

Python for Data Analysis and Scientific Computing

X433.3 (2 semester units in COMPSCI)

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Language specifics

- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
 - the **for** loop
 - **commonly used loop** for iterative calculation of certain portion of a program **beginning from '0'**
 - passing through the **for** line the first time around evaluates 'k' to the first element of a given set
 - the **increment** of the variable **is done in the for line** after the sign ':' the second time around
 - incrementing is automatically taken care of
 - this is safer as the programmer doesn't need to think about the increment leading to less errors

Examples: *simple for loops*

```
In [152]: for k in ('Sarah', 'cars', 'Python'):
           print('John likes %s' % k)
```

```
John likes Sarah
John likes cars
John likes Python
```

```
In [153]: for j in range(3):
           print(j)
```

```
0
1
2
...
```

Language specifics

- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
 - the `for` loop
 - **commonly used loop** for iterative calculation of certain portion of a program **beginning from '0'**
 - passing through the `for` line the first time around evaluates 'k' to the first element of a given set
 - the **increment** of the variable **is done in the `for` line** after the sign ':' the second time around
 - incrementing is automatically taken care of
 - this is safer as the programmer doesn't need to think about the increment leading to less errors

Examples: *special range generator with `yield`*

```
In [154]: def new_range(start, end, step):
           while start <= end:
               yield start           # yield is a generator preserving funct. local value
               start += step
In [155]: for x in new_range(2, 5, 0.2): print(x)
2
2.2
2.4
...
```

class exercise

Language specifics

- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
 - the 'continue' option
 - skips the current iteration and **continues to the next iteration** in a loop

Example:

```
99  ## Example using 'continue':
100 x = [41, 12, 34, 52]
101 for k in x:
102     if k == 34:
103         continue
104     print(k)
```

... will produce:

```
41
12
52
```

Language specifics

- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
 - the **while** loop
 - just like **for** with main difference that the **increment is done manually inside the loop**
 - **the increment doesn't have to start from '0'** like in the **for** loop
 - **the increment can be done anywhere** in the while loop
 - there is **always** the need to **include one extra line for incrementing** unlike in the **for** loop
 - this is **not very safe** as the programmer may forget and other problems may occur
 - **break**
 - provides an alternative exit from **for** or **while** when certain condition is met
 - the iteration in the loop stops after the **break** condition is met

Language specifics

- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
 - while loop and break

Example:

```
87  ## Example for 'while' loop:
88  a = 6 + 4.5j
89  b = 1
90  while b < a.real:
91      a = a**0.5 + 0.3
92      print(a)
93      print(b)
94      b = b + 1
95      if a.imag < 0.5:
96          print('The imaginary part fell below 0.5. Will exit now!')
97          break
```

... will produce:

```
(2.898076211353316+0.8660254037844387j)
1
(2.020869271954432+0.25162440224203464j)
2
The imaginary part fell below 0.5. Will exit now!
```

... class exercise

Language specifics

- The `with` statement
 - `with` is used when working with **unmanaged resources** (like **file streams**)
 - It allows us to ensure that a resource is **cleaned up** when the code that uses it finishes running, **even if exceptions are thrown**

Example 1:

```
with expression [as variable]:  
    with-block
```

Example 2:

```
with open('/etc/passwd', 'r') as f:  
    for line in f:  
        print line  
        ... more code here ..
```

- The file object in `f` above will automatically close, even if the for loop raised an exception through the block

Language specifics

- Functions: definition, return values, local vs. global variables
 - functions are **separate blocks of code** in Python's program that are dedicated to perform a **specific routine**
 - they can be **called multiple** times
 - they **must be defined before** being used
 - defining a function happens with the keyword **def** followed by the name of the function, parenthesis, that take arguments, and colon at the end ':'
`def alex_fun_test():` -> it does not take any parameters
 - they may or may not take values when executing their routine
`def alex_fun_test(n):` -> it takes 'n' as input parameter to be used inside the function call

Language specifics

- Functions: definition, return values, local vs. global variables

- they may or may not return values after being executed

```
def alex_fun_test(n):      -> it takes 'n' as input parameter to be used inside the function call
    return n*n*2          -> this is the body of the function
```

- after the definition of the function there is the body

- functions return 'None' by default

- once defined functions can be called any time in the code

- functions work with local and global variables

Example:

```
106  ## Example of function definition, return values, local vs. global variables:
107  a = 12                                # -> define global variable 'a' of type 'int'
108  def alex_fun_test(b):                # -> call 'alex_fun_test' with input argument 'b'
109      c = 41                            # -> define local variable 'c' of type 'int'
110      return a + b + c
```

... so the call:

```
alex_fun_test(34)
```

... will produce:

87

... class exercise

Language specifics

- Functions: definition, return values, local vs. global variables
 - when a function that must take at least one input parameter is called without it, this results in error

Example:

```
106 ## Example of function definition, return values, local vs. global variables:
107 a = 12                                # -> define global variable 'a' of type 'int'
108 def alex_fun_test(b):                 # -> call 'alex_fun_test' with input argument 'b'
109     c = 41                            # -> define local variable 'c' of type 'int'
110     return a + b + c
```

... so the call:

```
alex_fun_test()
```

... will produce:

```
-----
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
/Users/alex/1.HD/Alex/1.new/Work/3.Berkeley Extension/3. final course material/2.
de/lecture2.py in <module>()
----> 1 alex_fun_test()

TypeError: alex_fun_test() missing 1 required positional argument: 'b'
```

Language specifics

- Functions: definition, return values, local vs. global variables
 - functions can be called with optional parameters as well

