Overview

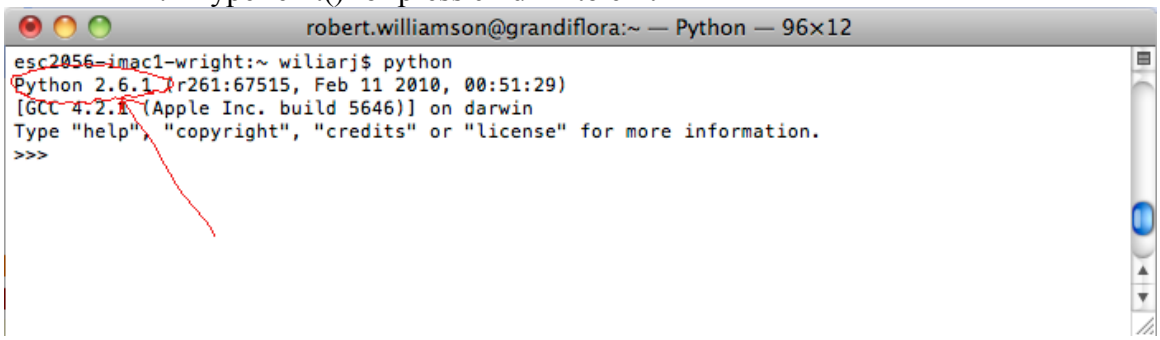
Your 4 easy steps to prepare your computing device of choice for Robert's Fantastic Python Workshop

1. Install Python
2. Install Eclipse
3. Install PyDev
4. Test your install

Step 1. Install Python

If you're computer is a **mac**, congratulations you're done. You may want to run python to check what version you're running. To do this:

1. Open up a terminal
2. Type 'python'
3. The version of Python you have will be printed
4. Type 'exit()' or press cmd+D to exit



Just note this number for future reference.

If you're running **Windows** then you need to install Python. Simply go to http://www.python.org/download/ and pick the correct installer for your system. I'd go with version 3.2.

Note on versions: grandiflora runs Python 2.7, so if you have a newer version some commands may not work when put onto the server. This usually isn't an issue though, and won't be for anything we're doing.

Step 2. Install Eclipse

Eclipse is an Integrated Development Environment (IDE), this is just fancy software talk for a program that lets you code, debug, and run things all in the same place without the hassle of having to switch between command lines and Notepad type programs. Using one will seriously improve your coding quality and rate. I'm not going to go into many of

the details of Eclipse, but if you're interested look at the Eclipse documentation. Something we won't be using but is *invaluable* is the debug feature. If you want to try it out talk to me and I can show you how it works one on one.

1. Download Eclipse Classic from here: http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/
2. Simply extract eclipse to the directory you want to run it from.
3. Run eclipse.exe
4. When you first run it you will be prompted to create a 'workspace', this is just the place on your computer that Eclipse stores all of your projects. For example I have mine in /Users/wiliarj/Documents/workspaces/general. Just put it wherever in convenient for you.
5. Once you've done this you may want to familiarize yourself with the IDE, by going through the tutorial, or just waiting for me to show you what to do.

If the above steps worked for you, ignore this section. If when you try running Eclipse it complains about not having Java installed then go to
http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html
And install the Java Platform – JDK (Java Development Kit). Follow the onscreen instructions and try running Eclipse again.

There is also one setting you need to adjust, this is fairly important since we will be using Eclipe for Python.

1. Go to Eclipse > Preferences
2. Go to General > Editors > Text editors
3. Make sure "display tab width" is set to 4
4. And check the box labeled 'spaces for tabs'

Step 3. Install PyDev

Eclipse was originally made for Java development, not Python. But it has plugins for nearly any language, including Python. So we need to install one of those.

