

Tecnologías Multimedia - Study Guide - Milestone 2: Installation and basic programming with Python

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1. Description

The InterCom project [4] are a collection of Python modules written in Python [2]. Therefore, you will need an interpreter and know how to develop/run Python programs (modules and packages).

Most of the current Unix-based operating systems (Linux, FreeBSD and OSX) use Python for running some of their “daily tasks”, which means that a Python interpreter is already available. However, usually it is better to use our own interpreter because:

1. We can chose the version of Python and the packages.
2. We can optimize the compilation of the interpreter depending on our needs (for example, including Tk support or not).
3. By default, all the Python packages will be installed in a different repository of the system packages, which eases the system/user Python-isolation and the removal of the interpreter.

In Windows you need to install Python, yes or yes, from the official

website. However, notice that this “guide” only contemplates the installation of Python in Unix-based OS machines.

As said before, it is very likely that your Unix-like OS has Python installed. However, in order to control the version of the Python interpreter, we will install a dedicated one.

2. What you have to do?

1. Installation of Python.

- (a) Go to [YAPT/01-hello_world/02-installation.ipynb](#) [3] and follow the instructions to install CPython 3.8.5, and create a new virtual environment called tm. Basically:

```
sudo apt-get install -y build-essential libssl-dev zlib1g-dev \
curl https://pyenv.run | bash
cat << EOF >> ~/.bashrc
export PATH="$HOME/.pyenv/bin:$PATH"
eval "$(pyenv init -)"
EOF
source ~/.bashrc
pyenv install -v 3.8.5
pyenv virtualenv 3.8.5 tm
```

- (b) Remember that you will need to active it when you want to work in this project:

```
pyenv activate tm
```

It is a good idea to append this to the `~/.bashrc` file.

- (c) Install an **IDE** for programming with Python. I recommend **Thonny** if you are not used to any other.

```
pip install thonny
```

2. Alternatively (and reducing the chances of solving any possible issue), you can use the Python interpreter shipped with your OS. In this case, it is strongly recommended to use an specific Python **environment** for the InterCom project.
3. Python programming.
 - (a) You don't need to master Python to follow this course, but it is convenient for you to follow some Python programming tutorial, such as **The Python Tutorial** [1] if you realize that the language is a setback for you. If you need to start with Python from scratch,

an introduction to Python such as this [workshop of YAPT \[3\]](#) could also be helpful. See also [ZetCode's Python Tutorial](#).

3. Timming

There is not time limit for finishing this milestone. Develop it at your own pace. However, notice that we will be using Python very soon.

4. Deliverables

None.

5. Resources

- [1] The Python Foundation. [The Python Tutorial](#).
- [2] The Python Foundation. [The Python Website](#).
- [3] V. González Ruiz. [YAPT](#).
- [4] The students of [Tecnologías Multimedia](#) at the UAL. The [InterCom](#) project.