Fundamentos de Programação

António J. R. Neves João Rodrigues

Departamento de Electrónica, Telecomunicações e Informática Universidade de Aveiro

Topics

- Getting started with Python
- Values and types
- Variables
- Keywords
- Operators, expressions and statements
- Functions
- Console input/output
- Scripts

Getting started with *Python*

- Python is a general purpose programming language well known for its elegant syntax and readable code.
- With Python it is possible to do everything from GUI development, web applications, system administration tasks, data analysis, visualization, etc.
- Python is an interpreted language an interpreter parses and executes a Python program on a line by line basis. This is usually slower than compiled languages.
- In *Python*, basic data structures and small utility functions are built-in, you don't need to define them.
- Moreover, Python has hundreds of extension libraries (modules)
 available at https://pypi.Python.org/

Python in interactive mode

- There are two ways to use the interpreter: *interactive mode* and *script mode*.
- Execute python3 with no argument to run in interactive mode. Then, type *Python statements* and the interpreter displays the result:

```
$ python3
>>> 1 + 1
2
>>>
```

- The chevron, >>>, is the prompt the interpreter uses to indicate that
 it is ready.
- When you type an expression, the interpreter prints the result.
 Then, it shows the prompt again.

Python in script mode

 Alternatively, you can store the statements in a file, which is called a script or program, and use the interpreter to execute it whenever you want.



 By convention, Python scripts have names that end in .py.



 To execute the script, just call the interpreter with the name of the file as argument. For example:

```
$ python3 test.py
The result is
42
```

 In script mode, Python does not show the prompt and does not print results automatically. You need to call print() for that.

Script mode programming

- Invoking the interpreter with a script parameter begins the execution of the script. Python scripts use the extension .py
- Lines and indentation Blocks of code are denoted by line indentation, which is rigidly enforced. The number of spaces in the indentation is variable, but all statements within the block must be indented the same amount.
- Statements in *Python* typically end with a new line. However, a backslash (\) in the end of the line indicates that the statement continues in the next line.
- The semicolon (;) allows multiple statements on a single line.
- A line containing only whitespace is known as a blank line and Python totally ignores it.

What is a program?

- Program = a sequence of *statements* that specifies how to perform a computation.
- A few basic types of statement appear in just about every language (including Python):
 - assignment: Store values in variables, to recall later on.
 - math: Perform basic mathematical operations.
 - input: Get data from the keyboard, a file, or some other device.
 - output: Display data on the screen or send data to a file.
 - **conditional execution**: Check for certain conditions and execute the appropriate code.
 - **repetition**: Perform some action repeatedly, usually with some variation.
- That is pretty much all there is to it. Every program, no matter how complicated, is made up of statements like these.

Errors and debugging

- Programming errors are called bugs.
- Tracking down and correcting bugs is called debugging.
- There are three kinds of errors: syntax errors, runtime errors, and semantic errors.
- A syntax error occurs if the program contains code that does not respect the syntactical rules of the programming language.
- A runtime error only appears after the program has started running. They are often caused by type mismatches or failure to deal with special cases (such as division by zero). These errors are also called exceptions.
- A program has a semantic error when it runs with no error messages, but still produces wrong results. The program is not doing what the programmer intended. It is doing exactly what it was told to do.

Values and types

- A value is a piece of data in a program, such as a letter or a number: 33, 3.14, 'ola', 1+2j.
- Values belong to different types (or classes): int, float, str, complex.
- Use the type function to find the type of a value:

```
>>> type('Hello, World!')
<class 'str'>
>>> type(17)
<class 'int'>
>>> type(3+5j)
<class 'complex'>
```

 Types determine what you can do with values. For instance, you cannot add an int to a string:

```
>>> 3 + 'cats'
TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for +: ...
```

Data types

Python has several built-in data types, including:

```
Numeric types: int, float, complex
Boolean: bool (with values True and False).
Strings: str, e.g. 'Hello'
Lists: list, e.g. [1, 3, 1]
Tuples: tuple, e.g. (3, 'May', 1981)
Sets: set, e.g. {2, 3, 5}
Dictionaries: dict, e.g. {'eggs': 6, 'beer': 0.33}
```

 You can also define new data types – called classes – but we'll leave that for another course.