Example:

```
112 ## Example of function definition, return values, local vs. global variables:  
113 def fun_optional(d=12):  
114     return d + 34
```

... so the call:

```
fun_optional ()
```

... will produce:

```
46
```

... and the call:

```
fun_optional(41)
```

... will produce:

```
75
```

Course Content Outline

- **Introduction to Python®**
- Python - pros and cons
- Installing the environment with core packages
- Python modules, packages and scientific blocks
- Working with the shell, IPython and the editor HW1
- **Language specifics 1/2**
- Basic arithmetic operations, assignment operators, data types, containers
- Control flow (if/elif/else)
- Conditional expressions
- Iterative programming (for/continue/while/break)
- Functions: definition, return values, local vs. global variables
- **Language specifics 2/2**
- Classes / Functions (cont.): objects, methods, passing by value and reference
- Scripts, modules, packages
- I/O interaction with files
- Standard library
- Exceptions
- **NumPy 1/3**
- Why NumPy?
- Data type objects
- NumPy arrays
- Indexing and slicing of arrays HW2
- **Matplotlib**
- What is Matplotlib?
- Basic plotting
- Tools: title, labels, legend, axis, points, subplots, etc.
- Advanced plotting: scatter, pie, bar, 3D plots, etc. HW3

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - an object is something allocated in memory
 - variables are objects
 - functions are objects
 - functions can be assigned to variables
 - they can be passed as an argument to different functions
 - a function can also be an item in a collection
 - everything in Python is an object. Example: *int* is an object
 - objects have identity (**names**) so that we can tell if they are the same or different objects

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - the name of an object is not part of the object
 - the name of an object exist in the namespace
 - every object has a specific location in memory
 - in Python objects have an ID that reveals their memory location
 - objects have a particular type (*int, list, tuple, etc.*)
 - every object has only one type
 - every object has a value with different attributes

Example: `X = 34` -> here, 34 is of type 'int'. Objects are: '34', 'int' itself, the 'type' applied to 'X' in order to find that it is of 'int' 'type'

Language specifics

- Classes : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - methods are functions that are members of a class
 - they are functions attached to objects
 - a class can be called with different methods (functions) that it consist of

Example:

```
1  ## Class example:
2  # Simple class:
3  class simple_class:
4      """This class shows basic functionality"""
5      a = 12
6      def f():
7          return 'hello world'
```

after executing the code above we try:

We create an instance of a class

```
In [3]: id(Class_1)
Out[3]: 4536329720

In [4]: id(simple_class)
Out[4]: 140367794155560
```

```
Python
In [1]: Class_1 = simple_class()

In [2]: whos
Variable      Type      Data/Info
-----
Class_1       simple_class  <__main__.simple_class object at 0x10603deb8>
name          str          __loader__
simple_class   type         <class '__main__.simple_class'>
```

Language specifics

- Classes : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - methods are functions that are members of a class
 - they are functions attached to objects
 - a class can be called with different methods (functions) that it consist of

Example:

```
1  ## Class example:
2  # Simple class:
3  class simple_class:
4      """This class shows basic functionality"""
5      a = 12
6      def f():
7          return 'hello world'
```

after executing the code above we try:

We create an instance of a class

```
In [3]: id(Class_1)
Out[3]: 140558349856568

In [4]: id(simple_class)
Out[4]: 140558349856568
```

```
Python [Python icon] [Run icon] [Stop icon] [Clear icon] [Close icon] [Undo icon] [Redo icon] [Find icon] [Help icon]

In [1]: Class_1 = simple_class ← notice the difference
In [2]: whos
Variable      Type      Data/Info
-----
Class_1       type      <class '__main__.simple_class'>
name          str       __loader__
simple_class   type      <class '__main__.simple_class'>
```

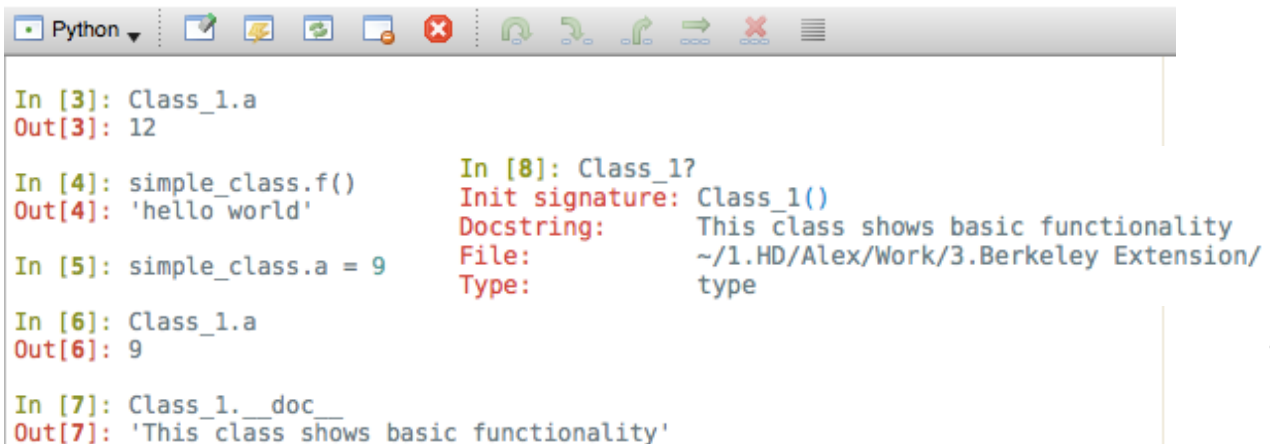

Language specifics

- Classes : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - methods are functions that are members of a class
 - they are functions attached to objects
 - a class can be called with different methods (functions) that it consist of

