



## **Python Basics**

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## I. Environment set-up: Anaconda

We use Python as the main programming language throughout this course. Hence, we make sure that we have a Python development environment ready on your computer. In this section, we demonstrate how to install Anaconda which contains both the development environment and all necessary Python packages.

### 1. Anaconda Distribution by Continuum Analytics

Go to the website: <https://www.anaconda.com/download/>

Download the installer (Python 3.6 version) for your OS

Run the installer

### 2. Using Anaconda

Run this command to install a new package into Anaconda:

```
conda install <package>
```

### 3. Run Jupyter

The Jupyter Notebook App can be launched by clicking on the Jupyter Notebook icon in the start menu (Windows) or by running in the terminal (cmd on Windows): *jupyter notebook*.

This will launch a new browser window (or a new tab) showing the Notebook Dashboard, a sort of control panel that allows (among other things) to select which notebook to open.

When started, the Jupyter Notebook App can access only files within its start-up folder (including any sub-folder). If you store the notebook documents in a subfolder of your user folder no configuration is necessary. So make sure you go to the folder you want (*using cd <folder>* in terminal) before starting Jupyter (*jupyter notebook*).

For more configurations, see:

<http://jupyter-notebook-beginner-guide.readthedocs.io/en/latest/execute.html>

### 4. Create a Jupyter notebook

In the Notebook Dashboard, select New → Notebooks → Python 3.

Click on the new notebook file. It will open the Jupyter Notebook App.

In the notebook cell, type:

```
print("Hello World")
```

Run cell, press: CTRL+ENTER

Run cell and insert next, press: ALT+ENTER

Run cell and select next, press: SHIFT+ENTER

Remember to save your notebook when done (although it will automatically do the save for you every 3 mins): CTRL+S

## 5. Export Jupyter notebook and run it as a Python script

There are two ways to run the Python code in Jupyter notebook as a program:

Select File → Download as → Python(.py)

On the command line, type:

```
jupyter nbconvert --to script <NOTEBOOK_NAME>.ipynb
```

Run the script:

```
python <NOTEBOOK_NAME>.py
```

## II. Create a Github account

### 1. Install Github Desktop and create a GitHub account

Download and follow the instructions: (1) for installing Github Desktop (if it's not already installed). Once you've done the first step, create a GitHub account in step (2). Accounts are free for public repositories.

Note:

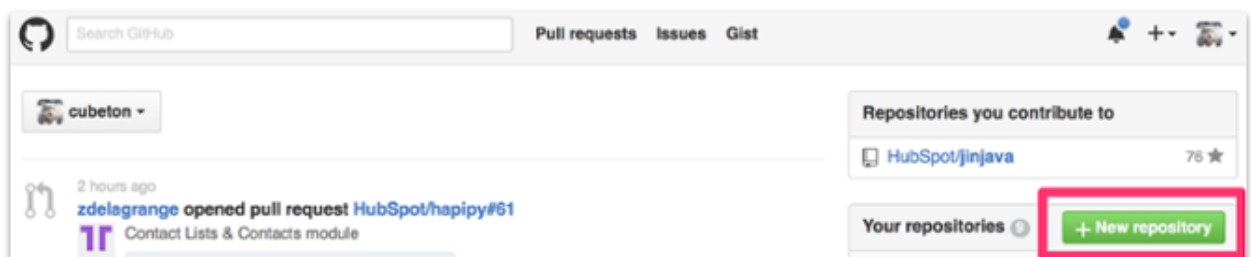
<https://desktop.github.com/>

<https://github.com/join>

### 2. Create a new repository on GitHub

A repository is where your project will be hosted on Github, so you can keep a history of changes (versions) of your project, and can share your code with everyone, and allow team work on the same project. Think of a repository as if it was a folder on your Dropbox with your project, but with more functionalities for version control and team work.

