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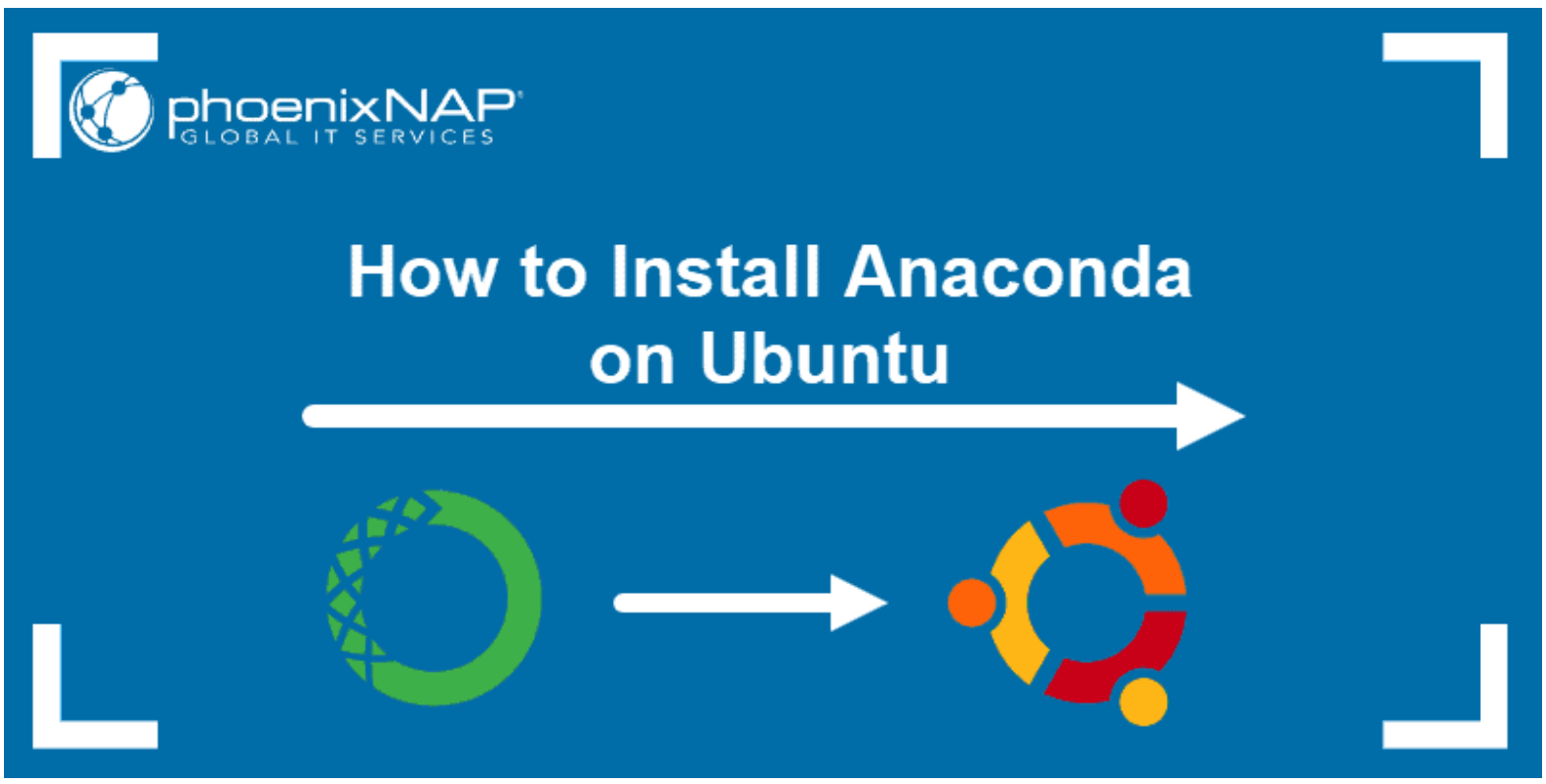
Introduction

Anaconda is a package manager used in scientific computing and data science. It's designed to provide scientific libraries and dependencies in the Python programming language. Anaconda is commonly used for machine learning and artificial intelligence applications.

This step by step guide will show you how to install Anaconda on an Ubuntu 18.04 or Ubuntu 20.04 system.



