Artificial Intelligence Algorithms and Applications with Python Chapter 3 Dr. Dominik Jung dominik.jung42@gmail.com



Recap: Who Should Choose this Lecture

This lecture is aimed at two complementary audiences:

- Intermediate information systems / computer science students who want to get a general understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), understand how AI works, and learn new strategies for solving diverse AI problems.
- Students from other domains who are planning to use AI methods (e.g. machine learning) in their future and want to understand why it works the way it does.

If you are familiar with Python you can skip this chapter and continue in chapter 4.

Outline

- 3 Introduction into Al-Programming with Python
- 3.1 The Anaconda Toolbox for AI Programming
- 3.2 Foundations of Programming with Python
- 3.3 Al Programming with Python

Lectorial 1: Implement Problem-Solving Agents with Python

► What we will learn:

- Get an overview of AI software and programming with Python, so that you will be able to build your own agents and AI software components
- Workflow and tools to develop simple scripts and applications with Python
- Discuss advanced concepts of Python programming and AI related packages



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- **▶** Duration:
 - 90 min
- **▶** Relevant for Exam:
 - **3.1 3.5**

3.1 Why do we use Python in this Course?

```
Public class Crawler{
Public static void main(String[] args) throws IOException{
   Print Writer textFile = null;
   try{
        textFile = new PrintWriter("results.txt");
        System.out.println("Enter the URL you with to crawl...");
        System.out.println("URL: ");
        String myUrl = new Scanner(System.in).nextLine();
        String response = getContentByUrl(myUrl);
        Matcher matcher = Pattern
           .compile(",href=[\"'](.[^\"')+)[\"']").matcher(response);
        while(matcher.find()){
            String url = matcher.group(1);
            System.out.println(url);
            textFile.println(url);
   finally{
        if(textFile != null){
             textFile.close();
Private static String getContentByUrl(String myUrl) throws IOException{
   Url url = new URL(myUrl);
   URLConnection urlConnection = url.openConnection();
```

```
If __name__ == '__main__':
    with open("results.txt", "wt") as textFile:
        print("Enter the URL you wish to crawl:")
        myUrl = input("URL: ")
        for i in re.findall("href=[\"'](.[^\"')+)[\"']",
        urllib.request.urlopen(myUrl).read().decode(), re.I):
        print(i)
        textFile.write(i+'\n')
```



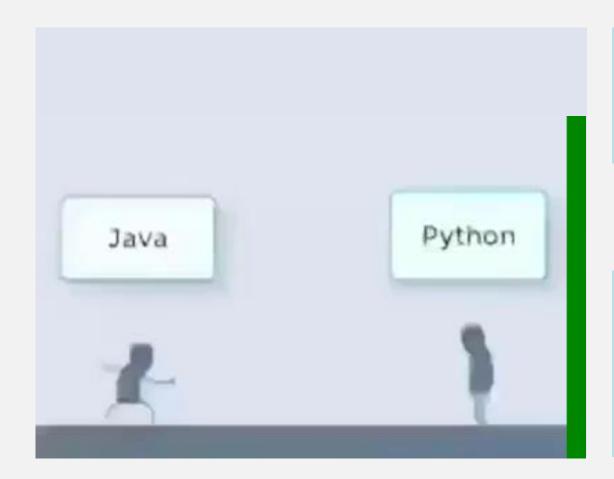
Characteristics:

- Main purpose was to design an easy to learn language with strong focus on code readability
- Multi-purpose programming languages, thus very flexible and applicable to a broad range of cases
- Healthy, active and supportive community that develops stateof-the-art AI packages, e.g.:TensorFlow

Python

- Python has a couple of characteristics that have bolstered its rise in the Data Science community over the past years.
- One of the main aspects is its elegance and readability compared to other languages.

3.1 Why do we use Python in this Course?



```
If __name__ == '__main__':
    with open("results.txt", "wt") as textFile:
        print("Enter the URL you wish to crawl:")
        myUrl = input("URL: ")
        for i in re.findall("href=[\"'](.[^\"')+)[\"']",
        urllib.request.urlopen(myUrl).read().decode(), re.I):
        print(i)
        textFile.write(i+'\n')
```



Characteristics:

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Python

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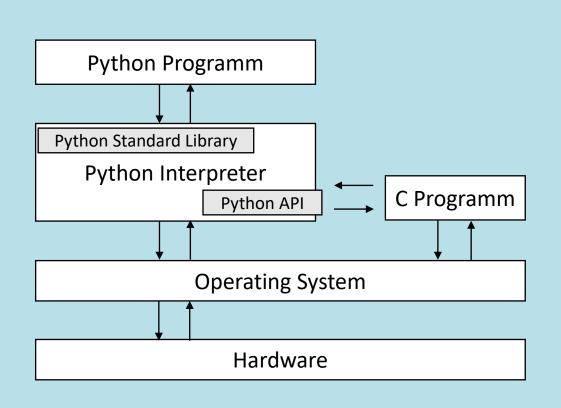
3.1 Python 2 vs. Python 3

"Breaking changes" in the standard library functionality

```
print "hello world"
vs
print("hello world")
```

- Modules added to standard library
 - For instance, asyncio module for native concurrency support
- Python 2 still dominant in some established libraries
- However, movement towards Python 3

3.1 The Python Interpreter



- The Python interpreter executes your Python program without requiring it previously to have been compiled into a machine language program
- There is a big Standard Library with basic functionalities, the program can rely on
- Python can be extended easily by the Python API

3.1 Key Concepts of Programming Python

Whitespace Formatting

```
if True:
    print("AI is such a cool lecture")
else:
    print("AI is my favorite lecture")
```

Line indentation

Comments

```
print("Hello Darmstadt!") # This is a comment

'''
This is a multi-line comment.
Bla bla
'''
```

Multiple statements

```
print("Hello Darmstadt!");print(" What's up? ")
```

Python does not use braces to indicate code blocks (e.g. for functions or flow control). Blocks are denoted by line indentation instead. The number of spaces in the indentation is variable, but has to be the same within the block.

3.1 Install Anaconda





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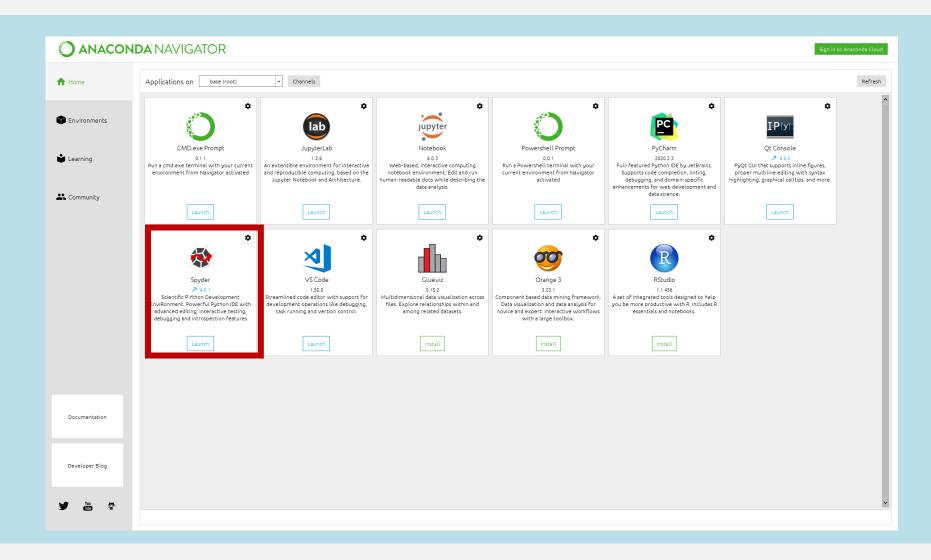


Anaconda Platform:

https://www.anaconda.com/distribution

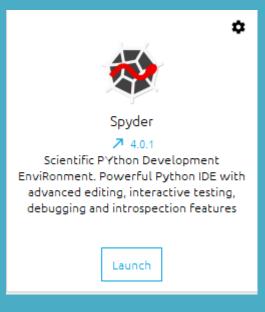
3.1 Lets Take a Quick Look at Programming with the Spyder IDE in Anaconda

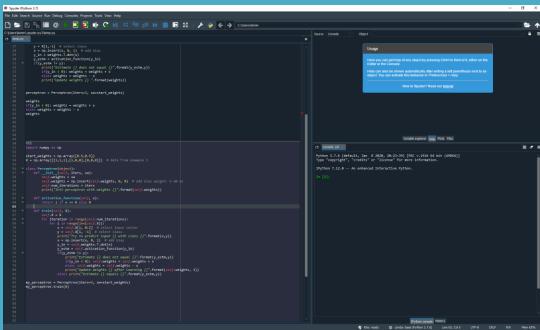




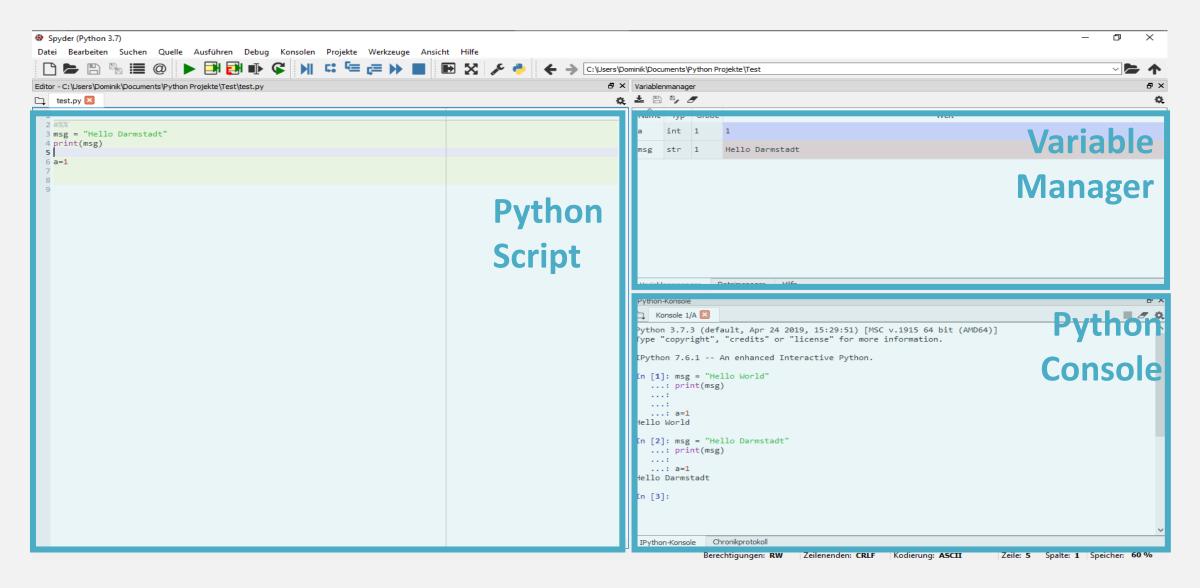
Now, please start the Spyder IDE from your Anaconda!





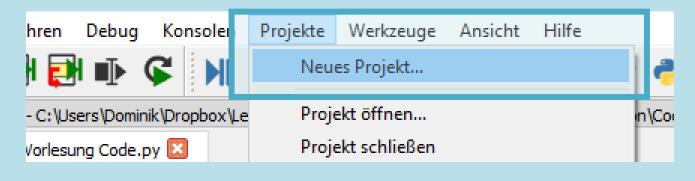


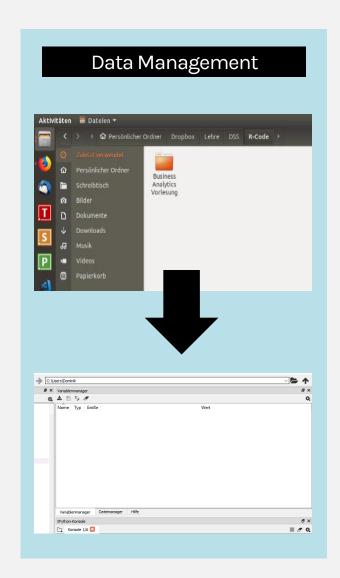
3.1 Spyder IDE



3.1 Projects with Spyder

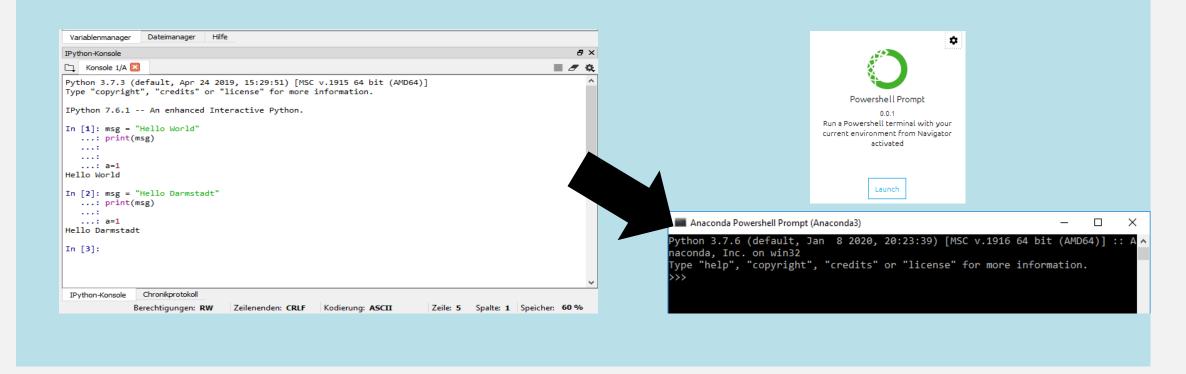
- Spyder allows you to manage all your files and data with "projects"
- The benefit is that you can throw all your stuff in one folder and have direct access without browsing your files
- Furthermore you can save your current session
- And reload it easily





3.1 First Steps in the Interactive Mode

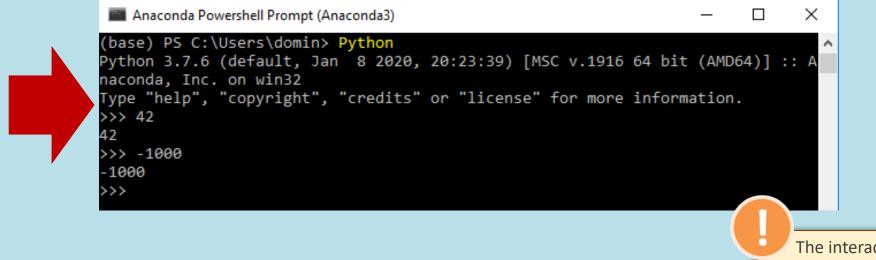
 To run Python commands you can use the console from the Spyder IDE or open the Anaconda-Shell and type "Python"



3.1 First Steps in the Interactive Mode

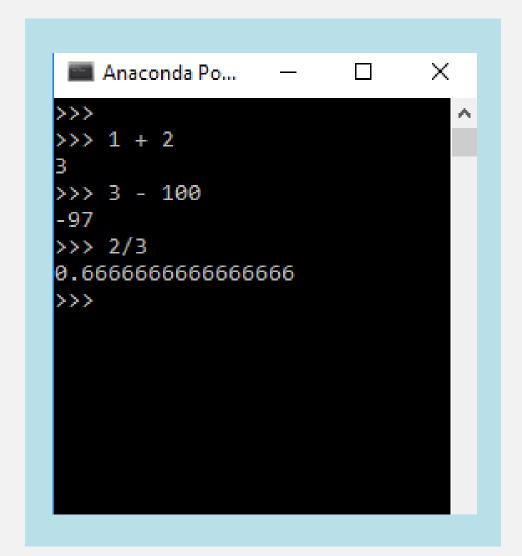
 Let us start by printing the following command in the Python interpreter (in the Spyder IDE or in the Python prompt directly)

42



The interactive Python mode has a history functionality. Press ↑ or ↓ to re-read your previous code.

3.1 Arithmetic Operations in Python



Arithmetic Operators		
Operator	Command	
Addition	a + b = 3	
Subtraction	a - b = 3	
Multiplication	a * b = 3	
Division	b/a = 1	
Modulus	b % a = 0	
Exponent	a ** b	

3.1 Python Runtime Model I

We have discussed that you can assign variables with var = value

```
your variable = 42
```

Then you can call the variable

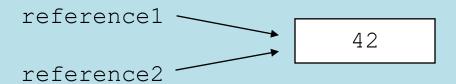
Alternatively, you can make an instance of the value directly

3.1 Python Runtime Model II

■ We have discussed that you can assign variables with var = value

Then you can call the variable

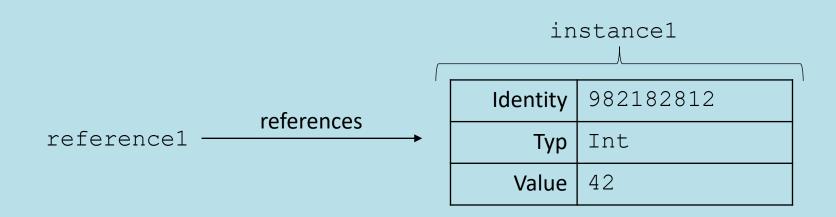
```
reference1 = 42
reference2 = reference1
```



