Basic Python

FOSSEE

Department of Aerospace Engineering IIT Bombay

Outline

- The Language
- The Interpreter
- Basic Datatypes and Operators
- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Lists
- 8 I/O
- Files
- Functions
- Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

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- The Language
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- Basic Datatypes and Operators
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Python!

- Programming Language
- Powerful, High-level, Interpreted, Multi-Platform
- Elegant and highly readable syntax
- Efficient high-level data structures
- Easy to learn
- Allows to concentrate on the problem instead of the language
- Increased Productivity
- Guido van Rossum BDFL
- Conceived in December 1989
- Named after "Monty Python's Flying Circus", a 70s comedy

4 / 109

Why Python?

- Extremely readable; Forces programmers to write readable code
- Interactive; Offers a very fast edit-test-debug cycle
- Doesn't get in your way; High-level data structures let you focus on the problem
- Handles memory management
- Batteries included; Huge standard library for wide range of tasks
- Object-oriented
- C, C++ and FORTRAN interfacing allows use of legacy code
- Your time is more valuable than machine time!



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- 6 Loops
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- 10 Functions
- 11 Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

Python interpreter

- Let's get our hands dirty!
- Start Python from your shell

\$ python

```
Python 2.7.1 (r271:86832, Feb 21 2011, 01:28:26)
[GCC 4.5.2 20110127 (prerelease)] on linux2
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license"
>>>
```

- First line shows Python version (2.7.1)
- >>> the interpreter's prompt
- The interpreter is ready and waiting for your command!

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Hello World!

• Typeprint 'Hello World' and hitting enter

```
>>> print 'Hello, World!'
Hello, World!
```

- The interpreter prints out the words Hello World
- Hit Ctrl-D to exit the interpreter
- We shall look at IPython, an enhanced interpreter

Versions

Before moving on ...

- Currently has two stable branches or versions, 2.x and 3.x
- 3.x is not backward compatible
- 3.x is deemed to be the future of Python
- But, we shall stick to 2.x for this course
- The ecosystem around Python 2.x hasn't yet moved to 3.x

Invoking IPython

- An enhanced Python interpreter
- Tab-completion, Easier access to help, Better history

\$ ipython

If ipython is not installed, you need to install it!

- The prompt is In [1]: instead of >>>
- In stands for input, 1 indicates the command number
- Try Hello World

```
In []: print 'Hello, World!'
Out[]: Hello, World!
```

the numbers have been omitted to avoid confusion

Hit Ctrl-D to exit ipython; Say y when prompted.

Getting comfortable

• Let's try some simple math to get comfortable

```
In []: 1 + 2
In []: 5 - 3
In []: 7 - 4
In []: 6 * 5
```

- We get back the expected output
- Output is displayed with an Out []

History & Arrow Keys

- Change the print 1+2
- Use <UP-Arrow> to go back to 1+2 command
- Use <LEFT-Arrow> to get to start of line; type print
- Hit <RETURN>

```
In []: print 1 + 2
```

• Now, change the previous command to print 10 * 2



Tab-Completion

- We want to use round function
- Type ro, and hit <TAB>

```
In []: ro<TAB>
```

- Type r, and hit <TAB>
- All possibilities are listed out, when ambiguous

? for Help

To get help for abs function

```
In []: abs?
In []: abs(19)
In []: abs(-10.5)
```

- Look at documentation for round
- Optional arguments are denoted with square brackets []

```
In []: round(2.484)
In []: round(2.484, 1)
In []: round(2.484, 2)
```



? for Help

To get help for abs function

```
In []: abs?
In []: abs(19)
In []: abs(-10.5)
```

- Look at documentation for round
- Optional arguments are denoted with square brackets []

```
In []: round(2.484)
In []: round(2.484, 1)
In []: round(2.484, 2)
```



Interrupting

```
In []: round(2.484
```

- The . . . prompt is the continuation prompt
- It comes up, since we haven't completed previous command
- Either complete by typing the missing)
- OR hit Ctrl-C to interrupt the command

```
In []: round(2.484 ...: ^C
```

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- 6 Loops
- Lists
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- Filo
- Inde
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Basic Datatypes

- Numbers
 - int
 - float
 - complex
- Boolean
- Sequence
 - Strings
 - Lists
 - Tuples

int

```
In []: a = 13
In []: a
```

- a is a variable of the int type
- Use the type command to verify

```
In []: type(a)
```

