Setting Up a python Environment

Python Training for NOAA GSL Interns
Summer 2022









No compiling necessary

A style of coding that uses objects and their associated procedures as opposed to functions and logic.

User-friendly and decoupled from the computer

Python is an **interpreted**, **object-oriented**, **high-level** programming language with **dynamic semantics**.

Typing and binding are done on the fly – duck typing



It's very attractive as a **scripting language**.

Automate tasks that you'd otherwise have to perform manually

It's **simple**, easy to learn syntax **emphasizes readability** to reduce the cost of program maintenance.

Used as a learning tool and in industry!

It supports modules and packages, which encourages program modularity and code reuse

Super popular in a variety of domains



Python comes with an extensive standard library, offering a wide range of utilities. Check them out here:

https://docs.python.org/3/library/

If you have Python installed, you already have all of these and you don't need to do anything special.

Some popular ones you may run into:

glob

sys

subprocess

datetime

random

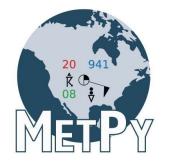
math

OS

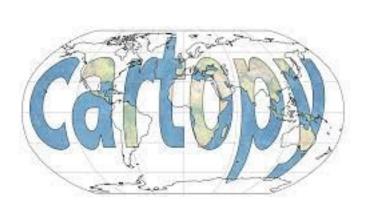
shutil

There are *tons* of other Python packages to help with data science, data manipulation, and data visualization...and so many areas!









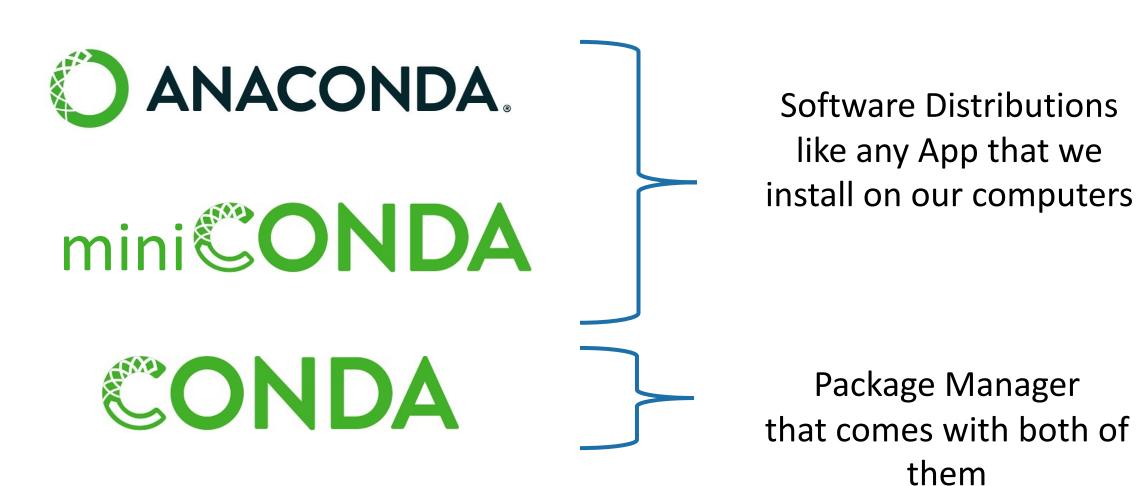








Managing other Python packages



Managing other Python packages



Uses ~ 3 Gb of disk space Installs all the major data science and machine learning packages



Uses ~ 200 Mb of disk space
Installs only the basics – Python
and a few others
Requires CONDA to help

manage your packages.



The tool we use to create *environments* for different projects

We install packages needed for a project in an environment

Each environment can have a different python version

We *activate environments* to be able to run code for a give project

We can **share environments** needed for a project with colleagues



...is language agnostic. It supports packages other than Python.

...serves the roles of BOTH package manager and environment manager

It works by storing a set of installed packages in a directory on your computer – this is the **environment**

When the environment is **activated**, several shell variables are set to redirect your shell to default to the environment's python and packages.

Cheat Sheet Here!

CONDA Common Commands

see packages in an **environment** \$ conda list

explore *environments*

\$ conda env list

create an **environment**

\$ conda create -n my env

activate an **environment**

\$ conda activate my env (my env)\$

install a *package*

(my env) \$ conda install <package>

CONDA Channels

Default channel

Some packages may come from different channels

Pro Tip:

Google

conda install <package name>

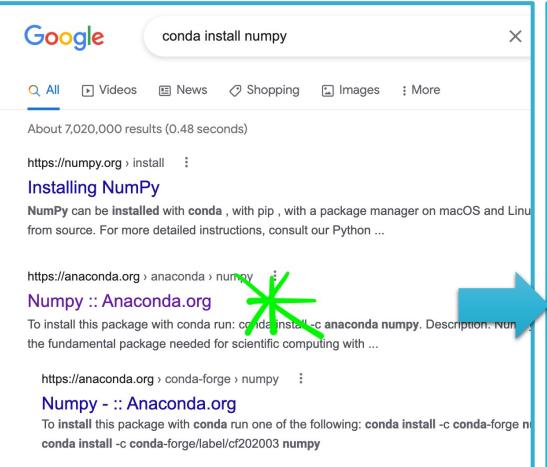
to find the channel!

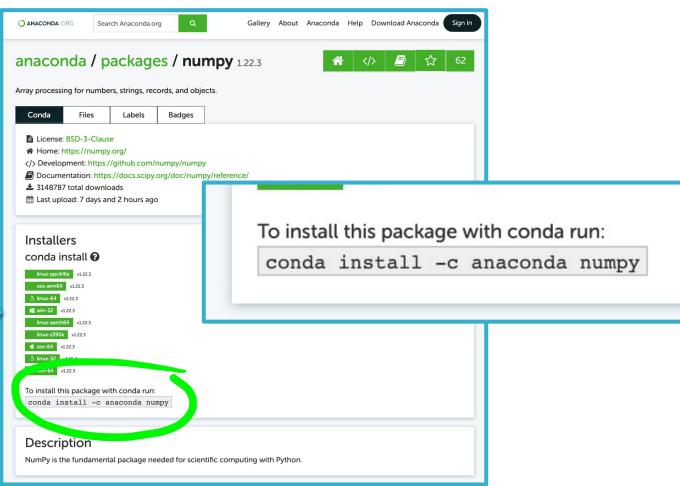
(my env) \$ conda install -c anaconda numpy

Pro Tip:

Google

conda install <package name>
to find the channel!







ncview

Any time you need to install a tool, check for conda package!

It's not just Python tools...Some surprising/helpful ones I've found...

wgrib git compilers and libraries: AWS CLIs wgrib2 • C++

• gnu

• R

Intel run time

ECMWF's Metview