Python Programming

Alex Pacheco

LTS Research Computing

What is Python?

- A general-purpose programming language (1980) by Guido van Rossum
- Intuitive and minimal coding
- Dynamically typed
- Automatic memory management
- Interpreted not compiled
- Free (developed under an OSI-approved open-source license) and portable

What can Python do?

- web development (server-side),
- system scripting,
- connecting to database systems and to read and modify files,
- handle big data and perform complex mathematics,
- rapid prototyping, or for production-ready software development.

Why Python?

- works on different platforms (Windows, Mac, Linux, Raspberry Pi, etc).
- has a simple syntax similar to the English language.
- has syntax that allows developers to write programs with fewer lines than some other programming languages.
- runs on an interpreter system, meaning that code can be executed as soon as it is written. This means that prototyping can be very quick.
- can be treated in a procedural way, an object-orientated way or a functional way.
- The most recent major version of Python is Python 3
 - However, Python 2, although not being updated with anything other than security updates, is still quite popular.

Python Syntax compared to other programming languages

- Python was designed for readability, and has some similarities to the English language with influence from mathematics.
- Python uses new lines to complete a command, as opposed to other programming languages which often use semicolons or parentheses.
- Python relies on indentation, using whitespace, to define scope; such as the scope of loops, functions and classes.
- Other programming languages often use curly-brackets for this purpose.

Python Install

- Many PCs and Macs will have python already installed.
- To check if you have python installed:
 - Open Command Line (cmd.exe) on Windows
 - Open Terminal on Linux or Mac
- and run the following command
 - python --version

Installing from Source

- Python is a free and open source software that can downloaded and installed from https://www.python.org/downloads/
 (https://www.python.org/downloads/)
- Latest stable release for Python 3 is 3.7.0
- Latest stable release for Python 2 is 2.7.15
- Python 3 was released in Dec 2008
- Popular modules and packages were not ported to Python3 leading to users having access to both Python versions.
- Currently Python 3 is recommended with Python 2 reaching end of life on Jan 1, 2020

Anaconda Python Distribution

- <u>Anaconda Python distribution (https://www.anaconda.com/distribution/)</u> is the most popular platform for Python
- It provides
 - a convenient install procedure for over 1400 Data Science libraries for Python and R
 - conda to manage your packages, dependencies, and environments
 - anaconda navigator: a desktop portal to install and launch applications and editors including Jupyter, RStudio, Visual Studio Code, and Spyder
- Visit https://go.lehigh.edu/linux) to use Anaconda (and other Linux software) installed and maintained by the Research Computing group on your local Linux laptop or workstation

Interactive Python

• launch python by typing python on the *nix command line or cmd.exe in windows

```
apacheco — python — 80×24

Last login: Wed Jun 27 08:30:50 on ttys007

[2018-06-27 09:18.23] ~

[[apacheco@dyn102040](501): python

Python 3.6.5 | Anaconda custom (64-bit)| (default, Apr 26 2018, 08:42:37)

[GCC 4.2.1 Compatible Clang 4.0.1 (tags/RELEASE_401/final)] on darwin

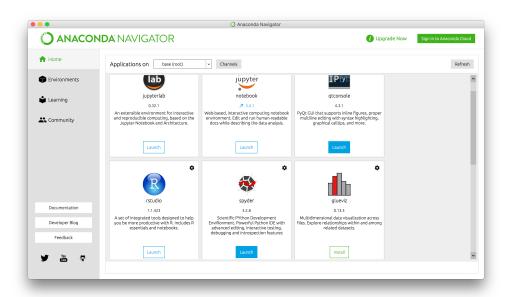
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> ■
```

• If you have installed Anaconda Python, then you can launch IPython, an enhanced python shell, from the command line

```
napacheco — IPython: Users/apacheco — ipython — 80×24
[2018-06-27 09:20.20] ~
[[apacheco@dyn102040](503): ipython
Python 3.6.5 | Anaconda custom (64-bit) | (default, Apr 26 2018, 08:42:37)
Type 'copyright', 'credits' or 'license' for more information
IPython 6.3.1 -- An enhanced Interactive Python. Type '?' for help.
In [1]:
```

- Open Anaconda Navigator to launch
 - Jupyter QtConsole
 - Spyder, an open source IDE for python
 - Jupyter (formely IPython) notebooks
 - Jupyter Lab (formerly Jupyter Hub)



Which one to use?

