Downloading and Installing QGIS
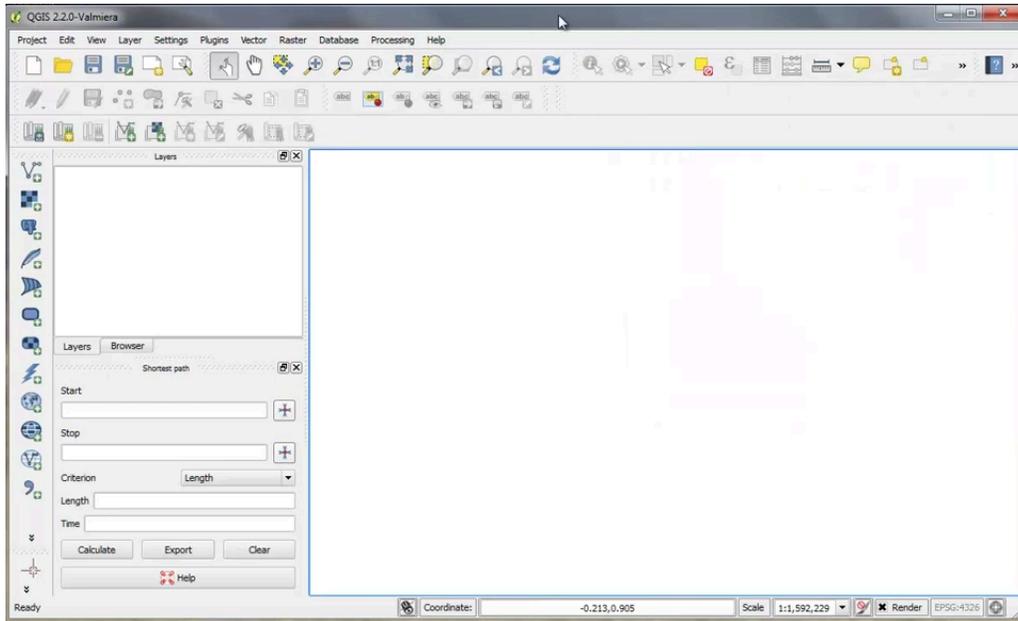
1. Go to the QGIS download page:
    http://www.qgis.org/en/site/forusers/download.html#

2. For Windows:
    a. The recommended download is the QGIS Standalone Installer Version 2.18 (32 bit or 64 bit depending on your computer)
    b. To check this go to "Computer" – "System Properties" to see if the system type is 32 or 64.
    c. Once the .exe file downloads, double click on it, and run the QGIS setup wizard
        i. Click Next for all the default properties. You can select the sample datasets if you would like, but it is not necessary.
        ii. QGIS will then be saved in your Program Files and an icon should appear on your desktop when it has finished installing.
        iii. You can then double click on the QGIS icon and it should open up to a window that looks similar to this:

3. For Mac:
    a. Click on the external page labeled "KyngChaos QGIS download page" link shown above and the following will load:

b. Partway down the page under download click on "QGIS 2.18.0-1."
   Once downloaded, double click on the icon and a distribution of
   several Python libraries will open.
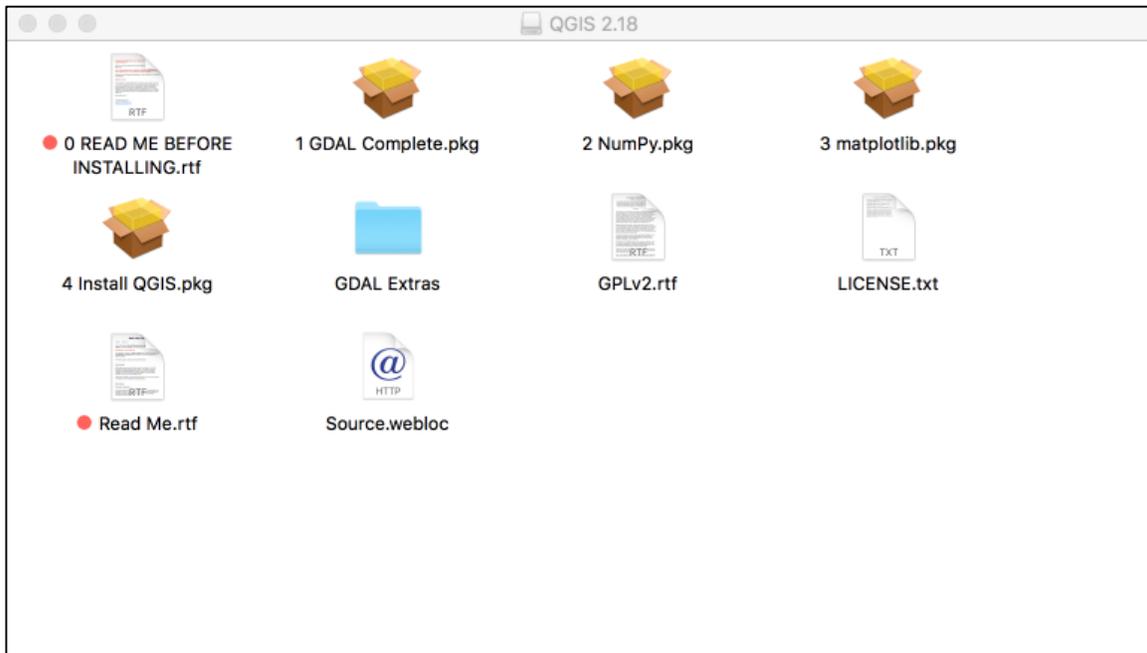
c. Open "0 READ ME BEFORE INSTALLING.rtf" and read it. Follow
   the instructions regarding past QGIS installs, or heed the warnings
   about the location of the Qt4 library.
d. Next look at the contents of this folder. You will see that multiple
   accessory packages are present and need to be installed in order
   to get QGIS running properly.
e. It is extremely important to install these packages in this order (you
   may need to right click to open package and agree to open it when
   prompted)
      i. GDAL_complete.pkg
      ii. NumPy.pkg
      iii. matplotlib.pkg
f. It is also helpful to install optional plug-ins found on the KyngChaos
   QGIS download page under the Optional Packages, "other Python
   Modules for plugins" and these include…
      i. SciPy
      ii. PIL (download dependency requires UnixImageIO,
          FreeType)
      iii. Psycopg2
      iv. RPy2 (requires R 3.1)
      v. PySAL
g. Download and install these packages.

h. Finally, install the downloaded QGIS.pkg found with the packages in section 3d above. Right click on the icon to open it, and follow through with the remainder of the installation. After installing, double click the icon in the Applications folder.