Python Getting Started

Python Install

If we do not have python installed on our computer, then we can download it for free from the following website: https://www.python.org/

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To check which version of python is installed on a Windows PC, search in the start bar for Python or run the following on the Command Line (cmd.exe):

C:\users*usersname*>python –version

To check which version of python is installed on a Mac or Linux, then on Mac open the Terminal or on linux open the command line and type:

python –version

Python Quickstart

As a developer we can write Python (.py) files in a text editor and then put those files into the python interpreter to be executed.

The way to run a python file is like this on the command line:

C:\users*usersname*>python helloindia.py

We can write Python file in text editor like notepad and save with name and extension (.py):- E.g. helloworld.py

print("Hello, India!")

Where "helloindia.py" is the name of our python file.

To execute Python file open our command line, navigate to the directory where we saved our file, and run:

E.g.

C:\users*usersname*>python helloindia.py

Or open idle python shell and run the file.

Result will be:- Hello, India!

Congratulations, we have written and executed our first Python program.

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The Python Command Line

To test a short amount of code in python it is quickest and easiest not to write the code in a file because Python can be run as a command line itself.

Type the following on the Windows, Mac or Linux command line:

C:\users*usersname*>python

Or, C:\users*usersname*>py

From there we can write any python code.

Or, C:\users\Saket>py

Python 3.8.3 (tags/v3.8.3:6f8c832, May 13 2020, 22:20:19) [MSC v.1925 32 bit (Intel)] on win32

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

>>>
>>> print("Hello, India!")

Hello, India!

>>>

We can simply type the following exit() command to quit the python command line interface: