Getting Started

Installing the Software

In this class you will need to install a special distribution of the Python programming language called Anaconda. An installation of Anaconda includes Python and dozens of science and engineering packages that are ready to use.

Go to the https://www.anaconda.com/download/ and choose the Python 3.x graphical installer. Do not choose the Python 2.x installer.

Double click the installer on your computer to start installing Anaconda. Keep clicking continue or next until the software is installed.

We will also be using a special datascience library developed by Berkeley in this class. You will need to open up a terminal in OS X or the Anaconda command prompt on Windows. Once you are at this prompt, type:

pip install datascience

Starting Jupyter Notebook

There are many ways to interact with Python. Informaticists often use Jupyter Notebook which can combine algorithms, data, and rich commentary to explain informatics concepts.

To get started, run the "Anaconda-Navigator" application. Then click "Launch" under the "Jupyter Notebook" icon.