3.1 Python Runtime Model - Example

```
>>> reference1 = 42
>>> reference2 = reference1
>>> reference1
42
>>> reference2
42
                                              You have to distinguish references as references to instances
                                            from the instances themselves. This is a common error in Python
                                            programming!
>>> reference1 = 1000000
>>> reference1
                                               reference1 -
1000000
                                                                          1000000
                                               reference2 -
>>> reference2
42
```

3.1 Structure of Instances in Python



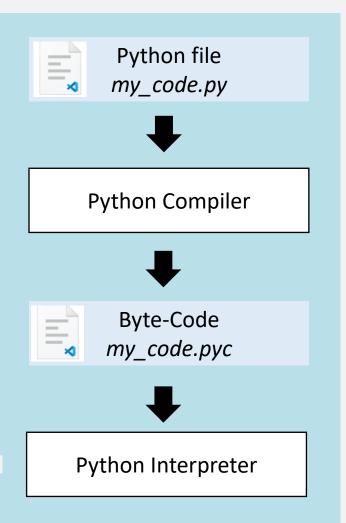
- Every object has an identity, a type and a value
- An object's identity never changes once it has been created; you may think of it as the object's address in memory

3.1 Run Python Files from Console

 If you want to write and run simple scripts you have to write your Python commands (code) into text files and store them as <filename>.py

Then you can run them from console

Python '<PATH TO YOUR FILE>.py'



3.1 Python Shebang

Under a Unix-like operating system such as Linux, Python program files can be made directly executable with the help of a shebang, also called Magic Line. To do this, the first line of the program file must usually be as follows:

#!/usr/bin/python

■ In this case, the operating system is forced to always execute this program file with the Python interpreter. On other operating systems, for example Windows, the shebang line is ignored.

3.1 Classroom Task

Your turn!

Task

Please open the interactive mode to solve the following tasks.

In Python you can read in user input with input(). Save an user input into a new variable age. Then declare a variable methusalem = 969. Compare the user's age with methusalem's age and print() the result.

Please note that you probably have to cast the user input as int (with int()) and to string (with str()) to print it.

Too difficult? Do not worry! We come back to this point in the exercise of this course.

3.1 Classroom Task

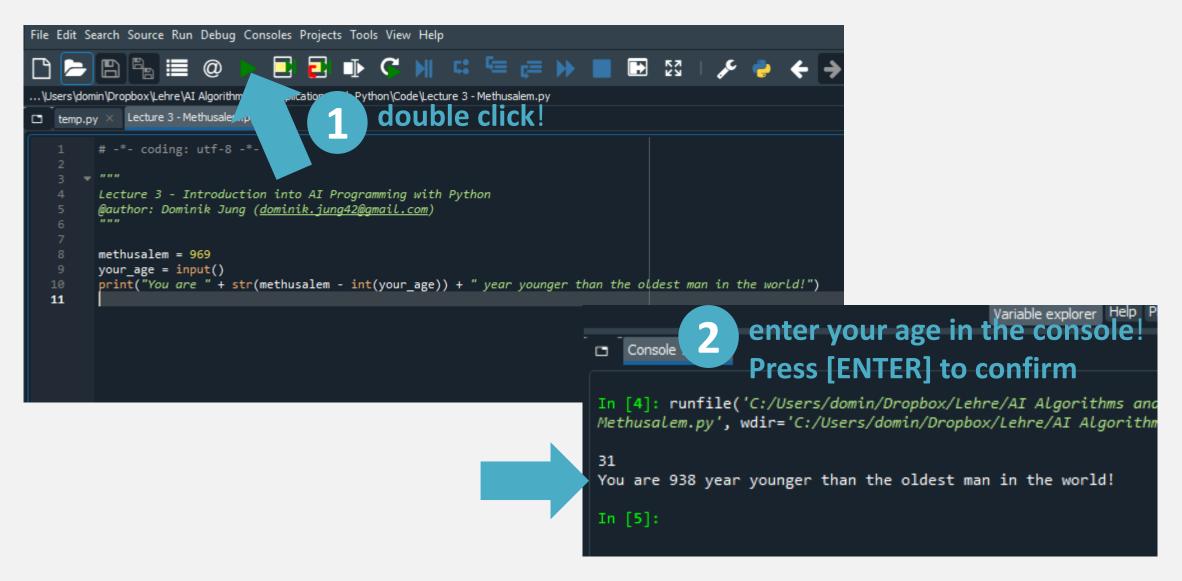
Possibility 1: Run the code from the interactive mode

```
>>> methusalem = 969
>>> your_age = input()
31
>>> print("You are " + str(methusalem - int(your_age)) + " year younger than the oldest man in the world!")
You are 938 year younger than the oldest man in the world!
>>>
```

■ Possibility 2: Save your code as Python file (*.py) and run it from the console

```
(base) PS C:\Users\domin\Dropbox\Lehre\AI Algorithms and Applications with Python\Code> Python '.\Lecture 3 -
Methusalem.py'
31
You are 938 year younger than the oldest man in the world!
```

3.1 Classroom Task



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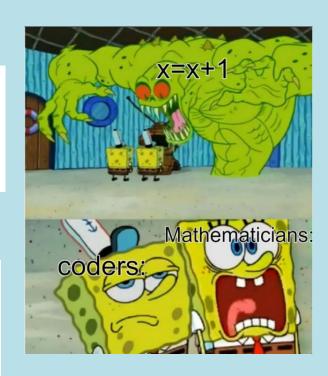
3.2 Recap: Variables

In Python you can define variables

```
>>> name = 0.5
>>> var123 = 12
>>> string = "Hallo Welt!"
>>> liste = [1,2,3]
```

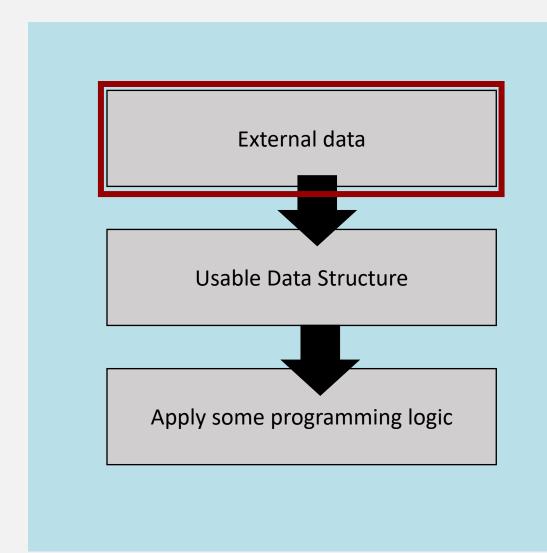
You can access variables later by "calling" them

```
>>> name
0.5
>>> 2 * name
1.0
>>> else = 4
?
```



Error to run else = 4? Some variable names are not allowed in Python, they are reserved for other purposes (e.g. "and", "if", "else" etc)

3.2 Typical AI Programming Workflow (High-Level)



Example: Guessing Game

Please enter a Porsche model: 991 Unknown Porsche model Please enter a Porsche model: 911 The car has the following VMax: 330 km/h

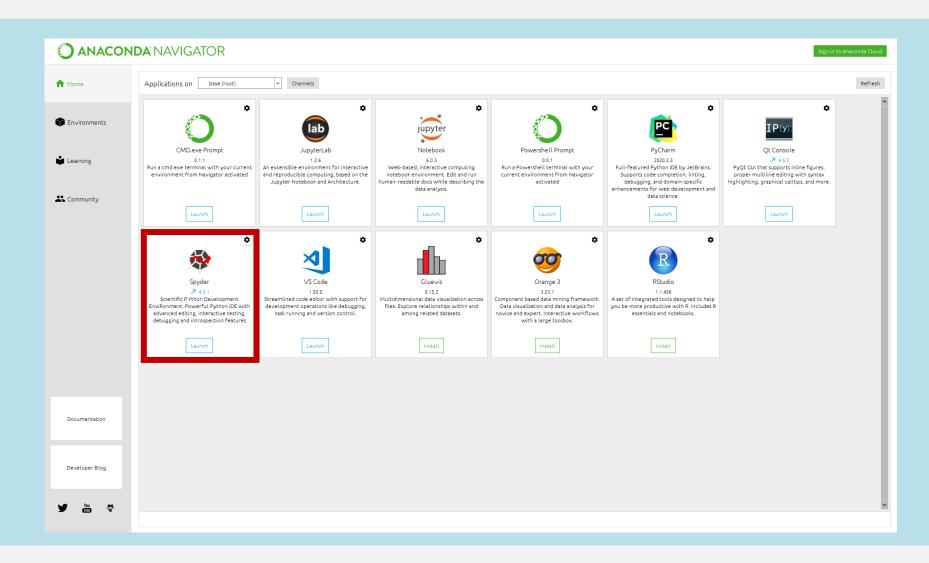
Please enter a Porsche model:



Adapted from Ernesti, J. & Kaiser, P. (2017); Image Source: A Porsche 911 R im Porsche Museum 2018 (2018) by Alexander Migl from Wikimedia / CC-BY-SA-4.0 (image not edited)

3.2 Start Spyder from Anaconda





3.2 Reading Files

- If you want to read a file in your Python code, it must be opened for reading
- For this we use the Built-in Function open (). This function returns a so-called file object that we can access:

```
fobj = open("database_extract.txt", "r")
for line in fobj:
    print(line)
fobj.close()
```

		We will discuss data imports and
handling with Python later in chapter 4!		

