

Introduction to Python

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About Me

- Master of Information Systems - University of the Philippines
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science - University of the Philippines
- Python Experience (since 2013):
 - Geoprocessing
 - Web Scraping
 - Scientific Computing
 - App Development
 - Data Science

Outline

- Python Background
- Environment Installation
- Jupyter Notebook Overview
- Python Script Overview
- Python Language Essentials

Background

- Created by Guido van Rossum
- Open-source, general purpose, high-level
- Procedural, functional, object-oriented
- Interpreted language
- Two versions: 2.7 and 3.x (We will use 3.x)


DID YOU KNOW? The Python language is named after Monty Python, a comedy group from the 70s.

Environment Installation

1. Go to: <https://www.anaconda.com/distribution/#download-section> (<https://www.anaconda.com/distribution/#download-section>)
2. Download Python 3.7 version
3. Install Executable

Jupyter Notebook Overview

Jupyter Notebook Interface: Dashboard

 jupyter

QuitLogout

FilesRunningClusters

Select items to perform actions on them.

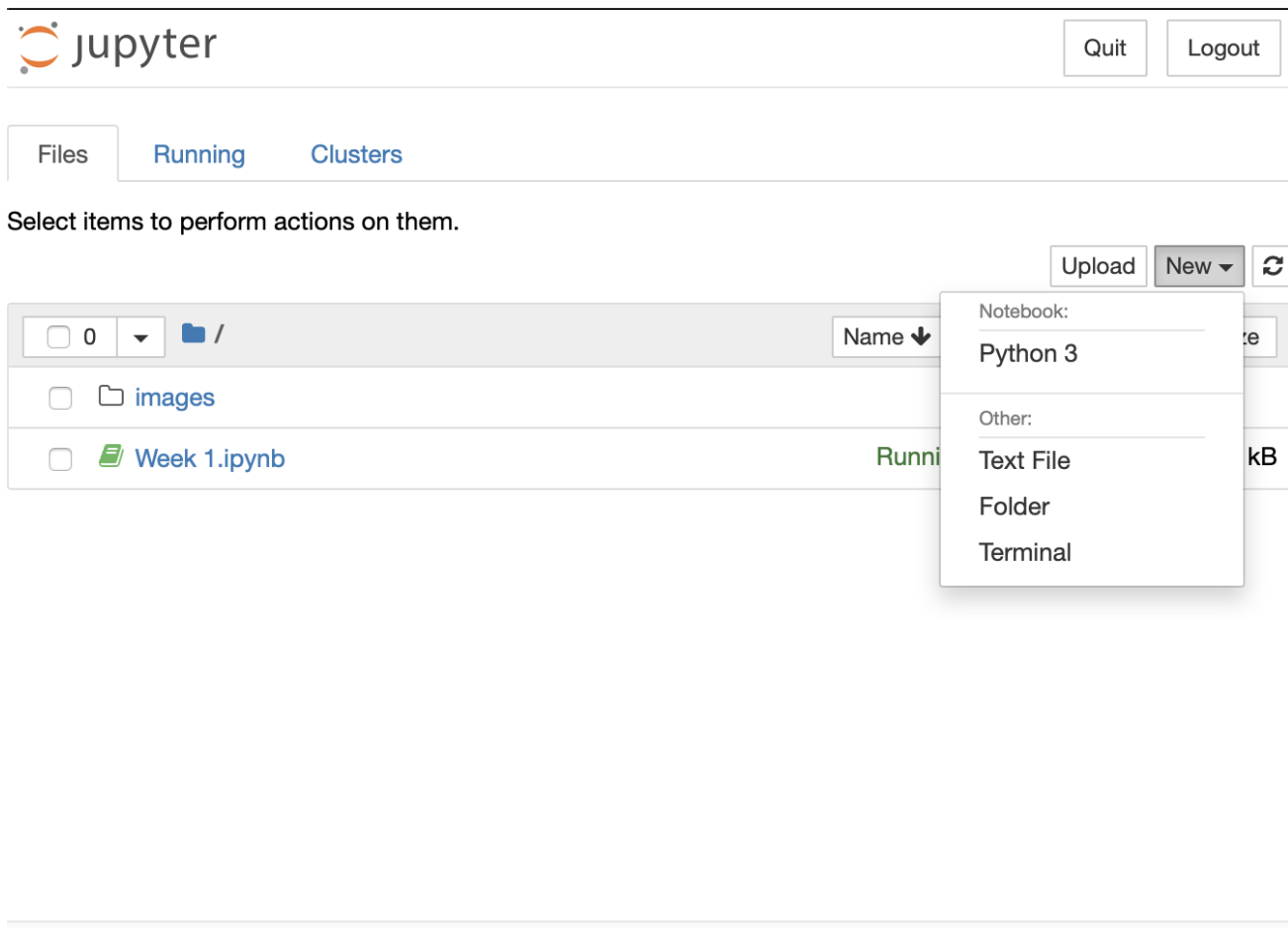
UploadNew ↕ ↺

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Jupyter Notebook Interface: New Dropdown

- You can create
 - Python 3 Notebooks (.ipynb)
 - Text Files like normal .txt extensions or Python scripts (.py)
 - Folder directories
 - Terminal windows for executing commands

