Python via Docker

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Requirements

It is possible to run Python scripts in a Docker Container within VS Code without having a local Python setup, all that is needed is:
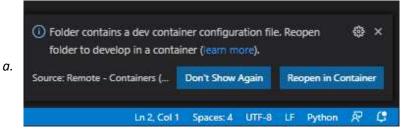
- Visual Studio Code: https://code.visualstudio.com/download (56MB download)
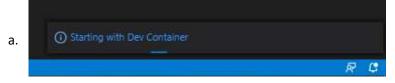- Docker Desktop: https://www.docker.com/get-started (1 GB download)

Instructions

1. Open the folder with VS Code via File > Open Folder (or right-click in the Explorer > Open with Code)
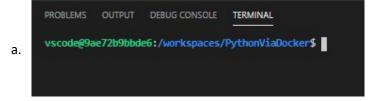2. Install the recommended extension in your VS Code (pop-up in lower right corner) by clicking "Install All"

   a.

3. click "Reopen in Container" (pop-up in lower right corner)

   a.

   b. if you don't have Docker, it will say Docker is required. Click to follow the link to the Docker site (www.docker.com) and see the instructions below under "Troubleshooting"
   c. if you get an error from Docker, see below under "Troubleshooting"

4. Docker will start building an image (if it is the first time)

   a.

   b. This takes a few minutes the first time, subsequent starts are faster
   c. When you are asked to share your drive, then share it
      otherwise your local folder will not be available inside the container

5. Docker presents a Terminal window (it's a Linux shell)

   a.

6. Open the Python file and click F5 to run it
7. When you are done close VS Code (or close the folder via File > Close Folder)

Troubleshooting

Docker not installed

If you don't have Docker, VS Code will say Docker is required.

1. Click to follow the link to the Docker site (www.docker.com)
2. Click "Get Started" (upper right corner)
3. Download and install "Docker Desktop" for your operating system
4. Run the installer
5. Check "Enable required Windows Features"
6. Uncheck "Use Windows containers instead of (...)" if it isn't already and click "ok"
7. Restart your computer
8. Then resume from the top of the instructions (step#1)

Docker returned an error. Make sure the Docker daemon is running

If you get an error Docker returned an error. Make sure the Docker daemon is running:

1. Wait until Docker has restarted
   a. *the icon looks like a whale with shipping containers on its back, it's in the SysTray, next to the clock*
2. Check that the service is running (it can take a minute after booting before it is done launching)
3. Reinstall Docker if needs be to get it started
4. Then resume from the top of the instructions (step#1)