Integers can be arbitrarily long

float

```
In []: p = 3.141592
In []: p
```

- Decimal numbers are represented using the float type
- Notice the loss of precision
- Floats have a fixed precision

complex

```
In []: c = 3+4j
```

A complex number with real part 3, imaginary part 4

```
In []: c.real
In []: c.imag
In []: abs(c)
```

- It's a combination of two floats
- abs gives the absolute value

Operations on numbers

```
In []: 23 + 74
In []: 23 - 56
In []: 45 * 76

In []: 8 / 3
In []: 8.0 / 3
In []: float(8) / 3
```

- The first division is an integer division
- To avoid integer division, at least one number should be float
- float function is changing int to float

```
In []: 87 % 6
In []: 7 ** 8
```

- % is used for modulo operation
- ** is used for exponentiation

Variables & assignment

All the operations could be done on variables

```
In []: a = 23
In []: b = 74
In []: a * b

In []: c = 8
In []: d = 8.0
In []: f = c / 3
```

Last two commands show assignment

In []:
$$c = c / 3$$

An operation like the one above, may equivalently be written as

In []:
$$c /= 3$$

23 / 109

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Booleans & Operations

All the operations could be done on variables

```
In []: t = True
In []: t
In []: f = not t
In []: f
In []: f or t
In []: f and t
```

- Multiple operation in a single command
- We use parenthesis for explicitly stating what we mean
- No discussion of operator precedence

```
In []: (f and t) or t
In []: f and (t or t)
```

Sequences

- Hold a bunch of elements in a sequence
- Elements are accessed based on position in the sequence
- The sequence data-types
 - str
 - list
 - tuple

Strings, Lists & Tuples

Anything withing quotes is a string

```
In []: greet_str = "hello"
```

Items enclosed in [] and separated by , s constitute a list

```
In []: num_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
```

Items of a tuple are enclosed by () instead of []

```
In []: num_tuple = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)
```

Operations on Sequences

Accessing elements

```
In []: num_list[2]
In []: num_tuple[2]
In []: greet_str[2]
```

Add two sequences of same type

```
In []: num_list + [3, 4, 5, 6]
In []: greet_str + " world!"
```

Get the length of a sequence

```
In []: len(num_list)
In []: len(greet_str)
```

Operations on Sequences ...

Check for container-ship of elements

```
In []: 3 in num_list
In []: 'h' in greet_str
In []: 'w' in greet_str
In []: 2 in num_tuple
```

Finding maximum and minimum

```
In []: max(num_list)
In []: min(greet_str)
```

Slice a sequence

```
In []: num_list[1:5]
```

Stride over a sequence

```
In []: num_list[1:8:2]
```

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What are Strings?

- Anything quoted is a string
- Single quotes, double quotes or triple single/double quotes
- Any length single character, null string, . . .

```
In[]: 'This is a string'
In[]: "This is a string too"
In[]: '''This is a string as well'''
In[]: """This is also a string"""
In[]: '' # empty string
```

Why so many?

Reduce the need for escaping

```
In[]: "Python's strings are powerful!"
In[]: 'He said, "I love Python!"'
```

- Triple quoted strings can be multi-line
- Used for doc-strings

Assignment & Operations

```
In[]: a = 'Hello'
In[]: b = 'World'
In[]: c = a + ', ' + b + '!'
```

Strings can be multiplied with numbers

```
In[]: a = 'Hello'
In[]: a * 5
```

Accessing Elements

```
In[]: print a[0], a[4], a[-1], a[-4]
```

• Can we change the elements?

```
In[]: a[0] = 'H'
```

Strings are immutable!

Problem - Day of the Week?

Strings have methods to manipulate them

Problem

Given a list, week, containing names of the days of the week and a string s, check if the string is a day of the week. We should be able to check for any of the forms like, *sat*, *Sat*, *SAT*

- Get the first 3 characters of the string
- Convert it all to lower case
- Check for existence in the list, week

Slicing

```
In[]: q = "Hello World"
In[]: q[0:3]
In[]: q[:3]
In[]: q[3:]
In[]: q[:]
In[]: q[-1:1]
```

• One or both of the limits, is optional

Striding

```
In[]: q[0:5:1]
In[]: q[0:5:2]
In[]: q[0:5:3]
In[]: q[0::2]
In[]: q[2::2]
In[]: q[5:0:-1]
In[]: q[5:0:-1]
```