To create a new repo on GitHub, log in and go to the GitHub home page. You should see a green '+ New repository' button:



After clicking the button, GitHub will ask you to name your repo and provide a brief description:

The screenshot shows the GitHub 'Create a new repository' web form. At the top, the 'Owner' is 'cubeton' and the 'Repository name' is 'mynewrepository', which has a green checkmark. Below this, a message says 'Great repository names are short and memorable. Need inspiration? How about [squealing-squeegee](#).' The 'Description (optional)' field contains 'This is my new repository'. There are two radio buttons for visibility: 'Public' (selected) and 'Private'. Below these is a checkbox for 'Initialize this repository with a README'. At the bottom, there are dropdowns for 'Add .gitignore: None' and 'Add a license: None', and a green 'Create repository' button.

When you're done filling out the information, press the 'Create repository' button to make your new repo.

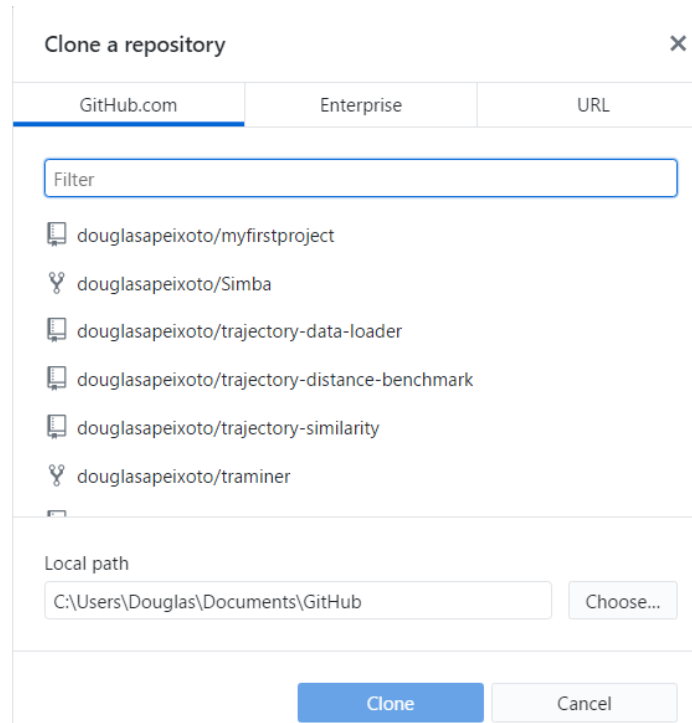
Note: you can also create a Repository using **Github Desktop** directly.

The screenshot shows the GitHub Desktop 'Create a new repository' dialog box. It has a title bar 'Create a new repository' with a close button. The form includes fields for 'Name' (containing 'repository name'), 'Description', and 'Local path' (containing 'C:\Users\Douglas\Documents\GitHub' with a 'Choose...' button). There is a checkbox for 'Initialize this repository with a README'. Below are dropdown menus for 'Git ignore' (set to 'None') and 'License' (set to 'None'). At the bottom are two buttons: 'Create repository' and 'Cancel'.

### 3. Cloning Your Repository

Now you can **Clone** your Github repository to your local machine, this will link your Github repository with your local repository, so that every change you make you project can be pushed to your online repo.

Just choose a directory in your local machine where you want to put your project files, and use the option **Clone a repository** on Github Desktop to link and synchronize your Github repo with your local repo.



