

A story called **Microbit:Polska**

Christian Barra

PyCon 2017

Hello!

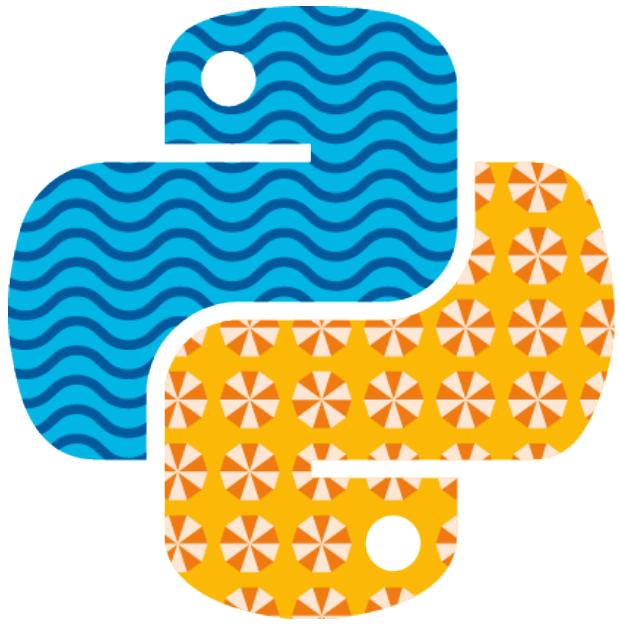
My name is Christian

I am a board member of the EuroPython Society

Help organizing the EuroPython conference

Software and DataCarpentry instructor

If you wonder, I am from Italy but currently living in Poland ☺



europython

9-16 JULY 2017 Rimini

Plans for this summer?

www.europython.eu

Agenda

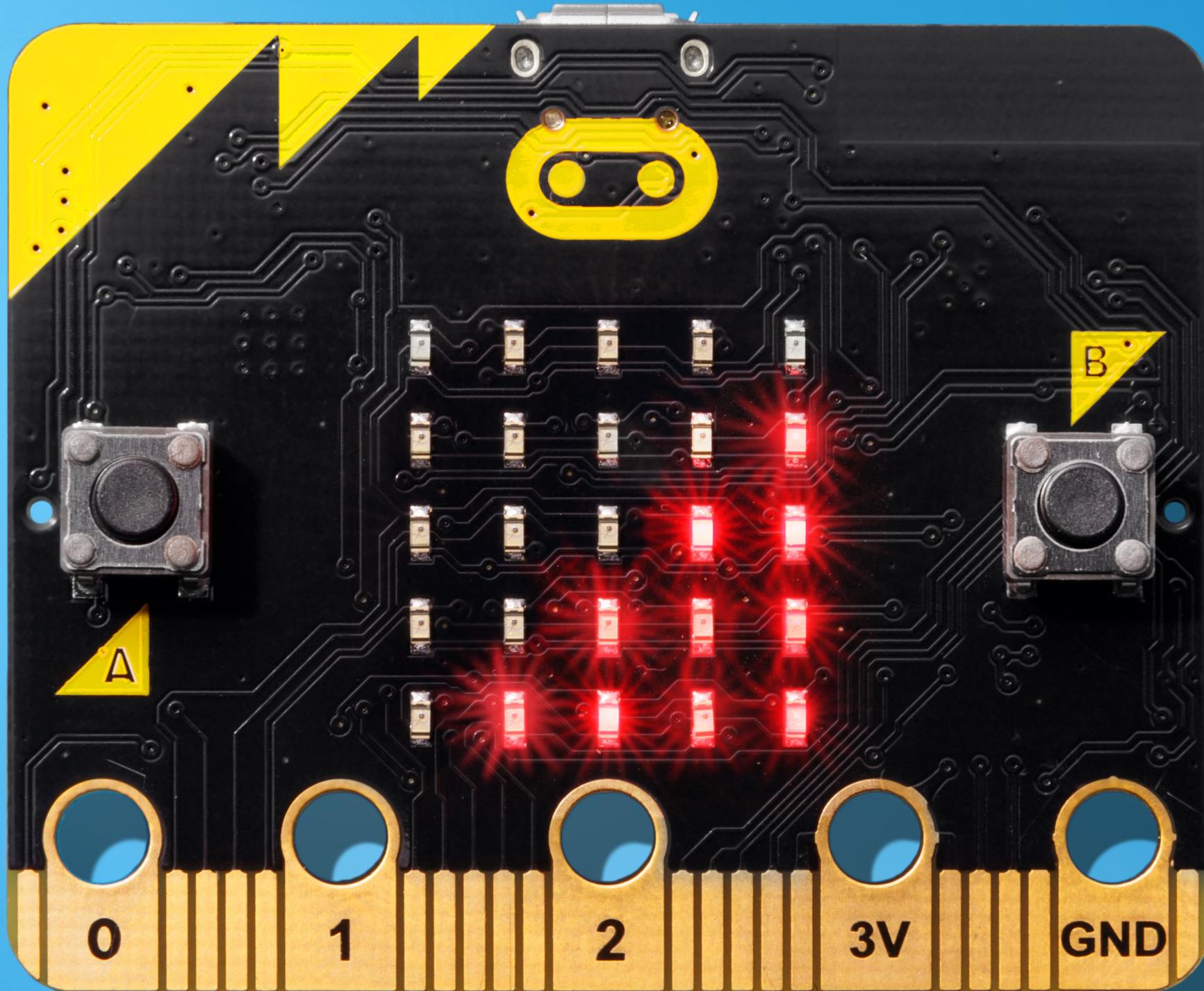
- The story of the project
- The idea of the workshop
- The workshops
- Conclusions & Future
- Questions for you
- Questions for me

The story of the project

EuroPython 2016

Each attendee received a BBC Micro:bit for free.

