

PYTHON CRASH COURSE

for Data Science and Machine Learning
using Google Colab

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Today's Outline


- Using Google Colab
- Jupyter Notebook basics
- Python Crash Course
- Variable and data type
- Expression and Assignment
- Function
- Selection and Loop
- Object and method
- List/String and Iterator
- Module

Google Colab

- Online environment (virtual machine, software, libraries) for programming and data science
- Based on **Jupyter Notebook**
- Accessed at <https://colab.research.google.com/>
 - Must have a google account (free)
- Has many data science and machine learning libraries built-in
- Can be used for free and pay for more resources

Jupyter Notebook

- A webapp frontend for IPython
- IPython is an **interactive** version of Python that allows line-by-line code execution and OS interaction
- Can insert other elements such as text, markdown, images, and link into the same document with code
- Can connect to several **kernels** such as IPython, R, C, Scala, etc

Welcome To Colaboratory

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Section


+ Code + Text

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RAM Disk

Editing

If you're already familiar with Colab, check out this video to learn about interactive tables, the executed code history view, and the command palette.



What is Colab?

Colab, or "Colaboratory", allows you to write and execute Python in your browser, with

- Zero configuration required
- Access to GPUs free of charge
- Easy sharing

Whether you're a **student**, a **data scientist** or an **AI researcher**, Colab can make your work easier. Watch [Introduction to Colab](#) to learn more, or just get started below!

Getting started

The document you are reading is not a static web page, but an interactive environment called a **Colab notebook** that lets you write and execute code.

For example, here is a **code cell** with a short Python script that computes a value, stores it in a variable, and prints the result:

```
[1] seconds_in_a_day = 24 * 60 * 60
seconds_in_a_day

86400
```

Jupyter Notebook Basics

- **Cell**: a block of elements (code, text, markdown, etc)
- Cell types
 - Code
 - Markdown (text)
 - Raw
- Operations
 - Add, Delete, Move cell
 - Copy and Paste cell
 - Run cell
 - Many keyboard shortcuts for these operations

Markdown basics

- **Markdown**: a format that allows quick formatting of text as HTML
- Works by adding symbols to signify formatting
- Symbols
 - # text : Header Level up to ##### (level 6)
 - **text** : bold
 - *text* or _text_ : italics
 - `text` : monospace
 - - or * : bulleted list
 - 1. : numbered list
 - [text](link) : an html link
 - ![text](link) : image

[Markdown Guide](#)
[- Colaboratory \(google.com\)](#)

Python Crash (and incomplete) Course

• Data Type and Variable

- Expression
- Function
- Selection and Loop
- Object and method
- List and String
- Dictionary
- Module

Python Crash Course

Using _ as a
thousand
separator

Scientific notation

- **Data Type:**

- Integer: 0, 4, -56, 10_000
- Float: 2.4, 0.0, -567.14, 1E5, 10_000.01
- String: "Hello", 'Hello'
 - Must enclose string with single quote (') or double quote (")
 - Python has no data type for a single character
- Boolean: True, False

- **Literals:** things that has the same value with their appearance
 - All of the above are literals
- IPython will output a literal when running a cell with that literal
 - In regular python, must use a print statement

Variables

- **Variables**: container that can be assigned a value
- **Variable names**: name used to refer to a variable
- Rules for variable name
 - Can use both upper- and lower-case English characters
 - Name is case sensitive
 - Can use number, but not as the first character
 - Can use underscore (`_`) in name
 - Can also use characters from other languages, but not recommended
- IPython will output a value of a variable when running a cell with that variable as the last line
 - In regular python, must use a print statement

Price

A variable named Price

"Price"

A string literal "Price"

Assignment

- Use **assignment** statement to "put a value into a variable"

- In Python, the assignment symbol is =
- Variable name on the left of =
- Value on the right of =

```
Price = 500  
Value_added_tax = 0.07
```

- **Variable must be assigned a value before it can be used**

- Variable can be re-assigned to another value

```
Price = 500  
Price = 25
```

- In Python, variable has **dynamic type**. It has the same type as the value assigned to it
 - Can re-assign a new value even if its type is not the same

```
Price = 500  
Price = " Too Expensive"
```

