**Setting up your conda environment with Anaconda**

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**Step 1: Download and install Anaconda**

* Visit the Anaconda download page: <https://www.anaconda.com/download>
* Select the installer for your system (Windows, macOS, or Linux) and follow the provided instructions.

**Step 2: Download the provided .yml file**

* Download the environment file (named *environment.yml*), which is a YAML configuration file that lists the packages and dependencies needed for this project.
* Save the *environment.yml* file in your working directory.

**Step 3: Create and activate your Conda environment**

* Open your command-line interface:
  + Windows: Use command prompt or Anaconda prompt
  + macOS/Linux: Use terminal
* Navigate to your working directory:

Use the *cd* command:

cd path/to/your/working-directory

* Create the environment:

Run the following command to create a new virtual environment with the dependencies specified in the *.yml* file:

conda env create -f environment.yml

* Activate the environment:

conda activate pytorchenv

**Step 4: (Optional) launch Jupyter notebook:**

* If you plan to work with Jupyter Notebook, type:

jupyter notebook

**Alternative option: using Visual Studio Code (VS Code):**

* Download and install VS Code:  
  Visit <https://code.visualstudio.com/> and install the editor.
* **Install the Python extension:**  
  open VS Code and install the Python extension.
* Select your conda environment:

Open the command palette by pressing *Cmd+Shift+P* (on macOS) or the equivalent on your system. Then:

* Type “Python: Select Interpreter” and select it.
* Look for an interpreter that includes *pytorchenv* in its path and select it.  
  (This ensures that your code runs using the correct dependencies from your virtual environment.)