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Contents

Set up development environment

To start, here we first say little about different platforms:

1. Linux
2. MacOS
3. Windows

Linux and MacOS are platforms developers favor, for their Unix-based operating frameworks. Considering the usage habits of everyone, and the future usage of `cuda`, to be novice friendly, we set up our development environments on the most complicated platform for development – Windows.

Terminal

In Windows 10, you can download the app `Terminal Preview` from the Microsoft Store to use as your terminal. However, in Windows 11, you can use the default app `Terminal`.

In the top menu bar, click on the sign $\vee$ next to the plus sign +, and you can find three shells: `Windows PowerShell`, `Command Prompt`, and `Azure Cloud Shell`.

Next let's go to another shell: `git bash`, which can be added into `Terminal`. With it, you could have almost the same experience as in Linux and MacOS.

Git Bash

Go to the website `https://git-scm.com/download/win`, and select the version `64-bit Git for Windows Setup`. During installation, select `Add a Git Bash Profile to Windows Terminal`; then you can use `git bash` in `Terminal`.

Now you can see another shell `git bash` under the above three shells. Click on the `Settings`, and in `Startup` select `git bash` as the default shell. Then you can see the `git bash` shell when you open `Terminal`.

Zsh

Next we go to a very advanced and programmable command interpreter (shell) for UNIX: `zsh`.

Go to the download link `https://mirror.msys2.org/msys/x86_64/zsh-5.9-2-x86_64.pkg.tar.zst` and gunzip the file. Then copy the two folders and four files to the path of your Git repository `C:\Git`. If prompted for permissions, grant them. In case of conflicts with duplicate names, simply overwrite the existing files.

First we digress a little to say where you are when you open `Terminal`. You can use the command `pwd` to see the current directory. In Windows, the default directory is `C:\Users\yourname`. And this time I highly recommend this powerful editor VScode to you. You can download it from the official website, quickly install it. Then you can open `.bashrc` file by VScode, and fill in the following content:

```
if [ -t 1 ]; then
  exec zsh
fi
```

Then you can see the `zsh` shell when you reopen `Terminal`. You may encounter warnings such as "bash_profile not found" or similar files. You can safely ignore them, and they should not appear again in the future.

Oh My Zsh

After installing `zsh` terminal, it may appear similar to the `bash` terminal without any significant differences, as we haven't made any configurations. However, `Oh My Zsh` can be used to manage `zsh` configurations. It bundles thousands of useful features, helpers, plugins, themes, and more.

You could install `Oh My Zsh` by running the following command in `zsh` by `curl`

```
sh -c "$(curl -fsSL https://gitee.com/mirrors/oh-my-zsh/raw/master/tools/install.sh)"
```

or by `wget`

```
sh -c "$(wget -O- https://gitee.com/pocmon/mirrors/raw/master/tools/install.sh)"
```

After installation, the default theme used is "robbyrussell". You can modify the ZSH_THEME field in the `.zshrc` configuration file. Next, you need to install two plugins: `zsh-autosuggestions` and `zsh-syntax-highlighting`. The `zsh-autosuggestions` plugin allows you to find and highlight history commands that match your current input, and you can use the right arrow key to complete them directly. The `zsh-syntax-highlighting` plugin recognizes shell commands and highlights them.

Then you can open `.zshrc` file by VScode, and fill in the following text near line 80:

```
plugins=(git
         zsh-syntax-highlighting
         zsh-autosuggestions)
```

Powerlevel10k theme

The default theme used is "robbyrussell", which is not very beautiful. We can use the "Powerlevel10k" theme to make it more beautiful. To use the theme, font `MesloLGS NF` is recommended. After installation, it will be available to all applications on your system. Make sure that `Terminal` and integrated terminal in VScode are using the same font. Then you can open `.zshrc` file by VScode, and fill in the following text near line 20:

```
ZSH_THEME="powerlevel10k/powerlevel10k"
```

After that, interactive information for `p10k` configuration will be displayed. Enter `y` and configure it according to your preferences. If you wish to reconfigure it in the future, you can execute the command

```
p10k configure
```

Here, I will use an image to demonstrate the successful configuration on all three platforms; see Figure 1.