Python Crash (and incomplete) Course

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- Selection and Loop

- Object and method

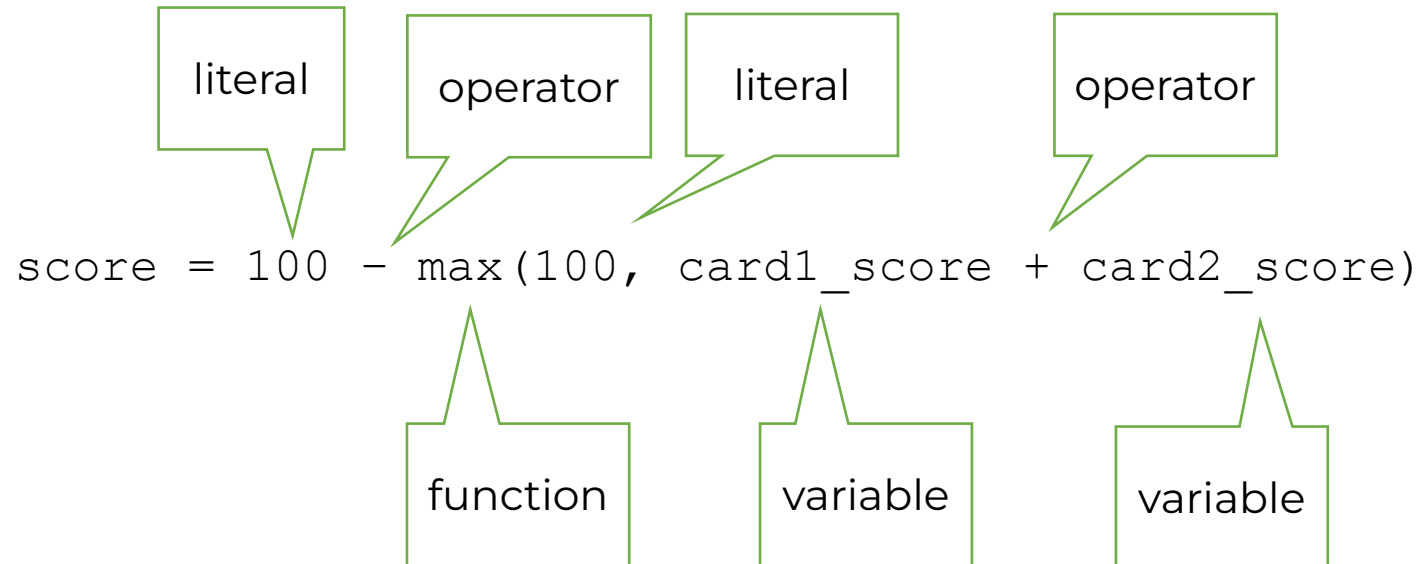
- List and String

- Dictionary

- Module

Expression

- An evaluation (calculation) that **results in a value**
- Can be composed from literals, variables, operators, functions, etc.
- Can be used in many places in a program such as on the right side of =



Evaluating an expression

- Calculate values using operators
- Values: things we operate on; **operand**
 - Literal as itself
 - Variable is referenced to get its value
 - Function is called to calculate its return value (later)
- Operators: what operation we do
 - What operation can be done depends on operands (values)
 - Has operator precedence (order of operation when there are more than one)

Integer and float operators

- Addition and subtraction using **+** and **-** symbol
- Multiplication using ***** symbol
- Exponentiation using ****** symbol
- Division: multiple versions
 - True division: **/** symbol, actual division always results in a float value
 - Floor division: **//** symbol, $a//b$ results in the largest value less than a/b
 - Modulo: **%** symbol, $a\%b$ results in a remainder of a/b
- If any one operand is a float, result is always a float (this is called type coercion from integer to float)
- If all operands are integer, result is integer
except the true division

Try it

Note that the
result is float

- $a = 5$
- $f = 4.5$
- $2+a$
- $f-7$
- $f*3$
- $a**2$
- $5/3$
- $5//3$
- $5\%3$

- These calculation are possible
 - $4**0.5$
 - $2**-1$
- Beware unexpected results
 - $-5//3$
 - $-5\%3$
 - $5// -3$
 - $5\% -3$

String operators

- String + String: **concatenation** of two strings
- String * Integer: **repeat** string equal to the integer
- Try it
 - `"Hello" + " " + "World"`
 - `"Hello"*3`
- Many more string operations later