Example:

```
1  ## Class example:
2  # Simple class:
3  class simple_class:
4      """This class shows basic functionality"""
5      a = 12
6      def f():
7          return 'hello world'
```

after executing the code above we try:



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook window with a toolbar at the top. The notebook contains several input-output pairs. On the left, the first three pairs show: 1) Accessing the attribute 'a' of 'Class_1' resulting in 12. 2) Calling the method 'f()' of 'simple_class' resulting in 'hello world'. 3) Assigning the value 9 to 'simple_class.a' and then accessing 'Class_1.a' resulting in 9. On the right, the next three pairs show: 4) Accessing 'Class_1.__doc__' resulting in 'This class shows basic functionality'. 5) Calling 'Class_1()' resulting in an 'Init signature' and 'Docstring' for 'Class_1()'. 6) Accessing 'Class_1.__doc__' resulting in 'This class shows basic functionality'.

```
In [3]: Class_1.a
Out[3]: 12

In [4]: simple_class.f()
Out[4]: 'hello world'

In [5]: simple_class.a = 9
Out[5]: 9

In [6]: Class_1.a
Out[6]: 9

In [7]: Class_1.__doc__
Out[7]: 'This class shows basic functionality'

In [8]: Class_1()
Init signature: Class_1()
Docstring: This class shows basic functionality
File: ~/1.HD/Alex/Work/3.Berkeley Extension/
Type: type
```

... class
exercise

Language specifics

- Classes Inheritance : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - **Inheritance** is when a class behavior can be **copied by an instance** of a class object
 - Classes can **inherit attributes** and behavior **methods** from other classes called the **superclasses**
 - A class that inherits from a superclass is called a **subclass**, (also *heir* or *child* class)
 - There is a **hierarchy** among classes

Example:

```
12 # Base class - super class:
13 class class_test:
14     def method_one():
15         print('This is method 1')
16     def method_two():
17         print('I am method 2')
18
19 # Inheritance - subclass / derived class:
20 class class_test_two(class_test):
21     def method_one():
22         print('This is new method 1') # method overriding from super class
23     def method_three():
24         print('This is method 3')
```

Language specifics

- Classes Inheritance : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - **Inheritance** is when a class behavior can be **copied by an instance** of a class object
 - Classes can **inherit attributes** and behavior **methods** from other classes called the **superclasses**
 - Unlike Java and C#, **python allows multiple inheritance** - inherit from multiple classes at the same time like this: `>>> class Subclass(SuperClass1, SuperClass2, ...)`

Example:

```
12 # Base class - super class:
13 class class_test:
14     def method_one():
15         print('This is method 1')
16     def method_two():
17         print('I am method 2')
18
19 # Inheritance - subclass / derived class:
20 class class_test_two(class_test):
21     def method_one():
22         print('This is new method 1') # method overriding
23     def method_three():
24         print('This is method 3')
```

```
Python
In [1]: class_test.method_one()
This is method 1

In [2]: class_test.method_two()
I am method 2

In [3]: class_test_two.method_one()
This is new method 1

In [4]: class_test_two.method_two()
I am method 2

In [5]: class_test_two.method_three()
This is method 3

In [6]: class_test_two.__base__
Out[6]: __main__.class_test
```

... class exercise

Language specifics

- Classes Polymorphism : objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - **Polymorphism** is based on the Greek words: **Poly** (*many*) and **morphism** (*forms*)
 - So it is a **structure** that can take or **use many forms of objects**

Example:

```
26 ## Polymorphism example:
27 class Animal:
28     def __init__(self, name):    # Constructor of the class
29         self.name = name
30     def talk(self):              # Abstract method, defined by convention only
31         raise NotImplementedError("Subclass must implement abstract method")
32
33 class Cat(Animal):
34     def talk(self):
35         return 'Meow!'
36
37 class Dog(Animal):
38     def talk(self):
39         return 'Woof! Woof!'
40
41 animals = [Cat('Tiger'),
42            Cat('Kitty'),
43            Dog('Maxie')]
44
45 def animal_sounds():
46     for animal in animals:
47         print(animal.name + ': ' + animal.talk())
```

In [69]: Dog.talk(Dog)
Out[69]: 'Woof! Woof!'

In [70]: animal_sounds()
Tiger: Meow!
Kitty: Meow!
Maxie: Woof! Woof!

... class exercise

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing values to functions

Example:

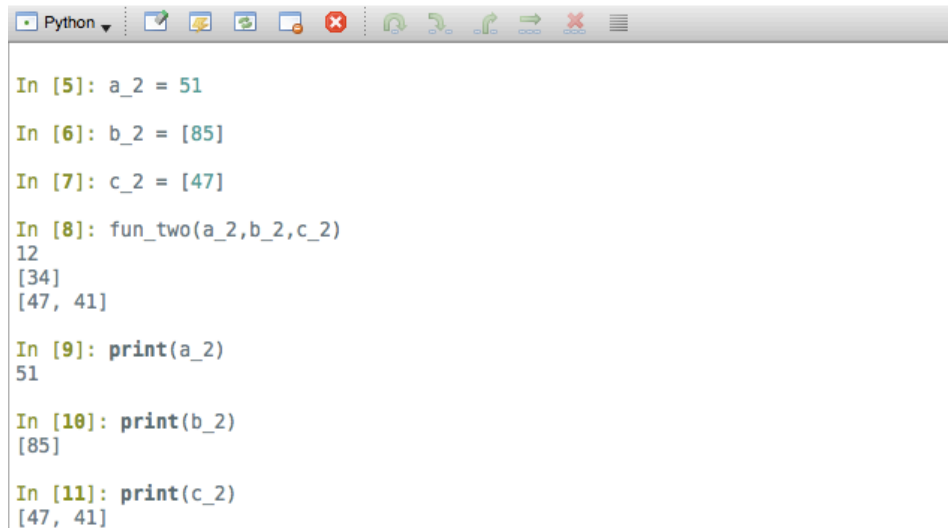
```
1  ## Example of functions: passing values
2
3  def fun_two(a, b, c):
4      a = 12
5      print(a)
6      b = [34]
7      print(b)
8      c.append(41)
9      print(c)
```

