

# Python for scientists

## Lesson 5

### 'for' loops and functions

```
def complementary(seq):  
    nt_comp = {  
        'A' : 'T',  
        'C' : 'G',  
        'G' : 'C',  
        'T' : 'A',  
    }  
    for nt in seq:  
        compseq += nt_comp[nt]  
    return compseq
```



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# 'for' loops

## 'for' loops

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A **for loop** iterates over the items of any list or string, in the order that they appear.

```
>>> sequences = ['ACGTCCGAT', 'TGCCATTT', 'AGGCTTCAGAT', 'ATT' ]
>>> for seq in sequences:
    print(seq, len(seq))
```

```
ACGTCCGAT 9
TGCCATTT 8
AGGCTTCAGAT 11
ATT 3
```

**for <variable> in <list>:**  
**<code>**

```
>>> for seq in sequences:
    if (len(seq)<5):
        print(seq, "is short")
```

```
ATT is short
```

# 'range' function

**Range** is used to iterate over a sequence of numbers.

```
>>> for x in [0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9]:  
    print (x,end=" ")
```

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
```

```
>>> for x in range(10):  
    print(x, end=" ")
```

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
```

```
>>> for x in range(1,10):  
    print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
```

```
>>> for x in range(1,10,3):  
    print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 4 7
```

```
>>> animals = ['human', 'monkey', 'cat', 'dog']
```

```
>>> for i in range(len(animals)):  
    print(i, animals[i])
```

```
0 human  
1 monkey  
2 cat  
3 dog
```

**range(start, stop, step)**

**end=" " indicates print to finish with a blank space instead of a new line**

## 'for' vs. 'while'

A 'for' statement can be replaced for a 'while'.

But 'for' will be easier and shorter in most of the cases.

for	while
<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; sequences = ['ACGTT', 'TGCCTTT', 'AGGCTT'] &gt;&gt;&gt; for seq in sequences:     print(seq, len(seq))  ACGTT 5 TGCCTTT 7 AGGCTT 6</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; sequences = ['ACGTT', 'TGCCTTT', 'AGGCTT'] &gt;&gt;&gt; while sequences:     seq = sequences.pop()     print(seq, len(seq))  AGGCTT 6 TGCCTTT 7 ACGTT 5</pre>
<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; for x in range(1,11):     print(x, end=" ")  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; count = 1 &gt;&gt;&gt; while count &lt;=10:     print(count, end=" ")     count = count + 1  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</pre>

## 'for' loops and matrices

Lets go through a matrix and exit when  
it finds a number higher than 100:

```
>>> L0 = [65, 23, 12, 54, 90]
>>> L1 = [ 3, 42, 67, 14, 32]
>>> L2 = [39, 10, 92, 78,  5]
>>> L3 = [75, 37,107, 24, 48]
>>> L4 = [28, 84, 18, 73,  6]
>>> matrix = [L0, L1, L2, L3]
>>> for row in range(len(matrix)):
    for col in range(len(matrix[0])):
        if matrix[row][col] > 100:
            print("High number found in row",row,"and column",col)
            break
```

High number found in row 3 and column 2

	C0	C1	C2	C3	C4
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
L0 →	65	23	12	54	90
L1 →	3	42	67	14	32
L2 →	39	10	92	78	5
L3 →	75	37	107	24	48
L4 →	28	84	18	73	6

# Loop control statements

With control statements we can skip loop iterations or directly go out from a loop.

```
>>> for x in range(1,10):  
    if x != 5: # Prints the number if is not 5  
        print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9  
>>> for x in range(1,10):  
    if x == 5: # If the number is 5  
        pass # does nothing  
    else: # If not prints the number  
        print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9  
>>> for x in range(1,10):  
    if x == 5: # If the number is 5  
        continue # goes to next iteration (6)  
    print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9  
>>> for x in range(1,10):  
    if x == 5: # If the number is 5  
        break # finishes the loop  
    print(x, end=" ")
```

```
1 2 3 4
```

