# PYTHON FOR OCEAN SCIENCES . . .

INSTALLATION, SET UP & PACKAGE MANAGEMENT USING ANACONDA

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# Why?

- Appetite for learning Python at SOS
- Create a Python community to facilitate learning, support and using the language for research.
- Building on previous meetings in SOS





# WHY PYTHON?







- Interpreted language
- Popular in academic, scientific and engineering circles
- Strong at signal and image processing



- Free and open-source
- Large community support
- Interpreted language
- Uses libraries
- General purpose
- Strong for Big Data
- Simple syntax



- Free and open-source
- Uses libraries/packages
- Slower Runtime
- Strong in statistical analysis
- Strong in visualisation
- Complex syntax



Jupyter, Mathematica, and the Future of the Research Paper

Fri, Apr 13, 2018

Newsletters

The Atlantic

SCIENCE

## THE SCIENTIFIC PAPER IS OBSOLETE

Here's what's next.

By James Somers

APRIL 5. 2018 SHARE ✓

"It's incalculable, literally ... how much is lost, and how much time is wasted, and how many results are misinterpreted or are misrepresented."

**Theodore Gray**, co-founder of Wolfram Research, on the cons of a traditional research paper compared to a 'computational essay'.

This is all you need to download onto your computer.

### (AN) ARCHITECTURE FOR DATA SCIENCE USING PYTHON

Python is the programming language

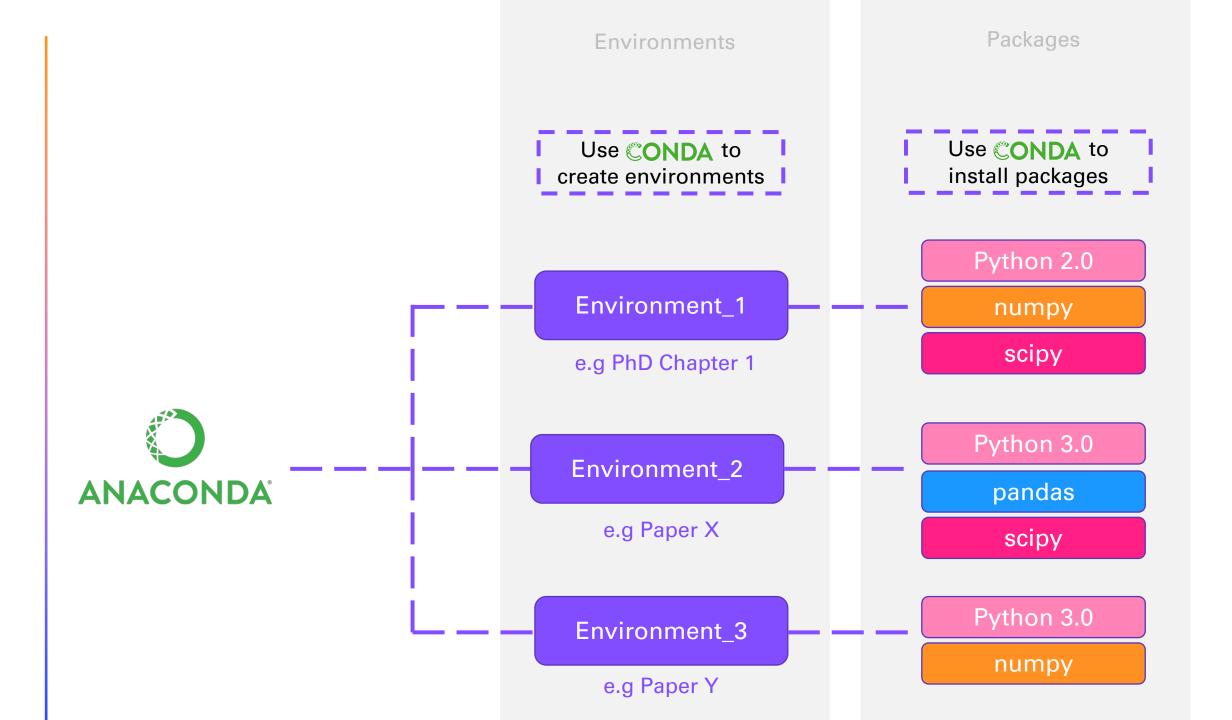


Anaconda is a 'distribution' for data science specific tools.



