Getting Started with Anaconda

A7.1 Overview

Anaconda is a software distribution that bundles together Python as well as many Python packages. Anaconda also includes popular Python development tools such as Jupyter Notebook and Spyder as well as a link to install PyCharm. These tools are covered in earlier appendixes.

To begin installing the Anaconda distribution, go to www.anaconda.com and click on the Download link. Note that Anaconda requires at least 3 GB of disk space and takes several minutes to install.

Anaconda includes a Navigator application (shown below), which provides a simple way to start certain tools as well as install others. The Navigator also provides a Learning page with links to documentation and tutorials.