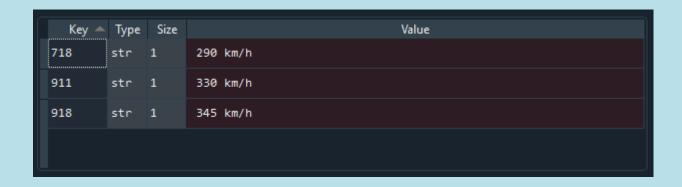
718	290 km/h
911	330 km/h
918	345 km/h



3.2 Reading Files into Variables I

Let us know load the file data into a dictionary

```
data = {}
fobj = open("database_extract.txt", "r")
for line in fobj:
    line = line.strip()
    l = line.split(",")
    data[1[0]] = 1[1]
fobj.close()
```



3.2 Reading Files into Variables II

Let us know load the file into a dictionary

```
data = \{\}
fobj = open("database extract.txt", "r")
                                                  Please enter a Porsche model: 991
                                                  Unknown Porsche model
for line in fobj:
    line = line.strip()
                                                  Please enter a Porsche model: 911
                                                  The car has the following VMax: 330 km/h
    l = line.split(",")
    data[1[0]] = 1[1]
                                                  Please enter a Porsche model:
fobj.close()
                                                                        290 km/h
                                                                   718
while True:
                                                                   911
                                                                        330 km/h
    car = input("Please enter a Porsche model: ")
                                                                        345 km/h
                                                                   918
    if car in data:
         print("The car has the following VMax:", data[car])
    else:
         print("Unknown Porsche model")
```

3.2 Write Data into Files

You can also write data back into files

```
data = {"Taycan" : "260 km/h", "Tesla" : "250 km/h"}

fobj = open("my_file.txt", "w")

for car in data:
    fobj.write("{}, {}\n".format(car, data[car]))

fobj.close()
```

3.2 Read Files Online

Online files can be accessed directly from Python

```
# Read from online
import urllib3

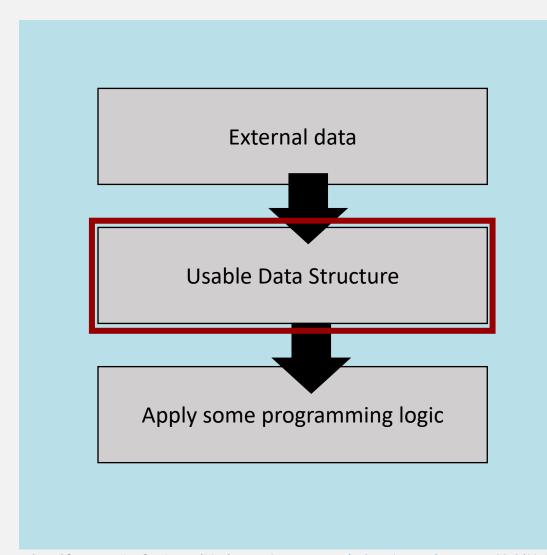
http = urllib3.PoolManager()

target_url =
"https://raw.githubusercontent.com/dominikjung42/AIAlgorithmsAndApplic
ations/master/Code/database_extract.txt"

response = http.request("GET", target_url)

data = response.data.decode("utf-8")
```

3.2 Typical AI Programming Workflow (High-Level)



Example: Guessing Game

Please enter a Porsche model: 991 Unknown Porsche model

Please enter a Porsche model: 911 The car has the following VMax: 330 km/h

Please enter a Porsche model:



Adapted from Ernesti, J. & Kaiser, P. (2017); Image Source: A Porsche 911 R im Porsche Museum 2018 (2018) by Alexander Migl from Wikimedia / CC-BY-SA-4.0 (image not edited)

3.2 Data Types and Structures in Python



Data Structure

A data structure is a collection of data values, the relationships among them, and the functions or operations that can be applied to the data (Wegner & Reilly, pp. 507-512, 2003)

Primitive

Python has four primitive data structures

- Integer (42)
- Float (2.34567)
- String ("Hi world!")
- Boolean (TRUE, FALSE)

To use that primitive data types, Python stores the type of an object with the object (see dynamic typing)

Non-primitive

Python has six non-primitive data structures

- Array
- List
 - a. Linear: Stacks, Queues
 - b. Non-Linear: Graphs, Trees
- Tuple
- Dictionary
- Set
- File

They contain the primitive data structures within more complex data structures for special purposes

3.2 Float and Strings

Float numbers are defined in the following manner

```
>>> 1.2345
1.2345
```

While you can write strings like this

```
>>> "Hello Python fan"
'Hello Python fan'
>>> "Hello" + "Python fan"
'HelloPython fan'
```

3.2 Logical Operators in Python

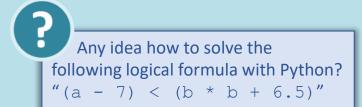
 Python can also handle boolean (aka logical) operations

```
>>> 42 < 43
True

>>> 42 != 43
True

>>>is_cool = True
>>>is_cool
True
```

Comparison Operators	
Operator	Command
NOT	! x
AND (elementwise)	х & у
AND (1st element)	х && у
OR (elementwise)	х у
OR (1 st element)	х ІІ у
Exclusive OR	xor(x,y)



3.2 More Complex Data Structures in Python

Array

```
import array as arr
a = arr.array("I",[3,6,9])
```

List

```
1 = [] # empty list
12 = [4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42]
```

Dictionary

Tuple

$$t = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$

Set

Files

Adapted from Ernesti, J. & Kaiser, P. (2017)

3.2 Lists

 You retrieve values in a data structure by declaring an index inside a square bracket "[]" operator.

```
>>> 1 = [4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42]
>>> 1[1]
8
```

You can add new values with append (add new value at the end of the list)
 and extend (add new list at the end of the list)

```
>>> 1.append(1000)
>>> 1
[4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42, 1000]
```

3.2 Dictionaries

 You retrieve values in a data structure by declaring an index inside a square bracket "[]" operator.

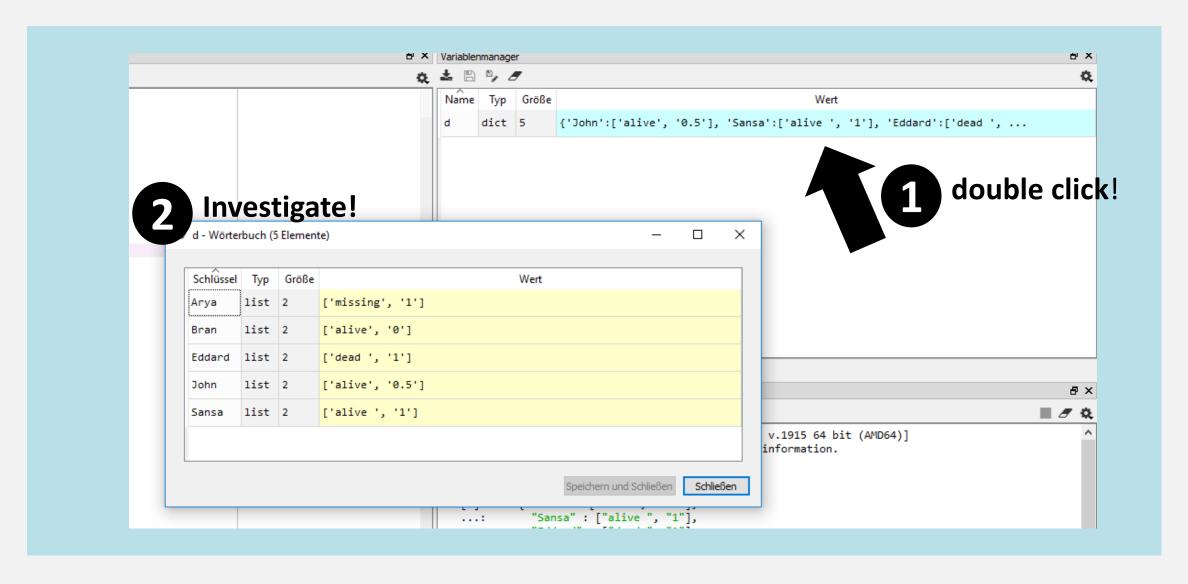
```
>>> d = { "John" : ["alive", "0.5"],
>>> "Arya" : ["missing", "1"]
>>> }

>>> d["Arya"]
['missing', '1']
```

