

A Introduction to Python

Using Python as a calculator

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

```
In [63]: 2 + 22
```

```
Out[63]: 24
```

```
In [2]: (2+3)*(3+4)/(5*5)
```

```
Out[2]: 1
```

Python likes the use of spaces to make scripts more readable

```
In [3]: (2+3) * (3+4.) / (5*5)
```

```
Out[3]: 1.4
```

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

Assignments

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

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

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

```
In [5]: a
```

```
Out[5]: 4
```

```
In [6]: a = a + 1  
a
```

```
Out[6]: 5
```

```
In [7]: a *= 4 # Multiply the left argument by the righth value  
a
```

```
Out[7]: 20
```

[] In [8]: `a, b = 1, 2`
`a, b`

Out[8]: (1, 2)

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

Comments

In [9]: `a = 2 # this is a comment`

In [10]: `""" This is a large comment
on multiple lines
ending as it started
"""`

Out[10]: ' This is a large comment\non multiple lines\nending as it started\n'

Types

The types used in Python are: integers, long integers, floats (double prec.), complexes, strings, booleans.

In [11]: `2`

Out[11]: 2

In [12]: `2 / 3 # Take care, this will result in an integer, may not be what you expect. This changes in Python 3.`

Out[12]: 0

In [13]: `2. / 3 # This is the way exact division is performed, adding a dot to promote one of the two integer into a float.`

Out[13]: 0.6666666666666666

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 [14]: `type(2)`

Out[14]: int

```
[ ] In [15]: type(2.3)                                     file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...
Out[15]: float

In [16]: int(0.8) # truncating
Out[16]: 0

In [17]: round(0.8765566777) # nearest, result is float
Out[17]: 1.0

In [18]: int(round(0.88766)) # nearest, with the result being an integer:
Out[18]: 1
```

Complex numbers

```
In [19]: a = 1.5 + 0.5j

In [20]: a**2.
Out[20]: (2+1.5j)

In [21]: (1+2j)*(1-2j)
Out[21]: (5+0j)

In [22]: a.real
Out[22]: 1.5

In [23]: (a**3).imag
Out[23]: 3.25

In [24]: a.conjugate() # this is a function, it requires ()
Out[24]: (1.5-0.5j)
```

Booleans

Comparison operators are <, >, <=, >=, ==, !=

[]

```
In [25]: 5 < 7
```

```
Out[25]: True
```

```
In [26]: a = 5  
b = 7
```

```
In [27]: b < a
```

```
Out[27]: False
```

```
In [28]: c = 2
```

```
In [29]: c < a < b
```

```
Out[29]: True
```

```
In [30]: a < b and b < c
```

```
Out[30]: False
```

```
In [31]: res = a < 7  
print(res, type(res))  
  
(True, <type 'bool'>)
```

```
In [32]: print int(res)  
print int(not res)  
  
1  
0
```

```
In [33]: res is True
```

```
Out[33]: True
```

Formating strings

```
In [34]: print "Hello world!"  
  
Hello world!
```

```
In [35]: print 'Hello world!'
```

[] In [36]: `print "Hello I'm here" # ' inside ""`
 Hello I'm here

In [37]: `print('Hello') # this is the Python 3 style`
 Hello

In [38]: `# 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 [39]: `# The new way is using the format() method of the string object, and {} to define which value to print and using which format.`
`print('a = {}, b = {}, c = {}'.format(a,b,c))`
`print('a = {0}, b = {1}, c = {2}'.format(a,b,c))`
`print('a = {:.f}, b = {:20s}, c = {:.10.3e}'.format(a,b,c))`
 a = 7.5, b = tralala, c = 8.9e-33
 a = 7.5, b = tralala, c = 8.9e-33
 a = 7.500000, b = tralala, c = 8.900e-33

Much more on this here: <https://docs.python.org/2/tutorial/inputoutput.html>

Strings

In [40]: `a = "this is a string"`

In [41]: `len(a)`

Out[41]: 16

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

In [42]: `a.upper()`

Out[42]: 'THIS IS A STRING'

In [43]: `a.title()`

Out[43]: 'This Is A String'

[]

In [44]: `a.split()`Out[44]: `['this', 'is', 'a', 'string']`In [45]: `a.split()[1]`Out[45]: `'is'`In [46]: `a = "This is a string. With various sentences."`In [47]: `a.split('.') # Here we define the character used to split. The default is space (any combination of spaces)`Out[47]: `['This is a string', ' With various sentences', '']`In [48]: `a = 'tra'
b = 'la'
print ' '.join((a,b,b))
print '-'.join((a,b,b))
print ''.join((a,b,b))``tra la la
tra-la-la
tralala`

Containers: Tuples, Lists and Dictionaries

list: a collection of objects. May be of different types. It has an order.

