Introduction to Python

Built-In Sequences: Tuples and Dictionaries

Topics

1) Tuples
2) Tuple unpacking
3) List of tuples, List of lists(2D lists)
4) enumerate()
5) Dictionaries
6) Iterating over a dictionary

Tuples

Tuples are in many ways similar to lists, but they are defined with parentheses rather than square brackets:

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

They can also be defined without any brackets at all:

```
In[2]:t = 1, 2, 3
      print(t, type(t))
(1, 2, 3) tuple
```

Tuples

Like the lists, tuples have a length, and individual elements can be extracted using square-bracket indexing. Slicing is also supported.

```
In [1]: len(t)
Out [1]: 3
In [2]: t[0:2]
Out [2]: (1, 2)
```

Unlike lists, tuples are *immutable*: this means that once they are created, their size and contents cannot be changed:

```
In [3]: t[0] = 1    # error!
In [4]: t.append(10)     # error!
```

Tuple Unpacking

Tuple unpacking is a assignment feature that assigns right hand side of values into left hand side. In packing, we put values into a new tuple while in unpacking we extract those values into a single variable.

This is packing values into a variable.

```
In [1]: student = (“Mike Smith”, 3.2)
```

This is unpacking values from a variable.

```
In [2]: name, gpa = student
In [3]: print(name, gpa)
Mike Smith 3.2
```

Tuple Unpacking

Tuple unpacking can be used to do parallel assignment.

```
In [1]:  a = 1
         b = 2
         a, b = b, a # parallel assignment
         print(a, b)
2 1
```

list(), tuple()

Converting between sequences can be done using the appropriate constructors: list(), tuple().

```
In [26]: message = “python”
         list(message)
Out [26]: [‘p’, ‘y’, ‘t’, ‘h’, ‘o’, ‘n’]

In [27]: t = [1, 2, 3]
         tuple(t)
Out [27]: (1, 2, 3)
```

List of Tuples

We can form a list of tuples(or of lists) and iterate over them by using nested loop, [] or tuple unpacking.

Using nested loop:

```
In[3]: lst = [("Mike", 3.2), ("Sarah", 3.6), ("Jack", 2.8)]
       for student in lst:
           for data in student:
               print(data)
```

Mike

3.2

Sarah

3.6

Jack

2.8

List of Tuples

We can form a list of tuples(or of lists) and iterate over them by using nested loop, [] or tuple unpacking.

Using []:

```
In[3]: lst = [("Mike", 3.2), ("Sarah", 3.6), ("Jack", 2.8)]
       for student in lst:
           print(student[0], student[1])
```

```
Mike 3.2
Sarah 3.6
Jack 2.8
```

List of Tuples

We can form a list of tuples(or of lists) and iterate over them by using nested loop, [] or tuple unpacking.

Using tuple unpacking:

```
In[3]: lst = [("Mike", 3.2), ("Sarah", 3.6), ("Jack", 2.8)]
       for name, gpa in lst:  # tuple unpacking
           print(name, gpa)
```

```
Mike 3.2
Sarah 3.6
Jack 2.8
```

List of Lists(2D lists)

We can have a list of lists.

```
In[3]: lst = [[1, 2, 3],
              [4, 5, 6],
              [7, 8, 9]]
In[3]: lst[0]
Out [27]: [1, 2, 3]
In[3]: lst[1][2]
Out [27]: 6
In[3]: lst[0][0]
Out [27]: 1
In[3]: lst[2][1]
Out [27]: 8
```

enumerate()

It is useful to have access to the index of elements when iterating over a list or 2D list. The enumerate() function returns a tuple of (index, value) from an iterable.

```
In [27]: lst = ['bread', 'milk, 'ham']
In [27]: for item in enumerate(lst):
             print(item)
```

```
(0, 'bread')
(1, 'milk')
(2, 'ham')
```

enumerate()