Comparison operators

- Comparing two expressions **resulting in Boolean value** (True/False)
- `<` , `<=` , `==` (equal) , `>` , `>=` , `!=` (not equal)
- Try it
 - `5 < 3`
 - `6 >= 4.2`
 - `3 == 3.0` (True due to type coercion)
 - `"Hello" == "hello"` (False: "H" and "h" are different characters)
- Comparing strings with operators other than `==` and `!=` is not recommended

Confusing `==` and `=` is a frequent mistake in programming

- `a == 5` (is a equal to 5?)
- `a = 5` (put 5 in variable a)

Boolean operators

- Operators on Boolean values (True/False)
- Python has 3 Boolean operators: `and`, `or`, `not`

A	B	A and B	A or B	not A
True	True	True	True	False
True	False	False	True	False
False	True	False	True	True
False	False	False	False	True

Operator precedence

- Calculate the **higher precedence operators first**
- If operators have equal precedence, calculate according to **associativity**
 - $a \% b * c$ equals $(a \% b) * c$
- Note the only right-to-left associativity of exponentiation
 - $a ** b ** c$ equals $a ** (b ** c)$

Precedence	Associativity	Operator	Description
18	Left-to-right	()	Parentheses (grouping)
17	Left-to-right	f(args...)	Function call
16	Left-to-right	x[index:index]	Slicing
15	Left-to-right	x[index]	Array Subscription
14	Right-to-left	**	Exponentiation
13	Left-to-right	~x	Bitwise not
12	Left-to-right	+x -x	Positive, Negative
11	Left-to-right	* / %	Multiplication Division Modulo
10	Left-to-right	+ -	Addition Subtraction
9	Left-to-right	<< >>	Bitwise left shift Bitwise right shift
8	Left-to-right	&	Bitwise AND
7	Left-to-right	^	Bitwise XOR
6	Left-to-right		Bitwise OR
5	Left-to-right	in, not in, is, is not, <, <=, >, >=, <>, == !=	Membership Relational Equality Inequality
4	Left-to-right	not x	Boolean NOT
3	Left-to-right	and	Boolean AND
2	Left-to-right	or	Boolean OR
1	Left-to-right	lambda	Lambda expression

Missing topics

- Things that will not be taught
 - Bitwise operator
- Things that will be taught later
 - Function and lambda
 - Slicing, indexing (subscription), membership

Python Crash (and incomplete) Course

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- Expression

• Function

- Selection and Loop
- Object and method
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- Dictionary
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Function

- An organized code that can be reused, usually part of a library. Can also be user-defined.
- Creating function using keyword **def**
- Function body is **indented**
- Pass **parameters** and **return** final value back to caller

[1] **def** mySum(i, j, k):

result = i+j+k

return result

Keyword def

Function
name

List of
parameters

colon

Indented
block

Return value

Call function
by name

Passed
arguments

[2] mySum(5,6,7)

Return value

18

Parameter with default argument

- Define a default value in case no argument passed
- Make the parameter optional
- Must be define after all other parameters

```
[9] def myCal(i, j, k=3):  
    result = i//j+k  
    return result
```

Parameter with
default argument

```
[11] myCal(12,5)
```

No need to pass
argument to k

5

Argument passing

- Positional arguments: by sequence
- Keyword arguments
 - Can be passed by assigning value to keyword (parameter name)
 - Can be passed out of order
- If using both, must use positional before using keyword

```
[9] def myCal(i, j, k=3):  
    result = i//j+k  
    return result
```

```
[11] myCal(12,5)
```

5

Keyword
arguments
not in order

```
[12] myCal(k=2, i=7, j=3)
```

4

Keyword
arguments must
come after
positional ones

```
[13] myCal(10, k=4, j=6)
```

