Introduction to Python

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What is Data Scientifique?

https://www.datascientifique.ca/

Plan for today

- First half:
  - We review some basic concepts and code
- Second half:
  - Hands on practice

Workshop Materials

https://github.com/YaraRAA/python

What is python?

- A programming language
- A programming "language" is really a translation

Human intent --> machine code

Some coding terms

- Program: sequence of instructions to your computer (also referred to as a script)
- Debugging: tracking down and correcting program errors
- Syntax: structure of the program and rules about that structure e.g. grammar

  this sentence contains a syntax error. So does this one

- A note about word editors

Scripts

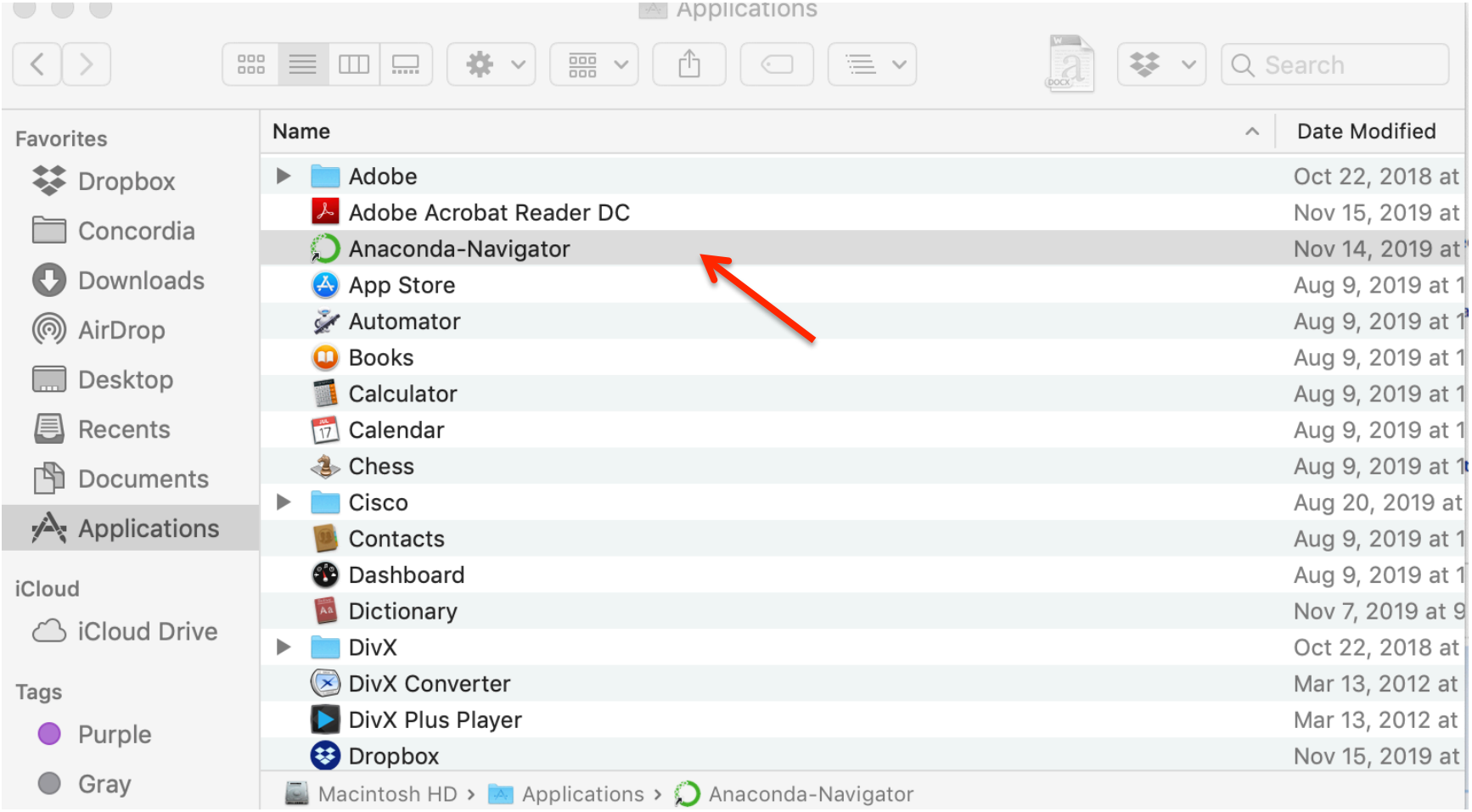
- Remember: a script = a program = a collection of code = instructions to the computer to do x,y & z
- Can be saved in a file with the extension:

  .py if created in Spyder or Idle or

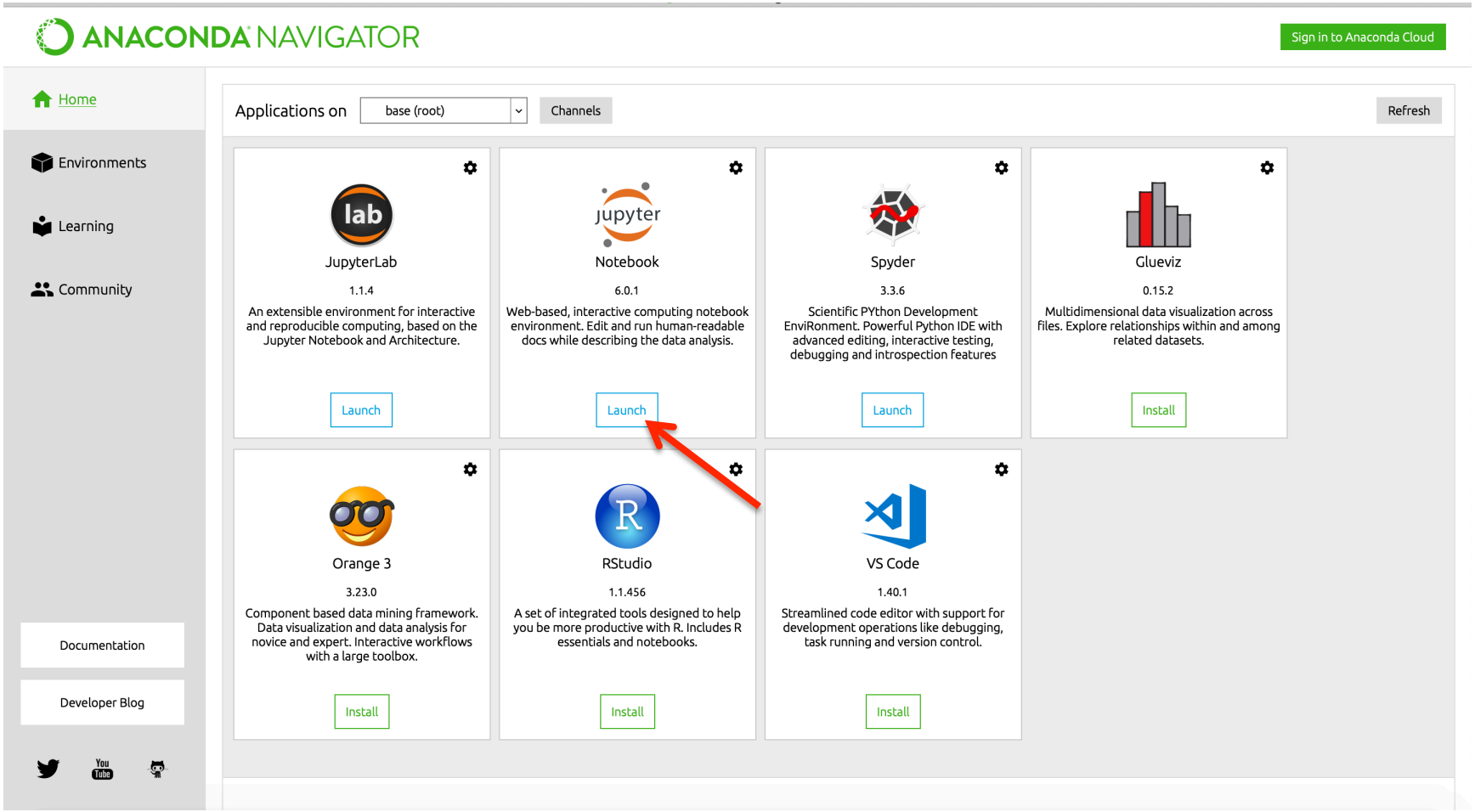
  .ipynb if created in jupyter notebook

- Let's create a .py file

Open Anaconda Navigator



Launch Spyder



The ‘Rules’ of Programming

First Rule of Programming:

First get it right – worry about speed later (or never)

Second Rule of Programming:

Be appropriately lazy & Don’t reinvent the wheel

What is a Module?

- A module (or package) is Python code designed to do something
- Sometimes referred to as “Libraries” in other languages
- Also helps with organizing code related to a particular domain
- Contributes to the “Second Rule of Programming”:
  - Be appropriately lazy & Don’t reinvent the wheel

Installing & Managing Modules

Python Packaging Authority's recommended tool for installing packages from the Python Package Index, PyPI

Makes sure there is no conflict when installing modules

Comes preloaded with popular modules

Not just for python

Can create environments

Downloads packages from Anaconda repository and cloud

Using modules

- We use modules by importing them into our code
- Modules can contain both:
  - code (instructions to to something)
  - objects (information stored in some format that we can use)
- We then access code or objects within modules using a period .

(same for a column in a dataframe)

