

Python Programming

with Blinky Tape

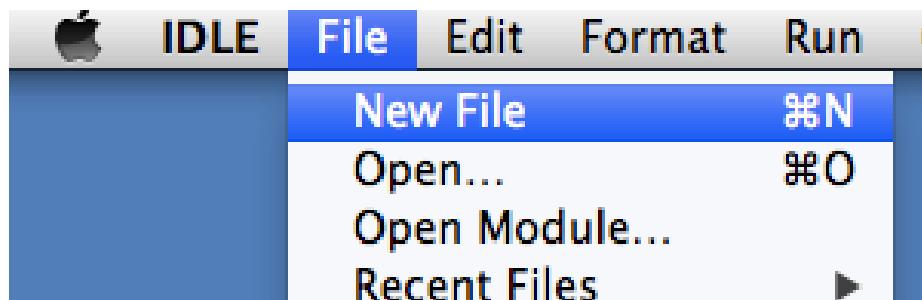
Lessons 19-32 v9

Content created by Dr. Mark Miller, Chris Miller, and Ed Loeswick – Learningtech.org



Make New File for Blinky Tape

Click:

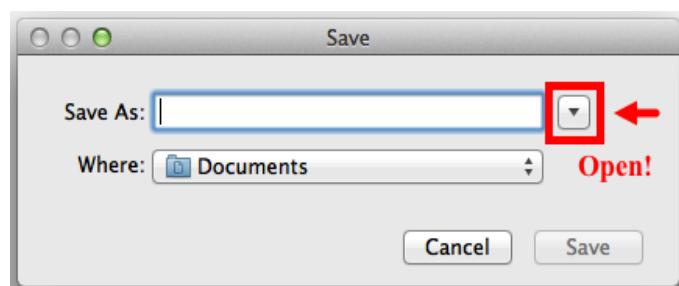
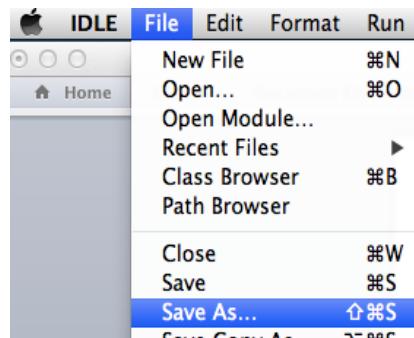


See:



Save As ... Documents ...

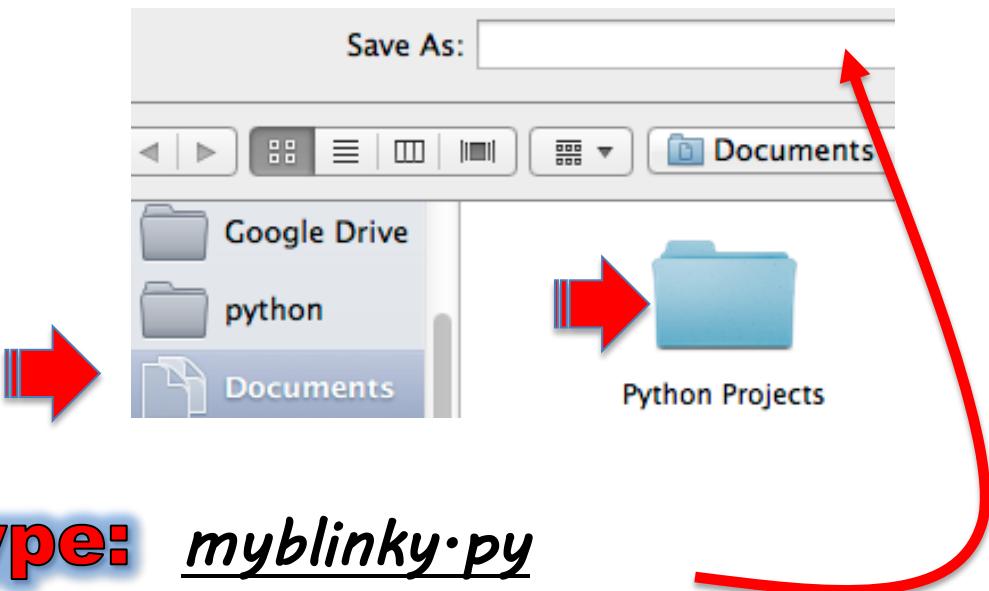
See:



