



Python 0

Some material adapted
from Upenn cmpe391
slides and other sources



Overview

- History
- Significance
- Installing & Running Python
- Simple script examples

Brief History of Python

- Invented in the Netherlands, early 90s by Guido van Rossum
- Named after Monty Python
- Open sourced from the beginning, managed by [Python Software Foundation](#)
- Considered a scripting language, but is much more
- Scalable, object oriented and functional from the beginning
- Used by Google from the beginning

Python's Benevolent Dictator For Life

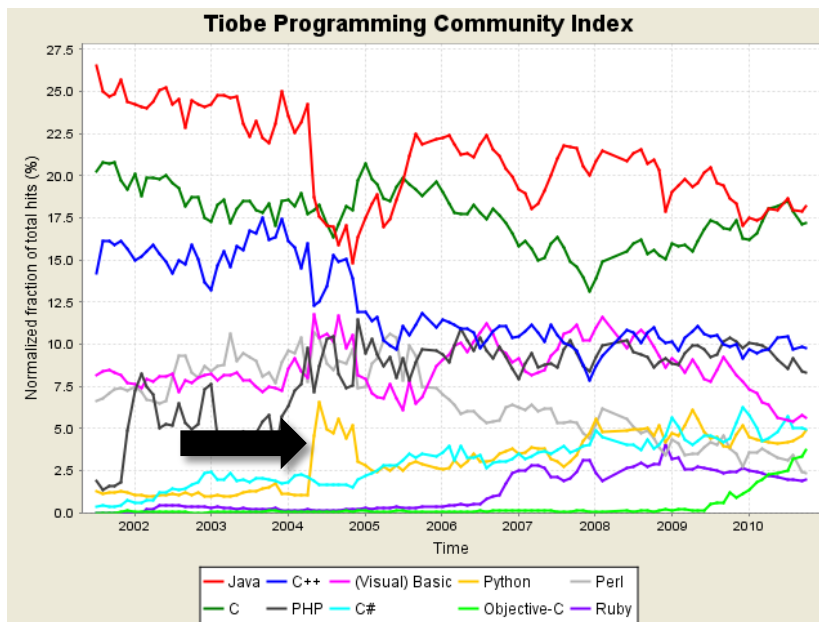
“Python is an experiment in how much freedom programmers need. Too much freedom and nobody can read another's code; too little and expressiveness is endangered.”

- [Guido van Rossum](#)



Python's place in the Market

- TIOBE has been collecting data on programming language “popularity” for many years
- Counts results for a query like “<language> programming” on popular search engines



Position Oct 2010	Position Oct 2009	Delta in Position	Programming Language	Ratings Oct 2010	Delta Oct 2009	Status
1	1	=	Java	18.166%	-0.48%	A
2	2	=	C	17.177%	+0.33%	A
3	4	↑	C++	9.802%	-0.08%	A
4	3	↓	PHP	8.323%	-2.03%	A
5	5	=	(Visual) Basic	5.650%	-3.04%	A
6	6	=	C#	4.963%	+0.55%	A
7	7	=	Python	4.860%	+0.96%	A
8	12	↑↑↑↑	Objective-C	3.706%	+2.54%	A
9	8	↓	Perl	2.310%	-1.45%	A
10	10	=	Ruby	1.941%	-0.51%	A
11	9	↓↓	JavaScript	1.659%	-1.37%	A
12	11	↓	Delphi	1.558%	-0.58%	A
13	17	↑↑↑↑	Lisp	1.084%	+0.48%	A-
14	24	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Transact-SQL	0.820%	+0.42%	A-
15	15	=	Pascal	0.771%	+0.10%	A-
16	18	↑↑	RPG (OS/400)	0.708%	+0.12%	A-
17	29	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Ada	0.704%	+0.40%	A-
18	14	↓↓↓	SAS	0.664%	-0.14%	B
19	19	=	MATLAB	0.627%	+0.05%	B
20	-	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Go	0.626%	+0.63%	B

10/10 TIOBE Programming Community Index

http://python.org/

The image shows a screenshot of the Python.org website as it appeared in a browser window. The browser's address bar shows 'python.org'. The website features the Python logo and a search bar. A navigation menu on the left includes links for ABOUT, NEWS, DOCUMENTATION, DOWNLOAD, COMMUNITY, FOUNDATION, and CORE DEVELOPMENT. The main content area is titled 'Python Programming Language – Official Website' and contains a paragraph about Python's benefits, a section on platform support, and information about the Python Software Foundation. A sidebar on the right includes a 'Python 3 Poll', a 'NASA uses Python...' section with an image of an astronaut, and a 'What they are saying...' section with a quote from ITA Software. The footer shows social media icons and a date: 'Published: Tue, 12 Oct 2010, 8:30 +0200'.

