PROGRAMMING IN PYTHON I

Installation, Operating System, Terminal

Andreas Schörgenhumer

Institute for Machine Learning

JOHANNES KEPLER
UNIVERSITY LINZ

Institute for
Machine Learning

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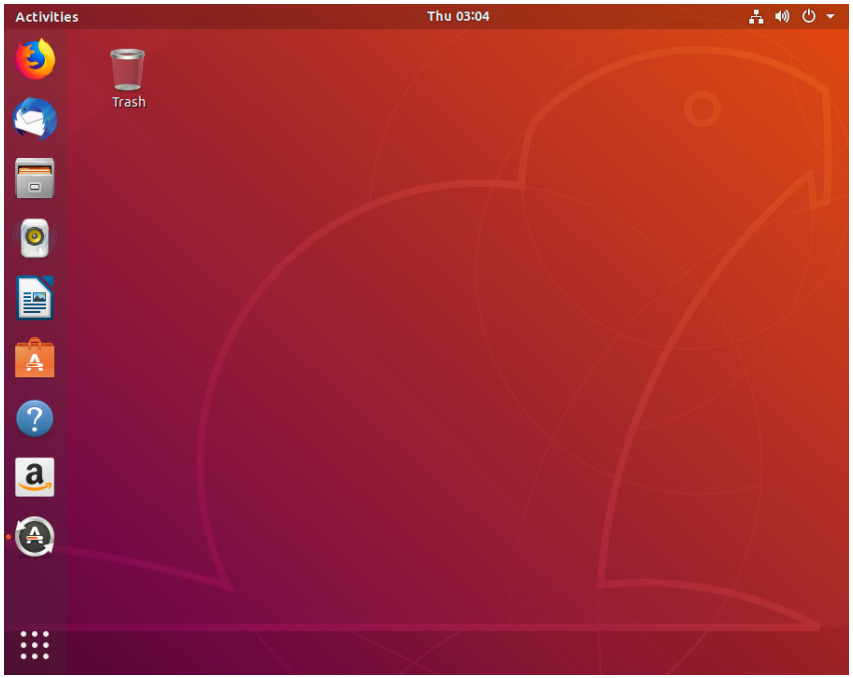
EXCURSION:
OPERATING SYSTEM (OS)

The Operating System

- Your **Operating System (OS)** is a program running on your machine
  - Linux (e.g., Ubuntu), MacOS, Windows, ...
  - The following examples will be for `Ubuntu 18.04`



Ubuntu desktop in one of the (many) Ubuntu flavors

Programs and Processes (1)

- You can view (most of) the programs you install as plug-ins for your OS

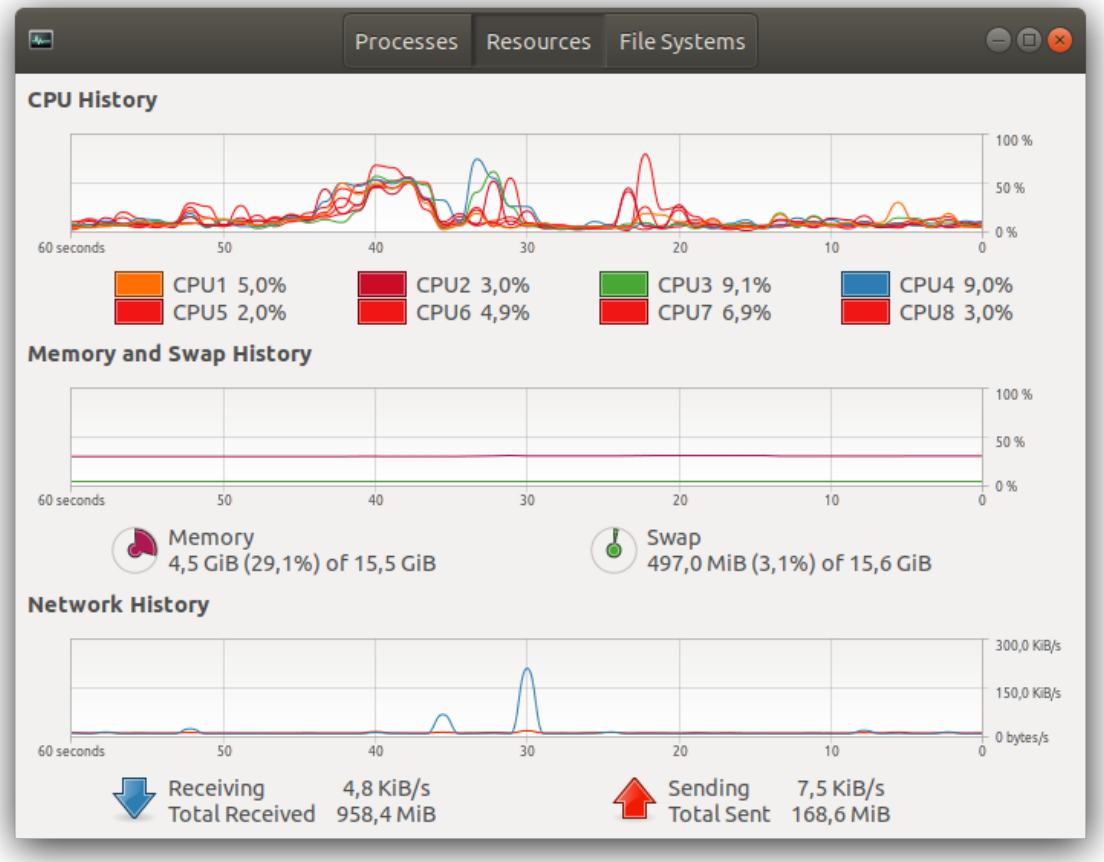
Part of programs installed on standard Ubuntu 18.04

Programs and Processes (2)

- Your OS manages (most of) the other programs that you install
  - It **schedules** when/how long a program and its processes can use the CPU
  - It **abstracts** from your specific hardware using **drivers** (drivers are programs that provide a standard interface to hardware components)
- Paths to installed programs are stored in **environment variables**
  - The environment variable *PYTHONPATH* is usually used for setting paths to Python packages. If you run into package-errors, check this variable.

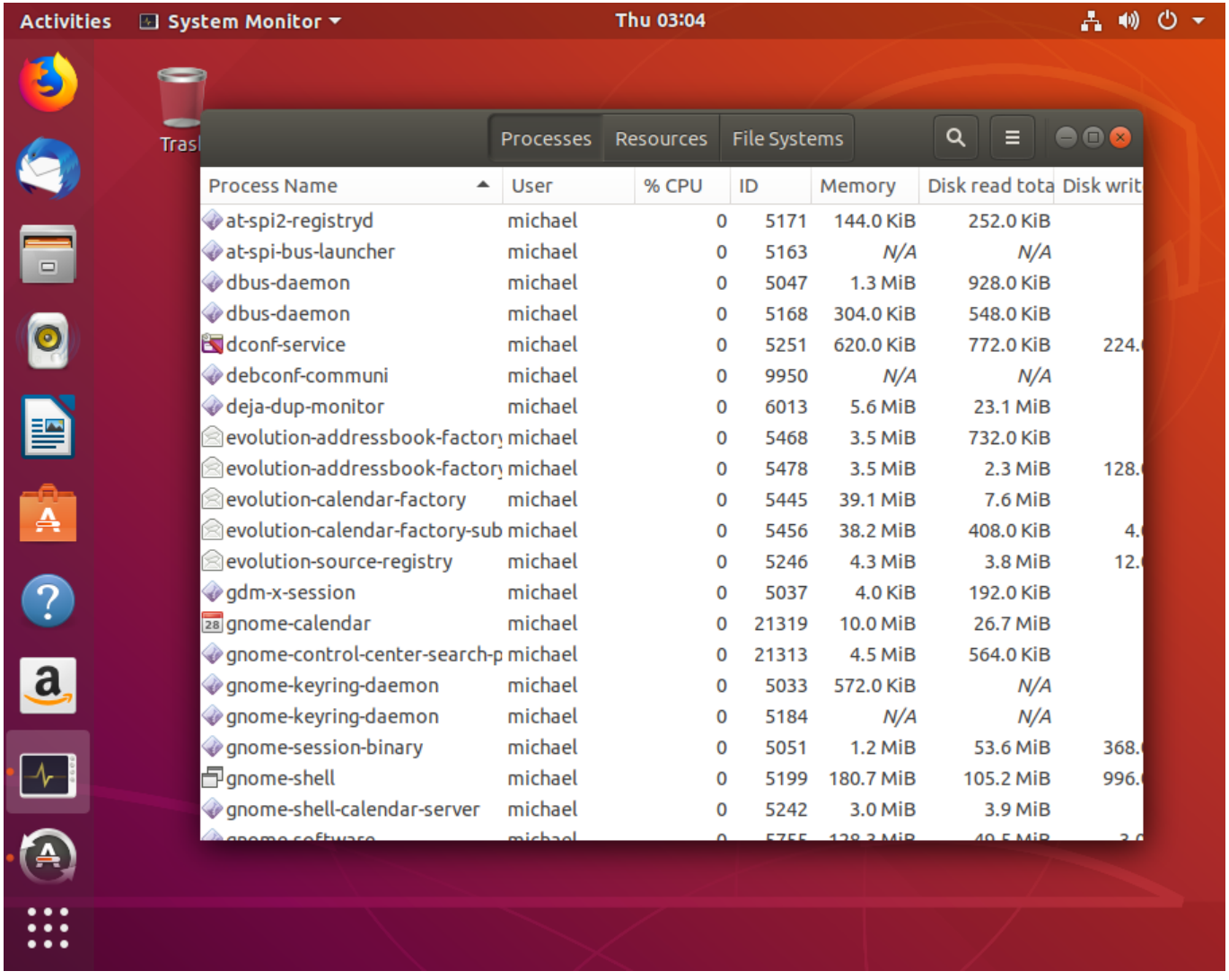
Programs and Processes (3)

