

Recap of the main points for Week 2:

- For new programmers, focus on the fundamentals of “control of flow” statements.
- For experienced programmers, reflect on how you’ve coded to focus on “process decomposition.”
- **Executing Python:**
 - Build-in IDLE interpreter
 - .py file
 - Jupyter Notebook
 - Spyder and other IDEs
 - Notebook interacts with Operating System (! and %)
- **Expressions:**
 - Assignment and Equivalency
 - Cumulative shortcuts
- **Concept of “Objects”**
 - Everything in python *is* an object
 - Objects as reflecting objects in the physical world (like cats!)
 - More on objects in a couple of weeks
 - Casting objects from one type to another
- **Python and Types**
 - Confirm the data type of variables in Python
 - Use python for coding but also for looking at and documenting your code
- **Scope & Visibility of Variables**
 - Namespace versus Object space (in lieu of our using pointers)
- **Strings**
 - Big role in data science, full-text retrieval, data integration
 - Python’s use of +, as well as obvious “methods” (.upper())
 - Comment in code - use ‘em. Required later as “docstrings”
 - String is a contiguous block of member, read from pointer of the first character
- **If/For/While statements**
 - Each are useful; the logic of your decomposition guides your choices ...
 - And python has techniques for even faster processing (next week)
 - Nested if; nested while; nested for loops ...
 - We’ll revisit this when discussing algorithm efficiency (Big O)