

Accessing Python's folder

Important notes:

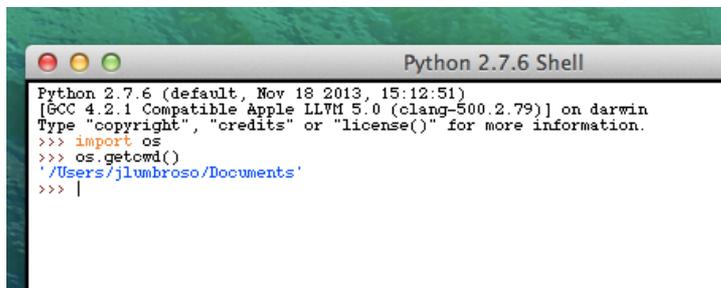
- This contains both a Mac OS X and Windows guide.
- It is important to note that Python may change its folder during the course of the session.
- In particular, Python will change the path when you: a) save a file in IDLE, and then b) restart the shell.
- When this happens, Python will change its “current working directory” to the folder where you saved the file.
- As a conclusion: when things worked, and don't work anymore, try to type "import os" and "os.getcwd()" to see if the current working directory has changed.

Accessing Python's folder

MAC OS X version

HOW TO FIND THE FOLDER

1) In the Python shell, type "import os" and then "os.getcwd()"

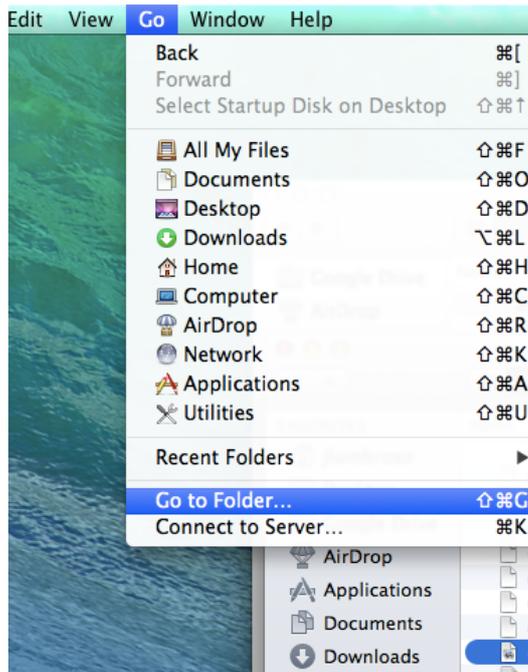


```
Python 2.7.6 Shell
Python 2.7.6 (default, Nov 18 2013, 15:12:51)
[GCC 4.2.1 Compatible Apple LLVM 5.0 (clang-500.2.79)] on darwin
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> import os
>>> os.getcwd()
'/Users/jlumbroso/Documents'
>>> |
```

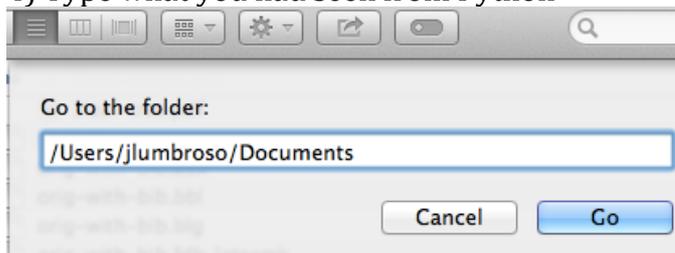
2) Go to the Finder application



3) Go to the menu "Go" then the option "Go to Folder..."



