

PYTHON TUPLES

A Comprehensive Guide for College Students

Introduction to Python Tuples

- Tuples are ordered, immutable collections in Python.
- Defined using parentheses: `my_tuple = (1, 2, 3)`.
- Can store elements of different data types.
- Example: `my_tuple = ('apple', 3, True)`.

Accessing Values in Tuples

- Access tuple elements using indexing.
- Example:

```
my_tuple = (10, 20, 30)  
print(my_tuple[1]) # Output: 20
```

- Use negative indexing to access from the end.

```
print(my_tuple[-1]) # Output: 30
```

Updating Tuples

- Tuples are immutable; you cannot directly update them.
- Workaround: Convert to a list, update, and convert back.
- Example:

```
my_tuple = (1, 2, 3)
temp_list = list(my_tuple)
temp_list[1] = 5
my_tuple = tuple(temp_list)
print(my_tuple)
```

- OUPUT: (1, 5, 3)

Delete Tuple Elements

- Tuples are immutable, so you cannot delete specific elements.
- You can delete the entire tuple using the `del` statement.
- Example:

```
my_tuple = (1, 2, 3)  
del my_tuple
```

my_tuple no longer exists.

Basic Tuple Operations

- Concatenation (+): Combines two tuples.
Example: $(1, 2) + (3, 4) \rightarrow (1, 2, 3, 4)$
- Repetition (*): Repeats a tuple.
Example: $(1, 2) * 2 \rightarrow (1, 2, 1, 2)$
- Membership (in): Checks if an element exists.
Example: $3 \text{ in } (1, 2, 3) \rightarrow \text{True}$

Indexing, Slicing, and Matrixes

- Indexing: Access elements by their position.
- Slicing: Extract sub-tuples.
Example: `my_tuple[1:3] → (2, 3)`
- Nested tuples represent matrices.
Example: `matrix = ((1, 2), (3, 4))`
Access `matrix[1][0] → 3`

No Enclosing Delimiters

- Tuples can be created without parentheses in assignments.
- Example:

```
my_tuple = 1, 2, 3  
print(my_tuple) # Output: (1, 2, 3)
```

Built-in Tuple Functions

- `len(tuple)`: Returns the number of elements.
- `max(tuple)`: Returns the largest element.
- `min(tuple)`: Returns the smallest element.

When to Use Tuples vs Lists

- Use **tuples** for:

- Data that shouldn't change (e.g., coordinates, configuration settings).
- As keys in dictionaries or elements in sets.
- Performance-critical operations.

- Use **lists** for:

- Dynamic data that requires frequent modification.
- Operations requiring built-in methods like sorting or extending.