# intro\_Python

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## 1 A Introduction to Python for dummies...

This is part of the Python lecture given by Christophe Morisset at IA-UNAM.

#### 1.0.1 Using Python as a calculator

Using of "print" command is not necesary to obtain a result. Just type some operations and the result is obtain with ENTER.

Python likes the use of spaces to make scripts more readable

The art of writing good python code is described in the following document: http://legacy.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/

### 1.0.2 Assignments

Like any other langage, you can assign a value to a variable. This is done with = symbol:

```
In [5]: a = 4
```

A lot of operations can be performed on the variables. The most basics are for example:

```
In [6]: a
```

Some variable name are not available, they are reserved to python itself: and, as, assert, break, class, continue, def, del, elif, else, except, exec, finally, for, from, global, if, import, in, is, lambda, not, or, pass, print, raise, return, try, while, with, yield

```
In [10]: lambda_ = 2
    file = 3
```

#### 1.0.3 Comments

Out [12]: 'This is a large comment\non multiple lines\nending as it started\n'

#### 1.0.4 Types

The types used in Python are: integers, long integers, floats (double prec.), complexes, strings, booleans. Double precision: machine dependent, generally between 10^-308 and 10^308, with 16 significant digits. The function type gives the type of its argument:

```
In [13]: type(2)
Out[13]: int
In [14]: type(2.3)
Out[14]: float
In [15]: int(0.8) # truncating
Out[15]: 0
In [16]: round(0.8765566777) # nearest, result is integer (was float with python 2.N)
Out[16]: 1
```

```
1.0.5 Complex numbers
In [17]: a = 1.5 + 0.5j
In [18]: a**2.
Out[18]: (2+1.5j)
In [19]: (1+2j)*(1-2j)
Out[19]: (5+0j)
In [20]: a.real
Out[20]: 1.5
In [21]: (a**3).imag
Out[21]: 3.25
In [22]: a.conjugate() # this is a function, it requieres ()
Out[22]: (1.5-0.5j)
1.0.6 Booleans
Comparison operators are j, \xi, j=, \xi=, ==, !=
In [23]: 5 < 3
Out[23]: False
In [24]: a = 5
In [25]: b < a
Out[25]: False
In [26]: c = 2
In [27]: c < a < b
Out[27]: True
In [28]: a < b and b < c
Out[28]: False
In [29]: res = a < 7
         print(res, type(res))
True <class 'bool'>
In [30]: print(int(res))
         print(int(not res))
1
In [31]: not res is True
Out[31]: False
In [32]: a = True
         print(a)
```

True

```
1.0.7 Formating strings
In [33]: print("Hello world!")
Hello world!
In [34]: print('Hello world!')
Hello world!
In [35]: print("Hello I'm here") # ' inside ""
Hello I'm here
In [36]: # This is the old fashion way of formating outputs (C-style)
         a = 7.5
         b = 'tralala'
         c = 8.9e-33
         print('a = \%f, b = \%s, c = \%e', \% (a, b, c))
a = 7.500000, b = tralala, c = 8.900000e-33
In [37]: # The new way is using the format() method of the string object, and {} to define which value
         print('a = {} & b = {} & c = {} \ \ '\' .format(a,b,c))
         print('a = \{0\}, b = \{1\}, c = \{2\}'.format(a**2,b,c))
         print('a = {:f}, b = {:20s}, c = {:15.3e}'.format(a,b,c))
a = 7.5 \& b = tralala \& c = 8.9e-33 \setminus
a = 56.25, b = tralala, c = 8.9e-33
a = 7.500000, b = tralala
                                        , c =
                                                    8.900e-33
  Much more on this here: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/inputoutput.html
1.0.8 Strings
In [38]: a = "this is a
                           string"
In [39]: len(a)
Out[39]: 19
```

