

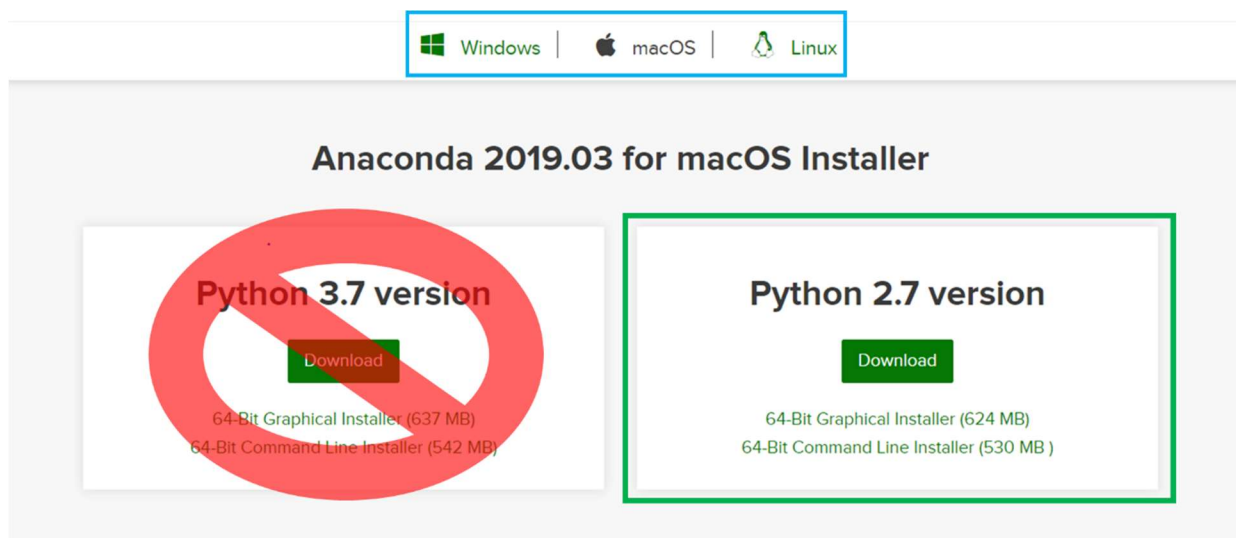
Diving into Python: An Expedition into Programming and the Computational Sciences

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The purpose of this document is to help set up your computer for the learning modules included in the classroom download. By the end of this document, you will have Python 2.7 installed on your computer, a distribution of the Anaconda Python management suite available for your use, and all necessary materials for the class downloaded onto your personal computer.

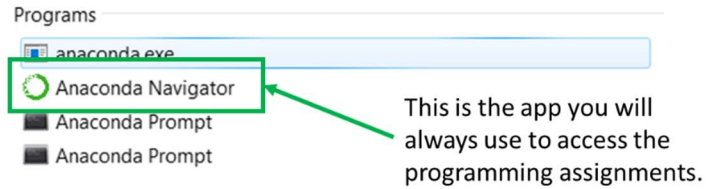
Downloading Anaconda:

First you are going to go to the downloads page of <https://www.anaconda.com/distribution and select Python 2.7> (as pictured below). Be sure to pick the right operating system before downloading.



