## Installation and Environment setup

Visual Studio Code (VS Code) and Scrapy are installed using Anaconda. So, let us begin by installing Anaconda. Open Anaconda *website* and click on the download button on the top right. Scroll down to the Anaconda installer for Windows, MacOs and Linux. Depending upon your OS you have to download the appropriate installer. I'll demonstrate the windows version. The latest version of Anaconda installer at the time of writing this blog is python version 3.7. Download this version and click to execute the executable file and complete the installation. Now click on the start icon on your system and type Anaconda Navigator. This is how the user interface looks like (screenshot below). There are some pre-installed apps in the root environment.
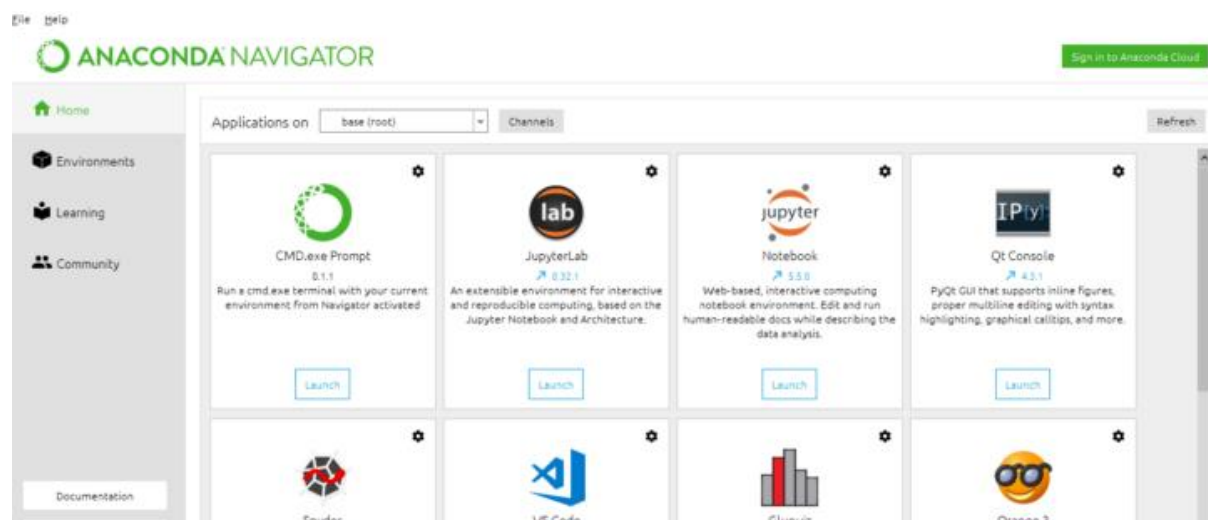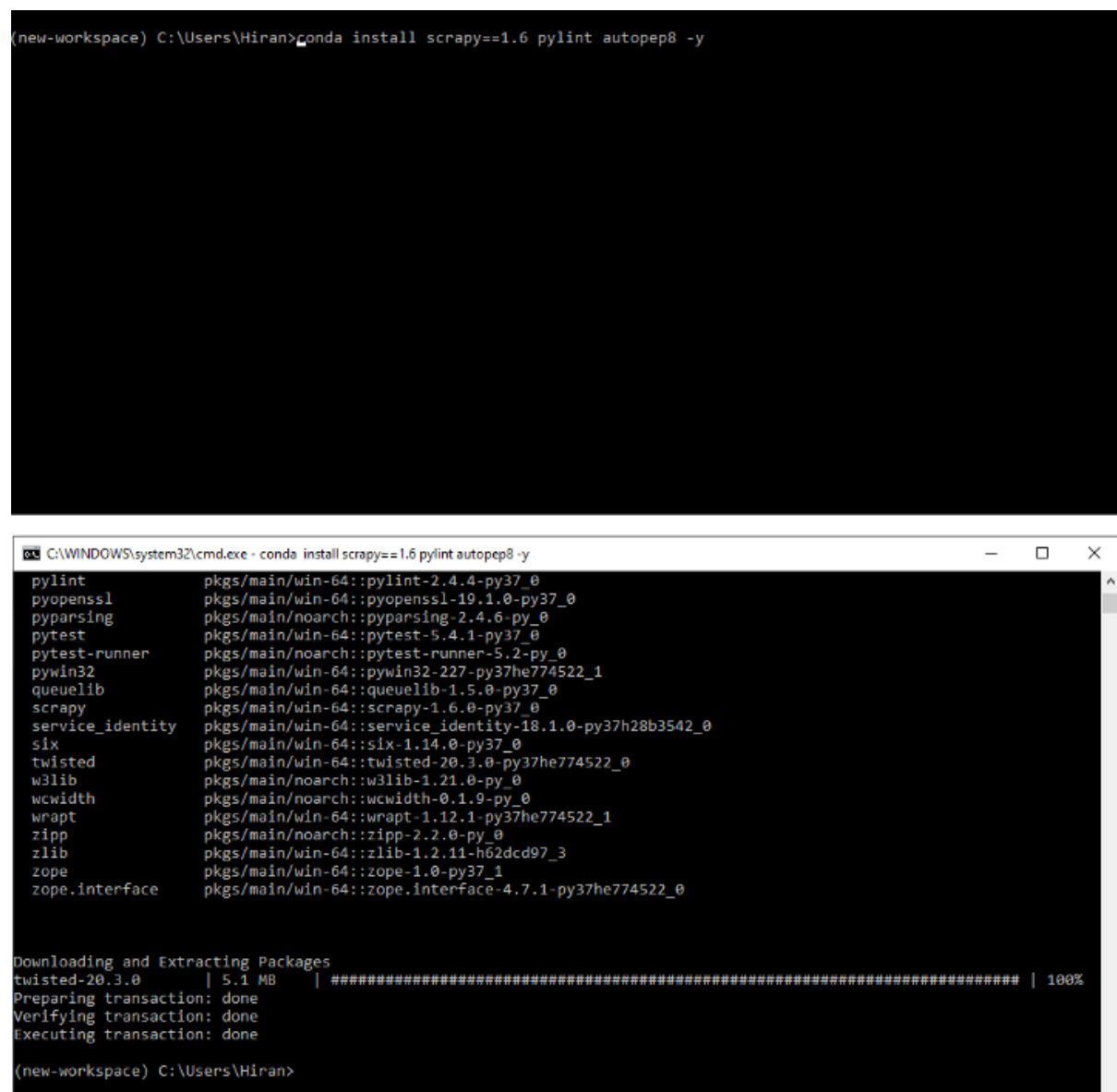

Anaconda Navigator Home page

The next step is to create a new environment. Click on the *Environments tab* and click *'Create'* button
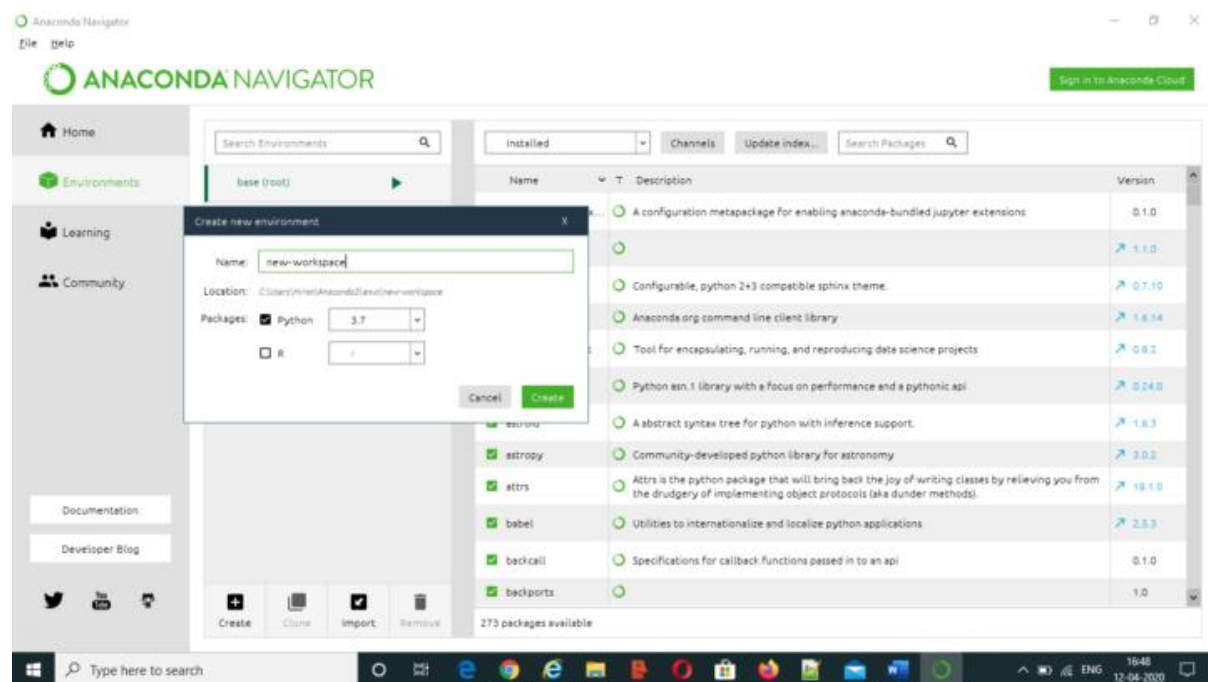
Create a new environment

In the create new environment popup window, enter a new name (new_workspace for e.g.) and change the python version to 3.7 and click on '*Create*'. It might take some time to create the new environment. Once the new environment is created (new_workspace), click on the arrow key adjacent to new_workspace and click '*Open terminal*'.

Next step is to install Scrapy. Now every package that we install will get installed in the environment that we newly created. To install Scrapy, enter the following in the command prompt along with 2 helper packages: *conda install scrapy==1.6 pylint autopep8 -y*

```
(new-workspace) C:\Users\Hiran>conda install scrapy==1.6 pylint autopep8 -y
```

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe - conda install scrapy==1.6 pylint autopep8 -y                    —    □    ×
  pylint              pkgs/main/win-64::pylint-2.4.4-py37_0
  pyopenssl           pkgs/main/win-64::pyopenssl-19.1.0-py37_0
  pyparsing           pkgs/main/noarch::pyparsing-2.4.6-py_0
  pytest              pkgs/main/win-64::pytest-5.4.1-py37_0
  pytest-runner       pkgs/main/noarch::pytest-runner-5.2-py_0
  pywin32             pkgs/main/win-64::pywin32-227-py37he774522_1
  queuelib            pkgs/main/win-64::queuelib-1.5.0-py37_0
  scrapy              pkgs/main/win-64::scrapy-1.6.0-py37_0
  service_identity    pkgs/main/win-64::service_identity-18.1.0-py37h28b3542_0
  six                 pkgs/main/win-64::six-1.14.0-py37_0
  twisted             pkgs/main/win-64::twisted-20.3.0-py37he774522_0
  w3lib               pkgs/main/noarch::w3lib-1.21.0-py_0
  wcwidth             pkgs/main/noarch::wcwidth-0.1.9-py_0
  wrapt               pkgs/main/win-64::wrapt-1.12.1-py37he774522_1
  zipp                pkgs/main/noarch::zipp-2.2.0-py_0
  zlib                pkgs/main/win-64::zlib-1.2.11-h62dcd97_3
  zope                pkgs/main/win-64::zope-1.0-py37_1
  zope.interface      pkgs/main/win-64::zope.interface-4.7.1-py37he774522_0


Downloading and Extracting Packages
twisted-20.3.0       | 5.1 MB    | ################################################################ | 100%
Preparing transaction: done
Verifying transaction: done
Executing transaction: done

(new-workspace) C:\Users\Hiran>
```

Now Scrapy is installed. The Next step is to install the code editing software Visual Studio Code (VS Code). This can be downloaded from the Anaconda Navigator. From Anaconda Navigator, click on the *Home* tab and make sure to use the new_workspace environment that we have created. Scroll to find VS Code and click *install*.
