

Python

Bits and Bytes

Hamilton Python Users Group
Ian Stewart
2023-04-12

Python Meetings

Hamilton Python Users Group

First meeting Feb 2014.

Forgot to celebrate 100th meeting.

102nd Meeting Apr 2023.

Python

Designed by Guido van Rossum – The Netherlands

First appeared 20 February 1991; 32 years ago



CPython:

- Reference implementation of the Python programming language.
- Written in C and Python.
- Default and most widely used implementation of the Python
- Defined as both an interpreter and a compiler. It compiles Python code into bytecode before interpreting it.

Licensing:

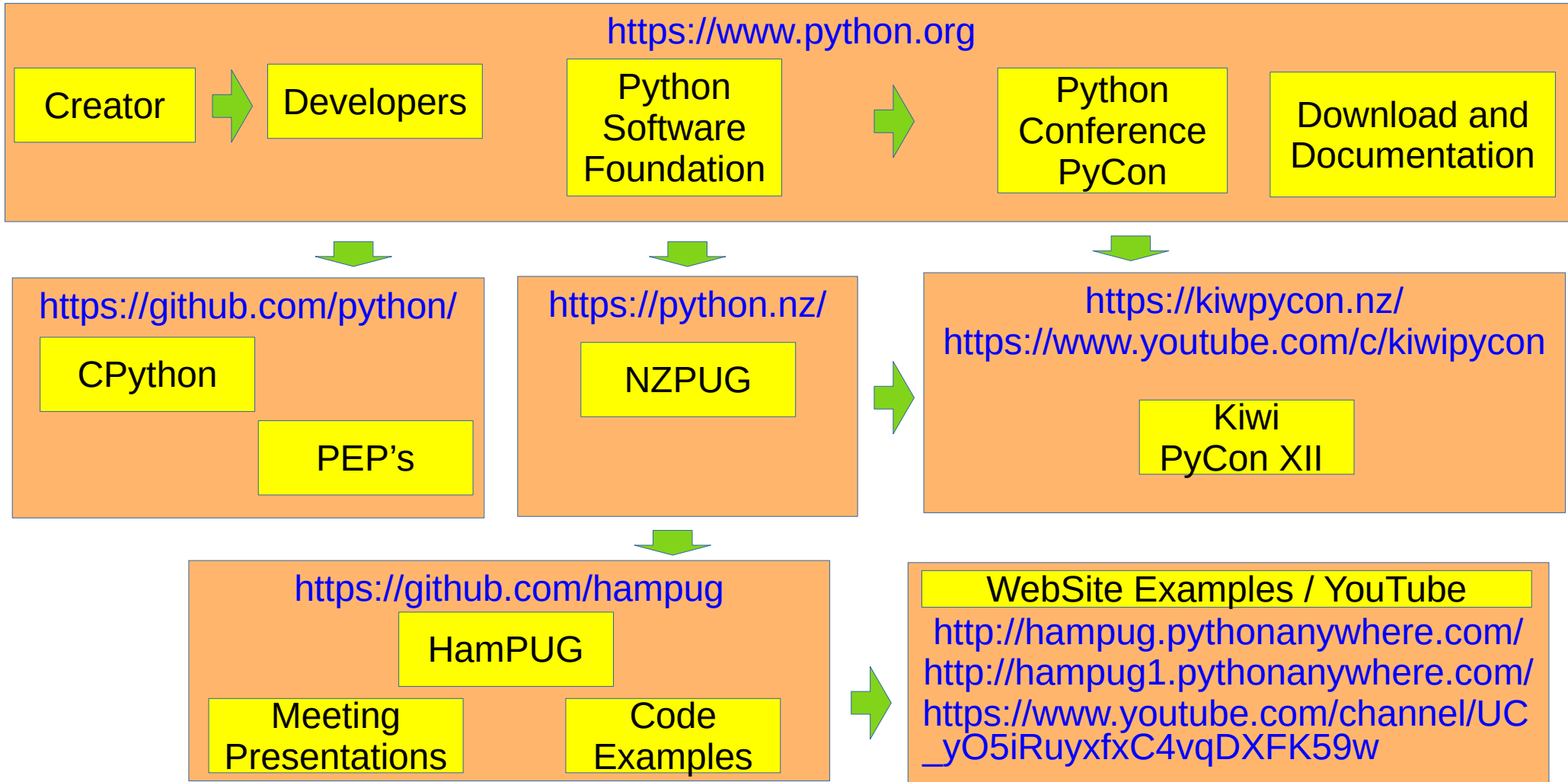
1991-1995 Stichting Mathematisch Centrum.

1995-2001 Corporation for National Research Initiatives.

2000 BeOpen.com

2001-2023 Python Software Foundation. <https://www.python.org/>

Python Sites Summary



External Sites for Example Python code

Stack Overflow

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/python/>

You Tube videos

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=python

Program Creek

<https://www.programcreek.com/python/>

ChatGPT

<https://chat.openai.com/>

More?

Demo

Demo all links on previous two slides.

CPython Alternatives

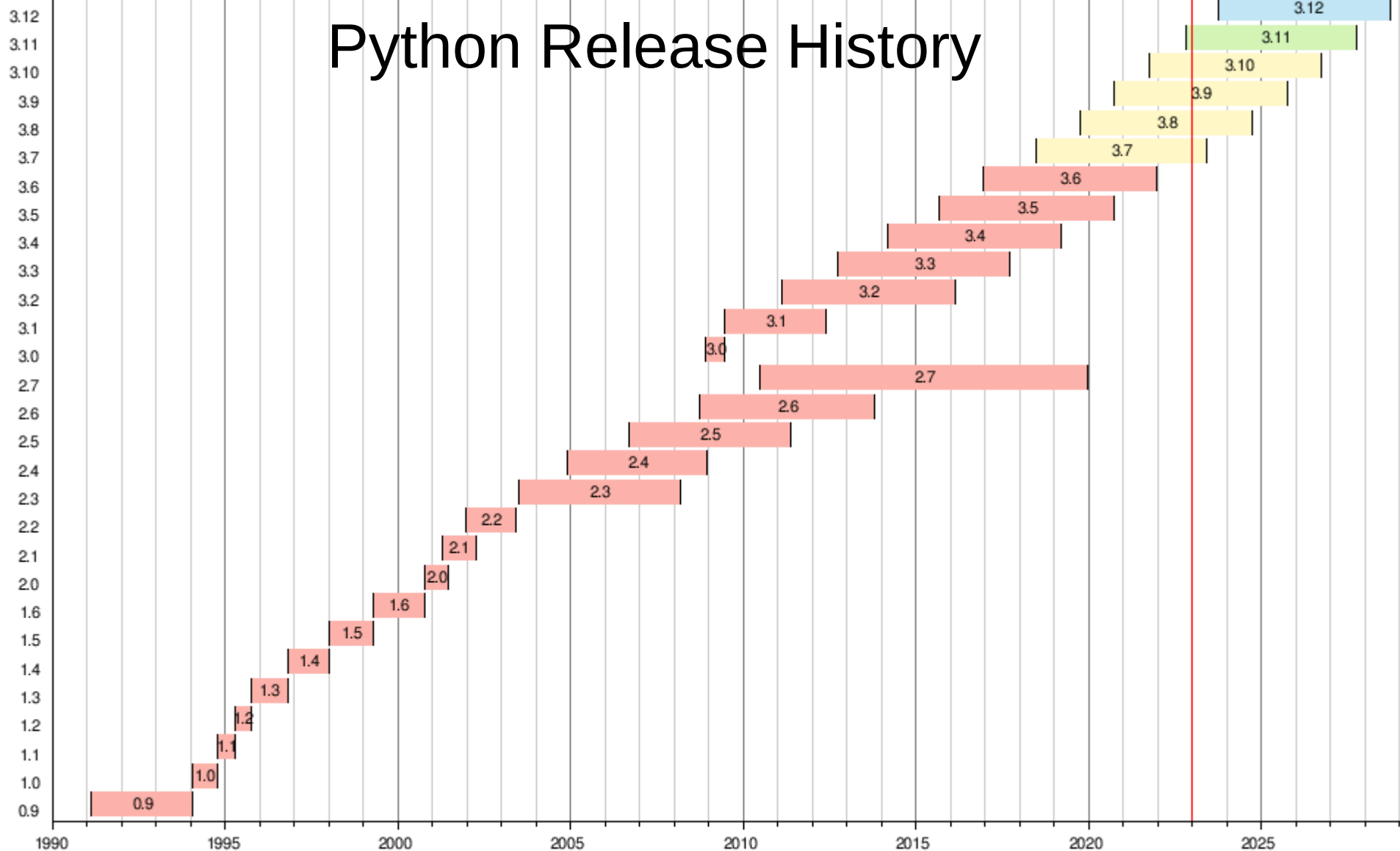
Alternatives:

- Jython, written in Java for the Java virtual machine (JVM).
- PyPy, written in RPython and translated into C.
- IronPython, which is written in C#.
- Stackless Python
- MicroPython, written in C.
- CircuitPython, fork of MicroPython with emphasis on education.