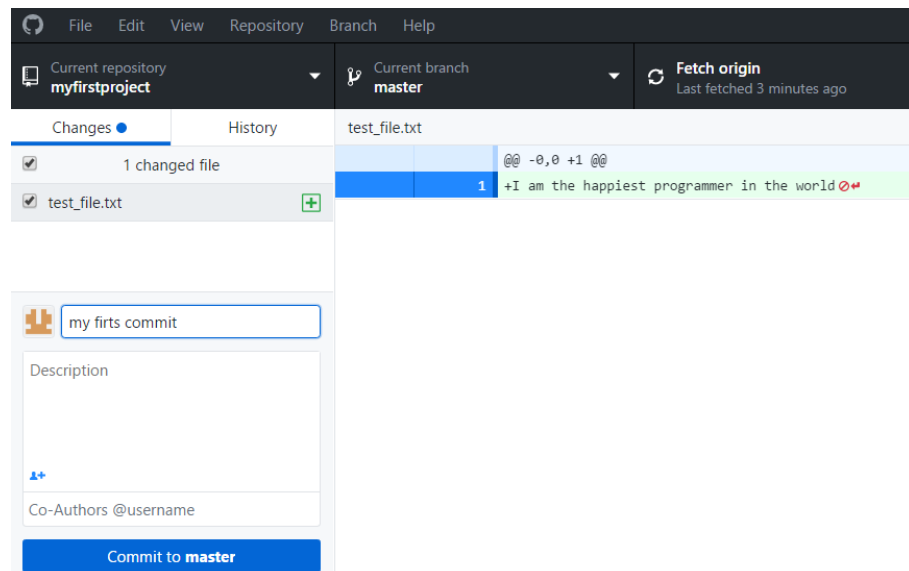
#### 4. Add a new file to your repo

Go ahead and add a new file to the project, using any text editor you like or running a touch command.

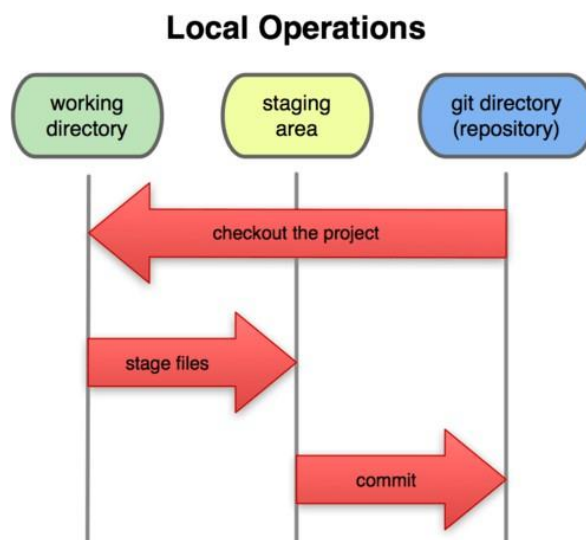
Once you've added or modified files in a folder containing a Git repo, git will notice that changes have been made inside the repo. But, git won't officially keep track of the file (that is, put it in a commit - we'll talk more about commits next) unless you explicitly tell it to.

```
touch test_file.txt
```

After creating the new file, you can check on GitHub Destop that your new file has been identified.



## 5. The staging environment, the commit, and you



One of the most confusing parts when you're first learning git is the concept of the staging environment and how it relates to a commit.

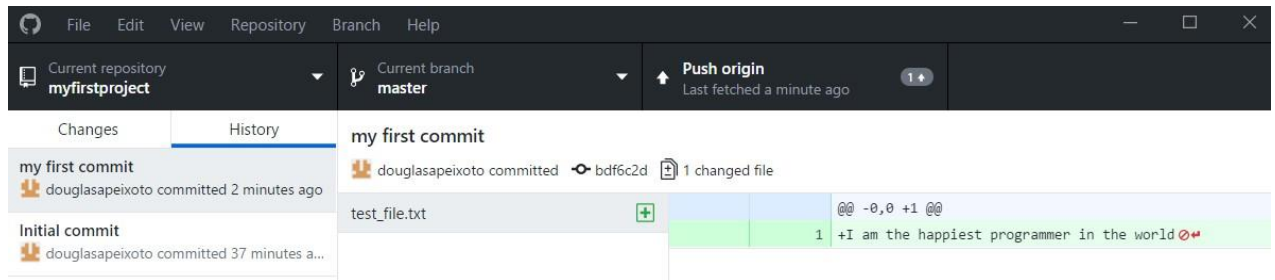
A commit is a record of what files you have changed since the last time you made a commit. Essentially, you make changes to your repo (for example, adding a file or modifying one) and then tell git to put those files into a commit.

