

Lists



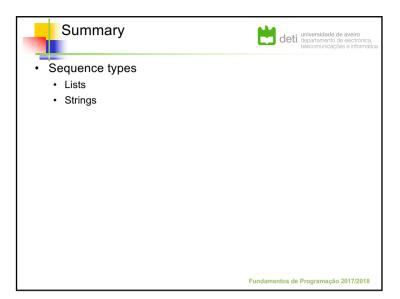
- A list is a sequence of values of any type.
- The values in a list are called *elements* or sometimes *items*
- · List literals are written in brackets.

```
numbers = [10, 20, 30, 40]
fruits = ['banana', 'pear', 'orange']
things = ['spam', 2.0, 5, [1, 2]] # a list inside!
empty = [] # an empty list
```

• Function len returns the *length* of a sequence.

```
len(numbers) #-> 4
len(things) #-> 4
len(empty) #-> 0
```

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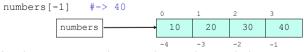




• We can be access each element of a sequence using the bracket operator and a value – the *index*.

```
numbers[0] #-> 10 (index starts at 0)
fruits[2] #-> 'orange'
```

· A negative index counts backward from the end.



Any integer expression may be used as an index.

```
numbers[(6+1)%4] #-> 40
```

• Using an index outside the list bounds is an error.

```
numbers[4] #-> IndexError
numbers[-5] #-> IndexError
```



· We can extract a subsequence using slicing.

· Negative indices may be used too.

```
numbers[-4:-2] #-> [10, 20]
numbers[1:-1] #-> [20, 30]
```

• Indices may be omitted for the start or end.

```
numbers[:2] #-> [10, 20]
numbers[3:] #-> [40]
numbers[:] # a full copy of numbers
```

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Traversing



• The most common way to traverse the elements of a sequence is with a for loop.

pear orange

```
for f in fruits:
    print(f)
```

• But sometimes we use the indices, e.g., when updating.

```
for i in range(len(numbers)):
    numbers[i] = numbers[i] * 2
```

• In this case, we could have used a while loop instead.

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Lists are mutable



• Lists are **mutable**, i.e., we can change its elements.

```
numbers[1] = 99
numbers #-> [10, 99, 20, 40]
```

· We can even change a sublist.

```
numbers[2:3] = [98, 97]
numbers #-> [10, 99, 98, 97, 40]
```

• The contents change, but the object is the same.

```
a = b = [1, 2, 3] # a and b refer to the same object a[0] = 9 # object a is modified b #-> [9, 2, 3]
```

• We can confirm that a and b refer to the same object.

```
a is b #-> True
```

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Lists – Operations and methods

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• The + operator concatenates and * repeats sequences.

```
s = [1, 2, 3] + [7, 8] #-> [1, 2, 3, 7, 8]

z = [0]*3 #-> [0, 0, 0]
```

· Lists have several useful methods.

```
z.append(3) # appends 3 to end of z \rightarrow [0, 0, 0, 3]
z.extend([2, 1]) # appends elements of list to z
x = s.pop() # s \rightarrow [1, 2, 3, 7], x \rightarrow 8
```

• Operator in checks if an element is included in the sequence. Operator not in means the opposite.

```
7 in s  #-> True
4 not in s  #-> True
```

Lists – more operations



- If we know the index of the element to delete, we can use pop - it modifies the list and returns the element that was removed.
- If we don't need the removed value, we can use the del operator.
- If we know the element to remove (but not the index), we can use remove.
- To remove more than one element, we can use del with a slice index.
- sort arranges the elements of the list from low to high.
- sum adds all the elements of a list.

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Strings are immutable



• Unlike lists, strings in *Python* are **immutable**. Once a string is created it can't be modified.

```
fruit[0] = 'a' #-> TypeError
```

• But we can create new strings by combining existing ones.

```
ape = fruit[:-1]+'utan' #-> 'orangutan'
```

 Even methods that imply modification actually only return a new string object.

```
fruit.upper() #-> 'ORANGE'
fruit.replace('a', 'A') #-> 'orAnge'
fruit #-> 'orange'(not changed)
```

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Strings



- Strings are <u>sequences</u> of characters.
- String literals are delimited by single or double quotes.

```
fruit = 'orange'
```

• Like other sequences, we can use indexing and slicing.

```
letter = fruit[0] #-> 'o' (1st character)
len(fruit) #-> 6 (length of string)
fruit[1:4] #-> 'ran'
fruit[:-1] #-> 'orang'
fruit[::-1] #-> 'egnaro'
```

· We can also concatenate and repeat strings.

```
name = 'tom' + 'cat' #-> 'tomcat'
qps = 2 * 'tom' #-> 'tomtom'
```

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String - traversal



One way to traverse strings is with a for loop:

```
fruit = 'banana'
for char in fruit:
    print(char)
```

Another way:

```
index = 0
while index < len(fruit):
    letter = fruit[index]
    print(letter)
    index = index + 1</pre>
```

· Another example:

```
prefixes = 'JKLMNOPQ'
suffix = 'ack'
for letter in prefixes:
    print(letter + suffix)
```

Examples



• The following program counts the number of times the letter 'a' appears in a string:

```
word = 'banana'; count = 0
for letter in word:
   if letter == 'a':
      count = count + 1
print(count)
```

• For strings, the in operator returns True iff the first string appears as a substring in the second:

```
for letter in word1:
    if letter in word2:
        print(letter)
```

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More on strings



• The relational operators work on strings.

```
if word < 'banana':
    print(word, 'comes before banana.')
elif word > 'banana':
    print(word, 'comes after banana.')
else:
    print ('the same')
```

- Characters (letters, digits, punctuation) are stored as numeric codes (according to Unicode in python3).
- ord(c) returns the code of the character.
- chr (n) returns character represented code n.
- String class has various built-in methods which allows to check for different types of strings (isalpha, ...).