Python Projects/myblink.py

Click: *Documents*

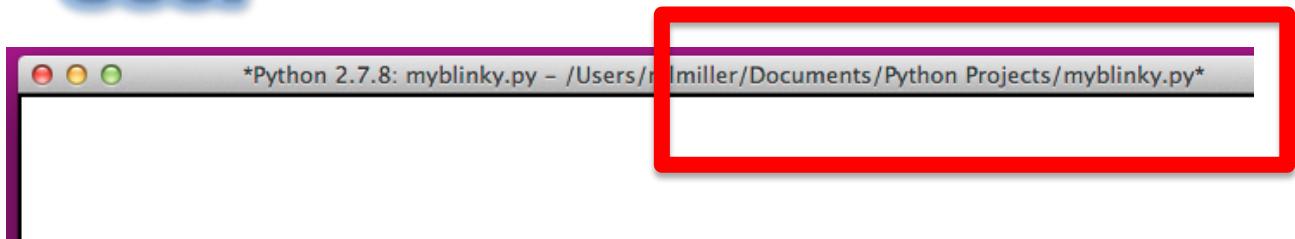
Double-Click: *Python Projects*



Type: myblink.py

Click:

See:



20a. Plug in Blinky Tape



20b. Import Blinky Tape Essentials

Type :

```
from blinkytape import *
from random import *
from time import *
```

20c. Run Blinky Essentials

Click:

Run Module

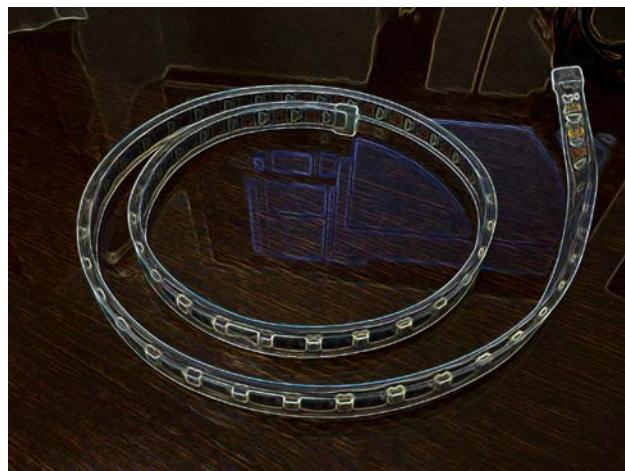
F5

Save

⌘S

See: Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

>>>



20d. Test Blinky Commands

Type – Shell

```
>>> colors  
>>> led(0, 'red')  
>>> clear()  
>>> led(59, 'green')
```

See:



21a. Teach BlinkyTape a New Word

Type:

```
def onoff():
    for bulb in range(60):
        led(bulb, 'white')
        sleep(2)
        led(bulb, 'black')
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> onoff()

See:



Q: What about sleep(1)? sleep(30)?

21b. Add Random Colors

Type:

```
def onoffrc():
    for bulb in range(60):
        led(bulb, choice(colors))
        sleep(1)
        led(bulb, 'black')
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> onoffrc()

See: (*your colors may vary*)



22a. displayColor

Upper and lower case matters !

1st Input is
How Much
RED (0 – 255)

Shell: >>> *displayColor(255,0,0)*

See:



Shell: >>> *displayColor(0,255,0)*

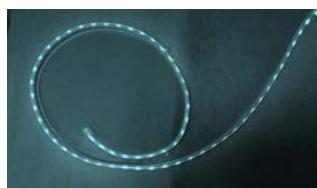
See:



2nd Input is
How Much
Green (0 – 255)

Shell: >>> *displayColor(0,0,255)*

See:



2nd Input is
How Much
Blue (0 – 255)

23a. Color Mixing - White

Type:

```
def allwhite():
    displayColor(255,255,255)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

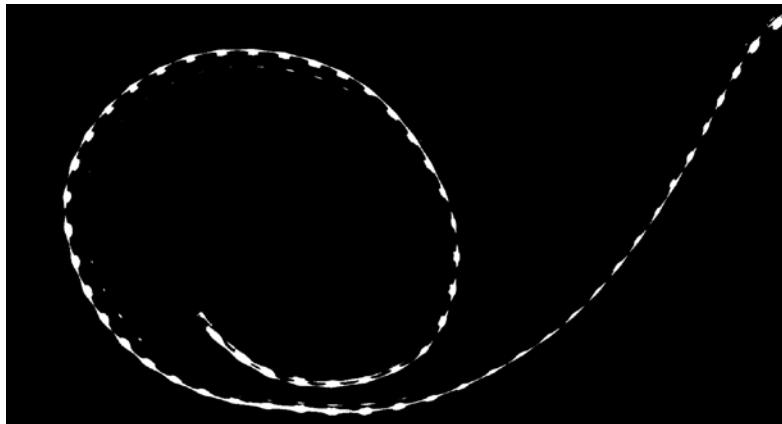
F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> allwhite()

See:



23b. Color Mixing - Black

Type:

```
def allblack():
    displayColor(0,0,0)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

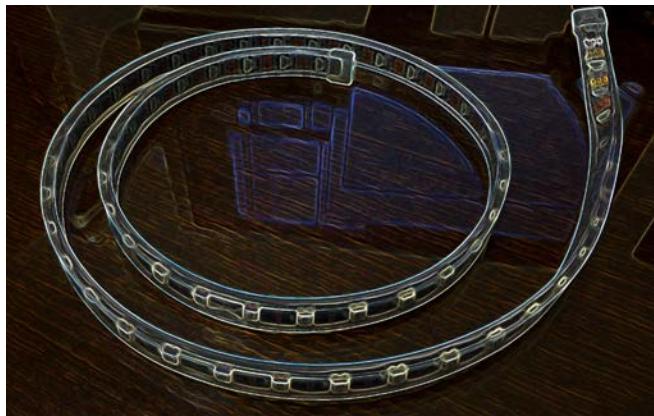
F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> allblack()

See:



24a. Color Mixing - Purple

Type:

```
def allpurple():
    displayColor(255,0,255)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

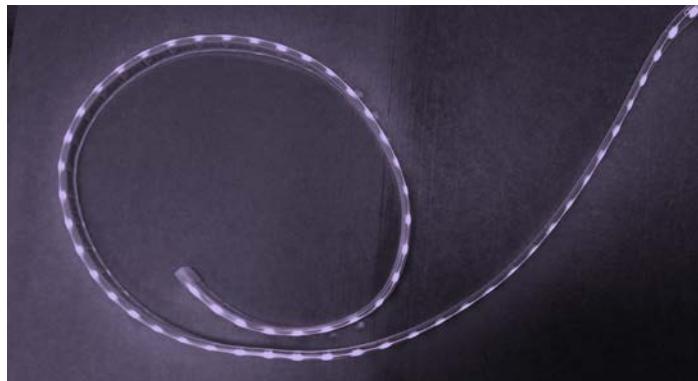
F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> *allpurple()*

See:



24b. Color Mixing - Yellow

Type :

```
def allyellow():
    displayColor(255,255,0)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> allyellow()

See:



24c. Color Mixing – Orange

Type:

You Decide! Experiment
With Different Inputs!

```
def allorange()  
    displayColor( ???, ???, ??? )
```

Save/Run/See ?

25a. Color Mixing – More Colors!

Try to mix Teal, Taupe, Magenta or your own favorite 2-3 colors. If you get stuck, you may search the Internet for RGB color codes, after you have exhausted trial and error!

Type:

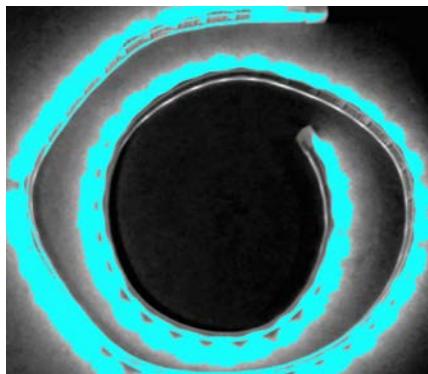
```
def allteal():  
    displayColor(???, ???, ???)
```

Click: Save  **Click:** Run Module F5

See: Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> allteal()

See:



25b. setPixel # immediately

Shell: `>>> clear()`

True: “Update
Pixel NOW”

`>>> setPixel(59,0,255,0, True)`

See:



25c. setPixel # on sendUpdate()

Shell: `>>> clear()`

False: “Wait for
sendUpdate()”

`>>> setPixel(59,0,255,0, False)`

See:



Shell:

