

# Introduction to Python

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# Lectures and exercises (Kreiner)

- Today – RESTful APIs for backends
- **Exercise 1 – Getting started with Python**
- Exercise 2 – Introduction to Django
- Exercise 3 – Database modelling with Django
- Exercise 4 – Creating an RESTful API and securing your application

# Goals for today

- Get started with Python – write a simple script and learn the fundamentals of Python
  - Installing Python
  - Interacting with the interpreter
  - Write simple functions using basic data types and control structures
  - Simple error handling
- How this exercise is organized:
  - Part 1 – Introduction to Python (45")
  - Coding session 1 (45")
  - Break (15")
  - Coding session 2 (45")

# What is Python?

1. Python is an interpreted, high-level, general-purpose programming language.
2. Procedural, functional and object-oriented language
3. Invented by Guido van Rossum in the early 90s
4. Current version: 3.7 – **Warning**: Python 3 and python 2 are not compatible

→ We use Python 3.7 throughout this course.

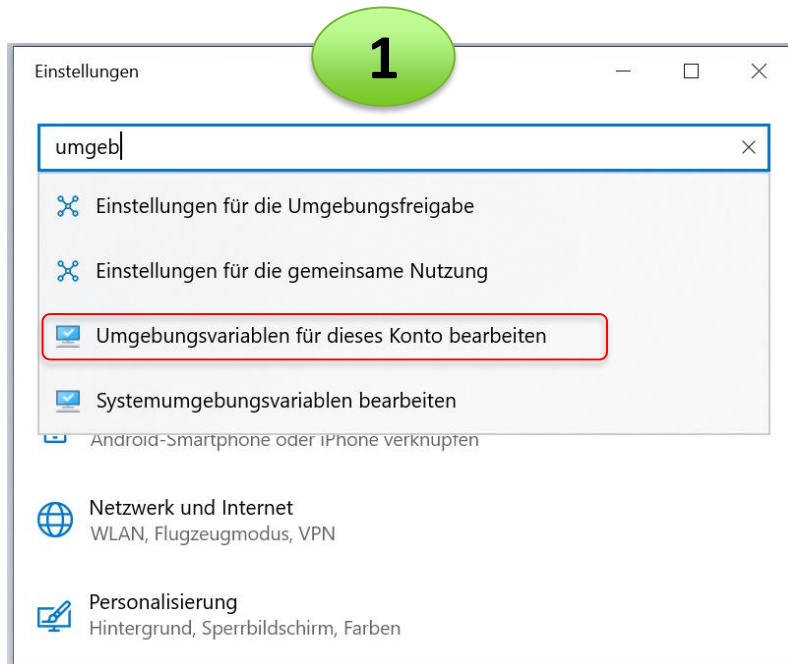


# Installing Python

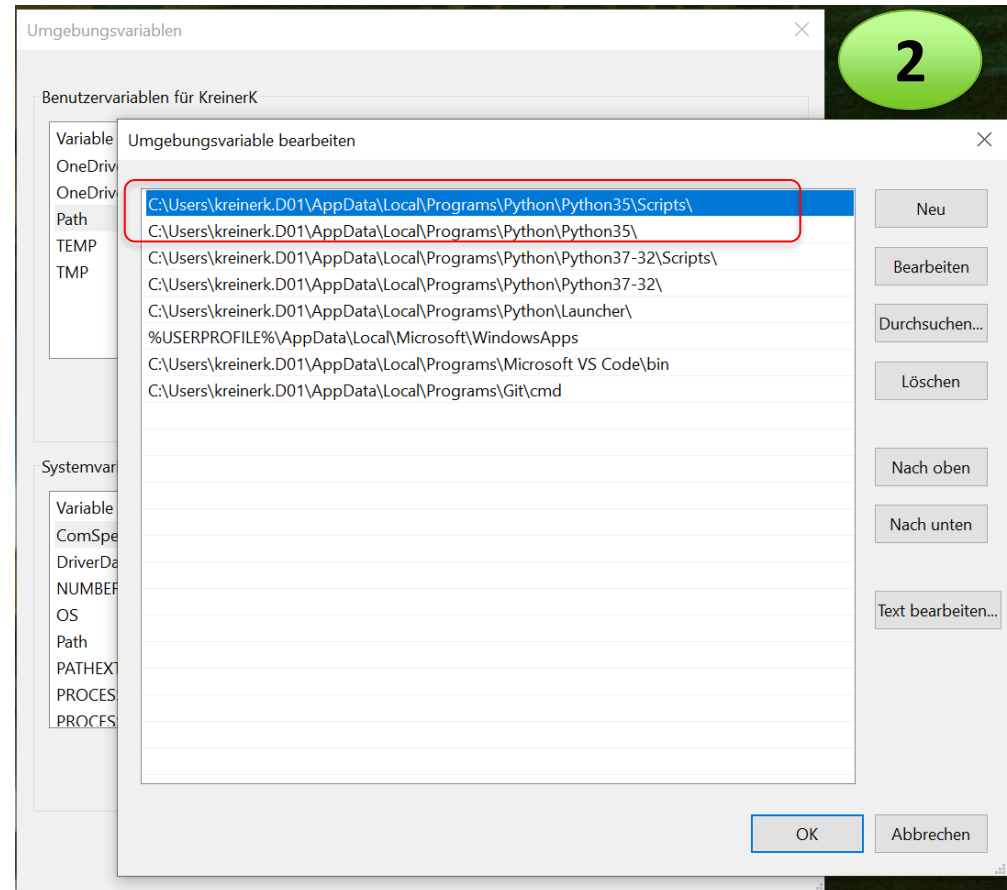
1. Python is available on Windows®, Linux-based systems and Apple Macs (and more platforms)
2. Python is pre-installed on (most) Apple Mac and Linux-based systems
3. <https://www.python.org/downloads/> (Python can be installed without administrative permissions on the machine)
  1. Windows: comes with Installer doing the heavy lifting
  2. single vs. multi-user mode
4. <https://www.wikihow.com/Install-Python-on-Windows> - good walkthrough for Windows



# Make the interpreter available on Windows consoles



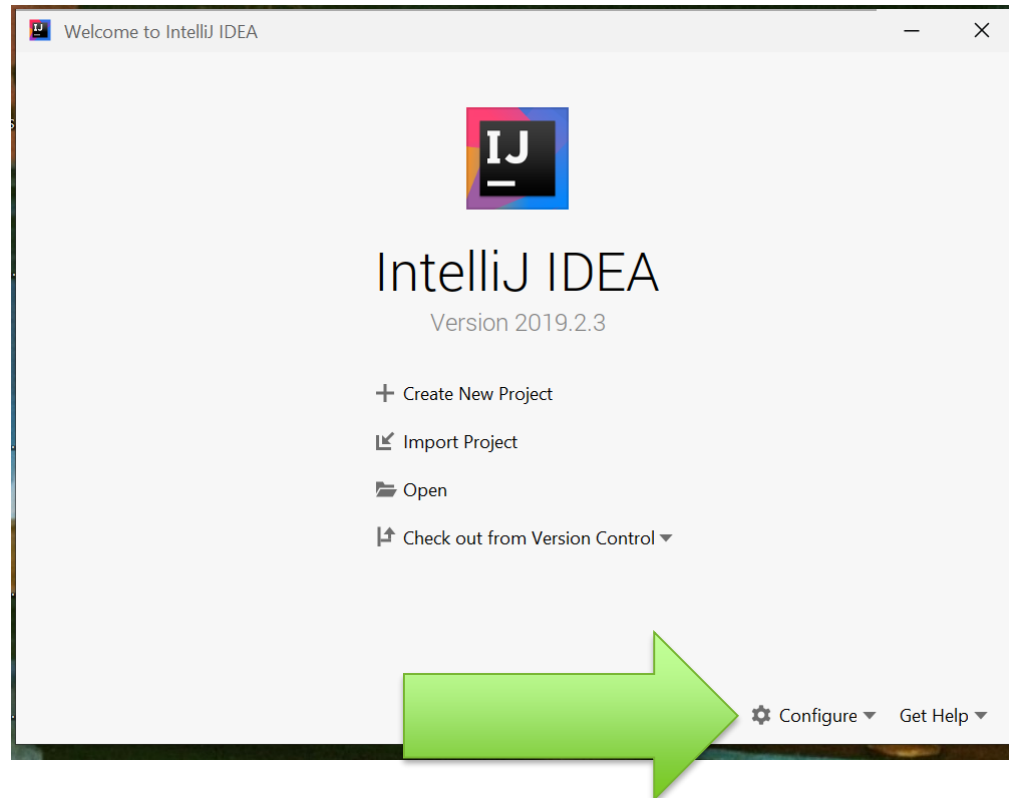
**The Python installer does this for you on Windows (be sure to check the flag at the beginning of the installation)**