Python Programming Language – Official Website

Python is a programming language that lets you work more quickly and integrate your systems more effectively. You can learn to use Python and see almost immediate gains in productivity and lower maintenance costs.

Python runs on Windows, Linux/Unix, Mac OS X, and has been ported to the Java and .NET virtual machines.

Python is free to use, even for commercial products, because of its OSI-approved [open source license](#).

New to Python or choosing between Python 2 and Python 3? Read [Python 2 or Python 3](#).

The [Python Software Foundation](#) holds the intellectual property rights behind Python, underwrites the [PyCon conference](#), and funds other projects in the Python community.

[Read more](#), -or- [download Python now](#)

» **Python 3.2 alpha 3 released**
The [third and final alpha release of Python 3.2](#) has been released for testing.

Published: Tue, 12 Oct 2010, 8:30 +0200

Python 3 Poll
I wish there was Python 3 support in
(enter [PyPI package name](#))
[Vote](#) [Results](#)

NASA uses Python...

... joining users such as [Rackspace](#), [Industrial Light and Magic](#), [AstraZeneca](#), [Honeywell](#), and many others.

What they are saying...
ITA Software:
Since then, we've changed how we use Python a ton internally. We have lots more production software written in Python.

http://docs.python.org/

The image shows a browser window displaying the Python v2.7 documentation website. The browser's address bar shows 'docs.python.org'. The page has a dark blue header with 'Python v2.7 documentation' and 'modules | index'. A left sidebar contains navigation links for 'Download', 'Docs for other versions', and 'Other resources'. The main content area is titled 'Python v2.7 documentation' and includes a welcome message, a list of 'Parts of the documentation' with brief descriptions, and a section for 'Indices and tables'.

Overview — Python v2.7 doc: x

docs.python.org

Python v2.7 documentation » modules | index

Download

Download these documents

Docs for other versions

- Python 2.6 (stable)
- Python 3.1 (stable)
- Python 3.2 (in development)
- Old versions

Other resources

- FAQs
- Guido's Essays
- New-style Classes
- PEP Index
- Beginner's Guide
- Book List
- Audio/Visual Talks
- Other Doc Collections
- Report a Bug

Quick search

Go

Enter search terms or a module, class or function name.

