

# Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

## Setup Guide

### Overview

This course is designed to give you an overview of artificial intelligence techniques and technologies. To complete the labs in this course, you will need to set up your environment.

### What You'll Need

- A Microsoft account (for example, an *outlook.com*, *live.com*, or *hotmail.com* address)
- A Microsoft Azure subscription
- A Microsoft Windows, Apple Macintosh, or Linux computer

### Create an Azure Subscription

**Note:** If you already have a Microsoft Azure subscription, you can skip this section.

If you do not have an Azure subscription, you can create a 30-day free trial subscription, which includes \$200 of free credit in your local currency. The credit in this trial subscription expires after 30 days (after which time you can purchase a pay-as-you-go Azure subscription). You will need to provide a valid credit card number for verification, but you will not be charged for Azure services – for more information, see the frequently asked questions in the Azure sign-up page.

If you have previously had a free trial subscription that has now expired, you will not be able to sign up for a second free trial. In this case, you must sign up for a pay-as-you-go subscription. The lab instructions in this course are designed to minimize the cost of the Azure resources required to complete the hands-on exercises.

To set up an Azure subscription:

1. If you already have a Microsoft account that has not already been used to sign up for a free Azure trial subscription, you're ready to get started. If not, don't worry, just create a new Microsoft account at <https://signup.live.com>.
2. After you've created a Microsoft account, go <https://aka.ms/edx-dat263x-az> and follow the instructions to sign up for a free 30-day trial subscription to Microsoft Azure.

**Note:** When activating a 30-day trial Azure subscription, you will need to provide valid credit card details –your credit card won't be charged for any Azure services you use during the trial period, and the account is automatically deactivated at the end of the trial period unless you

explicitly decide to keep it active. A small transaction, which is refunded, may be used to validate the credit card.

## Install the Lab Files

To complete the labs in this course, you will need to download and extract the lab files from the course GitHub repository.

1. Download the lab files zip archive from <https://aka.ms/edx-dat263x-labfiles>.
2. Extract the lab files to a folder on your computer.

## Optional: Install the Anaconda Python Distribution

You can complete the labs using only a web browser and the lab files. However, some of the techniques demonstrated in this course require a local installation of Python and Jupyter Notebooks. The notebooks used in the demonstration videos are provided at <https://aka.ms/edx-dat263x-demos>. If you wish to explore the demo code, you'll need to install Jupyter and the Python 3.6 kernel. For details of how to install Jupyter and Python, visit the Jupyter site at <https://jupyter.org>.