# What Integrated Development Environment (IDE)?

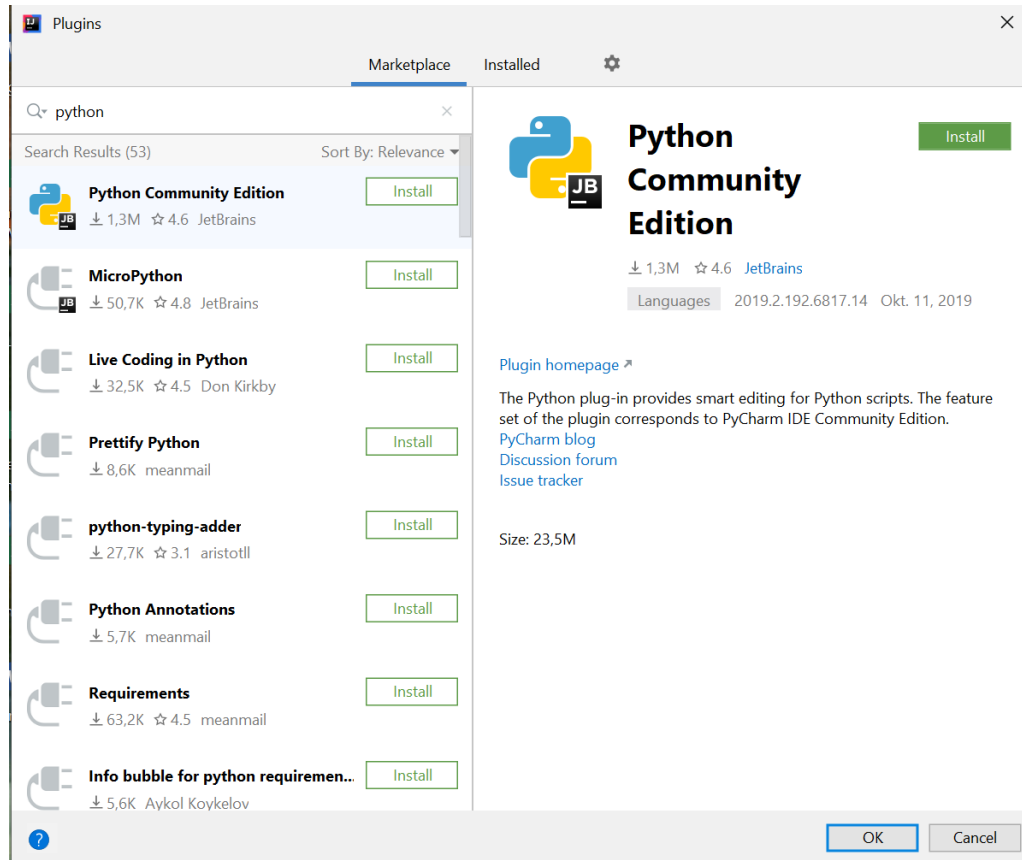
1. For purists: Notepad++, ATOM (<https://atom.io/>), ...
2. IntelliJ IDEA (PyCharm Plugin)
3. For those who are interested: Microsoft Visual Studio Code (<https://code.visualstudio.com/>)