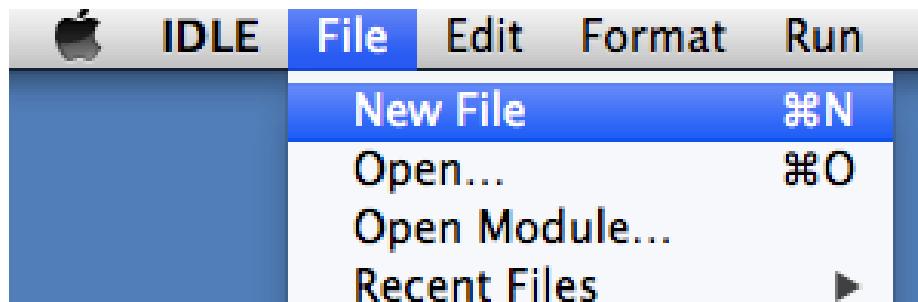
```
>>> setPixel(58,0,255,0, False)  
>>> setPixel(57,0,255,0, False)  
>>> setPixel(56,0,255,0, False)  
>>> sendUpdate()
```

See:



Make New File for Programs #26-28

Click:

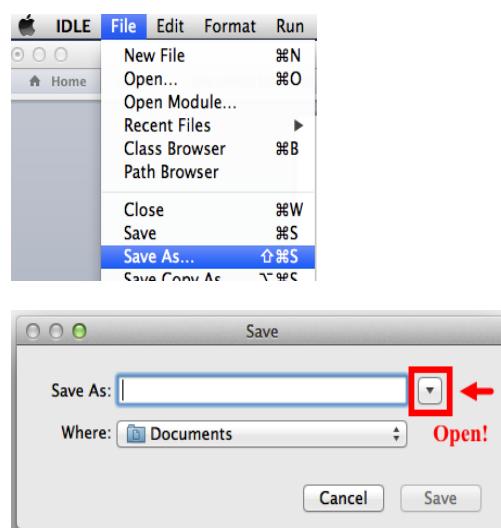


See:



Save As ... Documents ...

See:

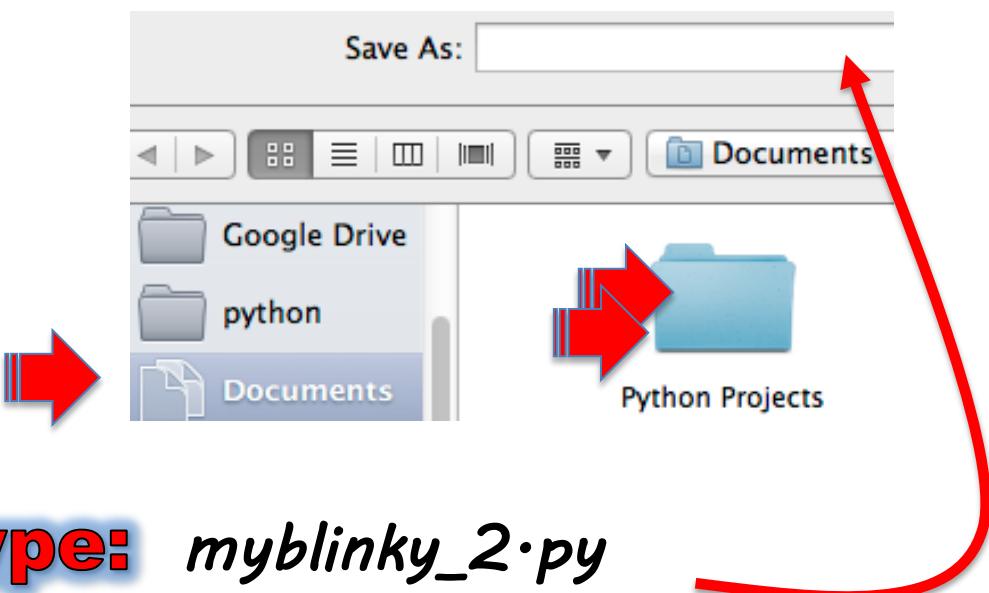


[Python Projects/myblink_2.py](#)

Use "myblink_2.py" as a new file name.