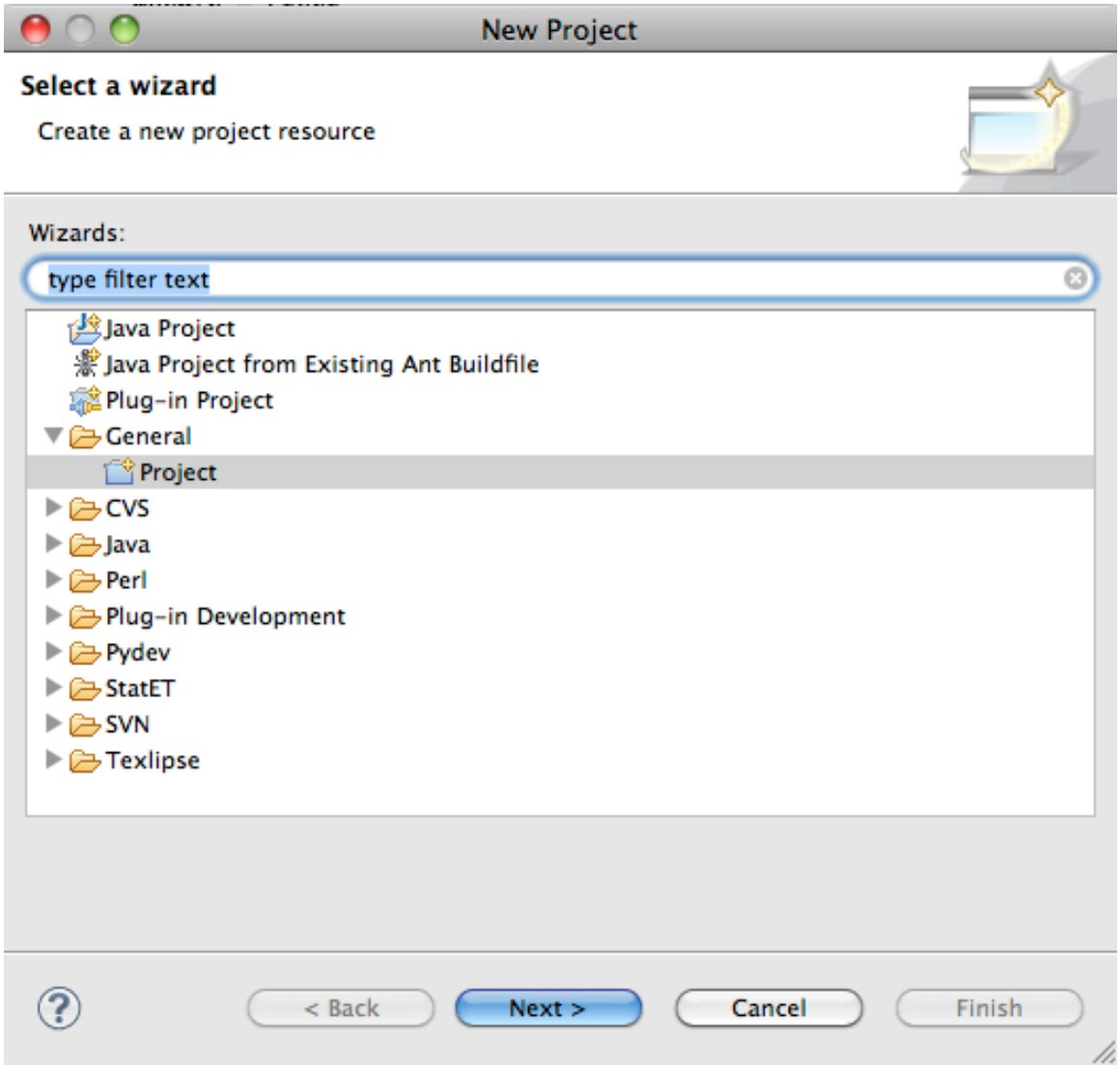
1. In Eclipse go to Help > Install new software
2. In the "Work with:" field put http://pydev.org/updates
3. Select all the packaged and then press 'Next'
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to finish the install
5. Once Eclipse restarts go to Eclipse > Preferences
6. Go to PyDev > Interpreter – Python
7. Press the "Auto config" button

If Python says that "an interpreter is already configured' you're good to go. If it comes up with a menu then use the defaults and follow the onscreen instructions.