# IntelliJ IDEA – Adding Python support (1/2)





# IntelliJ IDEA – Adding Python support (2/2)



## Open example code for this exercise

1. Download “exercise1.zip” to your computer (via Moodle) and unpack to folder of your choice
2. In IntelliJ IDEA
  1. File → Open
  2. Select folder where you unpacked exercise1.zip
  3. File → Project structure → Modules
  4. Dependencies → Module SDK should point to Python 3.7

Your IDE should now be „Python-aware“, giving you syntax high lightening, pointing out missing modules and giving advice on code style.

## Let's get started ...

Install Python on your machine (or check that your installation is working) and configure IntelliJ to support Python

# Basics

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/introduction.html#using-python-as-a-calculator>

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# Anatomy of a simple python file

helloworld.py

```
1  if __name__ == '__main__':  
2      print("Hello word")  
3  
4
```


```
C:\work\FH>python helloworld.py  
Hello word
```

*Python can also be run interactively by just starting the interpreter*

# Syntax

- Python does not use brackets but **indentation** instead

```
1  if __name__ == '__main__':  
2      print("Hello word")  
3  
4
```



4 spaces!

# A typical project layout

- main.py
  - *helpers*
    - `__init__.py`
    - geo.py
    - database.py
    - admin.py
    - tests.py
  - *ui*
    - `__init__.py`
    - tests.py
    - widgets.py

Package

1. package and module names are always lower-case
2. Each package directory must contain a module called `__init__.py` (empty) → otherwise it is not recognized by Python as Python package !

Module

# Data types

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/introduction.html#using-python-as-a-calculator>

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# Basic data types (Selection)

| Data type                | Usage   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>bool</b>              | <code>is_active = True</code> # use True or False - case sensitive! |
| <b>int</b>               | <code>score = 21</code>   |
| <b>float</b>             | <code>score = 21.442</code>   |
| <b>str</b>               | <code>name = "John Doe"</code>                                      |
| <b>list</b>              | <code>names = ["John", "Frank", "Mary", "Sue"]</code>               |
| <b>tuple</b>             | <code>temperature_data = ("Graz", 21)</code>                        |
| <b>dict (Dictionary)</b> | <code>{"Graz": 21.3 , "Vienna" : 22.4 }</code>                      |
| <b>None</b>              | <code>name = None</code> # counterpart to null in Java              |

Python is **duck-typed**. The type of a variable is determined at runtime, when the variable is used the very first time.

See also <https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/introduction.html#using-python-as-a-calculator>

# Working with strings

No type needs to be declared !

```
>>> word = 'Python'
>>> word[0]  # character in position 0
'P'
>>> word[5]  # character in position 5
'n'
```

```
>>> word[-1]  # last character
'n'
>>> word[-2]  # second-last character
'o'
>>> word[-6]
'P'
```

**In Python, this syntax is called  
„slicing“**

```
>>> word[0:2]  # characters from position 0 (included) to 2 (excluded)
'Py'
>>> word[2:5]  # characters from position 2 (included) to 5 (excluded)
'tho'
```

# Strings: built-in methods

```
C:\work\FH>python
Python 3.7.4 (tags/v3.7.4:e09359112e, Jul 8 2019, 19:29:22) [MSC v.1916 32 bit (Intel)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> name = "Python"
>>> name.isnumeric()
False
>>> name.islower()
False
>>> name.startswith("Pyth")
True
>>> name.endswith("thon")
True
>>>
```

