



Introduction to the Python programming language

Laszlo SZATHMARY

University of Debrecen
Faculty of Informatics

Lab #2

- string data type (cont.)
- list data type
- for loop

(last update: 2018-09-09 [yyyy-mm-dd])

2018-2019, 1st semester



Standard data type

Standard data types in Python:

- number
 - string
 - list
 - tuple
 - dictionary
 - set
- } common name: sequence

String formatting:

```
4 def hello(name, what, color):
5     # mario, the bus is red!
6     print("{0}, the {1} is {2}!".format(name, what, color))
7     # or
8     print("{} the {} is {}!".format(name, what, color))
9     # or
10    print("{n}, the {w} is {c}!".format(n=name.capitalize(), w=what, c=color))
11
12 def main():
13     hello('mario', 'bus', 'red')
14     print('-' * 22)
15     hello('sara', 'sky', 'blue')
16
17 if __name__ == "__main__":
18     main()
```

common mistake: „constant”

```
4 PI = 3.14159
5
6 # print('value of PI: ' + PI)      # bad
7 print('value of PI: ' + str(PI))   # better
8 print('value of PI:', PI)          # best
```

B	a	t	m	a	n
0	1	2	3	4	5

```
4 >>> a = 'Batman'
5 >>> a
6 'Batman'
7 >>> len(a)
8 6
9 >>> a[0]
10 'B'
11 >>> a[1:4]
12 'atm'
13 >>> a[0:4]
14 'Batm'
15 >>> a[0:3]
16 'Bat'
17 >>> a[3:6]
18 'man'
19 >>> a[3:]
20 'man'
21 >>> a[:3]
22 'Bat'
23 >>> a[:]
24 'Batman'
25 >>>
```

slice

B	a	t	m	a	n
0	1	2	3	4	5
-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

```
1 >>> a
2 'Batman'
3 >>> a[-1]
4 'n'
5 >>> a[-2]
6 'a'
7 >>> a[-6]
8 'B'
9 >>> a[-3:]
10 'man'
11 >>> a[:-3]
12 'Bat'
13 >>>
```

Negative indexing
(from right to left).

Note:

$$s[:n] + s[n:] == s$$

(where n can be a positive
or negative value)

HW: complete `string1.py` .
If you are ready, continue with
`string2.py` .

```
>>> s = "python programming"
>>> s[::2]
'pto rgamn'
>>> s[::1]
'python programming'
>>> s[::-1]
'gnimmargorp nohtyp'
>>> s[:6]
'python'
>>> s[:6:2]
'pto'
```

← step

← reversing a string

```
>>> multi = """first line
... second line"""
>>> multi
'first line\nsecond line'
>>> print(multi)
first line
second line
>>>
>>> s = "hi\nthere"
>>> print(s)
hi
there
>>> len(s)
8
>>> s = r"hi\nthere"
>>> print(s)
hi\nthere
>>> len(s)
9
>>>
```

multiline string

normal string

raw string
(mainly used in
regular expressions)

In Python 3, every string
is a Unicode string (by default).

Common mistake for beginners

```
1  >>> a = 5
2  >>> print(++a)
3  5
4  >>> print --a
5  5
6  >>> print(a++)
7      File "<stdin>", line 1
8          print(a++)
9              ^
10 SyntaxError: invalid syntax
11 >>> print(a--)
12      File "<stdin>", line 1
13          print(a--)
14              ^
15 SyntaxError: invalid syntax
16 >>> --5
17 5
18 >>> a += 1
19 >>> a
20 6
21 >>> a = 5
22 >>> a -= 1
23 >>> a
24 4
25 >>>
```

The + and – are unary operators, i.e. ++5 means: + (+5), whose value is 5.

Similarly, --5 means: – (–5), which is also 5...

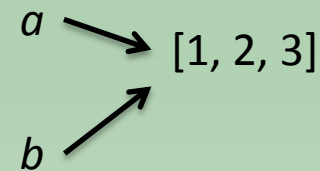
For incrementing / decrementing, use the += and -= operators.