5

Python Crash (and incomplete) Course

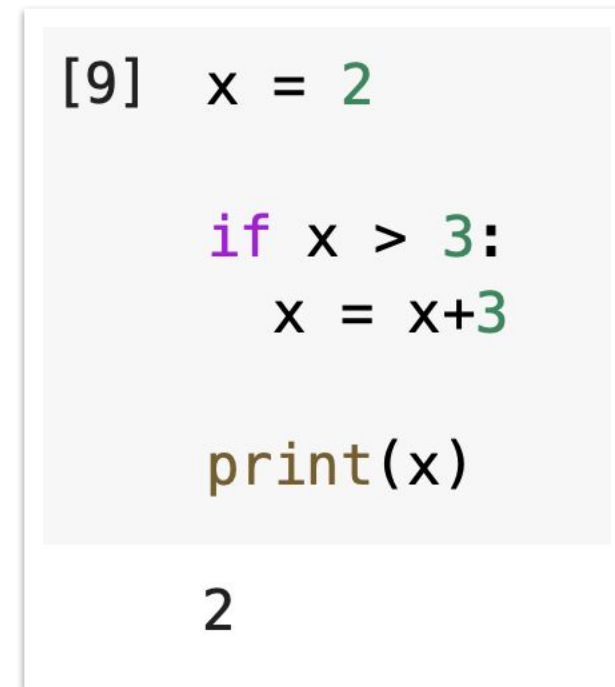
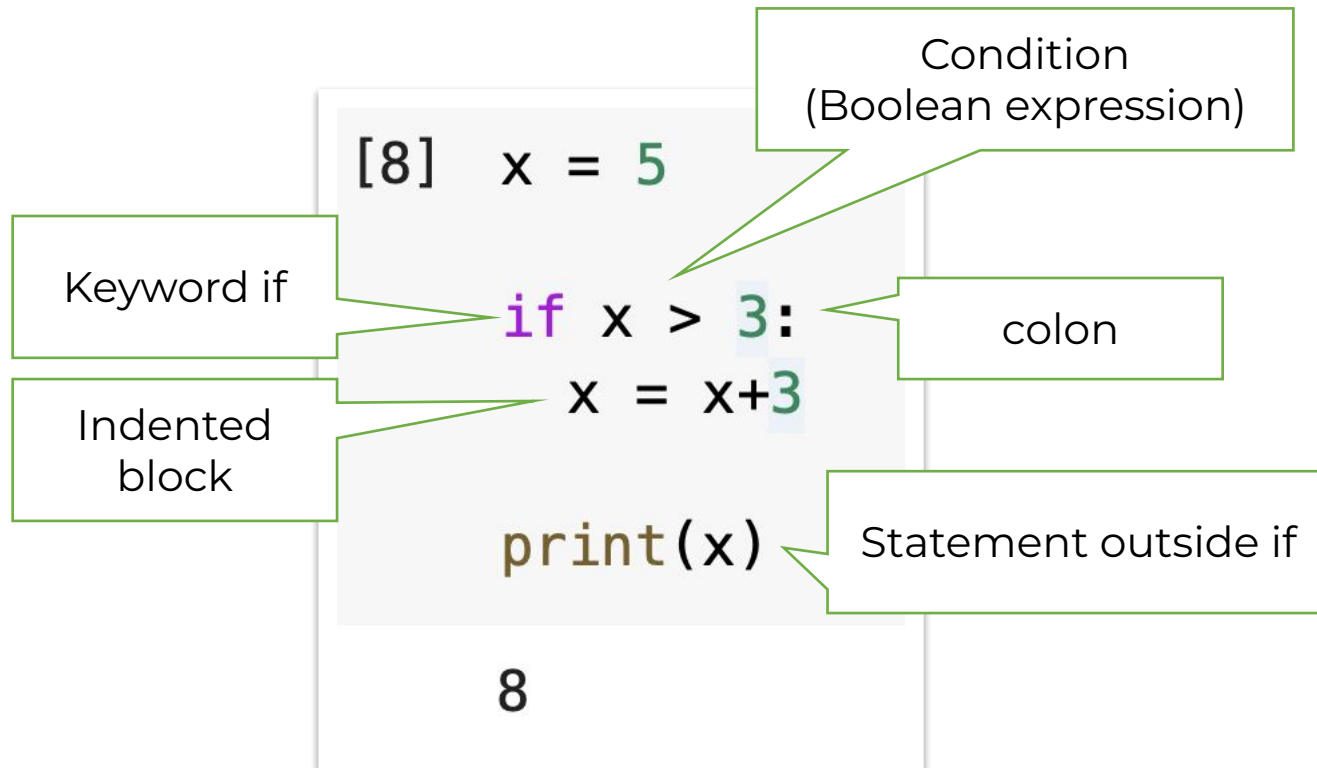
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If statement

