Introduction to Programming/ Installation and running Python / Getting Started with Python

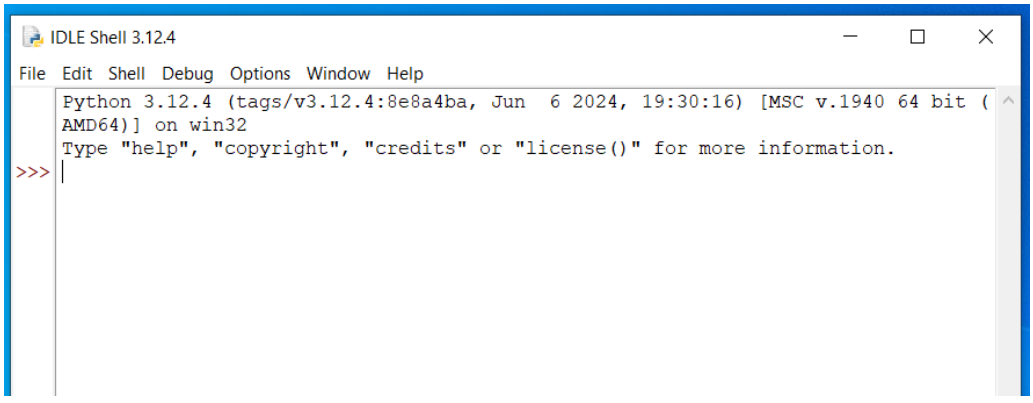
Getting started with Python

Here we are going to type commands into the IDLE Shell to check Python has loaded and is working.

Load IDLE Shell

1. Open IDLE. The easiest way is to click the Start menu and search for 'IDLE'.

2. When this shows you a IDLE Shell, check that what loads says "Python 3.something" at the top and not "Python 2.something". If it says "Python 2.something" on opening, then something has gone wrong (ask for help).



Run some code

1. Type of copy this command and press enter. You should find Python

1. Type or copy this command and press enter. You should find Python outputs "Hello, world!".

```
print("Hello, world!")
```

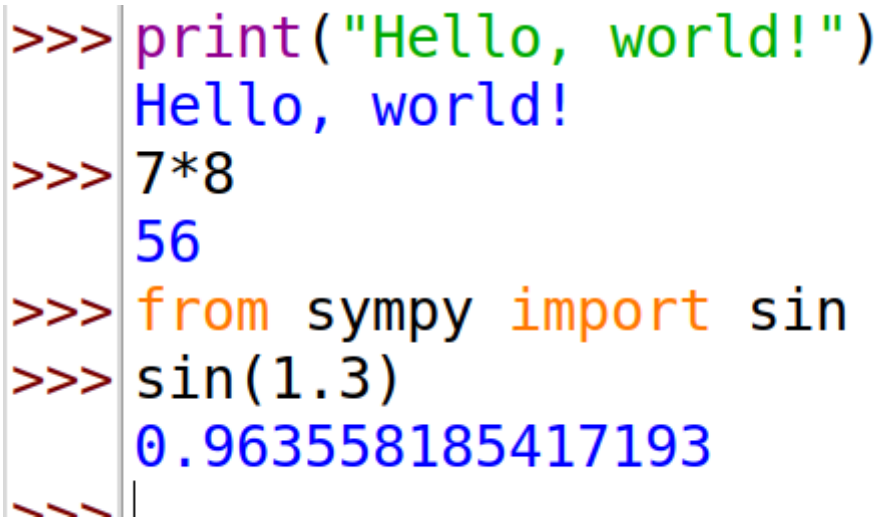
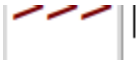
2. Try some simple calculator operations. For example, multiple two numbers using `*`.

```
7*8
```

3. Let's try some more advanced mathematics. First we must import additional maths functionality.

```
from sympy import sin
```

Now we can ask for $\sin(1.3)$ using

```
sin(1.3)
```

If you got the output "Hello, world!", "56" and "0.963558185417193", then congratulations - you have Python running.