Lists

empty list

```
4 >>> [1, 2, 3]
5 [1, 2, 3]
6 >>> a = [1, 2, 3]
7 >>> a
8 [1, 2, 3]
9 >>> li = []
10 >>> a = [1, 2, 'ab', 3.14]
11 >>> a
12 [1, 2, 'ab', 3.14]
23 >>> a = [1, 2, 3]
24 >>> a
25 [1, 2, 3]
26 >>> len(a)
27 3
28 >>> [1, 2] + [5, 6]
29 [1, 2, 5, 6]
```

the majority of the operations
that we saw at the strings
also work here



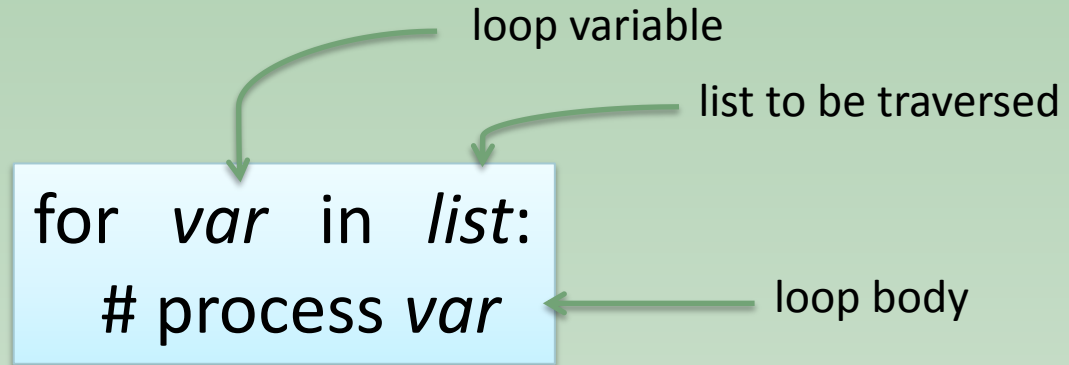
```
1 >>> a = [1, 2, 3]
2 >>> b = a
3 >>> a
4 [1, 2, 3]
5 >>> b
6 [1, 2, 3]
7 >>> a[0] = 10
8 >>> a
9 [10, 2, 3]
10 >>> b
11 [10, 2, 3]
12 >>>
13 >>> a
14 [10, 2, 3]
15 >>> b = a[:]
16 >>> b
17 [10, 2, 3]
18 >>> a[0] = 20
19 >>> a
20 [20, 2, 3]
21 >>> b
22 [10, 2, 3]
23 >>>
24 >>> a == b
25 False
26 >>> [1, 2] == [1, 2]
27 True
28 >>> a
29 [20, 2, 3]
30 >>> a[1:]
31 [2, 3]
```

let's create a complete copy of *a*

two arrays can be compared

slices : they work like
in the case of strings

foreach loop in Python



```
>>> li = [1, 2, 3]
>>> for e in li:
...     print(e)
...
1
2
3
```

- works with strings too
- don't call your list a „list“, because „list“ is the name of a built-in function
- similarly, don't call your string „str“, because „str“ is the name of a built-in function

common pattern

```
res = [] # empty list
for e in your_list:
    res.append(e)
# process res
```

```
>>> li = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
>>> even = []
>>> for num in li:
...     if num % 2 == 0:
...         even.append(num)
...
>>> even
[2, 4, 6, 8]
```

style: leave a space
before and after an
operator

check if a value is in a list

value in list

→ True

→ False

```
1 >>> li = [1, 2, 3]
2 >>> 2 in li
3 True
4 >>> 15 in li
5 False
6 >>>
7 >>> s = 'Python, C, C++, Java'
8 >>> '++' in s
9 True
```

works with strings too



Exercises

1. [[20120815b](#)] strings #1
2. [[20120815c](#)] strings #2
3. [[20130218a](#)] a beautiful mind
4. [[20120815e](#)] palindrome (trivial and recursive methods)
5. [[20120815j](#)] reverse a whole number
6. [[20120818j](#)] number of digits
7. [[20120815a](#)] sum of two numbers
8. [[20141005a](#)] something_1 or something_2 or ... something_N
9. [[20141005b](#)] advanced string formatting