after executing the code above we enter these lines:

a_2 is immutable (int)

b_2 is a mutable variable (list)

c_2 is a mutable variable (list)



```
Python
In [5]: a_2 = 51
In [6]: b_2 = [85]
In [7]: c_2 = [47]
In [8]: fun_two(a_2,b_2,c_2)
12
[34]
[47, 41]
In [9]: print(a_2)
51
In [10]: print(b_2)
[85]
In [11]: print(c_2)
[47, 41]
```

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference
 - **Pass by value** call means the called functions' parameter will be **a copy** of the callers passed argument
 - user is dealing with the **actual value** of a variable directly
 - **Pass a reference** to a function means the called functions' parameter will be **==** as the callers' passed argument (not the **value**, but the identity - the variable obj. itself)
 - user is dealing with the **memory location** of a variable rather than its actual value
 - the question is if a variable can be modified after being passed to a function or not
 - **in Python the difference** between the two ways of sharing variables **is somewhat elusive**

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference

Rules:

- when a **variable is passed** to a function, **the reference to the object**, to which the variable refers **is actually passed**, and not the variable
- when an immutable value is passed to a function, the function can not change the variable
- when a mutable value is passed to a function, the function can change the variable
- **variables declared in functions** exist in a local table known as *local namespace* and **have local scope**

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference

Pass-by-reference

- Suppose we have the list:

- `X = [12,34,41,52]`

X is the variable that points to the object that is the list [12,34,41,52], but X itself is NOT the list



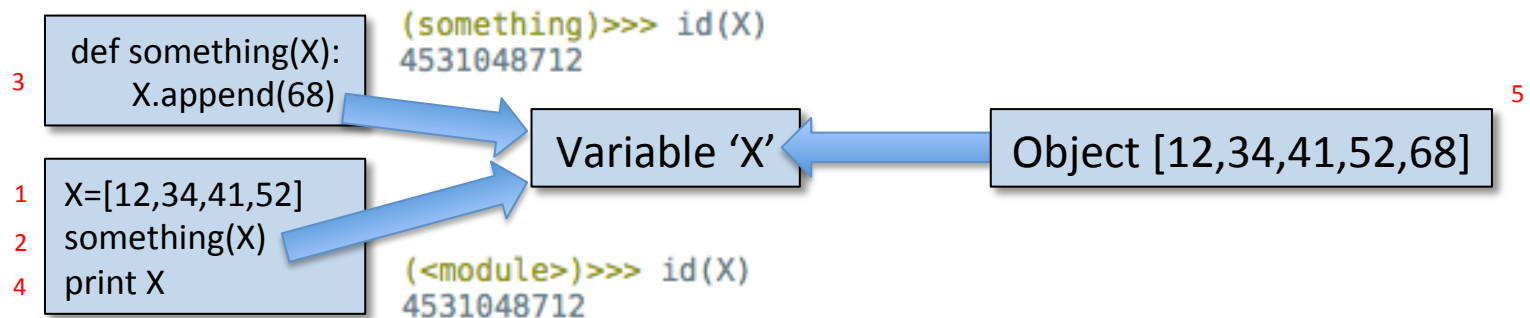
- Variables can be looked at as containers that hold objects
- in the pass-by-reference case the variable is passed directly into the function along with its contents, that is the object

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference

Pass-by-reference

- the argument created inside the function is exactly the same container as the one passed by the caller
- it refers to the same object in memory



- it follows that any action performed to the variable or the object inside the function 3 will be visible by the caller 2
- so the changes will be visible outside the function

Conclusion: when using pass-by-reference, both the function and the caller use the same exact variable and object / memory location

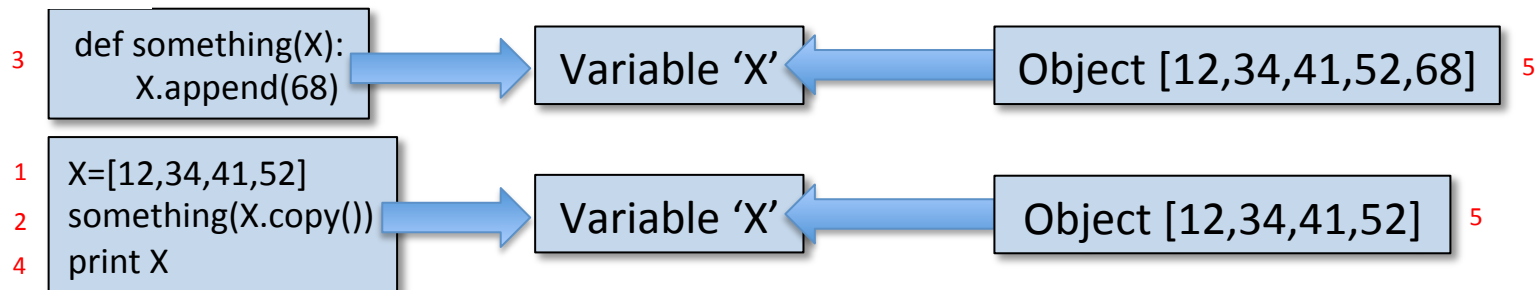
Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by value and reference