- Use keyword **if** to selectively run or not run code blocks
- Run code in the if block only if the expression (condition) is true



if-else

- Choose one of two block
 - Run code blocks under **if** when condition is true, or alternatively run code blocks under **else** when condition is false

```
[10] score = 47
      if score > 50:
          print("Pass.")
      else:
          print("Fail.")
```

else keyword at the
same level with if.
No condition after
else

Colon after else

Indented block

Fail.

if-elif-else

- Choose one from multiple blocks
 - Test conditions of `if` and `elif` one-by-one and run the code block under **the first one that is true**
 - If no condition is true, run code blocks under `else`

else keyword at the same level with if.
Has condition after else

Indented block

```
[11] score = 65
      if score >= 80:
          print("A")
      elif score >= 70:
          print("B")
      elif score >= 60:
          print("C")
      elif score >= 50:
          print("D")
      else:
          print("Fail.")
```

Colon after elif

C

while

- Run code block under `while` as long as the condition is true
- After finish running the block, check condition again

The diagram illustrates the execution of a `while` loop. It features a central code block with the following Python code:

```
[12] i = 0
while i < 10:
    print(i)
    i = i + 2
```

Four callout boxes provide explanations:

- while keyword with condition:** Points to the `while` keyword and the condition `i < 10`.
- Colon after condition:** Points to the colon `:` at the end of the condition.
- Indented block is run as long as the condition is true:** Points to the indented block containing `print(i)` and `i = i + 2`.
- After the last statement, check condition again:** Points to the end of the indented block, indicating the loop's iterative nature.

Below the code block, the output of the loop is shown as a vertical list of numbers: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8.

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Class and Object

- Class: a code template for creating object
 - Contains variables and functions that are needed for working
 - Variable inside a class is called attribute
 - Function inside a class is called method
- Object: an actual runtime entity created from a class
 - Usually created by calling class name and passing appropriate arguments
- Can access attribute and method inside an object by using . (dot)

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List

- A data structure consisting of **sequence** of items
- Sequence has **order**
- Accessing items by **index**
- **Mutable** (can change items in list)
- Can add or remove items from list
- Items can be **any type** (integer, float, string, etc.)
- Items in list can be of **different type**

List literals and variables

```
[1] ls = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']
```

```
[3] ls[0]
```

'a'

```
[4] ls[3]
```

'd'

```
[5] ls[-1]
```

'e'

- Created by using `[]` (square bracket)
- Items in list separated by `,` (comma)
- List literals can be assigned to a variable just like any data
- Accessing an item in a list using its **index**
 - Index of the first item is 0
 - Negative index is possible, with the last item with index -1
- Put index in `[]` after variable name or list literals
- Index can be an expression that results in integer within the bound of the list

List operations

- Check membership using `in` keyword
- Slicing using index and `:`, for example `ls[x:y:z]`
 - x: index to start the slice
 - y: index to stop the slice (item at index y is not included)
 - z: steps

```
[6] 'b' in ls
```

```
True
```

```
[8] ls[1:4:1]
```

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



```
ls[0:3:2]
```

```
['a', 'c']
```

```
[11] ls[-1:-3:-1]
```

```
['e', 'd']
```

List and assignment

- Assigning a new value to any item using its index

```
[17] ls = ls + ['k']
```

+ operator join 2 lists together, but must assign result to a variable

```
[19] ls.append('l')
```

Use . (dot) after an object to call a method of that object

```
[20] ls.extend(['m', 'n'])
```

Methods change list in place and does not return anything

```
[21] ls.insert(2, 'z')
```

```
[22] ls
```

```
['a', 'b', 'z', 100, 'd', 'e', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n']
```

```
[13] ls[2] = 100
```

```
[14] ls
```

```
['a', 'b', 100, 'd', 'e']
```

- Adding new items using
 - + operator
 - append method
 - extend method
 - insert method

List methods

- Removing items using
 - pop method by giving index
 - remove method by giving value of item
- Other methods
 - sort, reverse
 - count, index
- Use help(list) for more info

```
[23] ls.pop(3)
```

100

index of item to pop

pop removes and returns item
at that index

```
[24] ls
```

```
['a', 'b', 'z', 'd', 'e', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n']
```

```
[25] ls.remove('z')
```

remove drops the value
and does not return
anything

```
▶ ls
```

```
↳ ['a', 'b', 'd', 'e', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n']
```

