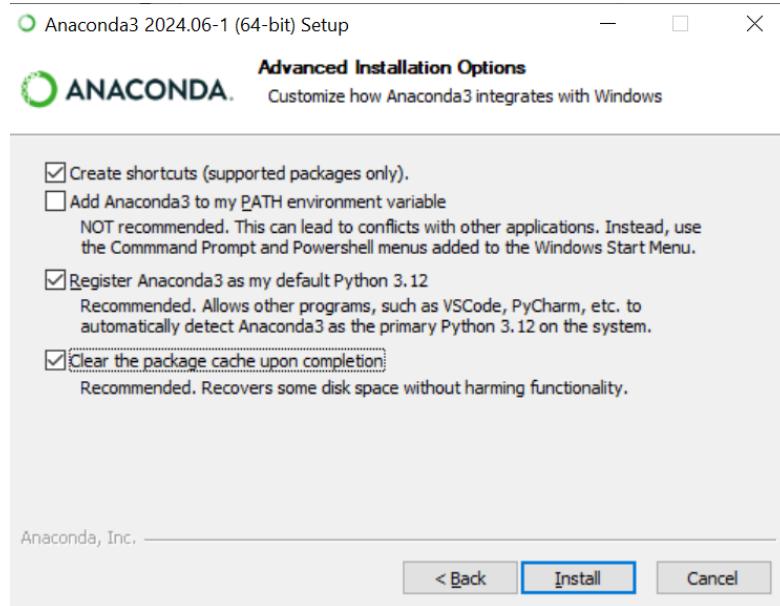


Figure 8: Make sure your boxes match the ones in the figure.

Click “*Install*”.

Once the installation has finished, click “*Next*”:

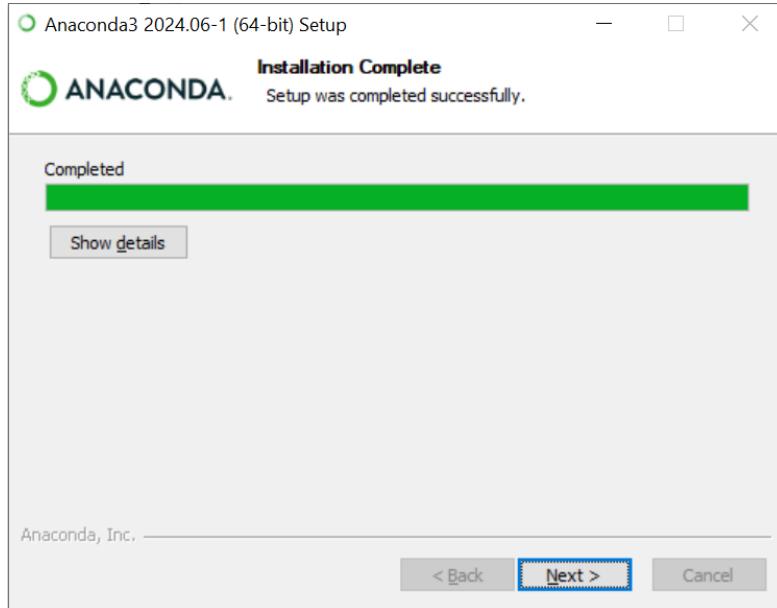


Figure 9: The installation is done.

Keep advancing through the last steps until the final one. Unselect both boxes:

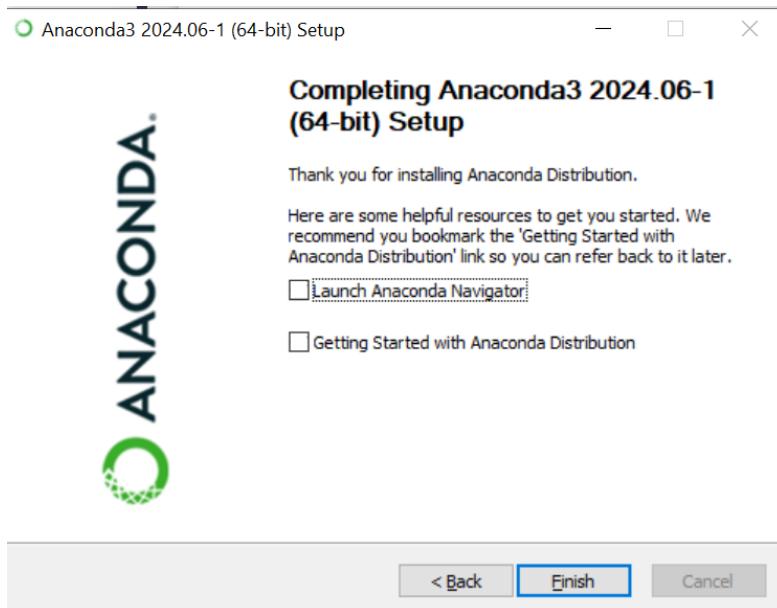


Figure 10: Close the installer.

