

# L&R python lunch lecture

This is the [lunch lecture](#) that I gave at the [L&R faculty](#).

One of the questions that came up was what the preferred way is to install python on OSX. This was related to some recent problems that people had with the latest version of OSX. Some of the issues that you can run into while installing extra packages are a [missing png library issue](#) and [missing compilers](#).

Some of the options you have under OSX are, in my personal order of preference:

- [Install macports](#). Then install matplotlib **sudo port install py27-matplotlib**.
- [Install homebrew](#). Then [install python](#), then matplotlib using pip **pip install matplotlib**.
- Get the [enthought python distribution](#) (now called Canopy).
- Get the [continuum distribution](#).

You probably don't want to use the python version that comes preinstalled with OSX. Using one of the other options keeps your python environment separate from your system environment and you'll have a more recent python version.

You can also use [virtualenv](#) to use multiple different python environments.