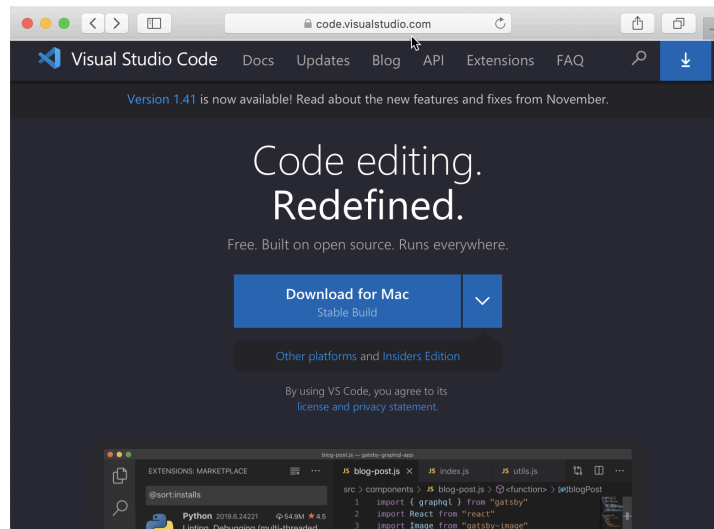
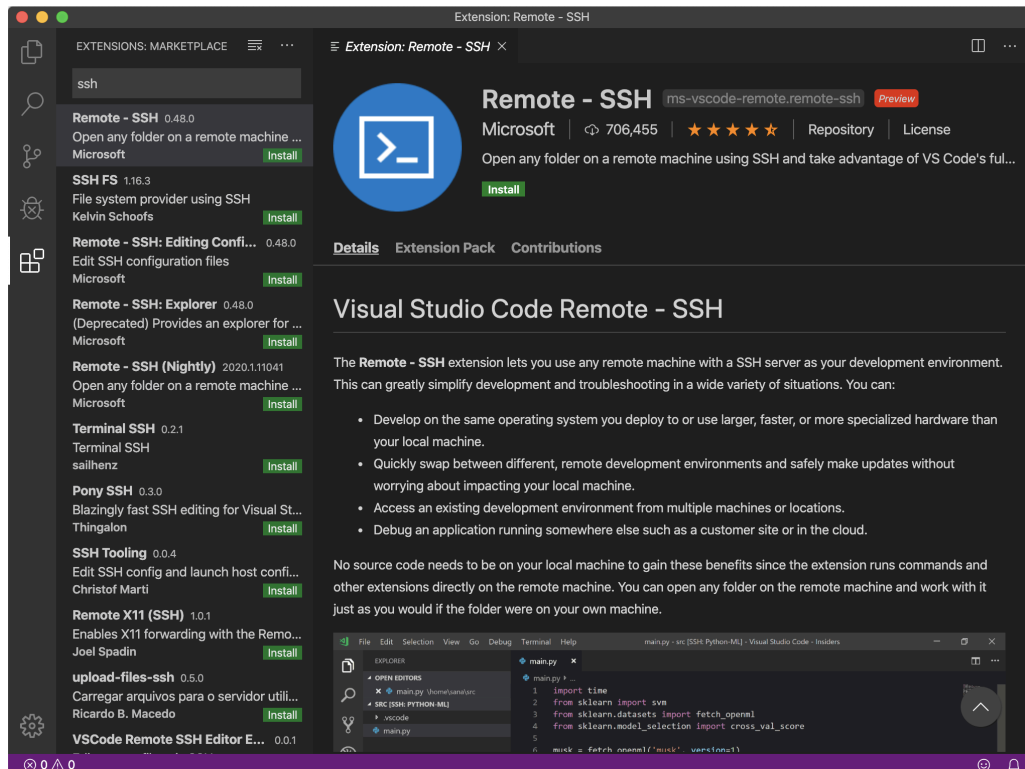


# Using Visual Studio Code to Edit and Run Remote Files

(1) If you don't already have Visual Studio Code<sup>1</sup> installed on your computer, go to [code.visualstudio.com](https://code.visualstudio.com) and download the VS Code editor (e.g., press the blue button). Install it.<sup>2</sup>



(2) Run the editor<sup>3</sup> and install the **Remote-SSH** extension<sup>4</sup>. The Extensions Browser is the building-blocks icon on the left. Search for Remote-SSH and click the green **Install** button. (You can also install any other extensions that seem useful, such as the C/C++ extension.)



