Introduction to Python

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Python

- **What is Python?**
  - A high-level scripting language.
  - Named after Monty Python
  - All files end in .py.

- **What are the advantages to Python?**
  - Easy to read.
  - Code tasks in few lines of code.
  - Many ways to accomplish the same coding task.

- **What are the disadvantages to Linux?**
  - Can be less efficient (in terms of computational speed).
  - Many ways to accomplish the same coding task.

How to use Python...

- From the command line:
  - Via an interpreter.
  - Using scripts.

- Using interactive software:
  - Jupyter notebooks (https://ipython.org/notebook.html)
  - Let's test it out online (https://try.jupyter.org/)

- I want to find the best way for you to interact with python!
  - Let us work together.

What python concepts are we going to cover?

- Expressions
- Data types (e.g., lists, tuples, boolean, string)
- Functions
- Packages, methods
- Classes

Let's create a small python script

Before next class… install Jupyter notebooks

- https://jupyter.readthedocs.io/en/latest/install.html