String Methods

```
In[]: s.lower()
In[]: s.upper()
s.<TAB>
```

- Strings are immutable!
- A new string is being returned

Solution - Day of the Week?

```
In[]: s.lower()[:3] in week
OR
In[]: s[:3].lower() in week
```

join a list of strings

- Given a list of strings
- We wish to join them into a single string
- Possibly, each string separated by a common token

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- Lists
- 8 1/0
- 9 Files
- Functions
- **Tuples**
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets



if-else block

```
In[]: a = 5
In[]: if a % 2 == 0:
....: print "Even"
....: else:
....: print "Odd"
```

- A code block : and indentation
- Exactly one block gets executed in the if-else

if-elif-else

```
In[]: if a > 0:
....:    print "positive"
....: elif a < 0:
....:    print "negative"
....: else:
....:    print "zero"</pre>
```

Only one block gets executed, depending on a

else is optional

```
In[]: if user == 'admin':
....: admin_Operations()
....: elif user == 'moderator':
....: moderator_operations()
....: elif user == 'client':
....: customer_operations()
```

Note that there is no else block

Ternary operator

- score_str is either 'AA' or a string of one of the numbers in the range 0 to 100.
- We wish to convert the string to a number using int
- Convert it to 0, when it is 'AA'
- if-else construct or the ternary operator

```
In[]: if score_str != 'AA':
....:     score = int(score_str)
....: else:
....:     score = 0

In[]: ss = score_str
In[]: score = int(ss) if ss != 'AA' else 0
```

pass

- pass is a syntactic filler
- When a certain block has no statements, a pass is thrown in
- Mostly, when you want to get back to that part, later.

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- 6 Loops
- Lists
- 8 1/0
- 9 Files
- Functions
- 1 Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

while

Print squares of all odd numbers less than 10 using while

• The loops runs as long as the condition is True

for

Print squares of all odd numbers less than 10 using for

```
In[]: for n in [1, 2, 3]:
....: print n
```

for iterates over each element of a sequence

```
In[]: for n in [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]:
....: print n*n

In[]: for n in range(1, 10, 2):
....: print n*n
```

- range([start,] stop[, step])
- Returns a list; Stop value is not included.

break

- breaks out of the innermost loop.
- Squares of odd numbers below 10 using while & break

```
In[]: i = 1
In[]: while True:
....: print i*i
....: i += 2
....: if i>10:
....: break
```

continue

- Skips execution of rest of the loop on current iteration
- Jumps to the end of this iteration
- Squares of all odd numbers below 10, not multiples of 3

```
In[]: for n in range(1, 10, 2):
....:     if n%3 == 0:
....:          continue
....:     print n*n
```

Problem - Day of the Week?

Strings have methods to manipulate them

Problem

Given a list, week, containing names of the days of the week and a string s, check if the string is a day of the week. We should be able to check for any of the forms like, sat, saturday, Sat, Saturday, SAT, SATURDAY

- Get the first 3 characters of the string
- Convert it all to lower case
- Check for existence in the list, week



Outline

- The Language
- 2 The Interpreter
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- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Lists
- · 1/O
- File
- 1 1103
- Functions
- Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets



Creating Lists

```
In[]: empty = []
In[]: p = ['spam', 'eggs', 100, 1.234]
In[]: q = [[4, 2, 3, 4], 'and', 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

- Lists can be empty, with no elements in them
- Lists can be heterogeneous every element of different kind

Accessing Elements

```
In[]: print p[0], p[1], p[3]
In[]: print p[-1], p[-2], p[-4]
In[]: print p[10]
```

- Indexing starts from 0
- Indexes can be negative
- Indexes should be in the valid range

Accessing Elements & length

```
In[]: print p[0], p[1], p[3]
In[]: print p[-1], p[-2], p[-4]
In[]: print len(p)
In[]: print p[10]
```

- Indexing starts from 0
- Indexes can be negative
- Indexes should be within the range (0, len(p))

Adding & Removing Elements

The append method adds elements to the end of the list

```
In[]: p.append('onemore')
In[]: p
In[]: p.append([1, 6])
In[]: p
```

- Elements can be removed based on their index OR
- based on the value of the element

```
In[]: del p[1]
In[]: p.remove(100)
```

When removing by value, first element is removed



Concatenating lists

```
In[]: a = [1, 2, 3, 4]
In[]: b = [4, 5, 6, 7]
In[]: a + b
In[]: print a+b, a, b
```

A new list is returned; None of the original lists change

