



Introduction to Python

Python Fundamentals

Name of presenter

Date

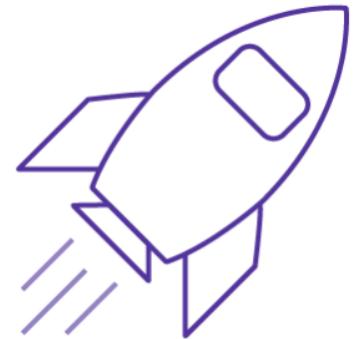
Introduction to Python

What you will learn

At the core of the lesson

You will learn how to:

- Explain what Python is
- List reasons for using Python
- List examples of programs that can be used to write Python code
- Compare Python to shell scripting
- Recognize the purpose of AWS Lambda



What is Python?

Python is a free, easy-to-learn, general-purpose programming language.



Why Python?

The interpreter enables fast exploratory programming.

Dynamic typing makes it easy to write quick scripts.

Python syntax is simple when it is compared to other languages.

Python can support object-oriented, structural, and functional programming styles.

Why Python? continued

Another reason to use Python is that it works across platforms. It works on macOS, Linux, Microsoft Windows, and other platforms.

Though Bash scripts can be powerful, they mostly run on GNU/Linux.



Where can you write Python?

Python can be written in any text editor if you have the interpreter also installed. Many developers use special programs that are called *integrated development environments (IDEs)*. IDEs help with finding syntax and exception errors.

Some examples of programs that are used to write Python code include:

Python(x,y)