- The **System Monitor** or **Task Manager** is one of the tools to view some of the OS management



System Monitor shows the current hardware utilization

Programs and Processes (4)



System Monitor shows the currently managed processes

The System Terminal (1)

- Some OS and programs provide an abstract Graphical User Interface (GUI) with cursor, desktop, etc.
  - Sometimes comfortable, simpler, visually nicer
  - Additional work (needs to be implemented), not always handy, needs resources for rendering
  - **Remote servers and scientific ML programs usually do not provide GUIs**

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  - Easier to interface with other programs

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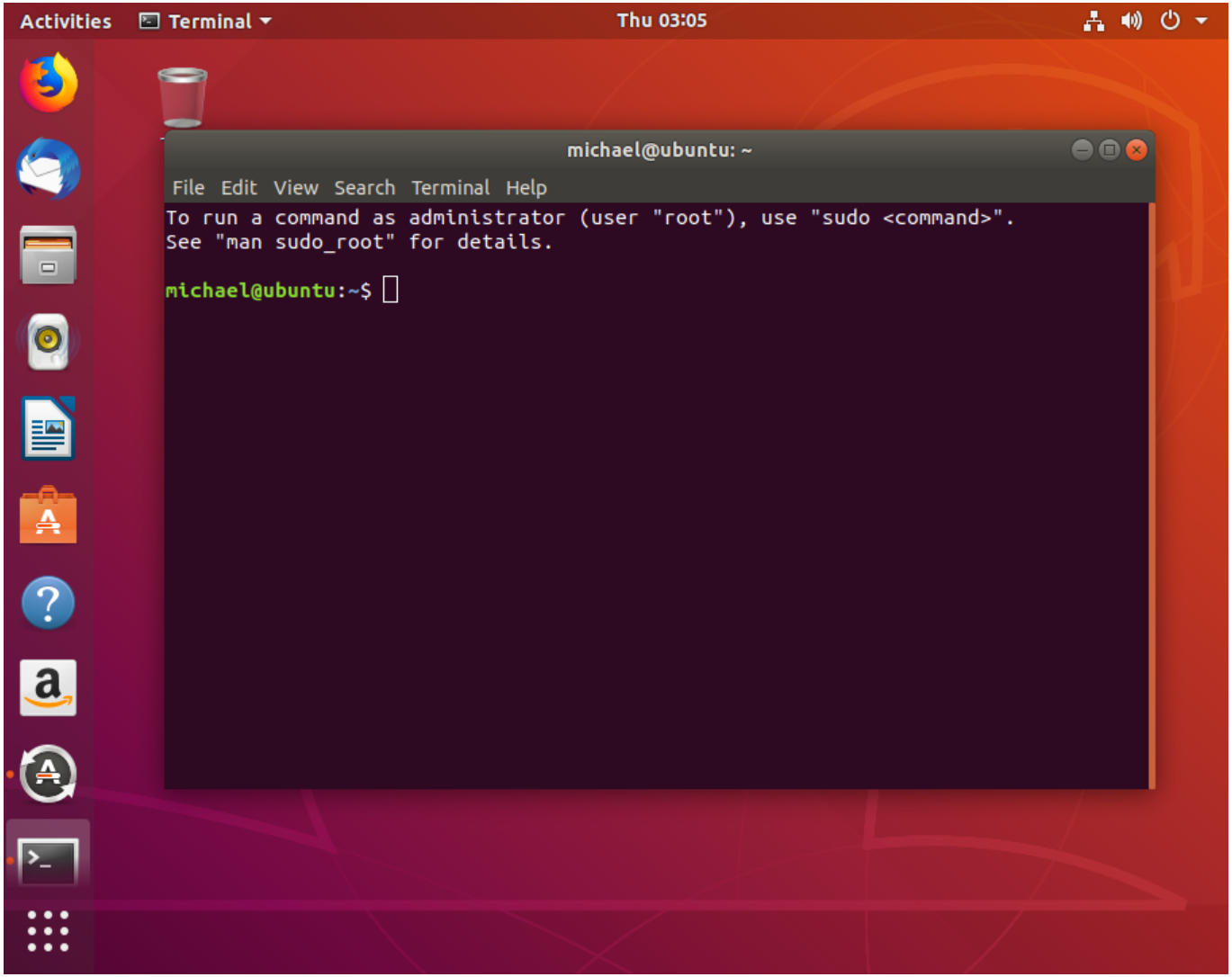
  - Easier to interface with other programs
  - → **You'll need the terminal but you'll be fine, don't worry :)**

The System Terminal (2)

Starting a terminal in Ubuntu

The System Terminal (2)



A terminal in Ubuntu

The System Terminal (3)

- The terminal should be in your list of programs (Windows: `cmd.exe`, Linux: `terminal`)
- Commands are written as text into the terminal and executed by pressing *Enter*
- The *Up* and *Down* keys let you view previously executed commands
- The *Tab* key will auto-complete your command/filepath (press twice to get a list of suggestions)

Many programs are only available via terminal!

INSTALLING PYTHON

Task: Download and Install Python

- **Python 64bit, version $\geq$ 3.9** (it might already be installed on some OS)
- Python official website: `http://www.python.org`
  - Simply download the latest version
  - Windows: Make sure to select that you want to add the Python path to the PATH environment variable! (however, you can always do it afterwards as well)

Python Packages (1)

- You can add new functions to your Python installation by installing additional **Python packages**
- Packages can be installed via **pip** (package installer for Python)
  - Pip guide:
    `https://docs.python.org/3/installing/index.html`
  - In the terminal you can install a package with the command
    `pip3 install packagename`
    or, depending on your installation,
    `pip install packagename`

Python Packages (2)

- pip for specific Python versions: You can use this line to install packages for, e.g., version 3.7:

```
python3.7 -m pip install packagename
```

- Under Ubuntu, you might have to run the following for other versions

```
sudo apt install -y python3-pip
python3.7 -m pip install pip
```

- Some packages require certain operating systems, software or drivers
- Python is mostly out-of-the-box platform independent – some packages are not!

Alternative: Anaconda/Miniconda

- Alternatively, you may use **Anaconda/Miniconda**:
  - Manages your Python installations
  - Allows for different Python versions and setups on one machine
  - If you know what you are doing, you may use Anaconda/Miniconda, otherwise stick with the standard Python installation
  - Instructions: `https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/install/index.html`

Python Documentation

- Official documentation:

  `http://www.python.org/doc/`

  `https://docs.python.org/3/`
- Official tutorial:

  `https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/index.html`
- Many different online tutorial available

OPERATING SYSTEMS IN MACHINE LEARNING

Operating Systems in Machine Learning (1)

- Any OS will do, as long as you can get it to run
- Getting Python and PyCharm (integrated development environment (IDE) that supports you in programming) to run on different OS is straight-forward

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  - $\rightarrow$ **if it weren't for some important details...**

Operating Systems in Machine Learning (2)

- GPU and other hardware optimization
  - GPU drivers (NVIDIA CUDA + CUDNN) and their interface with packages like PyTorch and Tensorflow is crucial

  → **Setup of these drivers can be tricky for some OS and virtual machines**
  - Differences in multitasking between Windows and Linux

  → **Python does a good job in abstraction but interface of such functions might differ**

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  - Differences in multitasking between Windows and Linux
  - → **Python does a good job in abstraction but interface of such functions might differ**
- Usage of (GPU) servers
  - Large-scale Machine Learning is done on dedicated severs, which typically run Linux
  - → **You need to know how to use a Linux terminal if you want to use such servers**

Operating Systems in Machine Learning (3)

- Portability issues (relevant for assignments!)
  - Python code is as portable as you design it to be
  - Assignment solutions will be graded on a Linux system
  - → **Paths, filenames, etc. are an easy source of portability issues!**

TASKS AND FIRST STEPS

Task 0: Using the System Terminal (1)

1. Open a system terminal (Windows: `cmd.exe`)

   Now you can type commands for your OS. Your current location is your home directory.

