Data Science

CMSC 320

This Lecture

Python?

Before we start...

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1. Quizzes.

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2. Office hours.

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2. Office hours.
3. How to ask questions.

Quizzes

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You only need to take 10, don't panic if you miss one.

Quizzes

If you still have concerns, email me (if you emailed me before my email, send me another)

Office Hours

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- We're going to use Quuly
- Quuly doesn't work in every country
- If this affects you, let me know

How to ask questions

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This class is about communication!

How to ask questions

- Explaining what you've tried already: Good.
- Screenshots: Bad... usually.

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- Python is multi-paradigm, but leans on the imperative and OO
- These paradigms and languages often have idioms
- A big part of becoming comfortable in a new PL is learning its idioms

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- Emphasize readability (code is also communication!)

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- Documenting code is good and necessary, but if you want to show what the code is doing, it leaves something to be desired.
- 'Notebooks' are meant to address this: Show the code and what it produces, all in the same document
- This is essential for data-science as the code is often the least important thing!

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- Iteration cooked two ways
- List comprehensions (ask me how I feel about them)

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- Most differences are minor
- Some differences break compatibility (code for one won't work for the other)
- For better or for worse (matter of opinion...) Python 3 is the medium-to-long-term future
- Very little reason to start new projects in Python 2.

Any Questions?

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Thanks for your time!