- You should choose one that suits your need
 - Python Shell, IPython or QtConsole: for interactive use when you do not want to save your work
 - Spyder or other IDE's such as PyCharm: for writing scripts that you want to save for later reuse
 - Jupyter Lab or Notebooks: for writing scripts and workflows that you can share with others, ideal for reproducible research or data reporting
 - This presentation is written in Jupyter Notebook
 - Provides magic commands like! and %% to provide access to *nix commands. Will cover this later
 - You can also write a python script similar to a shell script using an editor such as vi/vim, emacs, Notepad++ etc and execute as a batch script.

Your First Python Script

- Create a file, *myscript.py*, with the following content print("Hello There!")
- On the command line, type *python myscript.py* and hit enter

```
In [2]: !python myscript.py
```

Hello There!

- If you are using Jupyter Notebooks, then bang (!) is used to invoke shell commands
- This is the same as running python myscript.py on the command line

Your First Python Script

Hello There!

- On Linux and Mac, add #!/usr/bin/env python as the first line
- Convert *myscript.py* to an executable and execute it

```
In [3]: !cat myscript.py
#!/usr/bin/env python
print("Hello There!")

In [4]: %%bash
chmod +x myscript.py
./myscript.py
```

• If you are using Jupyter Notebooks, then %%bash is used to enter a series of bash command

• If you only need to run one command, then use! followed by the command

Data Types

Python has 5 Basic Data types

- 1. Integers
- 2. Floating Point Numbers
- 3. Complex Numbers
- 4. Strings
- 5. Boolean

The following data types are also available

- 1. List
- 2. Dictionary
- 3. Tuple

Integers

2

- In Python 3, there is effectively no limit to how long an integer value can be.
- Of course, it is constrained by the amount of memory your system has, as are all things, but beyond that an integer can be as long as you need it to be:

• Python interprets a sequence of decimal digits without any prefix to be a decimal number:

• Add a prefix to an integer value to indicate a base other than 10:

Prefix	Interpretation	Base
0b	Binary	2
00	Octal	8
0x	Hexadecimal	16

• The underlying type of a Python integer, irrespective of the base used to specify it, is called int

```
In [7]: type(10)
Out[7]: int
In [8]: type(0o10)
Out[8]: int
In [9]: type(0x10)
Out[9]: int
```

Floating Point Number

- The *float* type in Python designates a floating-point number.
- *float* values are specified with a decimal point.
- Optionally, the character e or E followed by a positive or negative integer may be appended to specify scientific notation

```
In [10]: 4.2
Out[10]: 4.2
In [11]: type(0.2)
Out[11]: float
In [12]: type(.4e7)
Out[12]: float
In [13]: 4.2e-4
Out[13]: 0.00042
```

Floating-Point Representation

- For 64-bit systems, the maximum value a floating-point number can have is approximately 1.8×10^{308}
- Python will indicate a number greater than that by the string *inf*

```
In [14]: 1.79e308
Out[14]: 1.79e+308
In [15]: 1.8e+308
Out[15]: inf
```

- The closest a nonzero number can be to zero is approximately 5.0×10^{-324}
- Anything closer to zero than that is effectively zero

```
In [16]: 5e-324
Out[16]: 5e-324
In [17]: 2e-324
Out[17]: 0.0
```

- Floating point numbers are represented internally as binary (base-2) fractions.
- Most decimal fractions cannot be represented exactly as binary fractions, so in most cases the internal representation of a floating-point number is an approximation of the actual value.
- In practice, the difference between the actual value and the represented value is very small and should not usually cause significant problems.

