**Python Basics**

Getting started

In this chapter you will run your first python program hello\_world.py. First we will teach you how to install Python on your computer. You will also install a text editor to work with your Python program. Text editor recognizes Python code and highlight different section as you write, making it easy to understand different distinct parts of your code. Today, two versions of Python are available: Python 2 and Python 3. In some cases code written in Python 2 may not run properly on systems with python 3 installed. Throughout this course I’ll talk about Python 3 because in future we won’t have further support for Python 2.

Installation

Python on Linux – Python is already installed on most Linux computers. For this reason there is very little you have to install and very few settings you have to change to start programming. To check version of your Python in Linux system, open a terminal and type ‘python’. You will see output telling you which version of Python is installed. To check the same for Python 3, type ‘python3’ on your Linux terminal and check the version number.

Python on Windows – To install Python on windows first go to https://python.org/downloads/ and download the specific version of python you need for this course.

All codes will be explained in VS Code. So add VS code installation and Python extension addition videos also.

Variables and Data types

In this chapter you will learn about different kinds of data you can work with in your Python programs. You will also learn how to store data in variable and how to use those variables in your programs.

Let’s run our first Python program. Here is our first Python program which we are going to run. Type the following command and save it inside a file called hello\_world.py.

print(“Hello world!”)

After running the above code if you are getting the output “Hello world” then you have installed Python successfully.

Variables

Let’s add a variable to the file hello\_world.py. Add a new line at the beginning of the file and modify the second line.

# hello\_world.py

message = “Hello world!”

print(message)

Here, we have added a variable called ‘message’. Every variable holds a value, which is the information associated with that variable. In this case the value is the text “Hello world”. Let’s modify hello\_world.py to print a second message.

# hello\_world.py

message = “Hello world!”

print(message)

message = “Let’s code in Python”

print(message)