Dialects:

- Cython. Superset of Python.
- Rpython. Restricted subset of Python
- Starlark. Language similar to Python.

Python Release History



Version ↕	Latest micro version ↕	Release date ↕	End of full support ↕	End of security fixes ↕
0.9	0.9.9 ^[2]	1991-02-20 ^[2]	1993-07-29 ^[a] ^[2]	
1.0	1.0.4 ^[2]	1994-01-26 ^[2]	1994-02-15 ^[a] ^[2]	
1.1	1.1.1 ^[2]	1994-10-11 ^[2]	1994-11-10 ^[a] ^[2]	
1.2		1995-04-13 ^[2]	Unsupported	
1.3		1995-10-13 ^[2]	Unsupported	
1.4		1996-10-25 ^[2]	Unsupported	
1.5	1.5.2 ^[42]	1998-01-03 ^[2]	1999-04-13 ^[a] ^[2]	
1.6	1.6.1 ^[42]	2000-09-05 ^[43]	2000-09 ^[a] ^[42]	
2.0	2.0.1 ^[44]	2000-10-16 ^[45]	2001-06-22 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.1	2.1.3 ^[44]	2001-04-15 ^[46]	2002-04-09 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.2	2.2.3 ^[44]	2001-12-21 ^[47]	2003-05-30 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.3	2.3.7 ^[44]	2003-06-29 ^[48]	2008-03-11 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.4	2.4.6 ^[44]	2004-11-30 ^[49]	2008-12-19 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.5	2.5.6 ^[44]	2006-09-19 ^[50]	2011-05-26 ^[a] ^[44]	
2.6	2.6.9 ^[27]	2008-10-01 ^[27]	2010-08-24 ^[b] ^[27]	2013-10-29 ^[27]
2.7	2.7.18 ^[32]	2010-07-03 ^[32]	2020-01-01 ^[c] ^[32]	
3.0	3.0.1 ^[44]	2008-12-03 ^[27]	2009-06-27 ^[51]	

Python Release History

3.1	3.1.5 ^[52]	2009-06-27 ^[52]	2011-06-12 ^[53]	2012-04-06 ^[52]
3.2	3.2.6 ^[54]	2011-02-20 ^[54]	2013-05-13 ^{[b][54]}	2016-02-20 ^[54]
3.3	3.3.7 ^[55]	2012-09-29 ^[55]	2014-03-08 ^{[b][55]}	2017-09-29 ^[55]
3.4	3.4.10 ^[56]	2014-03-16 ^[56]	2017-08-09 ^[57]	2019-03-18 ^{[a][56]}
3.5	3.5.10 ^[58]	2015-09-13 ^[58]	2017-08-08 ^[59]	2020-09-30 ^[58]
3.6	3.6.15 ^[60]	2016-12-23 ^[60]	2018-12-24 ^{[b][60]}	2021-12-23 ^[60]
3.7	3.7.16 ^[61]	2018-06-27 ^[61]	2020-06-27 ^{[b][61]}	2023-06-27 ^[61]
3.8	3.8.16 ^[62]	2019-10-14 ^[62]	2021-05-03 ^{[b][62]}	2024-10 ^[62]
3.9	3.9.16 ^[63]	2020-10-05 ^[63]	2022-05-17 ^{[b][63]}	2025-10 ^{[63][64]}
3.10 ^[needs update]	3.10.10 ^[65] ^[needs update]	2021-10-04 ^[65]	2023-05 ^[65]	2026-10 ^[65]
3.11	3.11.2 ^[66] ^[needs update]	2022-10-24 ^[66]	2024-05 ^[66]	2027-10 ^[66]
3.12	3.12.0 ^[67]	2023-10-02 ^[67]	2025-05 ^[67]	2028-10 ^[67]
Legend:		<div><div></div> Old version</div> <div><div></div> Older version, still maintained</div> <div><div></div> Latest version</div> <div><div></div> Latest preview version</div> <div><div></div> Future release</div>		

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Python

Bytecode

Python Compile to Bytecode

- Python compiles Python code into bytecode before interpreting it.
- Bytecode instructions may change with Python version.
- Local Imported modules once converted to bytecode are stored in `__pycache__` sub-folder as `xxx.cpython-3nn.pyc` files.
- `$ python -m compileall hello.py.`

Creates: `__pycache__/hello.cpython-310.pyc`

- Bytecode is interpreted by the “Python Virtual Machine”
- The implementation of the bytecode interpreter is in the file `Python/ceval.c`.

