

1. String methods

Like any programming language, Python allows many operations on strings. Finding sub-strings, splitting, joining, etc. You can find a list of the available methods [here](https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html#string-methods) (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html#string-methods>).

Exercise

Use the appropriate methods to make the following lines of code work.

In [1]:

```
string = "In computer programming,  a string is traditionally  a sequence of characters.  "

print(string.find('c',0,len(string)))           # index of the first 'c'
print(string.rfind('c',0,len(string)))          # index of the last 'c' (see r{name} methods)
print(len(string.rstrip()))                     # length of the string without trailing whitespaces
print(string.startswith(' In'))                 # whether the string starts with "In"
print(string.lower())                           # string as all lower-case
print(string.split(','))                        # list of parts of the sentence, split by ","
print(string.replace("  ", " ", len(string)))   # all double whitespaces replaced by a single
print(string.replace(' traditionally ', ''))    # without the word "traditionally" (beware of whitespace)
```

```
3
72
78
True
in computer programming,  a string is traditionally  a sequence of characters.
['In computer programming', ' a string is traditionally  a sequence of characters.
']
In computer programming, a string is traditionally a sequence of characters.
In computer programming,  a string is a sequence of characters.
```

2. String formatting

Formatting a string allows you to export or print data. For example, printing the string Client name: %s where %s is formatted to be the name of a client given as a string. Besides substituting strings at %s , other data types can also be formatted in to the string. See [here](https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html#printf-style-string-formatting) (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html#printf-style-string-formatting>) for a list of all formatting conversions. This includes formatting/rounding numbers.

A general way to format a string is given below. Note the %d for an integer. In case of a single argument, the () are not necessary.

In [2]:

```
client_name = "Obelix"
client_age = 32                                     # [years]
string = "Client %s is %d years old." % (client_name, client_age) # the format is: string % (argument)
print(string)
```

Client Obelix is 32 years old.

Exercise

Use the appropriate format to make the following lines of code work.

In [3]:

```
value = 1.73456
print("%.f" % value)      # 2          (see "5. Precision", why can't you use %d?)
print("%.1f" % value)     # 1.7
print("%.2f" % value)     # 1.73
print("%.2f" % value)     # 1.73
print("%.2f" % value)     # 1.73 (with a total length of 7, see "4. Minimum field width")
print("%07.2f" % value)   # 0001.73 (see Flag '0')
print("%.2f" % value)     # +1.73 (see Flag '+')
print("%+06.2f" % value)  # +001.73
print("%.2e" % value)     # 1.73e+00 (exponential format)
```

```
2
1.7
1.73
1.73
0001.73
+1.73
+001.73
1.73e+00
```

3. Regular expressions

Regular expressions are used to find patterns in text, without exactly specifying each character. For example to find words, to find numbers that were formatted in a particular way, etc.

A single digit can for example be matched with `\d`. That would match at 4 locations in the string `The width of the car is 2m, and the height is 1.65m.`

Another example is that we can match a set of characters. This can be matched using `[xyz]`. That would match at 4 locations in the string `If x = 2y, than y = 6z.`

At [Python Regular Expressions \(https://docs.python.org/3/library/re.html\)](https://docs.python.org/3/library/re.html) more information can be found on matching string patterns in Python. Using this information, make the following assignment.

Exercise

Open [regex101.com \(https://regex101.com/\)](https://regex101.com/).

On the left-hand side, select the "Python" flavor.

Copy the text below in the "TEST STRING" box.

In the "REGULAR EXPRESSION" text box, write a pattern that:

- Matches the first 10 lines with a decimal number.
- Does not match the integer in the 11th line.
- Does not match the text in the 12th line.

Tip: Start with simple cases. For example, first make it work for either "." or ",", and without leading zeros. Then add these one by one.

```
0001,2345
1,2345
1,23
,2345
```

```
1,  
001.2345  
1.2345  
1.23  
.2345  
1.  
1  
thisisnotanumber
```

In [4]:

```
regex = ".?\d.+"
```

4. Counting characters

Exercise

Print all non-zero frequencies of each character from the alphabet in the text given in the code box.

- Treat accented characters as normal characters.
- Combine uppercase and lowercase characters in a single count.
- Print in alphabetical order.

Hint: Have one step where you prepare and filter some data, and a second step with a loop.

Hint: sets have unique values, and lists are indexed and can thus be sorted (sort()).

In [6]:

```
text = "For the movie The Theory of Everything (2014), Jóhann Jóhannsson composed the song A Model c  
import re  
import unicode  
text0=re.sub(r'[\W_]+', '', text)  
text1 = ''.join([i for i in text0 if not i.isdigit()])  
unaccented_text1 = unicode.unidecode(text1)  
text2=unaccented_text1.lower()  
dict1 = {}  
for i in text2:  
    dict1[i] = text2.count(i)  
dict1.items()  
L1=list(dict1.items())  
L1.sort()  
print(L1)
```

```
('a', 3), ('c', 1), ('d', 2), ('e', 12), ('f', 3), ('g', 2), ('h', 8), ('i', 3),  
('j', 2), ('l', 1), ('m', 3), ('n', 8), ('o', 12), ('p', 1), ('r', 4), ('s', 5),  
('t', 6), ('u', 1), ('v', 3), ('y', 2)]
```

5. Good... afternoon?

The code below generates a random time in the day. Suppose we want to present a user a welcoming message when the user opens a program at that time.

Exercise

- Print a message with the (pseudo) format: Good {part of day}, the time is hh:mm
- Parts of the day are night [0-5], morning [6-11], afternoon [12-17] or evening [18-23].
- Hour or minute values below 10 should have a leading 0.

Hint: you can use if-elif-else for the part of the day, but you can also have a fixed list of parts of the day and use clever indexing from the hour value.

In [1]:

```
import random

h = random.randint(0, 23) # hour of the day
m = random.randint(0, 59) # minute in the hour

if 0<=h<=5:
    print('Good night,', 'the time is', str(h).rjust(2, '0'), ':', str(m).rjust(2, '0'))
elif 6<=h<=11:
    print('Good morning,', 'the time is', str(h).rjust(2, '0'), ':', str(m).rjust(2, '0'))
elif 12<=h<=17:
    print('Good afternoon,', 'the time is', str(h).rjust(2, '0'), ':', str(m).rjust(2, '0'))
else:
    print('Good evening,', 'the time is', str(h).rjust(2, '0'), ':', str(m).rjust(2, '0'))
```

Good afternoon, the time is 12 : 59