Beyond Jupyter: Other environments to do scientific programming in Python

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- Introduction
- 2 Core components
- More components
- Advantages and disadvantages

Introduction

- Introduction

@ccordoba12

- Spyder maintainer
- Software developer at Quansight
- Former developer at **Anaconda** (3 years)
- PhD Student in Industrial Engineering at Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
- **Physicist** by training (Mathematica, C++)

Why Python became so relevant in science?

During the **last 6 years** we have witnessed the rise of:

- Great libraries:
 - Pandas: Excel on steroids
 - Scikit-learn: Machine learning for the masses
 - **Tensorflow** / **Pytorch**: Deep learning for the masses
- A fantastic ecosystem of tools to:
 - Distribute
 - Install
 - Use

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A unified platform for science/engineering applications

⇒ Travis Oliphant and Peter Wang



Multi-platform general purpose package manager for scientific packages

⇒ Kale Franz, Ilan Schnell, Aaron Meurer

Introduction



A build tool that gets scientific packages

⇒ Ilan Schnell, Mike Sarahan and Ray Donelly

Introduction



Community packages by the thousands

⇒ Filipe Fernandes, John Kirkham, Jonathan Helmus

Mature scientific GUIs





Pierre Raybaut Me

Programming environments for scientists/engineers



- Data exploration
- Computational narratives



- Focused on programming scientific code
- Provide integrated environment to do it

- 2 Core components

Some data about Spyder



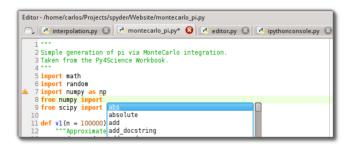


- **Spyder** = The Scientific Python Development Environment
- Created by Pierre Raybaut in 2009
- MIT licensed
- Multi-platform (Windows, macOS, Linux)
- **72.000** lines of code
- 100 contributors
- 50 pull requests / 200 issues per month

More about Spyder

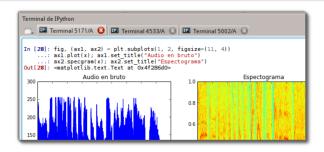
- Website: https://www.spyder-ide.org/
- Github: https://github.com/spyder-ide/spyder
- 9 core developers
- 2 million downloads on Anaconda
- 350.000 downloads per year on PyPI

Our cornerstone: the editor



- Code Completion ⇒ Tab
- Highlight errors (red) and warnings (orange)
- Access to $\mathbf{docs} \Longrightarrow [\mathtt{Ctrl}] + [\mathtt{I}]$
- Go to **definition** \Longrightarrow [Ctrl] + [G]
- Multi-language in version 4

Run your code in the console



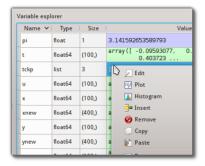
- As many consoles as you want!
- One console per file (if you want)
- Special consoles for SymPy, Cython and Pylab.
- Connect to remote kernels
- Access to $\mathbf{docs} \Longrightarrow [\mathtt{Ctrl}] + [\mathtt{I}]$

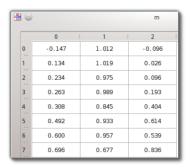
Multiple evaluation modes



- Run file \Longrightarrow F5
- Run cells $(\# \%\%) \Longrightarrow [Ctrl]$
- Run **selection** or **line** \Longrightarrow F9

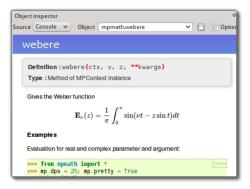
Variable Explorer





- Inspect variables defined in the console
- Modify their values graphically
- Copy, plot and remove variables
- Works while **debugging**!

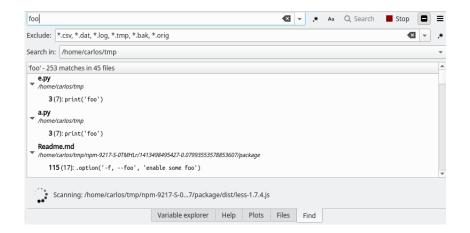
Help



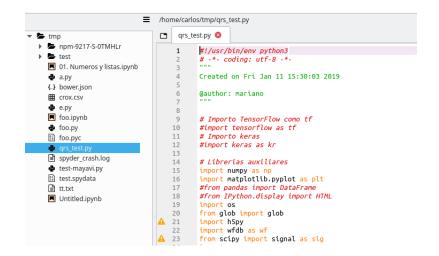
- Rich text docstrings
- Render math equations written in Latex

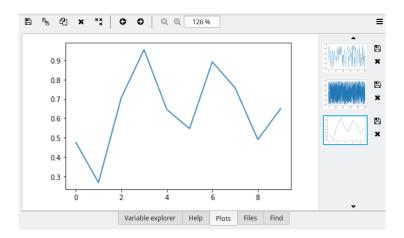
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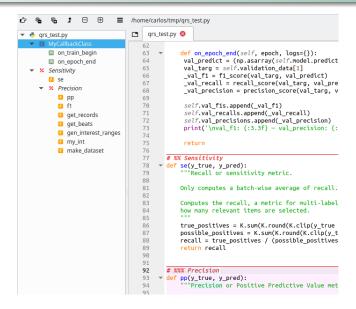
Find in files



Projects

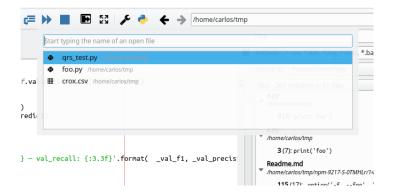






More components

Switcher



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Spyder



Advantages

- Integrated experience
- Powerful, but simple to use
- Translated interface to eight languages

- Lots of installation issues
- Not easily extensible
- Crappy debugger

Spyder



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Disadvantages

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Jupyter



Advantages

- Revolutionary way to let users mix text, code and graphics
- Clean, simple interface
- Multi-platform through browser
- JupyterHub and Binder

- Poor integration with the op-
- Important functionality is left

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Thanks!

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https://github.com/spyder-ide/spyder