Display Op Names / Codes

```
1 # Display all op codes and op names
2 import sys, dis
3
4 version = sys.version.split(" ")[0]
5 #print(version)
6 print("\nOpCodes for Python {} ByteCode".format(version))
7 op_name_dict = {}
8 for i in range(0,256): # max op code is 255.
9     op_name = dis.opname[i]
10    if op_name.startswith("<"): # Unassigned opcodes display <255> etc.
11        continue
12    else:
13        # Print op_code dec, op code hex, and op name
14        print( "{:>3} {:>4} {}".format(i, hex(i), op_name))
15        op_name_dict[op_name] = i
16
17 # Sort op_name and display op name, op code dec and op code hex
18 print("\nOpNames for Python {} ByteCode".format(version))
19 for key in sorted(op_name_dict):
20     hex_value = hex(op_name_dict[key])
21     hex_value = (hex_value[2:])
22     if len(hex_value) < 2:
23         hex_value = "0" + hex_value
24     print("{} {} {}".format(key, op_name_dict[key], hex_value))
```

Python 3.10 ByteCode. 127 Op Code Instructions.

OP Name	Dec	Hex	Op Name	Dec	Hex	Op Name	Dec	Hex
BEFORE_ASYNC_WITH	52	34	BUILD_STRING	157	9d	EXTENDED_ARG	144	90
BINARY_ADD	23	17	BUILD_TUPLE	102	66	FORMAT_VALUE	155	9b
BINARY_AND	64	40	CALL_FUNCTION	131	83	FOR_ITER	93	5d
BINARY_FLOOR_DIVIDE	26	1a	CALL_FUNCTION_EX	142	8e	GEN_START	129	81
BINARY_LSHIFT	62	3e	CALL_FUNCTION_KW	141	8d	GET_AITER	50	32
BINARY_MATRIX_MULTIPLY	16	10	CALL_METHOD	161	a1	GET_ANEXT	51	33
BINARY_MODULO	22	16	COMPARE_OP	107	6b	GET_AWAITABLE	73	49
BINARY_MULTIPLY	20	14	CONTAINS_OP	118	76	GET_ITER	68	44
BINARY_OR	66	42	COPY_DICT_WITHOUT_KEYS	34	22	GET_LEN	30	1e
BINARY_POWER	19	13	DELETE_ATTR	96	60	GET_YIELD_FROM_ITER	69	45
BINARY_RSHIFT	63	3f	DELETE_DEREF	138	8a	IMPORT_FROM	109	6d
BINARY_SUBSCR	25	19	DELETE_FAST	126	7e	IMPORT_NAME	108	6c
BINARY_SUBTRACT	24	18	DELETE_GLOBAL	98	62	IMPORT_STAR	84	54
BINARY_TRUE_DIVIDE	27	1b	DELETE_NAME	91	5b	INPLACE_ADD	55	37
BINARY_XOR	65	41	DELETE_SUBSCR	61	3d	INPLACE_AND	77	4d
BUILD_CONST_KEY_MAP	156	9c	DICT_MERGE	164	a4	INPLACE_FLOOR_DIVIDE	28	1c
BUILD_LIST	103	67	DICT_UPDATE	165	a5	INPLACE_LSHIFT	75	4b
BUILD_MAP	105	69	DUP_TOP	4	04	INPLACE_MATRIX_MULTIPLY	17	11
BUILD_SET	104	68	DUP_TOP_TWO	5	05	INPLACE_MODULO	59	3b
BUILD_SLICE	133	85	END_ASYNC_FOR	54	36	INPLACE_MULTIPLY	57	39