<https://docs.python.org/3.7/library/stdtypes.html#string-methods>  
has a list of built-in string methods

# Working with lists

```
>>> squares = [1, 4, 9, 16, 25]
>>> squares
[1, 4, 9, 16, 25]
```

```
>>> squares[0] # indexing returns the item
1
>>> squares[-1]
25
>>> squares[-3:] # slicing returns a new list
[9, 16, 25]
```

```
>>> squares + [36, 49, 64, 81, 100]
[1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100]
```

```
>>> cubes = [1, 8, 27, 65, 125] # something's wrong here
>>> 4 ** 3 # the cube of 4 is 64, not 65!
64
>>> cubes[3] = 64 # replace the wrong value
>>> cubes
[1, 8, 27, 64, 125]
```

**Lists are mutable, strings are not !**

**Lists can have any Python data type, not only integer values (also lists of lists)**

# Tuples

Tuples are similar to lists, however they are immutable and are often used to represent a mix of different data types:

```
Python 3.7.4 (tags/v3.7.4:e09359112e, Jul 8 2019, 19:29:22) [MSC v.1916 32 bit (Intel)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> weather = ( 'Graz' , 22.4 )
>>> weather
('Graz', 22.4)
>>> weather[0]
'Graz'
>>> weather[1]
22.4
>>> weather[0:]
('Graz', 22.4)
>>> weather = ( 'Graz' , 'Styria' , 22.4 )
>>> weather[0]
'Graz'
>>> weather[1]
'Styria'
>>> weather[2]
22.4
>>> weather[1:]
('Styria', 22.4)
>>> weather[1]
'Styria'
>>> weather[1]="Vienna"
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```



**Immutable!**

# Working with dictionaries

```
>>> tel = {'jack': 4098, 'sape': 4139}
>>> tel['guido'] = 4127
>>> tel
{'jack': 4098, 'sape': 4139, 'guido': 4127}
>>> tel['jack']
4098
>>> del tel['sape']
>>> tel['irv'] = 4127
>>> tel
{'jack': 4098, 'guido': 4127, 'irv': 4127}
>>> list(tel)
['jack', 'guido', 'irv']
>>> sorted(tel)
['guido', 'irv', 'jack']
>>> 'guido' in tel
True
>>> 'jack' not in tel
False
```

**Values in dictionaries can be any Python data type**

# Control structures

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/controlflow.html>

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# If ... then ... else

```
x = int(input("Please enter an integer: "))
```

```
if x < 0:
    x = 0
    print('Negative changed to zero')
elif x == 0:
    print('Zero')
elif x == 1:
    print('Single')
else:
    print('More')
```

*Note: you can use the keywords int, float, bool, list, ... to cast variables from one type to another*

**Remember: no brackets (use 4 spaces instead)**



# For loops

```
# Measure some strings:
words = ['cat', 'window', 'defenestrate']
for w in words:
    print(w, len(w))
```

or ...

```
a = ['Mary', 'had', 'a', 'little', 'lamb']
for i in range(len(a)):
    print(i, a[i])
```

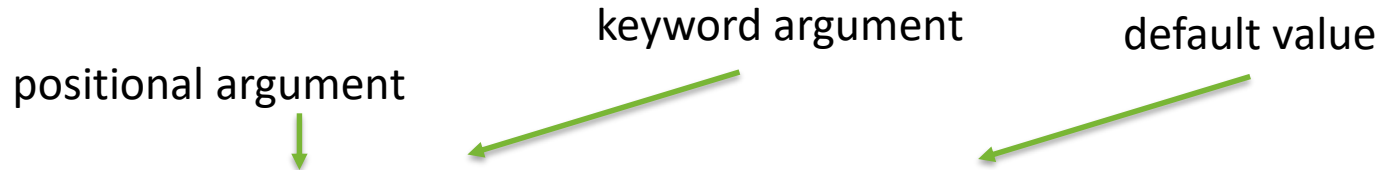
**Remember: no brackets (use 4 spaces instead)**

# Looping over complex data types