Pass-by-value

- in this case the function receives a **copy** of the object's argument passed by the caller
- it is stored in a **new memory location**
- in essence the function now provides it's own container for the value
- there is **no relationship between the variables** nor the objects referred to by the function and the caller
- the objects have the **same value**, but they are **different**
- it follows that nothing that happens to one will affect the other
- **so the changes inside the function will not be visible outside**

```
(something)>>> id(X)  
4572863176
```



```
(<module>)>>> id(X)  
4573462088
```

Conclusion: the different copies of the variable and the object do not affect one another

Language specifics

- Functions: objects, methods, passing by object in Python
 - in Python there is **not exactly a reference to a value** or reference in the same way **as in C++**
 - Python uses a **reference to an object**, which **binds the name of a variable to an object in memory**
 - Python creates a new name for the same object when calling functions, so **changing the object shows in the caller**, however assigning to the function-local variable is not reflected in the caller just like in Java or Lisp
 - To make this slightly easier, always think of the **mutable** and **immutable** objects:
 - Changing **mutable** objects **can change the object directly**, hence changing an object inside a function or a method will also change the original object outside
 - Changing **immutable** objects inside a function or a method will create a new instance and the **original instance** outside that function or a method **is not changed**

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - scripts are **longer code collections** stored in a file
 - scripts are used so that there is **no need to type** everything in the interpreter
 - it is a **convenient** way to store larger pieces of code to be executed any time
 - scripts contain **sequence of instructions**
 - **indentation** used in scripts is very convenient because increases readability
 - scripts can be written in **any text editor** of choice (we have one in Pyzo)
 - **scripts** are also referred to as **modules**
 - scripts have the **extension .py**

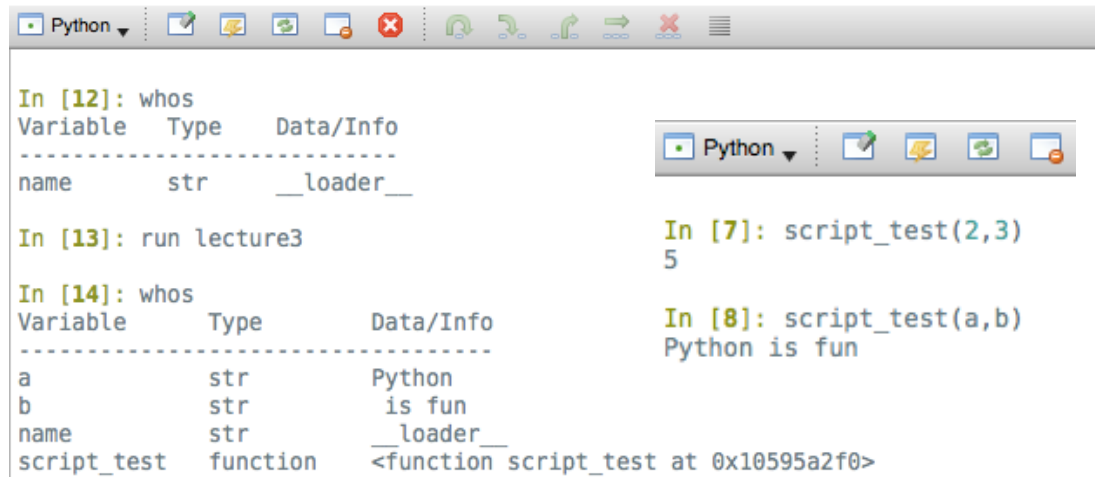
Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

Example: ... save the code below in a file called 'lecture3.py':

```
17 a = ('Python')
18 b = (' is fun')
19 def script_test(a,b):
20     print(a+b)
```

... check what's loaded in namespace and run the script from the same directory :



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook window with a toolbar at the top. The main area displays two input prompts and their corresponding outputs. The first input is 'In [12]: whos', which produces a table of variables in the namespace. The second input is 'In [13]: run lecture3', which executes the script. The third input is 'In [14]: whos', which produces an updated table of variables, now including 'a', 'b', and 'script_test' from the executed script. To the right of the main output area, there is a smaller window showing the output of 'In [7]: script_test(2,3)' and 'In [8]: script_test(a,b)'. The first call returns '5', and the second call returns 'Python is fun'.

```
In [12]: whos
Variable Type      Data/Info
-----
name     str          __loader__

In [13]: run lecture3

In [14]: whos
Variable      Type      Data/Info
-----
a             str       Python
b             str       is fun
name          str       __loader__
script_test   function  <function script_test at 0x10595a2f0>
```

```
In [7]: script_test(2,3)
5

In [8]: script_test(a,b)
Python is fun
```

... after the script was executed we see new objects exist in namespace

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

Example: ... now call the already defined function and observe the result:

```
In [15]: script_test(a,b)  
Python is fun
```

- this script can also be executed as a standalone file in the Unix/Linux terminal or using the cmd Win console
- make sure you are in the same directory where 'lecture3.py' resides

Example: ... we slightly modify the script by adding "print('It works')"

```
17 a = ('Python')  
18 b = (' is fun')  
19 def script_test():  
20     print(a+b)  
21     print('It works')
```

