

# **AST 3722**

## **Intro To Python**

# Python programming language

- Commonly used in astronomy
- Use is growing
- Key for research
- Useful for other career tracks too

# Basic usage

- Linux: type `python` or `ipython` from the command line
- Mac: Same
- Windows: Start the anaconda python app

# Basic usage: Jupyter

- Jupyter is a browser-based python interface
- Linux: type `jupyter` or `jupyter lab` from the command line
- Mac: Same
- Windows: Start the anaconda jupyter app (from the start menu)

**ipython**

**In [1]:**

**python**

**>>>**

**notebook (jupyter)**

In [ ]:

# Doing things in python

- You can use *libraries* of tools developed by other people by importing them:

```
>>> import astropy
```

- Math operations:

```
>>> 3 * 4
```

```
12
```

```
>>> 3 ** 4
```

```
81
```

- Plotting:

```
>>> import pylab as pl
```

```
>>> pl.plot([0, 1, 2, 3], [0, 1, 4, 9])
```

# Doing things in python

- Array operations:

```
>>> import numpy as np
```

```
>>> arr = np.array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])
```

```
>>> arr_squared = arr ** 2
```

- Plotting with arrays:

```
>>> import pylab as pl
```

```
>>> pl.plot(arr, arr_squared)
```

# Installation

- On any OS, download the anaconda python distribution:  
<https://www.anaconda.com/distribution/>  
(choose the 64-bit, python3.7 version if you are given an option)
- Install it, then open either a python terminal or a notebook
- Run this command:  
`%pip install astroquery https://github.com/astropy/astroplan/archive/master.zip`



```
[1]: %matplotlib inline
```

```
[2]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
[3]: print(5+4+3+2)
```

```
14
```

```
[4]: import numpy as np
```

```
[5]: np.array([1,2,3,4])
```

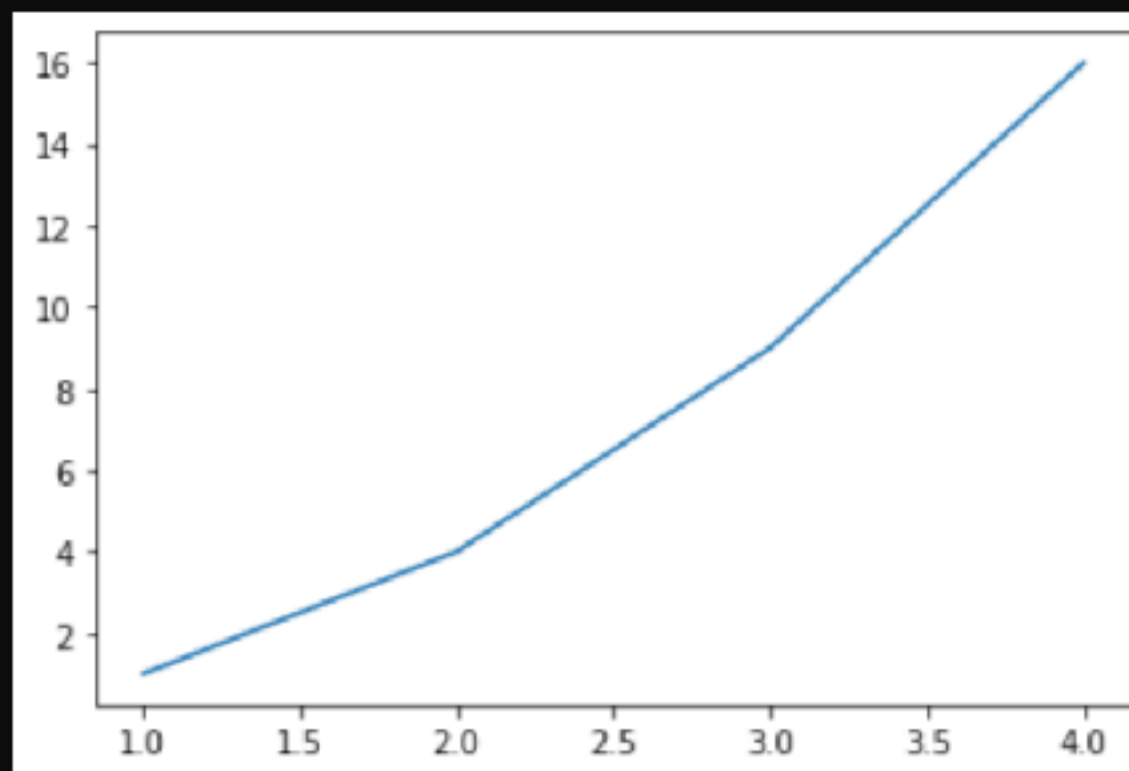
```
[5]: array([1, 2, 3, 4])
```

```
[6]: x = np.array([1,2,3,4])  
print(x**5)
```