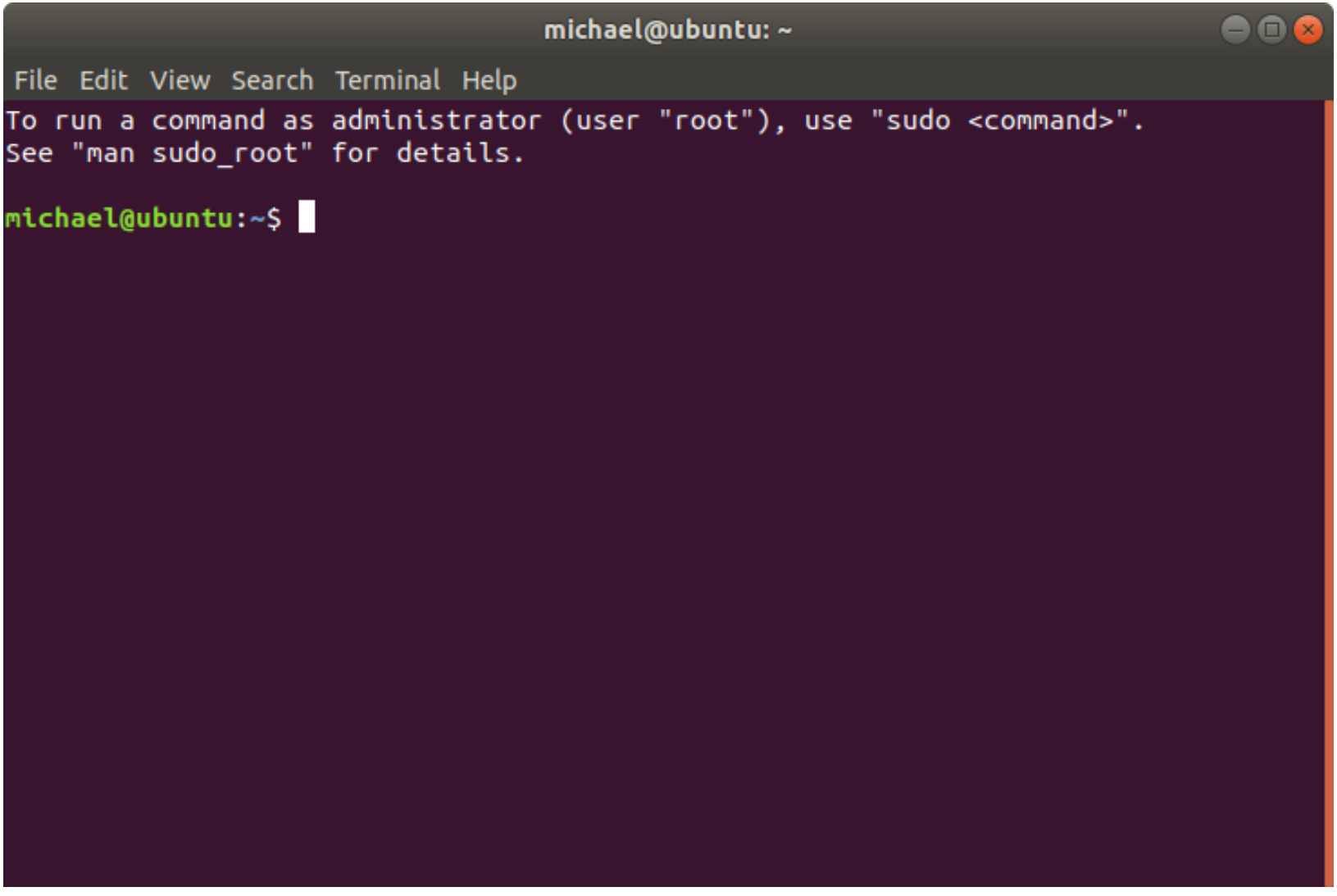
2. Type `ls` and press *Enter*

   You should see a list of files in the current directory

3. Type `cd mypathname` and press *Enter* to change the current directory

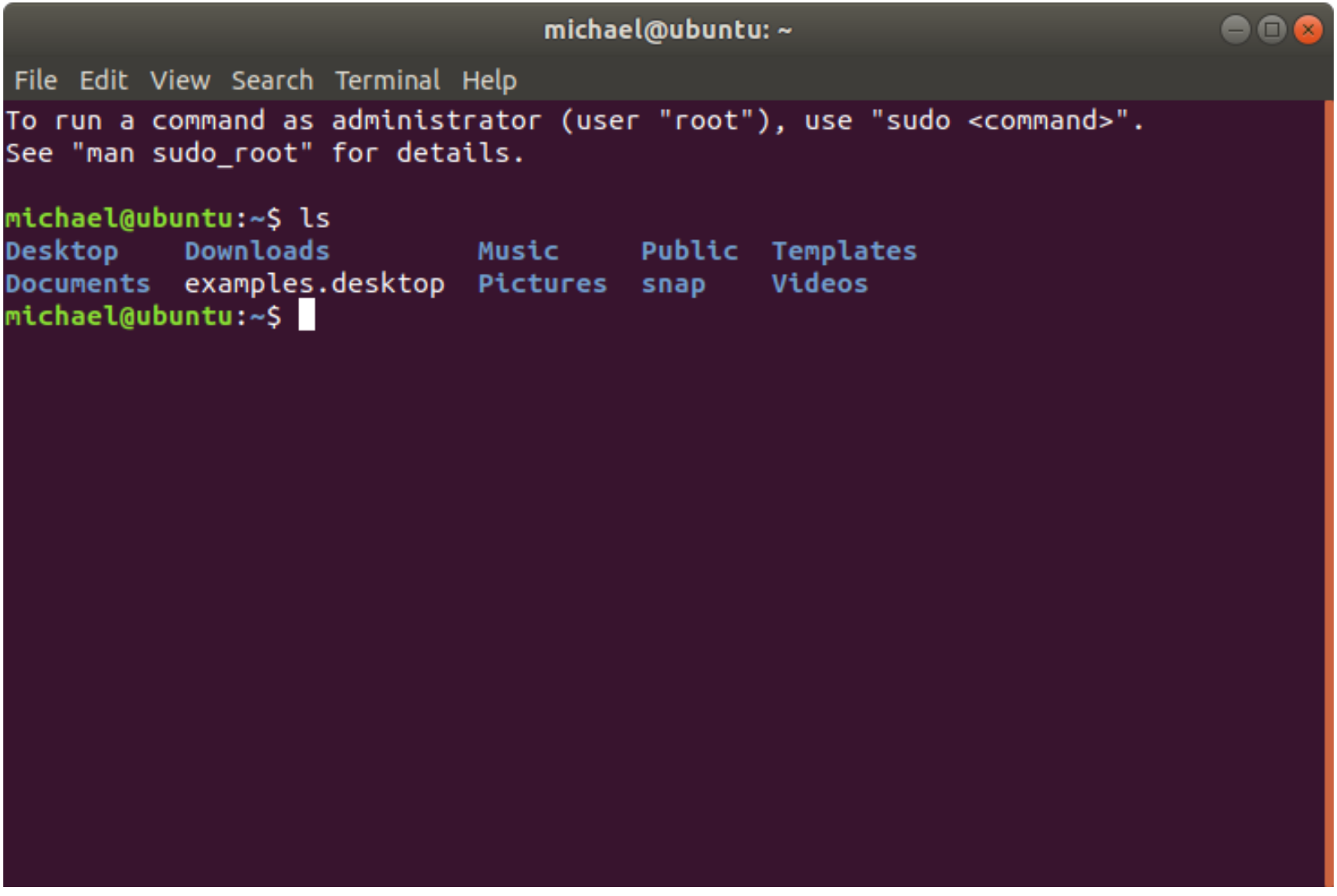
   Your current directory should have changed to `mypathname`, if that directory exists

Task 0: Using the System Terminal (2)



