Python is a high-level, interpreted programming language known for its simplicity and readability. It was created by Guido van Rossum and first released in 1991. Python's design philosophy emphasizes code readability and simplicity, making it an excellent choice for beginners and experienced developers alike.

Python supports multiple programming paradigms, including procedural, object-oriented, and functional programming. It has a comprehensive standard library and a large ecosystem of third-party packages, which makes it versatile for a wide range of applications such as web development, data analysis, artificial intelligence, and more.

Key features of Python include:

- Easy to read and write: Python's syntax is clear and concise.

- Dynamically typed: No need to declare variable types.

- Interpreted language: Python code is executed line-by-line, making debugging easier.

- Extensive libraries: Python has libraries for almost every task.

Overall, Python's simplicity and power make it a popular choice for developers around the world.