Intro to Python: Setup and Installation

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Install Python

In this workshop, we will be using Python 3 with some of its most popular scientific libraries. Although one can install a plain-vanilla Python and all required libraries by hand, we recommend installing Anaconda, a Python distribution that comes with everything we need for the workshop. Detailed installation instructions for various operating systems can be found on The Carpentries template website for workshops and in Anaconda documentation.

Obtain workshop materials

1. Create a folder twitter-python on your Desktop.
2. Move the downloaded file to the twitter-python folder.

Launch python Interface

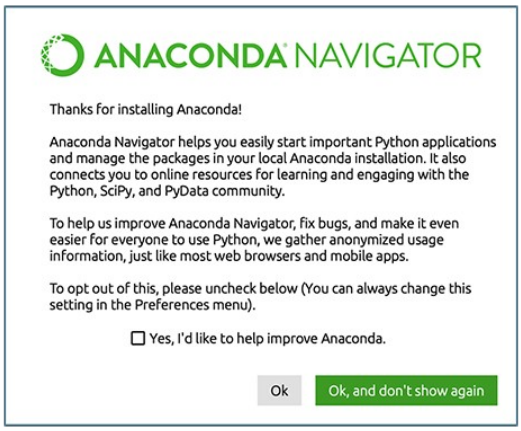
To start working with Python, we need to launch a program that will interpret and execute our Python commands. Below we list several options. Otherwise, you may use any interface you like.

Jupyter Notebook

A Jupyter Notebook provides a browser-based interface for working with Python. If you installed Anaconda, you could launch a notebook in two ways:

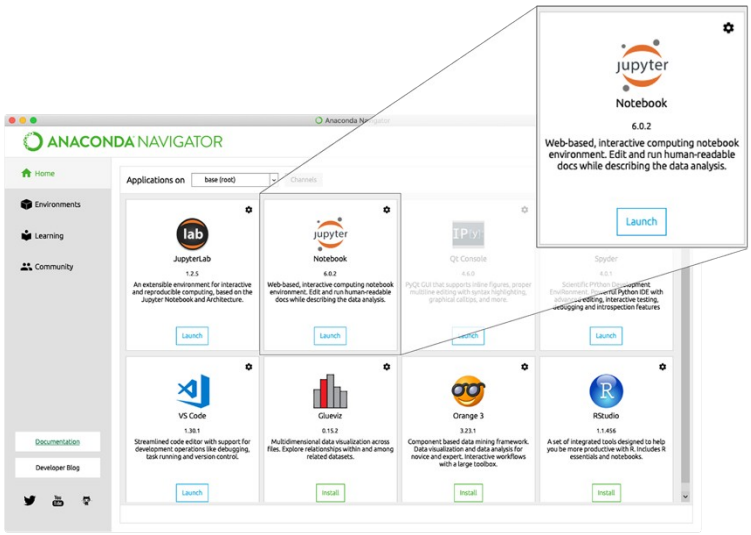
- **Anaconda Navigator**

1. Launch Anaconda Navigator. It might ask you if you'd like to send anonymized usage information to Anaconda developers:



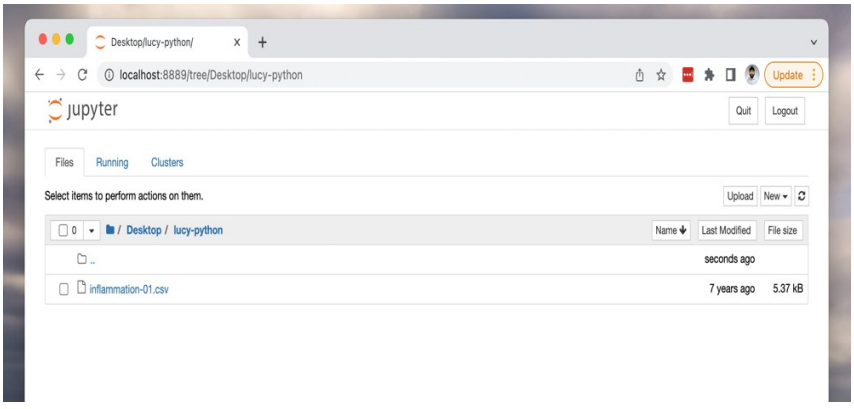
Make your choice and click “Ok, and don’t show again” button.

