

Introduction to python

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About this training



Target audience

- Basic understanding and experiences with programming languages
- Zero or little experiences with Python

What to expect

- $\sqrt{}$ Basic knowledge of Python
- × Advanced programming







1. About Python

- 1) What is Python
- 2) Pros & Cons

2. Running Python on Clusters

- 1) Load Python
- 2) Ways to run Python on clusters

- 1) Variables and operators
- 2) Data types
- 3) File I/O
- 4) Control structures and functions
- 5) Python modules







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1) What is Python



- Guido van Rossum @ 2/20/1991
- High-level & general-purpose
- Intuitive & minimal coding
- Interpreted, not compiled
- Dynamic typing
 - No type declarations, data type tracked at runtime
- Automatic memory management
- Blocks defined by indentation



```
void ExceptionHandling()
{
        try
        {
            }
        catch (const Foo &f)
        {
                throw Foo();
        }
        catch (const Bar)
        {
                    throw Bar();
        }
        catch (...)
        {
                     throw FooBar();
        }
}
```

```
def ExceptionHandling(self):
    try:
        pass
    except Foo as f:
        raise Foo()
    except Bar:
        raise Bar()
    except:
        raise FooBar()
```



2) Pros & Cons



Pros:

- Ease of programming
- Minimal time to develop and maintain codes
- Modular and object-oriented
- Large standard and user-contributed libraries
- Large user community

Cons:

- Interpreted → slower
- Not great for 3D graphic applications requiring intensive computations







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Running Python



Running on local machine?

- a) Terminal (command-line)
- b) GUI (Spyder)
- c) Jupyter Notebook (web-interface)
- d) ...





1) Load python



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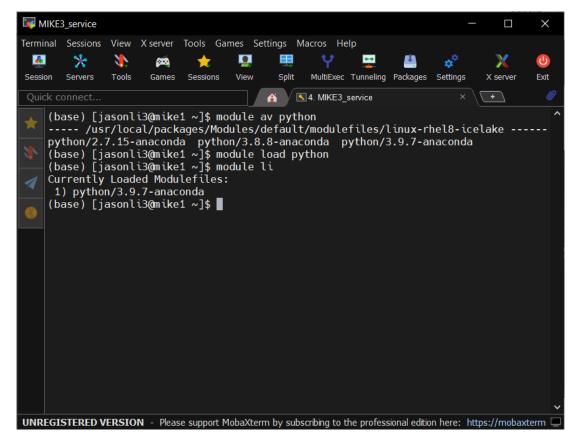




1) Load python



- Python installation on HPC clusters
 - Modules
 - Check availability: module av python
 - Load: module load python/...
 - Auto-loading: ~/.modules
 - ☐ Customized version: Conda virtual environment
 - See: https://youtu.be/tl3vSxZZr-c







2. Running Python on Clusters



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Main difference from using your local machine:

Must submit a job!!!

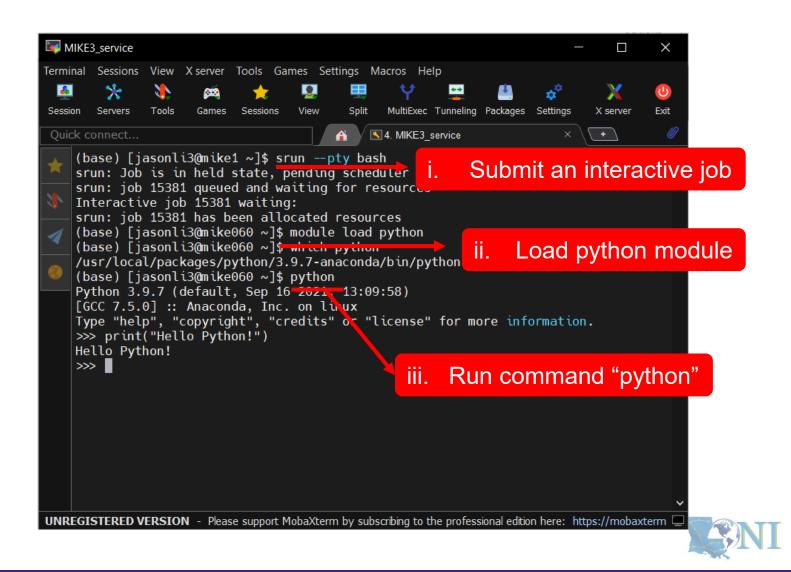






a) Interactively

- Must submit an interactive job
- * Make sure you are NOT running on head node!

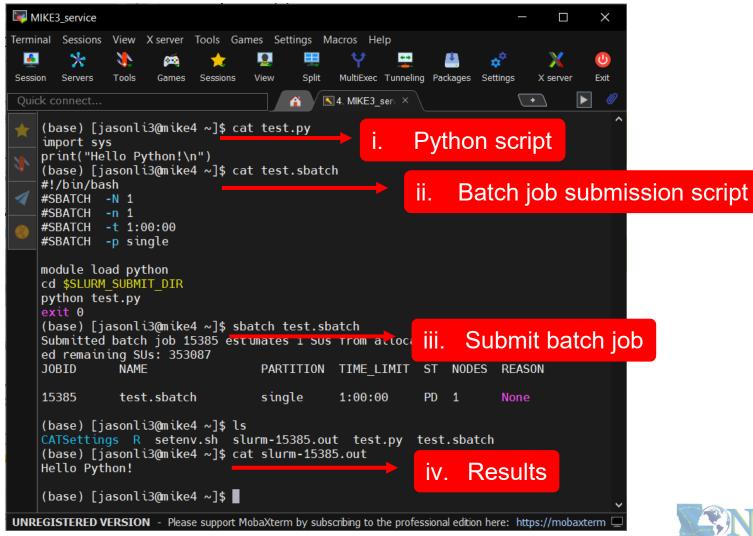






Python script

Must submit a batch job



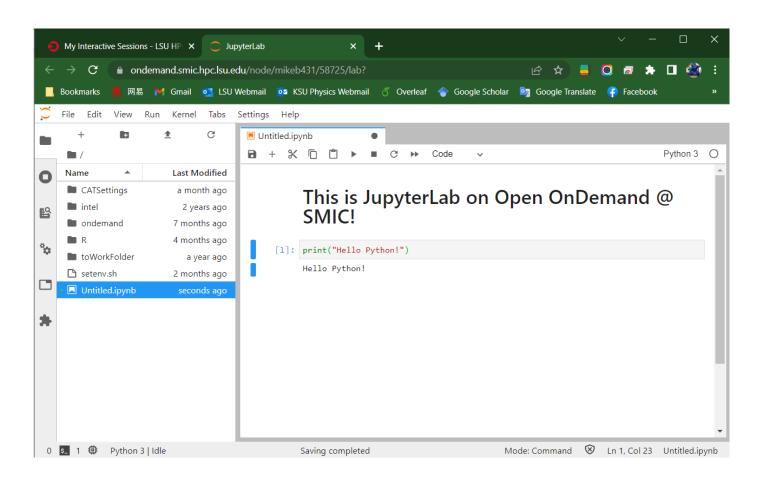






c) Jupyter Notebook / JupyterLab

- * Must use Open OnDemand via web browser
- * Currently only available on SMIC: https://ondemand.smic.hpc.lsu.edu/











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