Note: This guide is also available for CentOS 7 or CentOS 8.

Prerequisites

- A user account with **sudo** privileges
- Access to a command line/terminal window (Ctrl-Alt-T)

Steps For Installing Anaconda

Our tutorial on installing Anaconda on Ubuntu 18.04 or Ubuntu 20.04 includes downloading the latest version, verifying data integrity of the installer, and running the bash install script.

Step 1: Update Local Package Manager

Start by updating the local package manager. Open a terminal window and enter the following:

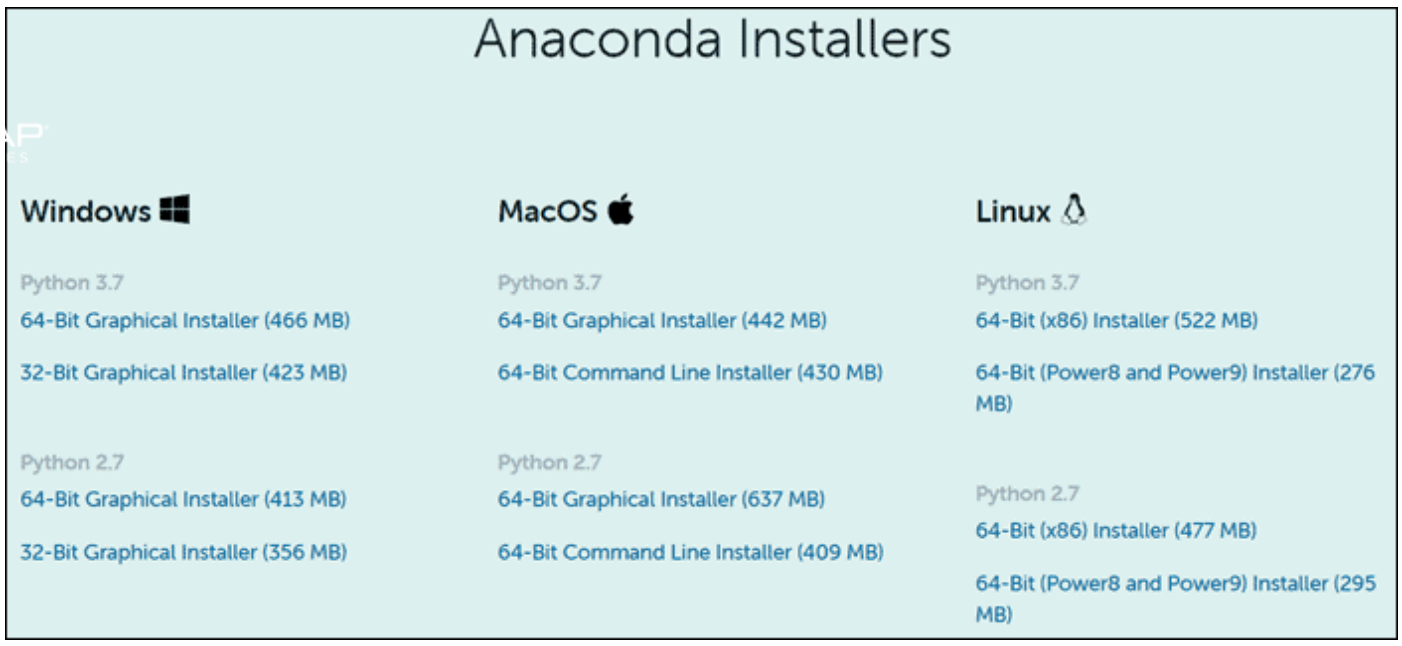
```
sudo apt-get update
```

If your system doesn't have **curl**, install it by entering:

```
sudo apt-get install curl
```

Step 2: Download the Latest Version of Anaconda

At the time this article was written, the latest version of Anaconda is 2020.02. Check the developer's download page to view the newest version.



Note the URL and use it to download the correct version.

