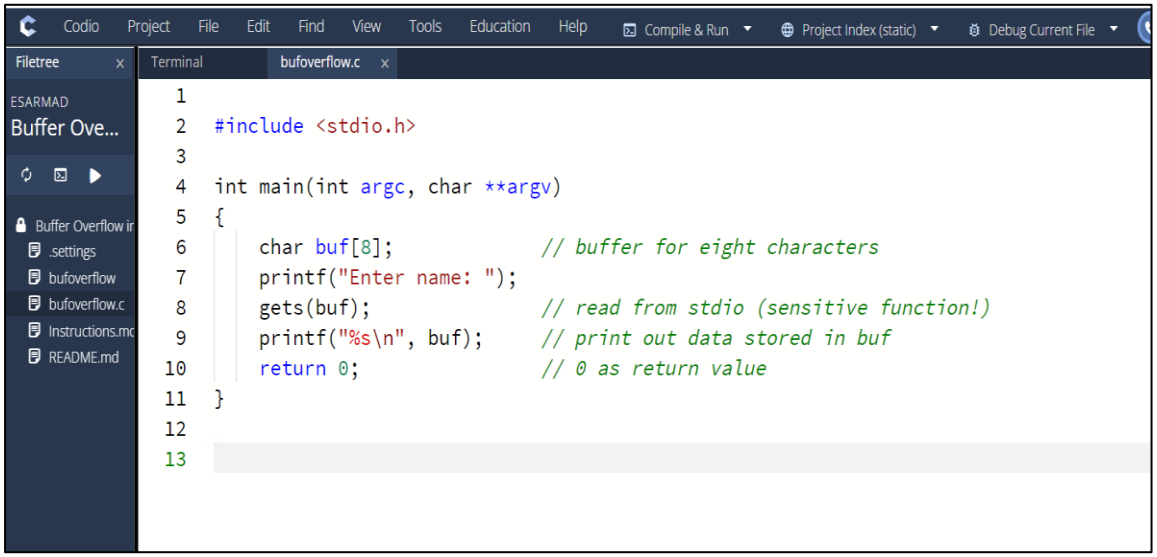
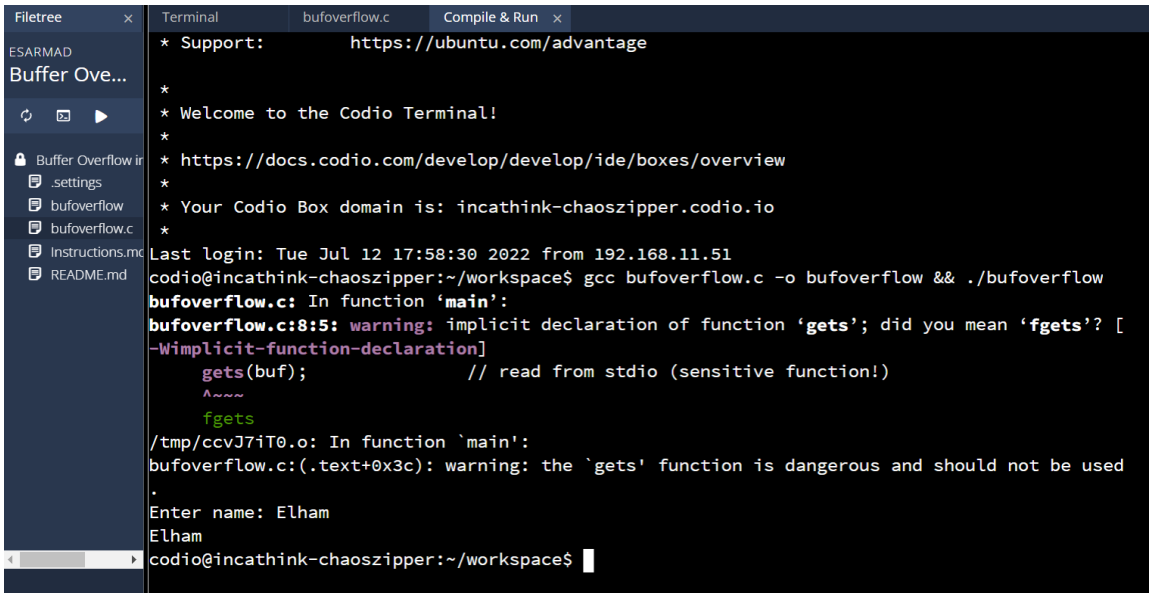
Exploring Python Tools and Features

