

# The command line

# What is the command line?

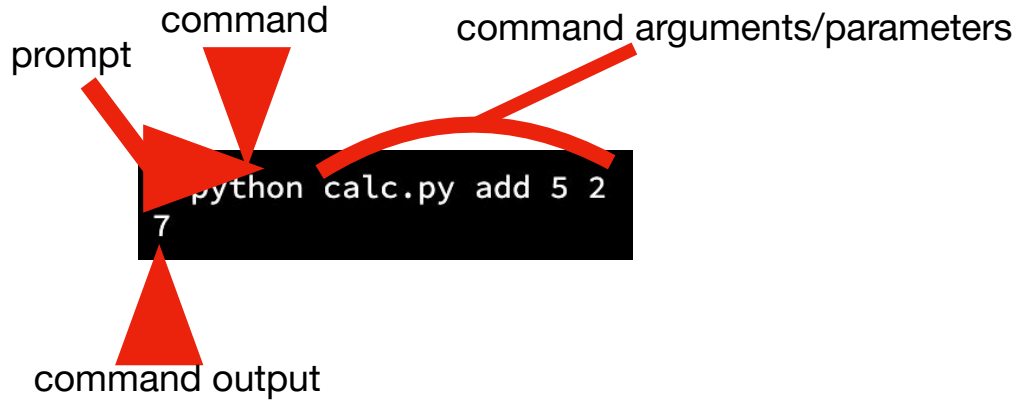
Windows' File Explorer and Mac's Finder are graphical/visual ways of interacting with your computer (i.e., they're graphical user interfaces (GUIs))

The command line is a more flexible text-based way of interacting with your computer or remote server (=computer that's not where you are).

# Benefits of the command line

1. Wide range of powerful tools
2. Remote access
3. Tasks can be automated via scripts
4. Generally quicker than using GUI

# Anatomy of the command line



calc.py

```
import sys

cmd = sys.argv[1]
a = int(sys.argv[2])
b = int(sys.argv[3])

if cmd == 'add':
    print(a+b)
```

# Stuff you can do in the command line

- File system navigation
- File manipulation and processing
- Interact with contents of file
- Input/output (I/O) redirection
- Version control
- Networking
- Run scripts
- and much more

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# Shell scripts

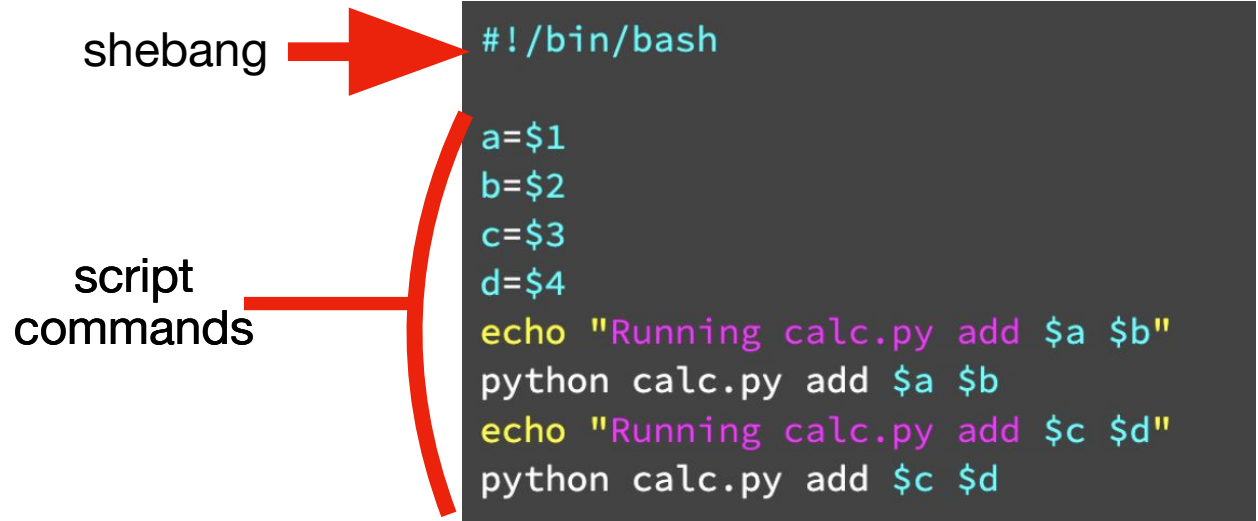
# What is a script?

A ***script*** is a file that contains commands or instructions that are executed by a particular interpreter (e.g., Python, R, Bash, JavaScript, Ruby, Perl)

Scripts let you easily run and share a series of commands



# Anatomy of a script



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