Python - Shell (Interpreter)

Python is an interpreter language. It means it executes the code line by line. Python provides a Python Shell (also known as Python Interactive Shell) which is used to execute a single Python command and get the result.

Python Shell waits for the input command from the user. As soon as the user enters the command, it executes it and displays the result.

To open the Python Shell on Windows, open the command prompt, write python and press enter.

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe - python

Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
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C:\Users\delta|>python
Python 3.7.0 (v3.7.0:1bf9cc5093, Jun 27 2018, 04:59:51) [MSC v.1914 64 bit (AMD6 4)1 on win32
[ype "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> ____
```

Python Shell

As you can see, a Python Prompt comprising of three Greater Than symbols (>>>) appears. Now, you can enter a single statement and get the result. For example, enter a simple expression like 3 + 2, press enter and it will display the result in the next line, as shown below.

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe - python

Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]

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```

Command Execution on Python Shell

Execute Python Script

As you have seen above, Python Shell executes a single statement. To execute multiple statements, create a Python file with extension .py, and write Python scripts (multiple statements).

For example, enter the following statement in a text editor such as Notepad.

```
Example: myPythonScript.py
print ("This is Python Script.")
print ("Welcome to Python Tutorial by Altran")
```

Save it as myPythonScript.py, navigate command prompt to the folder where you have saved this file and execute the python myPythonScript.py command, as shown below.

```
E:\>python myPythonScript.py
This is Python Script.
Welcome to Python Tutorial by Altran

E:\>
```

Python Shell

Thus, you can execute Python expressions and commands using Python Shell.