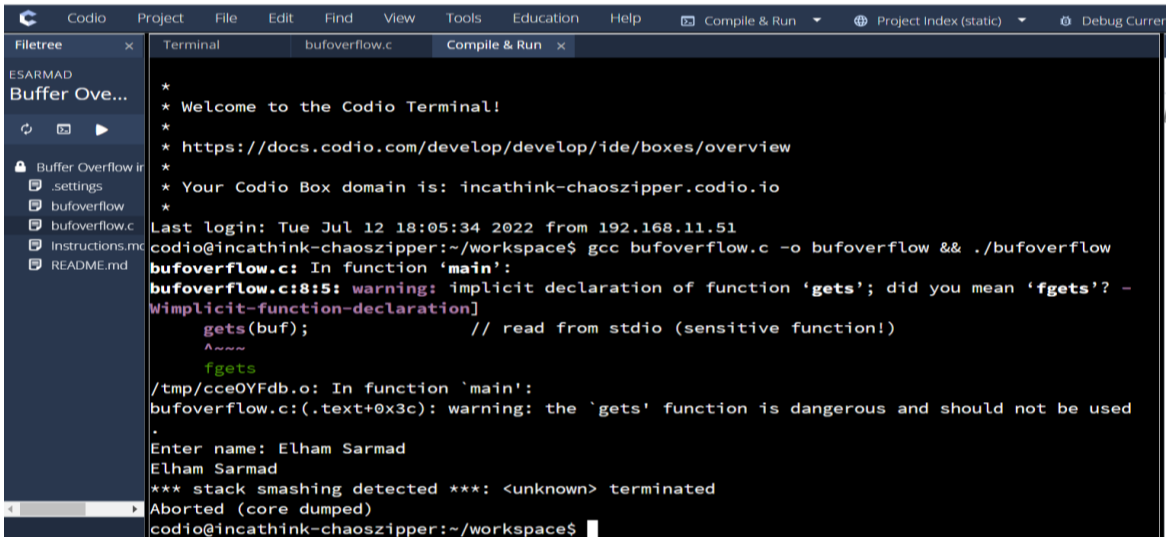
Part 1: a simple program written in C language that creates a buffer and then asks you for a name, and prints it back out to the screen:



First run:



Second run:



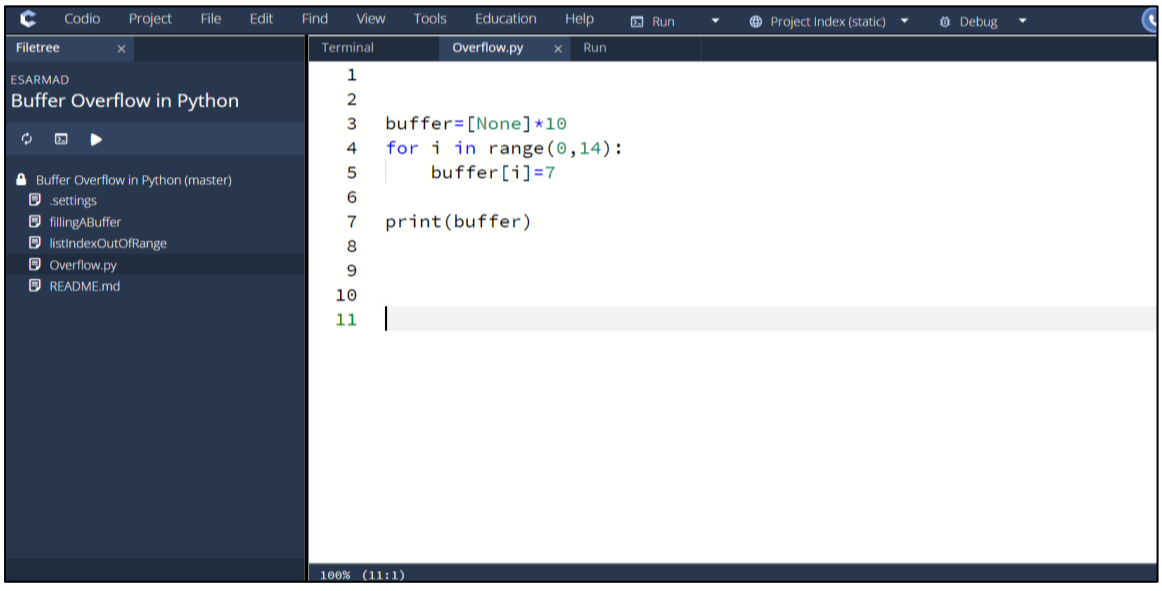
- **What happens?**

  The compiler throws “Stack smashing detected” error.

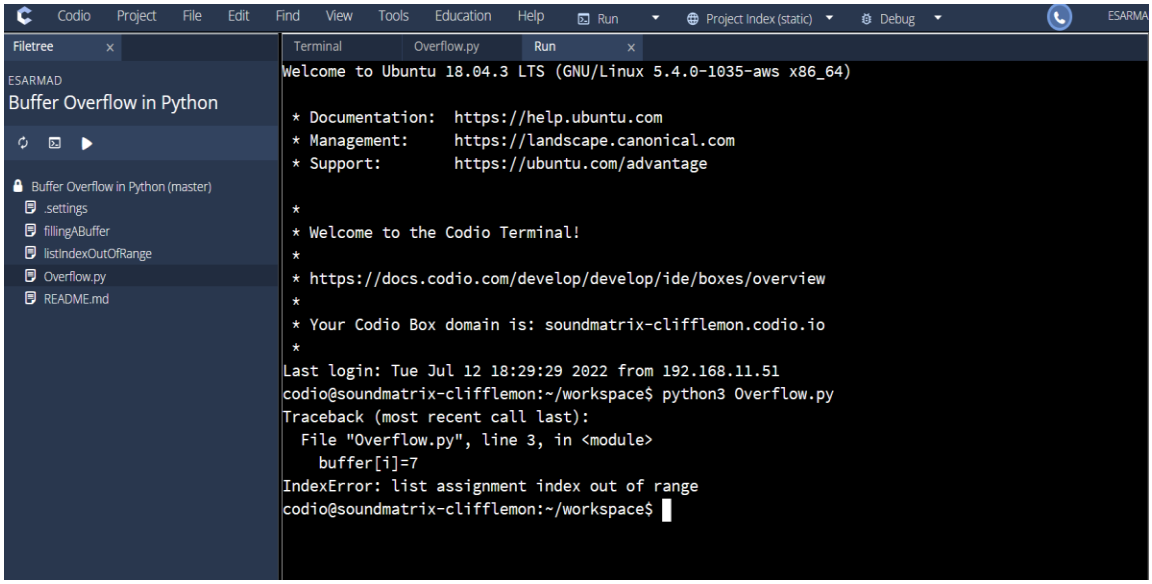
- **What does the output message mean?**

  It means that buffer overflow has occurred. In other words, the user’s input exceeds the capacity of the buffer.

Part 2:



Run:



- **What is the result?**

  The compiler throws IndexError with “list assignment index out of range” message.