Click “*Finish*”.

3 Launch Python

Open the computer's new “Anaconda-Navigator” application.

Close any pop-ups and notifications. If prompted for updates, you may ignore them for now, but it is a good idea to update later. Your screen should now look like this:

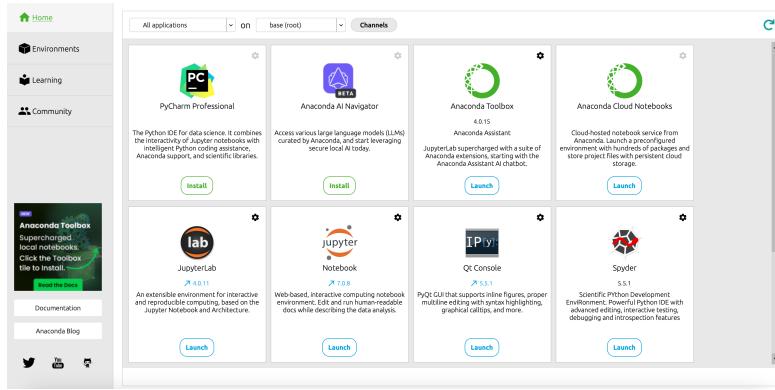


Figure 11: The Anaconda navigator.

Click on “Launch” under “JupyterLab”.

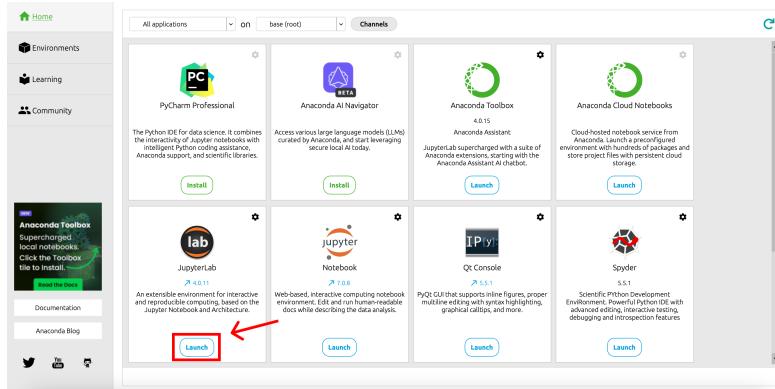


Figure 12: Launch JupyterLab.

Pick your preferred internet browser if prompted. This will open a new tab in your browser.

Close out the “Anaconda Assistant” panel by clicking on the right stars:

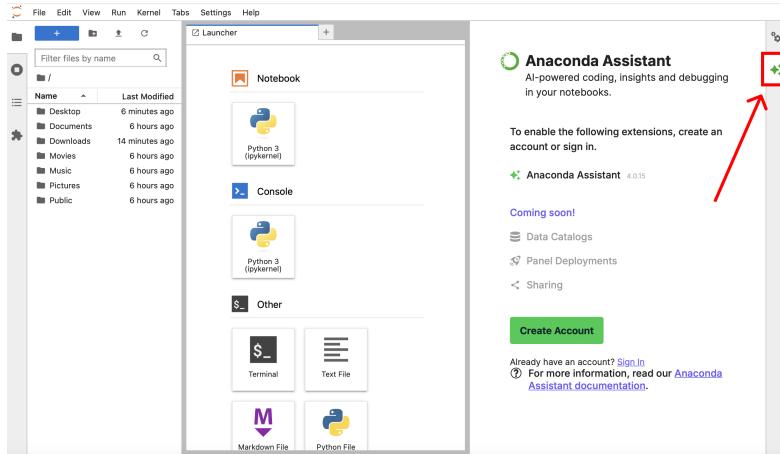


Figure 13: Close the Anaconda assistant.