Conda is the package and environment manager within Anaconda.





#### DOWNLOADING ANACONDA

Download the graphical installer here: <a href="https://www.anaconda.com/products/distribution">https://www.anaconda.com/products/distribution</a>

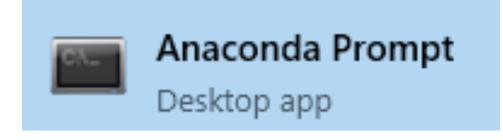
Windows Documentation: <a href="https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/windows/">https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/windows/</a>

MacOS Documentation: <a href="https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/mac-os/">https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/mac-os/</a>

\* You need **minimum 5 GB disk space** to download and install Anaconda. A smaller distribution, 'Miniconda', is available but you'll have to do a lot more of the set up yourself.

#### **Windows**

On windows, 'Anaconda Prompt' should have been installed within your Anaconda Distribution. This is how you access 'conda'.



#### Mac

On a mac, navigate to the 'Terminal App'. This is how you access 'conda'.



To verify your conda is working type the following into the command line:

```
conda --version # Conda displays the number of the version installed.
```

Now let's make our own 'environment' called 'python\_tutorials'

```
conda create --name python_tutorials # Create new environment
```

Get a list of all your python environments printed to the command window

```
conda info --envs # List the environments
```

To start working within your environment you first have to 'activate' it.

```
conda activate python_tutorials # Activate chosen environment
```

In Python, there are different packages which expand Python's basic capabilities. Think of it like your data science toolbox. To list these packages type in the following:

```
conda list # list all of the packages within the activated environment
```

Oh no! There are no tools in the toolbox. We'll have to download and install some packages. But first, a few words on python packages and why conda is so valuable...

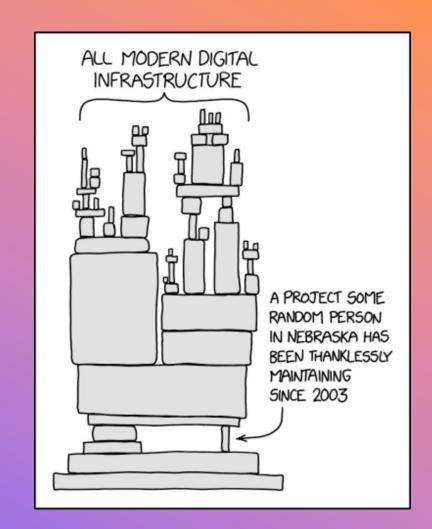
# PYTHON PACKAGES AND THE NINE CIRCLES OF DEPENDENCY HELL.

#### **Dependency hell**

a colloquial term for the frustration of some software users who have installed software packages which have dependencies on specific versions of other software packages.

Python is largely 'package' driven. Packages depend on other packages which depend on other packages *ad infinitum*. If one of those packages changes, or isn't accounted for in an update, the whole system could break.

To overcome this, conda has a dependency resolver which identifies additional packages which need installing/updating. So **congratulations**, you may have (mostly) avoided dependency hell.



# PYTHON PACKAGES AND THE NINE CIRCLES OF DEPENDENCY HELL.

Some popular python packages for data science...

