

Python Intro & Install



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What is Python?



An interpreted high-level programming language

Intro

- Emphasizes code readability # Indentation counts!
- Dynamic type system # Lazy coding!
- Automatic memory management # No more segmentation fault!
- Abundant library packages # No need to reinvent the wheel!

```
def quicksort(arr):  
    if len(arr) <= 1:  
        return arr  
    pivot = arr[len(arr) // 2]  
    left = [x for x in arr if x < pivot]  
    middle = [x for x in arr if x == pivot]  
    right = [x for x in arr if x > pivot]  
    return quicksort(left) + middle + quicksort(right)  
  
print(quicksort([3,6,8,10,1,2,1]))
```

Version

There are two major versions of Python:

- Python 2.X: legacy
- Python 3.X: latest version with future support

We will use **Python 3.5 or newer** throughout this course!

You can check you python version in terminal/cmd:

```
python --version
```

Install

Check out [Python.org](https://python.org) for the latest version (currently 3.7)

- Linux: Mostly already pre-installed!
- Windows: Download Python installer
- MAC OS: Type in terminal `brew install python3`

Installing packages

We recommend using pip:

- `pip install [package]`

If you encounter permission problem, try:

- `pip install [package] --user`

If you have multiple Python versions, we suggest:

- `python3.X -m pip install [package]`

For this tutorial, please install numpy, pillow, opencv-python

```
pip install numpy pillow opencv-python
```

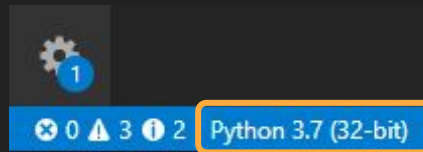
Using Python

1. Use your favorite text editor to create XXX.py
2. Run the file by typing in the terminal/cmd:

```
python3 XXX.py
```

Install VS Code (Optional)

1. Download installer: <https://code.visualstudio.com/>
2. Install the [Python extension for VS Code](#)
3. Install a version of Python 3
On Windows, make sure the location of your Python interpreter is included in your PATH environment variable.
4. Start VS Code in a project folder
 - Navigate to your project folder and type `code .` in terminal/cmd
5. Select Python as interpreter
 - Open **Command Palette** in VS Code (Ctrl+Shift+P), search for **Python: Select Interpreter**
 - You can check the interpreter at **Status Bar**

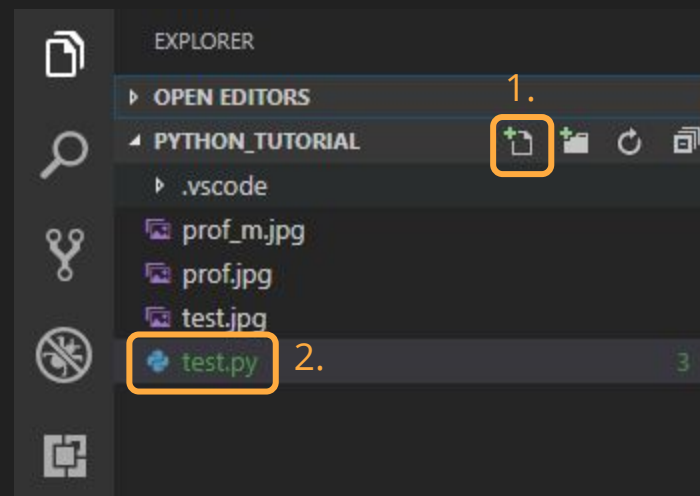


Ref: <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/python/python-tutorial>

Use VS Code (Optional)

Create a Python Hello World source code file

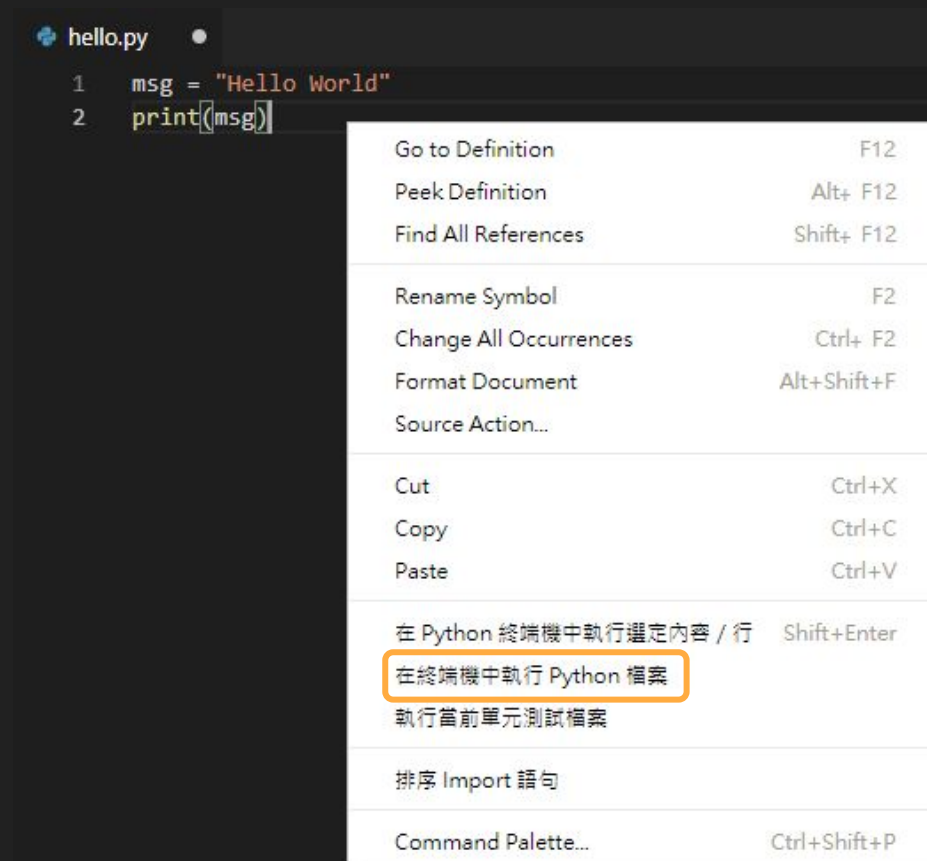
1. From **File Explorer** toolbar, press **New File button** on the project folder
2. Name it XXX.py



Use VS Code (Optional)

Run Hello World

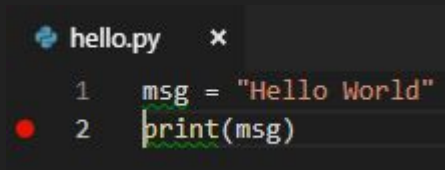
- Right-click in the editor and select **Run Python File in Terminal**



Use VS Code (Optional)

Configure and run the debugger

1. Set a breakpoint on line 2 by left clicking at the right of the line number



2. Select the **Debug View** in the sidebar



3. Run the debugger by selecting the green arrow in the Debug toolbar (F5)



Use VS Code (Optional)

4. A debug toolbar appears along the top with the following commands from left to right: continue (F5), step over (F10), step into (F11), step out (Shift+F11), restart (Ctrl+Shift+F5), and stop (Shift+F5)



5. You can also work with variables in the **Debug Console**