A lot of commands can operate on strings. Strings, like ANYTHING in python, are objects. Methods are run on objects by dots:

```
In [40]: a.upper()
Out[40]: 'THIS IS A
                       STRING'
In [41]: a.title()
Out[41]: 'This Is A
                       String'
In [42]: a.split()
Out[42]: ['this', 'is', 'a', 'string']
In [43]: a.split()[1]
Out[43]: 'is'
```

```
In [44]: a = "This is a string.
                                 With various sentences."
In [45]: a.split('.')
Out[45]: ['This is a string', ' With various sentences', '']
In [46]: a.split('.')[1].strip() # Here we define the character used to split. The default is space (an
Out[46]: 'With various sentences'
In [47]: a = 'tra'
         b = 'la'
         print(' '.join((a,b,b)))
         print('-'.join((a,b,b)))
         print(''.join((a,b,b)))
         print(a+b+b)
         print(' '.join((a,b,b)).split())
         print(' & '.join((a,b,b)) + '\\\')
tra la la
tra-la-la
tralala
tralala
['tra', 'la', 'la']
tra & la & la/\
1.0.9 Containers: Tuples, Lists and Dictionaries
list: a collection of objects. May be of different types. It has an order.
In [48]: L = ['red', 'green', 'blue'] # squared brackets are used to define lists
In [49]: type(L) # Print the type of L
Out[49]: list
In [50]: L[1]
Out [50]: 'green'
In [51]: L[0] # indexes start at 0 !!!
Out[51]: 'red'
In [52]: L[-1] # last element
Out[52]: 'blue'
```

In [54]: L = L + ['black', 'white'] # addition symbol is used to agregate values to a list. See below o

In [56]: L[1:3] # L[start:stop] : elements if index i, where start <= i < stop !! stop not included !!

In [53]: L[-3]

Out[53]: 'red'

In [55]: print(L)