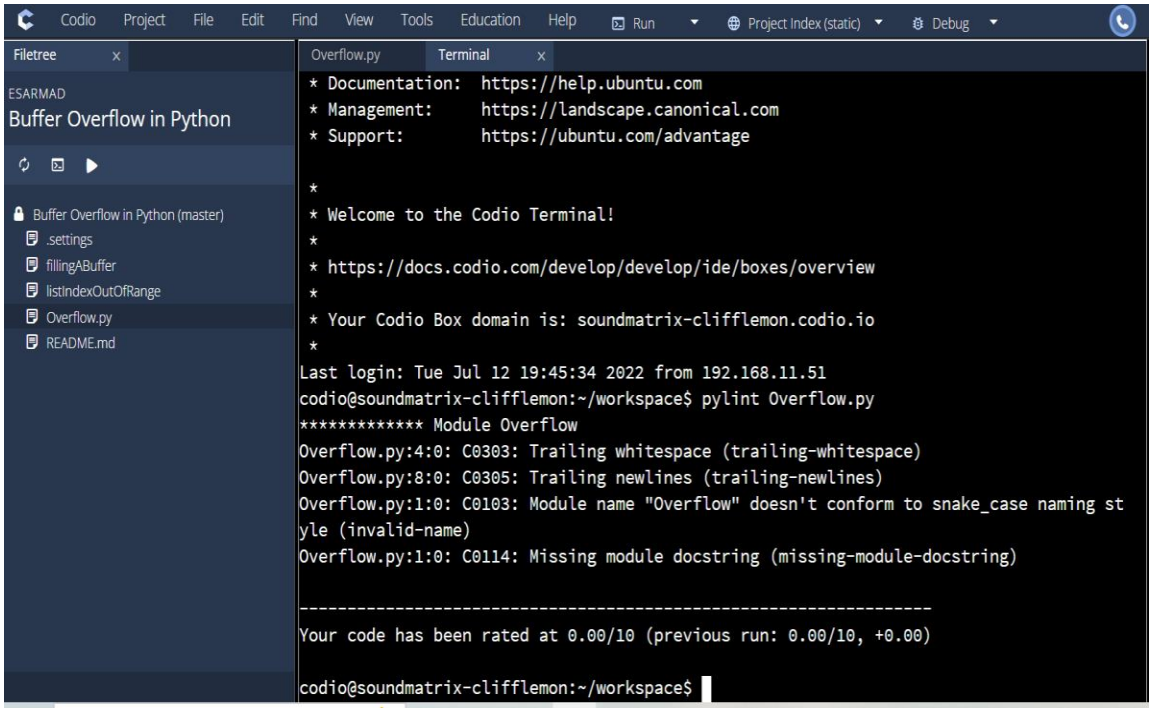
- **Read about Pylint at http://pylint.pycqa.org/en/latest/tutorial.html**
- **Install pylint using the following commands:**

  pip install pylint (in the command shell/ interpreter)

- **Run pylint on one of your files and evaluate the output:**

  pylint your_file e.g.: pylint Overflow.py

- **What is the result? Does this tell you how to fix the error above?**



(To understand the errors, we use the following command in command line:

Pylint –help-msg=numberOfTheError)

Overflow.py:1:0: *C0114*: Missing module docstring (missing-module-docstring):

It means there is no docstring in our code which violates the convention C0114.

Overflow.py:1:0: *C0103*: Module name "Overflow" doesn't conform to snake_case naming style (invalid-name):

This message belongs to the basic checker which means the name does not conform to naming rules associated to its type (constant, variable, class, …)

Overflow.py:8:0: *C0305*: Trailing newlines (trailing-newlines):

This message belongs to the format checker which means there are trailing blank lines in a file.

Overflow.py:4:0: *C0303*: Trailing whitespace (trailing-whitespace):

This message belongs to the format checker which means there is whitespace between the end of the line and the new line.

The Producer-Consumer Mechanism (Bounded Buffer Problem)

```
1  # code source: https://techmonger.github.io/55/producer-consumer-python/
2
3  from threading import Thread
4  from queue import Queue
5
6  q = Queue()
7  final_results = []
8
9  def producer():
10     for i in range(100):
11         q.put(i)
12
13
14 def consumer():
15     while True:
16         number = q.get()
17         result = (number, number**2)
18         final_results.append(result)
19         q.task_done()
20
21
22 for i in range(5):
23     t = Thread(target=consumer)
24     t.daemon = True
25     t.start()
26
27 producer()
28
29 q.join()
30
31 print (final_results)
```

1. **How is the queue data structure used to achieve the purpose of the code?**

   Queues are beneficial when resources are shared, and when the speed of the consumers and producers in using the resources is not the same.

2. **What is the purpose of q.put(I)?**

   put() is a method of Queue class which adds items to an instance of Queue class.

3. What is achieved by q.get()?

get() is a method of Queue class which removes items from an instance of Queue class.

4. What functionality is provided by q.join()?

join() is a method of Queue class which blocks the buffer when it is being used by a thread.

5. Extend this producer-consumer code to make the producer-consumer scenario available in a secure way. What technique(s) would be appropriate to apply?

We should adopt techniques that prevent race condition in which threads access the buffer simultaneously. We can use Condition:

```
Cond = threading.Condition()
With cond:
    While some_condition_not_satisfied():
        Cond.wait()
```