<b>break</b>	Finishes the loop execution
<b>continue</b>	Jumps to next iteration
<b>pass</b>	Does nothing

← **'break' will go out from the loop**

# Loops and dictionaries

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Combining 'for' loops and dictionary methods we can go through dictionaries in an easy way.

```
>>> temperatures = {'Jan':5, 'Feb':9, 'Mar':12, 'Apr': 15, 'May': 20}
>>> for month in temperatures.keys(): # Let's print the registered months
    print(month)

May
Feb
Apr
Jan
Mar
>>> for temperature in temperatures.values(): # Let's print the registered temperatures
    print(temperature)

20
9
15
5
12
>>> for month,temperature in temperatures.items(): # Let's print months and temperatures
    print(month,temperature)

May 20
Feb 9
Apr 15
Jan 5
Mar 12
```



# Loops and dictionaries

Combining 'for' loops and dictionary methods we can go through dictionaries in an easy way.

```
>>> temperatures_2013 = {'Jan':5, 'Feb':9, 'Mar':11, 'Apr': 14, 'May': 20}
>>> temperatures_2014 = {'Jan':6, 'Feb':12, 'Mar':11, 'Apr': 12, 'May': 19}
>>> for month in temperatures_2013.keys():
    if (temperatures_2014[month]-temperatures_2013[month])>=2:
        print("In",month,"2014 temperature was unusually high")
    elif (temperatures_2013[month]-temperatures_2014[month])>=2:
        print("In",month,"2014 temperature was unusually low")
```

```
In Feb 2014 temperature was unusually high
In Apr 2014 temperature was unusually low
```

```
>>> formula1 = {'Hamilton':'Mercedes', 'Vettel':'Ferrari', 'Alonso':'McLaren',
                'Rosberg':'Mercedes', 'Raikkonen':'Ferrari', 'Button':'McLaren'}
>>> teams=dict()
>>> for driver1,team1 in formula1.items():
    for driver2,team2 in formula1.items():
        if driver1==driver2:
            pass
        elif (team1 or team2) in teams.keys():
            pass
        elif team1==team2:
            print(driver1,"and",driver2,"are in team",team1)
            teams[team1]=[driver1, driver2]
```

```
Rosberg and Hamilton are in team Mercedes
Alonso and Button are in team McLaren
Raikkonen and Vettel are in team Ferrari
```

# Functions



# Functions: definition and examples

---

A function is a block of code that requires some data or variables as arguments and gives as output some data or variables as results.

The importance of functions is that we can **write once and use many times**.

```
>>> def addition(value1, value2):  
    result = value1 + value2  
    return result
```

```
>>> addition(1,2)  
3
```

```
>>> def welcome(name):  
    sentence = "Welcome "+name  
    return sentence
```

```
>>> print(welcome("Tom"))  
Welcome Tom
```

**def** function(<data>):  
 <code>  
 **return** <data>

# Exercise: calculating the factorial of a number

# Calculating the factorial of a number

In previous lesson we were asked to write a 'while' loop to calculate the factorial of a number, now let's write a 'for' loop to do the same task:

## Factorial

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In [mathematics](#), the **factorial** of a [non-negative integer](#)  $n$ , denoted by  $n!$ , is the [product](#) of all positive integers less than or equal to  $n$ . For example,

$$5! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 120.$$

```
>>> number = 5
>>> factorial = 1
>>> for x in range(number,1,-1):
    factorial = factorial*x
    # To print x and factorial variables in each iteration:
    print(x,factorial)
```

```
5 5
4 20
3 60
2 120
>>> factorial
120
```

## Calculating the factorial of a number

---

Finally, let's use the previous code to create a function that takes as input a number and gives as result its factorial.

```
>>> def factorial(number):  
    result = 1  
    for x in range(number,1,-1):  
        result = result*x  
        # Uncomment to print result in each iteration:  
        # print(x,result)  
    return result  
  
>>> factorial(5)  
120
```