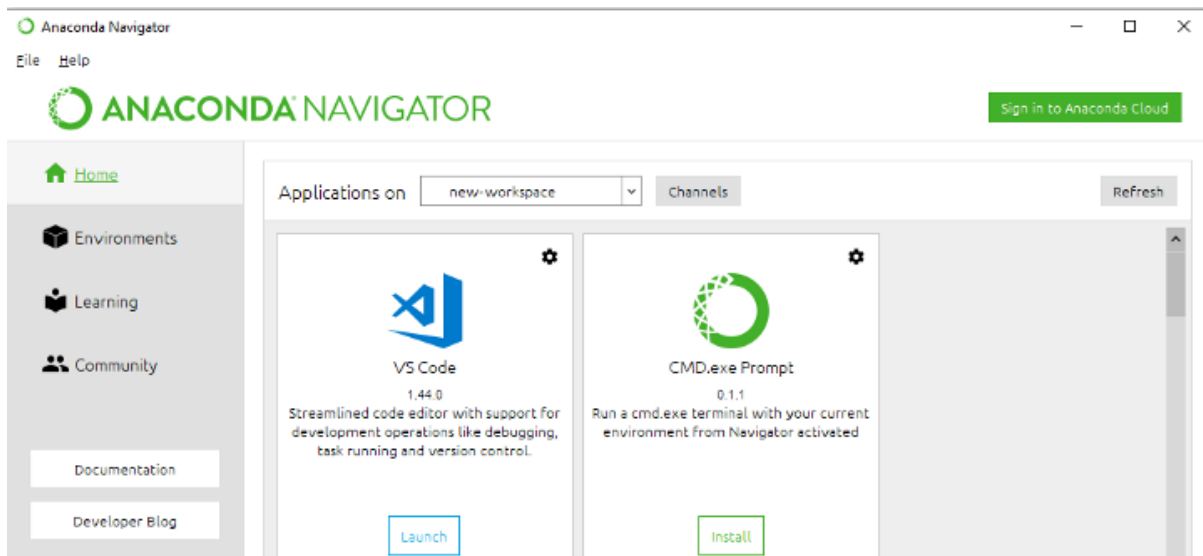
VS Code is installed

The environment setup and installations are completed.

Create a new Scrapy project.

Inside C:\Users\myName folder (myName to be replaced with your user name), create a new directory called '*new_projects'*. Now we have to scaffold a project as shown in the below screenshot. Create a new Scrapy project called *'covid_project'* using the command: *scrapy startproject covid_project*
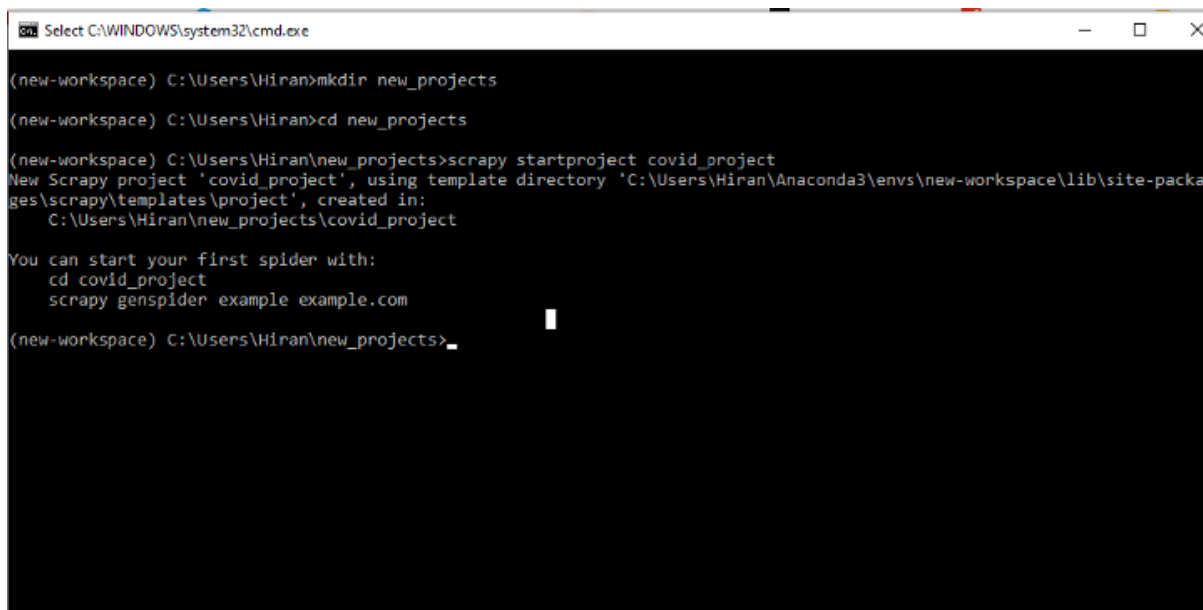
New project named covid_project created