To print the value of pi stored in the math module

Example 1:

```
import math
print(math.pi)
```

Example 2:

```
import math as m
print(m.pi)
```

To save the value of pi stored in the math module in a an object named x

Example 1:

```
import math
print(math.pi)

x = math.pi
x*3
```

Example 2:

```
import math as m
print(m.pi)

x = m.pi
x*3
```

To use the exp function from the math module & store the result

Example 1:

```
x= 3
import math
math.exp(x)


y = math.exp(x)
y * x
```

Example 2:

```
x= 3
import math as m
m.exp(x)


y = m.exp(x)
y * x
```

Module help

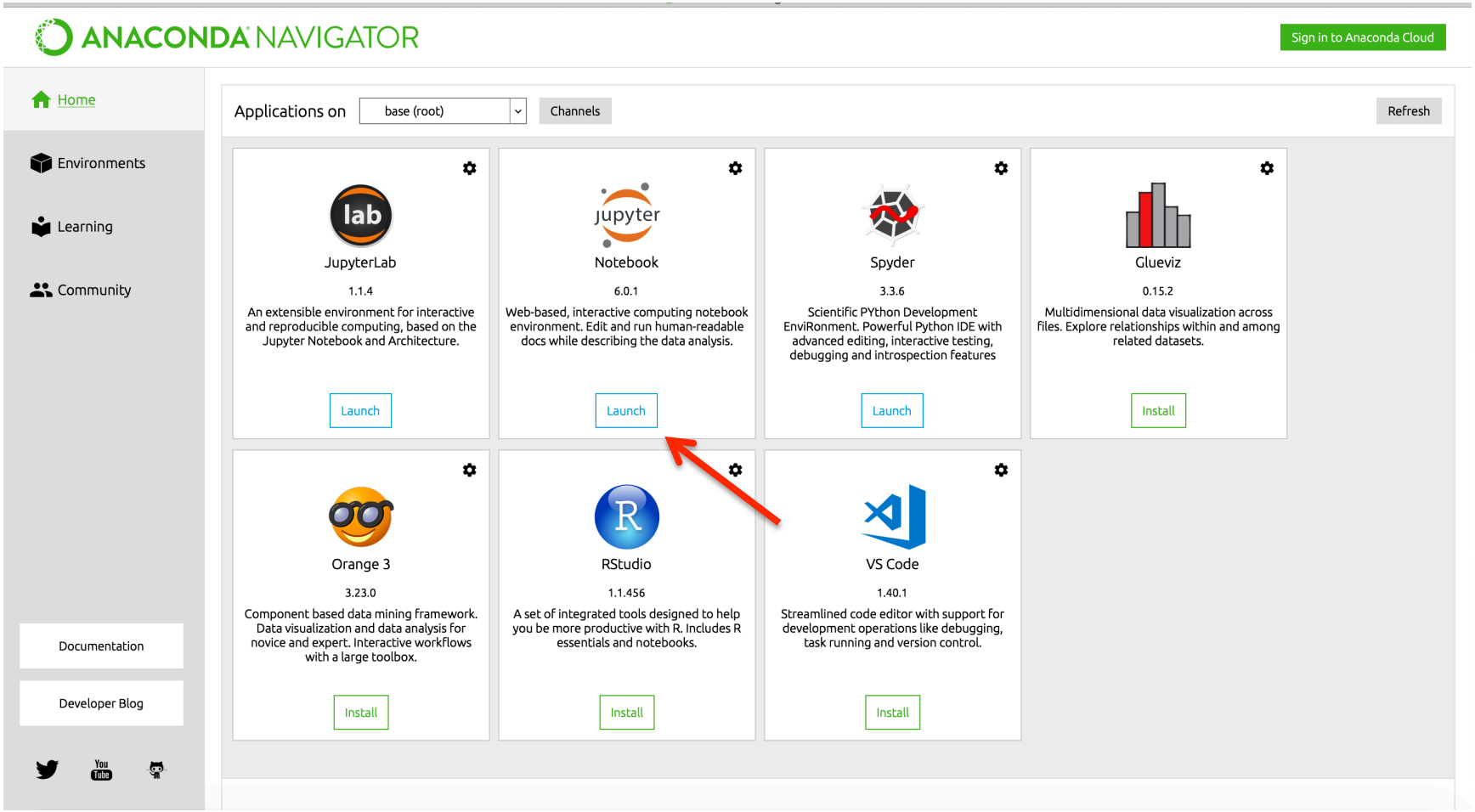
- Use code:

  help(module_name)

- OR Google:

  python math module

Now let's look at Jupyter notebook

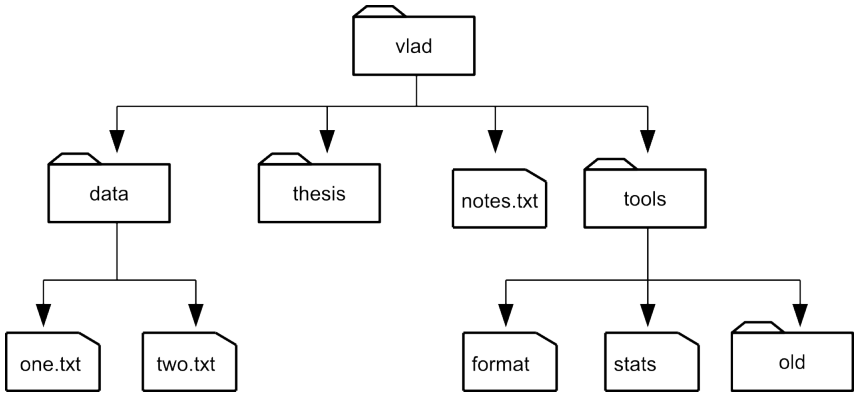


What is a directory?

- A directory is a folder
- A path is the location of your folder
- Windows:

  C:\Users\vlad\notes.txt
- Mac:

  /Users/vlad/notes.txt



In python a **working** directory is:
- the folder that all files are imported from or saved to, unless otherwise specified
- by default, this is the folder your script is saved in

Image source: http://swcarpentry.github.io