Keynote from Nicholas Tollervey (<https://youtu.be/JVaF6uZuSIU>)



Talk @ Coalition for Open Education

- I gave a talk about BBC Micro:bit and met a loot of cool people!
- Here you can find the follow-up after the meeting
(<https://goo.gl/jmK008>)

They gave 1.000.000 Micro:bits for free in UK, can we do something smaller but similar in Poland?

I had no idea but I decided to try.

What I wanted

- Using Python is a must
- We need to have a course
- It should be a gently introduction, so no big expectations (but do it with specific goals)
- Leave the BBC Micro:bits to the schools (at least at the beginning)

Then it was time to find the
Micro:bits....

PSF gave a grant and the
Micro:bit Educational Foundation
provided 30 micro:bits for free

**Thanks to the PSF and
the Micro:bit Educational Foundation**

They have been fundamental for this project!

The idea of the workshop

How we decided to structure the workshop

- During weekends
- Around 6 hours
- 20 ~ 30 students (> 10 years-old)
- ~ 5 Teachers (they are also ‘students’)
- ~ 5 Python Programmers

The results

- Microbit:Polska 😊
- A 6 hours workshop
(<https://github.com/MicrobitPolska/FunWithMicrobit/>)
- Specifically made to target young students
- In both English and Polish

FunWithMicrobit

Introduction

Programming & Python

Micro:bit & Mu editor

Hello Micro:bit

Animations

Buttons & Sensors

Micro:bit do you copy ?

Pick&Mix

Free your creativity!

Published with GitBook

Buttons & Sensors

What will you learn during this chapter ?

- Use the buttons to control your Micro:bit
- Show an image on your BBC Micro:bit
- Combine text and images

So we do have buttons....

As you probably saw your Micro:bit has 2 big buttons A and B . And you can do a lot of things with me, let's start with something easy.

```
from microbit import *  
  
sleep(10 * 1000)  
display.scroll(str(button_a.get_presses()))
```

The workshops

Gliwice 2017-02-11

We have the first try inside the **ZSO 10** college

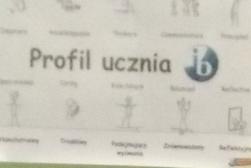
<https://microbitpolska.org/en/blog/the-first-workshop-is-ahead/>



Thoughts after the workshop @Gliwice

- Great feedback from Students/Teachers/Programmers
- Of course we could have done it better but you always have to deal with time/resource constrains
- English works well, (the problem was with the teachers not with the students)
- Main errors/issues during the workshops were related to syntax errors

Follow up after the first workshop



They are using the Micro:bits ☺



[Code](#)[Issues 3](#)[Pull requests 0](#)[Projects 0](#)[Wiki](#)[Pulse](#)[Graphs](#)

typos + language #9

Merged**barrachri** merged 2 commits into [MicrobitPolska:master](#) from [dracconi:master](#) on Mar 20[Conversation 2](#)[Commits 2](#)[Files changed 2](#)

dracconi commented on Mar 15

Contributor

*No description provided.*

dracconi added some commits on Mar 15



dracconi Correction of language and typos.

630cced



dracconi Language

e708c90

Tychy 2017-05-07

We have the first try inside the ZS 4 college

Thoughts after the workshop @Tychy

- Still thinking about the feedback.....
- After the second workshop is clear a lot depends from who is running the workshop (he/she has to prepare and follow the materials)
- This experience comes also from the Soft/DataCarpentry world

Conclusions and Future

Python works well in Education

Did you have doubts?

BBC Micro:bit

It's an awesome way to teach Python.

The experience of Teaching

Well, you have to try this ☺

Follow the material we have prepared

Instead of just saying this is a micro:bit and this is the website of the course

Having 30 young students for 6 hours

It was their choice to be there....because they were having fun.

Future

Engage more teachers

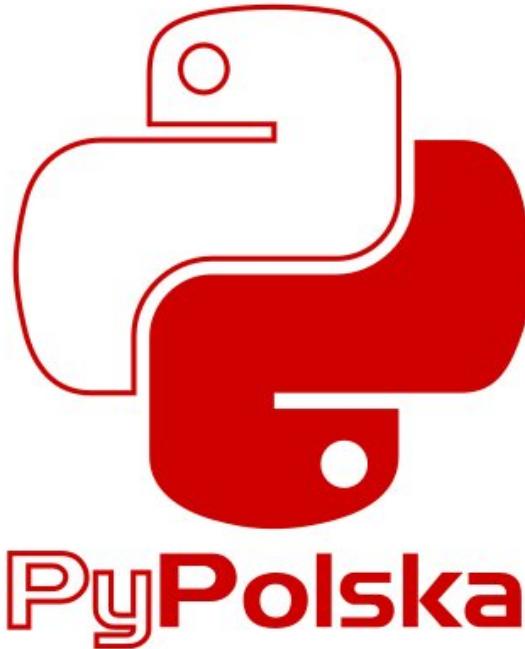
It's fundamental if we want to grow the project.

Get feedback using a form

Start to gather more metrics.

Have more workshops organized
by local people

To give the project the opportunity to scale.



Start to collaborate with PyPolska
Polish Python Users Group

That's all I got for you.

If you don't mind I have some
questions for you.

- How can you actively engage more people?
- We have Software and DataCarpentry...what about KidsCarpentry?

Dzięki! (thanks in Polish) ☺

Questions?

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