Commits make up the essence of your project and allow you to go back to the state of a project at any point.

So, how do you tell git which files to put into a commit? This is where the **staging environment** or **index** come in. As seen in Step 3, when you make changes to your repo, like adding a file, git notices that a file has changed but won't do anything with it (like adding it in a commit). To add a file to a commit using GitHub Desktop, just add a Summary message to your commit and click in **Commit to Master**.



Now you can see you committed files in your repo's history

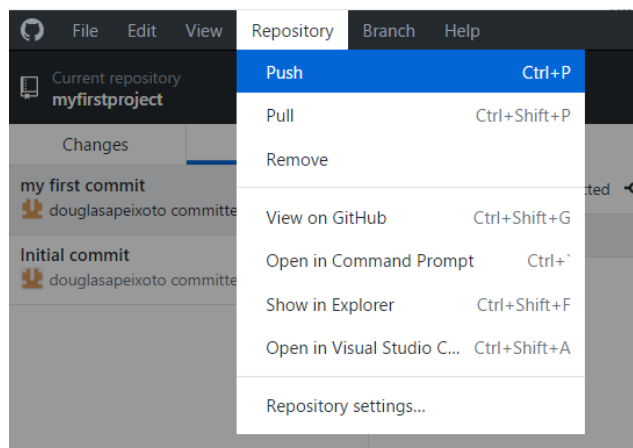


Note: The staging environment, also called 'staging', is the new preferred term for this, but you can also see it referred to as the 'index'.

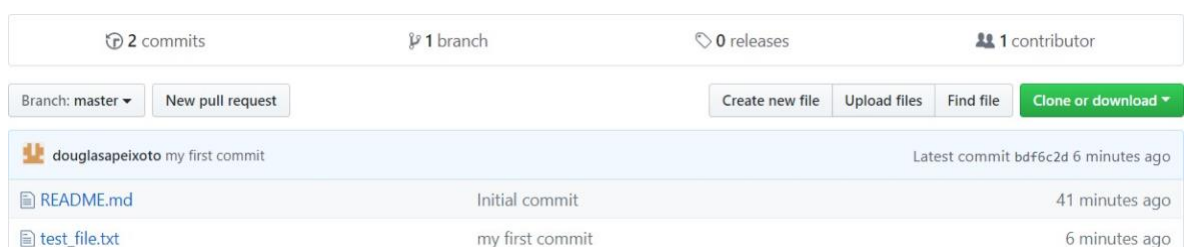
The message at the end of the commit should be something related to what the commit contains - maybe it's a new feature, maybe it's a bug fix, maybe it's just fixing a typo. Don't put a message like "asdfadsf" or "foobar". That makes the other people who see your commit sad. Very, very, sad.

## 6. Push a branch to GitHub

Now we'll **push** the commit in your branch to your new GitHub repo. This allows other people to see the changes you've made, this will update all changes you made into your Github repository. To push changes onto a new branch on GitHub Desktop, just go to **Repository -> Push**.



And that's all folks, now you can see your changes on your Github repository.



### III. Python basics

Please note, this is not meant to be a comprehensive overview of Python or programming in general, if you have no programming experience, you should probably take other courses.