Microsoft
Visual Studio
Code

Eclipse

Notepad++

Spyder

PyCharm

Vim

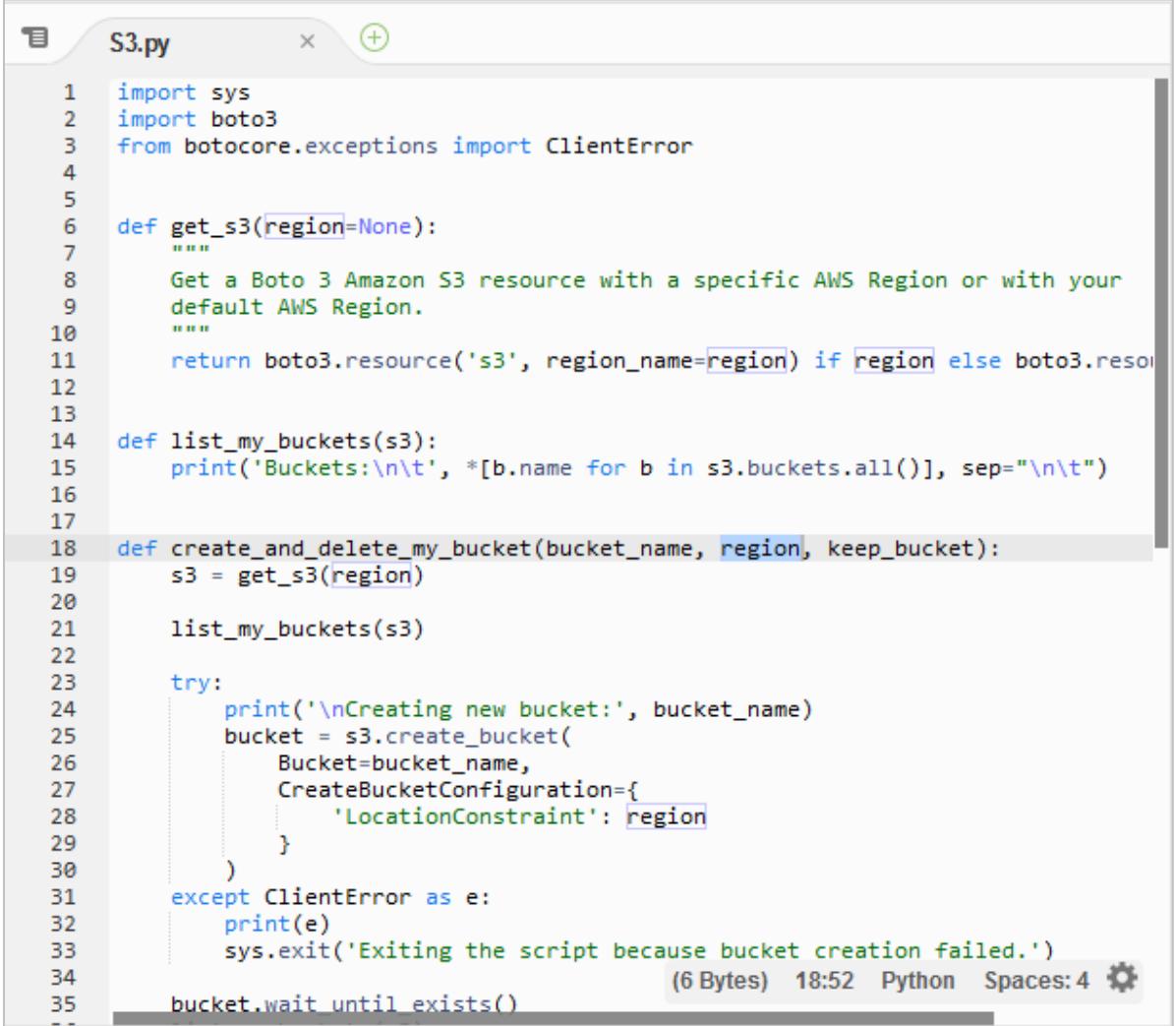
Integrated development environment

The following core capabilities are associated with IDEs:

- Syntax highlighting – Highlights keywords within the programming language
- Code completion – Similar to automatic completion for natural languages on modern cellular phones
- Debugging – Enables line-by-line inspection of the code while it is running with breakpoint capabilities
- Version control – Integrates popular version control systems, such as git and subversion

Using an IDE: Syntax highlighting

- Declaration of functions, classes, and imports have similar color.
- Comments are colored green.
- All syntax highlighting is customizable.



The screenshot shows a code editor window titled "S3.py". The code is written in Python and performs the following tasks:

- Imports sys, boto3, and ClientError from botocore.exceptions.
- Defines a function get_s3 that returns a Boto 3 S3 resource with a specific AWS Region or the default AWS Region.
- Defines a function list_my_buckets that prints a list of all buckets.
- Defines a function create_and_delete_my_bucket that creates a new bucket with the specified name and region, and then lists the buckets. It handles a ClientError exception by exiting the script if bucket creation fails.
- Ensures the bucket exists by calling bucket.wait_until_exists() at the end.

The code uses syntax highlighting where keywords like import, def, and print are in blue, strings are in green, and comments are in light green. The file status bar at the bottom indicates it's 6 Bytes, 18:52 Python, and Spaces: 4.

Using an IDE: Code completion

- Functions are portrayed differently in a selection.
- Functions include arguments that are available.

A screenshot of a Python code editor showing code completion. The cursor is at line 31, position 10, where the code reads `bucket.`. A dropdown menu is open, listing several suggestions:

- `AWS`
- `Amazon`
- `ArgumentParser`
- `Boto`
- `Bucket`
- `Buckets`
- `ClientError`
- `CreateBucketConfiguration`
- `list_my_buckets(s3)`

The rest of the code is as follows:

```
30     )
31     bucket.
32     except C
33     prin
34     sys.
35     bucket.w
36     list_my_
37     if not k
38     prin
39     buck
40     buck
41     buck
42     buck
43     buck
44     list_my_buckets(s3)
45     else:
46         print('\nKeeping bucket:', bucket.name)
47
48
49 def main():
50     import argparse
51
52     parser = argparse.ArgumentParser()
53     parser.add_argument('bucket_name', help='The name of the bucket to create')
54     parser.add_argument('region', help='The region in which to create your bu
55     parser.add_argument('--keep_bucket', help='Keeps the created bucket. When
56     specified, the bucket is deleted
57     'at the end of the demo.',
58             action='store_true')
59
60     args = parser.parse_args()
61
```

At the bottom right of the editor window, it shows the time as 31:16, the language as Python, and the spaces used as 4.

Using an IDE: Debugging

- Step through code line by line.
- Inspect variables as you step.
- Change values as you inspect.

