

- The following is specific for **conda** installation, but with small variations applies to everything
- <http://conda.pydata.org/docs/faq.html#managing-environments>
- With conda, you can create, export, list, remove and update environments, i.e. operational areas with different versions of Python and/or packages installed in them.
- It is useful when working with packages or data sets which can slow down or even corrupt Python installation or to test “unstable” updates.
- To start create a clone environment of the main one, called **root**. In a Terminal session:

```
>> conda create --name workspace --clone root    creation of an environment named workspace  
>> source activate workspace  
>> conda info --envs    list of all environments, with current one highlighted with an '*' character  
>> Spyder    LAUNCH SPYDER in “workspace”
```

Then back in Terminal mode:

```
>> source deactivate  
>> conda env --help  
>> conda remove --name workspace --all
```

A good example is the package **opencv** for camera and microscope management and image processing. It requires downgrade of other packages (like numpy) and has the habit of corrupting and slowing down Python after a while: then it is time to kill (remove) it.