['red', 'green', 'blue', 'black', 'white']

```
Out[56]: ['green', 'blue']
In [57]: L[2:] # boudaries can be omited
Out[57]: ['blue', 'black', 'white']
In [58]: L[-2:]
Out[58]: ['black', 'white']
In [59]: L[::2] # L[start:stop:step] every 2 elements
Out[59]: ['red', 'blue', 'white']
In [60]: L[::-1]
Out[60]: ['white', 'black', 'blue', 'green', 'red']
  Lists are mutable: their content can be modified.
In [61]: L[2] = 'yellow'
Out[61]: ['red', 'green', 'yellow', 'black', 'white']
In [62]: L.append('pink') # append a value at the end
         L
Out[62]: ['red', 'green', 'yellow', 'black', 'white', 'pink']
In [63]: L.insert(2, 'blue') #L.insert(index, object) -- insert object before index
Out[63]: ['red', 'green', 'blue', 'yellow', 'black', 'white', 'pink']
In [64]: L.extend(['magenta', 'purple'])
Out[64]: ['red',
          'green',
          'blue',
          'yellow',
          'black',
          'white',
          'pink',
          'magenta',
          'purple']
In [65]: L.append(['magenta', 'azul'])
         L
Out[65]: ['red',
          'green',
          'blue',
          'yellow',
          'black',
          'white',
          'pink',
          'magenta',
          'purple',
          ['magenta', 'azul']]
```

```
In [66]: L.append(2)
Out[66]: ['red',
          'green',
          'blue',
          'yellow',
          'black',
          'white',
          'pink',
          'magenta',
          'purple',
          ['magenta', 'azul'],
In [67]: L = L[::-1] # reverse order
Out[67]: [2,
          ['magenta', 'azul'],
          'purple',
          'magenta',
          'pink',
          'white',
          'black',
          'yellow',
          'blue',
          'green',
          'red']
In [68]: L2 = L[:-3] # cutting the last 3 elements
         print(L)
         print(L2)
[2, ['magenta', 'azul'], 'purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow', 'blue', 'green', 'red
[2, ['magenta', 'azul'], 'purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow']
In [69]: L[25] # Out of range leads to error
        {\tt IndexError}
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-69-c16babb9288f> in <module>()
    ----> 1 L[25] # Out of range leads to error
        IndexError: list index out of range
In [71]: print(L)
         print(L[20:25]) # But NO ERROR when slicing.
         print(L[20:])
         print(L[2:20])
```

```
[2, ['magenta', 'azul'], 'purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow', 'blue', 'green', 'red
Г٦
Π
['purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow', 'blue', 'green', 'red']
In [72]: print(L.count('yellow'))
1
In [73]: L2 = L[2:20]
         L2.sort() # One can use TAB to look for the methods (functions that apply to an object)
         print(L2)
['black', 'blue', 'green', 'magenta', 'pink', 'purple', 'red', 'white', 'yellow']
In [74]: a = [1,2,3]
         b = [10, 20, 30]
In [75]: print(a+b) # may not be what you expected, but rather logical too
[1, 2, 3, 10, 20, 30]
In [76]: print(a*b) # Does NOT multiply element by element. Numpy will do this job.
        TypeError
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-76-ddfd21d938fe> in <module>()
    ----> 1 print(a*b) # Does NOT multiply element by element. Numpy will do this job.
        TypeError: can't multiply sequence by non-int of type 'list'
In [78]: L = range(4) # Create an interator. Notice the parameter is the number of elements, not the la
         print(L) # In python 2, that was a lit
         print(list(L))
range(0, 4)
[0, 1, 2, 3]
In [79]: L = range(2, 20, 2) # every 2 integer
         print(L)
range(2, 20, 2)
  The types of the elements of a list are not always the same:
In [80]: L = [1, '1', 1.4]
         L
Out [80]: [1, '1', 1.4]
   Remove the n+1-th element:
```

```
In [81]: L = list(range(0,20,2))
        print(L)
        del(L[5])
        print(L)
[0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18]
[0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18]
  Slicing: extracting sub-list of a list
In [82]: a = [[1, 2, 3], [10, 20, 30], [100, 200, 300]] # Not a 2D table, but rather a table of tables.
        print(a)
        print(a[0])
        print(a[1][1])
[[1, 2, 3], [10, 20, 30], [100, 200, 300]]
[1, 2, 3]
20
In [83]: print(a[1,1]) # Does NOT work
        ______
                                                Traceback (most recent call last)
       TypeError
       <ipython-input-83-d8214b6adea8> in <module>()
   ----> 1 print(a[1,1]) # Does NOT work
       TypeError: list indices must be integers or slices, not tuple
In [84]: b = a[1]
        print(b)
[10, 20, 30]
In [85]: b[1] = 999 \# Changing the value of a single element
        print(b)
[10, 999, 30]
In [86]: print(a) # Changing b changed a !!!
[[1, 2, 3], [10, 999, 30], [100, 200, 300]]
In [87]: b[1] is a[1][1]
Out [87]: True
In [88]: c = a[1][::] \# copy instead of slicing
        print(c)
        c[0] = 77777
        print(c)
        print(a)
[10, 999, 30]
[77777, 999, 30]
[[1, 2, 3], [10, 999, 30], [100, 200, 300]]
```

```
In [89]: T = (1,2,3)
Out[89]: (1, 2, 3)
In [90]: T2 = 1, 2, 3
         print(T2)
         type(T2)
(1, 2, 3)
Out[90]: tuple
In [91]: T[1]
Out[91]: 2
  tuples are unmutables
In [92]: T[1] = 3 # Does NOT work!
        TypeError
                                                    Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-92-6dd68cc28786> in <module>()
    ----> 1 T[1] = 3 # Does NOT work!
        TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
Dictionnaries A dictionary is basically an efficient table that maps keys to values. It is an unordered
container
In [93]: D = {'Christophe': 12, 'Antonio': 15} # defined by {key : value}
In [94]: D['Christophe'] # access to a value by the key
Out[94]: 12
In [95]: D.keys() # list of the dictionary keys
Out[95]: dict_keys(['Christophe', 'Antonio'])
In [96]: D['Yilen'] = 16 # adding a new entry
In [97]: print(D)
```

tuples: like lists, but inmutables

In [98]: print(D[0]) # use the keys to acces the elements. No order in dictionnary.

