

TD 1 - Python bases

MARSEILLE LE VÉLO API MANIPULATION - PART 1

In Marseille we have a bikes floating system in place called LeVélo. The website is available here : <http://www.levelo-mpm.fr/>.

Bikes are managed by a company called JCDecaux (which managed Vélib' in Paris before) and that have a really nice and concrete API.

But you will say what's an API ?

An API (literally: application programming interface) is an interface developed by programmers that want to expose specific part of a program to someone else. An API can be a module in a Python library that we can call, or it can be a website where URL can be used to query data from the website.

Here we will use the API available here : <https://developer.jcdecaux.com/#/opendata/vls?page=getstarted>

The aim of this first part is to create a simple program that gets information about LeVélo in Marseille.

Questions

1. Register into the website to get your own apiKey. For instance an apiKey can be something like this: `d98a933280f795e572b6a902565d9d8bi0f76bba`.
2. Create a file named `le_velo.py` in your system to put the program we will write below.
3. Write the code below to start programming.

```
def run():  
    print("It's working!")  
  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    run()
```

4. Now you can run your program by typing `python le_velo.py` in your command prompt.
5. Create a constant `API_KEY` and call the API to get Marseille contract Id (see API documentation).
6. Create a constant `CONTRACT_ID` to store the result for later use.
7. Now we want to write a command that takes in input a GPS location (latitude, longitude, e.g. 46.21,-2.43) and returns the nearest station with available bikes ;
 - a. Use `argparse` to parse argument from the command line. For instance we want to call our program like this (`a` stands for action).

```
$ python le_velo.py -a find --latitude 46.21 --longitude -2.43
```

- b. Do the implementation.
 - c. Returns the name of the station and the distance in meters from the location you gave.
8. Create a new command that returns the 3 stations with the smallest number of bikes.