Environment Setup

The open-source Anaconda Distribution is the easiest way to perform Python/R data science and machine learning on Linux, Windows, and Mac OS X. We are going to use it throughout our course. But first we're going to install it:

Step 1: Go to the official link (https://www.anaconda.com/distribution/) to download Anaconda Distribution. Anaconda Distribution include Python with either 2.7 or 3.7 version but we're going to download "Python 3.7 version". Next, you can select 64-Bit Graphical Installer or 32-Bit Graphical Installer based on your operating system (OS) architecture.



Figure 1: versions of the Anaconda Distribution

To know which version of OS you use, write click on "This PC" and then "Properties" and then you should see the "system type"

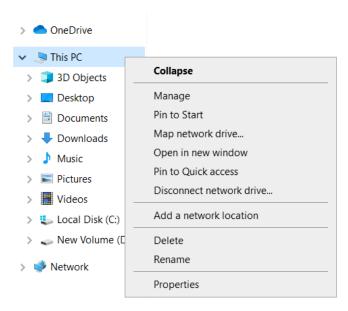


Figure 2: Determine the OS version step 1



Figure 3: Determine the OS version step 2

Step 2: After Downloading Anaconda, just follow the default options by clicking "next" **except** on Advanced Options, select Add Anaconda to my PATH environment variable so the operating system can identify the Anaconda

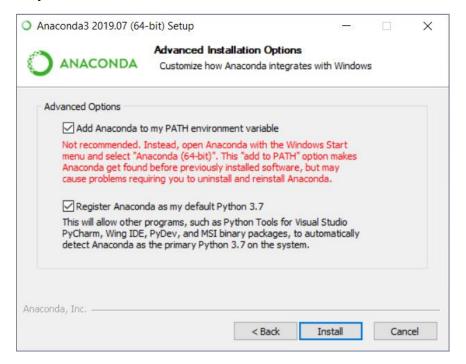


Figure 4: Setup Advanced Options

Installing Packages

A module is a file consisting of Python code. A module can define functions, classes and variables. A module can also include runnable code. While a package is a collection of modules in directories that give a package hierarchy. We are going to need plenty of functions throughout the course from some packages. You can install packages either online or offline if the internet connection isn't available.

To install packages online you can use Conda package management system:

or use Python package installer(PIP)

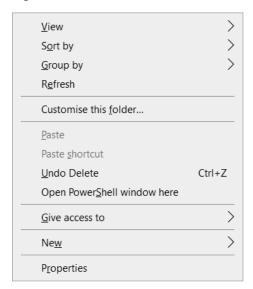
pip install package_name

to install packages offline use

conda install /path-to-package/package-filename.tar.bz2/

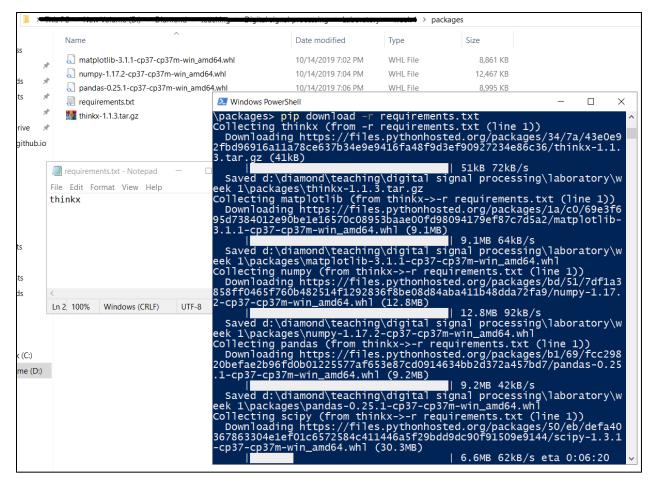
A better way to download the packages and their dependencies is by:

- 1. create new folder >> write a list of package in a text file requirements.txt that you want to install here, we have the package thinkx.
- 2. shift + right click >> "open PowerShell window here"



3. Type and run

pip download -r requirements.txt



4. Install the downloaded packages

pip install --no-index --find-links ./ -r requirements.txt