<sup>1</sup> Visual Studio Code is a text editor, separate from the Microsoft Visual Studio compilers and IDE

<sup>2</sup> On the Mac, unzip the downloaded file (it's probably in your Downloads folder or your Desktop; double-clicking should unzip it) and drag Visual Studio Code.app into the /Applications folder.

<sup>3</sup> On the Mac, to run the editor for the first time you might need to go the Applications folder in the Finder, right-click the Visual Studio Code.app, and select "Open". Thereafter, you should be able to run the program by clicking the icon in Applications or search for Visual Studio Code in Spotlight.

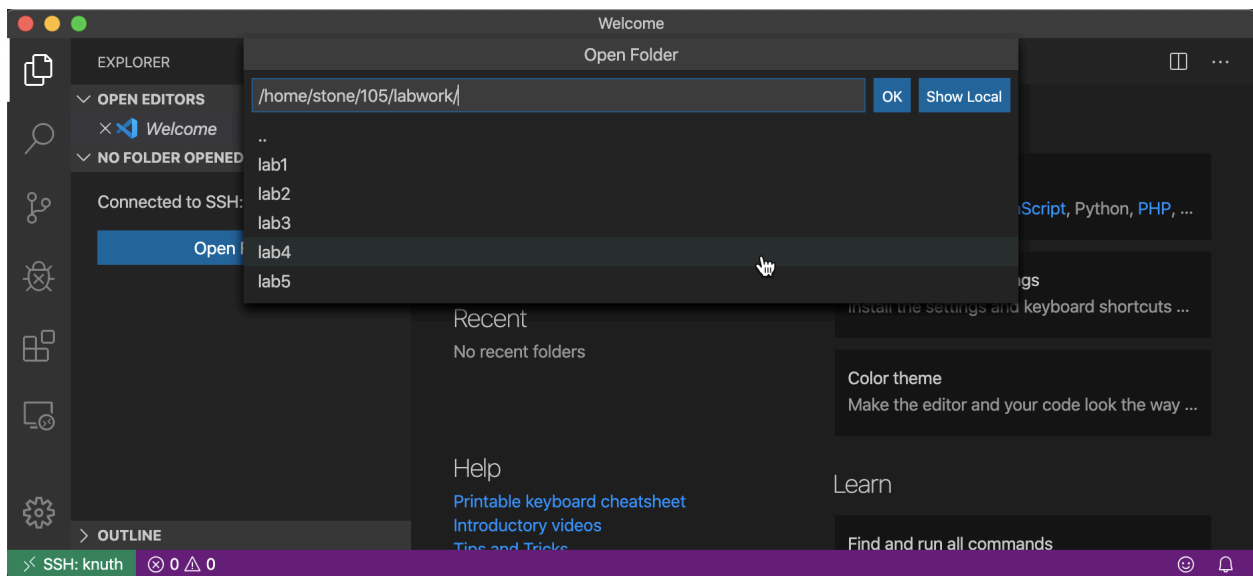
<sup>4</sup> On Windows 10, you also need to install the [Windows OpenSSH client](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/ssh/client/).

(3) The Visual Studio Code "Command Palette" is a command-line interface to all of the editor's functionality. If there's ever something you want to do with the editor, you can open the palette and start typing to search for an appropriate command.

Open the palette with F1 (or Command-Shift-P on Mac or Control-Shift-P) and search for "Remote-SSH: Connect to Host" (e.g., by typing "host" or "Remote"). Select it.

Enter your username and the remote computer you want to work on (e.g., `stone@knuth.cs.hmc.edu` or `stone@wilkes.cs.hmc.edu`). Enter your password when prompted. In a few moments, a new editor window will appear, set up to edit your files on that remote machine.

(4) In that new window, select File > Open or click the Open Folder button in the file Explorer (the files icon at the top of the left sidebar). Browse through the files in your CS account to where you keep your files for this class. (It's usually not a good idea to open your CS home directory itself in VS Code because there are too many files in that directory and its subdirectory.)



(5) You can now edit files living in your CS account by clicking or double-clicking them in the Explorer sidebar. (You can also use the Explorer to create/rename/delete files by right-clicking.)

(6) **You will probably want to open a Terminal window.** Select Terminal > New Terminal in the menus or hit Control-` (a.k.a. Control-~). This gives you a command-line to work with running on the remote machine (i.e., as if you had opened an ssh session). It starts in whatever directory you opened in Visual Studio Code.

Now you can edit your files in tabs and use the command-line to compile/test your files. (Save your edits before you try to run your code!) The editor is running on your local machine—giving you all the benefits of a GUI—but the files and the building/running will all happen remotely.