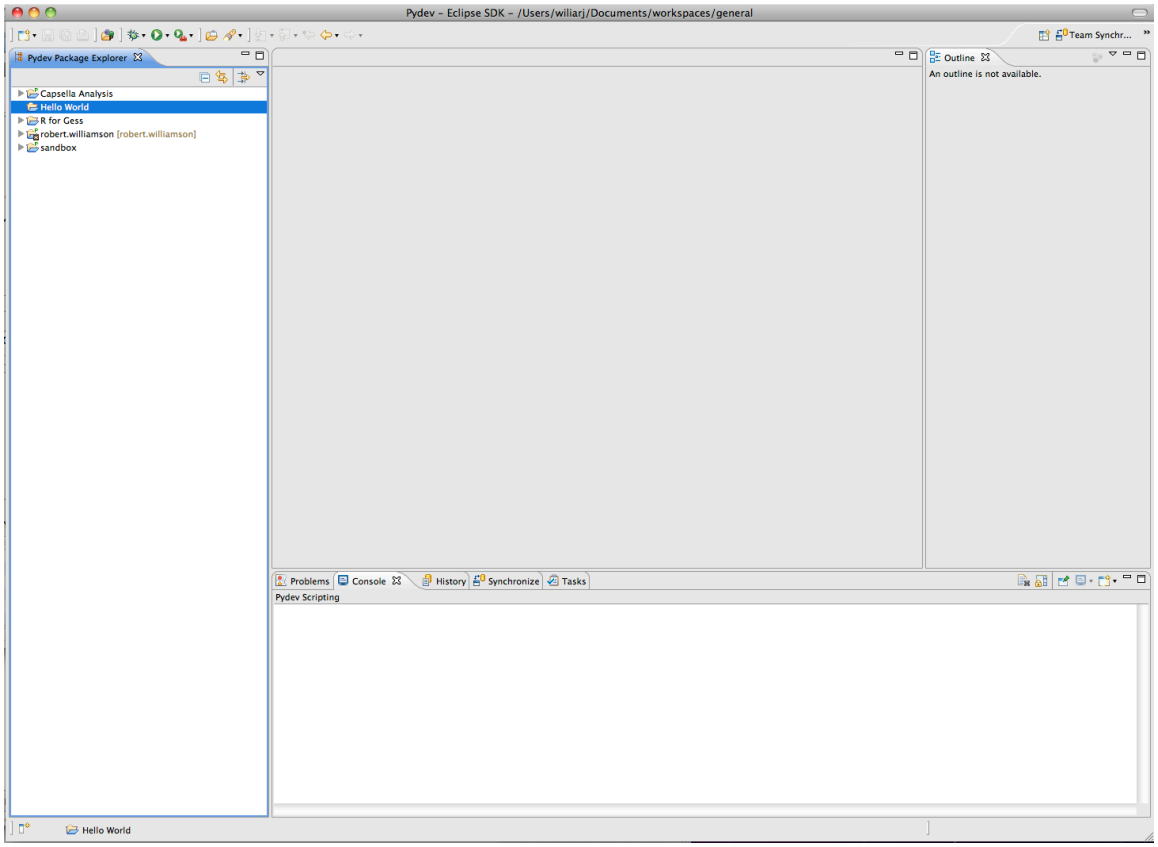
Step 4. Test your Install

You've installed Python and now you're ready to test your everything out.