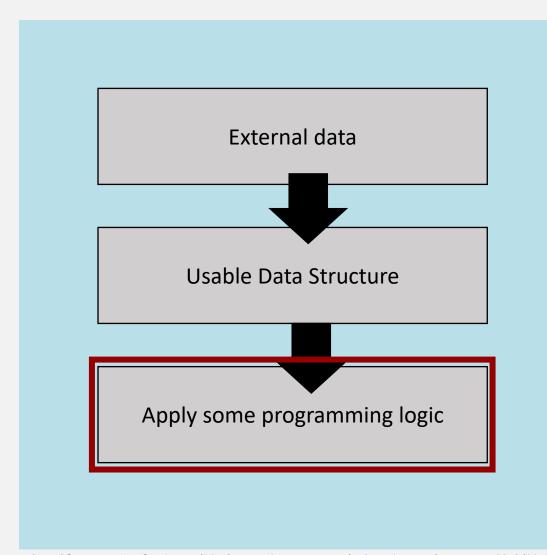
And you can add new entries with

```
d["Brandon"] = ["crazy", "1"]
```

3.2 Investigate Complex Data Structures with the Variable Manager



3.2 Typical Al Programming Workflow (High-Level)



Example: Guessing Game

Please enter a Porsche model: 991 Unknown Porsche model

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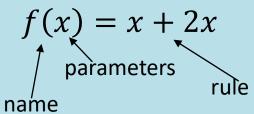
Please enter a Porsche model:



Adapted from Ernesti, J. & Kaiser, P. (2017); Image Source: Porsche 911 R im Porsche Museum 2018 (2018) by Alexander Migl from Wikimedia / CC-BY-SA-4.0 (image not edited)

3.2 Functions

From math we know that functions are a kind of assignment rules like:



In computer science, we use functions to compute an output based on an input, like:

Functions without return values are termed "procedures". But compared to other programming values (e.g. C or PASCAL) this makes no difference.

3.2 Writing Functions

 In Python you can encapsulate parts of your code into "functions". You can call them later in your code to reduce redundance

```
def function_name(parameter_1, ..., parameter_n):

command
...
command
```

```
def fancy_function(num1, num2):
    result = 42
    num3 = num1 + num2
    return(result-num3)
```

```
>>> variable = fancy_function(1,2)
39
```

3.2 yield and return

Python provides generator functions as concentient way to build iterators:

```
def firstn(n):
    num = 0
    while num < n:
        yield num
        num +=1

top5 = firstn(5)</pre>
```

The previous generator yields its items instead of returning a list

```
>>>next(top5)
0
>>>next(top5)
1
```

3.2 If else Statements

In Python you can write simple if statements

```
if x == 1:
    print("x is 1")
```

Or more complex if-else-statements

```
if x == 1:
    print("x is 1")
elif x == 2:
    print("x is 2 or 1")
elif x == 3:
    print("I have no idea about x")
```

3.2 Loops - while

While statements

```
secret = 42
guess = 123
while guess != secret:
    guess = int(input("Please, give a guess: "))
print("You won!")
```

You can "break" (leave) loops

```
secret = 42
guess = 123
while guess != secret:
    guess = int(input("Please, give a guess: "))
    if guess == 0:
        break
print("You won!")
```

3.2 Loops - for

For statements

```
for x in [1,2,3]:
    print(x)
```



What will the print function return?

• If you want to use for as counting loop use range()

```
range(stop)
range(start, stop)
range(start, stop, step)
```

```
for i in range(1, 10, 2):
    print(i)
```



What will the print function return?

3.2 Object-oriented Programming I

Python also supports object-oriented programming (oop):

```
class Porsche:
    # Class attribute
    type = "718"

# Constructor
    def __init__(self, owner):
        self.owner = owner

>>> my_car = Porsche("Dominik")
>>> my_car.owner

'Dominik'
```

3.2 Object-oriented Programming II

```
class Porsche:
    # Class attribute
    type = "718"
    # Constructor
    def init (self, owner):
        self.owner = owner
    # Instance method
    def speak(self):
        return ("{} says: Hello {}!".format(self.type, self.owner))
>>> my car.speak()
'718 says: Hello Dominik!'
```

3.2 Classroom Task

Your turn!

Task

Please open your Python IDE (e.g. Spyder) and try to solve the following tasks

- Write a program that generates a random number between 1 and 9 numpy.random.randint(1, 10) and the user has to guess the number.
- If the guess is wrong he has to guess a further round, otherwise the program returns "Congratulation, you won!"
- You can use the code from chapter 3.4 Reading Files into Variables II as a start point

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3.3 Modules

We learnt that in Python exists many build-in functions you can use

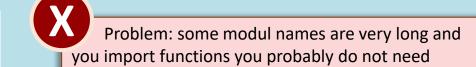
```
>>> max([1,5,2,7,42,3]) build-in functions
```

 However, there are many functions organized in external modules (like specific Al functions) we can use in our programm

3.3 Modules Import

Import moduls

```
import module
module.spec func()
```



Import specific function from modul

```
from module import spec_func
spec_func()
```

Import moduls with specific namespaces

```
import module as mo
mo.spec_func()
```

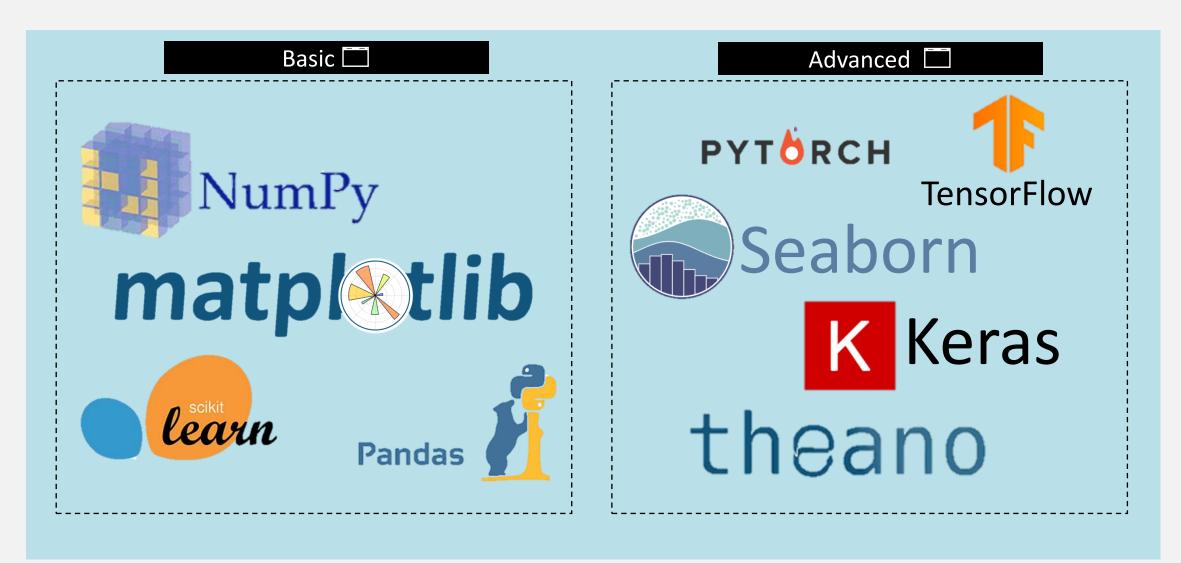
Import every function from modul

```
from moduls import *
spec_func()
```



Do this only if you know what you are doing!

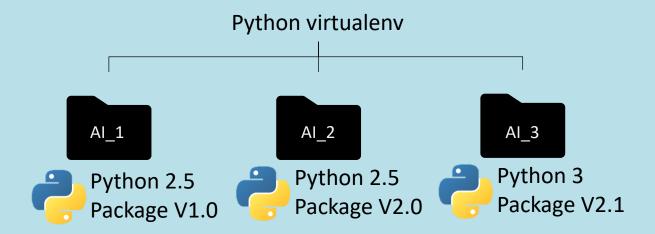
3.3 Most relevant Packages for AI-Specialists



Images: From the respective websites

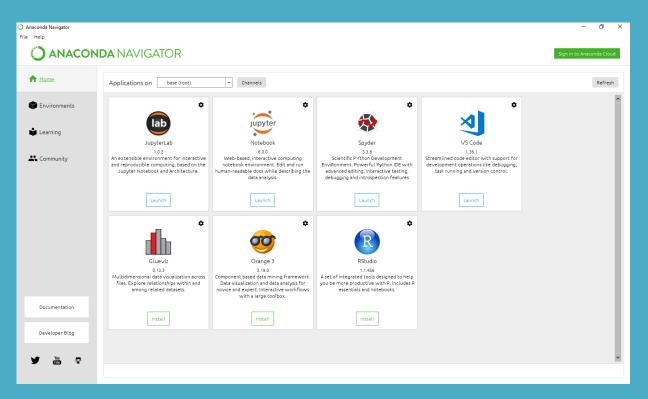
3.3 Management of Different Packages and Versions?