Click: *Documents*

Double-Click: *Python Projects*



Type: *myblink_2.py*

Click:

See:



26a. All Blues, Up Tempo

Type:

```
from blinkytape import *
from random import *
from time import *
def allblues():
    for p in range(60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255, True)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

See:

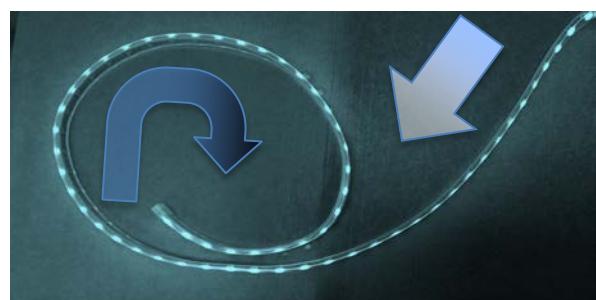
Current platform: darwin

See: BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell:

>>> allblues()

See:



26b. Slow Blues

Type:

```
def slowblues():
    for p in range (60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255,True)
        sleep(2.5)
```

Save/Run/Shell: >>> slowblues()

See: (*same idea but slower*)

26c. Suddenly Blue

Type:

```
def suddenlyblue():
    for p in range(60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255, False)
    sendUpdate()
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

See:

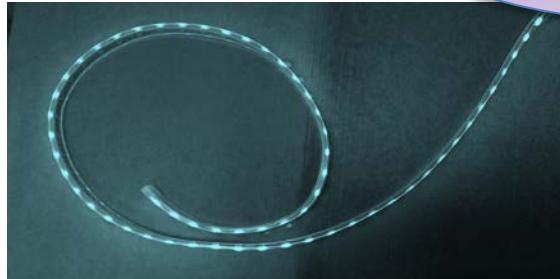
Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell:

>>> suddenlyblue()

Is this faster or slower than allblues()?

See:



27a. Up and Back

Type:

```
def upandback():
    for p in range (60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255,True)
    for q in range (60):
        setPixel(59-q,255,128,0,True)
```

Do you see
how to count
backwards?

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

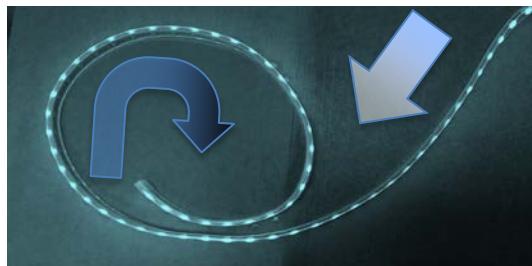
F5

See:

Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell:

>>> upandback()



See:

27b. Up and Back, N Times

Edit – myblinky_2.py:

```
## Comment out the previous version first
def upandback(n):
    for p in range (60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255, True)
        for q in range (60):
            setPixel(59-q,255,128,0, True)
    if n > 0:upandback(n-1)
```

Click:

Save

F5

Click:

Run Module

F5

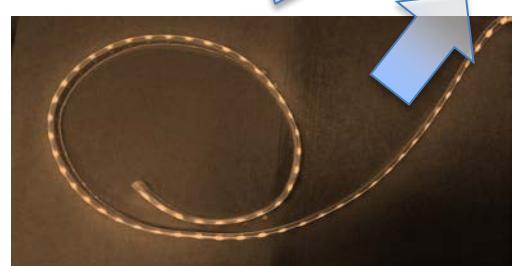
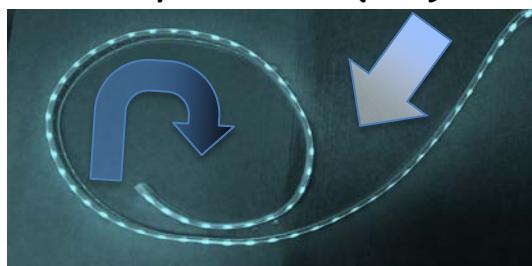
See:

Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Back and
Forth, 10
Times

Shell:

>>> upandback(10)



See:

28a. Flash Gordon

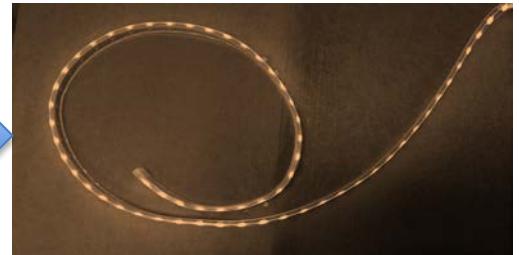
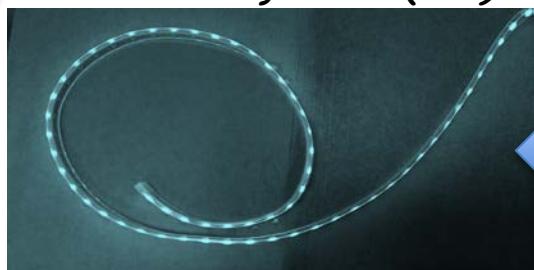
Type:

```
from blinkytape import *
from random import *
from time import *
def flashgordon(n):
    for p in range(60):
        setPixel(p,0,0,255,False)
        sendUpdate()
        sleep(0.5)
    for q in range(60):
        setPixel(59-q,255,128,0,False)
        sendUpdate()
        sleep(0.5)
    if n > 0: flashgordon(n-1)
```

How is this
different from
Up and Back?