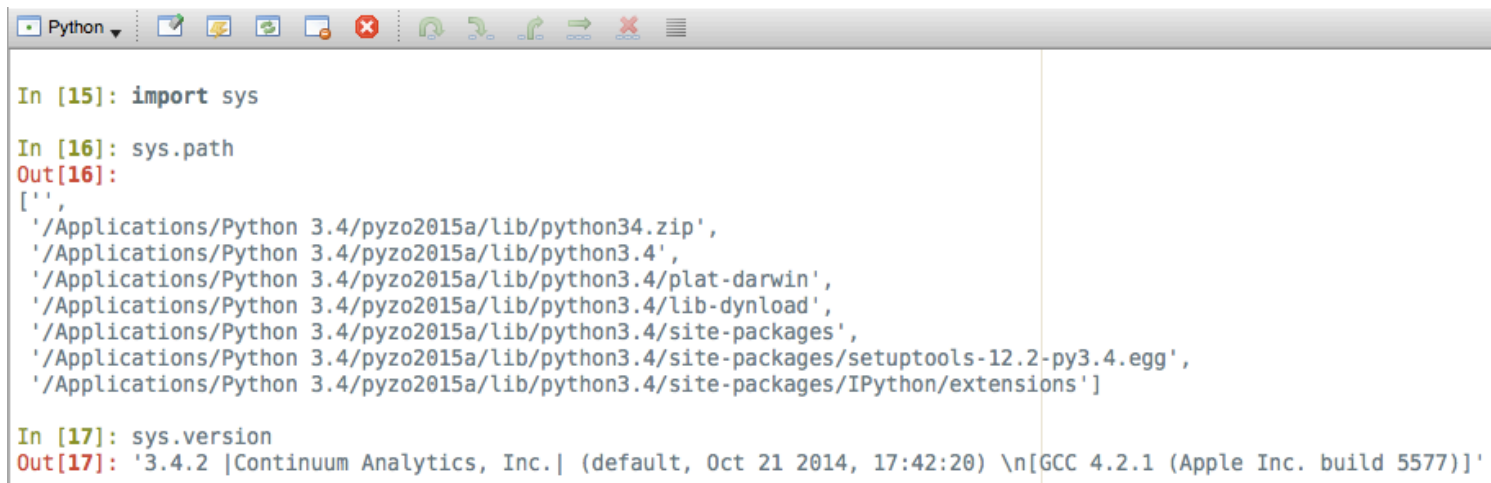
... now run the code using your terminal or cmd window:

```
Macintosh:code alex$ python lecture3.py  
It works  
Macintosh:code alex$
```

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - **modules are scripts** that provide a better way of organizing your code in a hierarchical way
 - **the tools** for scientific computing provided by **numpy** and **scipy are modules**, but they themselves are **packages**
 - modules, packages and sub-packages **must be imported** before they are used
 - then you can use the extended functionality a module provides

Example:



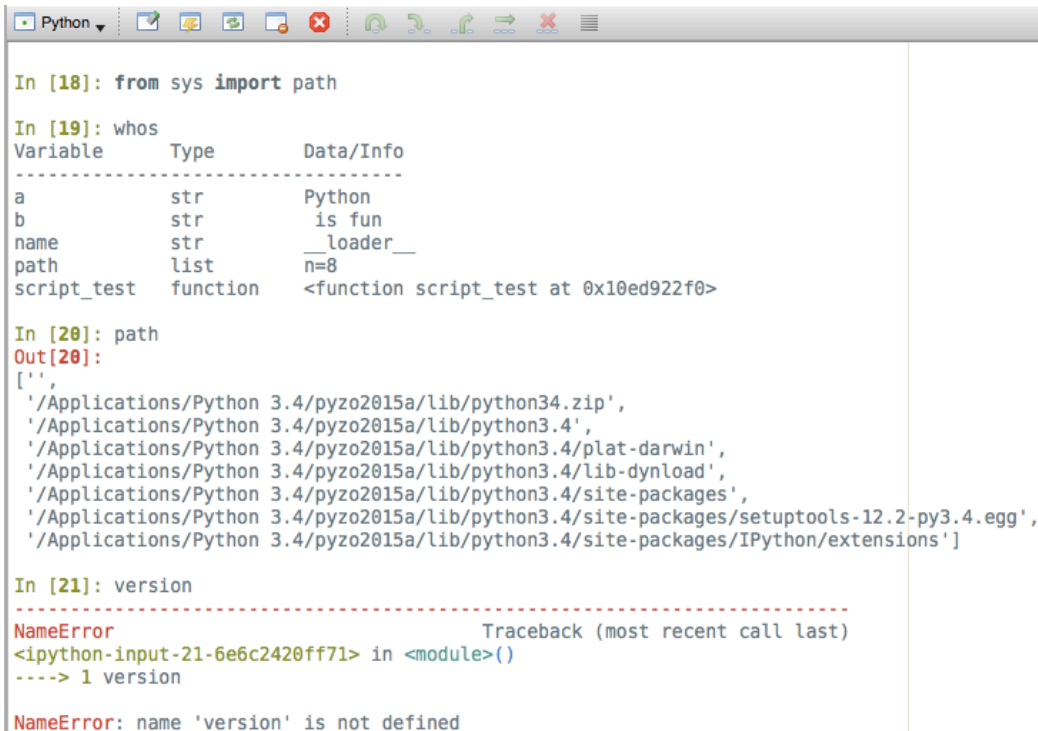
```
In [15]: import sys
In [16]: sys.path
Out[16]:
['',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python34.zip',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/plat-darwin',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/lib-dynload',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages/setuptools-12.2-py3.4.egg',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages/IPython/extensions']

In [17]: sys.version
Out[17]: '3.4.2 |Continuum Analytics, Inc.| (default, Oct 21 2014, 17:42:20) \n[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5577)]'
```