Jupyter Notebook Interface: New Notebook

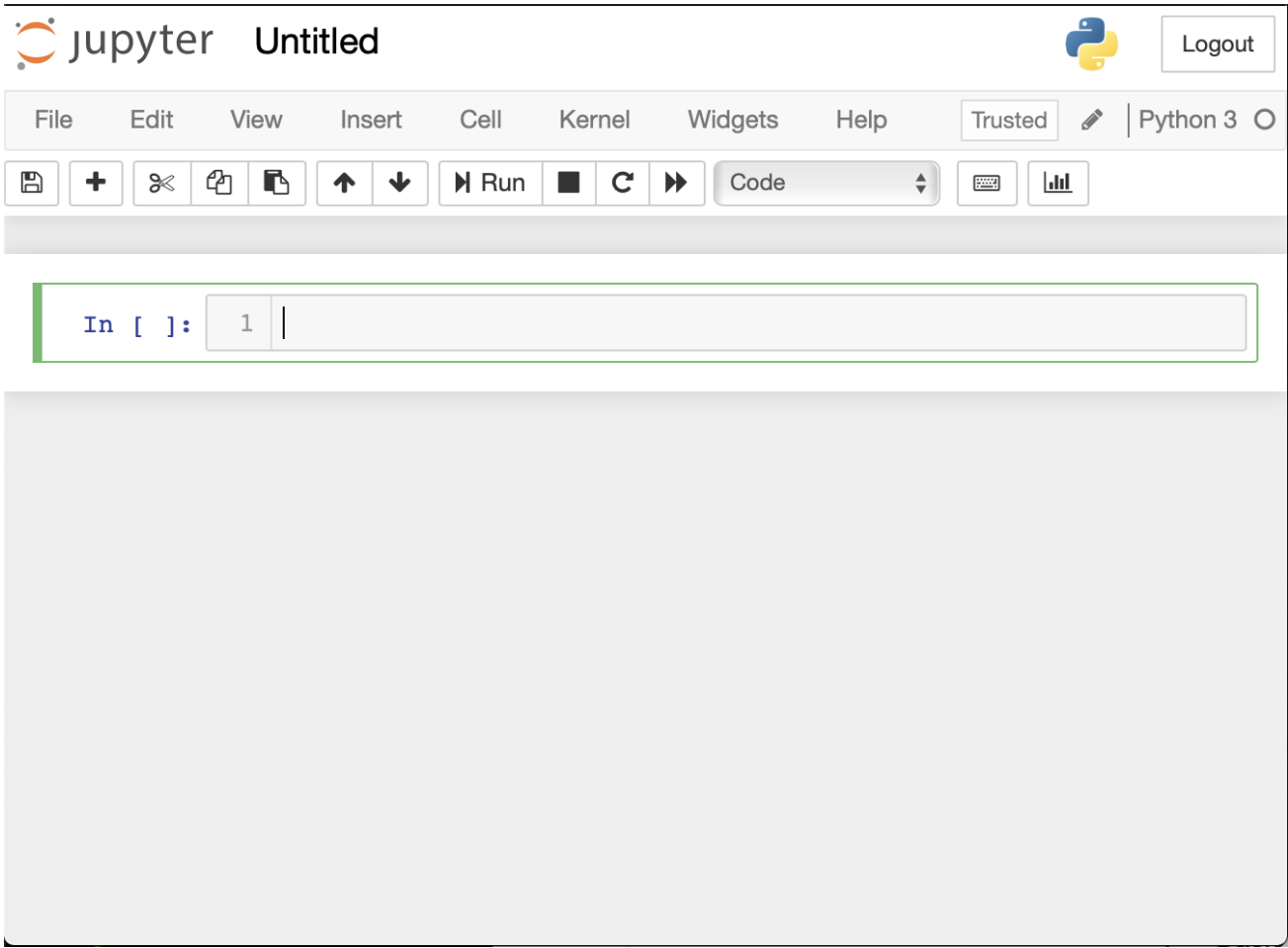


Jupyter Notebook

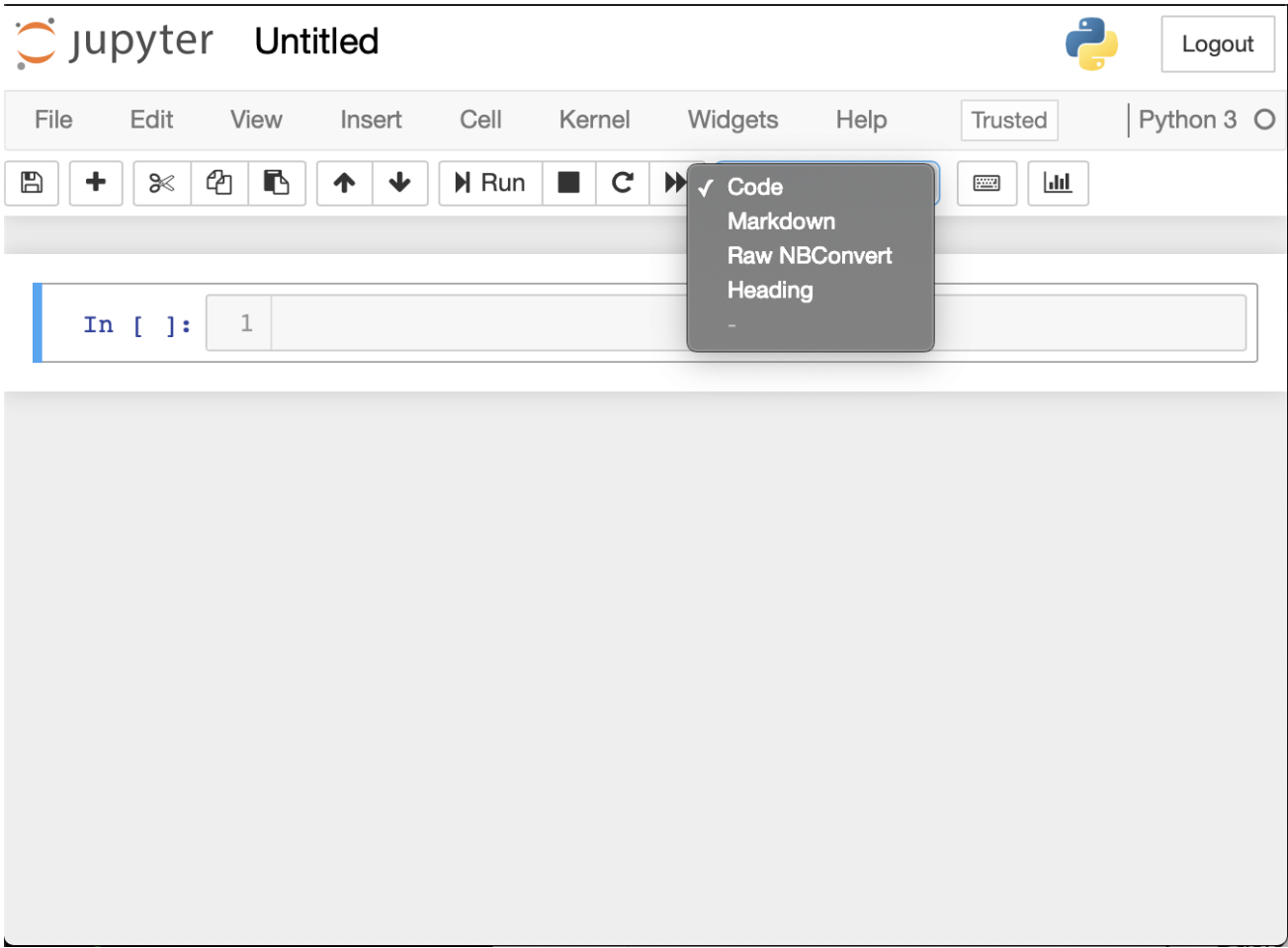
Jupyter Notebook

- a browser-based Read-Evaluate-Print Loop (REPL) environment
- enables interactive computing
- used heavily in data science analysis
- this presentation is a jupyter notebook!