List functions

- Functions that can be used with list
 - len, max, min, sum
 - Must be able to compare items to use max, min
 - Must be able to add items together to use sum

```
[30] ls = [6,3,5,1,4]
```

```
[31] len(ls)
```

5

```
[32] max(ls)
```

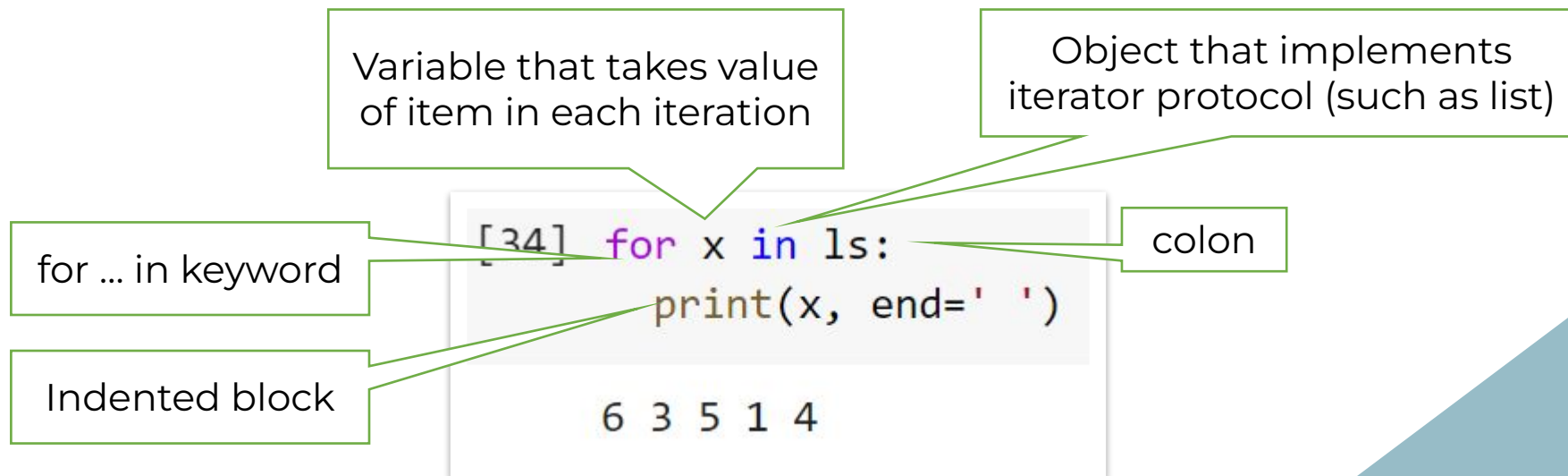
6

```
[33] sum(ls)
```

19

for loop

- Used to iterate over every item in list (and other iterable objects)
- Use an iterator: an object that can be used to traverse a collection from start to end
- No need to set up manual looping using index
- In python, use `for ... in` keyword to start iteration



List of lists (2d list)

- Items in a list can be another list
- Can be used to simulate 2d-array or a table
- Top-level items can be row or column depending on the library or software used
- Can also create higher-dimension arrays

```
[21] table = [ ['a','b','c'] , ['d','e','f'] ]
```

```
[22] table[0][2]
```

```
'c'
```

Tuple

- A data structure consisting of **sequence** of items
- Sequence has **order**, accessing items by **index**
- **Immutable** (**cannot** change items in list)
- Items can be **any type** (integer, float, string, etc.)
- Items in list can be of **different type**
- Tuple literal is created by **,** (comma)
 - A parenthesis is not needed, but can be used
- Can use indexing, slicing and iterator like list, but not assignment
- Can also use functions that can be used with list (len, max, min, sum)

```
[23] tup = 'a', 7, 6.4
```

```
[24] tup
```

```
('a', 7, 6.4)
```

String

- A data structure consisting of **sequence** of characters
- Sequence has **order**
- Accessing items by **index**
- **Immutable** (**cannot** change items in string)
- Cannot add or remove items from string, must create a new string
- Many same characteristics with list
 - Indexing and slicing
 - Iterator

String literals, indexing, slicing, and iteration

```
[45] s = "Hello World"
```