# Exercise: counting nucleotides in a DNA sequence

## Counting nucleotides in a DNA sequence

Let's write a **'for' loop that reads letter by letter** a DNA sequence and counts the number of nucleotides of each type: adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine (G) and thymine (T) .

```
>>> dna = "AGCCCTCCAGGACAGGCTGCATCAGAAGAGGCCATCAAGCAGATCACTGTCCTTCTGCCATGGCCCTGTGGAT
GCGCCTCCTGCCCTCACCTGTGCGGCTC
ACACCTGGTGGAAAGAGGCAGAGGACCT
GCAGGTGGGGCAGCTCCCTGCAGAAGCG
TGGCATTGTGGAACTGCTGTAACAGCATCTGCTCCCTCTACCAAGCTGGAGAACTACTGCAACTAGACGCAGCCCCGCAGGCAG
CCCCACACCCGCCGCCTCCTGCACCGAGAGAGATGGAAATAAAGCCCTTGAACCAGCAAAA"
```

You can copy the insulin cDNA sequence from here:  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nucore/109148525?report=fasta>

```
>>> nucleotides = { 'A':0, 'C':0, 'G':0, 'T':0 }
>>> for i in range(len(dna)):
    if dna[i] == 'A':
        nucleotides['A']+=1 # Increments 1
    elif dna[i] == 'C':
        nucleotides['C']+=1
    elif dna[i] == 'G':
        nucleotides['G']+=1
    elif dna[i] == 'T':
        nucleotides['T']+=1

>>> nucleotides
{'C': 156, 'T': 77, 'A': 95, 'G': 141}
```



# Counting nucleotides in a DNA sequence

We can simplify the previous example:

```
>>> dna = "AGCCCTCCAGGACAGGCTGCATCAGAAAGAGGCCATCAAGCAGATCACTGTCCTTCTGCCATGGCCCTGTGGAT
GCGCCTCCTGCCCCCTGC
ACACCTGGTGGGAAGCTC
GCAGGTGGGGCAGGTGG
TGGCATTGTGGAACAATGCTGTACCAGCATCTGCTCCCTCTACCAGCTGGAGAACTACTGCAACTAGACGCAGCCCGCAGGCAG
CCCCACACCCGCCGCTCCTGCACCGAGAGAGATGGAATAAAGCCCTTGAACCAGCAAAA"
```

You can copy the insulin cDNA sequence from here:  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/109148525?report=fasta>

```
>>> nucleotides = { 'A':0, 'C':0, 'G':0, 'T':0 }
>>> for i in range(len(dna)):
    nucleotides[dna[i]] += 1

>>> nucleotides
{'C': 156, 'T': 77, 'A': 95, 'G': 141}
```

## Functions: counting nucleotides in a DNA sequence

Let's use the previous code to create a function that reads letter by letter a DNA sequence and counts the number of nucleotides of each type: adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine (G) and thymine (T) .

```
>>> def count_nts(dna):
    nucleotides = { 'A':0, 'C':0, 'G':0, 'T':0 }
    for i in range(len(dna)):
        nucleotides[dna[i]]+=1
    return nucleotides

>>> dna_insulin = "AGCCCTCCAGGACAGGCTGCATCAGAAAGAGGCCATCAAGCAGATCACTGTCCTTCTGCCAT
GGCCCTGTGGATGCGCCTCCTGCCCCCTGCTGGCGCTGCTGGCCCTCTGGGGACCTGACCCAGCCGCAGCCCTTTGTGAACC
AACACCTGTGCGGCTCAACACACCCCAAGACC
CGCCGGGAGGCAGAGGACTGCAGCCCTTGGC
CCTGGAGGGGTCCCTGCCCCAGCTGGAGAACT
ACTGCAACTAGACGCAGCCCGCAGGCAGCCCCACACCCGCCGCCTCCTGCACCGAGAGAGATGGAATAAAGCCCTTGAAC
CAGCAAAA"
```

You can copy the insulin cDNA sequence from here:  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/109148525?report=fasta>

```
>>> count_nts(dna_insulin)
{'T': 77, 'G': 141, 'A': 95, 'C': 156}
```