Python v2.7 documentation

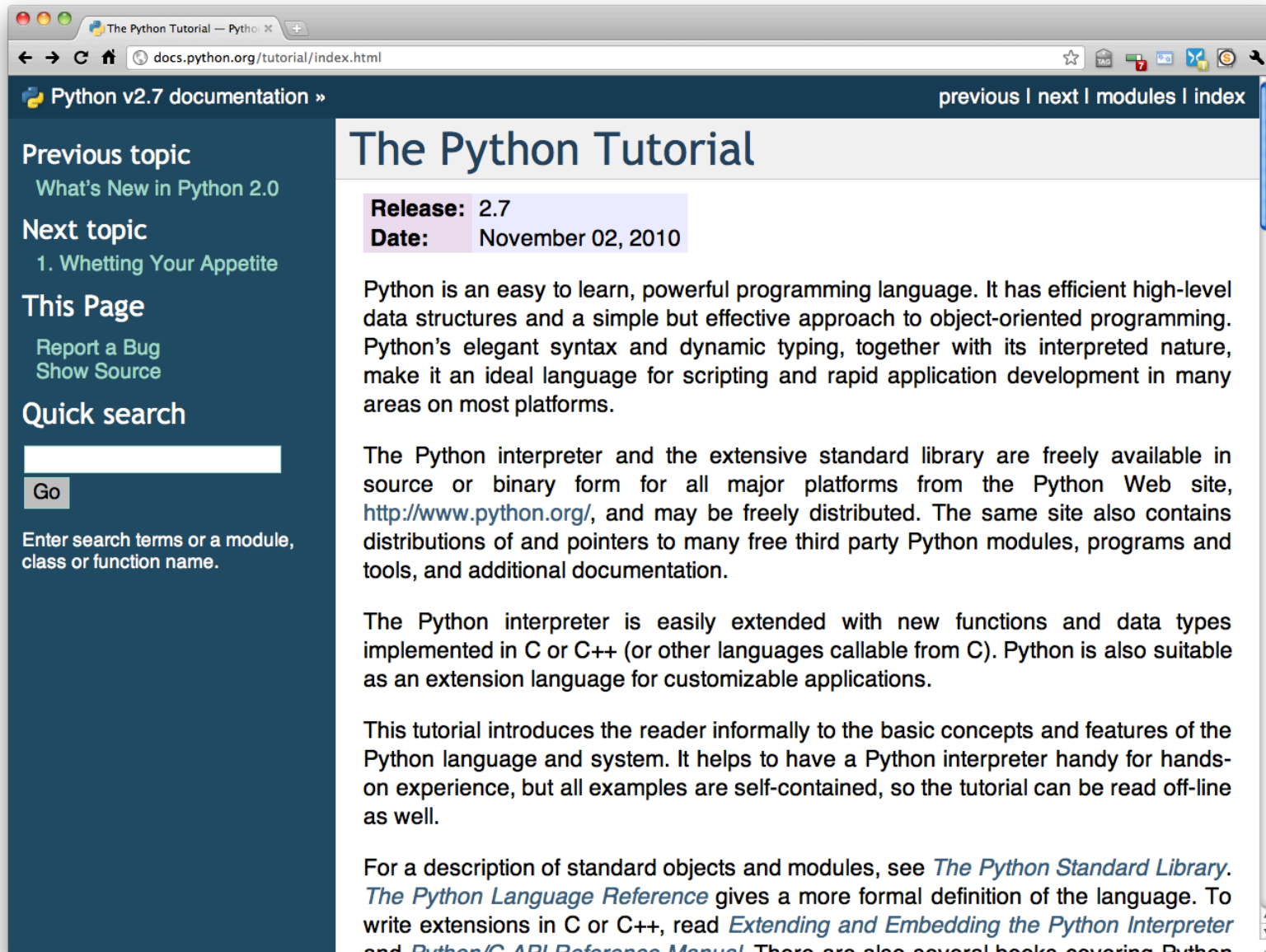
Welcome! This is the documentation for Python 2.7, last updated Nov 02, 2010.

Parts of the documentation:

What's new in Python 2.7? <i>or all "What's new" documents since 2.0</i>	Extending and Embedding <i>tutorial for C/C++ programmers</i>
Tutorial <i>start here</i>	Python/C API <i>reference for C/C++ programmers</i>
Library Reference <i>keep this under your pillow</i>	Installing Python Modules <i>information for installers & sys-admins</i>
Language Reference <i>describes syntax and language elements</i>	Distributing Python Modules <i>sharing modules with others</i>
Python Setup and Usage <i>how to use Python on different platforms</i>	Documenting Python <i>guide for documentation authors</i>
Python HOWTOs <i>in-depth documents on specific topics</i>	FAQs <i>frequently asked questions (with answers!)</i>

Indices and tables:

The Python tutorial is good!



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Python 2.7 documentation. The browser's address bar shows the URL `docs.python.org/tutorial/index.html`. The page title is "The Python Tutorial". The left sidebar contains navigation links for "Previous topic" (What's New in Python 2.0), "Next topic" (1. Whetting Your Appetite), "This Page" (Report a Bug, Show Source), and "Quick search" (with a search input field and a "Go" button). The main content area features the title "The Python Tutorial" followed by "Release: 2.7" and "Date: November 02, 2010". The text describes Python as an easy-to-learn, powerful programming language with efficient high-level data structures and a simple but effective approach to object-oriented programming. It mentions that the Python interpreter and standard library are freely available in source or binary form for all major platforms from the Python Web site (<http://www.python.org/>). The text also notes that the Python interpreter is easily extended with new functions and data types implemented in C or C++ (or other languages callable from C). The tutorial introduces the reader informally to the basic concepts and features of the Python language and system, and provides references to *The Python Standard Library*, *The Python Language Reference*, and *Extending and Embedding the Python Interpreter and Python/C API Reference Manual*.