Now move to the *covid_project* folder and generate your spider with *genspider* command: *scrapy genspider corona example.com*

The genspider has created a new spider named corona.py. Please note that the example.com is a place holder url (we have to replace it with the actual website url from the code editor). The newly created corona.py spider resides in the *spiders* folder in the *covid_project* folder.
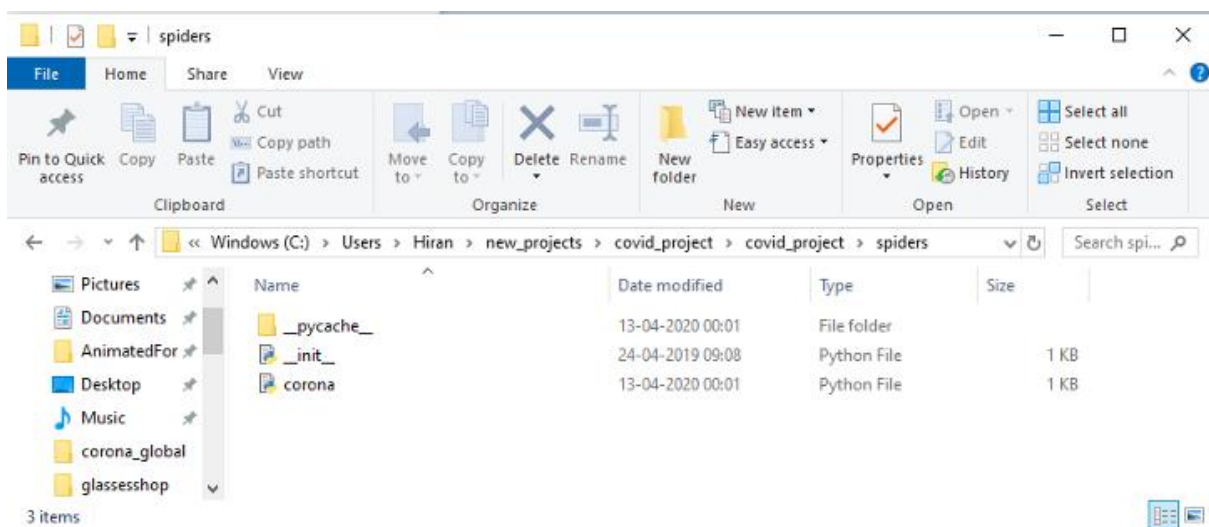
Right-click the corona.py file and open with VS Code.