{'Christophe': 12, 'Antonio': 15, 'Yilen': 16}

```
KeyError
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-98-035806c13f20> in <module>()
    ----> 1 print(D[0]) # use the keys to acces the elements. No order in dictionnary.
        KeyError: 0
1.0.10 Blocks
Blocks are defined by indentation. Looks nice and no needs for end:-)
In [99]: for i in [1,2,3]: print(i) # compact way, not recomended.
2
3
In [100]: for cosa in [1,'ff',2]:
              print(cosa)
              print('end')
          print('final end') # end of the identation means end of the block
1
end
ff
end
2
end
final end
In [101]: # defining a dictionary:
          ATOMIC_MASS = {}
          ATOMIC_MASS['H'] = 1
          ATOMIC_MASS['He'] = 4
          ATOMIC_MASS['C'] = 12
          ATOMIC_MASS['N'] = 14
          ATOMIC_MASS['0'] = 16
          ATOMIC_MASS['Ne'] = 20
          ATOMIC_MASS['Ar'] = 40
          ATOMIC_MASS['S'] = 32
          ATOMIC_MASS['Si'] = 28
          ATOMIC_MASS['Fe'] = 55.8
          # Print the keys and values from the dictionary. As it is not ordered , they come as they wan
          for key in ATOMIC_MASS.keys():
              print(key, ATOMIC_MASS[key])
H 1
He 4
C 12
N 14
0 16
```

```
Ne 20
Ar 40
S 32
Si 28
Fe 55.8
In [102]: for key in sorted(ATOMIC_MASS): # sorting using the keys
              print('Element: {0:3s} Atomic Mass: {1}'.format(key, ATOMIC_MASS[key]))
Element: Ar
              Atomic Mass: 40
Element: C
              Atomic Mass: 12
Element: Fe
              Atomic Mass: 55.8
Element: H
              Atomic Mass: 1
Element: He Atomic Mass: 4
              Atomic Mass: 14
Element: N
Element: Ne Atomic Mass: 20
Element: 0
              Atomic Mass: 16
Element: S
              Atomic Mass: 32
Element: Si
              Atomic Mass: 28
  a key parameter can be used to specify a function to be called on each list element prior to mak-
ing comparisons. More in sorted function here: https://wiki.python.org/moin/HowTo/Sorting or here:
http://www.pythoncentral.io/how-to-sort-a-list-tuple-or-object-with-sorted-in-python/
In [103]: for elem in sorted(ATOMIC_MASS, key = ATOMIC_MASS.get): # sorting using the values
              print('Element: {0:3s} Atomic Mass: {1}'.format(elem, ATOMIC_MASS[elem]))
Element: H
              Atomic Mass: 1
Element: He
              Atomic Mass: 4
Element: C
              Atomic Mass: 12
Element: N
              Atomic Mass: 14
Element: 0
              Atomic Mass: 16
Element: Ne Atomic Mass: 20
              Atomic Mass: 28
Element: Si
Element: S
              Atomic Mass: 32
Element: Ar
              Atomic Mass: 40
Element: Fe
              Atomic Mass: 55.8
In [104]: for idx, elem in enumerate(sorted(ATOMIC_MASS, key = ATOMIC_MASS.get)): # adding an index tha
              print('{0:2} Element: {1:2s} Atomic Mass: {2:4.1f}'.format(idx+1, elem, ATOMIC_MASS[elem
1 Element: H
               Atomic Mass: 1.0
2 Element: He Atomic Mass: 4.0
3 Element: C Atomic Mass: 12.0
4 Element: N Atomic Mass: 14.0
5 Element: 0
              Atomic Mass: 16.0
6 Element: Ne Atomic Mass: 20.0
7 Element: Si Atomic Mass: 28.0
8 Element: S
                Atomic Mass: 32.0
9 Element: Ar Atomic Mass: 40.0
10 Element: Fe Atomic Mass: 55.8
In [105]: for i in range(10):
              if i > 5:
                  print(i)
```

```
6
7
8
9
In [106]: for i in range(10):
              if i > 5:
                  print(i)
              else:
                  print('i lower than five')
          print('END')
i lower than five
7
8
9
END
  Other commands are: if...elif...else AND while...
1.0.11 List and dictionnary comprehension
In [107]: A = [] # defining an empty list
          for i in range(4):
              A.append(i**2) # filling the list with values
          print(A)
[0, 1, 4, 9]
In [108]: # more compact way to do the same thing
          B = [i**2 for i in range(4)]
          print(B)
[0, 1, 4, 9]
In [109]: # The same is also used for dictionnaries
          D = {'squared_{{}}'.format(k) : k**2 for k in range(10)}
          print(D)
{'squared_0': 0, 'squared_1': 1, 'squared_2': 4, 'squared_3': 9, 'squared_4': 16, 'squared_5': 25, 'squared_
1.0.12 Functions, procedures
In [110]: def func1(x):
              print(x**3)
          func1(5)
125
```

```
In [111]: def func2(x,
                    y):
              Return the cube and the 4th power of the two parameters
              return(x**3, y**4)
          a = func2(3, 5)
         help(func2)
Help on function func2 in module __main__:
func2(x, y)
   Return the cube and the 4th power of the two parameters
In [112]: #func2() shift-TAB inside the parenthesis
          func2?
In [113]: print(a)
         print(func2(4, 6))
(27, 625)
(64, 1296)
In [114]: def func3(x, y, z, a=0, b=1):
              This function has 5 arguments, 2 of them have default values (then not mandatory)
              return a + b * (x**2 + y**2 + z**2)**0.5
          D = func3(3, 4, 5)
         print(D)
7.0710678118654755
In [115]: E = func3(3, 4, 5, 10, 100)
         print(E)
717.1067811865476
In [116]: F = func3(x=3, y=4, z=5, a=10, b=100)
          print(F)
717.1067811865476
In [117]: G = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, 100) # ERROR!
         print(G)
          File "<ipython-input-117-7963f4c1b801>", line 1
        G = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, 100) # ERROR!
   SyntaxError: positional argument follows keyword argument
In [118]: H = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, b=100)
         print(H)
```

```
717.1067811865476
```

