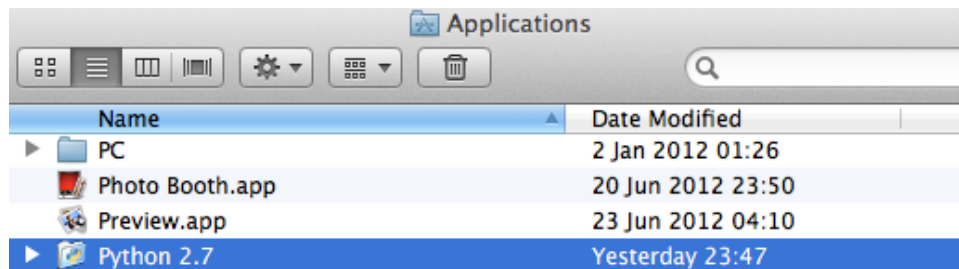GEO_GSM_Download is a useful tool to automatically download a list of GSM samples from the GEO (Gene Expression Omnibus) database.
Requirements: any operating system (Linux, Mac OS X, Windows, ...) with Python 2 or Python 3 and IDLE.
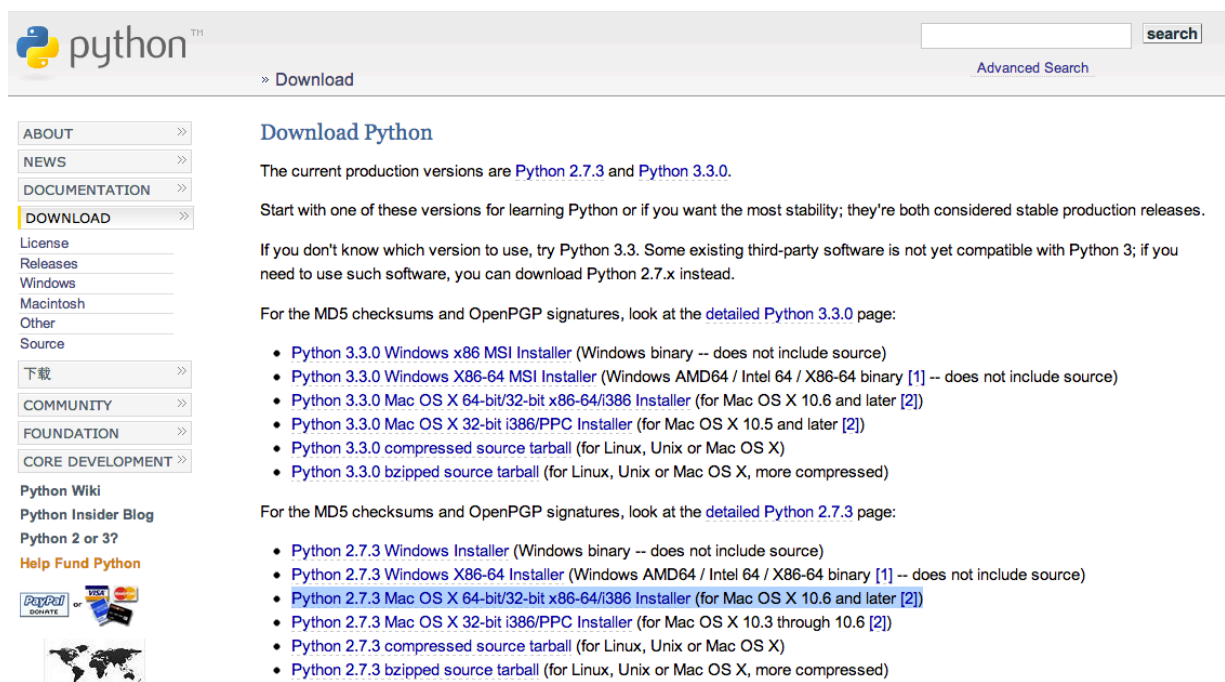GEO_GSM_Download_2.py is for Python 2.
GEO_GSM_Download_3.py is for Python 3.

Installation

In the "Applications" folder, verify which is the installed version of Python.

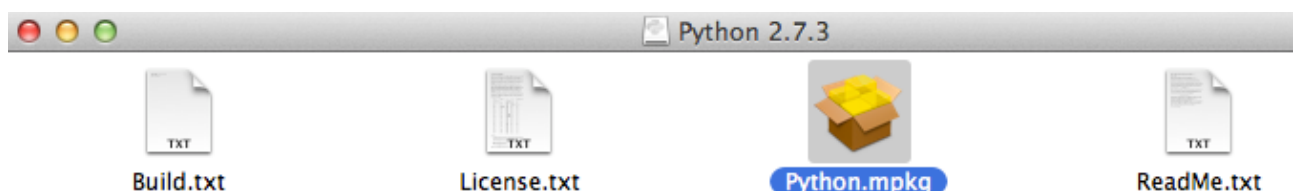If none, download your preferred version from http://www.python.org/download/ (IDLE is included in these installers).

Install the downloaded version of Python as usual.

For example, for Mac users:
Double-click to open the downloaded ".dmg" file. The window represented in the following figure will open automatically: double-click on the "Python.mpkg" file to install Python.

When Python appears in the "Applications" folder, the system is well configured.

Usage

A text file with the GSM sample list and a copy of GEO_GSM_Download application need to be **in the same folder**. The following steps will guide the user to download the desired samples.

1. Create a folder (wherever and called as you prefer).

2. In this folder, save a copy of "GEO_GSM_Download_2.py" (if Python 2 is installed) or a copy of "GEO_GSM_Download_3.py" (for Python 3).

3. Create and save in the same folder a text file exactly called "GSM_List.txt". This is the list of the GSM samples that you want to download. The GSM samples can be listed **one-to-one and/or as a series**, for example:
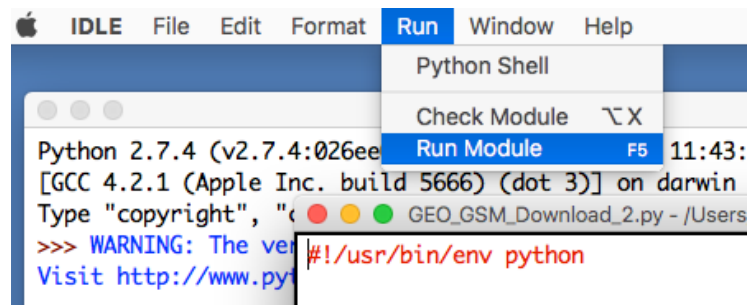
GSM3451...GSM3455
GSM34512
GSM34714
GSM34720...GSM34724

Attention: do not type any space character.

This file can be created with Word, Excel, Tex-Edit Plus, ... choosing "Save As..." and the option "**Text (txt)**". **Please note that rtf file format is not supported**.

A "GSM_List.txt" example file is available in the folder along with this guide.

4. Double-click on the "GEO_GSM_Download_2.py" (or "GSM_Download_3.py") file and two windows of "IDLE" will appear: "GEO_GSM_Download_2.py" and "Python Shell".

5. Click on the "GEO_GSM_Download_2.py" (or "GSM_Download_3.py") window and select "Run Module" from the "Run" menu.

6. The program is finished when the "Download completed" message appears in the "Python Shell".

The GSM files (named as "GSM3451.txt", "GSM3452.txt", …) are downloaded as text files in the folder created in the first step.