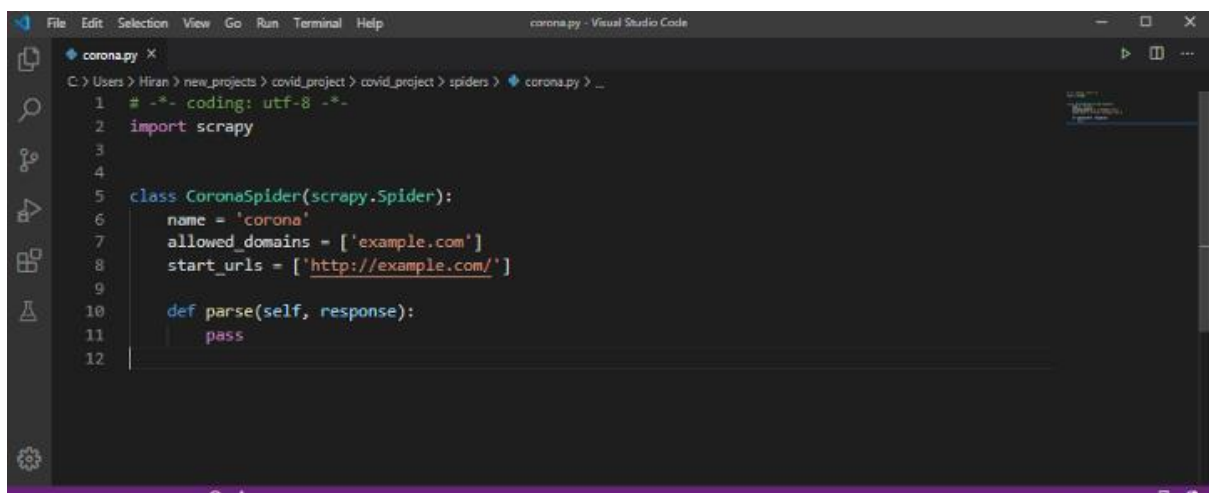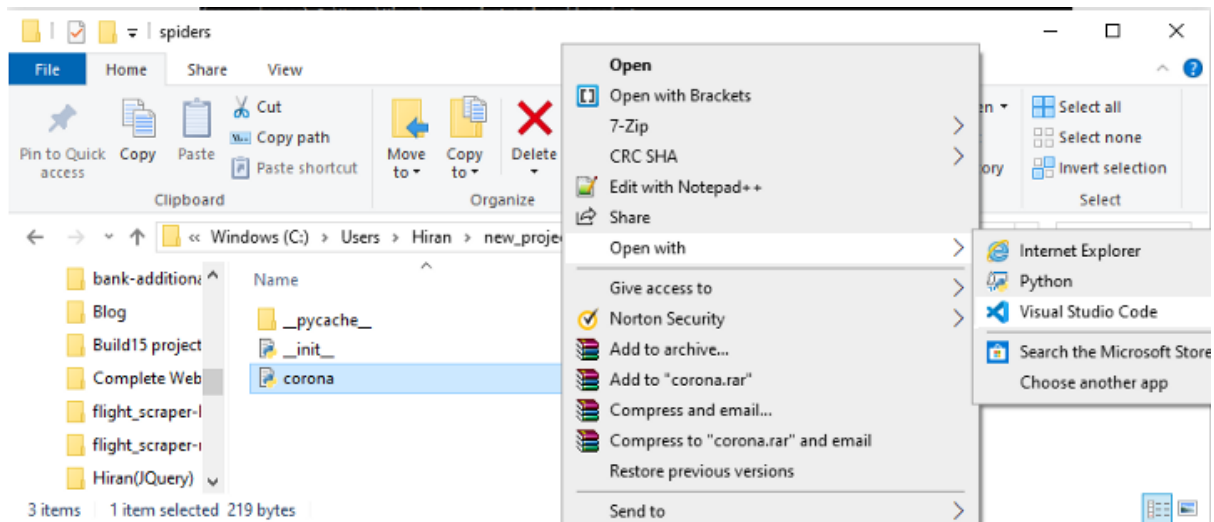
Now we have the corona.py file opened and ready for editing. Lastly, we need to install *Python extension* in VS Code. Click on the extension icon inside the VS Code editor and type Python in the Search Extension box. Click on the Python icon on the top of the list and install it as shown in the below screenshot.

Install Python extension in VS Code

Kudos!!! Installation and Environment setup is complete. Let's dive into coding…