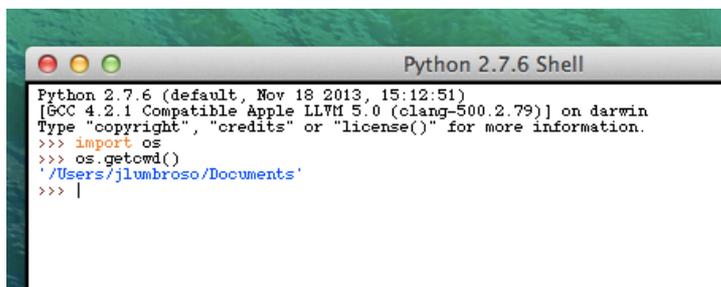
4) Type what you had seen from Python



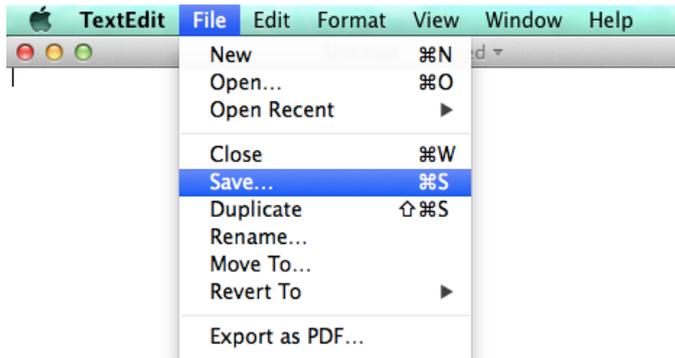
This will place you in the folder where Python reads and writes files.

HOW TO SAVE IN THE FOLDER

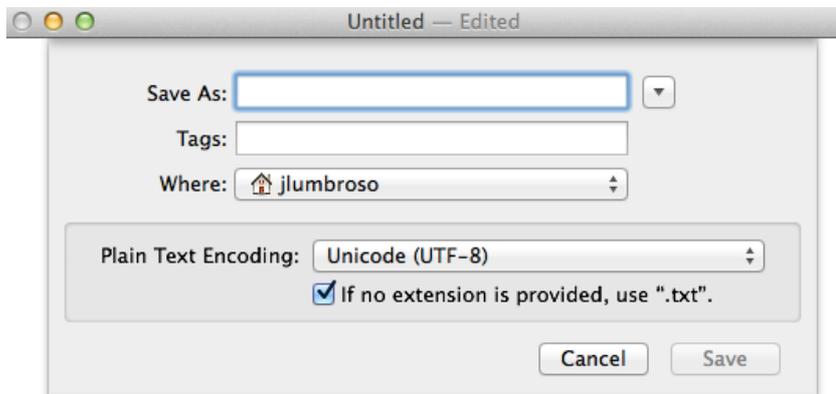
1) Same as above,



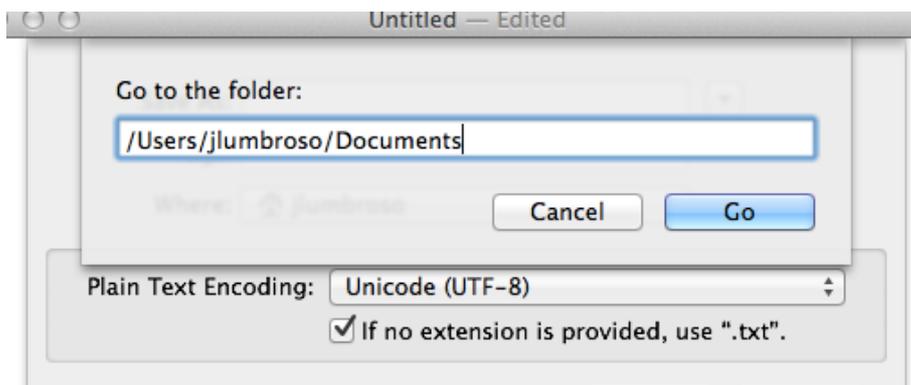
2) Now, when you are in the TextEdit save dialog



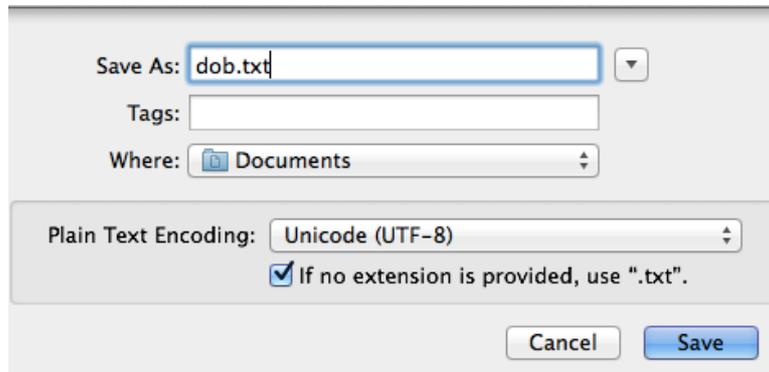
3) Press Command+Shift+G, and you will get the "Go to" dialog