2. Find the “Notebook” tab and click on the “Launch” button:

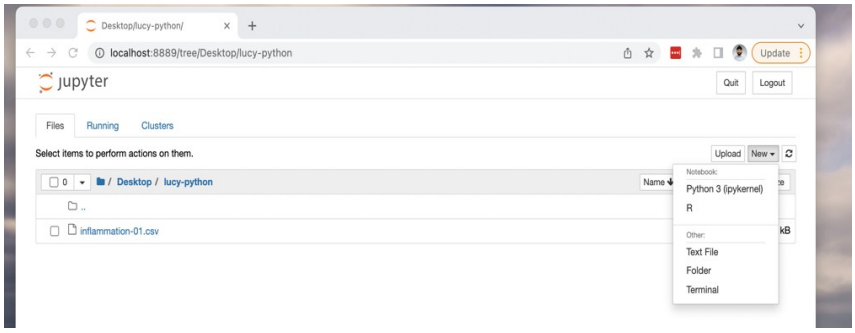


Anaconda will open a new browser window or tab with a Notebook Dashboard showing you the contents of your Home (or User) folder.

3. Navigate to the twitter-python directory by clicking on the directory names leading to it: Desktop, twitter-python,



4. Launch the notebook by clicking on the “New” button and then selecting “Python 3”:



- **Command line (Terminal)**
  1. Navigate to the twitter-python directory:

     Unix shell:
     If you are using Unix shell application, such as Terminal app in macOS, Console or Terminal in Linux, or Git Bash on Windows, execute the following command:

     cd ~/Desktop/twitter-python

     Command Prompt(Windows):
     On Windows, you can use its native Command Prompt program. The easiest way to start it up is pressing Windows Logo Key+R, entering cmd, and hitting Return. In the Command Prompt, use the following command to navigate to the data folder:

     cd /D %userprofile%\Desktop\twitter-python

  2. Start Jupyter Notebook

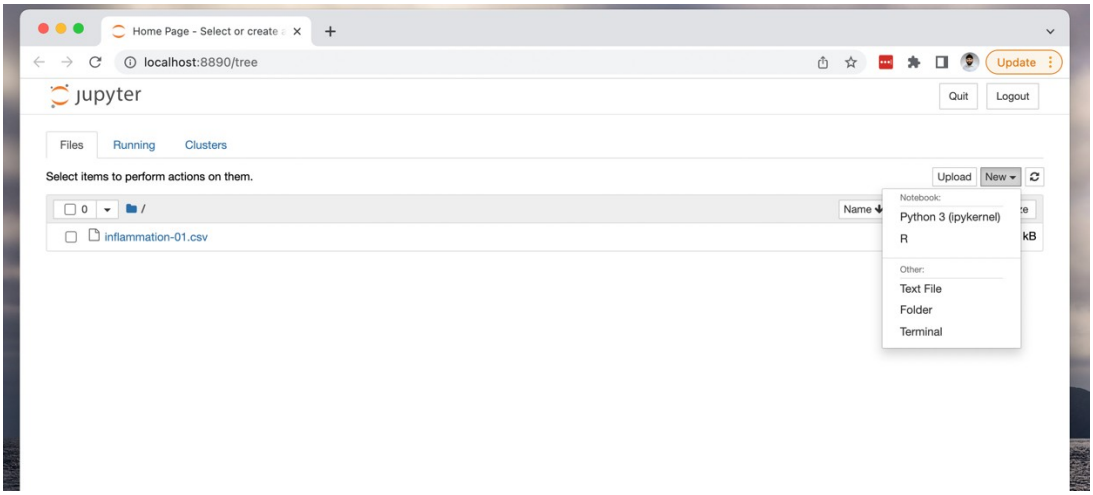
     Unix shell:

     jupyter notebook

     Command Prompt(Windows):

     python -m notebook

  3. Launch the notebook by clicking on the “New” button on the right and selecting “Python 3” from the drop-down menu:


Home Page - Select or create
localhost:8890/tree
Update
jupyter
Quit
Logout
Files
Running
Clusters
Select items to perform actions on them.
Upload
New
0
/
Name
inflammation-01.csv
kB
Notebook:
Python 3 (ipykernel)
R
Other:
Text File
Folder
Terminal