

# Keras Introduction

References:

<https://medium.com/implodinggradients/tensorflow-or-keras-which-one-should-i-learn-5dd7fa3f9ca0>

<https://www.pyimagesearch.com/2016/11/14/installing-keras-with-tensorflow-backend/>

Tensorflow is the most famous library used in production for deep learning models. It has a very large and awesome community. The number of commits as well the number of forks on TensorFlow Github repository are enough to define the wide-spreading popularity of TF (short for TensorFlow). **However TensorFlow is not that easy to use.**

**Keras is a high level API built on TensorFlow!!!**

**If you want to quickly build and test a neural network with minimal lines of code, choose Keras.** With Keras, you can build simple or very complex neural networks within a few minutes. The Model and the Sequential APIs are so powerful that you can do almost everything you may want.

Sometimes you just don't want to use what is already there but you want to define something of your own. We all know that **low-level libraries provides more flexibility**. Same is the case with **TensorFlow**.

## Keras Installation

- Install tensorflow with virtualenv:

[https://www.tensorflow.org/install/install\\_linux#InstallingVirtualenv](https://www.tensorflow.org/install/install_linux#InstallingVirtualenv)

- Install virtualenvwrapper:

```
pip3 install virtualenvwrapper
```

- Configure the classpath:

```
vim ~/.bash_profile
```

```
# Create your Python virtual environment
export VIRTUALENVWRAPPER_PYTHON=/usr/local/bin/python3
```

- Create a Python virtual environment exclusively for our Keras + TensorFlow-based projects:

```
source virtualenvwrapper.sh
mkvirtualenv keras_tf
```

Anytime you need to access a given Python virtual environment just use the `workon` command:

```
workon keras_tf
```

The prompt should change to `(keras_tf) MacBook-Pro-de-Jadson:`

Install a few Python dependencies:

```
$ pip3 install numpy scipy
```

```
$ pip3 install scikit-learn
```

```
$ pip3 install pillow
```

```
$ pip3 install h5py
```

Followed by installing `keras` itself:

```
$ pip3 install keras
```

Keras is now installed on your system!

From there, you should see that your `keras.json` file (`~/.keras/keras.json`) now exists on your local disk

To verify that Keras + TensorFlow have been installed, simply access the `keras_tf` environment using the `workon` command, open up a Python shell, and import `keras`.

```
python3
```

```
>>> import keras
```

```
Using TensorFlow backend.
```