Op Code	Dec	Hex	Op Code	Dec	Hex	Op Code	Dec	Hex
INPLACE_OR	79	4f	LOAD_GLOBAL	116	74	SETUP_ANNOTATIONS	85	55
INPLACE_POWER	67	43	LOAD_METHOD	160	a0	SETUP_ASYNC_WITH	154	9a
INPLACE_RSHIFT	76	4c	LOAD_NAME	101	65	SETUP_FINALLY	122	7a
INPLACE_SUBTRACT	56	38	MAKE_FUNCTION	132	84	SETUP_WITH	143	8f
INPLACE_TRUE_DIVIDE	29	1d	MAP_ADD	147	93	SET_ADD	146	92
INPLACE_XOR	78	4e	MATCH_CLASS	152	98	SET_UPDATE	163	a3
IS_OP	117	75	MATCH_KEYS	33	21	STORE_ATTR	95	5f
JUMP_ABSOLUTE	113	71	MATCH_MAPPING	31	1f	STORE_DEREF	137	89
JUMP_FORWARD	110	6e	MATCH_SEQUENCE	32	20	STORE_FAST	125	7d
JUMP_IF_FALSE_OR_POP	111	6f	NOP	9	09	STORE_GLOBAL	97	61
JUMP_IF_NOT_EXC_MATCH	121	79	POP_BLOCK	87	57	STORE_NAME	90	5a
JUMP_IF_TRUE_OR_POP	112	70	POP_EXCEPT	89	59	STORE_SUBSCR	60	3c
LIST_APPEND	145	91	POP_JUMP_IF_FALSE	114	72	UNARY_INVERT	15	0f
LIST_EXTEND	162	a2	POP_JUMP_IF_TRUE	115	73	UNARY_NEGATIVE	11	0b
LIST_TO_TUPLE	82	52	POP_TOP	1	01	UNARY_NOT	12	0c
LOAD_ASSERTION_ERROR	74	4a	PRINT_EXPR	70	46	UNARY_POSITIVE	10	0a
LOAD_ATTR	106	6a	RAISE_VARARGS	130	82	UNPACK_EX	94	5e
LOAD_BUILD_CLASS	71	47	RERAISE	119	77	UNPACK_SEQUENCE	92	5c
LOAD_CLASSDEREF	148	94	RETURN_VALUE	83	53	WITH_EXCEPT_START	49	31
LOAD_CLOSURE	135	87	ROT_FOUR	6	06	YIELD_FROM	72	48
LOAD_CONST	100	64	ROT_N	99	63	YIELD_VALUE	86	56
LOAD_DEREF	136	88	ROT_THREE	3	03			
LOAD_FAST	124	7c	ROT_TWO	2	02			