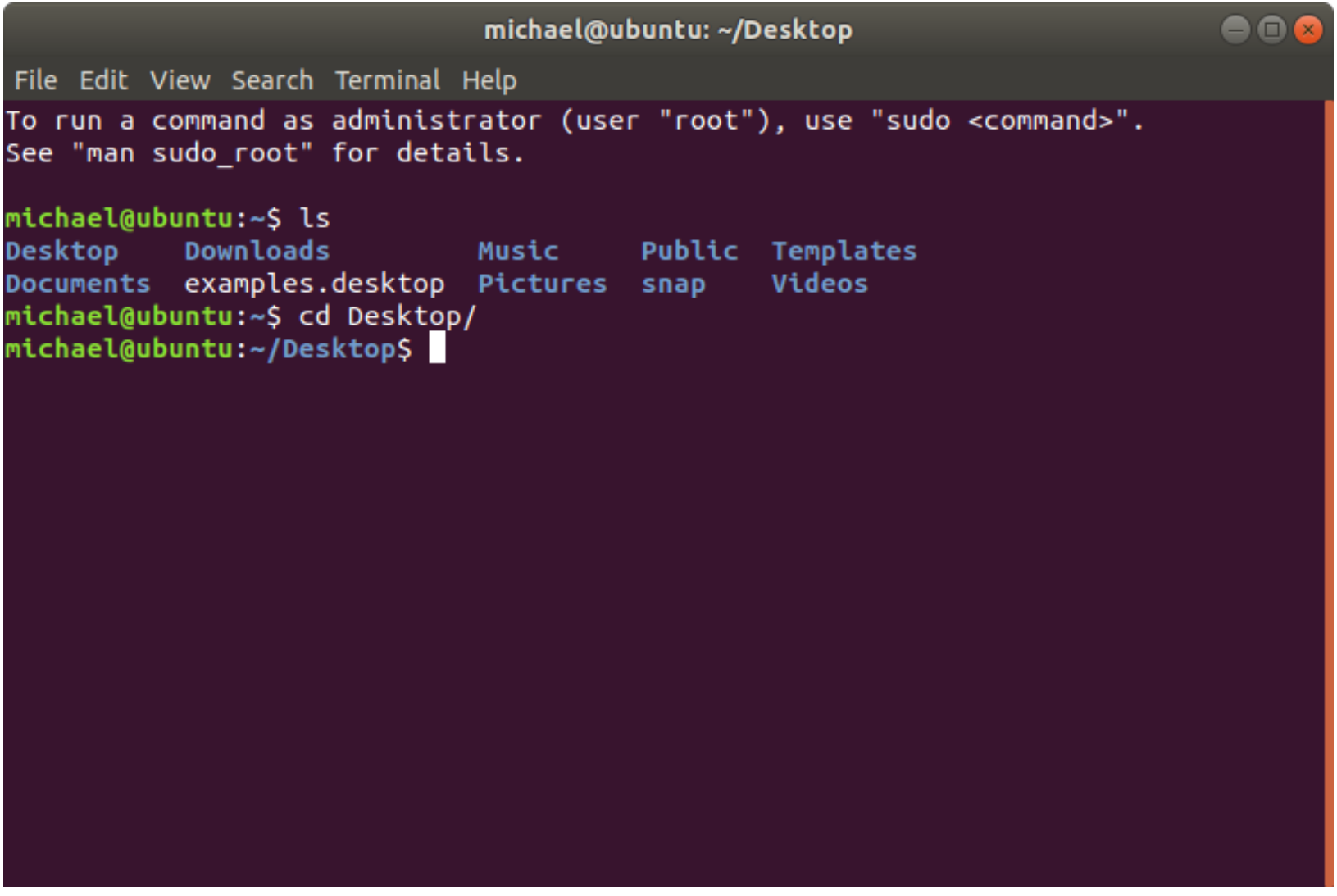
Starting a terminal in Ubuntu

Task 0: Using the System Terminal (3)



Executing ls in a terminal in Ubuntu

Task 0: Using the System Terminal (4)



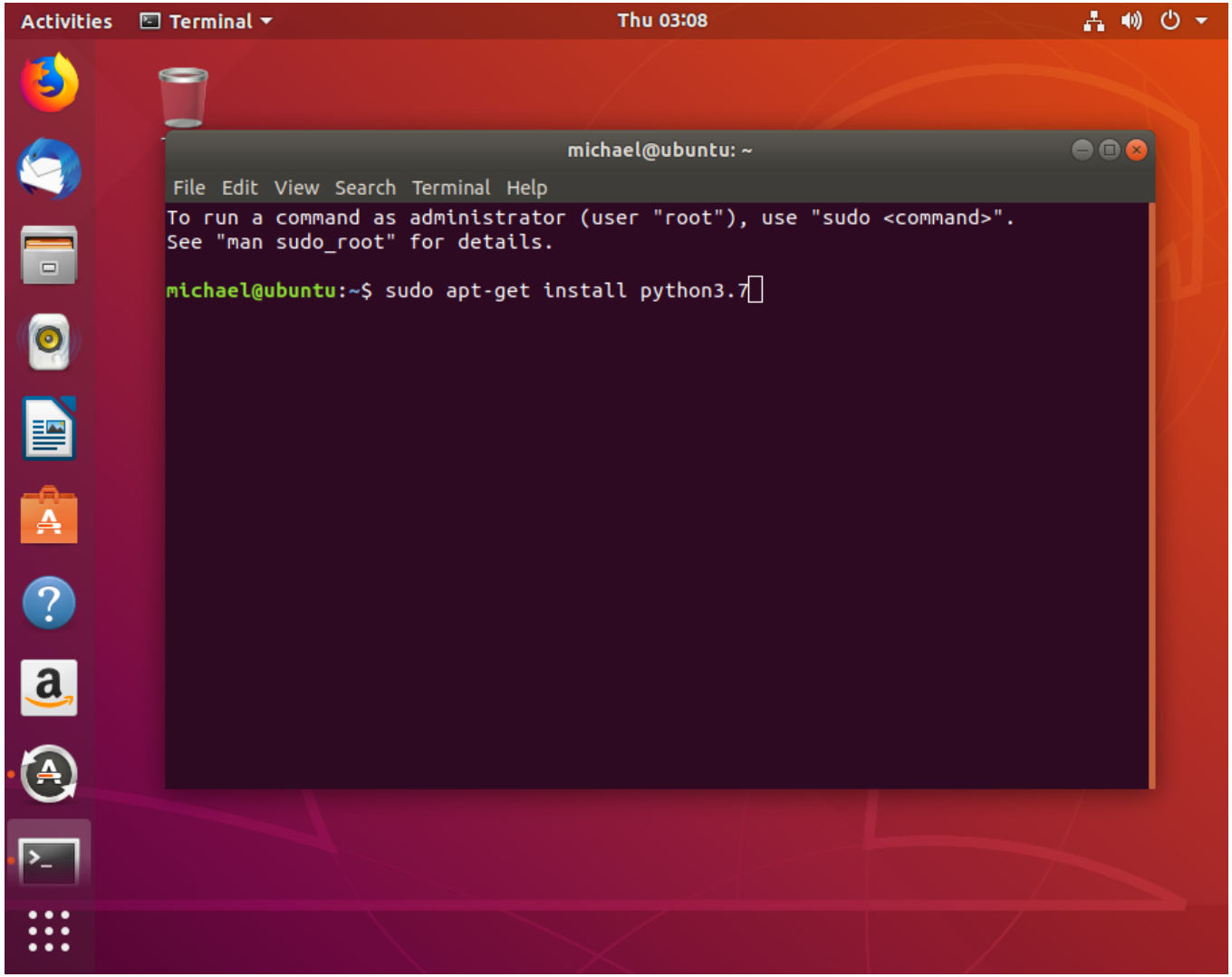
Executing cd in a terminal in Ubuntu

Task 1: Installing Python (1)

- Install Python 64bit, version 3.9 or higher, on your machine

Note: The following tutorial is based on version 3.7 (simply adapt this accordingly to the correct version)

Task 1: Installing Python (2)



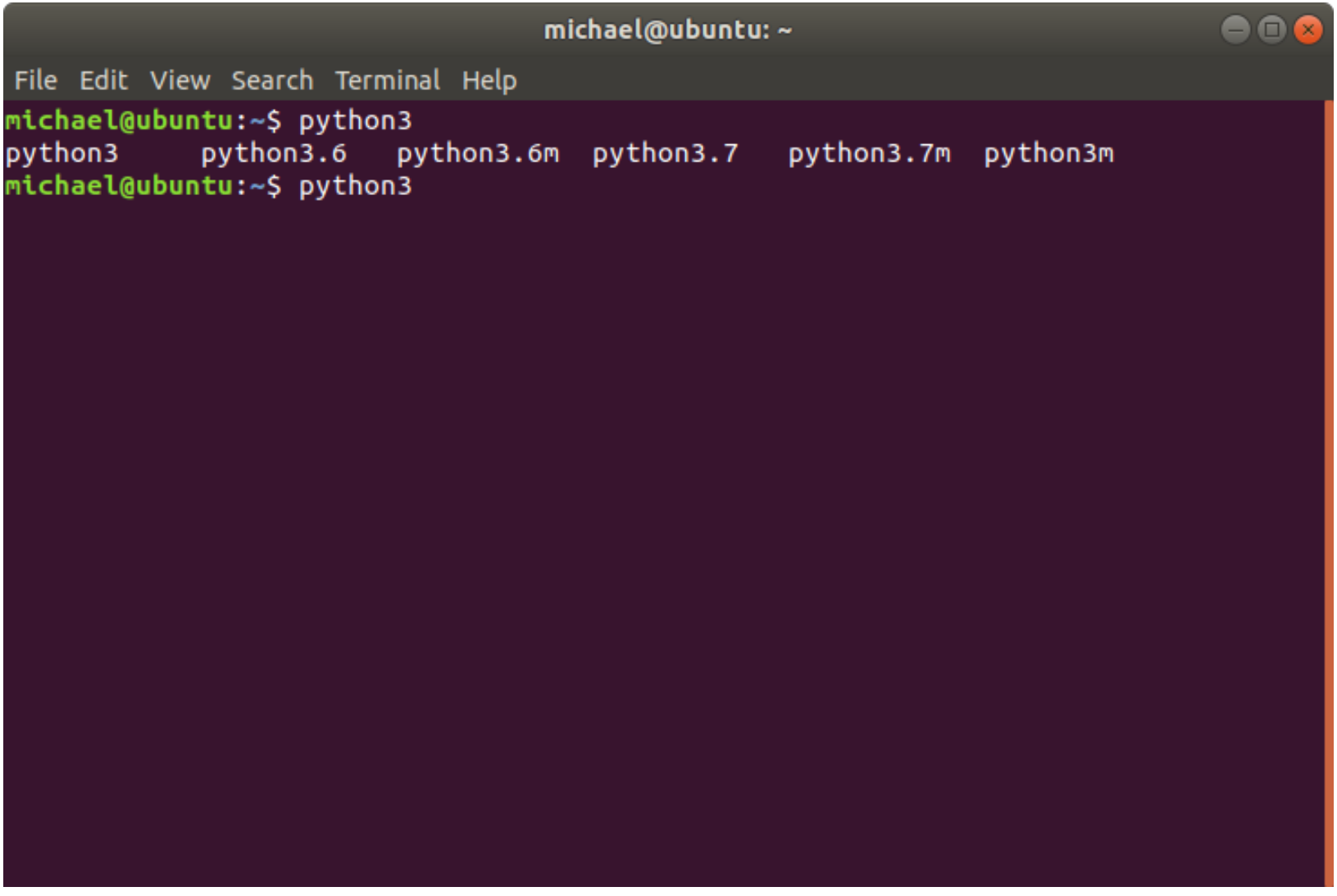
Installing Python under Ubuntu

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (1)