Complex Numbers

• Complex numbers are specified as (real part)+(imaginary part)j. For example:

```
In [163]:
           a = 2 + 3j
           type(a)
           complex
Out[163]:
In [164]:
           print(a.real)
           2.0
In [165]:
           print(a.imag)
           3.0
In [168]:
            (-5+12j)
Out[168]:
In [169]:
           a*a.conjugate()
            (13+0j)
Out[169]:
```

Strings

- Strings are sequences of character data. The string type in Python is called *str*.
- String literals may be delimited using either single or double quotes.
 - All the characters between the opening delimiter and matching closing delimiter are part of the string:

- A string in Python can contain as many characters as you wish.
 - The only limit is your machine's memory resources.
- A string can also be empty:

```
In [23]: ''
Out[23]: ''
```

- If you want to include either type of quote character within the string, the simplest way is to delimit the string with the other type.
 - If a string is to contain a single quote, delimit it with double quotes and vice versa

```
In [24]: print("This string contains a single quote (') character.")
print('This string contains a double quote (") character.')
This string contains a single quote (') character.
```

This string contains a double quote (") character.

• Alternatively, escape the quote character using a backslah

```
In [25]: print('This string contains a single quote (\') character.')
    print("This string contains a double quote (\") character.")

This string contains a single quote (') character.
This string contains a double quote (") character.
```

• Escape sequences

Escape Sequence	Escaped Interpretation		
\'	Literal single quote (') character		
\"	Literal double quote (") character		
\newline	Newline is ignored		
\\	Literal backslash () character		
\n	ASCII Linefeed (LF) character		
\r	ASCII Carriage Return (CR) character		
\t	ASCII Horizontal Tab (TAB) character		
\v	ASCII Vertical Tab (VT) character		

Triple Quoted Strings

- Triple-quoted strings are delimited by matching groups of three single quotes or three double quotes.
- Escape sequences still work in triple-quoted strings, but single quotes, double quotes, and newlines can be included without escaping them.
- This provides a convenient way to create a string with both single and double quotes in it

```
In [26]: print('''This string has a single (') and a double (") quote.''')
This string has a single (') and a double (") quote.
```

• Because newlines can be included without escaping them, this also allows for multiline strings:

```
In [27]: print("""This is a
    string that spans
    across several lines""")
```

This is a string that spans across several lines

Boolean

• Objects of Boolean type may have one of two values, *True* or *False*:

```
In [28]: type(True)
Out[28]: bool
In [29]: type(False)
Out[29]: bool
```

Variables

- One of the most powerful features of a programming language is the ability to manipulate variables.
- A **variable** is a name that refers to a value.
- An **assignment statement** creates new variables and gives them values:

```
In [31]: message = 'And now for something completely different' n = 17 pi = 3.1415926535897931
```

- The first assigns a string to a new variable named message;
- the second gives the integer 17 to n;
- the third assigns the (approximate) value of π to pi.
- To display the value of a variable, you can use a print statement:

```
In [32]: print(message)
```

And now for something completely different

• The type of a variable is the type of the value it refers to.

```
In [33]: type(message)
Out[33]: str
In [34]: type(n)
Out[34]: int
In [35]: type(pi)
Out[35]: float
```

Interactive Python - User Input

- Python provides a built-in function *input* to interactively accept input from the command line
- Modify your *myscript.py* file to ask for your name or anyone's name interactively

```
In [36]:
         %%bash
         cat hello.py
         python hello.py
         name = input ("What is your name? ")
         print("Hello ",name)
         What is your name?
         Traceback (most recent call last):
           File "hello.py", line 1, in <module>
             name = input ("What is your name? ")
         EOFError: EOF when reading a line
In [37]:
         %%bash
         echo Alex Pacheco | python hello.py
         What is your name? Hello Alex Pacheco
In [38]: # To run example within Jupyter Notebook or IPython or Python Shell
         name = input ("What is your name? ")
         print("Hello ",name)
         What is your name?
         Hello
```

Variable names and keywords

- Variable names can be arbitrarily long. They can contain both letters and numbers, but they have to begin with a letter.
- The underscore character (_) can appear in a name.
 - It is often used in names with multiple words, such as *my_name*
- If you give a variable an illegal name, you get a syntax error:

Reserved Words

• Python has 31 keywords or reserved words that cannot be used for variable names.

and	del	for	is	raise
as	elif	from	lambda	return
assert	else	global	not	try
break	except	if	or	while
class	exec	import	pass	with
continue	finally	in	print	yield
def				