Op Name Changes Example

Python 3.10

Total Op Names: 127

Op Names in 3.10, but not in 3.11: 46

Python 3.11

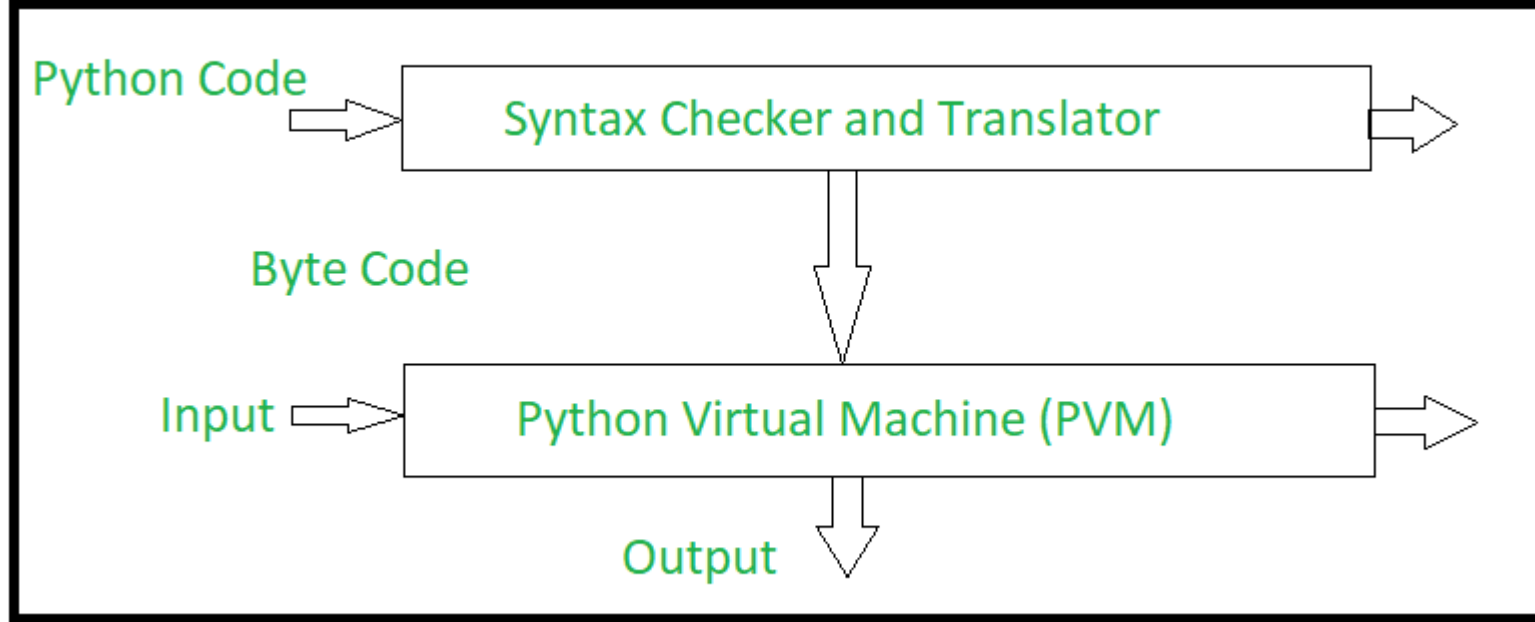
Total Op Names: 110

Op Names in 3.11, but not in 3.10: 29

Op Names in both 3.10 and 3.11: 81

- <https://leanpub.com/insidethepythonvirtualmachine/read>
- https://nedbatchelder.com/blog/200804/the_structure_of_pyc_files.html
- <https://towardsdatascience.com/understanding-python-bytecode-e7edaae8734d>

Python Compile and Interpret - Simplified



The Python source code goes through the following to generate an executable code :

Step 1: The python compiler reads a python source code or instruction. Then it verifies that the instruction is well-formatted, i.e. it checks the syntax of each line. If it encounters an error, it immediately halts the translation and shows an error message.

Step 2: If there is no error, i.e. if the python instruction or source code is well-formatted then the compiler translates it into its equivalent form in an intermediate language called "Byte code".

Step 3: Byte code is then sent to the Python Virtual Machine(PVM) which is the python interpreter. PVM converts the python byte code into machine-executable code. If an error occurs during this interpretation then the conversion is halted with an error message

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/internal-working-of-python/>

Flow during the execution of source code

Initialization

main



Py_Main



Compilation

parse tree
generation



AST
generation



bytecode
generation



bytecode
optimization



code object
generation



code object
execution

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/internal-working-of-python/>

<https://leanpub.com/insidethepythonvirtualmachine/read>

Bytecode

```
1 print("hello world")
```

```
ian@hp:~/hampug/code$ python hello.py
hello world
```

```
ian@hp:~/hampug/code$ python -m compileall hello.py
Compiling 'hello.py'...
```

```
ian@hp:~/hampug/code$ ls -l __pycache__/hello.cpython-310.pyc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ian ian 126 Apr  5 12:07 __pycache__/hello.cpython-310.pyc
```

```
ian@hp:~/hampug/code$ hexdump -C __pycache__/hello.cpython-310.pyc
00000000  6f 0d 0d 0a 00 00 00 00 c2 ba 2c 64 15 00 00 00 |o.....,d....|
00000010  e3 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
00000020  00 02 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 73 0c 00 00 00 65 00 |.....@...s....e.|
00000030  64 00 83 01 01 00 64 01 53 00 29 02 7a 0b 68 65 |d.....d.S.).z.he|
00000040  6c 6c 6f 20 77 6f 72 6c 64 4e 29 01 da 05 70 72 |llo worldN)...pr|
00000050  69 6e 74 a9 00 72 02 00 00 00 72 02 00 00 00 fa |int..r....r.....|
00000060  08 68 65 6c 6c 6f 2e 70 79 da 08 3c 6d 6f 64 75 |.hello.py..<modu|
00000070  6c 65 3e 01 00 00 00 73 02 00 00 00 0c 00      |le>....s.....|
0000007e
```

Disassemble .pyc file 1/2

```
1 # view_pyc_file_3.7_up.py
2 # This will produce a disassembly of a .pyc file for python 3.7 and above.
3 import platform, time, sys, binascii, marshal, dis, struct
4
5 if sys.version_info.major == 3 and sys.version_info.minor < 7:
6     sys.exit("For Python version 3.7 and above. Exiting...")
7
8
9 def view_pyc_file(path):
10     """Read and display a content of the Python's bytecode in a .pyc file."""
11     with open(path, 'rb') as pyc_file:
12         magic = pyc_file.read(4)
13         bit_field = None
14         timestamp = None
15         hashstr = None
16         size = None
17
18         bit_field = int.from_bytes(pyc_file.read(4), byteorder=sys.byteorder)
19         if 1 & bit_field == 1:
20             hashstr = pyc_file.read(8)
21         else:
22             timestamp = pyc_file.read(4)
23             size = pyc_file.read(4)
24             size = struct.unpack('I', size)[0]
25
26         code = marshal.load(pyc_file)
27
```

