ILP 2022 – W1S1 Getting started

Matthieu DE MARI – Singapore University of Technology and Design



A quick word about me

- Matthieu (Matt) DE MARI
- Lecturer at SUTD (Python, Deep Learning, AI, and more)
- Information Systems Technology and Design (ISTD) pillar/faculty
- PhD from CentraleSupelec (France)

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- Office @ SUTD: 1.702.27



Outline (Week1, Session1 – W1S1)

• About this course: syllabus, objective, eDimension, practices, etc.

- What is programming?
- Key concepts about programming and computer science.
- Programming languages.

- Installing and configuring Python, and extra packages.
- Our first programs!

Objectives of this Summer School

Objectives:

- Give the students an introduction to Computer Science,
- Programming,
- and Python.

Delivery:

- 3x 2h-lessons per week
- Lessons include a bit of theory (PPT slides) and practice activities (in Jupyter Notebooks)

Topics

- Week1 Session 1 (W1S1): Getting started, key concepts, configuring and installing Python
- W1S2: Variables, math operators, comments, printing and getting
- W1S3: None type, Boolean types and functions
- **W2S1:** More practice on functions
- W2S2: If, elif, else, while, break statements
- W2S3: More practice on if, elif, else, while
- W3S1: For loops, generators and recursion
- W3S2: The list type
- W3S3: Advanced concepts on for loops and list type

Topics

- W4S1: Debugging, errors, asserts and time
- W4S2: Numpy library (part 1) and imports
- W5S1: More on Numpy (part2), randomness
- W5S2: Everything about strings
- W5S3: Dictionaries and object-oriented thinking
- W6S1: Object-oriented programming (part 1)
- W6S2: Object-oriented programming (part 2)
- W6S3: Recap and mini-project!

Edimension

Teaching materials

- PPT/PDF contain the lecture materials (PPT preferred)
- Activities notebooks and their answers
- The teaching materials will be uploaded on eDimension and made available on the same day.
- https://edimension.sutd.edu.sg/

Homeworks, extras and exams

- In-class activities: activities, done together during online lessons. Solutions are provided on other notebooks.
- Homeworks? Nope.

But

- Extra practice: basic exercises and notions, to practice the concepts seen in class a bit more.
- Extra challenges: advanced versions of the activities discussed in class.
- None of them are mandatory.
 Solutions are provided (except for challenges!)

Plot twist: GAMIFICATION

"Games are a good way of thinking about real problems. I use games in all my courses [...] because things you have played with are things you remember."

- Jarrett Walker, international consultant in public transit network design. (He also has a fantastic blog about using strategy and planning games, like MiniMetro and SimCity to explain and understand notions of transportation network and city design)

http://humantransit.org/2014/12/learning-how-transit-works-from-minimetro.html

Plot twist: GAMIFICATION

Activity 2 - Ballistics of an angry bird

Problem statement

In the angry bird game, the player has to launch birds at structures from a slingshot. The player gets to decide on an **initial angle theta (in degrees)** and **an initial speed for the bird alpha (in m/s)**.

After releasing, the angry bird goes flying into a parabolic curve, as shown in the figure below.







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Survey

- During this class, I might often use online "surveys".
- These help me check your understanding of this class and adjust accordingly... Please fill them!

Speaking of... Here is your first survey: what is "programming"?

https://forms.gle/stRPXnu5ZZrjMkCw5

Programming: definition

Definition (Programming):
 Programming refers to the process of designing and building an executable computer program, to accomplish a specific computational task.

It involves tasks such as

- analysis,
- designing algorithms,
- and implementing said algorithms in a chosen programming language (a.k.a. coding).

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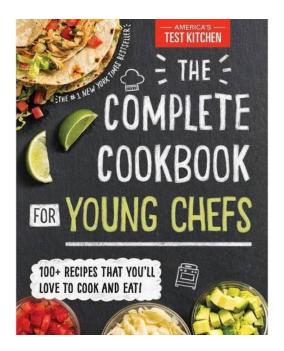
- analysis,
- designing algorithms,
- and implementing said algorithms in a chosen programming language (a.k.a. coding).

• Layman definition (Programming): Programming consists of defining a sequence of instructions that the computer must follow to accomplish a task.

Programming: some analogies

 Think of it as a food recipe book!
 A recipe requires you to follow and execute a set of instructions to cook a recipe from scratch!





When you're cooking & the recipe says "chill in the fridge for one hour"



Programming: some analogies

• Or a **sequence of operations** you would normally do on a calculator to find a result.



- Example problem: compute the area of a circle with radius 10.
 - Type 10,
 - Type multiply key,
 - Type 10,
 - Press equal/enter key,
 - Type multiply key,
 - Type π,
 - Press equal key again,
 - You have reached your result.

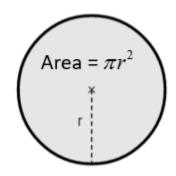
Algorithm: definition

• <u>Definition (Algorithm)</u>: An algorithm is a finite sequence of instructions, typically used to solve a class of problems or perform a computation task.

When executed, on a provided set of **inputs**, it will proceed through a set of well-defined states and will eventually produce an output.

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- 1. Identify a problem.
- 2. Come up with a general algorithm to solve it.
 - Step-by-step instructions.
 - Think of it as a 'recipe' or a 'flowchart'.
- 3. Represent this algorithm as a program, using a chosen programming language.
- 4. Execute the program on a computer!



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Quick question

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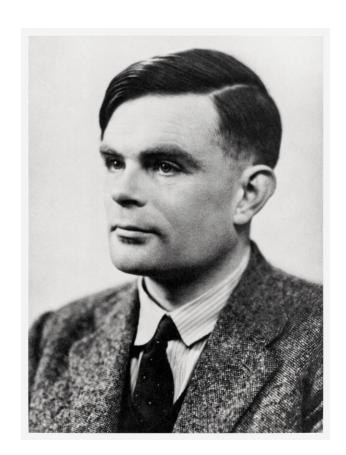
Hint: it is NOT one of the persons below.