- Use an editor that has syntax highlighting, wherein python functions have a different color
 - See previous slides, variable names are in the normal color i.e. black while reserved keywords, for e.g. class, are in green

Statements

- A statement is a unit of code that the Python interpreter can execute. We have seen two kinds of statements: print and assignment.
- When you type a statement in interactive mode, the interpreter executes it and displays the result, if there is one.
- A script usually contains a sequence of statements. If there is more than one statement, the results appear one at a time as the statements execute.

```
In [42]: print(1)
    x = 2
    print(x)
```

1

Operators and Operands

- Operators are special symbols that represent computations like addition and multiplication.
- The values the operator is applied to are called operands.

Arithmetic Operators

Operator	Meaning	Example
+ (unary)	Unary Positive	+a
+ (binary)	Addition	a + b
- (unary)	Unary Negation	-a
- (binary)	Subtraction	a - b
*	Multiplication	a * b
/	Division	a/b
%	Modulus	a % b
//	Floor Division (also called Integer Divison	a // b
**	Exponentiation	a ** b

```
In [43]:
         b = 3
         +a
Out[43]:
In [44]:
         -b
Out[44]:
In [45]: a + b
Out[45]:
In [46]:
         a – b
Out[46]:
In [47]: a * b
          12
Out[47]:
In [48]:
         a / b
          1.3333333333333333
Out[48]:
In [49]:
         a % b
Out[49]:
```

In [50]: a ** b

Out[50]: 64

Comparison Operators

Operator	Meaning	Example
==	Equal to	a == b
!=	Not equal to	a != b
<	Less than	a < b
<=	Less than or equal to	a <= b
>	Greater than	a > b
>=	Greater than or equal to	a >= b

```
In [51]:
          a = 10
          b = 20
          a == b
          False
Out[51]:
In [52]:
          a != b
          True
Out[52]:
In [53]:
         a <= b
          True
Out[53]:
In [54]:
          a >= b
          False
Out[54]:
In [55]:
          a = 30
          b = 30
          a == b
          True
Out[55]:
In [56]:
          a <= b
          True
Out[56]:
In [57]:
          a >= b
          True
Out[57]:
```

Logical Operators

Operator	Example	Meaning
not	not x	True if x is False False if x is True (Logically reverses the sense of x)
or	x or y	True if either x or y is True False otherwise
and	x and y	True if both x and y are True False otherwise

Functions

- A **function** is a named sequence of statements that performs a computation.
 - When you define a function, you specify the name and the sequence of statements.
 - Later, you can "call" the function by name.

```
In [61]: print(x)
```

5

- The name of the function is *print*.
- The expression in parentheses is called the **argument** of the function.
- The result, for this function, is the type of the argument.
- It is common to say that a function "takes" an argument and "returns" a result.
- The result is called the **return value**.

Type Conversion Functions

• Python provides built-in functions that convert values from one type to another.

Function	Description
ascii()	Returns a string containing a printable representation of an object
bin()	Converts an integer to a binary string
bool()	Converts an argument to a Boolean value
chr()	Returns string representation of character given by integer argument
complex()	Returns a complex number constructed from arguments
float()	Returns a floating-point object constructed from a number or string
hex()	Converts an integer to a hexadecimal string
int()	Returns an integer object constructed from a number or string
oct()	Converts an integer to an octal string
ord()	Returns integer representation of a character
repr()	Returns a string containing a printable representation of an object
str()	Returns a string version of an object
type()	Returns the type of an object or creates a new type object

In [62]: int('32')
Out[62]: 32

E.E. O.

float(55)

Out[63]: 55.0

In [63]:

Math

• Python has a math module that provides most of the familiar mathematical functions.