Changing the value of variable inside a routine Parameters to functions are references to objects, which are passed by value. When you pass a variable to a function, python passes the reference to the object to which the variable refers (the value). Not the variable itself. If the value is immutable, the function does not modify the caller's variable. If the value is mutable, the function may modify the caller's variable in-place, if a mutation of the variable is done (not if a new mutable value is assigned):

```
In [123]: def try_to_modify(x, y, z):
              x = 23
              y.append(22)
              z = [29] # new reference
              print('
                        IN THE ROUTINE')
              print(x)
              print(y)
              print(z)
          # The values of a, b and c are set
          a = 77
          b = [79]
          c = [78]
                    INIT')
          print('
          print(a)
          print(b)
          print(c)
          try_to_modify(a, b, c)
                    AFTER THE ROUTINE')
          print('
          print(a)
          print(b)
          print(c)
```

```
INIT
77
[79]
[78]
   IN THE ROUTINE
23
[79, 22]
[29]
  AFTER THE ROUTINE
77
[79, 22]
[78]
Variables from outside (from a level above) are known:
In [124]: a = 5
          def test_a(x):
              print(a*x)
          test_a(5)
          a = 10
          test_a(5)
          print(a)
25
50
10
In [125]: # This works even if a2 is not known when defining the function:
          def test_a2(x):
              print(a2*x)
          a2 = 10
          test_a2(5)
50
Variables from inside are unknown outside:
In [126]: def test_g2():
              g2 = 5
              print(g2)
          test_g2()
          print(g2)
5
        NameError
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-126-edf2e6190ece> in <module>()
               print(g2)
          4 test_g2()
    ----> 5 print(g2)
        NameError: name 'g2' is not defined
```