The "father" of computer science

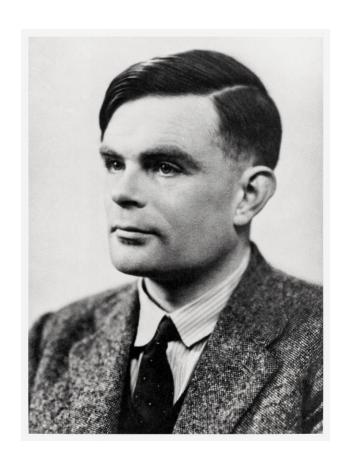
Alan Mathison Turing (1912–1954) was an English mathematician, computer scientist, logician, cryptanalyst, philosopher, and theoretical biologist.



The "father" of computer science

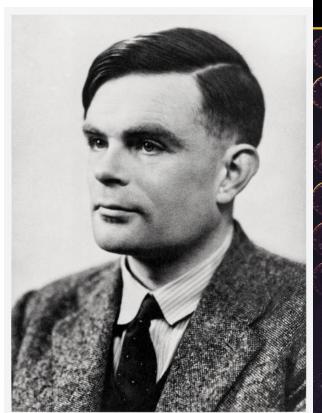
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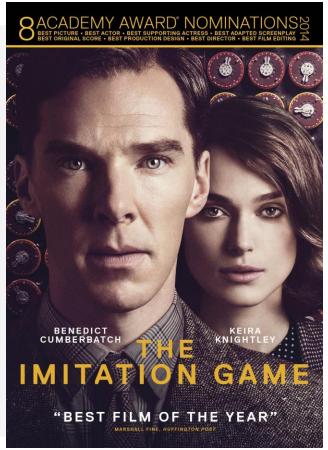
 Turing was highly influential in the development of theoretical computer science, formalized algorithmic concepts, and created the first Turing machine, which can be considered the first model of a general-purpose computer.



The "father" of computer science

- During World War 2, he came up with an idea of a "computer-like" machine, to decode encrypted transmissions from the German army.
- Thanks to his decryption device, it has been estimated the war in Europe was shortened by more than two years and saved over 14 million lives.
- Learn more about Alan Turing, by watching The Imitation Game movie.





Your computer is good at doing two, and only two, things

- 1. Perform computational tasks (calculations), as described by an algorithm provided by a human to the computer.
- 2. Remember the results of these computational tasks, by storing them in its internal memory (and eventually retrieving these results later on, by accessing its memory)

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And that is all you need.

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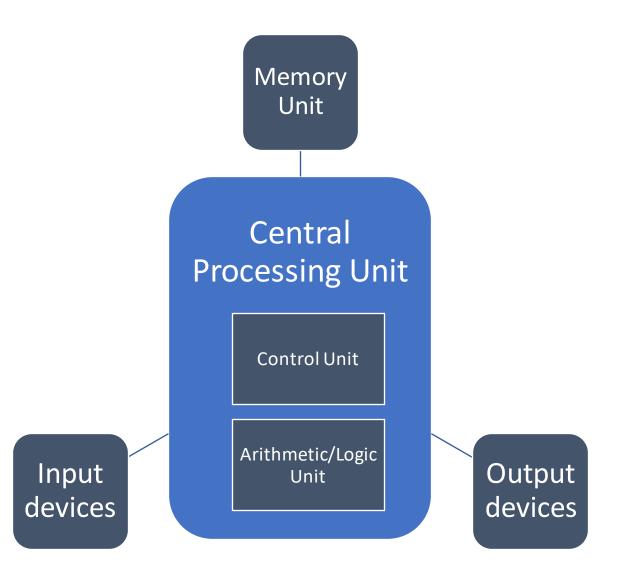
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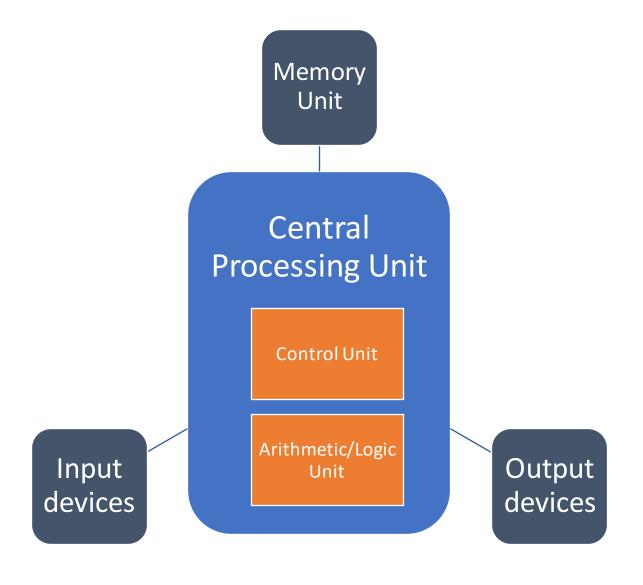
Because all operations performed by computers nowadays can be broken down into combinations of both aforementioned operations.

• Definition (Von Neumann architecture): The Von Neumann architecture describes one of the first architectures for a computer.



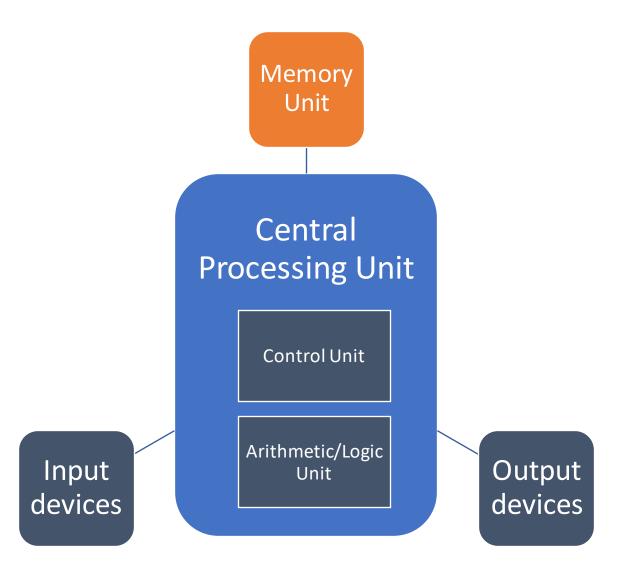
It first consists of a **Central Processing Unit (CPU)**, which itself consists of...

