

Run Experiments

Experiments are at the core of a data scientist's work. In Azure Machine Learning, an *experiment* is used to run a script or a pipeline, and usually generates outputs and records metrics. In this exercise, you will use the Azure Machine Learning SDK to run Python code as experiments.

Before You start

If you have not already done so, complete the [Create an Azure Machine Learning Workspace](#) exercise to create an Azure Machine Learning workspace and compute instance, and clone the notebooks required for this exercise.

Open Jupyter

While you can use the **Notebooks** page in Azure Machine Learning studio to run notebooks, it's often more productive to use a more fully-featured notebook development environment like *Jupyter*. Fortunately, your Azure Machine Learning compute instance includes an installation of Jupyter.

Tip: Jupyter Notebook is a commonly used open source tool for data science. You can refer to the [documentation](#) if you are unfamiliar with it.

1. In [Azure Machine Learning studio](#), view the **Compute** page for your workspace; and on the **Compute Instances** tab, start your compute instance if it is not already running.
2. When the compute instance is running, click the **Jupyter** link to open the Jupyter home page in a new browser tab. Be sure to open *Jupyter* and not *JupyterLab*.

Install the Azure Machine Learning SDK

The Azure Machine Learning SDK is installed by default on your compute instance, but it is updated frequently; so follow these steps to upgrade to the latest release.

1. In the Jupyter notebook environment, create a new **Terminal**. This will open a new tab with a command shell.
2. Enter the following command to update the Azure ML SDK:

```
pip install --upgrade azureml-sdk
```

You may see some warnings as the package dependencies are installed. You can ignore these.

3. The **azureml-sdk** SDK package provides the most important libraries needed to work with Azure Machine Learning> However, there are some additional packages that contain other useful libraries not included in the main SDK package. Use the following command to install the **azureml-widgets** package, which contains libraries for displaying Azure Machine Learning information in notebooks:

```
pip install --upgrade azureml-widgets
```

4. When the installation is complete, you can close the **Terminal** tab and return to the tab containing the Jupyter home page.

More Information: For more details about installing the Azure ML SDK and its optional components, see the [Azure ML SDK Documentation](#).

Run experiments in a notebook

Experiments in Azure Machine Learning need to be initiated from some sort of *control* layer; often a script or program. In this exercise, you'll use a notebook to control experiments.

1. In the Jupyter home page, browse to the **Users/mslearn-dp100** folder where you cloned the notebook repository, and open the **Run Experiments** notebook.
2. Then read the notes in the notebook, running each code cell in turn.
3. When you have finished running the code in the notebook, on the **File** menu, click **Close and Halt** to close it and shut down its Python kernel. Then close all Jupyter browser tabs.

Clean-up

If you're finished working with Azure Machine Learning for now, in Azure Machine Learning studio, on the **Compute** page, on the **Compute Instances** tab, select your compute instance and click **Stop** to shut it down. Otherwise, leave it running for the next lab.