

Before entering the programming language...

Installation

- win
- linux
- mac

how does it look like

- terminal, console

what is needed to write code

- text editor
- tie the text editor to 'magic' command

paradigm of programming in Python aka style of code writing

- dynamic

working process

- edit-run-edit

Install

Python 3.2 vs python 2.7 It is important to clarify this difference \ <http://inventwithpython.com/appendixa.html>

```
randn(4,5) in 2.7 == random.randn(4,5) otherwise it does not work
print 'something' in 2.7 == print ('something') it is also a function
```

```
installing python 3 on linux
sudo apt-get install python3 python3.3-numpy python3.3-scipy python3-
matplotlib python3-pandas
```

To make Ipython -- pylab work, in addition one needs to instal:

```
sudo apt-get install python3-tk
```

Ipython

Simple installation of the program, and Ipython.
For linux simple

```
sudo apt-get install ipython3 ipython3-notebook
```

Windows:
python(x,y)
<http://code.google.com/p/pythonxy/wiki/Downloads>

Anaconda
<https://store.continuum.io/cshop/anaconda/>
and upgrade to python 3.3 as described here:
<http://www.walkingrandomly.com/?p=5089>

You can have both versions 2.~ and 3.~ on the same machine. On linux it works very nicely, with windows
ipython3 is, in my case, could not load matplotlib (Anaconda)(Python(x,y) is only Py2.7).

To check anytime which version is on type in as a shell command (outside python env.) in terminal or console:

```
In [ ]: python --version
```

inside python we can check the module's version

```
In [13]: import numpy
```

```
In [14]: numpy.version.version
```

```
Out[14]: '1.7.1'
```

Text editor

Any that has :

- syntax highlighting
- can recognize file types and adjust the number of spaces to <TAB> key
 - Python uses indentation to distinguish things and 4 spaces make one tab
- can do area selection (on windows ALT+select) not just line select
- comment and uncomment blocks of code with correct character for commenting '#' in Python
- a good option is autocompletion for commands

For Win I recommended Notepad++ <http://notepad-plus-plus.org/download/v6.5.4.html>

Or SciTe that comes with Python(x,y) distribution

How does it look like

Python can run in a console/terminal by typing in:

```
In [ ]: python
```

to have more interesting command line look and capabilities use lpython

```
In [ ]: ipython --pylab
```

where the --pylab automatically loads Numpy,Scypi, Matplotlib libraries so we don't need to import

Also, in case the terminal style workflow is not appealing, one can just run the script file simply by clicking on the file.

Working process

Interactive mode

In []: When loading 'python' you get the standard interactive window:

```
In [ ]: balaaz@balaaz:~ > python
Python 2.7.5+ (default, Sep 19 2013, 13:48:49)
[GCC 4.8.1] on linux2
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> import numpy
>>> x=range(0,10)
>>>
```

In []: We can call the 'ipython' and you get a bit different work environment

```
In [ ]: balaaz@balaaz:~ > ipython --pylab
Python 2.7.5+ (default, Sep 19 2013, 13:48:49)
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

IPython 0.13.2 -- An enhanced Interactive Python.
?          -> Introduction and overview of IPython's features.
%quickref  -> Quick reference.
help       -> Python's own help system.
object?    -> Details about 'object', use 'object??' for extra details.

Welcome to pylab, a matplotlib-based Python environment [backend: TkAgg].
For more information, type 'help(pylab)'.

In [1]: print 'hello'
hello

In [2]: 2/3.
Out[2]: 0.6666666666666666

In [3]: _2+100
Out[3]: 100.66666666666667

In [4]:
```

In these cases you type line by line, and every input has a response.
In ipython you have them numbered, so you can call them by typing underscore and the number of line

Another good feature of interactive ipython is the typing history. you can call previous executions by moving with up and down arrows on the keyboard

edit-run-edit mode

But to save large scripts the interactive sculpturing is not convenient. You write down all in as a text,
give the text file '.py' extension and run it!

You can run it in shell level or from inside python.

to run from shell

```
In [ ]: python script_name.py
```

to run from inside ipyton

```
In [ ]: run script_name.py
```

For running the script inside python one needs to be in the directory where the script is.

it is simple to navigate with 'cd' and 'cd ..' , these shell commands work inside ipython same way

<TAB> completion :
hitting the tabulator key after 'run' will list out all the scripts that you can choose
from the current directory, by starting to type a letter and then hit <TAB> will narrow down the search

```
In [ ]:
```

When writing a script in the text editor, at every moment you can turn to a console to run it (or click on the file), so edit-run and then edit again if you want to add something to the code.

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [ ]: #!/end of the 'before start'
```