- An Arithmetic/Logic Unit (in charge of dealing with instructions, typically math operations, in binary 0/1),
- And a Control Unit (in charge of the hardware and communication between different hardware elements)



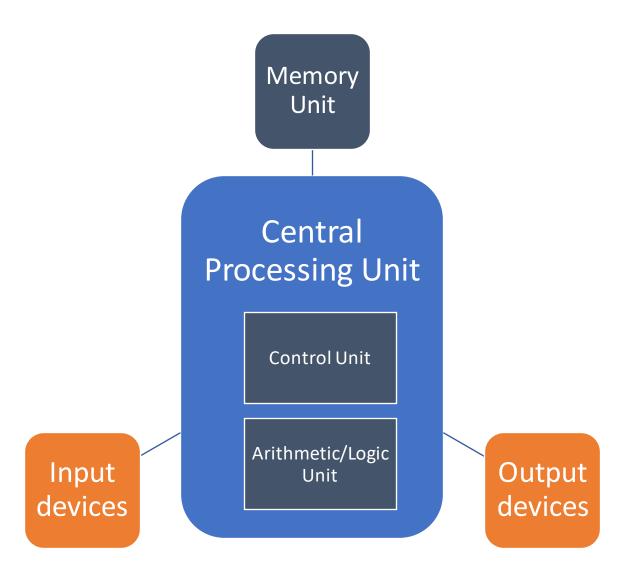
It also contains...

 A Memory Unit (for storing and retrieving results from previous computational tasks, using binary formatting 0/1),

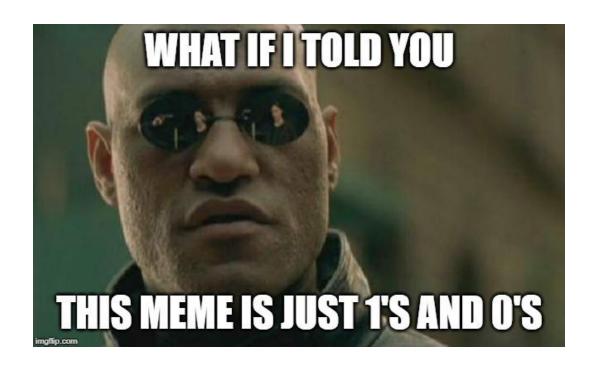


It also contains...

- A Memory Unit (for storing and retrieving results from previous computational tasks, using binary formatting 0/1),
- Inputs and Outputs Devices (e.g. mouse, keyboard, screen, microphone, webcam, etc.).

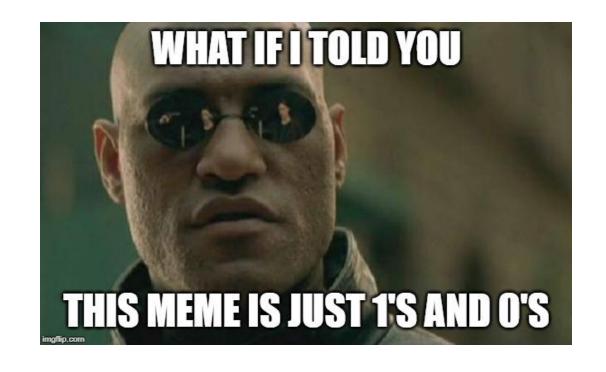


• Observation: in a computer, all operations (computational and memory tasks) and are performed in binary.



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- Problem: binary is heavy and difficult to read for humans.
- Example: "Matthieu", in binary, is "01001101 01100001
 01110100 01110100 01101000
 01101001 01100101 01110101".



- Observation: in a computer, all operations (computational and memory tasks) and are performed in binary.
- **Solution:** find an intermediate language, readable by humans, to address the computer.
 - **High-level language:** closer to human language (easy to learn)
 - Low-level language: closer to binary (faster, but difficult to learn)

Generations	Languages	Characteristics
First-generation languages (1954 – 1958)	FORTRAN I, ALGOL 58, Flowmatic, IPL V	Mainly used for mathematical calculations; consists only of global data and sub-programs.
Second-generation languages (1959 – 1961)	FORTRAN II, ALGOL 60, COBOL, Lisp	Use extended to business applications; artificial intelligence; subroutines, block structure, data types introduced.
Third-generation languages (1962 – 1970)	PL/1, ALGOL 68, Pascal, Simula	Use extended to wider applications; ideas of modules and data abstraction introduced.
The generation gap (1970 – 1980)	C, FORTRAN 77	Many languages invented with few surviving; small executables, thrust towards standardization.
Enhanced popularity of object- orientated languages (1980 – 1990)	Smalltalk 80, C++, Ada83, Eiffel	Languages derived from previous ones; the idea of a class as a basic unit of abstraction.
Emergence of frameworks (1990 – present)	Visual Basic, Java, Python, J2EE, .NET, Visual C++, Visual Basic .NET	Widespread use of integrated development environments (IDE); focus on Web-based systems.

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Python: what is it?

About Python: Python is an interpreted, high-level, general-purpose programming language.

- Created by Guido van Rossum and first released in 1991.
- Currently on its v3, since 2008.
- Python's design philosophy emphasizes code **readability**.
- Its language constructs aim to help programmers write clear, logical code for small and largescale projects.

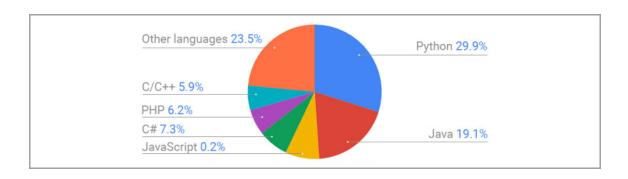




Why learn Python?

- High-level language: easy to write and read, and therefore well-suited for beginners.
- Wide variety of packages: can be used for multiple purposes (computer software, phone apps, video games, web, etc.)
- **Dynamic typing:** in layman terms, Python is able to manage the data saved to memory, in an automated and efficient fashion, without human intervention.