In [49]: `L = ['red','green','blue'] # squared brackets are used to define lists`In [50]: `type(L) # Print the type of L`Out[50]: `list`In [51]: `L[1]`Out[51]: `'green'`In [52]: `L[0] # indexes start at 0 !!!`Out[52]: `'red'`

[]

In [53]: `L[-1] # last element`Out[53]: `'blue'`In [54]: `L[-3]`Out[54]: `'red'`In [55]: `L = L + ['black', 'white'] # addition symbol is used to agregate values to a list. See below other way.`In [56]: `print L``['red', 'green', 'blue', 'black', 'white']`In [57]: `L[1:3] # L[start:stop] : elements if index i, where start <= i < stop !! stop not included !!`Out[57]: `['green', 'blue']`In [58]: `L[2:] # boudaries can be omitted`Out[58]: `['blue', 'black', 'white']`In [59]: `L[-2:]`Out[59]: `['black', 'white']`In [60]: `L[::2] # L[start:stop:step] every 2 elements`Out[60]: `['red', 'blue', 'white']`

Lists are mutable: their content can be modified.

In [61]: `L[2] = 'yellow'`
`L`Out[61]: `['red', 'green', 'yellow', 'black', 'white']`In [62]: `L.append('pink') # agregarte 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`
`L`Out[63]: `['red', 'green', 'blue', 'yellow', 'black', 'white', 'pink']`

```
[ ] In [64]: L.extend(['magenta', 'purple'])
          L
```

```
Out[64]: ['red',
          'green',
          'blue',
          'yellow',
          'black',
          'white',
          'pink',
          'magenta',
          'purple']
```

```
In [65]: L = L[::-1] # reverse order
          L
```

```
Out[65]: ['purple',
          'magenta',
          'pink',
          'white',
          'black',
          'yellow',
          'blue',
          'green',
          'red']
```

```
In [66]: L2 = L[:-3] # cutting the last 3 elements
          print L
          print L2
```

```
['purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow', 'blue', 'green', 'red']
['purple', 'magenta', 'pink', 'white', 'black', 'yellow']
```

```
In [67]: L[25] # Out of range leads to error
```

```
-----
IndexError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-67-c16babb9288f> in <module>()
----> 1 L[25] # Out of range leads to error

IndexError: list index out of range
```

```
In [ ]: print L
          print L[20:25] # But NO ERROR when slicing.
          print L[20:]
          print L[2:20]
```


[]

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```
In []: print L.count('yellow')
      L.sort() # One can use TAB to look for the methods (functions that apply to an object)
      L
```

```
In []: a = [1,2,3]
      b = [10,20,30]
```

```
In []: print(a+b) # may not be what you expected, but rather logical too
```

```
In []: print(a*b) # Does NOT multiply element by element. Numpy will do this job.
```

```
In []: L = range(4) # Create a list. Notice the parameter is the number of elements, not the l
      ast one. The end point is omitted.
      L
```

```
In []: L = range(0, 20, 2) # every 2 integer
      L
```

The types of the elements of a list are not always the same:

```
In []: L = [1, '1', 1.4]
      L
```

Remove the n+1-th element:

```
In []: L = range(0,20,2)
      print L
      del L[5]
      print L
```

Slicing: extracting sub-list of a list

```
In []: 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])
```

```
In []: print(a[1,1]) # Does NOT work
```

```
In []: b = a[1]
      print b
```

```
In []: b[1] = 999
      print b
```

[] In []: `b[1] is a[1][1]` file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...

tuples: like lists, but immutable

In [68]: `T = (1,2,3)`
`T`

Out[68]: `(1, 2, 3)`

In [69]: `T2 = 1, 2, 3`
`print T2`
`type(T2)`
`(1, 2, 3)`

Out[69]: `tuple`

In [70]: `T[1]`

Out[70]: `2`

tuples are unmutables

In [71]: `T[1] = 3 # Does NOT work!`

```
-----  
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)  
<ipython-input-71-6dd68cc28786> in <module>()  
----> 1 T[1] = 3 # Does NOT work!  
  
TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```

Dictionnaires

A dictionary is basically an efficient table that maps keys to values. It is an unordered container

In [72]: `D = {'Christophe': 12, 'Antonio': 15} # defined by {key : value}`

In [73]: `D['Christophe'] # access to a value by the key`

Out[73]: `12`

In [74]: `D.keys() # list of the dictionary keys`

Out[74]: `['Christophe', 'Antonio']`

In [75]: `D['Julio'] = 16 # adding a new entry`

```
[ ] In [76]: print D
           {'Julio': 16, 'Christophe': 12, 'Antonio': 15}
```

```
In [77]: print sorted((1,'t',2,4,5,2,3, 'a', 'b','g','e', 'A', 'G',1.2))
         [1, 1.2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 'A', 'G', 'a', 'b', 'e', 'g', 't']
```

```
In [78]: T = ('a', 'j', 'D', 'i')
         print sorted(T, key = str.upper)
         ['a', 'D', 'i', 'j']
```

Blocks

Blocks are defined by indentation. Looks nice and no needs for end :-)

```
In [79]: for i in [1,2,3]: print(i) # compact way, not recommended.
         1
         2
         3
```

```
In [80]: for cosa in [1,'ff',2]:
         print(cosa)
         print('end')
         print('final end') # end of the indentation means end of the block
         1
         end
         ff
         end
         2
         end
         final end
```

```
[ ] In [81]: # defining a dictionary:
ATOMIC_MASS = {}
ATOMIC_MASS['H'] = 1
ATOMIC_MASS['He'] = 4
ATOMIC_MASS['C'] = 12
ATOMIC_MASS['N'] = 14
ATOMIC_MASS['O'] = 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 th
ey want.
for key in ATOMIC_MASS.keys():
    print key, ATOMIC_MASS[key]
```

```
C 12
H 1
Si 28
Ne 20
O 16
N 14
S 32
Ar 40
Fe 55.8
He 4
```

```
In [82]: 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
Element: N Atomic Mass: 14
Element: Ne Atomic Mass: 20
Element: O 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 making 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/>

file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...
In [83]: **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: O Atomic Mass: 16
Element: Ne Atomic Mass: 20
Element: Si Atomic Mass: 28
Element: S Atomic Mass: 32
Element: Ar Atomic Mass: 40
Element: Fe Atomic Mass: 55.8
```

In [84]: **for** idx, elem **in** enumerate(sorted(ATOMIC_MASS, key = ATOMIC_MASS.get)): # *adding an index that run from 0.*
 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: O 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 [85]: **for** i **in** range(10):
 if i > 5:
 print i

```
6
7
8
9
```

```
[ ] In [86]: for i in range(10):
            if i > 5:
                print i
            else:
                print('i lower than five')
            print('END')
```

```
i lower than five
i lower than five
i lower than five
i lower than five
i lower than five
i lower than five
6
7
8
9
END
```

Other commands are: if...elif...else AND while...

List and dictionary comprehension

```
In [87]: 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 [88]: # more compact way to do the same thing
        B = [i**2 for i in range(4)]
        print B

[0, 1, 4, 9]
```

```
In [89]: # The same is also used for dictionaries
        D = {'squared_{}'.format(k):k**2 for k in range(10)}
        print D

{'squared_3': 9, 'squared_2': 4, 'squared_1': 1, 'squared_0': 0, 'squared_7': 49, 'squared_6': 36, 'squared_5': 25, 'squared_4': 16, 'squared_9': 81, 'squared_8': 64}
```

Functions, procedures

[]

```
In [65]: def func1(x):
          print(x**3)
          func1(5)
```

```
125
```

```
In [66]: def func2(x):
          """
          Return the cube of the parameter
          """
          return(x**3)
          a = func2(3)

          help(func2)
          func2?
          print(a)
          print(func2(4))
```

```
Help on function func2 in module __main__:
```

```
func2(x)
    Return the cube of the parameter
```

```
27
```

```
64
```

```
In [68]: def func3(x, y, z, a=0, b=0):
          """
          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
```

```
0.0
```

```
In [69]: E = func3(3, 4, 5, 10, 100)
          print E
```

```
717.106781187
```

```
In [70]: F = func3(x=3, y=4, z=5, a=10, b=100)
          print F
```

```
717.106781187
```

```
[ ] In [71]: G = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, 100) # ERROR!
          print G
```

```
File "<ipython-input-71-a2bc66692446>", line 1
    G = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, 100) # ERROR!
SyntaxError: non-keyword arg after keyword arg
```

```
In [72]: H = func3(3, 4, 5, a=10, b=100)
          print H
```

```
717.106781187
```

```
In [73]: I = func3(z=5, x=3, y=4) # quite risky!
          print I
```

```
0.0
```

Lambda function is used to creat simple (single line) functions:

```
In [40]: J = lambda x, y, z: (x**2 + y**2 + z**2)**0.5
          J(1,2,3)
```

```
Out[40]: 3.7416573867739413
```

```
In [75]: print((lambda x,y,z: x+y+z)(0,1,2))
```

```
3
```

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 [76]: 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]

            print('    INIT')
            print(a)
            print(b)
            print(c)

            try_to_modify(a, b, c)

            print('    AFTER THE ROUTINE')
            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 [77]: a = 5
def test_a(x):
    print a*x
test_a(5)
a = 10
test_a(5)

```

```

25
50

```

file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...