Python v2.7 documentation » previous | next | modules | index

The Python Tutorial

Release: 2.7
Date: November 02, 2010

Python is an easy to learn, powerful programming language. It has efficient high-level data structures and a simple but effective approach to object-oriented programming. Python's elegant syntax and dynamic typing, together with its interpreted nature, make it an ideal language for scripting and rapid application development in many areas on most platforms.

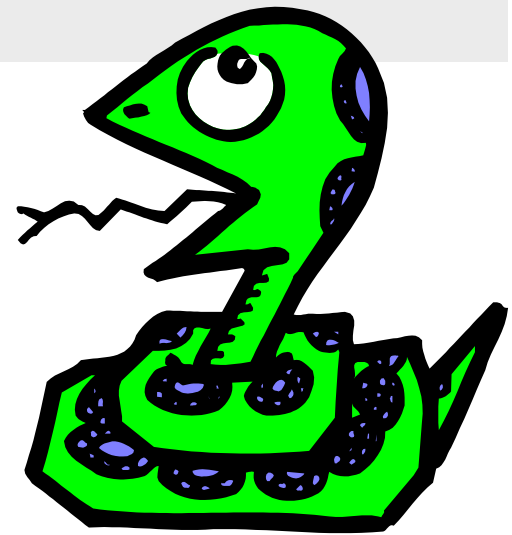
The Python interpreter and the extensive standard library are freely available in source or binary form for all major platforms from the Python Web site, <http://www.python.org/>, and may be freely distributed. The same site also contains distributions of and pointers to many free third party Python modules, programs and tools, and additional documentation.

The Python interpreter is easily extended with new functions and data types implemented in C or C++ (or other languages callable from C). Python is also suitable as an extension language for customizable applications.

This tutorial introduces the reader informally to the basic concepts and features of the Python language and system. It helps to have a Python interpreter handy for hands-on experience, but all examples are self-contained, so the tutorial can be read off-line as well.

For a description of standard objects and modules, see *The Python Standard Library*. *The Python Language Reference* gives a more formal definition of the language. To write extensions in C or C++, read *Extending and Embedding the Python Interpreter and Python/C API Reference Manual*. There are also several books covering Python

Running Python



The Python Interpreter

- Typical Python implementations offer both an interpreter and compiler
- Interactive interface to Python with a read-eval-print loop

```
[finin@linux2 ~]$ python
```

```
Python 2.4.3 (#1, Jan 14 2008, 18:32:40)
```

```
[GCC 4.1.2 20070626 (Red Hat 4.1.2-14)] on linux2
```

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

```
>>> def square(x):
```

```
...   return x * x
```

```
...
```

```
>>> map(square, [1, 2, 3, 4])
```

```
[1, 4, 9, 16]
```

```
>>>
```