 Python is the #1 language for data science and AI at the moment: several frameworks such as Tensorflow (Google AI), Pytorch (widely used in academic research on AI), etc.



Why learn Python?

- Python is widely used in IT companies.
- Also, high interoperability with other languages: Jumping to or including another language (Java, C, SQL, etc.) is easy, once you know Python.



→ Overall, Python is a good **entry point** for beginners in both programming and computer science, and therefore the first language we teach in SUTD.

Installing Python



- In this class, we will use **Python 3.10(.5)** (latest stable version available on the 12th of July 2022).
- Download it here (for 32/64-bit Windows and Mac users, Linux users can get it via apt-get or SoftwareCenter)

https://www.python.org/downloads/



The Console/Terminal/Shell/Bash

Definition (Console, Terminal, Shell, or Bash):

 The console is a text prompt expecting commands, which can be used to communicate with your computer. (And in the early days of computers, it was the only way to communicate with them!)



The Console/Terminal/Shell/Bash

Definition (Console, Terminal, Shell, or Bash):

- The console is a text prompt expecting commands, which can be used to communicate with your computer.
- Nowadays, your Operating System (OS) provides an easier and more user-friendly way to communicate with your computer and "hides" the need for console.

 But consoles are still there, hidden somewhere in your computers anyway!

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.973]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Administrator>
```

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 (Typically, you see consoles all the time in computer/hacker movies.)

Hacker in movies starter pack

constantly moving on screen

Smashes their keyboard for

a while and says
"I'm in"

A random progress bar which after completion says ACCESS GRANTED



"He's good but I'm better



Wears the same black hoodie

"I'm gonna get the override codes by breaching the firewall" Then some dumb jock/ chick says 'English Please'



Has multiple monitors for no reason at all



A cube or a complex structure spins in the background

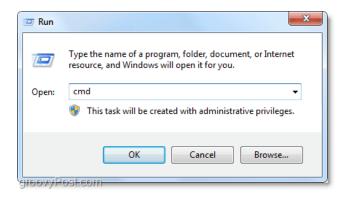
"Uh oh, theres a secondary firewall"

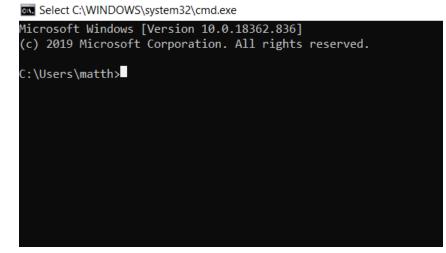
Opening a console (Windows)

 Check your installation has completed appropriately, by trying to open a console.

- Windows: the cool way.
- Press simultaneously Windows key + R,
- 2. then type cmd (which is short for command console), and press Enter.

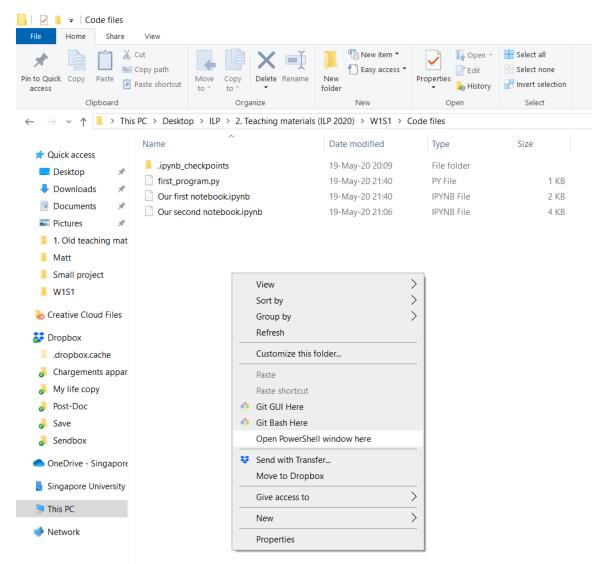






Opening a console (Windows – option 2)

- Windows option 2: faster and more convenient way, in my opinion
- 1. Open an explorer window/file manager window in the folder you attempt to work in.
- 2. Hold shift and right-click in an empty space of the explorer window.
- 3. Choose "Open Powershell window here".



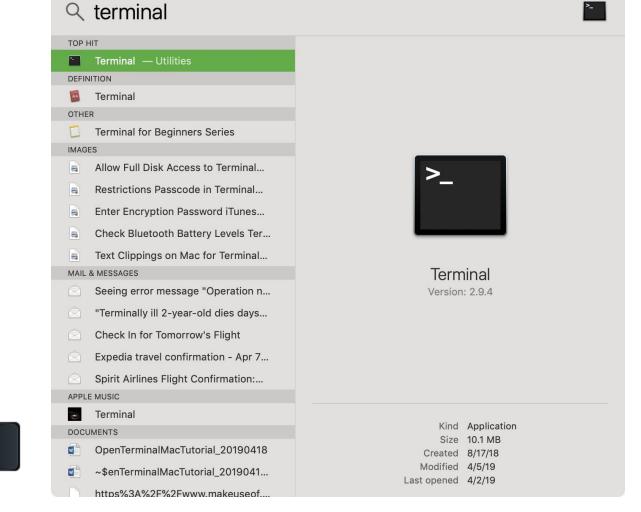
Opening a console (Mac OS)

X

command

Spacebar

- Mac: roughly the same procedure
- Press simultaneously
 Command key + Space,
- 2. Then type **Terminal**,
- 3. It should appear as your top result, click it



OS mode vs. Python mode

- After installing Python, you may use the console to type Windows/Mac/OS commands (a.k.a. OS mode)
- Typically, commands for creating, copying, pasting, moving through folders or files, etc.

- You may also use a command to start a Python environment.
- While in the Python environment or Python mode, your console expects Python-type commands (not OS ones!).

→ But how do you know which mode your are in?

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PS D:\Work\SUTD Lecturer\Teaching\13. ILP @ SUTD 2022\Teaching materials (ILP 2023)\W1S1> py Python 3.10.5 (tags/v3.10.5:f377153, Jun 6 2022, 16:14:13) [MSC v.1929 64 bit (AMD64)] on win3 2

Type="help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> ______

Line starts with three arrows (= Python mode)

Your first run of Python!

Start Python by **typing one** of the following commands in the console, while in OS mode and press **Enter!**

(Note: one of these should work, might vary depending on your machine!)

- py (most frequent one, works in my case)
- py3
- python
- python3