```
In[]: c = a + b
In[]: c
```

Slicing & Striding

```
In[]: primes = [2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23,
In[]: primes[4:8]
In[]: primes[:4]
In[]: num = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
In[]: num[1:10:2]
In[]: num[:10]
In[]: num[10:]
In[]: num[::2]
In[]: num[::-1]
```

Sorting

```
In[]: a = [5, 1, 6, 7, 7, 10]
In[]: a.sort()
In[]: a
```

- sort method sorts the list in-place
- Use sorted if you require a new list

```
In[]: a = [5, 1, 6, 7, 7, 10]
In[]: sorted(a)
In[]: a
```

Reversing

```
In[]: a = [5, 1, 6, 7, 7, 10]
In[]: a.reverse()
In[]: a
reverse method reverses the list in-place

 Use [::-1] if you require a new list

In[]: a = [5, 1, 6, 7, 7, 10]
In[]: a[::-1]
In[]: a
```

Outline

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- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Liete
- 8 I/O
- 9 Files
- 10 Functions
- Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

Printing

```
In[]: a = "This is a string"
In[]: a
In[]: print a
```

- Both a, and print a are showing the value
- What is the difference?
- Typing a shows the value; print a prints it
- Typing a shows the value only in interpreter
- In a script, it has no effect.

```
In[]: b = "A line \n New line"
In[]: b
In[]: print b
```

String formatting

```
In[]: x = 1.5
In[]: y = 2
In[]: z = "zed"
In[]: print "x is %2.1f y is %d z is %s" %(x, y, z)
```

print x & print x,

- Open an editor
- Type the following code
- Save as print_example.py

```
In[]: print "Hello"
In[]: print "World"

In[]: print "Hello",
In[]: print "World"
```

- Run the script using % run print_example.py
- print x adds a newline whereas print x, adds a space

raw_input

```
In[]: ip = raw_input()
```

- The cursor is blinking; waiting for input
- Type an input and hit <ENTER>

```
In[]: print ip
```

raw_input...

```
In[]: c = raw_input()
5.6
In[]: c
In[]: type(c)
```

raw input always takes a string

```
In[]: name = raw_input("Enter your name: ")
Enter your name: George
```

• raw_input can display a prompt string for the user

Outline

- The Language
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- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Lioto
- 8 1/0
- 9 Files
- Function
- Tuplog
- 12 Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

Opening files

```
pwd # present working directory
cd /home/fossee # go to location of the file
```

The file is in our present working directory

```
In[]: f = open('pendulum.txt')
In[]: f
```

- f is a file object
- Shows the mode in which the file is open (read mode)

Reading the whole file

```
In[]: pend = f.read()
In[]: print pend
```

• We have read the whole file into the variable pend

```
In[]: type(pend)
In[]: pend_list = pend.splitlines()
In[]: pend_list
```

- pend is a string variable
- We can split it at the newline characters into a list of strings
- Close the file, when done; Also, if you want to read again

```
In[]: f.close()
In[]: f
```



Reading line-by-line

```
In[]: for line in open('pendulum.txt'):
....: print line
```

- The file object is an "iterable"
- We iterate over it and print each line
- Instead of printing, collect lines in a list

```
In[]: line_list = [ ]
In[]: for line in open('pendulum.txt'):
....: line_list.append(line)
```

File parsing – Problem

```
A; 010002; ANAND R; 058; 037; 42; 35; 40; 212; P; ;
```

- File with records like the one above is given
- Each record has fields separated by ;
- region code; roll number; name;
- marks 1st L; 2nd L; math; science; social; total
- pass/fail indicated by P/F; W if withheld and else empty
- We wish to calculate mean of math marks in region B

Tokenization

```
In[]: line = "parse this string"
In[]: line.split()
```

- Original string is split on white-space (if no argument)
- Returns a list of strings
- It can be given an argument to split on that argrument

```
In[]: record = "A; 015163; JOSEPH RAJ S; 083; 042;
In[]: record.split(';')
```

Tokenization ...

- Since we split on commas, fields may have extra spaces at ends
- We can strip out the spaces at the ends

strip is returning a new string

str to float

- After tokenizing, the marks we have are strings
- We need numbers to perform math operations

```
In[]: mark_str = "1.25"
In[]: mark = int(mark_str)
In[]: type(mark_str)
In[]: type(mark)
```

strip is returning a new string

File parsing – Solution