```
Python 3.7.4 (tags/v3.7.4:e09359112e, Jul 8 2019, 19:29:22) [MSC v.1916 32 bit (Intel)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> weather_data = [ ("Graz",23.4) , ("Vienna",22.8) ]
>>> for city , temperature in weather_data:print(city,temperature)
...
Graz 23.4
Vienna 22.8
>>> weather_data = { "Graz" : 23.4 , "Vienna" : 22.8 }
>>> for city , temperature in weather_data.items():print(city,temperature)
...
Graz 23.4
Vienna 22.8
>>>
```

# Functions without return values

positional argument      keyword argument      default value



```
def ask_ok(prompt, retries=4, reminder='Please try again!'):
    while True:
        ok = input(prompt)
        if ok in ('y', 'ye', 'yes'):
            return True
        if ok in ('n', 'no', 'nop', 'nope'):
            return False
        retries = retries - 1
        if retries < 0:
            raise ValueError('invalid user response')
        print(reminder)
```

```
ask_ok("Are you sure you want to delete this file?" )
ask_ok("Are you sure you want to delete this file?", retries=2)
ask_ok("Are you sure you want to delete this file?", reminder="Try aga
in.")
```

The default return value in Python is **None** (even if not explicitly given)

# Functions with return values

```
def add(x,y):  
    return x+y  
  
def double_value(x,y):  
    return x*2 , y*2  
  
def x_greater_y(x,y):  
    if x>y:  
        return True  
  
# result will be 3  
result = add(1,2)  
# x_double = 6 and y_double = 8  
x_doubled, y_doubled = double_value(3,4)  
# will give you None:  
x_greater_y(4,21)
```

This functions returns a  
*tuple* !

Remember:  
The default return value  
in Python is **None** (even if  
not explicitly given)

# Handling errors

```
while True:
    try:
        x = int(input("Please enter a number: "))
        break
    except ValueError:
        print("Oops! That was no valid number. Try again...")
```

Python does not know the concept of „declaring exceptions“, a function might raise. If a function might raise an exception, it should be documented, e.g.

`math.factorial(x)`

Return x factorial as an integer. Raises `ValueError` if x is not integral or is negative.

[https://www.tutorialspoint.com/python3/python\\_exceptions.htm](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/python3/python_exceptions.htm)

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/errors.html>

# Raising errors

```
while True:
    try:
        x = int(input("Please enter a number: "))
        break
    except ValueError:
        print("Oops! That was no valid number. Try again...")
```

Try to use **built-in exceptions** where appropriate. However, you can define your exceptions as well:

```
class DataNotFoundError(Exception):pass
```

[https://www.tutorialspoint.com/python3/python\\_exceptions.htm](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/python3/python_exceptions.htm)

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/errors.html>

# Using the Python standard library

- <https://docs.python.org/3/library/index.html>
- „Helper libraries“ that are shipped with Python, e.g. helper library for mathematical functions

```
>>> import math
>>> math.sqrt(144)
12.0
>>> from math import sqrt
>>> sqrt(144)
12.0
>>> from math import sqrt, floor
>>> floor(144.2)
144
>>> from math import sqrt as square_root
>>> square_root(144)
12.0
>>>
```

Import whole library

Import function

Import more functions

Import function using a different name (aliasing)

## The exercise ...

- exercise1.zip contains two files: main.py and exercises.py
- python main.py will make 19 calls to functions defined in exercises.py
- You need to implement the functions in exercises.py (Hint: do it in the order as they are defined)
- python main.py will evaluate if your implementation is correct (with respect to the output) – each correct implementation scores 1 point (out of 19 possible)
- Start in exercise and finish at home as part of homework



## Sources (Images)

Code examples on slides 18, 20, 22, 24 , 25, 27, 29, 30 taken from the Python tutorial found at

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/index.html>

*Thank you*