```
PS C:\Users\matth> py
Python 3.8.3 (tags/v3.8.3:6f8c832, May 13 2020, 22:37:02) [MSC v.1924 64 bit (AMD64)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>>
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```

To exit the Python environment and go back to your OS console, simply type quit() and press enter.

```
PS C:\Users\matth> py
Python 3.8.3 (tags/v3.8.3:6f8c8
Type "help", "copyright", "cred
>>> quit()
PS C:\Users\matth>
```

Installing & updating packages in Python

Next, let us install packages.
 (Packages are extra functionalities for Python.)

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It shall run for a while, download and install a few things...

(numpy for advanced math computation and notebook, which we will use later on)

 Start python in a console, type print("Hello World!"), and submit by pressing Enter. It should display "Hello World!".

```
PS C:\Users\matth> py
Python 3.8.3 (tags/v3.8.3:6f8c832, May
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or
>>> print("Hello World!")
Hello World!
>>> ■
```

- Start python in a console, type print("Hello World!"), and submit by pressing Enter.
 It should display "Hello World!".
- Definition (the "Hello World" program): The "Hello World" program is a computer program that outputs or displays the message "Hello World!". It is often used as a sanity test to make sure that a computer language is correctly installed.

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PS C:\Users\matth> py
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Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or
>>> print("Hello World!")
Hello World!
>>> _
```

When your code outputs "Hello World!"



 Assigning something to memory is done with the = sign.

```
Windows PowerShell
PS D:\Work\SUTD Lecturer\Teaching\13. ILP @ SUTD 2022\Teaching material
Python 3.10.5 (tags/v3.10.5:f377153, Jun 6 2022, 16:14:13) [MSC v.1929
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> print("Hello World")
Hello World
>>> x = 10 + 3
>>> print(x)
>>> y = x*2
>>> print(y)
26
>>>
```

- Assigning something to memory is done with the = sign.
- (Note: The = sign does not have the same meaning as in mathematics.)
- In computer science it means:
 - Assign what is on the right-hand side of the equal sign to memory.
 - The name of this element, called a variable, consists of the text on the left-hand side of the equal sign.

```
Windows PowerShell
PS D:\Work\SUTD Lecturer\Tea
Python 3.10.5 (tags/v3.10.5)
Type "help", "copyright",
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 Here, we have assigned the numerical value resulting from the operation 10 + 3, to a variable named x.

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- Here, we have assigned the numerical value resulting from the operation 10 + 3, to a variable named x.
- Later on, we can retrieve the value stored in the variable, and

 for instance ask the computer to print it on screen for us, with the print() function.

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- Later on, we can retrieve the value stored in the variable, and

 for instance ask the computer to print it on screen for us, with the print() function.
- Or even reuse it in other calculations!

```
PS D:\Work\SUTD Lecturer\Tea
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- Later on, we can retrieve the value stored in the variable, and

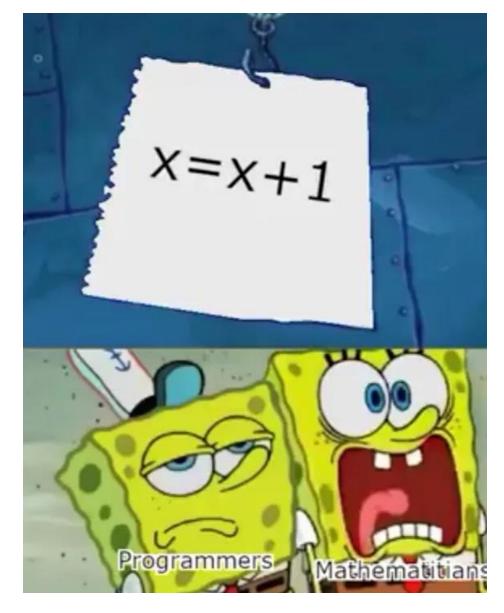
 for instance ask the computer to print it on screen for us, with the print() function.
- Or even reuse it in other calculations!

```
PS D:\Work\SUTD Lecturer\Tea
Python 3.10.5 (tags/v3.10.5)
Type "help", "copyright",
>>> print("Hello World")
Hello World
>>> x = 10 + 3
>>> print(x)
>>> y = x*2
>>> print(y)
26
>>>
```

Important: these commands executed in the background but showed nothing in the console!

Need to explicitly ask for a print()!

- Assigning something to memory is done with the = sign.
- (Note: The = sign does not have the same meaning as in mathematics.)
- In computer science it means:
 - Assign what is on the right-hand side of the equal sign to memory.
 - The name of this element, called a variable, consists of the text on the left-hand side of the equal sign.



An important note on the use of the equal sign in computer science.

Matt's Great advice #1

Matt's Great Advice #1: the print() function in Python.

The **print()** function is the most important Python function.

It is <u>only way</u> for you to check what is being computed and stored in memory at any given time.

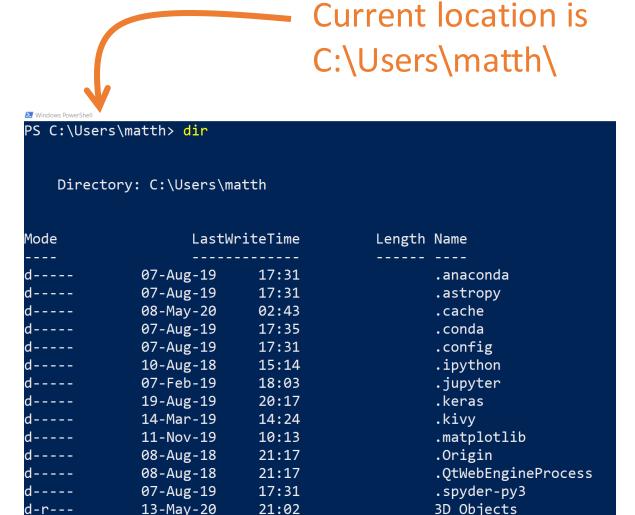
Use it and abuse it, to check what your program is doing!



- You should have downloaded a few files along with the lecture notes on eDimension.
- More specifically, we will now use the first_program.py file.

- You should have downloaded a few files along with the lecture notes on eDimension.
- More specifically, we will now use the first_program.py file.
- Identify where your
 first_program.py file is currently
 located, before moving to the
 next slide.

• Command (dir/ls): The dir command (or ls command in Mac OS/Linux) lists the folders and files in your current location.



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26-Mar-19

- Command (dir/ls): The dir command (or ls command in Mac OS/Linux) lists the folders and files in your current location.
- Command (cd): The cd command changes your current location to another folder, reachable from your current location in dir/ls.

Observe how the current location is changing every time.