```
[ ] In [43]: # 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 [44]: def test_g2():
        g2 = 5
        print g2
test_g2()
print g2
```

5

```
-----
NameError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-44-f60224a7598e> in <module>()
      3     print g2
      4 test_g2()
----> 5 print g2

NameError: name 'g2' is not defined
```

Global variable is known outside:

```
In [45]: def test_g3():
        global g3
        g3 = 5
        print g3
test_g3()
print g3
```

5
5

Recursivity

In [78]:

120
2432902008176640000
933262154439441526816992388562667004907159682643816214685929638952175999932299156089414
639761565182862536979208272237582511852109168640000000000000000000000000

Scripting

In [84]:

Overwriting ex1.py

In [85]:

In [81]:

16

In [82]:

9

In [50]:

16

[]

In [51]: `import ex1 as tt`
`print tt.f1(10)`

100

In [86]: `%run ex1 # The same as doing a copy-paste of the content of the file.`
`f1(8)`

Out[86]: 64

In [88]: `!pwd`

/home/puma/Python-MySQL/Notebooks

In [53]: `!pydoc -w ex1 # ! used to call a Unix command`

wrote ex1.html

In [54]: `from IPython.display import HTML`
`HTML(open('ex1.html').read())`

Out[54]:

ex1	index (.) /home/puma/Python-MySQL/Notebooks/ex1.py (file:/home/puma/Python-MySQL/Notebooks/ex1.py)
------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This write the current cell to a file

Functions		
		f1(x) This is an exmaple of a function, returning <code>x**2</code> - parameter: x

Help with TAB or ?

In [89]: `f1?`

```
[ ] In [55]: help(f1) file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...

Help on function f1 in module __main__:

f1(x)
    This is an exmaple of a function, returning x**2
    - parameter: x
```

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 [1]: print sin(3.)

-----
NameError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-1-08710d8e7a42> in <module>()
----> 1 print sin(3.)

NameError: name 'sin' is not defined
```

```
In [2]: import math
print math.sin(3.)

0.14112000806
```

```
In [4]: math?
```

```
In [5]: # We can import all the elements of the library in the current domain name (NOT A GOOD IDEA!!!):
from math import *
sin(3.)
```

```
Out[5]: 0.1411200080598672
```

```
In [59]: # One can look at the contents of a library with dir:
print(dir(math))

['__doc__', '__file__', '__name__', '__package__', 'acos', 'acosh', 'asin', 'asinh', 'atan', 'atan2', 'atanh', 'ceil', 'copysign', 'cos', 'cosh', 'degrees', 'e', 'erf', 'erfc', 'exp', 'expm1', 'fabs', 'factorial', 'floor', 'fmod', 'frexp', 'fsum', 'gamma', 'hypot', 'isinf', 'isnan', 'ldexp', 'lgamma', 'log', 'log10', 'log1p', 'modf', 'pi', 'pow', 'radians', 'sin', 'sinh', 'sqrt', 'tan', 'tanh', 'trunc']
```

[]

```
In [6]: # 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 [7]: 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 [8]: print math.pi
```

3.14159265359

```
In [11]: math.pi = 2.71
```

```
In [12]: print math.pi
```

2.71

```
In [13]: import math
```

```
In [14]: math.pi
```

Out[14]: 2.71

```
In [15]: reload(math)
```

Out[15]: <module 'math' from '/home/puma/Ureka/variants/common/lib/python2.7/lib-dynload/math.so
'>

```
In [16]: math.pi
```

Out[16]: 3.141592653589793

[] In [17]: `from math import pi as pa` file:///home/morisset/Google Drive/Pro/Python-M...

In [18]: `pa`

Out[18]: 3.141592653589793

In [19]: `math = 2`
`math.pi`

```
-----  
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)  
<ipython-input-19-70a02d6227fb> in <module>()  
      1 math = 2  
----> 2 math.pi
```

AttributeError: 'int' object has no attribute 'pi'