1. Open a system terminal
2. Type `python3` or `python` on Windows (or `python3.7` for specific version `3.7`)

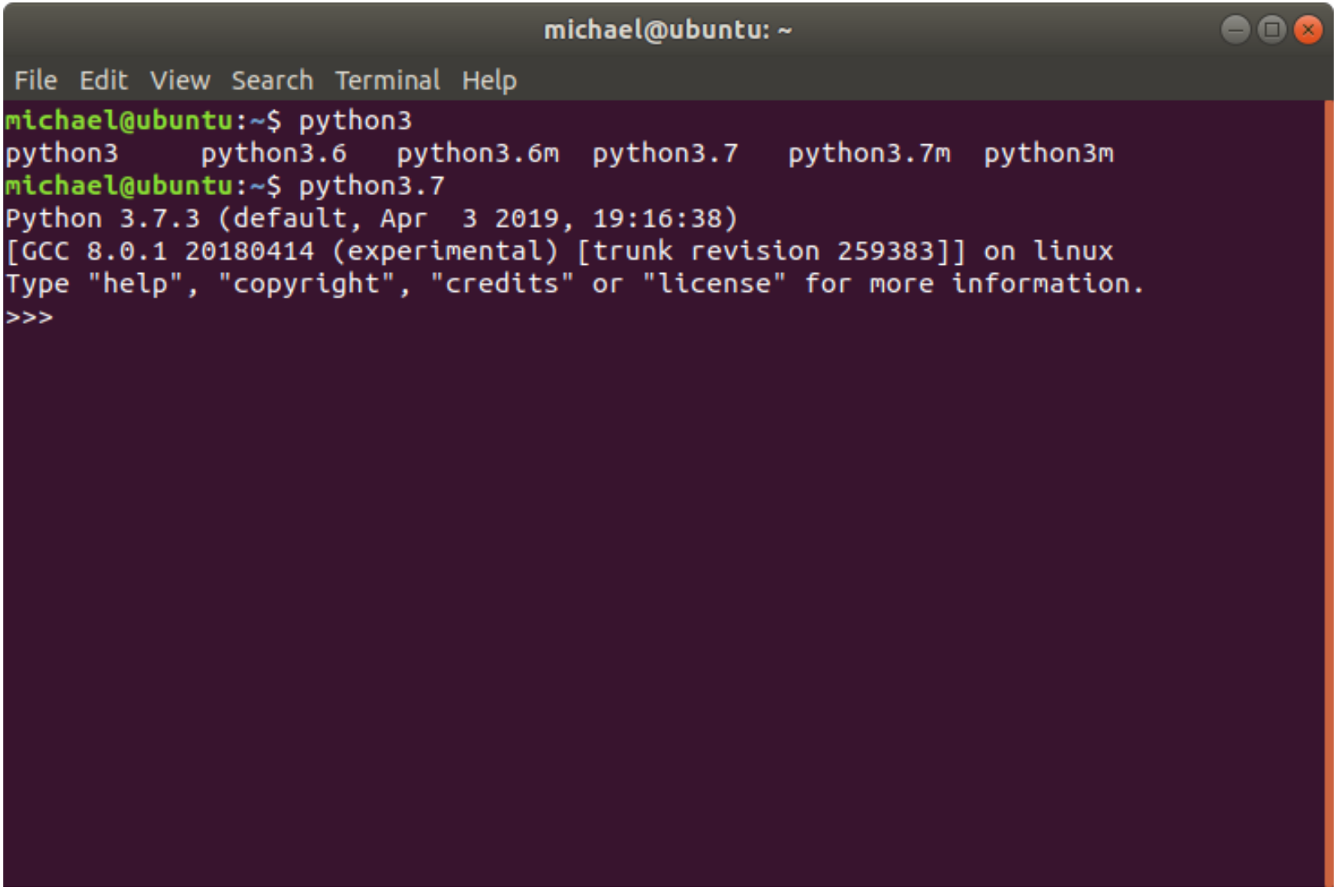
   Or type `pyth` and press *Tab* for auto-complete (*Tab* twice for suggestions)
3. Press *Enter*
4. Now the terminal should have opened a Python interpreter, here you can use Python code
5. Verify that you have the correct Python version
6. Type `4+5` and press *Enter*
7. You should see the text `9` in your Python interpreter
8. Close the window or type `exit()` to exit the interpreter

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (2)



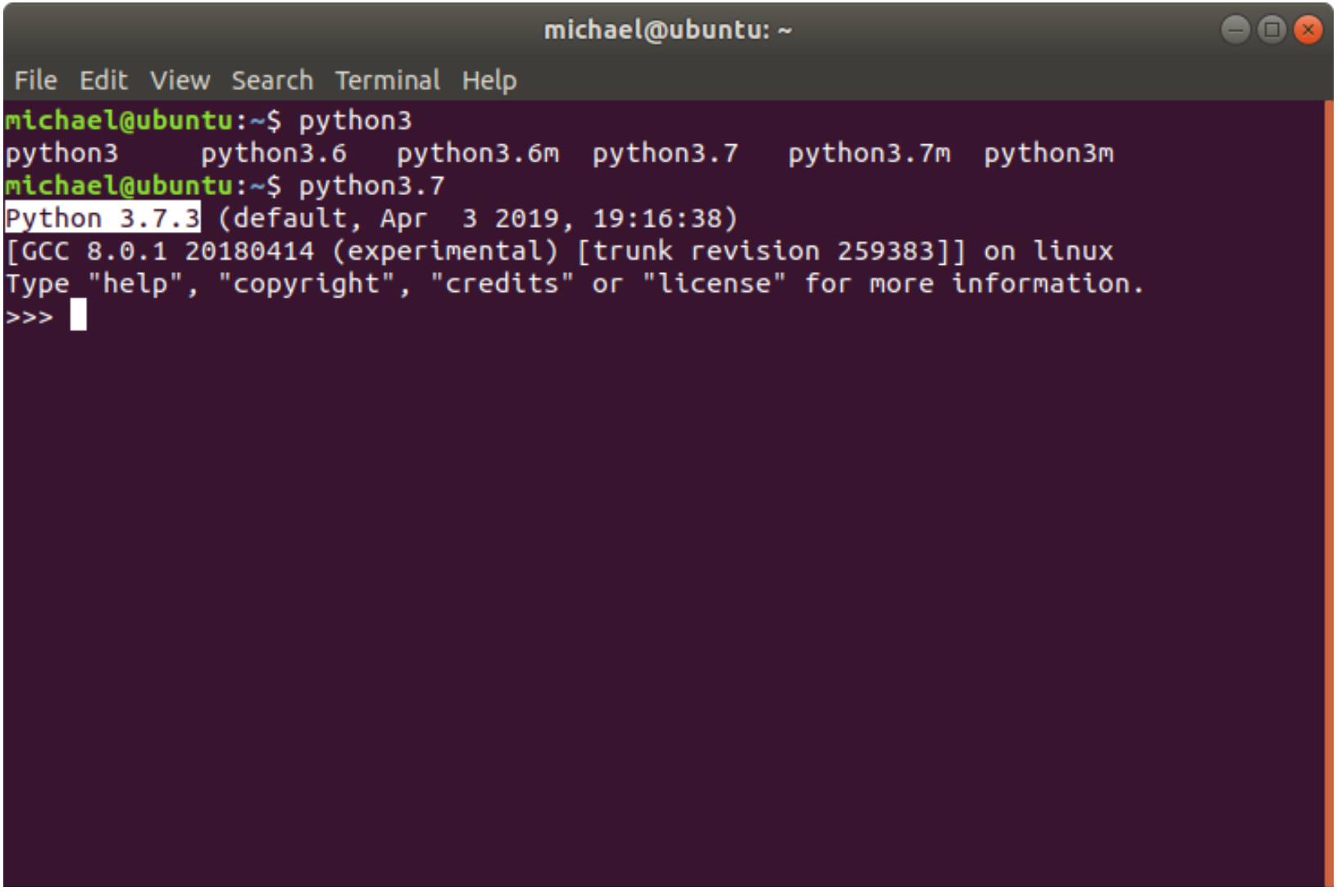
Tab twice for possibilities after typing *python3*

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (3)



