

VRDI CONDA INSTRUCTIONS

VRDI
MGGG

1. INTRODUCTION

This guide provides a brief guide to installing MiniConda and the associated VRDI software.

2. INSTALLATION

- (1) Start by installing Miniconda from:

<https://conda.io/miniconda.html>

This gets you a standard Python installation (you can choose 2.7 or 3.6) and the conda installer which is super convenient.

- (2) For Unix and Mac systems open a command line. In Windows open an “Anaconda Prompt” command line from the start menu.
- (3) At your prompt type:

```
conda create -n vrdi -c gerrymandr vrdi_meta
```

This will first check your conda installation and then list the packages stored at anaconda.org/gerrymandr and ask you to confirm the installation. Next it will download and install all the necessary files and packages.

- (4) After installing you can access the anaconda environment with these packages by typing:

```
conda activate vrdi
```

This is a necessary step anytime you want to run the software for our program. Every time you launch a new terminal you should start with this command.

- (5) To install the chain software type:

```
conda install -c gerrymandr chain
```

Just like in the original install you will have to confirm the install by pressing y. If you are on Mac, just close the java prompt. To test if this has worked you can enter

```
chain -h
```

and see if the help information displays in your terminal.

- (6) To access some of the data that we are using for the program type:

```
cd $VRDI_META
```

in unix/Mac or

```
cd %VRDI_META%
```

in Windows.

- (7) To open a Jupyter notebook in your browser you can type:

```
jupyter notebook
```

- (8) To update your distribution if we add or change the code or data you can simply enter:

```
conda update vrdi_meta
```

This must also be done in a terminal in which you have already activated vrdi.