Program to Disassemble .pyc file 2/2

```
27
28 magic = binascii.hexlify(magic).decode('utf-8')
29 timestamp = time.asctime(time.localtime(struct.unpack('I', timestamp)[0]))
30
31 dis.disassemble(code)
32
33 print('-' * 80)
34 print(
35     'Python version: {}\nMagic code: {}\nTimestamp: {}\nSize: {}\nHash: {}\nBitfield: {}'
36     .format(platform.python_version(), magic, timestamp, size, hashstr, bit_field)
37 )
38
39
40 if __name__ == '__main__':
41     view_pyc_file(sys.argv[1])
```

view_pyc_file.py

```
ian@hp:~/hampug/code$ python view_pyc_file.py __pycache__/_hello.cpython-310.pyc
```

1	0	LOAD_NAME	0	(print)
	2	LOAD_CONST	0	('hello world')
	4	CALL_FUNCTION	1	
	6	POP_TOP		
	8	LOAD_CONST	1	(None)
	10	RETURN_VALUE		

Python version: 3.10.6

Magic code: 6f0d0d0a

Timestamp: Wed Apr 5 12:03:14 2023

Size: 21

Hash: None

Bitfield: 0

Op Codes in .pyc file

0	LOAD_NAME	0 (print)
2	LOAD_CONST	0 ('hello world')
4	CALL_FUNCTION	1
6	POP_TOP	
8	LOAD_CONST	1 (None)
10	RETURN_VALUE	

Op Name	Decimal	Hex
LOAD_NAME	101	65
LOAD_CONST	100	64
CALL_FUNCTION	131	83
POP_TOP	1	01
LOAD_CONST	100	64
RETURN_VALUE	83	53

```
hexdump -C __pycache__/hello.cpython-310.pyc
00000000  6f 0d 0d 0a 00 00 00 00  c2 ba 2c 64 15 00 00 00  |o.....,d....|
00000010  e3 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.....|
00000020  00 02 00 00 00 40 00 00  00 73 0c 00 00 00 65 00  |.....@...s....e.|
00000030  64 00 83 01 01 00 64 01  53 00 29 02 7a 0b 68 65  |d.....d.S.).z.he|
00000040  6c 6c 6f 20 77 6f 72 6c  64 4e 29 01 da 05 70 72  |llo worldN)...pr|
00000050  69 6e 74 a9 00 72 02 00  00 00 72 02 00 00 00 fa  |int..r....r.....|
00000060  08 68 65 6c 6c 6f 2e 70  79 da 08 3c 6d 6f 64 75  |.hello.py..<modu|
00000070  6c 65 3e 01 00 00 00 73  02 00 00 00 0c 00         |le>....s.....|
0000007e
```

Additional data in .pyc file

Date

```
$ hex=642cbac2
```

```
$ echo "ibase=16; ${hex^^}" | bc  
1680652994
```

```
$ date --date='@1680652994'
```

```
Wed 05 Apr 2023 12:03:14 NZST
```

Size

```
$ hex=00000015
```

```
$ echo "ibase=16; ${hex^^}" | bc  
21
```

Magic code: 6f0d0d0a

Bit Field: 00000000

```
hexdump -C pycache/_hello.cpython-310.pyc
```

00000000	6f 0d 0d 0a	00 00 00 00	c2 ba 2c 64	15 00 00 00	o.....,d....
00000010	e3 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
00000020	00 02 00 00	00 40 00 00	00 73 0c 00	00 00 00 65@...s....e
00000030	64 00 83 01	01 00 64 01	53 00 29 02	7a 0b 68 65	d.....d.S.).z.he
00000040	6c 6c 6f 20	77 6f 72 6c	64 4e 29 01	da 05 70 72	llo worldN)...pr
00000050	69 6e 74 a9	00 72 02 00	00 00 72 02	00 00 00 fa	int..r....r.....
00000060	08 68 65 6c	6c 6f 2e 70	79 da 08 3c	6d 6f 64 75	.hello.py..<modu
00000070	6c 65 3e 01	00 00 00 73	02 00 00 00	0c 00	le>....s.....
0000007e					

Tools

Jupyter Notebook

<https://jupyter.org/>

Install the classic Jupyter Notebook with:

```
$ pip install notebook
```

OR:

```
$ sudo apt install jupyter-notebook
```

To run the notebook:

```
$ jupyter-notebook
```

IDE's

Geany

<https://geany.org/>

```
$ sudo apt install geany
```

PyCharm

<https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/>

Download:

<https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download/#section=linux>

Git / Github

Git

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Git>

Install:

```
$ sudo apt install git
```

Github

<https://github.com>

Python mailing-list

A general discussion list for the Python programming language.