NumPy Array based data

Pandas Labelled and heterogeneous data

SciPy Scientific computing

Matplotlib Visualisations

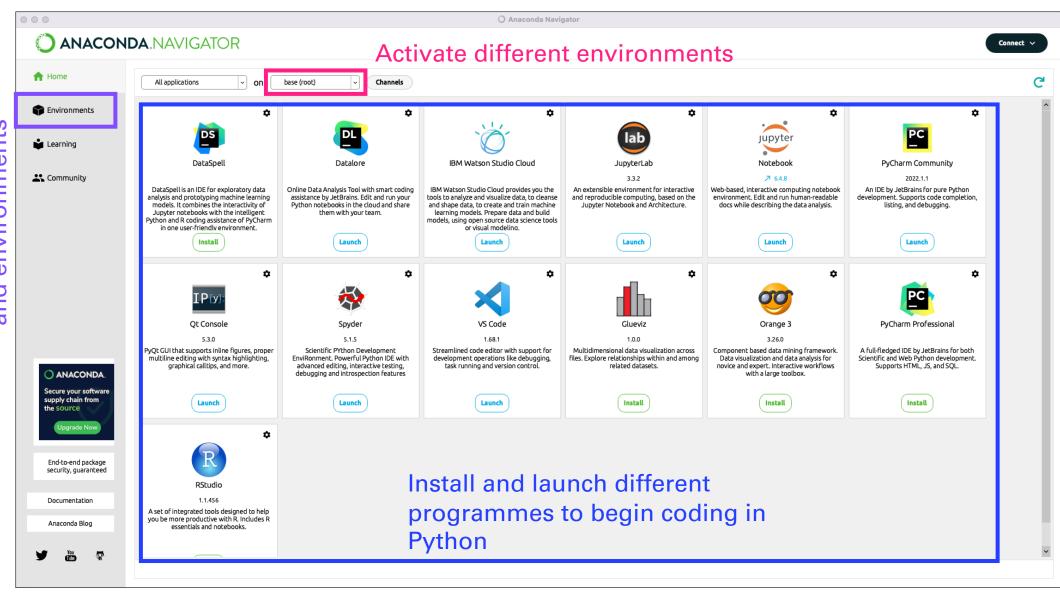
Scikit Learn Machine Learning

Install some of these packages to your activated environment:

Now when you list your packages you should see a list of the ones you've just installed.

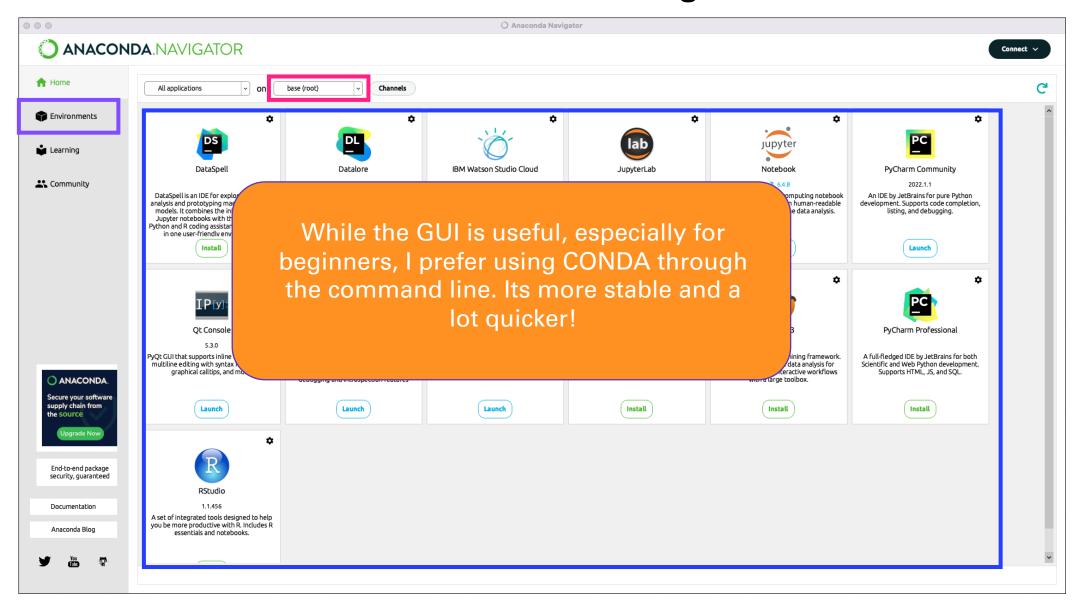
conda list # list all of the packages within the activated environment

### ANACONDA NAVIGATOR – Access through a GUI



Manage packages and environments

#### ANACONDA NAVIGATOR - Access through a GUI



### \*Actually\* accessing and using Python.

Now you hopefully grasp the basics of what Anaconda is and have it installed on your computer, you now need something to be able to write Python code in a meaningful way.