# Exercise: RNA translator

# Exercise for biologists: RNA translator

---

Let's write a function to translate RNA sequences into proteins:

- **Example input:**

```
rna_insulin="AUGGCCCUGUGGAUGCGCCUCCUGCCCCUGCUGGCGCUGCUGGCCCUCUGGGGACCUGACCCAGCCGC  
AGCCUUUGUGAACCAACACCUGUGCGGCUCACACCUGGUGGAAGCUCUCUACCUAGUGUGCGGGGAACGAGGCUUC  
UUCUACACACCCAAGACCCGCCGGGAGGCAGAGGACCUGCAGGUGGGGCAGGUGGAGCUGGGCGGGGGCCUUGGUG  
CAGGCAGCCUGCAGCCCUUGGCCCUGGAGGGGUCCUGCAGAAGCGUGGCAUUGUGGAACAAUGCUGUACCAGCAUC  
UGCUCUCCUCUACCAGCUGGAGAACUACUGCAACUAGACGCAGCCCGCAGGCAGCCCCCACC CGCCGCCUCCUGCACCG  
AGAGAGAUUGGAAUAAAGCCCUUGAACCAGC "
```

- **Example output:**

```
prot_insulin="MALWMRLLPLLALLALWGPDPAAAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAEDLQVGQVELGGPG  
AGSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN*TQPAGSPPPAASCTERDGIKPLNQ "
```

# Exercise for biologists: RNA translator

## Little help:

```
genetic_code = {
    'AAA' : 'K', 'AAG' : 'K', # Lysine
    'AAC' : 'N', 'AAU' : 'N', # Asparagine
    'ACA' : 'U', 'ACC' : 'U', 'ACG' : 'U', 'ACU' : 'U', # Threonine
    'AGA' : 'R', 'AGG' : 'R', # Arginine
    'AGC' : 'S', 'AGU' : 'S', # Serine
    'AUA' : 'I', 'AUC' : 'I', 'AUU' : 'I', # Isoleucine
    'AUG' : 'M', # Methionine
    'CAA' : 'Q', 'CAG' : 'Q', # Glutamine
    'CAC' : 'H', 'CAU' : 'H', # Histidine
    'CCA' : 'P', 'CCC' : 'P', 'CCG' : 'P', 'CCU' : 'P', # Proline
    'CGA' : 'R', 'CGC' : 'R', 'CGG' : 'R', 'CGU' : 'R', # Arginine
    'CUA' : 'L', 'CUC' : 'L', 'CUG' : 'L', 'CUU' : 'L', # Leucine
    'GAA' : 'E', 'GAG' : 'E', # Glutamic Acid
    'GAC' : 'D', 'GAU' : 'D', # Aspartic Acid
    'GCA' : 'A', 'GCC' : 'A', 'GCG' : 'A', 'GCU' : 'A', # Alanine
    'GGA' : 'G', 'GGC' : 'G', 'GGG' : 'G', 'GGU' : 'G', # Glycine
    'GUA' : 'V', 'GUC' : 'V', 'GUG' : 'V', 'GUU' : 'V', # Valine
    'UAA' : '*', 'UAG' : '*', # STOP codon
    'UAC' : 'Y', 'UAU' : 'Y', # Tyrosine
    'UCA' : 'S', 'UCC' : 'S', 'UCG' : 'S', 'UCU' : 'S', # Serine
    'UGA' : '*', # STOP codon
    'UGC' : 'C', 'UGU' : 'C', # Cysteine
    'UGG' : 'W', # Tryptophan
    'UUA' : 'L', 'UUG' : 'L', # Leucine
    'UUC' : 'F', 'UUU' : 'F', # Phenylalanine
}
```

# Python for scientists

Next lesson...

Built-in functions.

Reading and writing files

```
def complementary(seq):  
    nt_comp = {  
        'A': 'T',  
        'C': 'G',  
        'G': 'C',  
        'T': 'A',  
    }  
    for nt in seq:  
        compseq += nt_comp[nt]  
    return compseq  
for nt in seq:  
    compseq += nt_comp[nt]  
    return compseq
```