Conversion between types

- Sometimes we need to convert values to a different type.
- We use type conversion functions: str, int, float, ...
- Just about any kind of value may be converted to string:

```
>>> str(1+2)
'3'
>>> str(1.0/2)
'0.5'
```

- In fact, this happens implicitly when you print values.
- Some strings may be converted to int or float:

```
>>> 100 + int('33')
133
>>> float('0.12') / 10000
1.2e-05
```

Converting a float to int truncates towards zero:

```
>>> int(2.78)
```

Variables and assignment

- A variable is a name (identifier) that refers to a value.
- An assignment statement assigns a value to a variable.

```
>>> n = 5
>>> pi = 3.14
```

• In an expression, a variable is substituted by its value.

```
>>> 2*pi*n 31.4000
```

- Variable names may include both letters and digits, but they must begin with a letter.
- Some *keywords* cannot be used as variable names, such as: def, if, not, and, etc.
- If you give a variable an illegal name, you get a syntax error:

```
>>> 76trombones = 'big parade'
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
```

Reassignment

You can assign a new value to an existing variable.

```
>>> n = 5
>>> print(n)
5
>>> n = n + 1  # Is this valid? YES!
>>> print(n)
6
```

- The variable <u>forgets the old value</u> and <u>stores the new one</u> until the next assignment!
- This implies that a variable may take different values during the execution of a program and the order of operations is important!

Variable assignment is fundamental in imperative programming languages!

More on assignment

Python allows simultaneous assignment like this:

There are special augmented assignment operators:

n += 1	equivalent to	n = n + (1)
x -= pi	equivalent to	x = x - (pi)
n *= 1+p	equivalent to	n = n * (1+p)
x /= 2.2	equivalent to	x = x / (2.2)
n %= 3	equivalent to	n = n % (3)

Keywords

- The interpreter uses **keywords** to recognize the structure of the program.
- Keywords are reserved words: they cannot be used as variable names or any other identifier.
- In Python3, the keywords are:

```
False class finally is return

None continue for lambda try

True def from nonlocal while and del global not with as elif or yield assert else import pass break except in raise
```

Operators, expressions and statements

- Operators are special symbols that represent computations (+, -, *, /, **, %, <=, or).
- The values combined by operators are called operands.
- For a given operator, operands must have compatible types. The result type <u>depends</u> on the operand types.
- An expression is a combination of values, variables, and operators that results in a value.
- A statement is a unit of code that the Python interpreter can execute.
- The important difference is that an expression has a value (even if None); pure statements do not.
- In script mode, an expression, all by itself, has no visible effect (unlike interactive mode).

Arithmetic Operators: descending precedence (same color same precedence)

Operator	Example	Meaning	Result
+ (unary)	+a	Unary Positive	a
- (unary)	-a	Unary Negation	a with opposite sign
**	a ** b	Exponentiation	a raised to the power of b
*	a * b	Multiplication	Product of a and b
/	a / b	Division	Quotient when a is divided by b . The result always has type float.
%	a % b	Modulo	Remainder when a is divided by b
//	a // b	Floor Division (or Integer Division)	Quotient when a is divided by b , rounded to the next smallest whole number
+ (binary)	a + b	Addition	Sum of a and b
- (binary)	a - b	Subtraction	b subtracted from a

Operators and precedence

- When more than one operator appears in an expression, the order of evaluation depends on the rules of precedence (mnemonic: <u>PEMDAS</u>).
- Use parentheses to make it obvious!
- The + operator performs concatenation in strings.
- The * operator also works on strings; it performs repetition. For example, 'Ah'*3 is 'AhAhAh'.
- It is a good idea to add notes to a program to explain in natural language what the program is doing. These notes are called **comments**, and they start with the # symbol.

Calling functions

- In the context of programming, a function is a named sequence of statements that performs a computation.
- We'll see how to define functions later in the course.
- Functions are called (or invoked) by name:

```
>>> print(10*t, "km")
30 km
```

- The name of the function is print.
- The expressions in parentheses are called the arguments of the function. There are two, in this case.
- A function "takes" zero or more arguments and "returns" a result and/or produces some <u>effect</u> (such as <u>printing</u> something or <u>storing</u> something).

Math functions

- Python has a math module that provides most of the familiar mathematical functions.
- A module is a Python file that defines a collection of functions and objects.
- Before using a module, you must import it:

```
>>> import math
```

• To access one of the functions, specify the name of the module and the name of the function, separated by a dot.

```
>>> degrees = 45
>>> radians = degrees / 360.0 * 2 * math.pi
>>> math.sin(radians)
0.707106781187
```

Receiving input from the console

- The input function is used to get input from the console.
- It has an optional argument called the prompt and returns a string.

```
>>> name = input("What's your name? ")
What's your name? tim
>>> name
'tim'
```

To get other types of values, you must convert!

```
>> age = int(input("Age? "))
Age? 22
>>> age
22
>>> type(age)
<class 'int'>
```

Sending output to the console

To output text to the screen, use the print function:

```
print("Hello World")
```

To write multiple lines, add the '\n' character:

```
print("Hello World\nThis is a message")
```

To print multiple values (separated by blanks):

```
print("speed =", v)
```

The print function has some optional keyword arguments:

```
print(..., sep=' ',end='\n',file=sys.stdout,flush=False)
```

- Use sep= and end= to change how arguments are separated and terminated in the output.
- Use file= to send output to a different stream (e.g. file).

```
>>> fh = open("data.txt", "w")
>>> print("Some text", file=fh)
>>> fh.close()
```