#### Global variable is known outside:

```
In [127]: def test_g3():
            global g3
            g3 = 5
            print(g3)
         test_g3()
         print(g3)
5
5
Recursivity
In [128]: def fact(n):
            if n <= 0:
                return 1
            return n*fact(n-1)
         print(fact(5))
         print(fact(20))
         print(fact(100))
120
2432902008176640000
1.0.13 Scripting
In [129]: %%writefile ex1.py
         # This write the current cell to a file
         def f1(x):
             11 11 11
            This is an example of a function, returning x**2
             - parameter: x
            return x**2
Overwriting ex1.py
In [130]: !cat ex1.py
# This write the current cell to a file
def f1(x):
   This is an example of a function, returning x**2
   - parameter: x
   11 11 11
   return x**2
In [131]: # %load ex1.py
         # This write the current cell to a file
         def f1(x):
             This is an example of a function, returning x**2
             - parameter: x
             11 11 11
            return x**2
```

```
In [132]: # This write the current cell to a file
          def f1(x):
              This is an example of a function, returning x**2
              - parameter: x
              11 11 11
              return x**2
In [133]: # This write the current cell to a file
          def f1(x):
              This is an example of a function, returning x**2
              - parameter: x
              11 11 11
              return x**2
In [134]: import ex1 #this imports a file named ex1.py from the current directory or
          # from one of the directories in the search path
          print(ex1.f1(4))
16
In [135]: from ex1 import f1
          print(f1(3))
9
In [136]: from ex1 import * # DO NOT DO THIS! Very hard to know where f1 is comming from (debuging, nam
          print(f1(4))
16
In [137]: import ex1 as tt
          print(tt.f1(10))
100
In [138]: %run ex1 # The same as doing a copy-paste of the content of the file.
          f1(8)
Out[138]: 64
In [139]: !pwd
/home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-MySQL/Notebooks/Notebooks
In [140]: !pydoc -w ex1 # ! used to call a Unix command
wrote ex1.html
In [141]: from IPython.display import HTML
          HTML(open('ex1.html').read())
Out[141]: <IPython.core.display.HTML object>
  Help with TAB or ?
In [142]: f1?
In [143]: help(f1)
Help on function f1 in module __main__:
f1(x)
   This is an example of a function, returning x**2
   - parameter: x
```

#### 1.0.14 Importing libraries

Not all the power of python is available when we call (i)python. Some additional librairies (included in the python package, or as additional packages, like numpy) can be imported to increase to capacities of python. This is the case of the math library:

```
In [144]: print(sin(3.))
       NameError
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        <ipython-input-144-3774d5a0e3c9> in <module>()
    ----> 1 print(sin(3.))
       NameError: name 'sin' is not defined
In [145]: import math
          print(math.sin(3.))
0.1411200080598672
In [146]: math?
In [147]: math.
          File "<ipython-input-147-186ff497df9b>", line 1
        math.
   SyntaxError: invalid syntax
In [148]: # We can import all the elements of the library in the current domain name (NOT A GOOD IDEA!!
          from math import *
          sin(3.)
Out[148]: 0.1411200080598672
In [149]: # One can look at the contents of a library with dir:
          print(dir(math))
['__doc__', '__file__', '__loader__', '__name__', '__package__', '__spec__', 'acos', 'acosh', 'asin', 'asinh',
In [150]: # The help command is used to have information on a given function:
          help(math.sin)
Help on built-in function sin in module math:
sin(...)
   sin(x)
   Return the sine of x (measured in radians).
```

```
In [151]: help(log)
Help on built-in function log in module math:
log(...)
   log(x[, base])
   Return the logarithm of x to the given base.
    If the base not specified, returns the natural logarithm (base e) of x.
In [152]: print(math.pi)
3.141592653589793
In [153]: math.pi = 2.71
In [154]: print(math.pi)
2.71
In [155]: import math
In [156]: math.pi
Out[156]: 2.71
In [157]: # In python 3 you need to import reload
          from importlib import reload
In [158]: reload(math)
Out [158]: <module 'math' from '/home/morisset/anaconda2/envs/py3k6/lib/python3.6/lib-dynload/math.cpyth
In [159]: # In python 2 the value is reset, in python 3 this is not the case!!!
          math.pi
Out[159]: 2.71
In [160]: from math import pi as pa
In [161]: pa
Out[161]: 2.71
In [162]: math = 2
          math.pi
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
       AttributeError
        <ipython-input-162-70a02d6227fb> in <module>()
          1 \text{ math} = 2
   ----> 2 math.pi
       AttributeError: 'int' object has no attribute 'pi'
In [163]: pa
Out[163]: 2.71
In []:
```