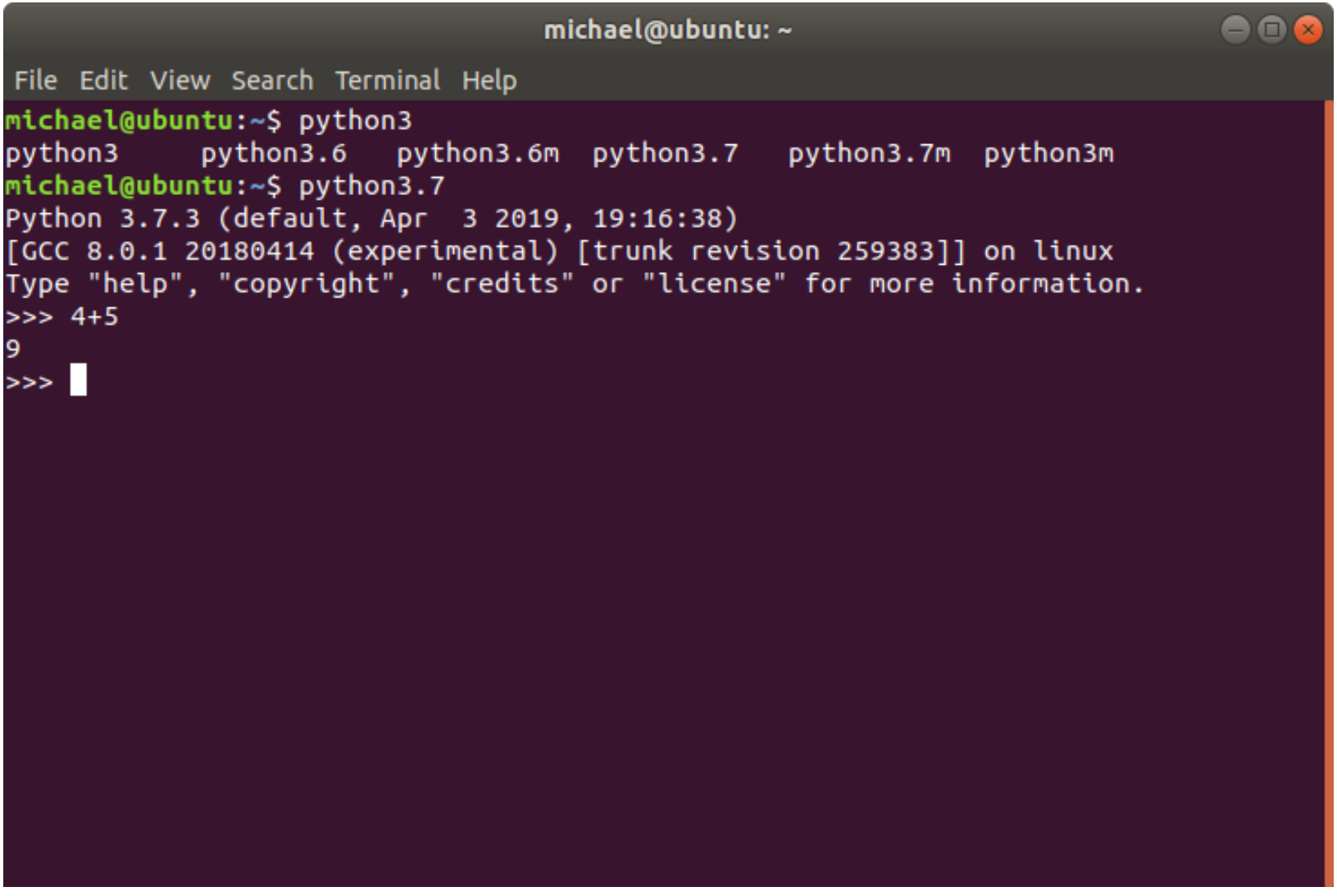
Starting Python interpreter with version 3.7

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (4)



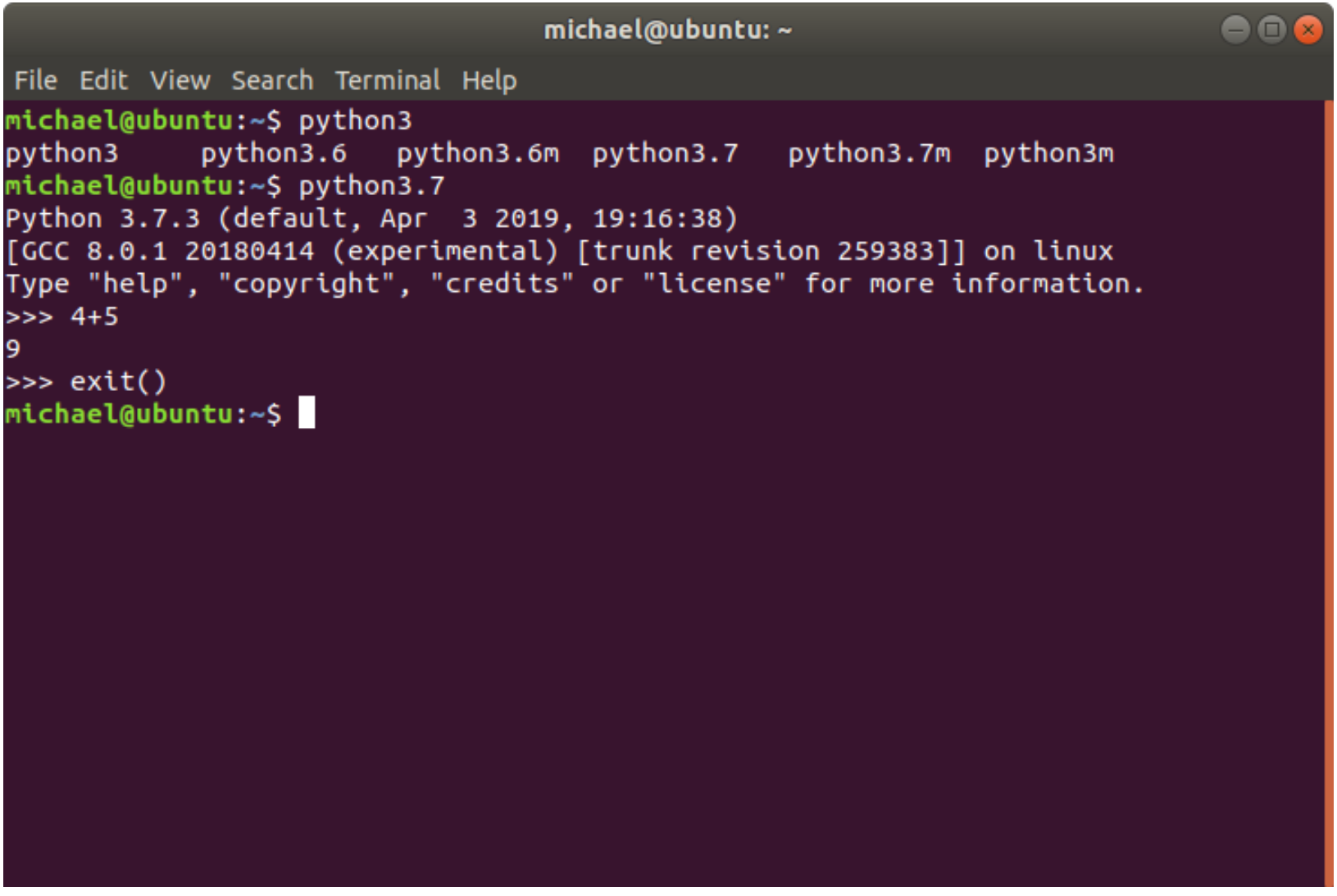
Verifying Python version visually

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (5)



Calculating $4 + 5$

Task 2: Using the Python Interpreter (6)



Exiting Python interpreter

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (1)