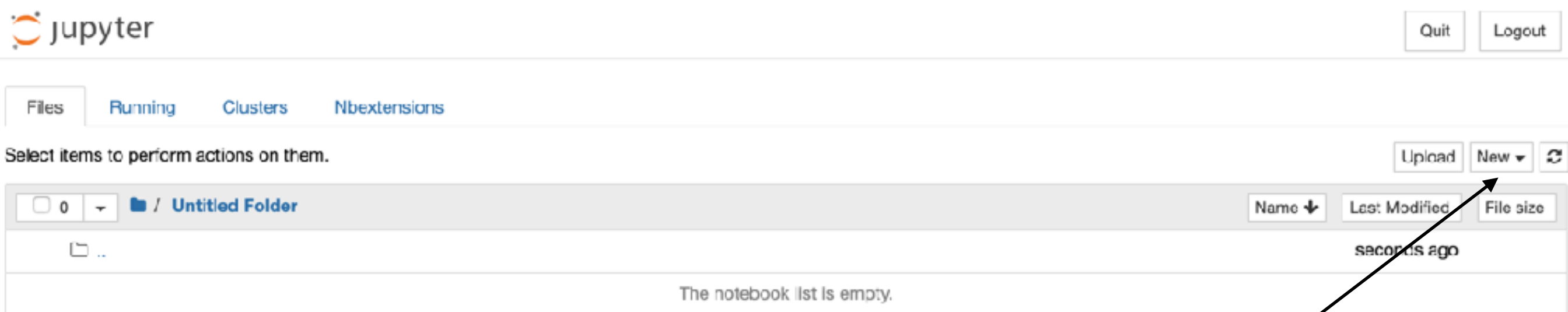
```
[  1  32 243 1024]
```

```
[7]: plt.plot(x, x**2)
```

```
[7]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x120085610>]
```



**When you start a notebook server with jupyter notebook, you may see this:**



**Click “New” to create a new notebook**

# Homework 1:

# Install & Test python

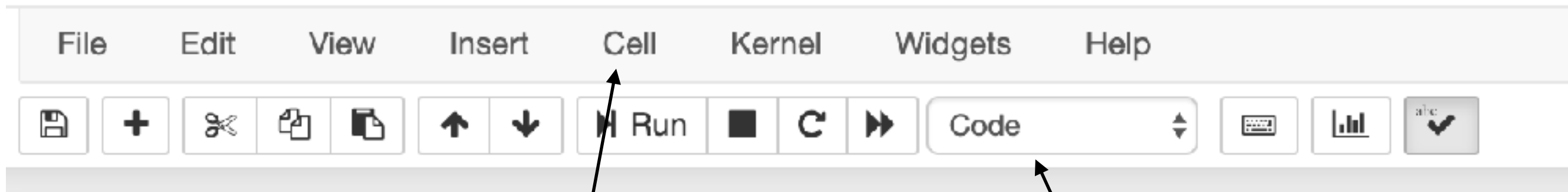
Due by next class. Should take <30 minutes.

Reminder:

Sarik's office hours are 1600-1700 Monday

My office hours are 1700-1800 T/Th

**Step six in the homework asks you to make a “markdown” cell.**



**The dropdown menu it's referring to is this one**

**You can also access the cell type from the “Cell” menu**

# Learn more?

- Online tutorials:  
[http://introtopython.org/var\\_string\\_num.html](http://introtopython.org/var_string_num.html)