 Python virtual environments allow to create an isolated environment for Python projects so that each of your projects has its own individual dependencies, regardless of what dependencies every other project has.



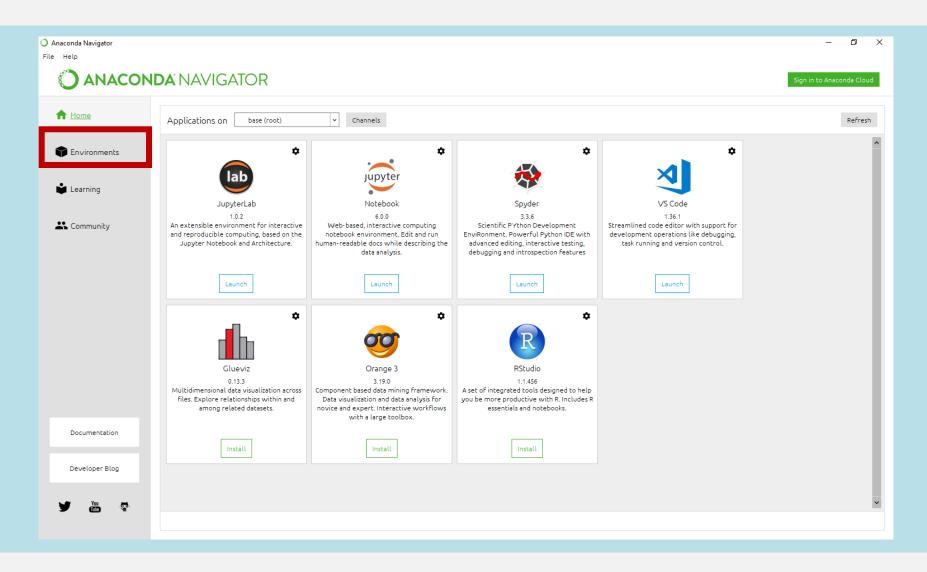
Now, please start Anaconda!



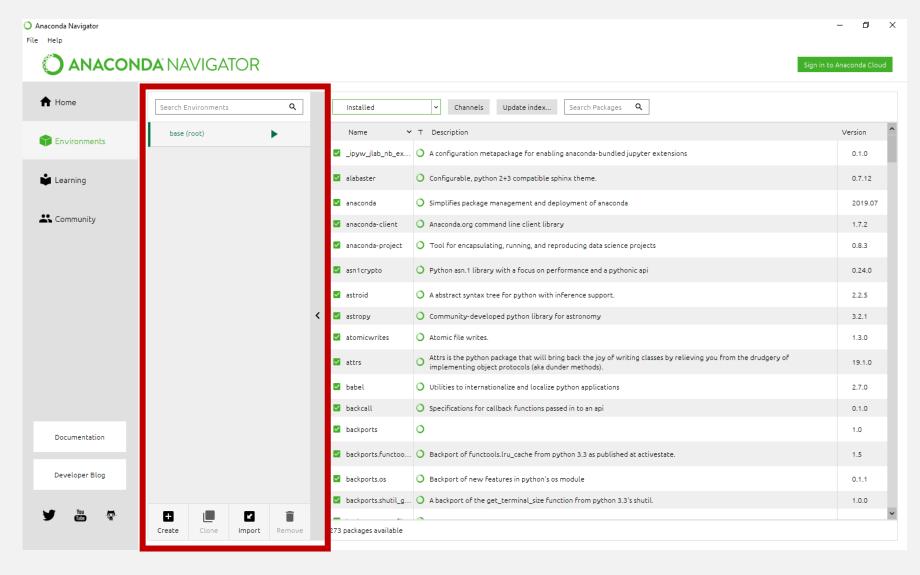


3.3 Package Management in Anaconda





3.3 Install and Load New Packages



 You can manage and organize your environments with the Anaconda Navigator

3.3 Install Required Packages for this Course

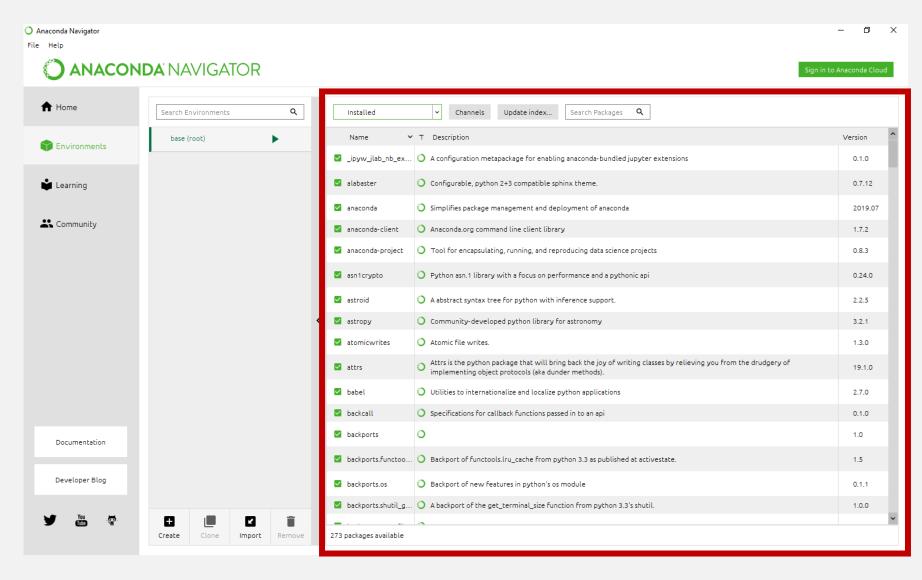
Please activate your environment (if you have one)

```
>>> conda activate <environmentname>
```

 And then read in the requirements.txt to automatically install all required packages for this course

```
>>> pip install -r packages.txt
```

3.3 Install and Load New Packages



 Use it to install and load new packages

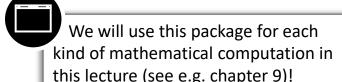


>>> import numpy

NumPy

The fundamental package for scientific computing with Python

GET STARTED



3.3 Basics of Numpy

In Numpy you will mainly work with homogeneous multidimensional arrays

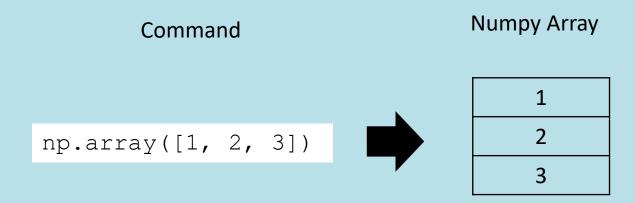
```
[[ 1., 1., 4.],
[ 0., 3., 2.]]
```

- NumPy gives you an enormous range of fast and efficient ways of creating arrays and manipulating numerical data inside them.
- While a Python list can contain different data types within a single list, all of the elements in a NumPy array should be homogeneous. The mathematical operations that are meant to be performed on arrays would be extremely inefficient if the arrays weren't homogeneous.

3.3 Create Arrays with Numpy

■ To create a NumPy array, you can use the function np.array().

```
>>> import numpy as np >>> a = np.array([1, 2, 3])
```



3.3 Numpy Indexing

data = np.array([1, 2, 3])

1

3

data[0]

data[1]

data[0:2]

2

data[1:]

data[-2:]

3 3

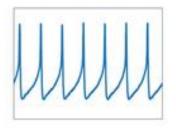
3.3 Matplotlib

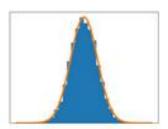


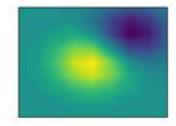
>>> import matplotlib

Matplotlib: Visualization with Python

Matplotlib is a comprehensive library for creating static, animated, and interactive visualizations in Python.









We will use this package for each kind of visualization in this lecture (see e.g. chapter 4)!

Matplotlib makes easy things easy and hard things possible.

3.3 About Matplotlib

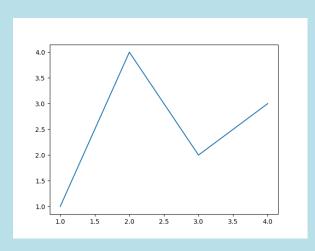
- Matplotlib is a visualization library for Python, and in particular its numerical mathematics extension Numpy
- It provides an object-oriented API for embedding plots into applications using general-purpose GUI toolkits like Tkinter, wxPython, Qt, or GTK+.