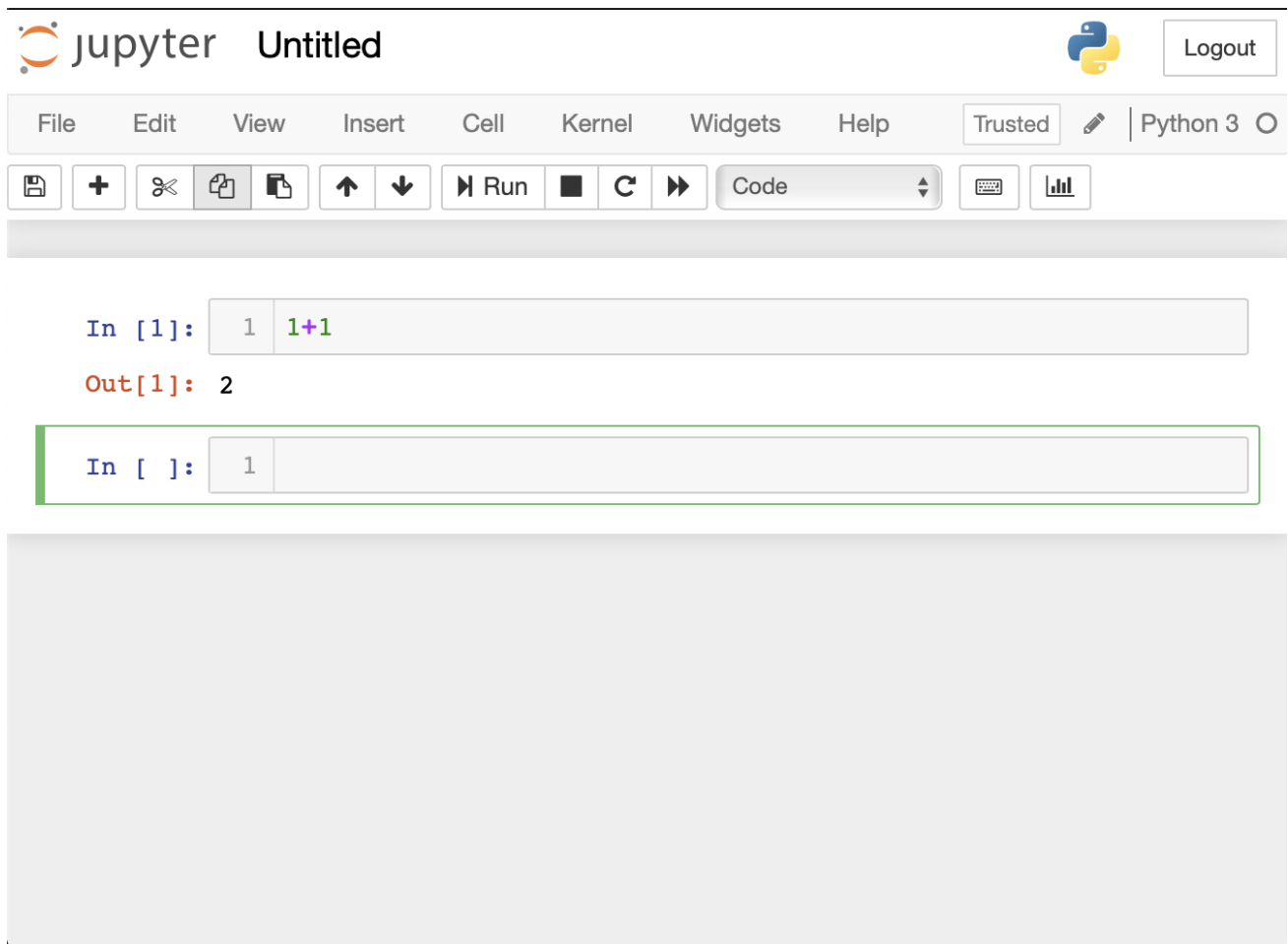
Jupyter Notebook Interface: Notebook Interface



