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Glossary#

.condarc#

The Conda Runtime Configuration file, an optional `.yaml` file that allows you to configure many aspects of conda, such as which channels it searches for packages, proxy settings, and environment directories. A `.condarc` file is not included by default, but it is automatically created in your home directory when you use the `conda config` command. The `.condarc` file can also be located in a root environment, in which case it overrides any `.condarc` in the home directory. For more information, see [Using the .condarc conda configuration file](user-guide/configuration/use-condarc.html) and [Administering a multi-user conda installation](user-guide/configuration/admin-multi-user-install.html). Pronounced "conda r-c".

Activate/Deactivate environment#

Conda commands used to switch or move between installed environments. The `conda activate` command prepends the path of your current environment to the PATH environment variable so that you do not need to type it each time.

`deactivate` removes it. Even when an environment is deactivated, you can still execute programs in that environment by specifying their paths directly, as in `~/anaconda/envs/envname/bin/program_name`. When an environment is activated, you can execute the program in that environment with just `program_name`.

Note

Replace `envname` with the name of the environment and replace `program_name` with the name of the program.

Anaconda#

A downloadable, free, open-source, high-performance, and optimized Python and R distribution. Anaconda includes conda, conda-build, Python, and 250+ automatically installed, open-source scientific packages and their dependencies that have been tested to work well together, including SciPy, NumPy, and many others. Use the `conda install` command to easily install 7,500+ popular open-source packages for data science--including advanced and scientific analytics--from the Anaconda repository. Use the `conda` command to install thousands more open-source packages.

Because Anaconda is a Python distribution, it can make installing Python quick and easy even for new users.

Available for Windows, macOS, and Linux, all versions of Anaconda are supported by the community.

See also Miniconda and conda.

Anaconda.org#

A web-based, repository hosting service in the cloud. Packages created locally can be published to the cloud to be shared with others. [Anaconda.org](https://docs.anaconda.com/anacondaorg/) is a public version of Anaconda Repository and was formerly known as Anaconda Cloud.

Anaconda Navigator#

A desktop graphical user interface (GUI) included in all versions of Anaconda that allows you to easily manage conda packages, environments, channels, and notebooks without a command line interface (CLI). See more about [Navigator](https://docs.anaconda.com/navigator/).

Channels#

The locations of the repositories where conda looks for packages. Channels may point to a Cloud repository or a private location on a remote or local repository that you or your organization created. The `conda channel` command has a default set of channels to search, beginning with <https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/>, which you may override, for example, to maintain a private or internal channel. These default channels are referred to in conda commands and in the `.condarc` file by the channel name "defaults."

conda#

The package and environment manager program bundled with Anaconda that installs and updates conda packages and their dependencies. Conda also lets you easily switch between conda environments on your local computer.

conda environment#

A folder or directory that contains a specific collection of conda packages and their dependencies, so they can be maintained and run separately without interference from each other. For example, you may use a conda environment for only Python 2 and Python 2 packages, maintain another conda environment with only Python 3 and Python 3 packages, and maintain another for R language packages. Environments can be created from:

* The Navigator GUI

* The command line

* An environment specification file with the name `your-environment-name.yml`

conda package#

A compressed file that contains everything that a software program needs in order to be installed and run, so that you do not have to manually find and install each dependency separately. A conda package includes system-level libraries, Python or R language modules, executable programs, and other

components. You manage conda packages with conda.

conda repository#

A cloud-based repository that contains 7,500+ open-source certified packages that are easily installed locally with the `conda install` command. Anyone can access the repository from:

* The Navigator GUI

* A terminal using conda commands

* <https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/>

Metapackage#

A metapackage is a very simple package that has at least a name and a version. It need not have any dependencies or build steps. [Metapackages](user-guide/concepts/packages.html#meta-package) may list dependencies to several core, low-level libraries and may contain links to software files that are automatically downloaded when executed.

Miniconda#

A free minimal installer for conda. [Miniconda](https://docs.anaconda.com/free/miniconda/) is a small, bootstrap version of Anaconda that includes only conda, Python, the packages they depend

on, and a small number of other useful packages, including pip, zlib, and a few others. Use the `conda install` command to install 7,500+ additional conda packages from the Anaconda repository.

Miniconda is a Python distribution that can make installing Python quick and easy even for new users.

See also Anaconda and conda.

Noarch package#

A conda package that contains nothing specific to any system architecture, so it may be installed from any system. When conda searches for packages on any system in a channel, conda checks both the system-specific subdirectory, such as `linux-64`, and the `noarch` directory. Noarch is a contraction of "no architecture".

Package manager#

A collection of software tools that automates the process of installing, updating, configuring, and removing computer programs for a computer's operating system. Also known as a package management system. Conda is a package manager.

Packages#

Software files and information about the software, such as its name, the

specific version, and a description, bundled into a file that can be installed and managed by a package manager.

Plugins#

Plugins, sometimes referred to as add-ons or extensions, are software or modules that add new functions to a host program (_e.g._ , conda) without directly altering the host program itself. Amongst other uses, plugins support is utilized to enable third-party developers to extend an application, support easily adding new features, and to reduce the size of an application by not loading unused features.

Repository#

Any storage location from which software assets may be retrieved and installed on a local computer. See also Anaconda.org and conda repository.

Silent mode installation#

When installing Miniconda or Anaconda in silent mode, screen prompts are not shown on screen and default settings are automatically accepted.

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[__Edit on

GitHub](https://github.com/conda/conda/edit/main/docs/source/glossary.rst)

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