

**Objective:** This worksheet introduces a compound or collection data type **List**. It is called a compound or collection data type because it **groups the data together** in a single element. List has several usages in Data Science programming.

## Lists

- The features of a list can be summarised as below:
  - The items of a list are specified inside the square brackets [].
  - A list can group heterogeneous items together.
  - A list is mutable.
  - A list can contain duplicate items.
  - A list can contain other lists.
- Let us understand the details of each of above. An empty list **players** is created first and then the names of the Indian Cricket Players are added one at a time using the **insert()** function that is available for list data type. Please note **players** is a variable of type list here.

```
players = []
```

←----- An empty list players

```
players.insert(0, "Kapil");
players.insert(1, "Tendulkar")
players.insert(2, "Dravid")
```

←----- Elements are added using insert() function. 0, 1 and 2 are indices.

```
print(type(players))
```

```
<class 'list'>
```

←----- players is list data type

```
print(players)
```

←----- Print the list elements

```
['Kapil', 'Tendulkar', 'Dravid']
```

- A list can contain heterogeneous elements. It means the items of a list may not be of the same data type. For example, if there is a need to store the first name, present age, and run rate of test matches for Sachin Tendulkar in a list, it can be done in the following way:

```
tendulkar_details = ["Sachin", 47, 43.78]
```

```
print(type(tendulkar_details[0]))
```

```
<class 'str'>
```

←----- First list item is a string

```
print(type(tendulkar_details[1]))
```

```
<class 'int'>
```

←----- Second item is an integer

```
print(type(tendulkar_details[2]))
```

```
<class 'float'>
```

←----- The last item is a float

- The Python provides a function `split()` that splits the constituents of a string into a list. It can take two optional parameters:
  - sep:** It is a delimiter(or separator) according to which the string will be splitted. The default value is none that means split according to white space. It discards empty strings from the resulting split.
  - maxsplit:** maximum number of splits to be done. The default value is -1, that means no upper limit.

The following examples show the usage of `split()` function:

<pre>str = "Data Science Software Engineering Course"</pre>	←-----	<i>A string</i>
<pre>str.split()</pre>		<i>No parameters. As many parts as possible from white spaces as separator</i>
<pre>['Data', 'Science', 'Software', 'Engineering', 'Course']</pre>	←-----	
<pre>str.split(" ", 2)</pre>		<i>2 splits = 3 parts from white spaces</i>
<pre>['Data', 'Science', 'Software Engineering Course']</pre>	←-----	
<pre>str.split(" ", 3)</pre>		<i>3 splits = 4 parts from white spaces</i>
<pre>['Data', 'Science', 'Software', 'Engineering Course']</pre>	←-----	
<pre>str = "Data#Science#Software#Engineering#Course"</pre>		<i>4 splits = 5 parts from # separator</i>
<pre>str.split("#", 4)</pre>		
<pre>['Data', 'Science', 'Software', 'Engineering', 'Course']</pre>	←-----	

- Retrieval of the list parts using individual indices or index-range works as it happens with Strings processing. This is also called **slicing**. The following examples explain the operations:

```
str = "Deep Learning involves Neural Networks"
words = str.split()
print(words[4])
print(words[2:4])
print(words[-1])

Networks
['involves', 'Neural']
Networks
```

### Exercise:

What will be the output of the following?

```
equipment = ["routers", "switches", "modems"]
print(equipment[:2])
print(equipment[1:])
```

- Lists need not contain only strings. They can contain integers, float and even boolean values and the data type will still remain list as shown below:

```
fibonacci = [1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21]
print(type(fibonacci))

<class 'list'>
```

- The following example iterates a list using the **for** loop. Note that with each iteration **fibTerm** variable accesses the next list element.

```
for fibTerm in fibonacci:
    print(fibTerm)

1
1
2
3
5
8
13
21
```

- The **len()** in-built function can be used to get the length of the list data type. It can also be used to iterate the list as shown in the example below:

```
print(len(fibonacci))

8

length = len(fibonacci)
for i in range(length):
    print(fibonacci[i])

1
1
2
3
5
8
13
21
```

### Exercise:

A list contains the BMI record of a person that has elements for his Name, Weight, Height in meters and a boolean value if he is obese or not. Using the **for** loop, print the value of the each list item and its type in the same line.

- The lists are *mutable*. It means the content of a list can be altered. For example a list contains the data about an employee of an organization. If there are mistakes, it can be corrected. More details to same list can also be added later using in-built *append()* function as shown in the example below:

```
employee = ["Peter Jack", "12345", "Software Engineer", "True"]
print(employee)
employee[0] = "Jack Thomas"
print(employee)
employee.append("jack@email.com")
print(employee)
```

```
['Peter Jack', '12345', 'Software Engineer', 'True']
['Jack Thomas', '12345', 'Software Engineer', 'True']
['Jack Thomas', '12345', 'Software Engineer', 'True', 'jack@email.com']
```

- A list can contain duplicate values. There is NO check for it.

```
funnyList = ["Funny", "False", 12, "False", 12, "Funny"]
print(funnyList)
```

```
['Funny', 'False', 12, 'False', 12, 'Funny']
```

### Deep Copy Concept

- Review the following example. Why the value of list Y also changed? How to avoid it so that Y still has the old value of X?

```
X = [1, 2]
Y = X
print(Y)
X[0] = X[0] + X[1]
print(X)
print(Y)
```

```
[1, 2]
[3, 2]
[3, 2]
```

- This can be achieved using the Deep Copy Concept. Observe the highlighted line in the example below:

```
X = [1, 2]
Y = [item for item in X]
print(Y)
X[0] = X[0] + X[1]
print(X)
print(Y)
```

```
[1, 2]
[3, 2]
[1, 2]
```

*Copy item by item.*  
*Do not just refer to the same object*

### List of Lists

- The test runs scored by few Indian cricket players are shown below. There is a requirement to save them in a suitable data structure for Python programming.

Sl. No.	Player	Test Runs
1	Dhoni	4876
2	Dravid	13265
3	Ganguly	7212
4	Gavaskar	10122
5	Kapil	5248
6	Tendulkar	15921

- This objective can be achieved using **list of lists** as shown below. Observe the usage of square brackets.

```
cricketPlayers = [
    ["Dhoni", 4876],
    ["Dravid", 13265],
    ["Ganguly", 7212],
    ["Gavaskar", 10122],
    ["Kapil", 5248],
    ["Tendulkar", 15921]
]
```

- Each list element within the **cricketPlayers** list can be accessed using 0, 1, 2 index.

```
print(cricketPlayers[2])
['Ganguly', 7212]
```

- If there is a need to access the runs scored by Kapil, it can be accessed using the double index mechanism as it is done in two-dimensional arrays in C/C++. Note the element to access Kapil's runs is [4][1]:

```
print(cricketPlayers[4][1])
5248
```

- Count of elements in a list inside the main list need not be same. For example the run rate for Tendulkar can only be added alone. Note Tendulkar is the 5<sup>th</sup> list element in the main list.

```
cricketPlayers[5].append(55.8)

print(cricketPlayers)

[['Dhoni', 4876], ['Dravid', 13265], ['Ganguly', 7212], ['Gavaskar', 10122], ['Kapil', 5248], ['Tendulkar', 15921, 55.8]]
```