Open the course files by using the file navigator on the left side. Make sure you allow Anaconda to access your files if asked.

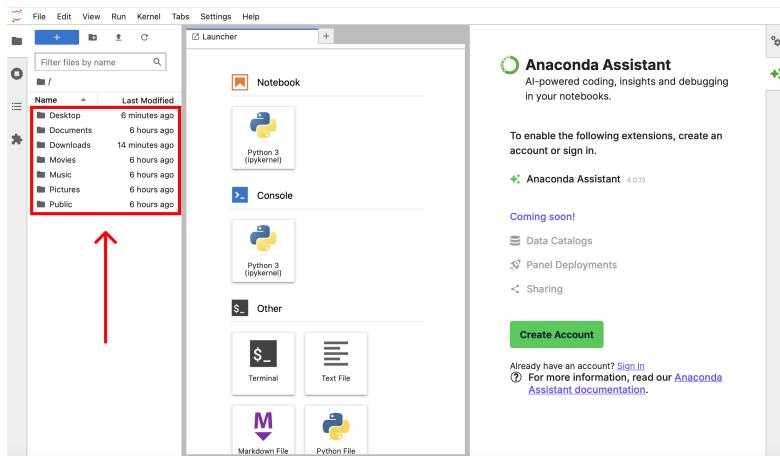


Figure 14: Find the course folder with the file navigator.

To close Python, go to “File” and click “Shut Down”:

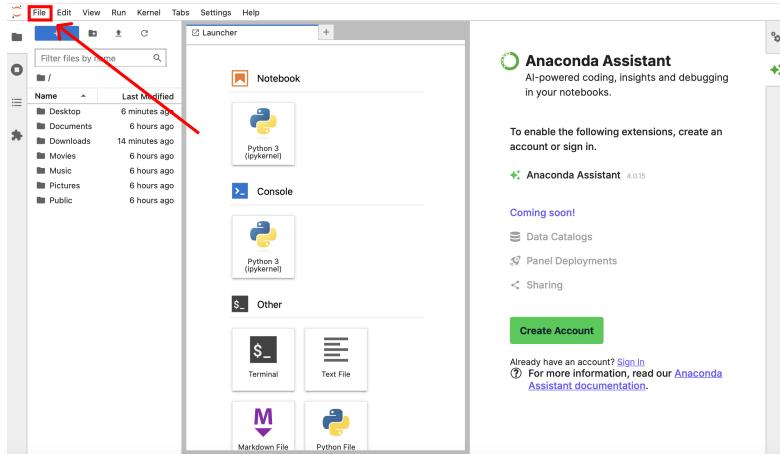


Figure 15: Shutting down Python.

Confirm that you want to shut down JupyterLab.

After that, close the browser tab and quit the “*Anaconda-Navigator*” app.

4 Access Google Colab

We will be using Google Colab for the final part of the course since we can easily access GPUs there. GPUs allow us to speed up work that would otherwise take too long.

Please make sure you can access: <https://colab.research.google.com>.

You will need a Google account in order to do this.

If you can get to the following screen, then you're all set!

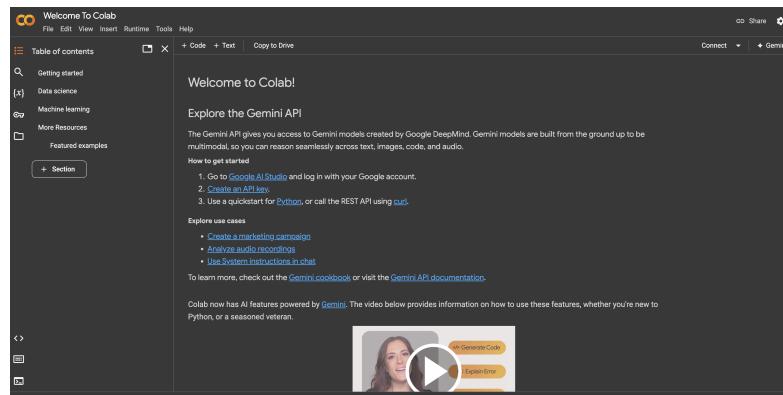


Figure 16: The Google Colaboratory.

This is only used for a small section at the end, so do not worry too much if you cannot access it.