

# Python, Cloud and Automation

## 1. Introduction

Jack Minchin

Tourism Economics

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# Table of Contents

- ① Introduction
- ② Some Use-Cases
- ③ Resources for learning

# Outline

## ① Part 1:

- What is Python?
- How can it be used?
- How can I learn?

# What Python is not

Some common misconceptions

- A statistical package
- A program
- A self contained framework

# What is Python?

*Python is a high-level, general-purpose programming language. Its design philosophy emphasizes code readability with the use of significant indentation. Its language constructs and object-oriented approach aim to help programmers write clear, logical code for small- and large-scale projects. (wikipedia)*

## How can we use it?

### ① **Extraction, Transform and Load (ETL) Tasks**

Reading data from (virtually) any source, transforming into required format and exporting.

### ② **Automation of repetitive tasks.**

Interacting with file system, using libraries to create PowerPoints, interacting directly with excel, read emails - the possibilities really are endless.

### ③ **Data Visualisation, Analysis and Econometrics**

### ④ **Full scale applications**

Larger projects will span multiple categories (e.g Country Profile Report automation)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Current implementation uses another language called JavaScript (Node.js) for the PDF generation.

# How to learn Python

## ① Learning-by-doing

The **best** way to learn Python is to start writing it. There are multiple courses online, from free YouTube videos to paid courses but in-person courses will not help unless you are spending hours working alone figuring out.

## ② DataCamp.com

Combines very short videos with active exercises, it teaches concepts in a concise way and then forces you to get involved. It is also designed for ETL, statistics and data science.

# The Coding Learning Curve