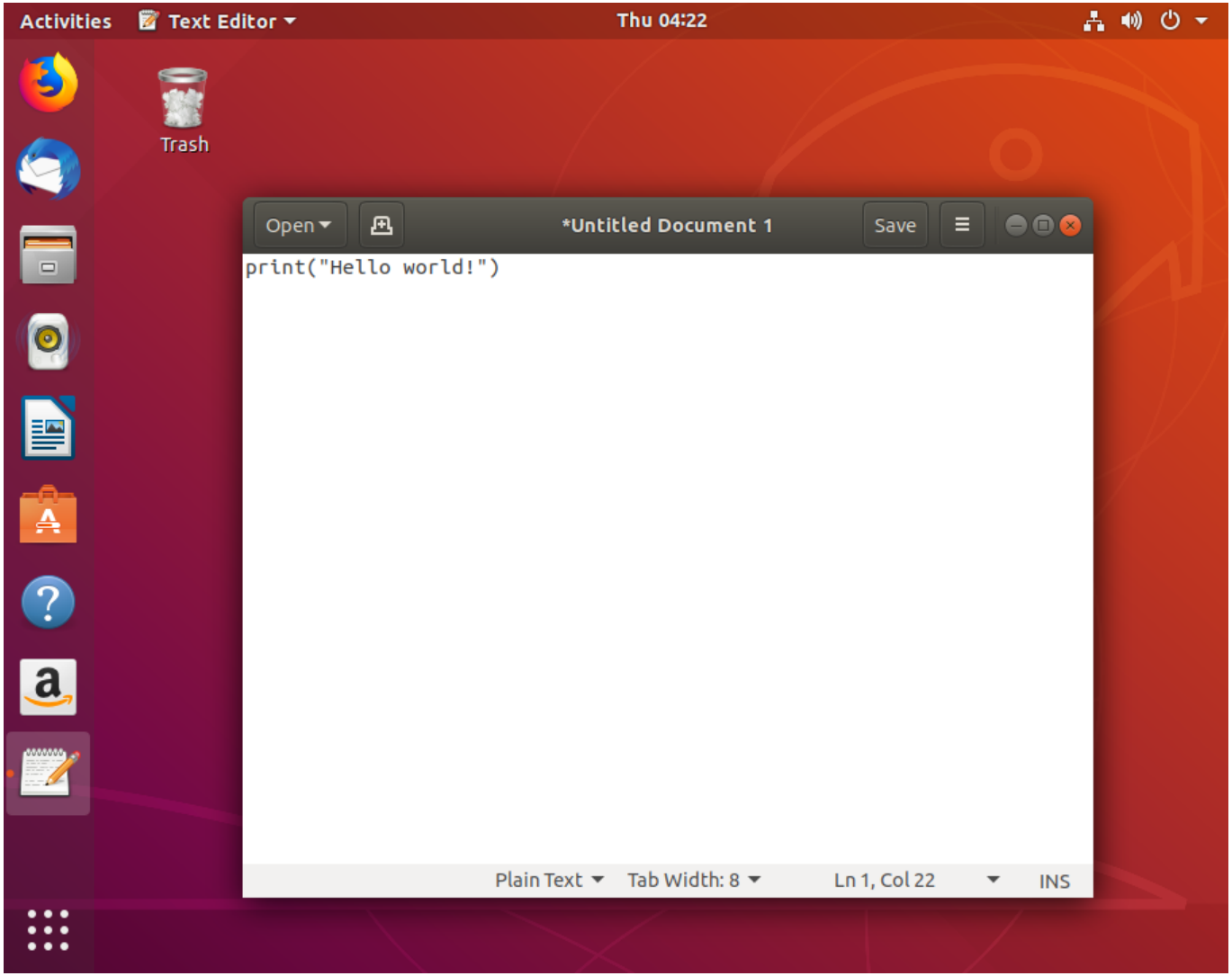
- Create an empty file named *test.py* with the contents

```
1 print("Hello world!")
```

  - Use `notepad`, `texteditor`, `gedit`, ... to create it
  - Don't use `MSWord`, `Libreoffice`, ... (will store format information in the file!)

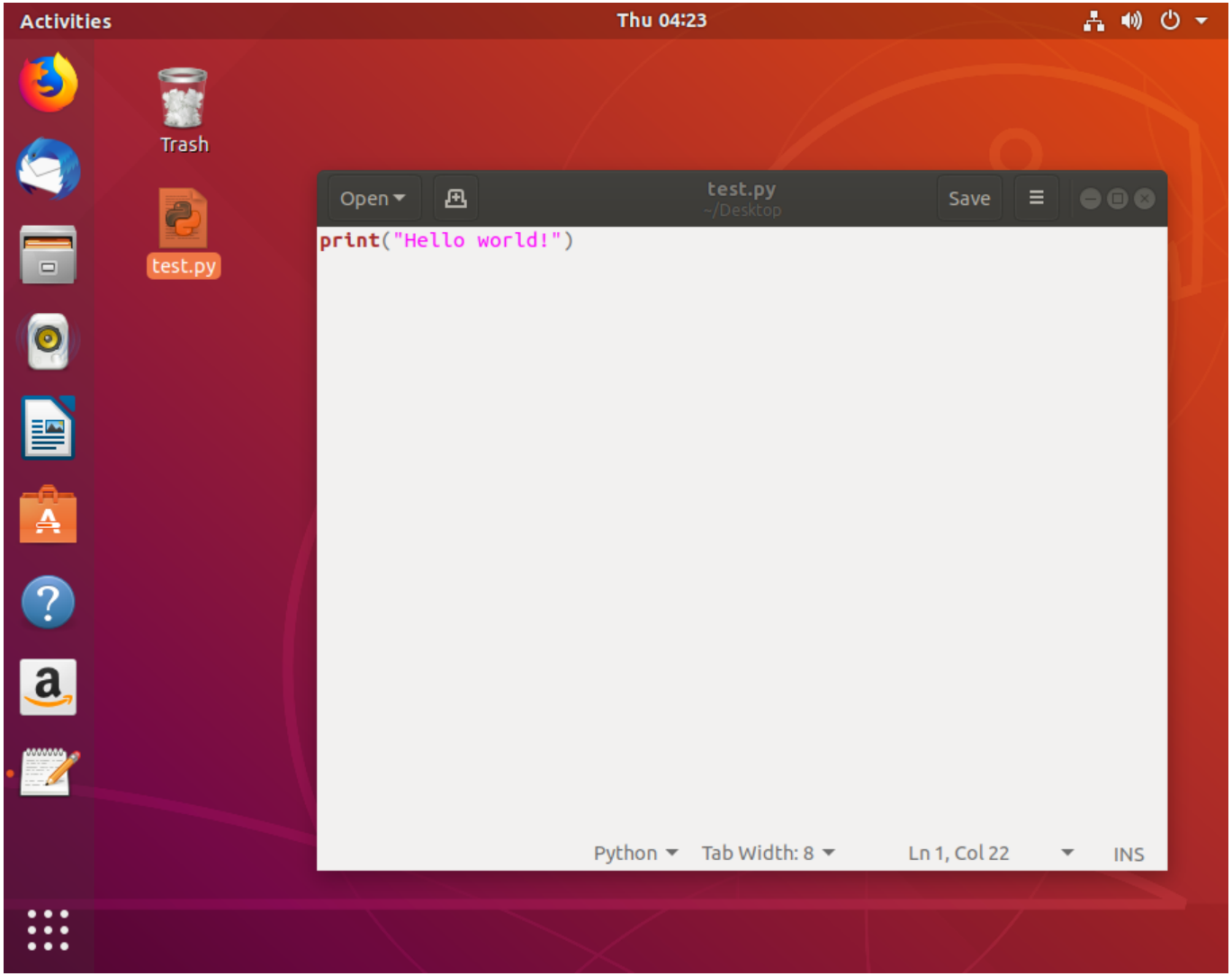
- Run the file with Python
  1. Open a system terminal
  2. Change to the directory your file is located in:
     `cd path_to_directory`
  3. Run the file by typing `python3 test.py` and pressing *Enter*
  4. You should see the text *Hello world!* in your system terminal
  5. Ask for help if you ran into troubles

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (2)



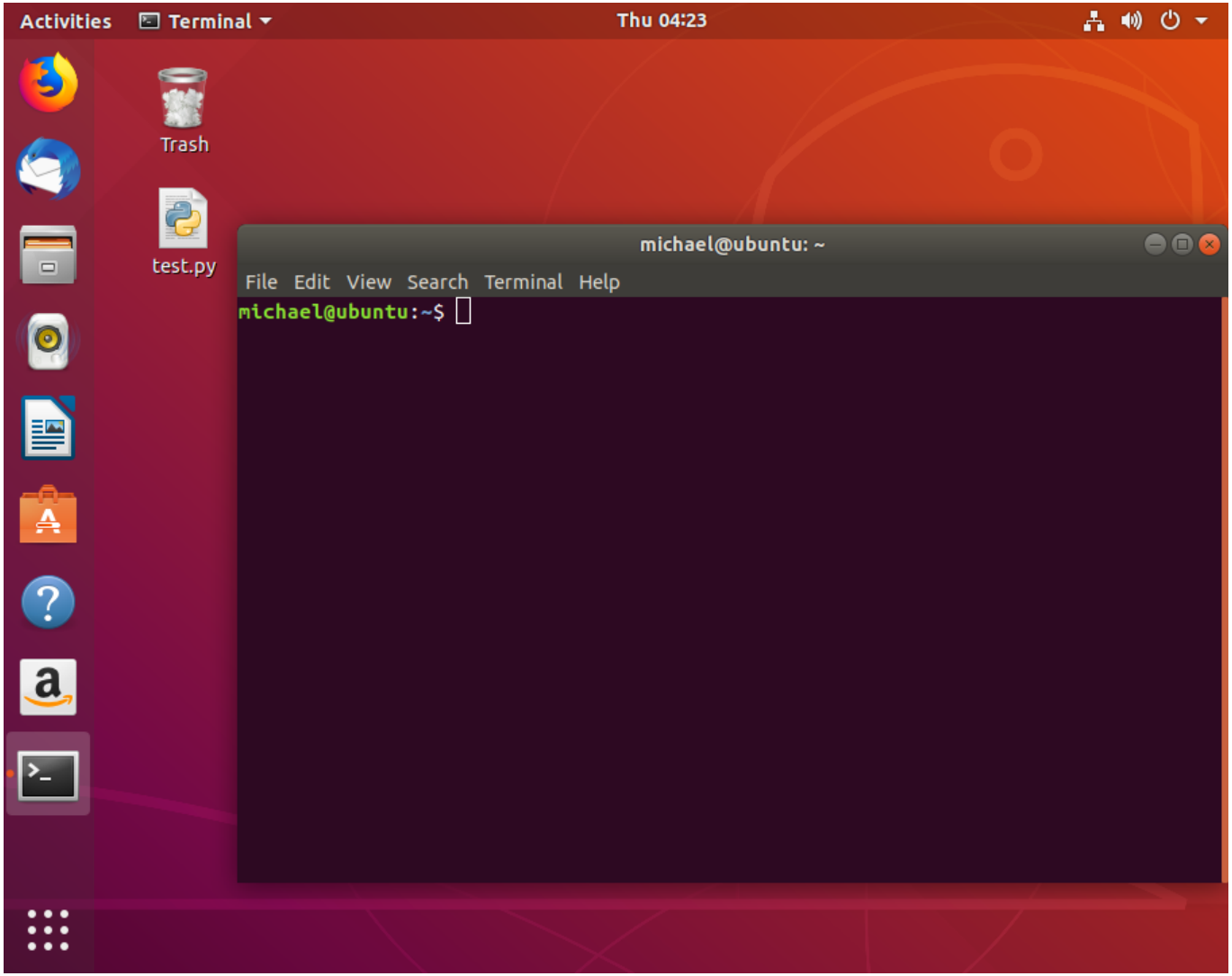
Opening a text editor and entering text print("Hello world!")