Function	Description
abs()	Returns absolute value of a number
divmod()	Returns quotient and remainder of integer division
max()	Returns the largest of the given arguments or items in an iterable
min()	Returns the smallest of the given arguments or items in an iterable
pow()	Raises a number to a power
round()	Rounds a floating-point value
sum()	Sums the items of an iterable

- A **module** is a file that contains a collection of related functions.
- Before we can use the module, we have to import it:

```
In [64]: import math
```

- This statement creates a **module object** named *math*.
- If you print the module object, you get some information about it:

```
In [65]: print(math)
```

<module 'math' from '/Users/apacheco/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/lib-dynload/math.c
python-36m-darwin.so'>

- The module object contains the functions and variables defined in the module.
- To access one of the functions, you have to specify the name of the module and the name of the function, separated by a dot (also known as a period).
- This format is called **dot notation**.

```
In [66]: degrees = 45
  radians = degrees / 360.0 * 2 * math.pi
  math.sin(radians)
```

Out[66]: 0.7071067811865475

Iterables and Iterators

Function	Description
all()	Returns True if all elements of an iterable are true
any()	Returns True if any elements of an iterable are true
enumerate()	Returns a list of tuples containing indices and values from an iterable
filter()	Filters elements from an iterable
iter()	Returns an iterator object
len()	Returns the length of an object
map()	Applies a function to every item of an iterable
next()	Retrieves the next item from an iterator
range()	Generates a range of integer values
reversed()	Returns a reverse iterator
slice()	Returns a slice object
sorted()	Returns a sorted list from an iterable
zip()	Creates an iterator that aggregates elements from iterables

User Defined Functions

- Python allows programmers to define their **function**
- A **function definition** specifies the name of a new function and the sequence of statements that execute when the function is called.

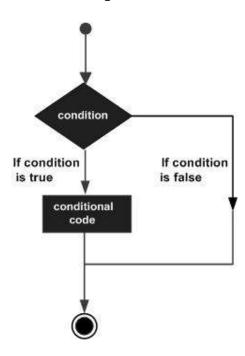
Why create your own functions?

- Creating a new function gives you an opportunity to name a group of statements, which makes your program easier to read and debug.
- Functions can make a program smaller by eliminating repetitive code. Later, if you make a change, you only have to make it in one place.
- Dividing a long program into functions allows you to debug the parts one at a time and then assemble them into a working whole.
- Well-designed functions are often useful for many programs. Once you write and debug one, you can reuse it.

- When you create a variable inside a function, it is **local**, which means that it only exists inside the function.
 - e.g. *tempf* is local within the *celcius_to_fahrenheit* function and does not exist outside the scope of the function

Conditional Execution

- **Conditional Statements** gives the programmer an ability to check conditions and change the behavior of the program accordingly.
- The simplest form is the if statement:



x is positive

- The boolean expression after the *if* statement is called the **condition**.
 - If it is true, then the indented statement gets executed.
 - If not, nothing happens.
- *if* statements have the same structure as function definitions:
 - a header followed by an indented block.
 - Statements like this are called **compound statements**.

- There is no limit on the number of statements that can appear in the body, but there has to be at least one.
- Occasionally, it is useful to have a body with no statements (usually as a place keeper for code you haven't written yet).
- In that case, you can use the *pass* statement, which does nothing.

```
In [71]: if x < 0: pass
```

Alternative execution

- A second form of the *if* statement is **alternative execution**, in which there are two possibilities and the condition determines which one gets executed.
- The syntax looks like this:

x is odd

- If the remainder when x is divided by 2 is 0, then we know that x is even, and the program displays a message to that effect.
- If the condition is false, the second set of statements is executed.
- Since the condition must be true or false, exactly one of the alternatives will be executed. The alternatives are called **branches**, because they are branches in the flow of execution.

Chained conditionals

• Sometimes there are more than two possibilities and we need more than two branches. One way to express a computation like that is a chained conditional:

- x is less than y
 - *elif* is an abbreviation of "else if."
 - Again, exactly one branch will be executed.
 - There is no limit on the number of *elif* statements.
 - If there is an *else* clause, it has to be at the end, but there doesn't have to be one.

```
In [74]: choice='d'
   if choice == 'a':
        print('choice is a')
   elif choice == 'b':
        print('choice is b')
   elif choice == 'c':
        print('choice is c')
```

- Each condition is checked in order.
- If the first is false, the next is checked, and so on.
- If one of them is true, the corresponding branch executes, and the statement ends.
- Even if more than one condition is true, only the first true branch executes.