String literal within " " or ' '

```
[46] s[6]
```

```
'W'
```

String indexing using [] index starts at 0

```
[47] s[2:9:3]
```

```
'l r'
```

String slicing using [start:stop:step]

```
[49] for c in s:  
      print(c.upper(), end=' ')
```

String iteration using for ... in

```
H E L L O   W O R L D
```

upper is a string method
changing lower-case
character to upper-case one

String methods

- There are tens of methods in string object
- Checking symbol
 - `isupper`, `islower`, `isnumeric`, `isalnum`, `isspace`, etc.
- Changing case
 - `upper`, `lower`, `capitalize`, etc.
- Check/find substrings
 - `startswith`, `endswith`, `find`, `rfind`, etc.
- Manipulation
 - `split`, `strip`, `partition`, `ljust`, `rjust`, etc.
- Use `help(str)` for more info

Python Crash (and incomplete) Course

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- **Dictionary**
- Module

Dictionary

- A data structure consisting of key-value pairs (sometimes called map)
- Has **no order**
- Accessing items by **key**
- Value can be **any type** (integer, float, string, etc.), but key must be **immutable** (such as integer, float, string, or tuple)
- Values in various pairs can be of **different type**
- **Key must be unique**

Dictionary literals and value access

- Use { } to create a dictionary
- Separate key and value by :
- Separate each key-value pair with ,
- Accessing a value by putting key inside []

```
[51] d = {'a':5, 'b':7, 'c':3}
```

key

value

```
[52] d['b']
```

item

Access value
by key

7

Listing all keys, all values, and all pairs

- Use methods `keys()`, `values()`, and `items()`
- Return objects are iterable
- Iterate over a dict is the same as iterate over its `keys()`

```
for k in d:  
    print(k, ":", d[k])
```

```
a : 5  
b : 7  
c : 3
```

```
[53] d.keys()  
dict_keys(['a', 'b', 'c'])
```

```
[54] d.values()  
dict_values([5, 7, 3])
```

```
[55] d.items()  
dict_items([('a', 5), ('b', 7), ('c', 3)])
```

```
for v in d.values():  
    print(v, end=' ')
```

```
5 7 3
```

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• Module

Module

- A group of class templates and variables that can be included in a program
- Can be used to add functionalities to our program
- Can be organized into submodules
- Must **install the module and import it** into the program/script first
- Use import keyword to import a module
- Caution: module name used during installation and import can be different
- Things not taught: managing modules and environments

Importing modules

- `import`: import whole module
 - Can access class and function inside module using `.` notation
- `from ... import ...`: import only one class or function
 - Can use class/function name directly
- `as` keyword used to change name

```
[70] import pandas as pd
```

Module name

Renamed module

```
[71] pd.DataFrame(['a','b'], columns=['x'])
```

	x
0	a
1	b

Accessing DataFrame class inside pandas module

```
[72] from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
```

submodule

```
[73] knn = KNeighborsClassifier(5)
```

Import only KNeighborsClassifier class

Advanced Topic

- `map`: apply a function to all items in an iterable, return result in an iterable

```
[74] ls
```

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

```
[87] import math
```

```
[89] list( map(math.sqrt,ls) )
```

```
[2.449489742783178, 1.7320508075688772, 2.23606797749979, 1.0, 2.0]
```

Map returns an
iterable, which
can be expanded
into a list

Apply `math.sqrt`
function to `ls`.
Note that `sqrt` has no `()`

Lambda

- Used to create a one-use function with one-line expression
- Can be used in places that accept a function (such as map)

```
[96] def sqr(x):  
      return x**2
```

```
[97] list(map(sqr, ls))
```

```
[36, 9, 25, 1, 16]
```

lambda
keyword

argument

```
[98] list(map(lambda x: x**2, ls))
```

```
[36, 9, 25, 1, 16]
```

Return
value

filter

- Apply function to an iterable and keep only items that returns True

```
[93] ls
```

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

```
[101] list( filter(lambda x: x > 4, ls) )
```

```
[6, 5]
```

- Chaining filter and map

```
[102] list( map(lambda x: x**2,  
               filter(lambda x: x > 4, ls)  
             )
```

```
[36, 25]
```

map x^{**2} to
results from
filter

filter to
get [6,
5]

List comprehension

- Combine map and filter in one expression