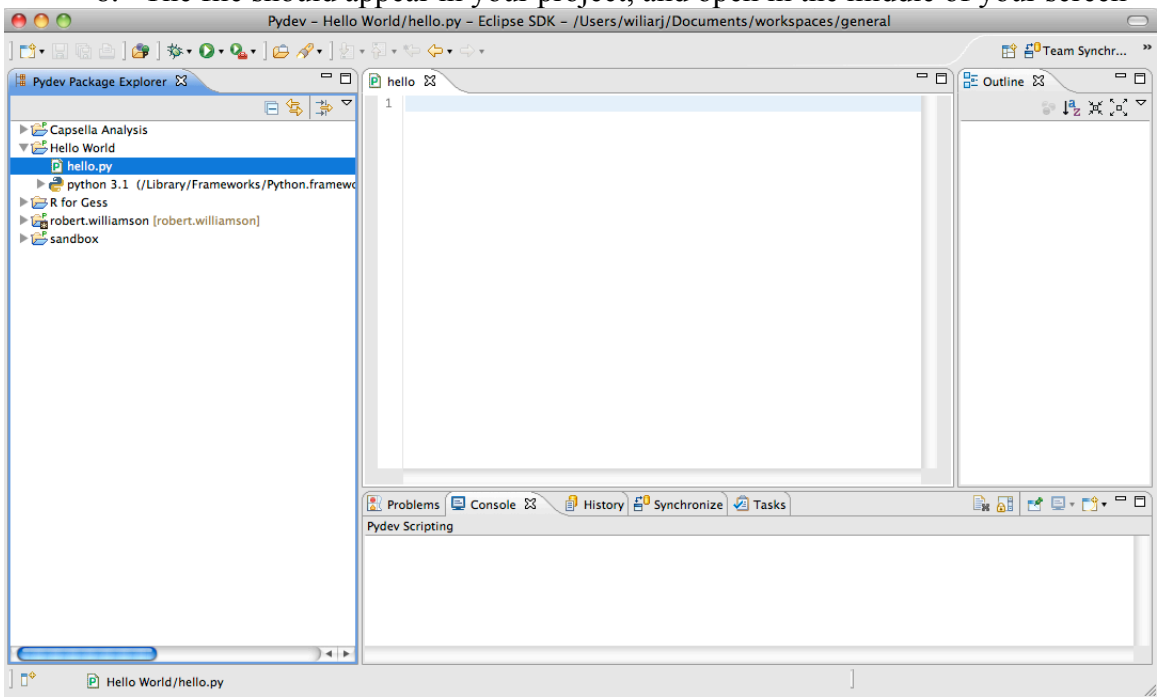
1. Go to File > New Project
2. From the general tab select “Project” and press ‘Next’



3. Name your project ‘Hello World’ ad press ‘Next’
4. Press ‘Finish’
5. The Hello World project should have appeared in your project navigator pane