Nested conditionals

• One conditional can also be nested within another. We could have written the trichotomy example like this:

```
In [75]: if x == y:
    print('x and y are equal')
else:
    if x < y:
        print('x is less than y')
else:
    print('x is greater than y')</pre>
```

x is less than y

- The outer conditional contains two branches.
- The first branch contains a simple statement.
- The second branch contains another *if* statement, which has two branches of its own.
- Those two branches are both simple statements, although they could have been conditional statements as well.

• Logical operators often provide a way to simplify nested conditional statements.

```
In [76]: if 0 < x:
    if x < 10:
        print('x is a positive single-digit number.')</pre>
```

x is a positive single-digit number.

• The *print* statement is executed only if we make it past both conditionals, so we can get the same effect with the and operator:

```
In [77]: if 0 < x and x < 10:
    print('x is a positive single-digit number.')</pre>
```

x is a positive single-digit number.

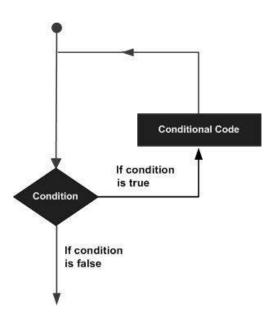
Recursion

• Python functions can call itself recursively

```
In [78]:
          def factorial(n):
              if n < 1:
                  return 1
              else:
                   return n*factorial(n-1)
In [79]:
          factorial(5)
          120
Out[79]:
In [80]:
         def double fact(n):
              if n < 2:
                  return 1
              else:
                  return n * double fact(n - 2)
In [81]:
          double_fact(10)
          3840
Out[81]:
```

Loops

- There may be a situation when you need to execute a block of code several number of times.
- A loop statement allows us to execute a statement or group of statements multiple times.



for loops

- The *for* statement has the ability to iterate over the items of any sequence, such as a list or a string
- If a sequence contains an expression list, it is evaluated first.
- Then, the first item in the sequence is assigned to the iterating variable iterating_var.
- Next, the statements block is executed.
- Each item in the list is assigned to iterating_var, and the statement(s) block is executed until the entire sequence is exhausted.

```
for iterating_var in sequence:
    statements(s)
```

• An alternative way of iterating through each item is by index offset into the sequence itself

```
In [84]: fruits = ['banana', 'apple', 'mango']
   for index in range(len(fruits)):
        print ('Current fruit :', fruits[index])
```

Current fruit : banana
Current fruit : apple
Current fruit : mango

range function

• The built-in function *range()* iterates over a sequence of numbers.

while loop

- A *while* loop statement repeatedly executes a target statement as long as a given condition is true.
- Here, **statement(s)** may be a single statement or a block of statements with uniform indent.
- The **condition** may be any expression, and true is any non-zero value. The loop iterates while the condition is true.
- When the condition becomes false, program control passes to the line immediately following the loop.

```
while expression:
    statement(s)
```

5

fact = count * fact

ValueError: invalid literal for int() with base 10: ''

infinite loop

• A loop becomes infinite loop if a condition never becomes FALSE

```
number = int(input('Enter any integer: '))
fact = count = 1
while (count <= number ):
    fact = count * fact
print('Factorial of %d is %d' % (number, fact))</pre>
```

Using else Statement with Loops

- Python supports having an else statement associated with a loop statement.
- If the *else* statement is used with a *for* loop, the *else* block is executed only if for loops terminates normally (and not by encountering break statement).
- If the *else* statement is used with a *while* loop, the *else* statement is executed when the condition becomes false.

```
In [89]: numbers = [11,33,55,39,55,75,37,21,23,41,13]
          for num in numbers:
             if num % 2 == 0:
                print ('the list contains an even number')
                break
         else:
            print ('the list does not contain even number')
         the list does not contain even number
In [90]: count = 0
         while count < 5:</pre>
            print (count, " is less than 5")
            count = count + 1
         else:
            print (count, " is not less than 5")
           is less than 5
         1 is less than 5
         2 is less than 5
```