Jupyter Notebook Interface: Cell-type



Jupyter Notebook Interface: Running Cell



```
In [ ]: #!/usr/bin/env python3

def main():
    """ Main entry point of the app """
    print("Hello EIT!")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    # This is executed when run from the command line
    main()
```

Common User Mistakes and Misconceptions (Jupyter Notebook vs Python Script)

- Python scripts always run sequentially, only halting to wait for user input (if any)
- You can run your Jupyter Notebook sequentially, but Jupyter Notebook allows you to run cells out of order

Common User Mistakes and Misconceptions (Jupyter Notebook vs Python Script)

- Because Python scripts always execute sequentially, it is safer to overwrite variables
- You have to be careful with overwriting variables in different cells since you can run cells non-sequentially

Common User Mistakes and Misconceptions (Jupyter Notebook vs Python Script)

- It takes time to get used to the programming paradigm of Jupyter Notebook
- If your logic looks good but you are still getting confusing errors, try restarting kernel then run cells sequentially again

Let's code!

Syntax: Line Endings

- No need for semi-colon at the end
 - In C:

```
printf("Hello world!");
```

- In Python:

```
print("Hello world!")
```

```
In [ ]: print("Hello world!")
```

Syntax: Basic Operators

Operator Operation (Ordered by Precedence)

'(' and ')'

For specifying Precedence

Exponent

Multiplication

/

Division

//

Floor Division

%

Modulo

+

Addition

-

Subtraction

In []: *# insert code here*

```
print(10+6)
print(7*3.14)
print(7%3)
print(16+4**2/8-10)
```

Syntax: Variables

- Naming Rules
 - Case-sensitive
 - Can contain letters, numbers, and underscores
 - Cannot start with a number
 - e.g. myVar, my_var, _myvar, number1

Syntax: Variables

- Variables are *dynamically* typed
 - They don't have a pre-defined type
 - In C:

```
int num1 = 75;
float pi = 3.14159;
```

- In Python:

```
num1 = 75
pi = 3.14159
```

```
In [ ]: # insert code here
mass = 15
mystr = "The mass of the object is " + str(mass) + " kg."
print(mystr)
```

Syntax: Basic Input & Output

- input(prompt)
 - Prompts user for keyboard input
 - Any input from the keyboard before new line (Enter Key) is returned as a string
- print(*objects, sep=' ', end='\n', file=sys.stdout, flush=False)
 - first converts arbitrary number of objects to strings that are joined by `sep` and ends in `end`
 - concatenated string is printed in `file`

```
In [ ]: mass = input("Input mass (kg): ")
acc = input("Input acceleration (m/s): ")

force = int(mass)*int(acc)

print("The force of the object is " + str(force) + "N")
```

Syntax: Comments

- #<string> - Single line comments
- """<string>""" - Multi-line comments

```
num1 = 75      # This is a comment.
pi = 3.14159
```

```
# This is also a comment.
"""This is a docstring. You can place this
before a new function or class to explain
what it does."""
```

Syntax: Nesting

- Use indentations instead of braces
 - In C:

```
if(condition){  
    //do stuff  
    //here  
}
```

- In Python:

```
if condition:  
    #do stuff  
    #here
```

Simple Python Script Template

main.py

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3  
  
def main():  
    """ Main entry point of the app """  
    print("Hello World")  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    # This is executed when run from the command line  
    main()
```

Reference Semantics

- If we do `a = b`
 - This makes a **reference** the object that `b` references
 - Assignment creates references, **not copies**

```
In [4]: # insert code here
a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] #mutable objects
b = a # b is not a copy of a, it references the object in a
a.append(6)
print(b)

# immutable objects
a = 1
b = a
a = 2
print(a) # 1
print(b) # 2
```

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]

2

1

```
In [ ]: #!/usr/bin/env python3

def main():
    """ Write a program that takes in a name and age, then output age in 5 years """

if __name__ == "__main__":
    # This is executed when run from the command line
    main()
```