

# Lab 1: Pytorch setup & Introduction

Jan 26, 2023

**Tayyibah Khanam**

Contact: [tayyibah@nyu.edu](mailto:tayyibah@nyu.edu)

- Virtual Environments
- Conda Environments
- Setting up the Environment
- Pytorch
- Walkthrough jupyter notebook
  - Generating Tensors
  - Tensor Operations
  - Numpy Conversions
  - Device
  - Gradient Descent with Autograd
  - A simple model in Pytorch!

- Useful to maintain dependencies of different projects.
- Essentially just a directory!
- Two popular packaging systems - Conda & Pip.
- Pip is focused around python and neglects non-python library dependencies. Conda becomes useful when you are working with non-python dependencies.

- Conda is a directory that contains a specific collection of Conda packages that you have installed.
- Handles dependencies outside of python packages & python packages themselves.
- Not interchangeable with pip, but you can install pip packages in conda environments.
- Anaconda installs over 150 scientific packages, however Miniconda installs basic packages.

- Install Anaconda/Miniconda environments
  - <https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install>
  - <https://docs.conda.io/en/latest/miniconda.html>
- Create a conda environment with the following commands:
  - **conda create --name dlm-2022 python=3.8.8** (PyTorch is not compatible with the latest version of Python 3.10. For now, version 3.9.7 or below would do just fine.)
  - **conda activate dlm-2023** (Feel free to use other names instead of dlm-2023)
  - **pip3 install torch torchvision torchaudio**
  - **pip3 install notebook**
  - **jupyter notebook**

- Tensorflow works on lazy computing, pytorch is dynamic and imperative, hence eager.
- Python performance is faster in Pytorch.
- Easier to learn, more memory efficient, and lighter to work with.
- Consists of Tensors as building blocks, basically numpy on GPU.

1. [Learn the basics of Pytorch](https://pytorch.org/tutorials/beginner/basics/intro.html)  
(<https://pytorch.org/tutorials/beginner/basics/intro.html>)
2. [Virtual Environments in Python](https://rcpedit.stanford.edu/topicGuides/pythonEnv.html)  
(<https://rcpedit.stanford.edu/topicGuides/pythonEnv.html>)
3. [Managing environments in Conda](https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html)  
(<https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html>)