

Debugging

It is one of the most basic skills of doing any programming. For problems that arise while writing Python code, I find the following steps very useful.

Before asking for help, try these steps first.

If it's a Python error:

The problem is related to your code specifically.

1. Separate your code into individual lines and run each one individually. When you know which line is giving you trouble, separate the line into all the separate operations.
2. To make sure it's not specific to the notebook, try to run the code in an ipython interpreter.
3. Look up the documentation for the function or method you are using.
4. If nothing makes sense, google your specific error and read any answers.

Last Resort: Figure out another way to do it.

If it's a package/computer error:

The problem is related to how Python or a package is installed.

1. Determine which package specifically is giving you errors.
2. Create a new environment with only that package.
 - a. This checks if it is conflicting with other packages.
3. Google the package version and the type of problem you are having.
 - a. This often leads to an open issue on their GitHub that can tell you how to resolve it.
4. Install the same environment on another computer (like the department remote desktop) and see if it works there.

Last Resort: make a [binder](#) inside our repository or use [Google Colab](#)