Unpacking from enumerate().

```
In [27]: lst = ['bread', 'milk, 'ham']
In [27]: for index, value in enumerate(lst):
             print(index, value)
```

```
0 bread
1 milk
2 ham
```

enumerate() with 2D lists

enumerate() is useful if we want to access indices of 2D lists. For example, we can use indices to modify the 2D list.

```
In[3]: lst = [[1, 2, 3],
              [4, 5, 6],
              [7, 8, 9]]
In[3]: for row_ind, row in enumerate(lst):
           for col_index, value in enumerate(row):
               lst[row_ind][col_index] = 3
In[3]: lst
Out[50]: [[3, 3, 3], [3, 3, 3], [3, 3, 3]]
```

Dictionaries

Python lists are useful but in some applications, it is nice to have a different indexing scheme than the integers. For example, consider a database of students' names and their grades:

Mike: [70,81, 84]

Sarah: [88,71,85]

…

Suppose that this database has hundreds of records. It is hard to access these students' grades using 0-based integer indexing.

Python dictionaries allow "values" to be accessed by meaningful "keys". In the example above, we can access the database of grades by nam(keys) instead of integer index.

Dictionaries

Dictionaries are extremely flexible mappings of keys to values, and form the basis of much of Python's internal implementation.

They can be created via a comma-separated list of key:value pairs within curly braces. The "keys" are distinct.

```
In [27]: numbers = {"one":1, "two":2, "three":3}
In [28]: numbers["two"]
Out [28]: 2
In [28]: len(numbers)
Out [28]: 3
```

Dictionaries

New items can be added to the dictionary using indexing as well.

```
In [27]: numbers = {"one":1, "two":2, "three":3}
```

```
In [29]  numbers['ninety'] = 90
In [29]  print(numbers)
{'one': 1, 'two': 2, 'three': 3, 'ninety': 90}
```

```
In [29]: numbers['four'] # KeyError, 'four' not set as key
```

Dictionaries

Modifying dictionary.

```
In [27]: numbers = {"one":1, "two":2, "three":3}
In [29]: numbers['one'] += 5
In [29]  print(numbers)
{'one': 6, 'two': 2, 'three': 3}
```

Dictionaries

The keys and values of dictionaries can be different types. However, a dictionary key must be immutable(int, float, bool, str, tuple). A dictionary value can be any object.

```
In [27]: misc = {2:5, (3, 5):4.5, True:[1], 3.5:(1, 5)}
In [29]: misc[2]
Out [28]: 5
In [29]: misc[True]
Out [28]: [1]
In [29]: misc[(3, 5)]
Out [28]: 4.5
```

Dictionaries

The keys and values can be extracted from a dictionary via keys() and values().

```
In [27]: numbers = {"one":1, "two":2, "three":3}
In [29]: k = list(numbers.keys())
         print(k)
['one, 'two, 'three']


In [29]: k = list(numbers.values())
         print(k)

[1, 2, 3]
```

Membership Operations

By default, membership operations checks keys of a dictionary.

```
In [19]: numbers = {'one':1, 'two':2, 'three':3}

In [20]:  'one' in numbers
Out [20]: True
```

Iterables

It is easy to iterate over keys of the dictionary. The default loop iterates over the keys.

```
In [27]: numbers = {'one':1, 'two':2, 'three':3}
         for x in numbers:
            print(x, end=" ")
```

one two three

To iterate over values of the dictionary use, values().

```
In [27]: for x in numbers.values():
            print(x, end=‘ ’)
```

1 2 3

Iterables

It is easy to iterate over both keys and values of the dictionary. Use the method items() and tuple unpacking.

```
In [27]: numbers = {'one':1, 'two':2, 'three':3}
         for k, v in numbers.items():
             print(k, v)
```

one 1

two 2

three 3

Example of a Use for Dictionaries

```
database = {'Mike':[70], 'Sarah':[88]}
names_to_add = [('Sarah',75), ('John',90), ('Mike',81)]
```

We can add new records into our database:

```
for student in names_to_add:
      name, score = student  # tuple unpacking
      if name in database:
            database[name].append(score)
      else:
            database[name] = []  # create new key/value
            database[name].append(score) # add score to list
```

References

1) Vanderplas, Jake, A Whirlwind Tour of Python, O'reilly Media.