```
In[]: math_B = [] # empty list to store marks
In[]: for line in open("sslc1.txt"):
           fields = line.split(";")
. . . . :
           reg_code = fields[0]
. . . . :
           req code_clean = req_code.strip()
. . . . :
. . . . :
           math mark str = fields[5]
           math mark = float(math mark str)
. . . . :
           if req code == "B":
. . . . :
               math_B.append(math_mark)
. . . . :
In[]: math_B_mean = sum(math_B) / len(math_B)
In[]: math B mean
```

Outline

- The Language
- 2 The Interpreter
- Basic Datatypes and Operators
- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Lioto
- 8 1/0
- 770
- 10 Functions
- Tariotio
- Tuple:
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets

Abstracting

- Reduce duplication of code
- Fewer lines of code and hence lesser scope for bugs
- Re-usability of code, that's already been written
- Use functions written by others, without exactly knowing how they do, what they are doing
- Enter Functions!



Defining functions

- Consider the function $f(x) = x^2$
- Let's write a Python function, equivalent to this

```
In[]: def f(x):
....: return x*x
....:
In[]: f(1)
In[]: f(2)
```

def is a keyword

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- f is the name of the function
- x the parameter of the function
- return is a keyword; specifies what should be returned

Basic Python

78 / 109

Defining functions . . .

```
In[]: def greet():
           print "Hello World!"
. . . . :
. . . . :
In[]: greet()
```

- greet is a function that takes no arguments
- Also, it is not returning anything explicitly
- But implicitly, Python returns None

```
In[]: def avg(a, b):
           return (a + b)/2
. . . . :
. . . . :
In[]: avg(12, 10)
```



Doc-strings

- It's highly recommended that all functions have documentation
- We write a doc-string along with the function definition

```
In[]: def avg(a, b):
    """ avg takes two numbers as input
    and returns their average"""

....:
    return (a + b)/2
....:
In[]: avg?
In[]: greet?
```

Returning multiple values

- Return area and perimeter of circle, given radius
- Function needs to return two values

```
In[]: def circle(r):
       """returns area and perimeter of a
      circle given, the radius r"""
           pi = 3.14
. . . . :
           area = pi * r * r
. . . . :
           perimeter = 2 * pi * r
. . . . :
. . . . :
           return area, perimeter
. . . . :
In[]: circle(4)
In[]: a, p = circle(6)
In[]: print a
```

What? - 1

```
In[]: def what( n ):
....:     if n < 0: n = -n
....:     while n > 0:
....:     if n % 2 == 1:
....:         return False
....:         n /= 10
....:     return True
....:
```

What? -2

```
In[]: def what( n ):
....:     i = 1
....:     while i * i < n:
....:     i += 1
....:     return i * i == n, i
....:</pre>
```

Default arguments

```
In[]: round(2.484)
In[]: round(2.484, 2)

In[]: s.split() # split on spaces
In[]: s.split(';') # split on ';'

In[]: range(10) # returns numbers from 0 to 9
In[]: range(1, 10) # returns numbers from 1 to
In[]: range(1, 10, 2) # returns odd numbers from
```

Default arguments . . .

```
In[]: def welcome(greet, name="World"):
....:    print greet, name
....:
In[]: welcome("Hi", "Guido")
In[]: welcome("Hello")
```

- Arguments with default values, should be placed at the end
- The following definition is WRONG

```
In[]: def welcome(name="World", greet):
....: print greet, name
....:
```

Keyword Arguments

```
In[]: def welcome(greet, name="World"):
. . . . :
          print greet, name
. . . . :
In[]: welcome("Hello", "James")
In[]: welcome("Hi", name="Guido")
In[]: welcome(name="Guido", greet="Hey")
In[]: welcome(name="Guido", "Hey")
```

Built-in functions

- Variety of built-in functions are available
- abs, any, all, len, max, min
- pow, range, sum, type
- Refer here: http: //docs.python.org/library/functions.html

FOSSEE (IIT Bombay)

Arguments are local

Variables inside function are local

```
In[]: n = 5
In[]: def change():
....: n = 10
....: print n
....:
In[]: change()
In[]: print n
```

global

Use the global statement to assign to global variables

```
In[]: def change():
....:     global n
....:     n = 10
....:     print n
....:
In[]: change()
In[]: print n
```

Mutable variables

- Behavior is different when assigning to a list element/slice
- Python looks up for the name, from innermost scope outwards, until the name is found

```
In[]: name = ['Mr.', 'Steve', 'Gosling']
In[]: def change_name():
....: name[0] = 'Dr.'
....:
In[]: change_name()
In[]: print name
```

Passing Arguments . . .