4) Type the path of the folder that Python gave you, then click "Go"



5) You can then save the file and it will be stored in that directory:



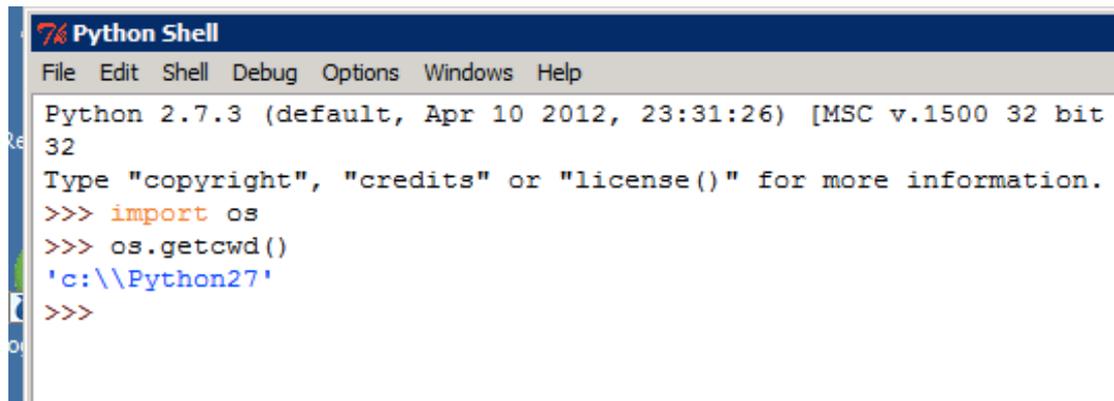
<http://osxdaily.com/2011/08/31/go-to-folder-useful-mac-os-x-keyboard-shortcut/>

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Windows version

HOW TO FIND THE FOLDER

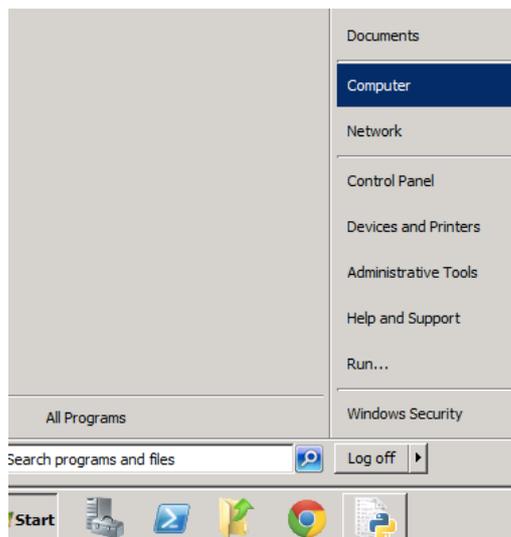
1) In Python, type "import os" and then "os.getcwd()"



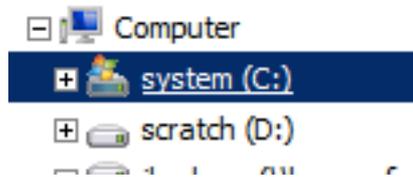
```
Python Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Windows Help
Python 2.7.3 (default, Apr 10 2012, 23:31:26) [MSC v.1500 32 bit
32
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> import os
>>> os.getcwd()
'c:\\Python27'
>>>
```

In a Python string, **BE VERY CAREFUL** because the backslashes are repeated: "\" will appear as "\\\".