Subscribe at:

<https://mail.python.org/mailman/listinfo/python-list>

NZPUG Mailing list:

<https://groups.google.com/g/nzpug>

Taylor Expansion Series – Raspberry Pi Pico ADC

Taylor Expansion Series – Raspberry Pi Pico ADC

Pico module has 5 x 12 bit ADC.

Inputs in the range 0 to 3.3V will output 0 to 4095.

Micropython converts this 12 bit value to a 16 bit value:

0 to 65535 in steps of “mostly” 16, but sometimes 17.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taylor_series

Taylor Expansion Series – Raspberry Pi Pico ADC

```
35  STATIC uint16_t adc_config_and_read_u16(uint32_t channel) {
36      adc_select_input(channel);
37      uint32_t raw = adc_read();
38      const uint32_t bits = 12;
39      // Scale raw reading to 16 bit value using a Taylor expansion (for 8 <= bits <= 16)
40      return raw << (16 - bits) | raw >> (2 * bits - 16);
41  }
```

https://github.com/micropython/micropython/blob/master/ports/rp2/machine_adc.c

```
4  def taylor_series(raw_value):
5      bits = 12
6      return raw_value << (16 - bits) | raw_value >> (2 * bits - 16)
7
8  taylor_value = 0
9  for i in range(4097):
10     taylor_previous = taylor_value
11     taylor_value = taylor_series(i)
12     print(i, taylor_value, taylor_value-taylor_previous )
```


Taylor

0	0	0
1	16	16
2	32	16
3	48	16
4	64	16
5	80	16
6	96	16
7	112	16
8	128	16
9	144	16
10	160	16
11	176	16
12	192	16
13	208	16
14	224	16
15	240	16
16	256	16
17	272	16
18	288	16
19	304	16

247	3952	16
248	3968	16
249	3984	16
250	4000	16
251	4016	16
252	4032	16
253	4048	16
254	4064	16
255	4080	16
256	4097	17
257	4113	16
258	4129	16
259	4145	16
260	4161	16
261	4177	16
262	4193	16
263	4209	16
264	4225	16
265	4241	16
266	4257	16

4077	65247	16
4078	65263	16
4079	65279	16
4080	65295	16
4081	65311	16
4082	65327	16
4083	65343	16
4084	65359	16
4085	65375	16
4086	65391	16
4087	65407	16
4088	65423	16
4089	65439	16
4090	65455	16
4091	65471	16
4092	65487	16
4093	65503	16
4094	65519	16
4095	65535	16
4096	65552	17

Increment = 16, except...

0 0 0

1 16 16

256 4097 17

512 8194 17

768 12291 17

1024 16388 17

1280 20485 17

1536 24582 17

1792 28679 17

2048 32776 17

2304 36873 17

2560 40970 17

2816 45067 17

3072 49164 17

3328 53261 17

3584 57358 17

3840 61455 17

4095 65535 16

4096 65552 17

Taylor – 16 bit to 12 bit

```
18 list_16_bit.append(taylor_value)
19 #print(list_16_bit)
20
21 for bit_16 in list_16_bit:
22     bit_12 = bit_16 >> 4
23     print(bit_16, bit_12)
```

0 0	4016 251	65375 4085
16 1	4032 252	65391 4086
32 2	4048 253	65407 4087
48 3	4064 254	65423 4088
64 4	4080 255 ←	65439 4089
80 5	4097 256 ←	65455 4090
96 6	4113 257	65471 4091
112 7	4129 258	65487 4092
128 8	4145 259	65503 4093
144 9	4161 260	65519 4094
160 10	4177 261	65535 4095
176 11		

Demo

Demo Pico module on breadboard with 100K ohm trim pot between +3.3V and ground.

Feed the trim pot wiper into the ADC channel.

Run `adc_1.py` to sample ADC every second...

While turning the trim pot through full range.

Output of program should be from 0 to 4095 (i.e. 12 bit range).

...end