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Installing Cognitive Toolkit on a Local Machine

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The Tutorials/ Labs and Homework assignments for this course will use Microsoft Cognitive Toolkit (CNTK) and Jupyter Notebook. CNTK supports both 64-bit Windows and 64-bit Linux platforms.

Installing CNTK on your local machine is the recommended setup for this course. In this section, we will go through the CNTK installation on a Windows machine, using Python-only installation.

Installing Anaconda

Anaconda is the leading open data science platform powered by Python. CNTK has been tested with Anaconda3 4.1.1 (64-bit) and Python versions 2.7, 3.4, 3.5, as well as Anaconda3 4.3.1 with Python version 3.6. If you do not have a Anaconda3 Python installation, follow the installation steps below, otherwise, you can skip to install CNTK.

1. Download Anaconda3-4.1.1 Windows installer here.

2. Run the installer, and accept the default options.

Installing CNTK using pip

1. Open the **Anaconda Command Prompt**.

2. Enter the following command:
   `pip install <url>`
   Where `<url>` is the corresponding wheel (.whl) file to install CNTK.
   You must select the correct installation from the list here, and substitute `<url>` during the installation.

3. So for a CPU-Only installation with Python 3.6, the command should be as follows:
   `pip install https://cntk.ai/PythonWheel/CPU-Only/cntk-2.0-cp36-cp36m-win_amd64.whl`

For other setup configurations and references, please visit: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/cognitive-toolkit/Setup-CNTK-on-your-machine

Running Jupyter Notebook Server

1. Open the **Anaconda Command Prompt**.

2. Navigate to the local directory that you want to be the root folder for the Jupyter notebook.

3. Enter the following command:
   ```
   jupyter notebook
   ```

4. The notebook server is now running. You can open and run any notebook (.ipynb) file or create a new notebook.

5. To create a new notebook, click **New** and select a language.
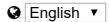
6. You can now run the newly created notebook.

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