3 is less than 5
4 is less than 5
5 is not less than 5

Lists

- Like a string, a *list* is a sequence of values.
- In a string, the values are characters; in a list, they can be any type.
- The values in list are called **elements** or sometimes items.

```
In [91]: a = [10, 20, 30, 40]
print(a)
[10, 20, 30, 40]
```

• A *list* within another *list* is nested.

```
In [92]: b = ['spam', 2.0, 5, [10, 20]]
print(b)
['spam', 2.0, 5, [10, 20]]
```

• An empty list i.e. list with no elements is created with empty brackets [].

```
In [93]: c=[]
print(c)
[]
```

• Lists are mutable i.e. they can be modified after creation

• Use a *for* loop to traverse a list

• The + operator concatenates lists:

```
In [97]: a = [1, 2, 3]
b = [4, 5, 6]
c = a + b
print(c)
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

• You can reference a section of the list using a slice operator

```
In [98]: c[2:5]
Out[98]: [3, 4, 5]
```

list operations

• *append* adds a new element to the end of the list

```
In [99]: t1 = ['a', 'b', 'c']
    t1.append('d')
    print(t1)

['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

• *extend* takes a list as an argument and appends all of the elements

• *sort* arranges the elements of the list from low to high:

deleting list elements

- *pop* modifies the list and returns the element that was removed.
- If you don't provide an index, it deletes and returns the last element

• Use *del* if you do not need the removed value

• If you know the element you want to remove (but not the index), you can use remove

```
In [105]: t = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
t.remove('b')
print(t)
['a', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
```

• To remove more than one element, you can use *del* with a slice index

```
In [106]: t = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
    del t[1:5]
    print(t)

['a', 'f']
```

lists and strings

- A string is a sequence of characters and a list is a sequence of values
- list of characters is not the same as a string.
- To convert from a string to a list of characters, you can use *list*

```
In [107]: s = 'spam'
t = list(s)
print(t)
['s', 'p', 'a', 'm']
```

- The *list* function breaks a string into individual letters.
- If you want to break a string into words, you can use the *split* method

```
In [108]: s = 'pining for the fjords'
t = s.split()
print(t)

['pining', 'for', 'the', 'fjords']
```

• An optional argument called a **delimiter** specifies which characters to use as word boundaries

```
In [109]:
           s = 'spam-spam-spam'
           delimiter = '-'
           s.split(delimiter)
           ['spam', 'spam', 'spam']
```

- *join* is the inverse of *split*.
 - It takes a list of strings and concatenates the elements.
 - *join* is a string method, so you have to invoke it on the delimiter and pass the list as a parameter

```
In [110]:
          t = ['pining', 'for', 'the', 'fjords']
          delimiter = ':'
           delimiter.join(t)
```

'pining:for:the:fjords' Out[110]:

Out[109]:

Dictionaries

- A *dictionary* is a mapping between a set of indices (which are called **keys**) and a set of **values**.
- Each key maps to a value.
- The association of a key and a value is called a **key-value pair**
- The function *dict* creates a new dictionary with no items

```
In [111]: eng2sp = dict()
  print(eng2sp)
{}
```

• To add items to the dictionary, you can use square brackets

```
In [112]: eng2sp['one'] = 'uno'
    print(eng2sp)

{'one': 'uno'}
```

• You can update a dictionary by adding a new entry or a key-value pair

```
In [113]: eng2sp['two'] = 'dos'
print(eng2sp)

{'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos'}
```

You can create a dictionary as follows

```
In [114]: eng2sp = {'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos', 'three': 'tres'}
    print(eng2sp)

{'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos', 'three': 'tres'}
```

- the order of items in a dictionary is unpredictable
- use *keys* to look up the corresponding *value*

```
In [115]:
           print(eng2sp['three'])
           tres
             • To delete entries in a dictionary, use del
In [116]:
           del eng2sp['two']
           print(eng2sp)
           {'one': 'uno', 'three': 'tres'}
             • The clear() function is used to remove all elements of the dictionary
In [117]:
           eng2sp.clear()
           print(eng2sp)
           {}
```