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - in some cases it is better to **import only parts of modules / packages** we need
 - this is good because **we won't take extra memory** for functionality **we won't use** from a module
 - the **drawback** in this approach is that you **won't be able to use other methods** of the module
 - in this way the user **can type shorter commands** like: 'path' rather than 'sys.path'

Example:



```
In [18]: from sys import path

In [19]: whos
Variable      Type      Data/Info
-----
a             str       Python
b             str       is fun
name          str       __loader__
path          list      n=8
script_test   function  <function script_test at 0x10ed922f0>

In [20]: path
Out[20]:
['',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python34.zip',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/plat-darwin',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/lib-dynload',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages/setuptools-12.2-py3.4.egg',
 '/Applications/Python 3.4/pyzo2015a/lib/python3.4/site-packages/IPython/extensions']

In [21]: version
-----
NameError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-21-6e6c2420ff71> in <module>()
----> 1 version

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


Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - sometimes it is better to refer to a module with a different **alias** after being imported

In [23]: `import numpy as np`

```
Python
In [23]: whos
Variable  Type      Data/Info
-----
a         ndarray   2x2: 4 elems, type `int64`, 32 bytes
b         ndarray   49: 49 elems, type `float64`, 392 bytes
c         ndarray   49: 49 elems, type `float64`, 392 bytes
name      str        __loader__
np         module     <module 'numpy' from '/Ap<...>kages/numpy/__init__.py'>
```

Example:

```
23 import numpy as np
24 a = np.array([[12, 34], [41, 54]])
25 b = np.arange(0.5, 4*np.pi, 0.25)
26 c = np.sin(b)
27 print(c)
```

... the code above will produce:

```
In [24]: run lecture3
[ 0.47942554  0.68163876  0.84147098  0.94898462  0.99749499  0.98398595
  0.90929743  0.7780732  0.59847214  0.38166099  0.14112001 -0.10819513
 -0.35078323 -0.57156132 -0.7568025  -0.89498936 -0.97753012 -0.99929279
 -0.95892427 -0.85893449 -0.70554033 -0.50827908 -0.2794155  -0.03317922
  0.21511999  0.45004407  0.6569866  0.82308088  0.93799998  0.99459878
  0.98935825  0.92260421  0.79848711  0.62472395  0.41211849  0.17388949
 -0.07515112 -0.31951919 -0.54402111 -0.73469843 -0.87969576 -0.96999787
 -0.99999021 -0.967808  -0.87545217 -0.72866498 -0.53657292 -0.31111935
 -0.0663219 ]
```

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

- we can also use a different way to import a module using the '*' sign:

In [26]: `from sys import *`

- this notation is called **star import** and it means **import all** ... names for access from the module
- **import *** will import everything, except the names that start with `_` as they **are private**
- every name that **does not have** `_` is considered **public** and access to it will be granted
- an exception to this rule is when the module has the `__all__` option in the beginning
- `__all__` specifies what names **exactly** will be made available when an **import *** call is made regardless if they are meant to be public or private

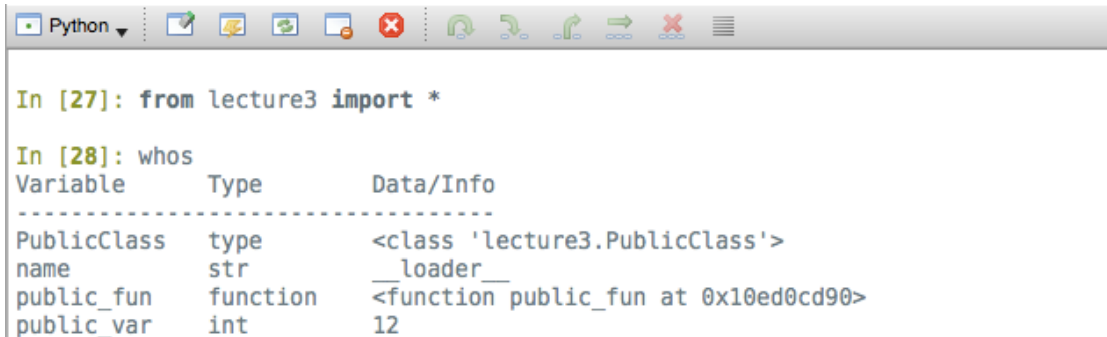
Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

Example: ... consider we have the following code:

```
30 public_var = 12
31 _private_var = 34
32
33 def public_fun():
34     print('This function is public')
35 def _private_fun():
36     print('... now this function is set to be private')
37
38 class PublicClass():
39     print('This is a public class')
40 class _PrivateClass():
41     print('... now this Class is private')
```

... then the only exposed names in this '*' call will be:



Variable	Type	Data/Info
PublicClass	type	<class 'lecture3.PublicClass'>
name	str	__loader__
public_fun	function	<function public_fun at 0x10ed0cd90>
public_var	int	12

... class exercise

Language specifics

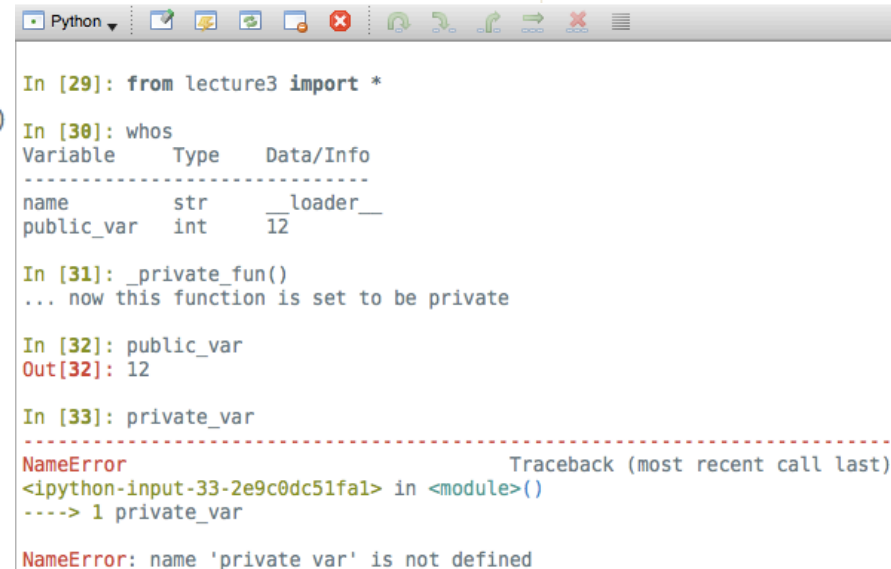
- Scripts, modules, packages

Example: ... lets try the same code with the only addition the ‘__all__’ option:

```
30 public_var = 12
31 _private_var = 34
32
33 __all__ = ['public_var', '_private_fun']
34
35 def public_fun():
36     sum_pub_priv = public_var + _private_var
37     print('This function is public. The sum is', sum_pub_priv)
38 def _private_fun():
39     print('... now this function is set to be private')
40
41 class PublicClass():
42     print('This is a public class')
43 class _PrivateClass():
44     print('... now this Class is private')
```

... then the only exposed names in this ‘*’ call will be:

... class exercise



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook window with the following content:

```
In [29]: from lecture3 import *
```

Variable	Type	Data/Info
name	str	__loader__
public_var	int	12

```
In [30]: whos
... now this function is set to be private

In [31]: _private_fun()
Out[32]: 12

In [32]: public_var
Out[32]: 12

In [33]: private_var
```

NameError Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-33-2e9c0dc51fa1> in <module>()
----> 1 private_var

NameError: name 'private_var' is not defined

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

Caution: **star import** is NOT recommended and should be avoided for the following reasons:

- it is not explicit, which means that we don't know anything about what is being imported, which is why it is much more clear to import variables, functions or classes one by one as needed
- the namespace can be cluttered
- this may create name overrides between different modules that are loaded
- it is impossible to understand the functionality of everything that is loaded just by looking at the names of different variables, functions or classes that were imported

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages

Caution: **star import** is NOT recommended and should be avoided for the following reasons:

- it **decreases readability** of the code and it is hard to understand it
- the **tab completion is not functioning as it is supposed to** – to provide simplicity
- it is impossible to check for different undefined symbols
- there may be **problems with visibility** of different variables or functions declared in ‘__all__’
- finally, this way of loading has its **benefit** because **it is quick**, but it is a lazy way of doing it and the user must know what exactly needs before using it

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - a **module** is a **single file** whereas a **package** is a **folder** containing number of **modules**
 - in the package folder there must be a file named **'__init__.py'** that describes what is included in this package
 - the **'__init__.py'** file **distinguishes** a Python package **from a regular file folder**
 - **packages** can be **nested**, so that subfolders may have an **'__init__.py'** file and can contain more modules
 - when **importing a module** or a package Python creates the same type of **module object**
 - when importing a package you are importing bunch of modules (files), which is why it is always better to **only import particular modules** from a package in order not to clutter the namespace
 - when a package is imported, **only variables, functions and classes specified in the **'__init__.py'** file are loaded**. That rule does not go for any sub-packages or modules
 - when using **star import** for packages, **'__all__'** specifies the modules that will be loaded into the current namespace (**not what is specified in the **'__all__'** file inside each module**)
 - **when the **'__all__'** declaration is omitted** in the **'__init__.py'** file of a package, the statement **`'from <package> import *'` will not import anything at all**

Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - some packages come with Python core installation:
 - email, http, html (modules), io, json, test, xml (modules), etc.
 - others have to be installed separately:
 - pandas, numpy, scipy, matplotlib, sympy, requests, django, pillow, SQLAlchemy, pygame, pygamelet etc.
 - to check for available packages and their versions on your machine use the **pip** command

```
In [34]: pip freeze
You are using pip version 7.0.1, however version 7.0.3 is available.
You should consider upgrading via the 'pip install --upgrade pip' command.
conda==3.9.0
conda-env==2.1.3
Django==1.8.1
fastcache==1.0.1
iep==3.6.1
imageio==1.1
ipython==2.4.1
Jinja2==2.7.3
MarkupSafe==0.23
matplotlib==1.4.2
nose==1.3.4
numpy==1.9.2
pandas==0.15.2
psutil==2.2.0
pycosat==0.6.1
Pygments==2.0.2
PyOpenGL==3.1.0b3
```


Language specifics

- Scripts, modules, packages
 - Some of the top extended Python packages are:
 - NumPy – provides an advance math functionality
 - SciPy – provides a rich library for scientific computations and works well with NumPy
 - Matplotlib – advanced plotting capability that is well integrated with NumPy and SciPy
 - Pandas – provides a high-level data manipulation toolset built on top of NumPy
 - SymPy – providing algebraic evaluation, differentiation, complex numbers, etc.
 - Requests – the top choice for any http web design
 - Pillow – great tool for image processing
 - IPython – makes Python easy to use with its shell, history, library and own text editor
 - Pygame – for 2D game development
 - Pyglet – for 3D game development
 - Django – a rich web framework for pro development
 - Kyvi - Open source *Python* framework for rapid development of mobile applications