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (3)



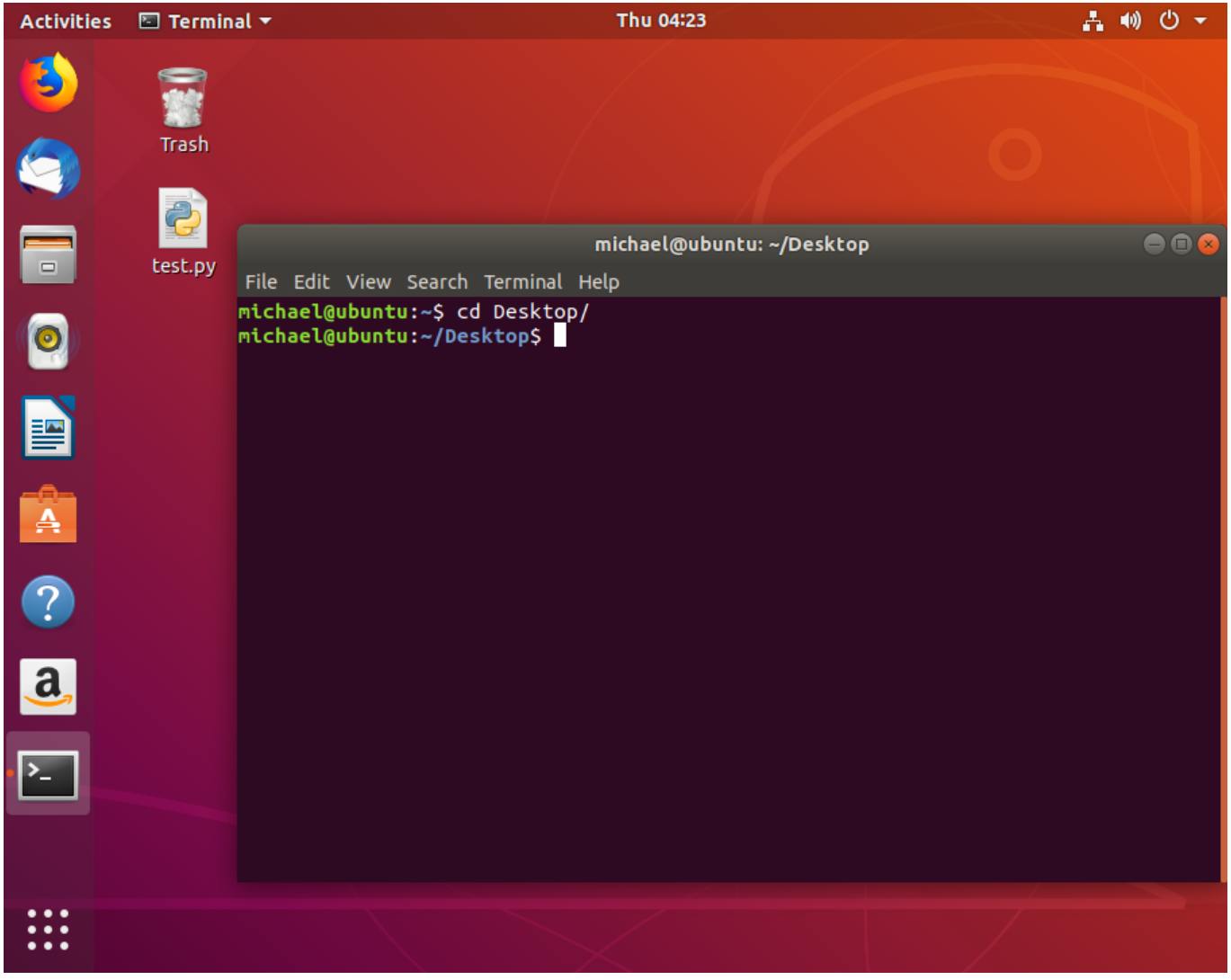
Saving file with name test.py to desktop

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (4)



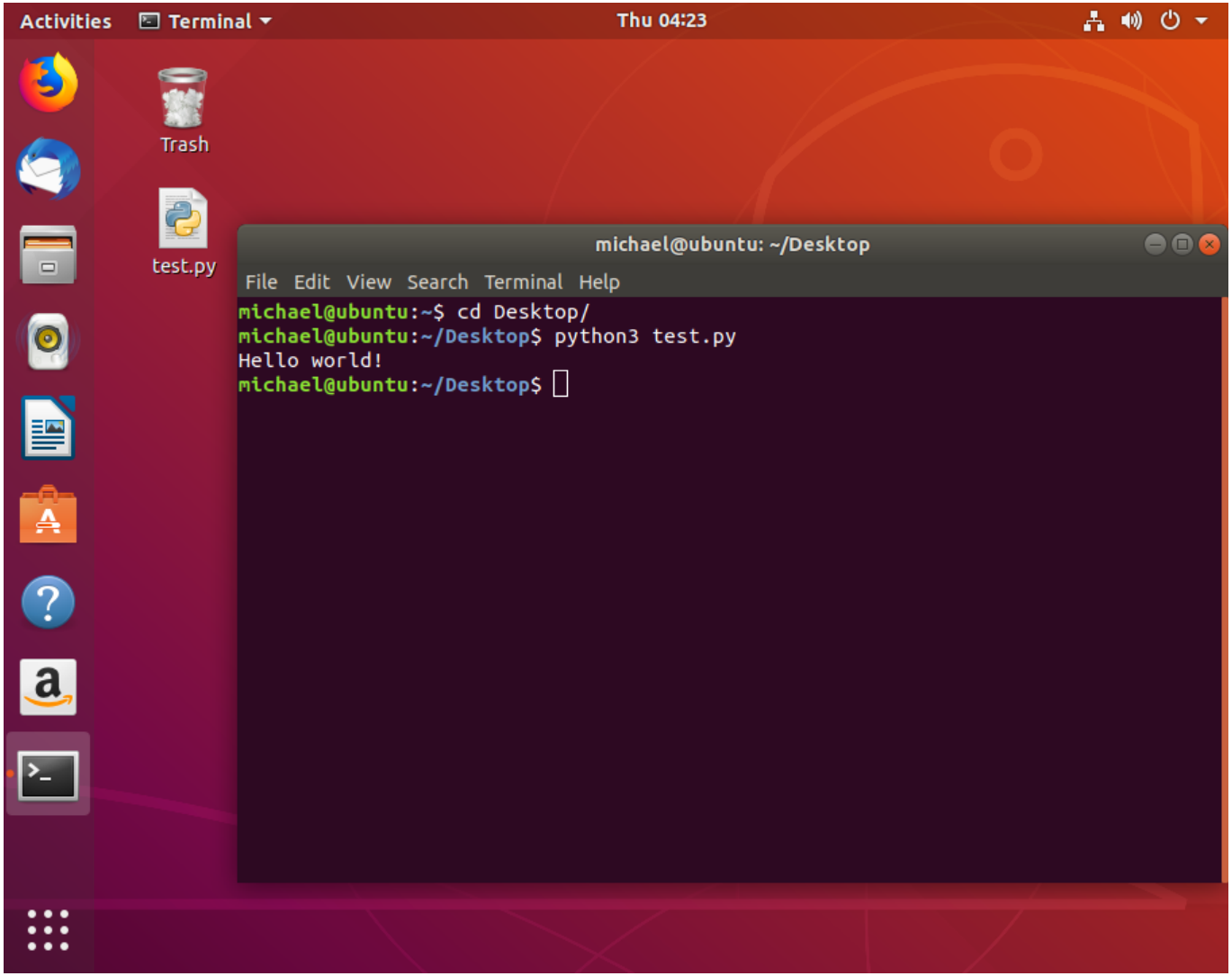
Opening terminal

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (5)



cd to directory where file is located at (in this case to desktop)

Taks 3: Running a Python Script (6)



Running file test.py

You just ran a Python script! :)