This notebook will just go through the basic topics in order:

- ✓ Data types
  - Numbers
  - Strings
  - Printing
  - Lists
  - Dictionaries
  - Booleans
  - Tuples
  - Sets
- ✓ Comparison Operators
- ✓ if,elif, else Statements
- ✓ for Loops
- ✓ while Loops
- ✓ range()
- ✓ list comprehension
- ✓ functions
- ✓ lambda expressions
- ✓ map and filter
- ✓ methods

## 1. Data types

### a. Numbers

```
In [6]: 1 + 1
Out[6]: 2

In [7]: 1 * 3
Out[7]: 3

In [8]: 1 / 2
Out[8]: 0.5

In [9]: 2 ** 4
Out[9]: 16

In [10]: 4 % 2
Out[10]: 0

In [11]: 5 % 2
Out[11]: 1

In [12]: (2 + 3) * (5 + 5)
Out[12]: 50
```

### b. Variable assignment

```
In [13]: # Can not start with number or special characters
name_of_var = 2

In [14]: x = 2
         y = 3

In [15]: z = x + y

In [16]: z
Out[16]: 5
```

### c. Strings

```
In [17]: 'single quotes'
Out[17]: 'single quotes'

In [18]: "double quotes"
Out[18]: 'double quotes'

In [19]: " wrap lot's of other quotes"
Out[19]: " wrap lot's of other quotes"
```

#### d. Printing

```
In [20]: x = 'hello'

In [21]: x
Out[21]: 'hello'

In [22]: print(x)
hello

In [23]: num = 12
         name = 'Sam'

In [24]: print('My number is: {one}, and my name is: {two}'.format(one=
My number is: 12, and my name is: Sam

In [25]: print('My number is: {}, and my name is: {}'.format(num,name))
My number is: 12, and my name is: Sam
```

#### e. Lists

```
In [26]: [1,2,3]
Out[26]: [1, 2, 3]

In [27]: ['hi',1,[1,2]]
Out[27]: ['hi', 1, [1, 2]]

In [28]: my_list = ['a','b','c']

In [29]: my_list.append('d')

In [30]: my_list
Out[30]: ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']

In [31]: my_list[0]
Out[31]: 'a'

In [32]: my_list[1]
Out[32]: 'b'

In [33]: my_list[1:]
```

```

Out[33]: ['b', 'c', 'd']

In [34]: my_list[:1]
Out[34]: ['a']

In [35]: my_list[0] = 'NEW'

In [98]: my_list
Out[98]: ['NEW', 'b', 'c', 'd']

In [99]: nest = [1,2,3,[4,5,['target']]]

In [100]: nest[3]
Out[100]: [4, 5, ['target']]

In [101]: nest[3][2]
Out[101]: ['target']

In [102]: nest[3][2][0]
Out[102]: 'target'

```

#### f. Dictionaries

```

In [37]: d = {'key1': 'item1', 'key2': 'item2'}

In [38]: d
Out[38]: {'key1': 'item1', 'key2': 'item2'}

In [39]: d['key1']
Out[39]: 'item1'

```

#### g. Booleans

```

In [40]: True
Out[40]: True

In [41]: False
Out[41]: False

```

#### h. Tuples

```
In [42]: t = (1,2,3)

In [43]: t[0]
Out[43]: 1

In [44]: t[0] = 'NEW'

-----
-----
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-44-97e4e33b36c2> in <module>()
----> 1 t[0] = 'NEW'

TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```

#### i. Sets

```
In [45]: {1,2,3}
Out[45]: {1, 2, 3}

In [46]: {1,2,3,1,2,1,2,3,3,3,3,2,2,2,1,1,2}
Out[46]: {1, 2, 3}
```

#### j. Comparison Operators

```
In [47]: 1 > 2
Out[47]: False

In [48]: 1 < 2
Out[48]: True

In [49]: 1 >= 1
Out[49]: True

In [50]: 1 <= 4
Out[50]: True

In [51]: 1 == 1
Out[51]: True

In [52]: 'hi' == 'bye'
Out[52]: False
```

## k. Logic Operators

```
In [53]: (1 > 2) and (2 < 3)
```

```
Out[53]: False
```

```
In [54]: (1 > 2) or (2 < 3)
```

```
Out[54]: True
```

```
In [55]: (1 == 2) or (2 == 3) or (4 == 4)
```

```
Out[55]: True
```

## l. If, elif, else Statement

```
In [56]: if 1 < 2:  
         print('Yep!')
```

```
Yep!
```

```
In [57]: if 1 < 2:  
         print('yep!')
```

```
yep!
```

```
In [58]: if 1 < 2:  
         print('first')  
         else:  
         print('last')
```