3.3 Generating Plots

 Matplotlib graphs your data on Figures, each of which can contain one or more Axes

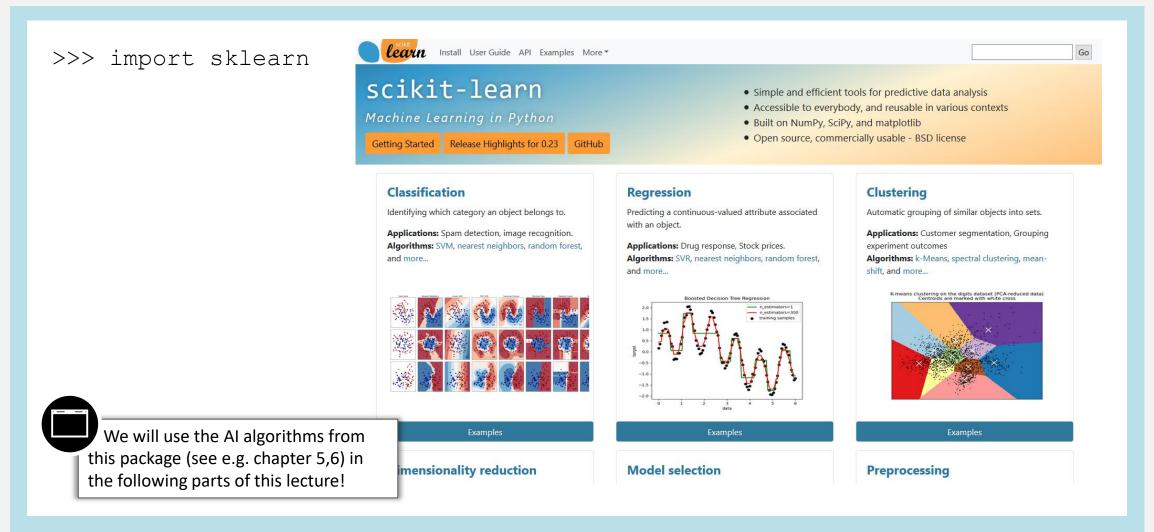
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