Switch to the **/tmp** directory and use **curl** to download the installer using your command terminal:

```
cd /tmp
```

```
curl –O https://repo.anaconda.com/archive/Anaconda3-2020.02-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

This version is designed for Python 3.7. If you are using Python 2.7, use the appropriate URL.

Step 3: Verify the Download Checksum

Checksum is a security tool used to verify the authenticity and integrity of a downloaded script.

Enter the following:

```
sha256sum Anaconda3–2020.02–Linux–x86_64.sh
```

Your system will display a series of letters and numbers:

```
69581cf739365ec7fb95608eef694ba959d7d33b36eb961953f2b82cb25bdf5a Anaconda3-2019.07-Lin
ux-x86_64.sh
```

Compare those to the appropriate checksum (or **hash**) in the Anaconda documentation. If you have chosen a different version, make sure to check the documentation for that version's checksum.

Step 4: Run Anaconda Installation Script

The Anaconda installer is a **bash script**. To run the installation script, use the command:

```
bash Anaconda3-2020.02-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

A license agreement will appear. Use the **Enter** key to review the agreement.

At the bottom, type **yes** to agree to the terms.

The installer will prompt you to accept the default location, or install to a different location. Use the default path unless you have a specific need to change it. (You may cancel the installation here if needed.)

The installation will finish. After sucessful installation, the following will appear:

```
 installation finished.
Do you wish the installer to prepend the Anaconda3 install location
to PATH in your /home/user/.bashrc ? [yes|no]
```

This determines if you want to use the **conda** command without changing the directory. Type **yes** and hit **enter**, unless you have a specific need to do otherwise. The system will respond as follows:

```
 Appending source /home/user/anaconda3/bin/activate to /home/linux4one/.bashrc
A backup will be made to: /home/user/.bashrc-anaconda3.bak
For this change to become active, you have to open a new terminal.
Thank you for installing Anaconda3!
```

(Optional) Step 5: Install VSCode Editor

The system will ask if you want to install Microsoft Visual Studio Code Editor. It will display the following:

```
 Anaconda is partnered with Microsoft! Microsoft VSCode is a streamlined
code editor with support for development operations like debugging, task
running and version control.
To install Visual Studio Code, you will need:
    - Administrator Privileges
    - Internet connectivity
Visual Studio Code License: https://code.visualstudio.com/license
Do you wish to proceed with the installation of Microsoft VSCode? [yes|no]
```

Decide by typing **yes** or **no** to continue.

Step 6: Activate and Test Installation

Once finished, activate the installation by entering:

```
source ~/.bashrc
```

Use the **conda** command to test the installation:

```
conda info
```

The system should display a list of data similar to:

```
 active environment : None
     user config file : /home/user/.condarc
populated config files :
         conda version : 4.5.4
     conda-build version : 3.10.5
         python version : 3.7.0.final.0
     base environment : /home/user/anaconda3  (writable)
         channel URLs : https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/main/linux-64
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/main/noarch
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/free/linux-64
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/free/noarch
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/r/linux-64
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/r/noarch
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/pro/linux-64
                        https://repo.anaconda.com/pkgs/pro/noarch
         package cache : /home/user/anaconda3/pkgs
                        /home/user/.conda/pkgs
     envs directories : /home/user/anaconda3/envs
                        /home/user/.conda/envs
             platform : linux-64
             user-agent : conda/4.5.4 requests/2.18.4 CPython/3.6.5 Linux/4.15.0-22-gen
eric ubuntu/18.04 glibc/2.27
                UID:GID : 1000:1000
             netrc file : None
           offline mode : False
```

How to Update Anaconda on Ubuntu

To update Anaconda on Ubuntu, start by updating the **conda** utility:

```
conda update conda
```

Next, run the Anaconda package update command:

```
conda update anaconda
```

Create and Activate Anaconda Environments

Create a Python 3 environment named **test_environment** by entering the following:

```
conda create ——name test_environment python=3
```

Activate this environment:

```
conda activate test_environment
```

The command prompt will change. This indicates that you are now in a shell environment using Python 3. You can now work in this environment.

Conclusion

You now have a working Anaconda installation on your Ubuntu System for use within your Python environment.

Get started with scientific computing, data processing, and predictive analytics with over 1,500 open source packages available from its repository.

You can also install Python independently by following our step by step guide on installing Python 3.7 on Ubuntu 18.04.

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Vladimir is a resident Tech Writer at phoenixNAP. He has more than 7 years of experience in implementing e-commerce and online payment solutions with various global IT services providers. His articles aim to instill a passion for innovative technologies in others by providing practical advice and using an engaging writing style.