```
first
```

```
In [59]: if 1 > 2:  
         print('first')  
         else:  
         print('last')
```

```
last
```

```
In [60]: if 1 == 2:  
         print('first')  
         elif 3 == 3:  
         print('middle')  
         else:  
         print('Last')
```

```
middle
```

### m. For Loops

```
In [61]: seq = [1,2,3,4,5]
```

```
In [62]: for item in seq:  
         print(item)
```

```
1  
2  
3  
4  
5
```

```
In [63]: for item in seq:  
         print('Yep')
```

```
Yep  
Yep  
Yep  
Yep  
Yep
```

```
In [64]: for jelly in seq:  
         print(jelly*jelly)
```

```
2  
4  
6  
8  
10
```

### n. While Loops

```
In [65]: i = 1  
         while i < 5:  
             print('i is: {}'.format(i))  
             i = i+1
```

```
i is: 1  
i is: 2  
i is: 3  
i is: 4
```

### o. Range

```
In [66]: range(5)
```

```
Out[66]: range(0, 5)
```

```
In [67]: for i in range(5):  
         print(i)
```

```
0  
1  
2  
3  
4
```

```
In [68]: list(range(5))
```

```
Out[68]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

### p. List Comprehension

```
In [69]: x = [1,2,3,4]
```

```
In [70]: out = []  
         for item in x:  
             out.append(item**2)  
         print(out)
```

```
[1, 4, 9, 16]
```

```
In [71]: [item**2 for item in x]
```

```
Out[71]: [1, 4, 9, 16]
```



## q. Functions

```
In [72]: def my_func(param1='default'):  
        """  
        Docstring goes here.  
        """  
        print(param1)
```

```
In [73]: my_func
```

```
Out[73]: <function __main__.my_func>
```

```
In [74]: my_func()  
default
```

```
In [75]: my_func('new param')  
new param
```

```
In [76]: my_func(param1='new param')  
new param
```

```
In [77]: def square(x):  
        return x**2
```

```
In [78]: out = square(2)
```

```
In [79]: print(out)
```

```
4
```

## r. Lambda expression

```
In [80]: def times2(var):  
        return var*2
```

```
In [81]: times2(2)
```

```
Out[81]: 4
```

```
In [82]: lambda var: var*2
```

```
Out[82]: <function __main__.<lambda>>
```

## s. Map and filter

```
In [83]: seq = [1,2,3,4,5]
```

```
In [84]: map(times2,seq)
```

```
Out[84]: <map at 0x105316748>
```

```
In [85]: list(map(times2,seq))
```

```
Out[85]: [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

```
In [86]: list(map(lambda var: var*2,seq))
```

```
Out[86]: [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

```
In [87]: filter(lambda item: item%2 == 0,seq)
```

```
Out[87]: <filter at 0x105316ac8>
```

```
In [88]: list(filter(lambda item: item%2 == 0,seq))
```

```
Out[88]: [2, 4]
```

