Choosing_an_ML_Environment_NYU

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1 Which Machine Learning Environment to choose ?

There are also services that provide Machine Learning Environments remotely "in the cloud".

So many choices ! What is best for me ?

To start: use the environment you installed on your local machine.

But there is another important consideration: the availability of a GPU.

A GPU (Graphic Processing Unit) is a bit of hardware that can be added to a computer - Originally for gamers ! Fast graphics. - But *invaluable* for speeding up models that use Neural Networks/Deep Learning. - Not *necessary* but highly desirable

- It is likely that your local machine *does not* have a GPU
  - Not a problem for Classical Machine learning
- Remote servers can provide GPU's, at additional cost

1.1 Google Colab

There is yet another alternative for a *remote* Machine Learning Environmet - Google Colab

This is a very powerful and **free** environment - It provides access to machines with a GPU - No setup required by you

The downsides: - There is no persistent storage, so your work/files disappear after each session - You will have to download your work each time - Software gets updated by Google, not you - So the version of a package that you are using may change - Some running code may break

In the Deep Learning part of the course - We will show you how to use Colab - We will show some tricks to make you more productive in Colab - Gaining persistent storage via Google Drive

[ ]:
```
print("Done")
```