```
In[]: n = 5
In[]: def change(n):
....: n = 10
          print "n = %s inside change " %n
. . . . :
. . . . :
In[]: change(n)
In[]: print n
In[]: name = ['Mr.', 'Steve', 'Gosling']
In[]: def change name(n):
          n[0] = 'Dr.'
. . . . :
          print "n = %s inside change_name" %n
. . . . :
. . . . :
In[]: change name(name)
In[]: print name
```

92 / 109

Outline

- The Language
- 2 The Interpreter
- Basic Datatypes and Operators
- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Lioto
- 8 1/0
- 0 1/0
- Files
- 10 Functions
- Tuples
- Dictionaries
- 13 Sets



Tuples – Initialization

```
In[]: t = (1, 2.5, "hello", -4, "world", 1.24,
In[]: t
```

It is not always necessary to use parenthesis

```
In[]: a = 1, 2, 3
In[]: b = 1,
```

Indexing

```
In[]: t[3]
In[]: t[1:5:2]
In[]: t[2] = "Hello"
```

Tuples are immutable!

Swapping values

```
In[]: a = 5
In[]: b = 7

In[]: temp = a
In[]: a = b
In[]: b = temp
```

Here's the Pythonic way of doing it

$$In[]: a, b = b, a$$

The variables can be of different data-types

```
In[]: a = 2.5
In[]: b = "hello"
In[]: a, b = b, a
```



Tuple packing & unpacking

```
In[]: 5,
In[]: 5, "hello", 2.5
```

Tuple packing and unpacking, when swapping

$$In[]: a, b = b, a$$

Outline

- The Language
- 2 The Interpreter
- Basic Datatypes and Operators
- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Links
- 8 1/0
- 0 1/0
- Files
- 10 Functions
- 1 Tuples
- Dictionaries
- Sets

Creating Dictionaries

- In[]: extensions
- Key-Value pairs
- No ordering of keys!

Accessing Elements

```
In[]: print extensions['jpg']
```

Values can be accessed using keys

```
In[]: print extensions['zip']
```

Values of non-existent keys cannot, obviously, be accessed

Adding & Removing Elements

Adding a new key-value pair

```
In[]: extensions['cpp'] = 'C++ code'
In[]: extensions
```

Deleting a key-value pair

```
In[]: del extension['pdf']
In[]: extensions
```

Assigning to existing key, modifies the value

```
In[]: extensions['cpp'] = 'C++ source code'
In[]: extensions
```

Containership

```
In[]: 'py' in extensions
In[]: 'odt' in extensions
```

- Allow checking for container-ship of keys; NOT values
- Use the in keyword to check for container-ship

Lists of Keys and Values

```
In[]: extensions.keys()
In[]: extensions.values()
```

- Note that the order of the keys and values match
- That can be relied upon and used

```
In[]: for each in extensions.keys():
....: print each, "-->", extensions[each]
....:
```

Outline

- The Language
- 2 The Interpreter
- Basic Datatypes and Operators
- Strings
- Conditionals
- 6 Loops
- Loops
- 8 1/0
- 8 1/0
- Files
- Functions
- 11 Tuples
- Dictionaries
- Sets



Creating Sets

```
In[]: a_list = [1, 2, 1, 4, 5, 6, 2]
In[]: a = set(a_list)
In[]: a
```

- Conceptually identical to the sets in mathematics
- Duplicate elements not allowed
- No ordering of elements exists

Operations on Sets

```
In[]: f10 = set([1, 2, 3, 5, 8])
In[]: p10 = set([2, 3, 5, 7])
```

- Mathematical operations performed on sets, can be performed
- Union

Intersection

Difference

Symmetric Difference



Sub-sets

Proper Subset

Subsets

Elements of sets

Containership

```
In[]: 1 in f10
In[]: 4 in f10
```

Iterating over elements

```
In[]: for i in f10:
....: print i,
....:
```

Subsets

```
In[]: f10 <= f10</pre>
```

Sets – Example

Given a list of marks, [20, 23, 22, 23, 20, 21, 23] list all the duplicates

```
In[]: marks = [20, 23, 22, 23, 20, 21, 23]
In[]: marks_set = set(marks)
In[]: for mark in marks_set:
...: marks.remove(mark)

# left with only duplicates
In[]: duplicates = set(marks)
```