## t. Methods

```
In [111]: st = 'hello my name is Sam'

In [112]: st.lower()
Out[112]: 'hello my name is sam'

In [113]: st.upper()
Out[113]: 'HELLO MY NAME IS SAM'

In [103]: st.split()
Out[103]: ['hello', 'my', 'name', 'is', 'Sam']

In [104]: tweet = 'Go Sports! #Sports'

In [106]: tweet.split('#')
Out[106]: ['Go Sports! ', 'Sports']

In [107]: tweet.split('#')[1]
Out[107]: 'Sports'

In [92]: d
Out[92]: {'key1': 'item1', 'key2': 'item2'}

In [93]: d.keys()
Out[93]: dict_keys(['key2', 'key1'])

In [94]: d.items()
Out[94]: dict_items([('key2', 'item2'), ('key1', 'item1')])

In [95]: lst = [1,2,3]

In [96]: lst.pop()
Out[96]: 3

In [108]: lst
Out[108]: [1, 2]

In [109]: 'x' in [1,2,3]
Out[109]: False

In [110]: 'x' in ['x','y','z']
Out[110]: True
```

## IV. Python basics – Exercises

Answer the questions or complete the tasks outlined in bold below, use the specific method described if applicable.

**What is 7 to the power of 4?**

```
In [1]:
```

```
Out[1]: 2401
```

**Split this string:**

```
s = "Hi there Sam!"
```

**into a list.**

```
In [4]:
```

```
In [3]:
```

```
Out[3]: ['Hi', 'there', 'dad!']
```

**Given the variables:**

```
planet = "Earth"  
diameter = 12742
```

**Use .format() to print the following string:**

```
The diameter of Earth is 12742 kilometers.
```

```
In [5]: planet = "Earth"  
        diameter = 12742
```

```
In [6]:
```

```
The diameter of Earth is 12742 kilometers.
```

**Given this nested list, use indexing to grab the word "hello"**

```
In [7]: lst = [1,2,[3,4],[5,[100,200,['hello']],23,11],1,7]
```

```
In [14]:
```

```
Out[14]: 'hello'
```

**Given this nested dictionary grab the word "hello". Be prepared, this will be annoying/tricky**

```
In [16]: d = {'k1':[1,2,3,{ 'tricky':['oh','man','inception',{'target':[1,2,3,'hello']}
```

```
In [22]:
```

```
Out[22]: 'hello'
```

What is the main difference between a tuple and a list?

```
In [23]: # Tuple is immutable
```

Create a function that grabs the email website domain from a string in the form:

```
user@domain.com
```

So for example, passing "user@domain.com" would return: domain.com

```
In [24]:
```

```
In [26]: domainGet('user@domain.com')
```

```
Out[26]: 'domain.com'
```

Create a basic function that returns True if the word 'dog' is contained in the input string. Don't worry about edge cases like a punctuation being attached to the word dog, but do account for capitalization.

```
In [27]:
```

```
In [28]: findDog('Is there a dog here?')
```

```
Out[28]: True
```

Create a function that counts the number of times the word "dog" occurs in a string. Again ignore edge cases.

```
In [30]:
```

```
In [31]: countDog('This dog runs faster than the other dog dude!')
```

```
Out[31]:
```

Use lambda expressions and the filter function to filter out words from a list that don't start with the letter 's'. For example:

```
seq= ['soup', 'dog', 'salad', 'cat', 'great']
```

should be filtered down to:

```
['soup', 'salad']
```

```
In [34]: seq = ['soup', 'dog', 'salad', 'cat', 'great']
```

```
In [35]:
```

```
Out[35]: ['soup', 'salad']
```

### Final Problem

You are driving a little too fast, and a police officer stops you. Write a function to return one of 3 possible results: "No ticket", "Small ticket", or "Big Ticket". If your speed is 60 or less, the result is "No Ticket". If speed is between 61 and 80 inclusive, the result is "Small Ticket". If speed is 81 or more, the result is "Big Ticket". Unless it is your birthday (encoded as a boolean value in the parameters of the function) -- on your birthday, your speed can be 5 higher in all cases.

```
In [36]: def caught_speeding(speed, is_birthday):  
pass
```

```
In [42]: caught_speeding(81, True)
```

```
Out[42]: 'Small Ticket'
```

```
In [43]: caught_speeding(81, False)
```

```
Out[43]: 'Big Ticket'
```