• The *len* function returns the number of key-value pairs

tres

```
In [118]:
           eng2sp = {'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos', 'three': 'tres'}
           len(eng2sp)
Out[118]:
             • You can loop through keys or values by using the keys and values functions
In [119]:
           for keys in eng2sp.keys():
               print(keys)
           one
           two
          three
In [120]:
           for vals in eng2sp.values():
               print(vals)
          uno
          dos
```

Tuples

- A *tuple* is a sequence of values
- The values can be any type, and they are indexed by integers.

```
In [121]: t = ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e')
```

• To create a tuple with a single element, you have to include the final comma

```
In [122]: t1 = ('a',)
type(t1)

Out[122]: tuple

In [123]: t2 = ('a')
type(t2)

Out[123]: str
```

- Another way to create a tuple is the built-in function *tuple*.
- With no argument, it creates an empty tuple

• If the argument is a sequence (string, list or tuple), the result is a tuple with the elements of the sequence

```
In [125]: t = tuple('lupins')
    print(t)
    ('l', 'u', 'p', 'i', 'n', 's')
```

 Most list operators also work on tuples. The bracket operator indexes an element

```
In [126]: t = ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e')
print(t[1])
```

• slice operator selects a range of elements

• Unlike *lists, tuples* are immutable

• You can't modify the elements of a tuple, but you can replace one tuple with another

Assignment

• It is often useful to swap the values of two variables using a cumbersome procedure

```
In [130]: a = 1
b = 2
In [131]: temp = a
a = b
b = temp
print(a,b)

2 1
```

• *tuple assignment* is more elegant

```
In [132]: a,b = b,a
print(a,b)
1 2
```

• The number of variables on the left and the number of values on the right have to be the same

• Tuples can be used to return multiple values from a function

Reading and Writing

• To read/write a file, you have to open it with an appropriate mode as the second parameter

open(filename, mode)

mode	description
r	Opens a file for reading only, default mode
r+	Opens a file for both reading and writing
W	Opens a file for writing only
W+	Opens a file for writing and reading. Creates new file if it does not exists, overwrites if it exists
a	Opens a file for appending only. File pointer is at end of file
a+	Opens a file for appending and reading. File pointer is at end of file

```
print(fout)

<_iio.TextIOWrapper name='output.txt' mode='w' encoding='UTF-8'>

• If the file already exists, opening it in write mode clears out the old data.
• If the file doesn't exist, a new one is created.
• The write method puts data into the file.

In [144]: line1 = "This here's the wattle,\n" fout.write(line1)

Out[144]: 24

In [145]: line2 = "the emblem of our land.\n" fout.write(line2)
```

In [143]:

Out[145]:

24

fout = open('output.txt', 'w')

• When you are done writing, you have to close the file.

```
In [146]: fout.close()
!cat output.txt
```

This here's the wattle, the emblem of our land.

Formatted output

100.00 C = 212.00 F

- The argument of write has to be a string
- convert other values to strings using *str*

```
In [150]: f = open('output.txt', 'w')
x = 52
f.write(str(x))
f.close()
!cat output.txt
```

52

- An alternative is to use the **format operator**, %
- The first operand is the **format string**, and the second operand is a **tuple of expressions**.

```
In [151]: tempc = float(input('Enter Temperature in Celcius: '))
    print("%6.2f C = %6.2f F" % (tempc, celcius_to_fahrenheit(tempc)))
    Enter Temperature in Celcius: 100
```

• If you try to open a file that doesn't exist, you get an IOError:

<ipython-input-153-8a9adb191927> in <module>()

PermissionError: [Errno 13] Permission denied: '/etc/passwd'

---> 1 fout = open('/etc/passwd', 'w')

PermissionError

Traceback (most recent call last)

• or if you try to open a directory for reading

• Python provides statements, *try* and *except* to allow programmers to gracefully quit the program

```
In [158]: try:
          fin = open('bad.txt')
          for line in fin:
                print(line)
          fin.close()
          except:
                print('Something went wrong.')
```

Something went wrong.

```
In [161]: !cat test2.py

try:
          fin = open('bad.txt')
          for line in fin:
                print(line)
          fin.close()
          except:
                print('Something went wrong.')

print('Hello World!')

In [162]: !python test2.py
```

Something went wrong.

Hello World!