```
PS C:\Users\matth> cd Desktop
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop> cd
PS C:\Users\matth> cd Downloads
PS C:\Users\matth\Downloads
PS C:\Users\matth\Downloads>
```

- Command (dir/ls): The dir command (or ls command in Mac OS/Linux) lists the folders and files in your current location.
- Command (cd): The cd command changes your current location to another folder, reachable from your current location in dir/ls.
- Note: the command "cd .." moves you back one level.

Observe how the current location is changing every time.

```
PS C:\Users\matth> cd Desktop
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop> cd
PS C:\Users\matth> cd Downloads
PS C:\Users\matth\Downloads
PS C:\Users\matth\Downloads>
=
```

```
PS C:\Users\matth> cd Desktop
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop> cd ILP
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP> cd '.\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\'
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1> <mark>cd</mark> '.\Code files\'
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1\Code files> dir
   Directory: C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1\Code files
                 LastWriteTime
Mode
                                    Length Name
d---- 19-May-20 20:09
                                          .ipynb checkpoints
-a--- 19-May-20 21:40
                               469 first program.py
a---- 19-May-20 21:40
                                     1810 Our first notebook.ipynb
         19-May-20
                      21:06
                                      3205 Our second notebook.ipynb
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1\Code files>
```

→ Now, use cd/dir/ls commands to move to the location of your **first_program.py** file!

Checking your .py file

- Open your **first_program.py** file with any text editor (specifically do it by right clicking and asking to open with a text editor).
- Recognize the code we used earlier.

```
| The List search | Wee Tencing Lending are limited | William | Wi
```

Checking your .py file

- Open your first_program.py file with any text editor (specifically do it by right clicking and asking to open with a text editor).
- Recognize the code we used earlier.
- Later on, you can run the code in the first_program.py file, all at once, by typing the following command in your console

```
py first_program.py
```

```
| Any light that starts with # is a comment.
| Any light that starts with # is a comment.
| Any light that starts with # is a comment.
| It is only used by humans to describe what is going on in the program.
| Computers will simply ignore these lights.
| The light below will display "Hello World!" on screen!
| Print("Hello World!")
| Here, we create a variable named x, and assign it a value | resulting from the operation 10 + 3.
| It will be stored in memory for later reuse.
| Retrieve the value in memory for variable x and display it.
| Print(x) | Print(x)
```