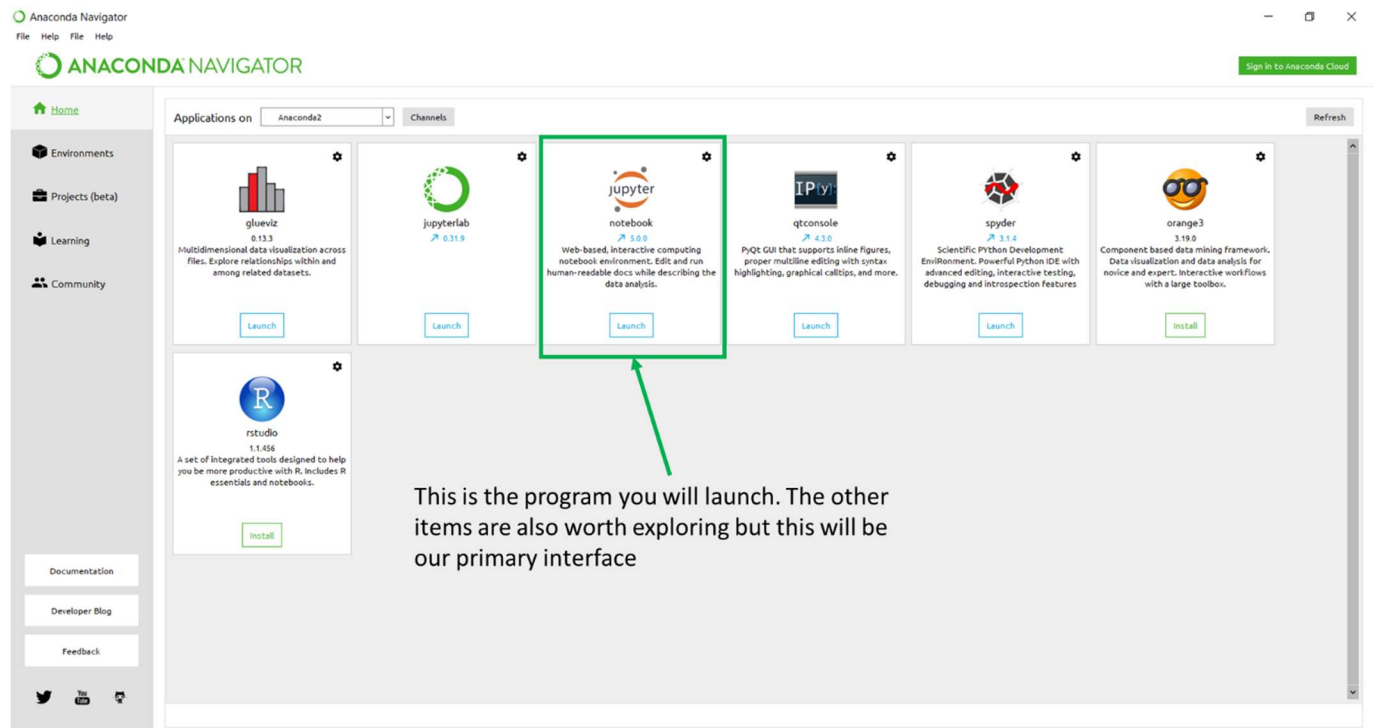
Follow the instructions from the installation wizard. Choose an appropriate directory to store Anaconda. This is where all your “packages” from Python will be stored.

Next, navigate to the Windows Icon/Finder/(or equivalent application search tab) and type in “Anaconda Navigator”. At this point, you should see something like this:

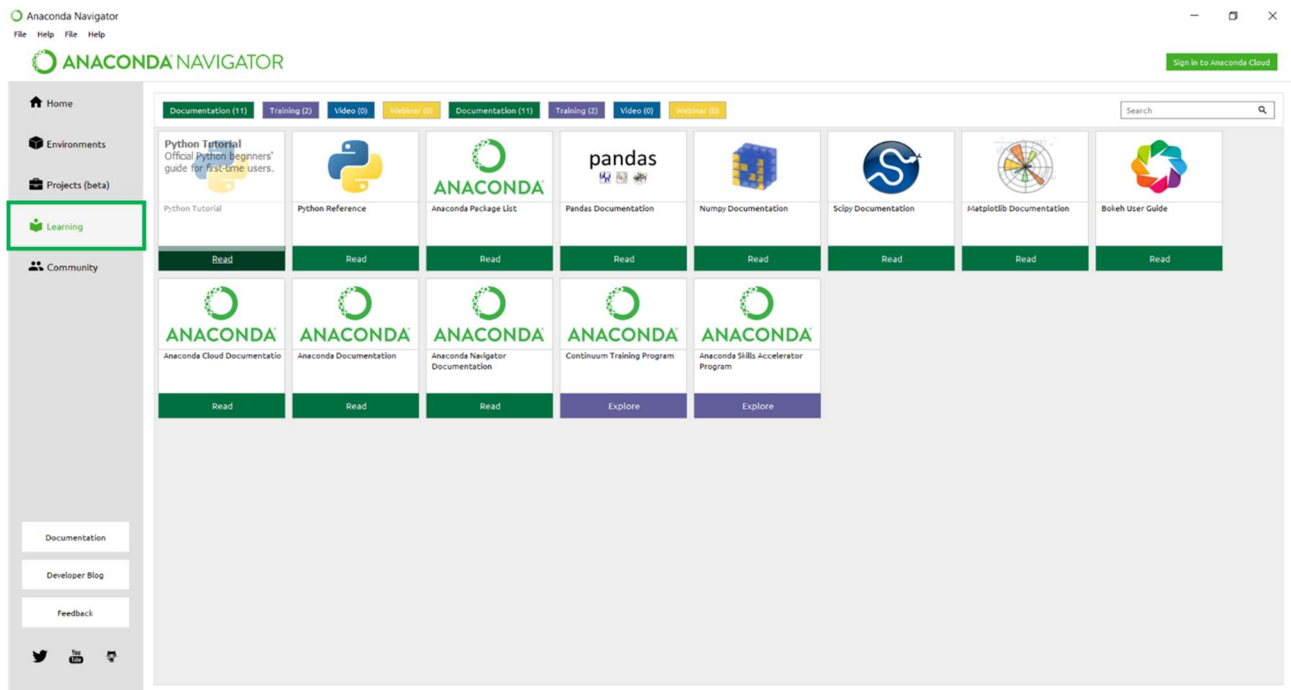


Using the Anaconda Navigator

Select Anaconda Navigator. You will use this application for all instances of Python going forward so it might be worthwhile making a desktop icon for it. Once you open Anaconda Navigator, you should see the following screen:



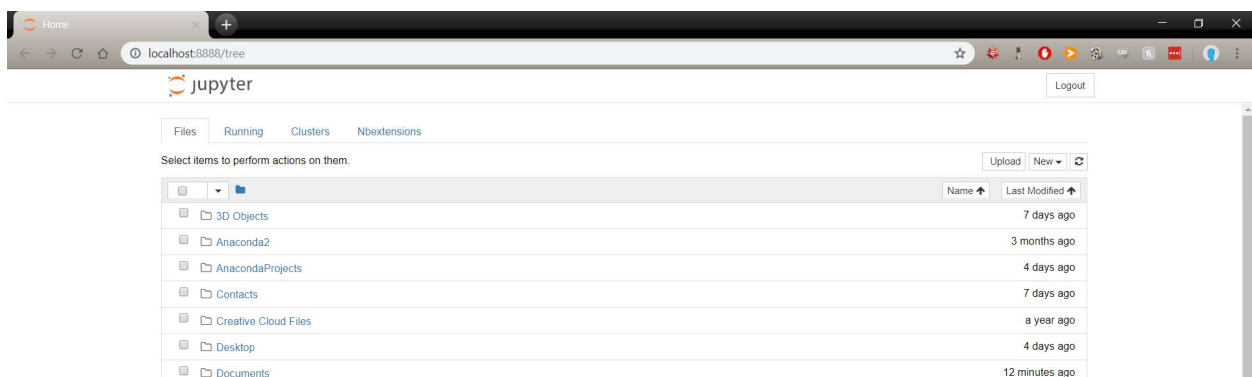
We will be doing all of our work in the Jupyter Notebook interface but feel free to explore the other options as you become more comfortable with Python. Also, note that there is a learning tab that will take you to this page:



Which has useful tutorials for Python as well as the documentation for all of the higher-level packages we will be using.

Accessing Jupyter Notebooks

Selecting Jupyter Notebook will open a Notebook interface in your internet browser window. Here, you will see a file tree of your computer. Navigate to the location where you downloaded the classroom materials.

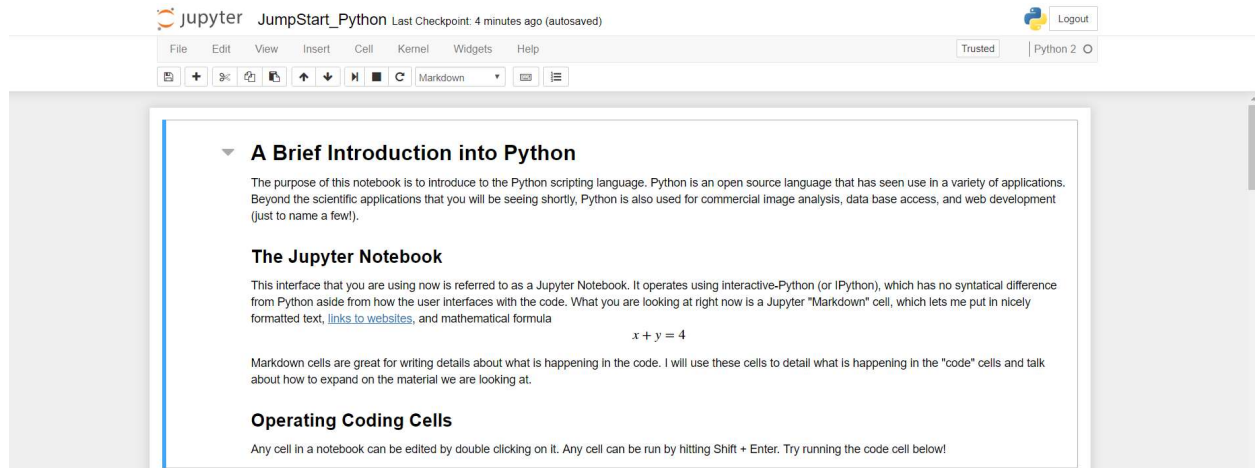


This is not a true internet browser. Jupyter utilizes Chrome/Mozilla/IE to display the application. Everything is run locally and your files are not accessible to any other party. Click on the .ipynb

file located in the classroom materials folder.



Opening the .ipynb file should produce the following screen in a new tab:



Congratulations! You have now navigated the Jupyter Notebook interface and are exactly where you need to be to begin programming. All further instructions, exercises, and experiments will be provided in the .ipynb file so you no longer need to use MS Word!