Installing

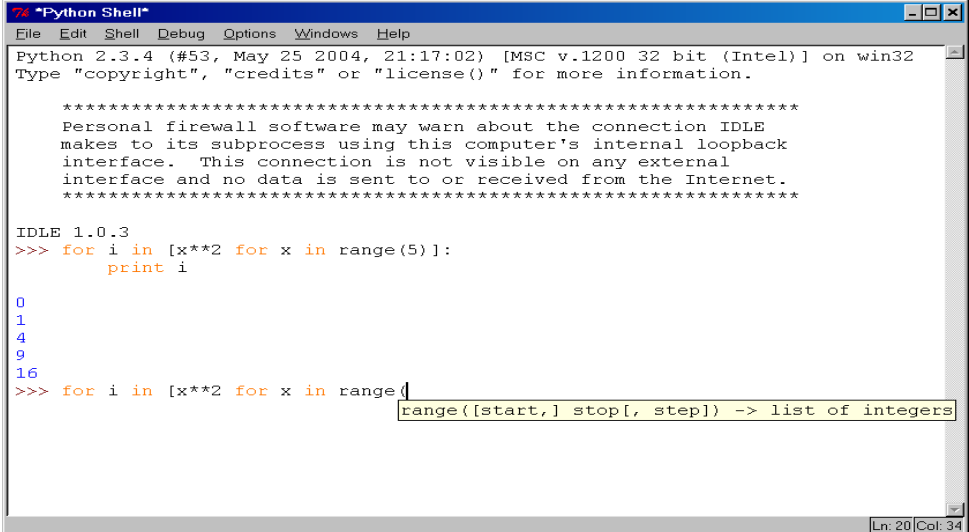
- Python is pre-installed on most Unix systems, including Linux and MAC OS X
- The pre-installed version may not be the most recent
- Two “latest versions”
 - 2.7 released 7/10 & 3.2 released 10/10
 - Python 3 is a non-backward compatible version which you should not use for 331
- Download from <http://python.org/download/>
- Python comes with a large library of standard modules

Python IDEs and Shells

- There are many Integrated Development Environments
 - IDLE
 - Eclipse + PyDev
 - Emacs
- As well as enhanced shells

IDLE Development Environment

- [IDLE](#) is the “official” IDE distributed with Python
- Preinstalled on MAC OS X
- Written in Python with the [Tkinter](#) GUI package
- Multi-window text editor with syntax highlighting, auto-completion, smart indent and other features
- Python shell with syntax highlighting, line recall, ...
- Integrated debugger with stepping, persistent breakpoints, and call stack visibility



```
Python Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Windows Help
Python 2.3.4 (#53, May 25 2004, 21:17:02) [MSC v.1200 32 bit (Intel)] on win32
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.

*****
Personal firewall software may warn about the connection IDLE
makes to its subprocess using this computer's internal loopback
interface. This connection is not visible on any external
interface and no data is sent to or received from the Internet.
*****

IDLE 1.0.3
>>> for i in [x**2 for x in range(5)]:
    print i

0
1
4
9
16
>>> for i in [x**2 for x in range(
range([start,] stop[, step]) -> list of integers

Ln: 20 | Col: 34
```

