

QUESTION

What are the pros & cons of Python?

PROS

1. Easy to read, learn & code

Python is high level language & its syntax is very simple & it doesn't need any semicolons or braces & looks like English. Thus, it is beginner-friendly.

Due to its simplicity, its maintenance cost is less.

2. Dynamic Typing

In python, there is no need of the declaration of variables. The data type of the variable gets assigned automatically during runtime, facilitating dynamic coding.

3. Free, Open source

It is free and also has an open source licence. This means the source code is available to the public & no one can do modifications to the original code. This modified code can be distributed with no restrictions.

4. Portable

Python is also platform-independent. That is, if you write code on the windows, Mac or Linux operating system, then you can run same code on the other operating systems with no need for any changes.

Python works with wide range of libraries like Numpy, Pandas etc--

The Python package installer (PIP) helps you to install these libraries in your interpreter. It also helps to manage packages in Python.

6. Wide Range Of Application

Python has many applications like web development, making Desktop GUIs, App development, Data Science etc... it has become preferred language by professionals.

7. Interpreted language

Python is interpreted language. Code are executed line by line till an error is encountered if any.

If any error occurs at a line, it stops execution and gives that error to the console. This leads to an easier step by step debugging process.

8. Functional, Object-oriented, Procedural

This is Functional, Object-oriented language. It means code get executed at the procedural means from top to bottom fashion.

A functional language works based on functions, rather than `if-else` statements.

A function is a collection of code which takes input & gives output.

a) Envolvement in large projects

It is used for implementation in big projects and software like YouTube, Google, Yahoo. It is also preferred language in many companies in various fields like educational, medical, research, etc.

b) Memory management

Python also excels in managing its memory by using a separate library for this purpose.

CONS

1. It's simple nature

Its simplicity is making it hard for a programmer to adjust to the syntax of the other programming languages.

2. Slow speed & memory inefficient

The interpreter in Python executes the code line by line, which increases the overall time.

3. Weak mobile computation

Python has many applications on the server-side. But it is hardly seen on the client-side or in mobile applications.

- It occupies a lot of memory
- this makes the process slow
- It also does not facilitate security

4) Poor Database Access

Python database access is considered to be slow compared to other technologies like JDBC, etc. This limits its use in high enterprises.

5)

Runtime Errors due to dynamic typing.

Because it's a dynamically typed language, you do not declare any variable and a variable storing an integer can store a string later. This might happen unnoticed but leads to runtime errors while doing operations.

2. History of Python. (1989 → 2023)

The programming language Python was conceived in the later 1980s, and its implementation was started in December 1989 by Guido van Rossum at CWI in the Netherlands as a successor to ABC, capable of exception handling and interfacing with the Amoeba operating system. Python has since been used in many applications, including web servers and scientific computing.

Early development and release

Python was created as a successor to the ABC programming language, incorporating features like exception handling and interfacing with the Amoeba operating system. Van Rossum aimed to create a language that was more readable and easier to use than existing language like C. The name 'Python' was inspired by the BBC TV show "Monty Python's Flying Circus".

In February 1991, van Rossum published the code (version 0.9.0) to alt.sources, which included classes with inheritance, exception handling, functions and core data types like list, dict and str.

Python reached version 1.0 in January 1994, introducing functional programming tools like lambda, map, filter & reduce.

1. Origine (late 1980s - 1991)

- Creator: Guido van Rossum, a Dutch programmer working at Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI) in the Netherlands.
- Inspirations
 - Guido wanted to create an easy-to-read & easy-to-see programming language, with clean syntax.
 - He was influenced by ABC language & by languages like C, Modula-3, & Unix shell scripting.
- Goal: A language that was powerful yet simple & emphasized code readability.
- Development started: December 1989.

• First public release: February 1991, with the name Python 0.9.0. It included many core features, e.g., 200+ built-in functions, exception handling, built-in data types (str, list, dict, etc), core module system, modules and a built-in module (os, math, random, etc.).

