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How to install Linux, Kubuntu distribution + python2, ipython, notebook, and spyder

Use a VirtualBox, and select Linux 32/64 bits depending on your machine's architecture.

Watch the following two Youtube videos: the 1st one is nicer and has links to download VirtualBox and Kubuntu, but the 2nd video is good too, and shorter; also, the way shown in the 1st video to install guest additions didn't work for me, so you may want to omit that part and instead type the following code on your Konsole: sudo apt-get install virtualbox-guest-dkms

Note: probably you will need to TYPE yourself the code above, not copy-paste (I couldn't).

Links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDtanZWthno

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c Mb0s4eWus

At some point during installation you will see a black screen with the Kubuntu logo and a text saying: "Please remove the installation medium, then press ENTER". I simply pressed ENTER and it was OK.

Also, VERY important: in the first steps of the configuration, at the very beginning, you will be asked to choose file location and SIZE; the default location is fine, BUT the default size is NOT (at least, not if you want to later install python, spyder and so on), and you need to select at least 30 GB to be safe (not the default of 8). This will be hard disk space devoted to Linux (Kubuntu), and taken away from your current C disk (but typically 30 GB is a small fraction of your C disk). Maybe less is also OK, but I can't guarantee that.

How to install python2, ipython, notebook, and spyder on your newly installed Lynux os

Just copy-paste (recall that the shortcut to paste in Linux is ctrl+shift+v) the code:

sudo apt-get install ipython isympy python-sympy ipython-notebook python-sklearn python-numpy spyder

And then to access ipython, simply type on your Konsole: ipython. To open a python notebook, type on your Konsole: ipython notebook.