```
Windows PowerStall
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1\Code files> py .\first_program.py
Hello World!
13
PS C:\Users\matth\Desktop\ILP\2. Teaching materials (ILP 2020)\W1S1\Code files>
```

Running Python from an IDE

 Problem: Typing code in a text editor and running it from console is not exactly convenient...

Running Python from an IDE

• **Problem:** Typing code in a text editor and running it from console is not exactly convenient...

• Suggestion: we should use an Interactive Development Environment (IDE), which makes the coding easier for us.

Running Python from an IDE

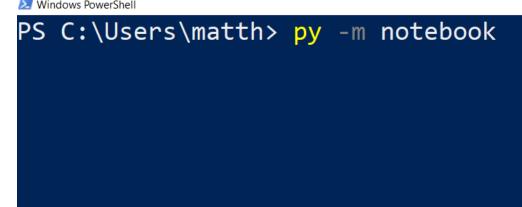
• **Problem:** Typing code in a text editor and running it from console is not exactly convenient...

• Suggestion: we should use an Interactive Development Environment (IDE), which makes the coding easier for us.

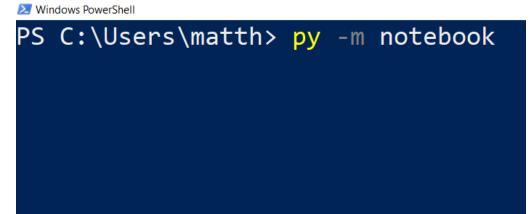
• In this course, I suggest to use **Jupyter Notebook**, but you might look online for other IDEs if you want!

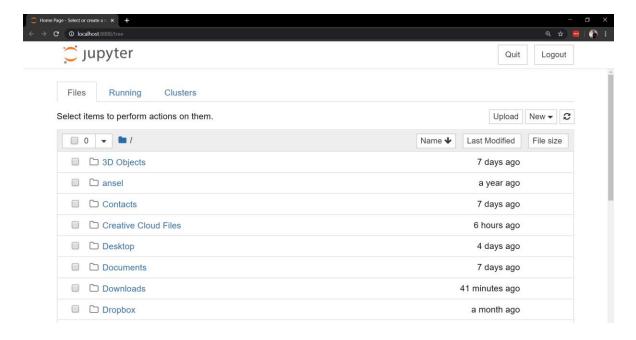
 Return to your console, outside of the Python environment (use quit() if needed).

- Return to your console, outside of the Python environment (use quit() if needed).
- Type py -m notebook, and press enter to submit and call the Python notebook module (-m notebook)



- Return to your console, outside of the Python environment (use quit() if needed).
- Type py -m notebook, and press enter to submit and call the Python notebook module (-m notebook)
- It should open a notebook window/tab in your web browser.

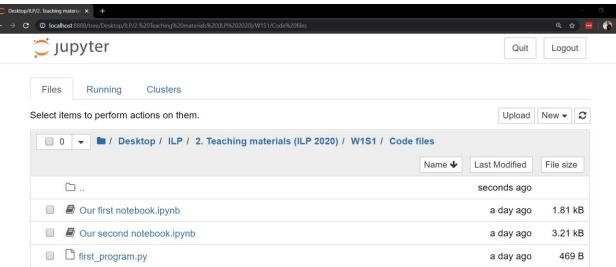




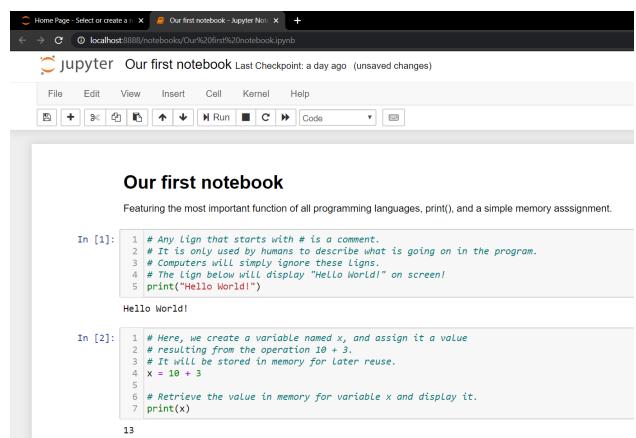
Running Python from an IDE, such as a Jupyter Notebook

October No

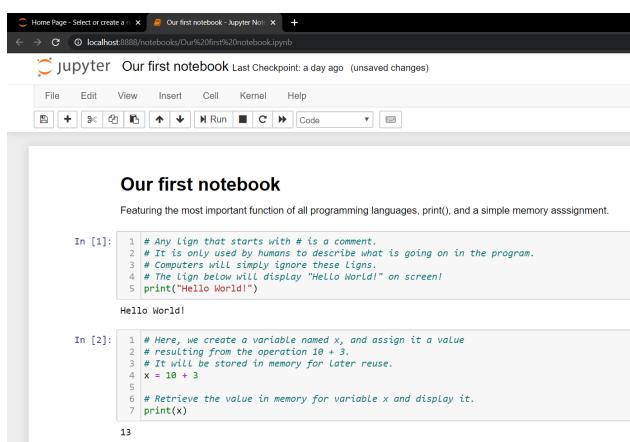
- Notebooks are a more convenient way to program on Python.
- They provide an explorer to navigate to a folder of your choice.
- Move to the folder where the code you downloaded is.



- Notebooks provide a mixed combination of
 - **text blocks** (in Markdown language)
 - and **code blocks** (in Python, these blocks have a "In [...]" on their left side).



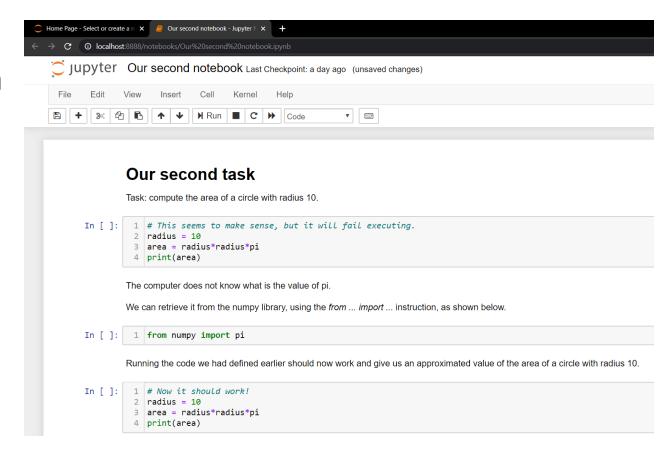
- Notebooks provide a mixed combination of
 - **text blocks** (in Markdown language)
 - and **code blocks** (in Python, these blocks have a "In [...]" on their left side).
- Try executing a cell of code by selecting it and pressing