Shell: >>> flashgordon(10)

See:



28b. While True Coolness

Type:

```
def coolness():
    clear()
    sleep(1)

    while True:
        for p in range (60):
            setPixel(p,0,255,0,False)
            sendUpdate()
            sleep(0.1)

        for q in range (60):
            setPixel(59-q,255,128,0,False)
            sendUpdate()
            sleep(0.1)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

See:

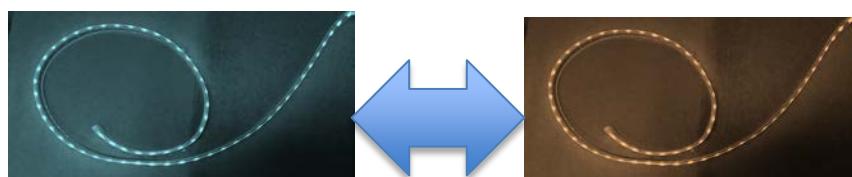
Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell:

>>> coolness()

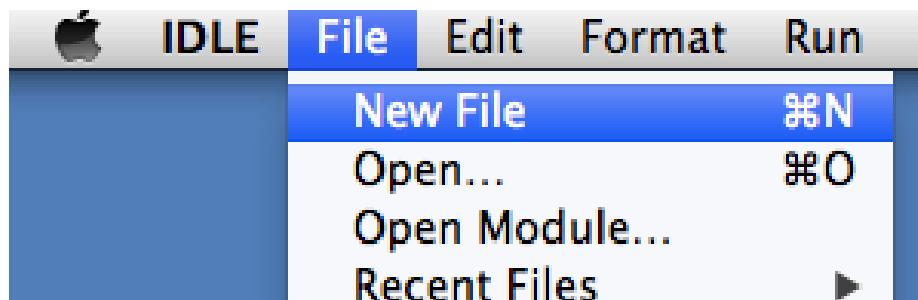
(Control-C to stop)

See:



Make New File for Programs #29-32

Click:

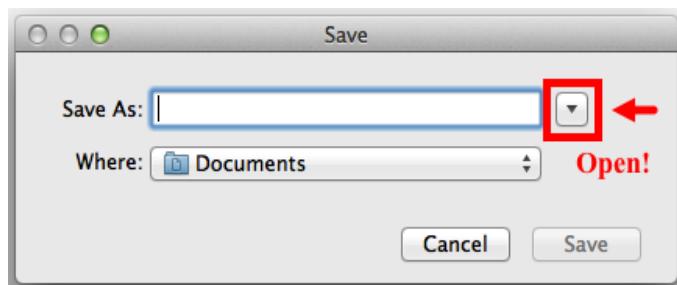
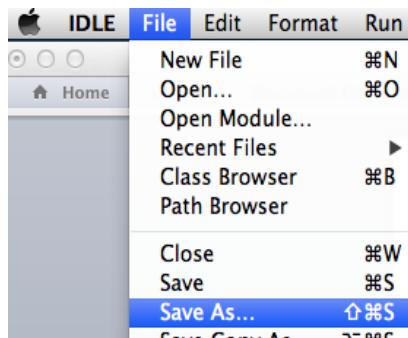


See:



Save As ... Documents ...

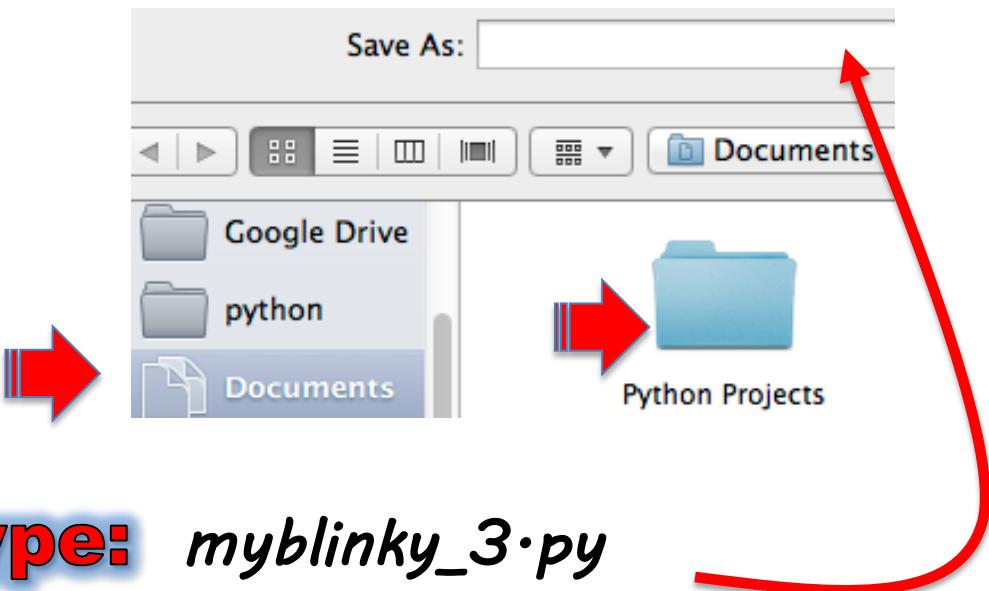
See:



Python Projects/myblink_3.py

Click: *Documents*

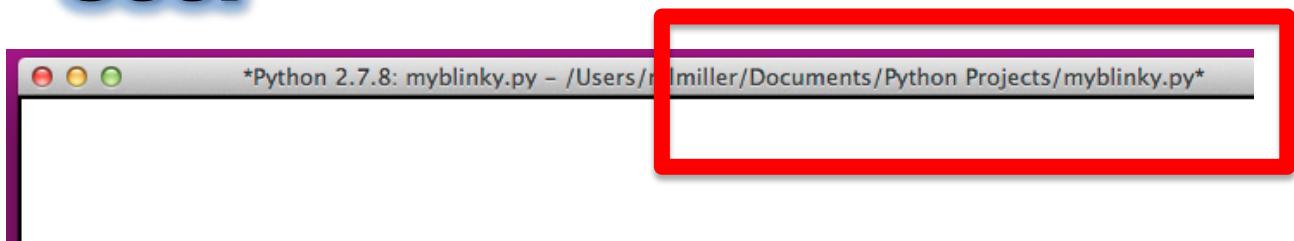
Double-Click: *Python Projects*



Type: *myblink_3.py*

Click:

See:



29a. RGB Randomness Out of Loop

Shell:

```
>>> rval = randint(0,255)  
>>> rval  
>>> gval = randint(0,255)  
>>> gval  
>>> bval = randint(0,255)  
>>> bval
```

Numbers
should vary --
randomly!

See: 52

177
38

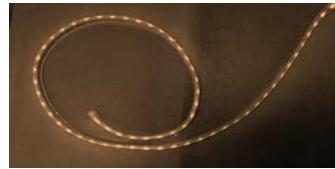
Type:

```
from blinkytape import *  
from random import *  
from time import *  
  
def outerrand():  
    rval = randint(0,255)  
    gval = randint(0,255)  
    bval = randint(0,255)  
  
    for pxl in range (60):  
  
        setPixel(pxl,rval,gval,bval, True)
```

All LEDs
should be the
same (random)
color. Your
colors may
vary.

29b. RGB Randomness Inside Loop

Shell: >>> *outerrand()*



Type:

```
def innerrand():
    for pxl in range (60):
        rval = randint(0,255)
        gval = randint(0,255)
        bval = randint(0,255)
        setPixel(pxl,rval,gval,bval, True)
```

Each individual LED should be its own random color

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

Run Module

F5

See:

Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> *innerrand()*

See:



30a. Individual Versus Group

Type:

```
def alternate():
    while True:
        clear()
        outerrand()
        sleep(0.5)
        innerrand()
        sleep(0.5)
```

Click:

Save

⌘S

Click:

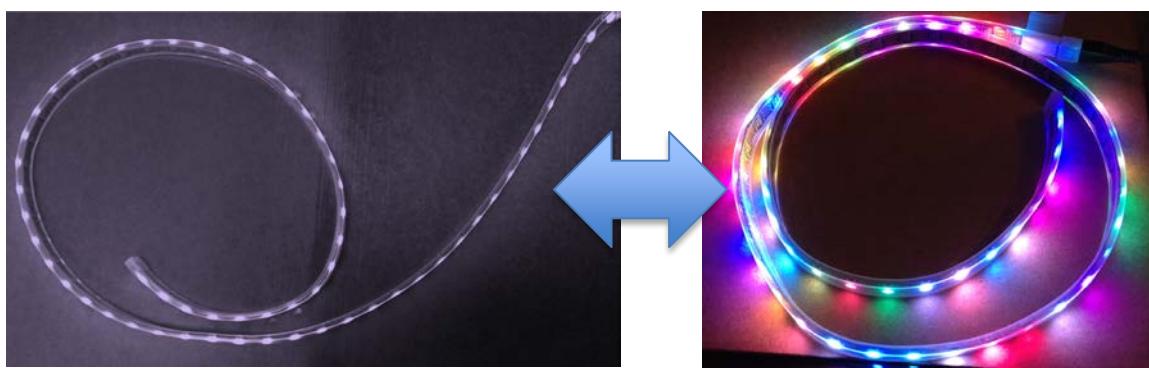
Run Module

F5

See:

Current platform: darwin
BlinkyTapes found: 1

Shell: >>> alternate() **(Control-C to stop)**



30b. Cylon

Type:

```
def cylon():
    # pulsating red "eye" goes back & forth
    print "Now running: cylon()"
    blue = 10
    red = 255
    #start by setting entire strip blue
    displayColor(0,0,blue)
    counter = 0 #eye position starts @ pixel 0
    while (counter < 59): # move eye up tape
        #set counter location to blue
        setPixel(counter,0,0,blue,True)
        #set pixel above it to red
        setPixel(counter+1,red,0,0,True)
        counter += 1 #increase counter by 1
    while (counter > 0): # move eye down tape
        #set counter location to blue
        setPixel(counter,0,0,blue,True)
        #set pixel below it to red
        setPixel(counter-1,red,0,0,True)
        counter -= 1 #decrease counter by 1
```

See:

Shell: >>> *cylon()*



31. Open Project

Open File – sunnyvaledemo.py:

Try running these demos! However, please do not make changes to this file! Try out some of the examples individually. Read the code! All good programmers learn by reading other people's code. (If you want to be a great writer, you first need to read a lot.)

Notice that familiar functions such as `setPixel` have an extra word in the front such as `tape.setPixel`. This just tells Python which add-on modules you are using, such as `turtles` or `blinkytapes`. Sometimes a functions like `clear()` that have one meaning when it is `tape.clear()` and another meeting when it is `turtle.clear()`.

Find a demo you like, make a copy of it into your own `mylinky.py` file, and then experiment with ways to improve it. Remember, do not change the original Sunnyvale file. This is your chance to get really creative! You might want to keep in mind our Holiday Amusement Park theme.

32. Counting in Binary

Type (in a new file: mybinary.py):

```
from blinkytape import *
def is_odd(num):
    return ((num % 2) == 1)

def binary(num):
    clear()
    print "Decimal:", num
    print "Binary:", binarydigits(num, 0, "")

def binarydigits (num, nextled,bits):
    if is_odd(num):
        bits = "1" + bits
        led(nextled, "white")
    else:
        bits = "0" + bits
        led(nextled, "black")
    if ((nextled < 59) and (num >= 0)):
        return(binarydigits(num/2, nextled+1,bits))
    else:
        return(bits)
```

What does + mean here?

Why not just use
for i in range (n) here?

```
def countup(n):
    i = 0
    answer = ""
    while ( (i <= n) and answer != "q" ):
        binary(i)
        i = i+1
        answer = raw_input("Hit q to quit, RETURN
                           to continue: ")
    print ("Done!")
```

What does % mean here?



Click: Save F5 **Click:** Run Module F5

Shell:

```
>>> binary(5)
```

See:

Decimal: 5



Shell (more examples to try)

```
>>> binary(0)
>>> binary(1)
>>> binary(2)
>>> binary(3)
>>> binary(4)
>>> binary(6)
>>> binary(7)
>>> binary(8)
>>> binary(15)
>>> binary(16)
>>> print (2**60) - 1
>>> binary(2**60 - 1)
>>> countup(7)
>>> countup(64)
>>> countup(1152921504606846975) #((2**60 - 1))
```

How could you
represent negative
numbers in binary?