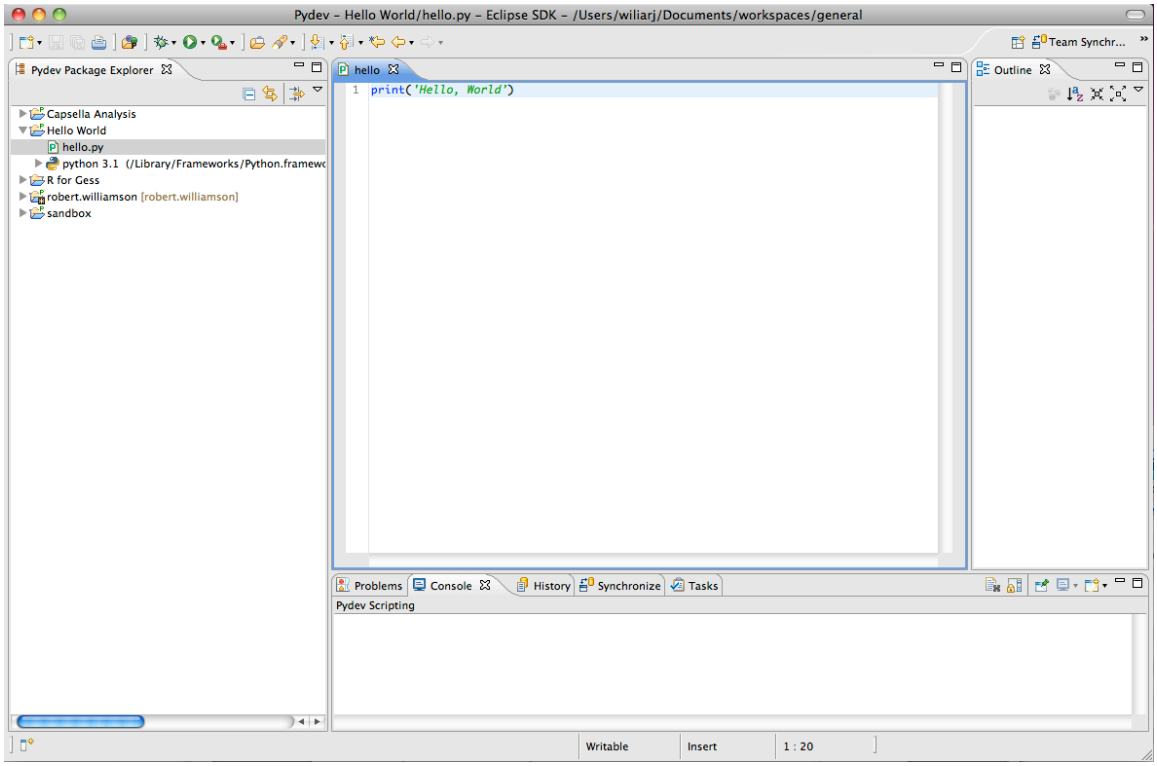


6. Right click the project and select New > File
7. Name the file “hello.py” and press Finish
8. The file should appear in your project, and open in the middle of your screen

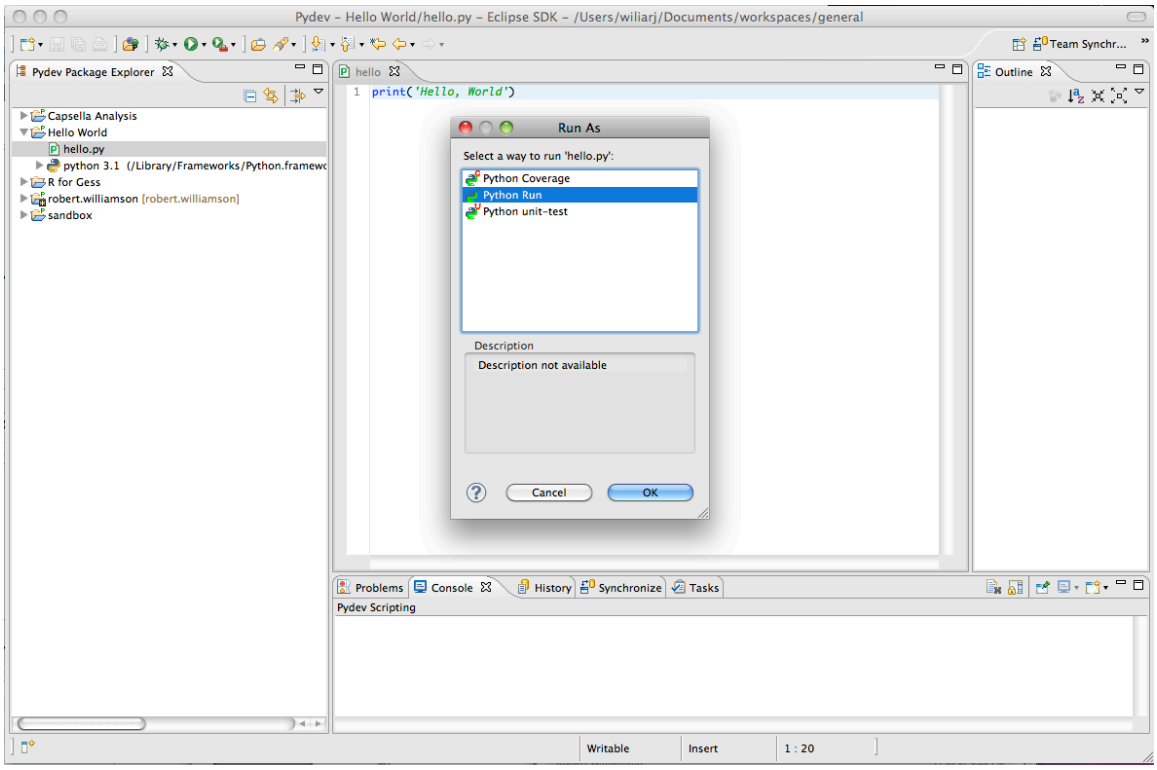


9. In the file type: print(“Hello, World!”)

10. Save the file (File >save or ctrl+S)



11. Press the “run” button, that is the green arrow at the top
12. From the list select “Python Run” and press OK



13. The text “Hello, World!” should appear in the console at the bottom of the window. (The ‘console’ is like the output you would get running from command line.)