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Built in data types and structures

Python ships with

- Bool (can be `True` or `False`)
- String
- Number
 - Integer (signed integers)
 - Float (floating point numbers in double precision)
 - Complex (complex numbers with real and imaginary part)
- List
- Tuple
- Set
- Dictionary

data types.

Operations with strings

You already know that strings are created with `" "`.

You can add, slice, and repeat strings with simple operators.

If you slice, note that Python is zero based and the last element can be assessed with `-1`. Furthermore, note that the start is included while the end is excluded.

```
In [1]: my_string = "Say something "  
  
print(my_string[0:3])  # prints the first three letters  
print(my_string[4:])   # prints the fifth to the last letter  
print(my_string[-2])   # prints the second last letter  
print(my_string + "- right now") # appends "- right now"  
print(my_string * 2)   # prints the string twice
```

```
Say  
something  
g  
Say something - right now  
Say something Say something
```

Numbers

Integers

- Integers are created with assignments like `a = 1` - the number has no decimal point.
- From Python 3 onwards, divisions with 2 integers are automatically converted to floats.
- Python integers are variable precision. Hence, overflow is not such a big issue as in C language.

```
In [2]: 6 / 2
```

```
Out[2]: 3.0
```

```
In [3]: # if you want an integer, use floor  
6 // 2
```

```
Out[3]: 3
```

Floats

- Floats are assigned with decimal point like $a = 3.14$.
- Floats can also be defined with exponential notation $a = 1e-3$, which means $1 \cdot 10^{-3}$.
- You can convert integers into floats with

```
In [4]: a = 3  
float(a)
```

```
Out[4]: 3.0
```

Fixed precision of floating point numbers

- Remember that numbers are actually stored in binary form in computers.
- The precision of floating point numbers is always limited, due to fixed number of bits.
- This drawback of floating point numbers is not Python specific, it will also occur in any computer.

```
In [5]: # let's look a bit deeper in floats
a = 0.1
b = 0.2
# print a with 21 digits
print("{0:.21f}".format(a))
print("{0:.21f}".format(b))
```

```
0.100000000000000005551
0.2000000000000000011102
```

```
In [6]: # Hence, tests like this will fail
0.1 + 0.2 == 0.3
```

```
Out[6]: False
```

Floats take away

- Therefore, **never use exact equality tests for floats!**
- If you want to know more about floating point precision in Python, consult the [Python docu \(https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/floatingpoint.html\)](https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/floatingpoint.html).

```
In [25]: # Approximate comparison of floats was added in Python 3.5  
from math import isclose as close  
  
a = 5.0  
b = 4.99998  
close(a, b, abs_tol=0.00003)
```

Out[25]: True

```
In [26]: # Tune the tollerance  
close(a, b, abs_tol=0.00001)
```

Out[26]: False

```
In [27]: # And now this works with default settings  
close(0.1 + 0.2, 0.3)
```

Out[27]: True

Complex numbers

Complex numbers have real and imaginary part and can be assigned with

```
In [28]: a = complex(1, 3)
```

```
In [29]: # or  
a = 1 + 3j
```

You can compute real, imaginary part as well as magnitude and conjugate with

```
In [31]: a.real
```

```
Out[31]: 1.0
```

```
In [32]: a.imag
```

```
Out[32]: 3.0
```

```
In [33]: abs(a)
```

```
Out[33]: 3.1622776601683795
```

```
In [35]: a.conjugate()
```

```
Out[35]: (1-3j)
```


Lists

- Lists are created with brackets `[]` and may contain entries on different type.
- The entries as well as the shape (length) of lists may change (are *mutable*).
- Lists are *ordered*.

```
In [118]: x = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

# slice from index zero to 2
print(x[0:3])

# append one element
x.append(6)
print(x)

# remove first occurrence of the the value
x.remove(2)
print(x)

# remove and returns item for given index
x.pop(0)
print(x)

# This is just a snapshot, there are many more methods for lists.

[0, 1, 2]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
[0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6]
[1, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

List comprehensions

- A nice special feature in python are list comprehensions.
- You can use them to create lists with loops.
- Usually `for` loops are used, which are covered in a later section.
- The syntax is `[expr for variable in iterable]`
or if you require a condition `[expr for variable in iterable if condition]`