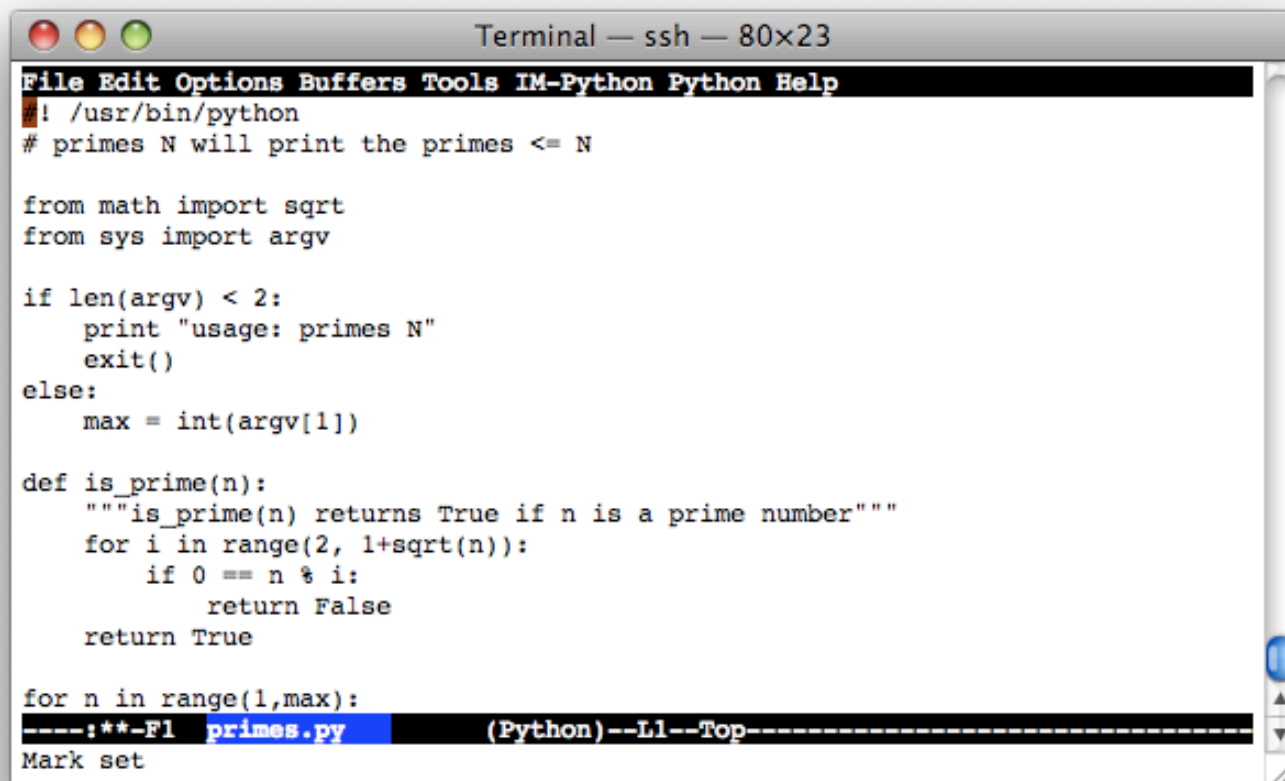
Eclipse + Pydev



- Pydev is an Eclipse plugin for Python
- Download from <http://pydev.org/>
- Syntax highlighting, code completion, goto function, debugger, ...

Editing Python in Emacs

- Emacs *python-mode.el* has good support for editing Python, enabled by default for .py files
- Features: completion, symbol help, eldoc, and inferior interpreter shell, etc.

A screenshot of an Emacs editor window titled "Terminal — ssh — 80x23". The window shows a Python script named "primes.py" being edited. The script includes imports for 'sqrt' and 'argv', a usage message, a function 'is_prime(n)', and a loop to print primes. The Emacs interface shows a menu bar with "File Edit Options Buffers Tools IM-Python Python Help", a status bar at the bottom with "----:**-F1 primes.py (Python)--L1--Top-----", and a "Mark set" indicator at the bottom left. The code is as follows:

```
#!/usr/bin/python
# primes N will print the primes <= N

from math import sqrt
from sys import argv

if len(argv) < 2:
    print "usage: primes N"
    exit()
else:
    max = int(argv[1])

def is_prime(n):
    """is_prime(n) returns True if n is a prime number"""
    for i in range(2, 1+sqrt(n)):
        if 0 == n % i:
            return False
    return True

for n in range(1,max):
```

Emacs as a Python IDE

- You can fire up a shell in emacs via M-x python-shell
- You can also set up a more powerful Python IDE environment in EMACS
 - [Pymacs](#) allows two-way communication between Emacs Lisp and Python
 - [Ropemacs](#) provides advanced features such as completion, refactoring, etc

Running Interactively on UNIX

On Unix...

```
% python
```

```
>>> 3+3
```

```
6
```

- **Python prompts with ‘>>>’.**
- **To exit Python (not Idle):**
 - In Unix, type CONTROL-D
 - In Windows, type CONTROL-Z + <Enter>
 - Evaluate `exit()`

Running Programs on UNIX

- Call python program via the python interpreter

```
% python fact.py
```

- Make a python file directly executable by
 - Adding the appropriate path to your python interpreter as the first line of your file

```
#!/usr/bin/python
```