Figure 1: Sucessful configuration of the final prompt if you have the same taste as Ang. Platforms from top to bottom: Linux(Ubuntu), MacOS, Windows.

Python3 deployment

Python3 installation

Here we talk about how to install `python3` on Windows. It's easy to install `python3` from the official website. But the command in the terminal is initially "python". If you want to change it to "python3", you should do as follows:

Use the following command to find the installation path of python3,

```
import sys
sys.executable
```

Once you have located the python3 installation path, navigate to that directory, and rename the ***`python.exe`*** *file to* ***`python3.exe`****, with the* ***`pythonw.exe`*** *file to* ***`pythonw3.exe`****.*

After renaming, the `pip` or `pip3` command may encounter errors, and one potential solution is

```
> python3 -m pip install --upgrade --force-reinstall pip
```

Python3 virtual environment

We highly recommend you to have `venv` named `yourenv` (decided by you) available, since it's terse for you to manage those python packages. There are two methods to meet such needs: `conda` and `pip/pip3`.

Using conda We recommend Anaconda, using the free distribution installation. And then you can make a conda environment in the terminal:

```
(path of current directory).....(hh:mm:ss)
> conda create -n yourenv python=3.x
```

Then you can find the Conda Env `yourenv` to run both `*.py` and `*.ipynb` files in VScode. In terminal or integrated terminal, you can activate by

```
(path of current directory).....(hh:mm:ss)
> conda activate yourenv
```

and deactivate by

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> conda deactivate
```

But `conda` environments come with a set of pre-installed Python libraries, which can sometimes conflict with newly installed libraries. Thus we recommend the following method.

Using pip/pip3 Using `pip/pip3` to make a virtual environment with:

```
(path of current directory).....(hh:mm:ss)
> python3 -m venv yourenv
```

In terminal or integrated terminal on Windows, you can activate by

```
(path of current directory).....(hh:mm:ss)
> source [path of yourenv]/yourenv/Scripts/activate
```

If can't, run the terminal as an administrator

```
(path of current directory).....(hh:mm:ss)
> set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned
```

then `Enter`, and chose `Y` to confirm. And you can deactivate the `venv` by

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> deactivate
```

Third-party libraries When first deploying a `venv`, there're two libraries, and you can look them up with

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> pip3 list
```

and you can see

```
Package     Version
----------  -------
pip         22.0.4
setuptools  58.1.0
```

Here `pip` and `setuptools` are built-in with `yourenv`. If you want to install other third-party libraries like `numpy`, you can install them with

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> pip3 install numpy
```

or

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> pip3 install numpy -i https://pypi.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/simple/
```

The option `-i` is used to specify the index source from where the package will be installed. Here we can use the index source from tuna, Tsinghua University open source software mirror. By default, `pip3` downloads packages from the Python Package Index (PyPI). Then you can see

```
Package     Version
----------  -------
numpy       1.25.0
pip         22.0.4
setuptools  58.1.0
```

To export the dependencies used in `yourenv` to a `requirements.txt` file, you can use the following command:

```
(path of current directory).....(yourenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> pip3 freeze -> requirements.txt
```

If you want to transfer `yourenv` to your code collaborators, just send them the `requirements.txt` file and tell them to use the command:

```
(path of current directory).....................................(hisenv) (hh:mm:ss)
> pip3 install -r requirements.txt -i https://pypi.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/simple/
```

Select python interpreter With VScode, we usually deal with two kinds of python files: `.py` file and `.ipynb` file.

When opening a `.py` file, you can

- Enter `shift+control+P` to open `Command Palette`
- Click `Python: Select Interpreter` and then `+ Enter interpreter path...`
- Imput `[python3 path of yourenv]`

Then you can enter the button ▶, and run the `.py` file. After doing so, you can open a `.ipynb` file, and

- Click `Select Kernel`
- Select `Select Another Kernel...` and `Python Environments...`
- Choose `yourenv`

With this, the configuration process for Python starting from the Terminal is complete. Arm yourself with Python and embark on a wonderful journey!