Installing Python and IDLE on a Windows PC

You will have to run Python 3.4.1 together with NumPy 1.8.2 and MatPlotLib 1.4. Versions matter, so please don't download the wrong one! The order you download them also matters. We must use the 32 bit version regardless of whether your Windows PC is 32 bit or 64 bit. The directions below work for both 32 bit and 64 bit, but installing the version of Python for 64 bit will cause the later steps to fail.

First, make sure there is no existing version of Python (or numpy or matplotlib) installed on your machine. You can go to Start-> Control Panel -> Uninstall Programs and look at the list there. Once everything is uninstalled, go to https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-341/

Now we are ready to install Python. Download Windows x86 MSI Installer from this link: https://www.python.org/ftp/python/3.4.1/python-3.4.1.msi

From your Downloads folder, double click this file and follow the instructions to install.

Test by opening IDLE and typing 3+5 then enter. IDLE should print an '8'

Next we need Numpy 1.8.1: http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/numpy-1.8.1-win32-superpack-python3.4.exe

Follow the instructions; the default location is fine.

Test by opening IDLE, typing import numpy then enter, then typing abs(-1) and enter. Python should print '1'

Next we need MatPlotLib 1.4.0:

http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/matplotlib-1.4.0.win32-py3.4.exe

Follow the instructions to install MatPlotLib. Again, the default location is fine. Before testing MatPlotLib we need some helper packages.

Download:

http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/python-dateutil-2.2.win32-py3.4.exe
http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/pyparsing-2.0.2.win32-py3.4.exe
http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/pytz-2014.7.win32-py3.4.exe
http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/files/Teaching/Fall2015/six-1.7.3.win32-py3.4.exe

Depending on the security of your machine you may not be able to click the hyperlinks above, but you can go to http://personal.denison.edu/~whiteda/cs112fall2015.html and find the necessary exe files there.

Once you have all these .exe files, install from them. The order should not matter and these installations will be very quick.

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Test by typing the following into IDLE import matplotlib.pyplot as plt plt.plot([1,2,3,4]) plt.ylabel('some numbers')
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plt.show()

A graph should pop up and that's how you know it works.