- Making the file executable

```
% chmod a+x fact.py
```

- Invoking file from Unix command line

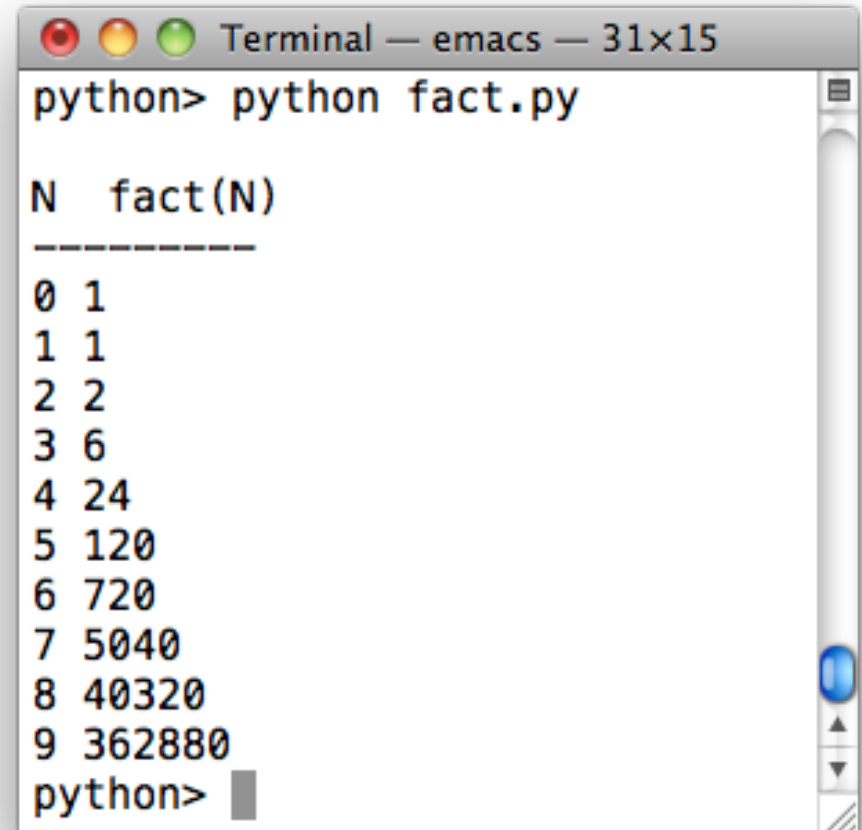
```
% fact.py
```

Example 'script': fact.py

```
#!/usr/bin/python

def fact(x):
    if x == 0:
        return 1
    return x * fact(x - 1)

print "\nN fact(N)"
print "-----"
for n in range(10):
    print n, fact(n)
```

A terminal window titled "Terminal — emacs — 31x15" showing the execution of a Python script. The prompt "python>" is followed by "python fact.py". The output is a table of factorials for N from 0 to 9, with a header "N fact(N)" and a separator line "-----". The output lines are: "0 1", "1 1", "2 2", "3 6", "4 24", "5 120", "6 720", "7 5040", "8 40320", "9 362880". The prompt "python>" is followed by a cursor.

```
Terminal — emacs — 31x15
python> python fact.py

N fact(N)
-----
0 1
1 1
2 2
3 6
4 24
5 120
6 720
7 5040
8 40320
9 362880
python> █
```

Python Scripts

- When you call a python program from the command line the interpreter evaluates each expression in the file
- Familiar mechanisms are used to provide command line arguments and/or redirect input and output
- Python also has mechanisms to allow a python program to act both as a script and as a module to be imported and used by another python program

Another Script Example

```
#!/usr/bin/python
```

```
""" reads text from stdin and outputs any email  
addresses it finds, one to a line """
```

```
import re
```

```
from sys import stdin
```

```
# a regular expression for a valid email address
```

```
pat = re.compile(r'[-\w][-\.\w]*@[-\w][-\w.]+[a-zA-Z]{2,4}')
```

```
for line in stdin:
```

```
    for address in pat.findall(line):
```

```
        print address
```

results

```
python> python email0.py <email.txt  
bill@msft.com  
gates@microsoft.com  
steve@apple.com  
bill@msft.com  
python>
```

Getting a unique, sorted list

```
import re
from sys import stdin

pat = re.compile(r'[-\w][-\.\w]*@[-\w][-\w.]+[a-zA-Z]{2,4}')
# found is an initially empty set (a list w/o duplicates)
found = set()
for line in stdin:
    for address in pat.findall(line):
        found.add(address)

# sorted() takes a sequence, returns a sorted list of its elements
for address in sorted(found):
    print address
```

results

```
python> python email2.py <email.txt  
bill@msft.com  
gates@microsoft.com  
steve@apple.com  
python>
```


Conclusion: Python is ..

- Popular as a scripting language
- Popular as a general purpose language
- Open sourced
- Interesting from a program language perspective
- Easy to learn and use, so being used in many CS 101 courses