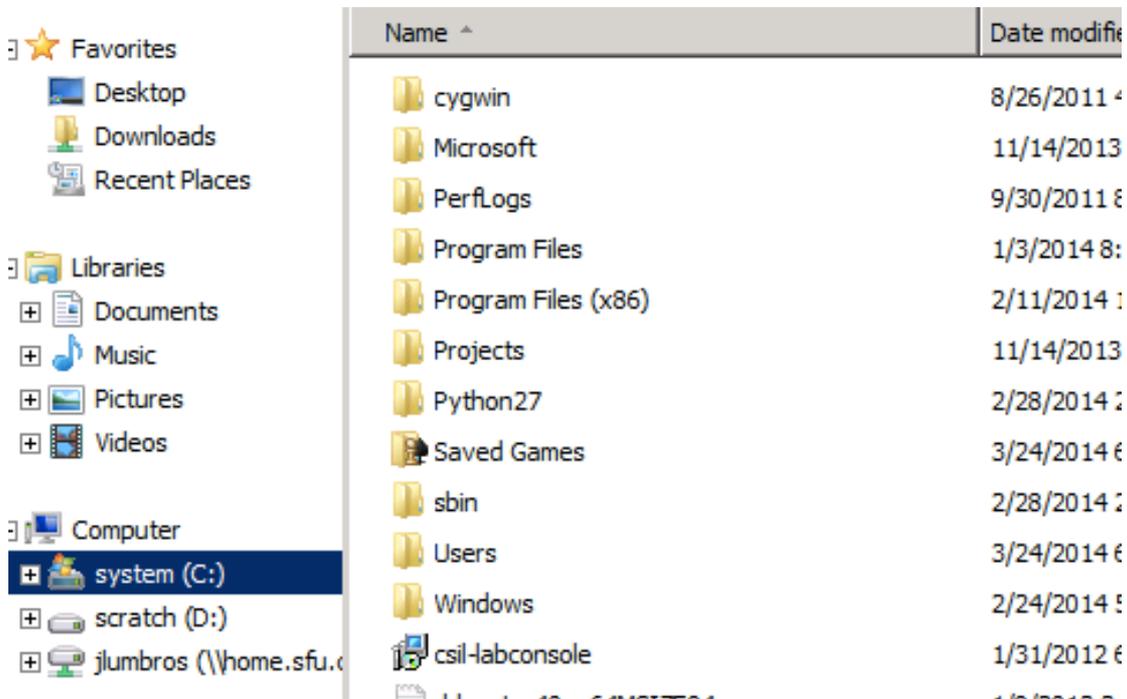
2) In the Start menu, select "Computer" (or if you don't have a start menu, open a window of "Explorer" or "Windows Explorer" --- not "Internet Explorer"!)



3) Look for, under "Computer" (you might have to click on the plus in front to expand what is underneath), look for the "C:" drive (or whatever drive was in the Python path)



4) Once you are in the "C:" drive, look for the "Python27" folder (**again, if this is the path that was given to you by Python**).



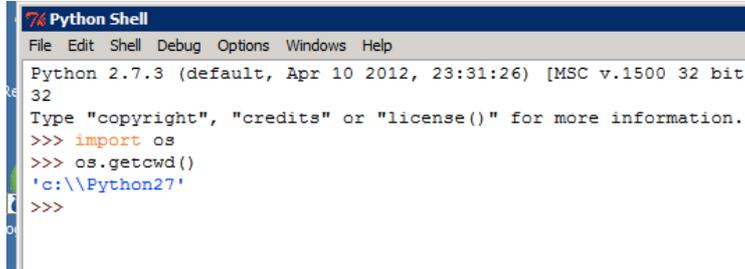
5) Open the "Python27" folder



You are now in the folder that Python is going to save files to.

HOW TO SAVE IN THE FOLDER

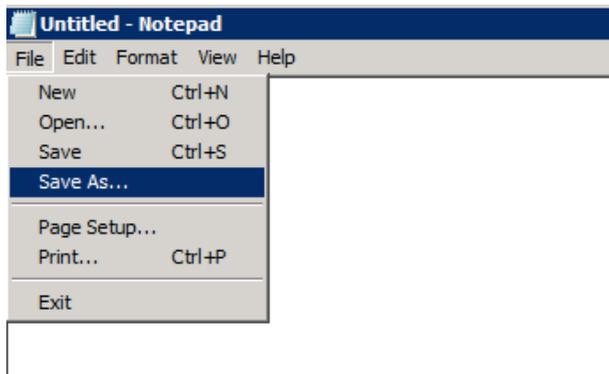
1) Same as above, in Python, type "import os" and then "os.getcwd()"



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Python Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Windows Help
Python 2.7.3 (default, Apr 10 2012, 23:31:26) [MSC v.1500 32 bit
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Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> import os
>>> os.getcwd()
'c:\\Python27'
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In a Python string, **BE VERY CAREFUL** because the backslashes are repeated: "\" will appear as "\\\".

2) When you are in Notepad, and saving a file



3) You will get the "Save as" dialog, and there again, look for "Computer", then click on "C:", then look for the Python27 folder.