2} Python 1.0 Era (1991-2000)

- Python 1.0 (January 1994)
 - Introduced lambda, map, filter & reduce functions.
 - Python's first wave of community growth began through comp.lang.python newsgroup.
- Python 1.5 (December 1997)
 - Added packaging in `distutils`, Unicode support (initially limited), & performance enhancements.

Python 1.6 (September 2000)

Managed by BeOpen Python Lab, showing Python's growing popularity.

3) Python 2.x Era (2000 - 2010), with a major upgrade

• Python 2.0 (October 2000) - a major upgrade

• key features:
- tuple, dictionary, string, exception

- list, dict, tuple, str, tuple, exception

• Garbage collection

• Unicode support: (2001) PEP 261

(introduction of set datatype)

• threads, parallel support (PEP 3143)

• PEP (Python enhancement Proposal)

• (2002) 2.1.1 was released

• Python 2.3 to 2.7 (2003 - 2010):

continuous improvements, adding:

• Generators (yield keyword)

• Decorators

• New-style classes

• with-statement (context manager)

• better performance & stability

4) Transition to Python 3.x (2008 - 2020)

• Python 3.0 (December 2008) - "The Great Break"

• key changes:-

• print became a function: `print("Hello")`

• Unicode by default (all strings are Unicode)

• Integer division changed (/ gives float, //

gives floor division); `floor()`

• New I/O system

• Removed outdated modules and syntax

• `unicode`, `str`, `bytes` methods

- Python 3.3 - 3.8 (2012 - 2019)
 - Added a `async` & `await` for asynchronous programming.
 - Type hinting (PEP 484) is introduced.

- 5. Python 3.9 + (2020 - Present)
 - modern python versions continue to improve performance, typing & developer productivity through various updates.

- Python 3.9 (2020):
 - New dictionary merge operator - `=|`.
 - Type hinting enhancements.
- Python 3.10 (2021):
 - Pattern matching (like `switch/case`)
 - structural patterns matching (match statement)
- Python 3.11 (2022):
 - Up to 60% faster performance.
 - Better error messages.
 - Exception groups, an improved error handling mechanism.
- Python 3.12 (2023):
 - Improved memory management.
 - Enhanced debugging tools.

- Python 3.13 (2024):
 - Performance upgrades.
 - improved support for the new PEP 696 (f-strings).
 - Removal of deprecated features.

- 6. Python Today (2025 & beyond)
 - widely used in Data science & machine learning.
 - web development (Django, Flask).
 - Automation & scripting.

- AI & Deep learning (TensorFlow, PyTorch)
- Cloud computing, cybersecurity, IoT

Governance:-

- managed by the Python software foundation (PSF).
- Development continues via community-driven PEPs.
- Philosophy (from "The Zen of Python", PEP 20):
 - Beautiful is better than ugly
 - Simple is better than complex
 - Readability counts.

Summary Timeline

Year	Version	Major Highlights
1989	concept	Guido starts developing Python.
1991	0.90	First public release
1994	1.0	core functions, modules
2000	2.0	unicode, garbage collection
2008	3.0	major redesign, print()
2020	End of 2x	Full transition to 3.x
2021-2024	3.10 - 3.13	Pattern matching, async, type hints, performance
2025+	Future	Focus on AI, performance, interoperability.

- AI & Deep learning (TensorFlow, PyTorch)
- Cloud computing, cybersecurity, IoT
- Governance:
 - managed by the Python software foundation (PSF).
 - Development continues via community-driven PEPs.
- Philosophy (From "The Zen of Python", PEP 20):
 - Beautiful is better than ugly
 - simple is better than complex
 - Readability counts.

Summary Timeline

Year	version	major highlights
1989	concept	Guido starts developing Python.
1991	0.9.0	First public release
1994	1.0	core functions, modules
2000	2.0	unicode, garbage collection
2008	3.0	major redesign, print()
2020	End of 2x	full transition to 3.x
2021-2024	3.10 - 3.13	Pattern matching, asyncio, type hints, performance
2025+	Future	Focus on AI, performance, interoperability.