The screenshot shows a debugger interface within an IDE. On the left is a code editor window titled "hello.rb" containing the following Ruby code:

```
1 def say_hello(i)
2   puts "Hello!"
3   puts "i is #{i}"
4 end
5
6 def say_goodbye(i)
7   puts "i is now #{i}"
8   puts "Goodbye!"
9 end
10
11 i = 1
12 say_hello(i)
13 i += 1
14 say_goodbye(i)
```

A red circle highlights the line `i = 1`, indicating it is the current line of execution. The right side of the interface contains several toolbars and panels:

- Collaborate**: Includes icons for sharing and collaboration.
- Outline**: Shows a tree view of the code structure.
- Debugger**: The active panel, showing the following details:
 - Watch Expressions**: A table with one entry: `i` (Value: Type).
 - Call Stack**: Displays "No call stack to display".
 - Local Variables**: Displays "No variables to display".
 - Breakpoints**: Shows a checked checkbox for `hello.rb:11 i = 1`.

Running Python applications

After you finish writing an application in Python, you can:

- Run the application from the command line: `$python myPythonapp.py`
- Run it from inside the IDE

However, what if you must run your code or application? For example:

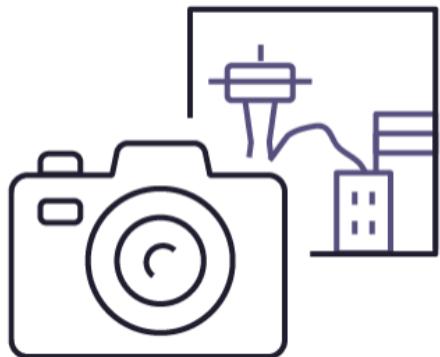
1. Make it available to users around the world
2. Handle millions of users

AWS Lambda

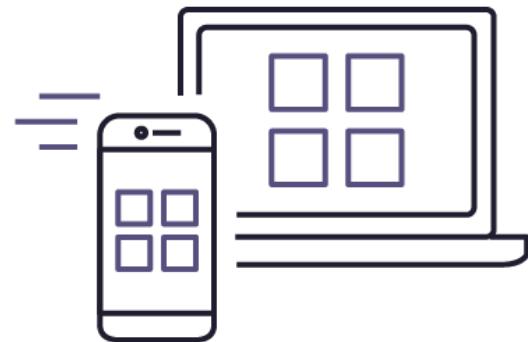


- Upload your code to AWS Lambda.
- Set up your code to trigger from an event, such as a user who is visiting your webpage.
- Lambda runs your code only when it is triggered, and it uses only the compute resources that are needed.
- You pay only for the compute time that you use.
- Multiple languages are supported.

AWS Lambda example

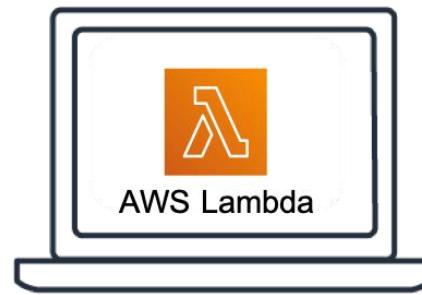


Users capture an image for their property listing.



The mobile app uploads the new image to Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3).

You will learn more about AWS Lambda later in the course.



A Lambda function is triggered and calls Amazon Rekognition.



Amazon Rekognition retrieves the image from Amazon S3 and returns labels for the detected property.

Other tools: Shell scripting

Shell scripting commands are run directly from the command line of an operating system. They are available on any machine and on any operating system without the need to install new software.

Different environments require different syntax or types of shell scripting, such as Bash and Zshell.



zsh

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Shell scripting versus Python

- Shell scripting can be a powerful tool for system administration and command-line work, but it can be challenging when you want to use more complicated data structures.
- For example: Python can perform some actions—such as creating an HTTP server—in a single line. However, it could require many lines of code to do the same action in Bash.
- Python has many external libraries and resources. It is a complete programming language.



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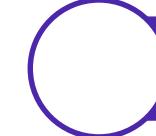
Checkpoint questions



Does Python use an interpreter or a compiler?



What is a use case for shell scripting?



True or false: Python is only a functional programming language.



What does the acronym IDE stand for?



Name at least two different IDEs that you can use to write Python code.

Key takeaways



- Python is a free, general-purpose programming language. It has a simpler syntax compared to other programming languages.
- Python can be written in any text editor if the interpreter is also installed.
- An integrated development environment (IDE) provides several advantages for writing code.
- Shell scripting is a powerful tool for administration. When administration becomes complicated, Python is generally preferred for such tasks.