There are many different software packages, or Integrate Development Environments (IDEs), that allow you to use Python. I'll be concentrating on two of them in these sessions: Spyder and Jupyter Notebooks.





To be able to use these, type the following two lines of code into your activated environment in your Anaconda Prompt/Terminal. You can also do this through Anaconda Navigator if you want to. (I recommend installing both for now)

conda install jupyter notebook
conda install spyder

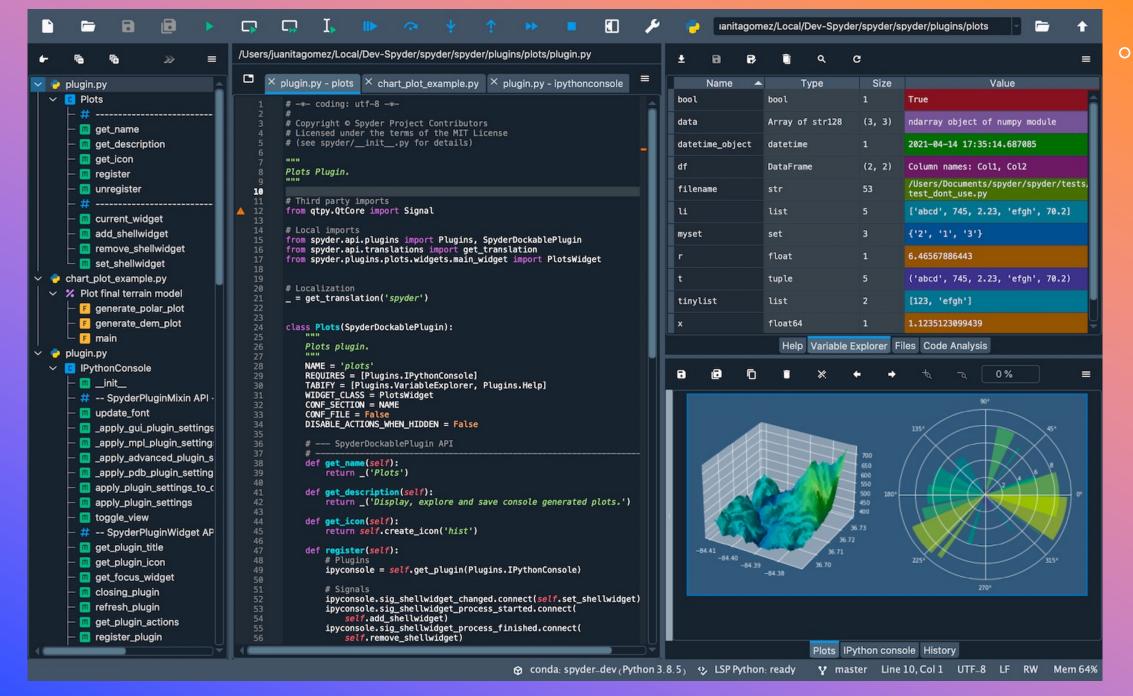
\*Actually\* accessing and using Python.

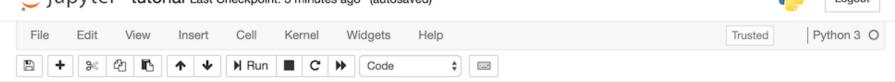


- More of a traditional coding environment
- Familiar layout
- .py files
- Strong for exploratory data analysis and debugging.



- Notebook environment
- Streamlined experience
- .ipynb files
- Sharing friendly
- Useful for visualisation





### PyCon 2018: Using pandas for Better (and Worse) Data Science

GitHub: https://github.com/justmarkham/pycon-2018-tutorial

```
In [1]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
   import pandas as pd
   pd.__version__
Out[1]: '0.24.1'
```

#### Dataset: Stanford Open Policing Project (video)

```
# ri stands for Rhode Island
          ri = pd.read_csv('police.csv')
In [3]: # what does each row represent?
          ri.head()
Out[3]:
              stop_date stop_time county_name driver_gender driver_age_raw driver_age driver_race violation_raw violation search_
               2005-01-
                            01:55
                                          NaN
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                                                                    1985.0
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```