```
In [2]: # Create a list from 0 to 9, where each entry is the negative of the index  
[-i for i in range(10)]
```

```
Out[2]: [0, -1, -2, -3, -4, -5, -6, -7, -8, -9]
```

```
In [4]: # Here with a condition  
[-i for i in range(10) if i % 2 == 0]
```

```
Out[4]: [0, -2, -4, -6, -8]
```

Tuple

- Tuples are created with parenthesis () or without anything like `a = 1, 2, 3`.
- They are *ordered* and *immutable*.
- Methods are very similar to lists.

```
In [59]: a = (0, 1, 2, 3)
         a[0]
```

```
Out[59]: 0
```

```
In [70]: # Changing values is not allowed for tuples
         try:
             a[3] = 15 # This does not work
         except Exception as error:
             print(error)
```

```
'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```

Because tuples are *immutable*, they are very often used for multiple returns of functions.

```
In [39]: # Here a function which returns a tuple
def my_func(a, b):
    return a**2, b**2

my_func(a=1, b=10)
```

```
Out[39]: (1, 100)
```

Set

- Sets are collections of unique values.
- Sets are unordered.
- They are defined with curly brackets $\{ \}$.
- You can do anything like with mathematical sets, such as union, intersection...

```
In [41]: set_one = {0, 1, 2, 3, 4}
         set_two = {3, 4, 5, 6}

         # union
         set_one | set_two
         # there is also a better readable way
         set_one.union(set_two)
```

```
Out[41]: {0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}
```

```
In [42]: # intersection
         set_one & set_two
         # or with method
         set_one.intersection(set_two)
```

```
Out[42]: {3, 4}
```

Dictionaries

- Dictionaries are very flexible and well designed for data representation.
- They are unordered and mutable.
- Dictionaries have key and value field `a = {"key_one": value_one, "key_two": value_two}`.
- There are many methods for dictionaries, please read the [Python docu \(https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html\)](https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html).

```
In [43]: a = {"temp": 300, "pressure": 15.78}
         a["pressure"]
```

```
Out[43]: 15.78
```

```
In [44]: # Read the key names
         a.keys()
```

```
Out[44]: dict_keys(['temp', 'pressure'])
```

```
In [45]: # Add a new field
         a["speed"] = 125
```

```
In [47]: a.keys()
```

```
Out[47]: dict_keys(['temp', 'pressure', 'speed'])
```

```
In [48]: # Print all values
         a.values()
```

```
Out[48]: dict_values([300, 15.78, 125])
```


Exercise: Try dictionaries (15 minutes)



Please try out what you have seen by yourself.

To solve this task you have (at least) three options to run your code:

- Write a Python file and call it through ipython with `%run yourfile.py`.
- Use the interactive Jupyter Notebooks of this course on [Binder \(https://mybinder.org/v2/gh/StephanRhode/py-algorithms-4-automotive-engineering/master\)](https://mybinder.org/v2/gh/StephanRhode/py-algorithms-4-automotive-engineering/master).
- Use IPython cloud service [Python anywhere \(https://www.pythonanywhere.com/try-ipython/\)](https://www.pythonanywhere.com/try-ipython/). Note that you need the magic command `%cpaste` to be able to type multiple lines in IPython.

Here the task:

- Define a dictionary `a = {'scale': 3.6, 'speed': [0., 15., 22., 30.], 'label': "Scaled speed"}`
- Write a script which uses a for loop and prints the product of each scale and speed.

Hint

- Try at first to read the scale and the speed list. Print them.
- Then try to define a for loop which iterates over the list. (Google is your friend).

Solution

Please find one possible solution in [solution_data-types.py](#) [\(solution_data-types.py\)](#) file.

```
In [55]: %run solution_data-types.py
```

```
Scaled speed 0.0  
Scaled speed 54.0  
Scaled speed 79.2  
Scaled speed 108.0
```