 Shift+Enter!
- A lot more convenient isn't it?



Our second task

• Let us consider a **second task:** compute the area of a circle with radius 10.

Open the second notebook.

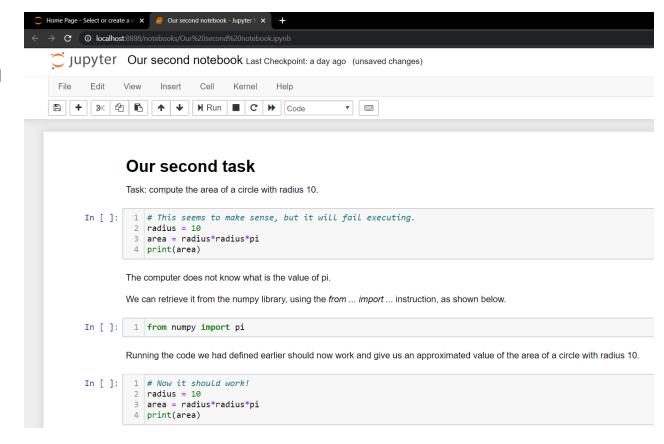


Our second task

• Let us consider a **second task:** compute the area of a circle with radius 10.

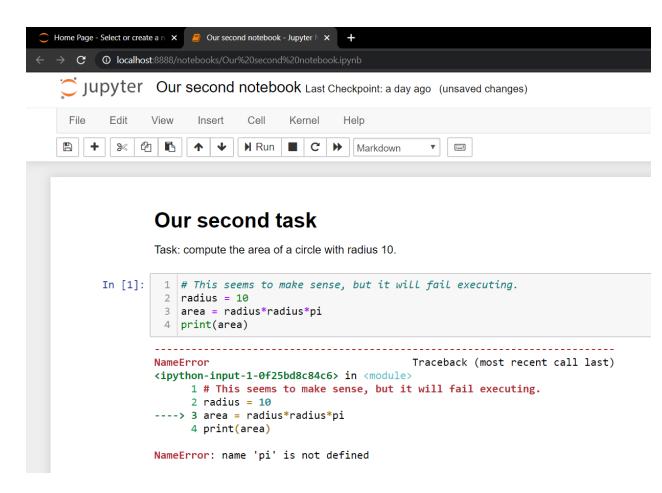
Open the second notebook.

 Note: in computer science, the multiplication operation is denoted *, not ×.



Our second task: problem

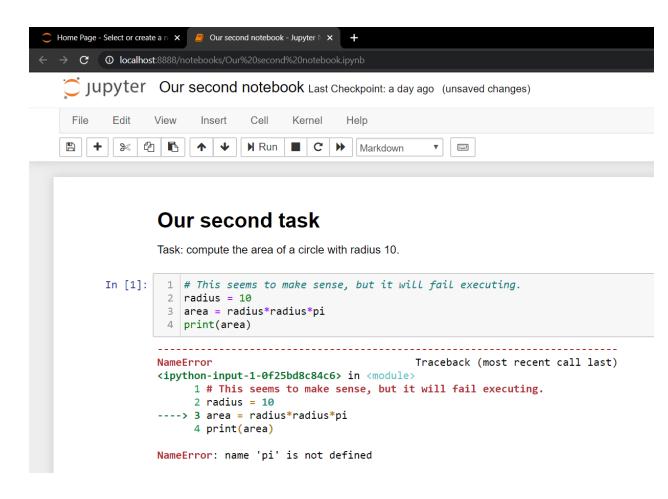
- While the task seems easy mathematically speaking, we have a problem...
 - → We need the value of pi.



Our second task: problem

- While the task seems easy mathematically speaking, we have a problem...
 - → We need the value of pi.

 We could create a variable named pi and assign it the value 3.14, but it is better (and more accurate) to retrieve it from a package.



• By default, Python is a simple yet powerful calculator, which can only perform basic calculations (additions, multiplications, etc.)



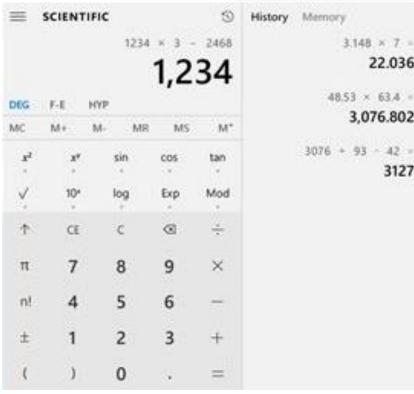
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- If we need more advanced concepts, we need to **import** them from a **package**.



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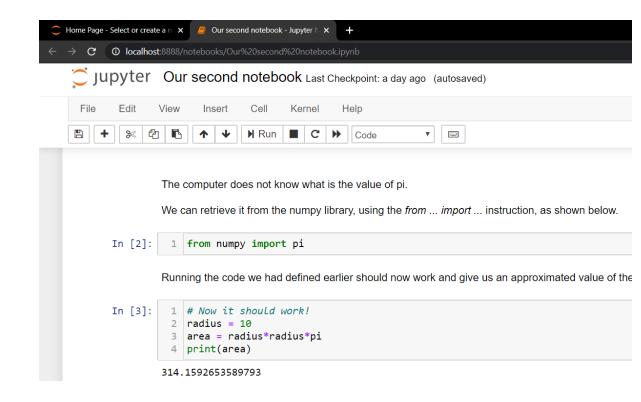
 Import ≈ adding a specific button to your calculator.



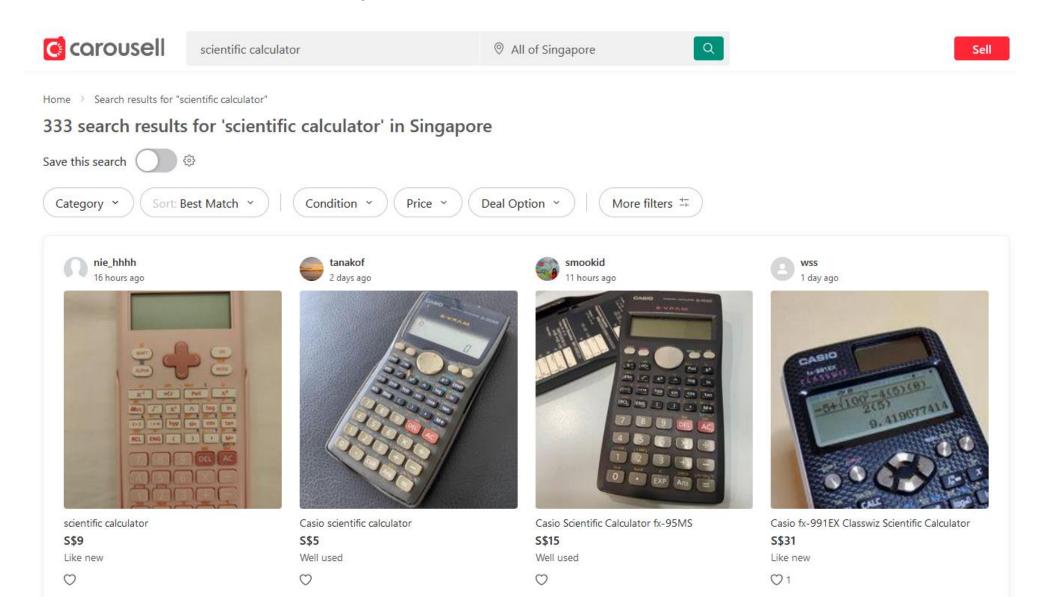


- By default, Python is a simple yet powerful calculator, which can only perform basic calculations (additions, multiplications, etc.)
- If we need more advanced concepts, we need to **import** them from a **package**.

 Import ≈ adding a set of buttons/functions to your calculator.



By the way, this means that you do not need your calculator anymore, welcome to the real world.



Congratulations, you now have a Python-compatible machine, ready to run!

Feel free to play around a bit more if you want!



Conclusion

What we have seen

- What is programming?
- Programming Languages and why we will use Python.
- Installing Python, extra packages and IDEs.
- Test run to confirm everything works.

- → If you were able to execute the two codes (in console and Jupyter Notebooks): you are officially done for today.
- → Let me know ASAP if you have encountered technical issues and we will try to fix them together.