fig, ax = plt.subplots()  # Create a figure containing a single axes.
ax.plot([1, 2, 3, 4], [1, 4, 2, 3])  # Plot some data on the axes.
```



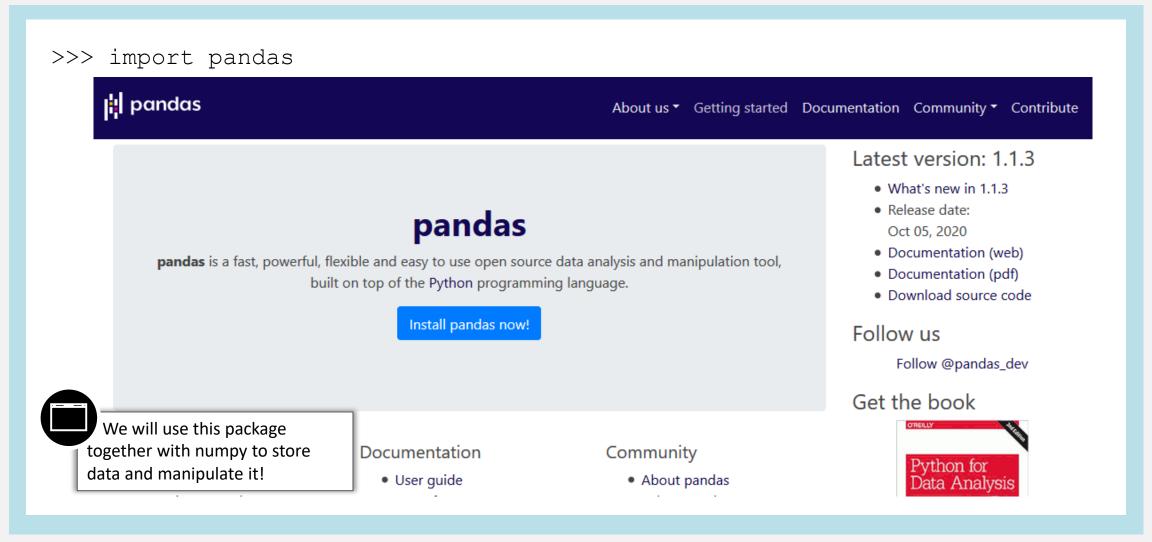
3.3 Scikit-learn



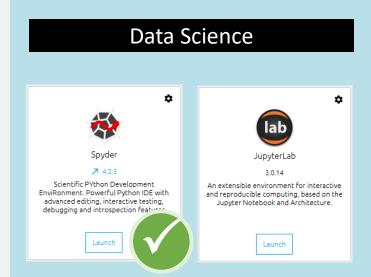


3.3 Pandas



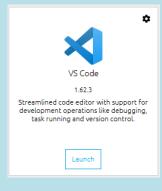


3.3 Popular Python IDEs Supported by Anaconda for AI Programming



- Spyder is the most popular
 Python IDE for data analytics and diving deep in your data. In runs on your local machine
- Jupyter Lab is a kind of mix of Jupyter Notebook and Spyder that runs in your browser

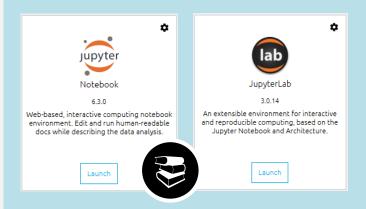
Al Development





- VS Code is my favorite IDE for software development and Python coding. It is fre to use and supports many other programming languages
- PyCharm is an IDE that is also very popular in software development

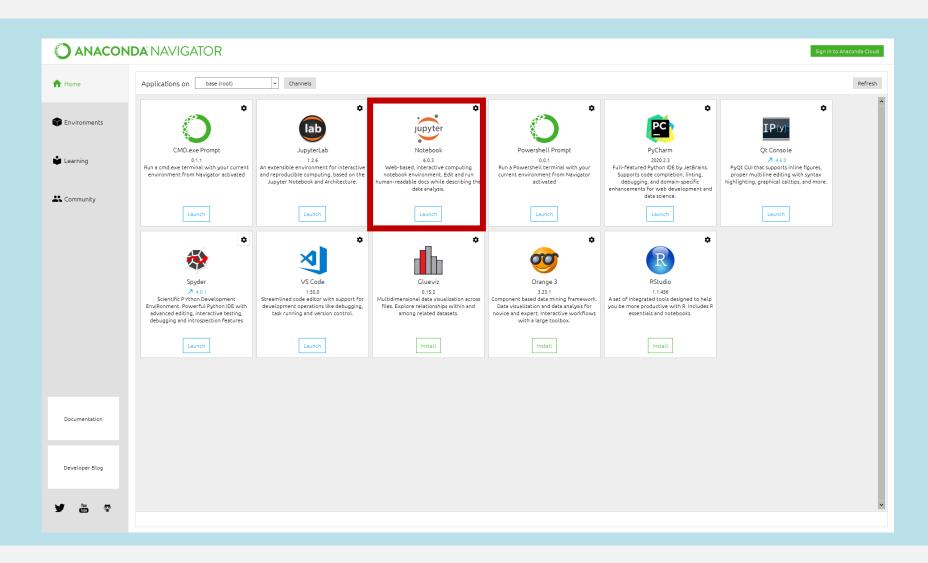
Al Development / Data Science



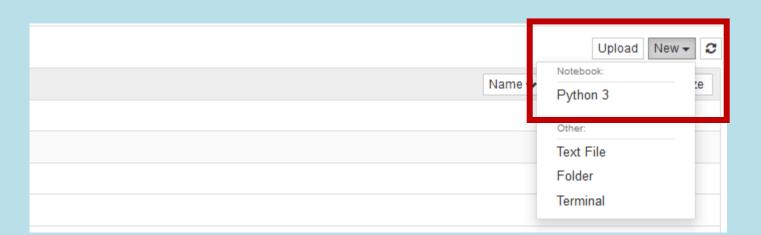
- Jupyter Notebook and Jupyter
 Lab are tools to develop Python
 in your browser or on a Al-server
- Due to their code buckets they are great to share and discuss code with none-AI specialists or other experts

3.3 Start Jupyter from Anaconda





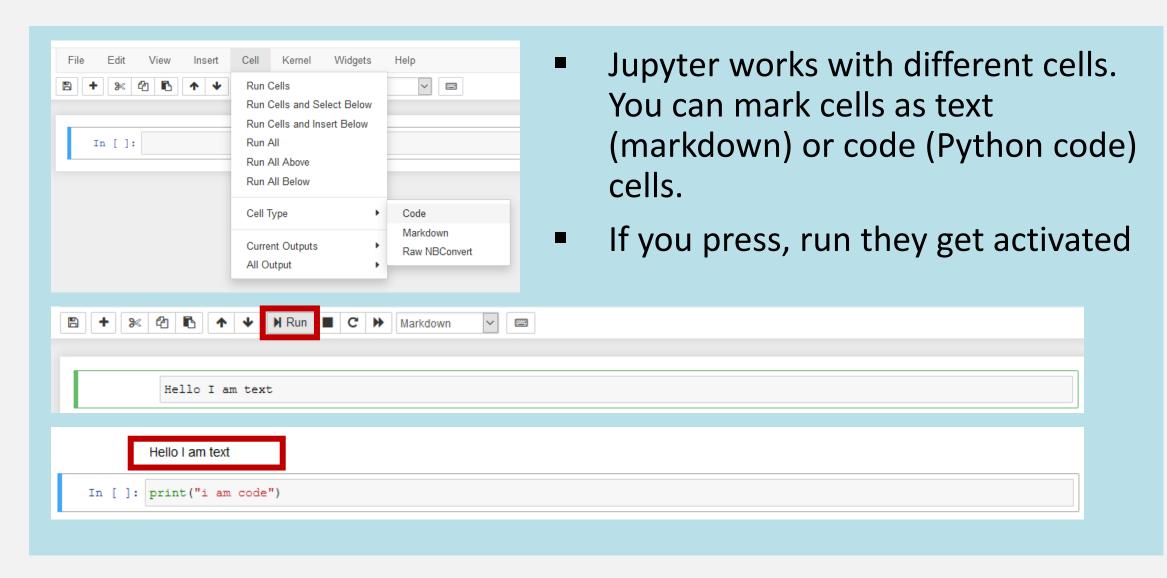
3.3 Notebooks



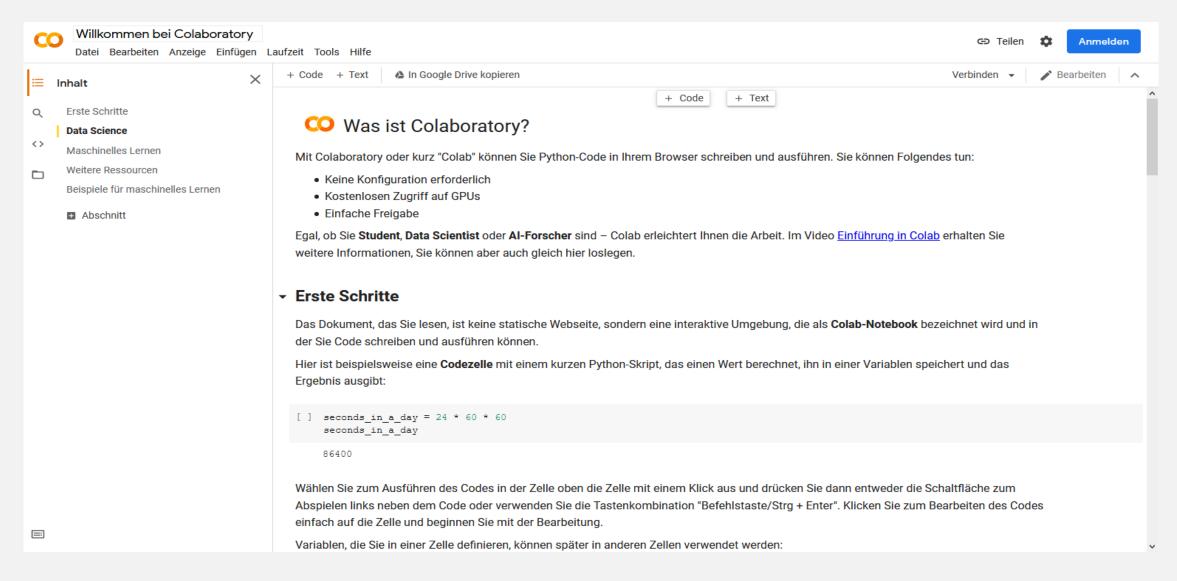


 Jupyter allows you to build simple code/text documents with your Python code

3.3 Notebooks



3.3 Other Hidden Champions: Colaboratory



3.3 Classroom Task

Your turn!

Task

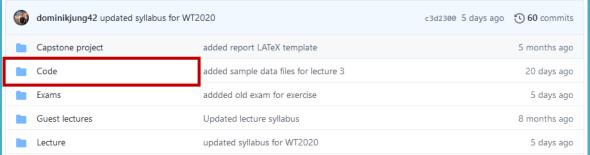
Please explain the difference between Python Development in the Spyder IDE and Jupyter notebooks. Can you name specific use cases when Spyder is a better choice than Jupyter and vice-versa?

Task

Check out the different packages and make the beginner tutorial of numpy and pandas to understand the fundamentals and concepts behind these packages. You will need these packages at the beginning of the lecture.

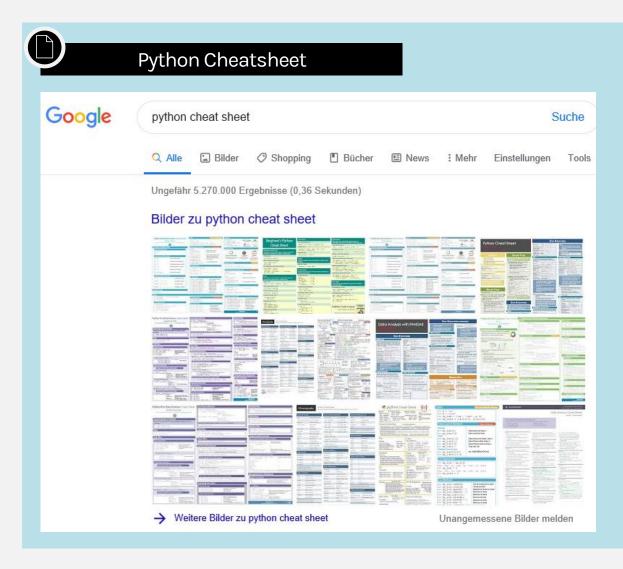
Your first end-to-end project: Problem-Solving Agents





Feel free to start directly or just continue with the lecture and come back to it later.

Handouts



- Python cheatsheets are very helpful to learn the basics
- They exist for very different topics

Exercises

Workbook Exercises

There are no workbook exercises in this unit

Coding Exercises

■ There are many, many Python Beginner books and videos on Youtube. However, the official Python Beginner Tutorial is also not a bad place to start. Make at least this tutorial to deepen the information of this lecture: ¬Python getting started.

You do not have to start the coding exercises directly after each lecture to understand the following lectures. However, they will definitly help you to deepen your understanding of the presented concepts and algorithms.

References

Literature

- 1. Ernesti, J., & Kaiser, P. (2017). Python 3: das umfassende Handbuch. Rheinwerk Verlag.
- 2. Offical Python Documentation (2020). The Python Language Reference. Online available at https://docs.python.org

News articles

1. Waggoner, P (2018): Advice to Young (and Old) Programmers: A Conversation with Hadley Wickham. Online available at https://www.r-bloggers.com/2018/08/advice-to-young-and-old-programmers-a-conversation-with-hadley-wickham/

References

Images

All images that were not marked other ways are made by myself, or licensed $\nearrow CCO$ from $\nearrow Pixabay$.

Further reading

- I also can recommend to take a look at the beginner tutorials of the different Python packages (Numpy, Natplotlib, NScikit-learn, NPandas)
- Python has a manifest of ist design principles, which you can find inside the Python interpreter itself by typing import this. Check it out!

Glossary

Data Frame A two-dimensional data structure, where data is aligned in a tabular fashion in rows and columns.

IDE Integrated Development Environment. Applications that facilitate the development of software or code by giving the user an interface to work with.

Libraries/Packages Collection of pre-written code (functions and methods) to perform certain task.

Notebooks Virtual environment that enables literate programming.

Programming language Language engineered to create a standard form of instructions for a computer. Like human

languages they are split into two components, i.e. syntax (form) and semantics (meaning).

Software Tool Software that is designed to be used for a specific use case (e.g. Dashboarding, Data

Visualization, Modelling).

The Zen of Python (Tim Peters)

Beautiful is better than ugly.

Explicit is better than implicit.

Simple is better than complex.

Complex is better than complicated.

Flat is better than nested.

Sparse is better than dense.

Readability counts.

Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.

Although practicality beats purity.

Errors should never pass silently.

Unless explicitly silenced.

In the face of ambiguity, refuse the temptation to guess.

There should be one-- and preferably only one -- obvious way to do it.

Although that way may not be obvious at first unless you're Dutch.

Now is better than never.

Although never is often better than *right* now.

If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad idea.

If the implementation is easy to explain, it may be a good idea.

Namespaces are one honking great idea -- let's do more of those!

