

Python Workshop

Built-In Data Structures

C.D. Langevin

U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, Virginia, USA

USGS National Groundwater Workshop, August 2012

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Built-In Data Structures
 - Numbers
 - Strings
 - Lists
 - Dictionaries
 - Tuples
 - Others
- 3 Working with Data Structures
 - Shared References
 - Zip
- 4 Summary

Concepts

- Data Structure – A way to store and organize data in a computer
- Mutability – An *immutable* object is one whose property or state cannot be changed, whereas, *mutable* objects can change state

Object Terminology

Everything is an object in Python

- Object – An instance of a data structure
- Function – Works on an object that is passed into it
e.g. `run(model)`
- Method – A set of instructions that works on itself
e.g. `model.run()`
- Member – A piece of information comprising an object
e.g. `model.nlay`

Numbers

- integer (int)
- float/double precision (float)
- long integer (long)
- complex (complex)

```
In [2]: type(2)  
Out[2]: <type 'int'>
```

```
In [3]: type(2.0)  
Out[3]: <type 'float'>
```

```
In [4]: type(2**100)  
Out[4]: <type 'long'>
```

```
In [5]: type(2j)  
Out[5]: <type 'complex'>
```

Strings

- type 'str'
- An immutable sequence of characters
- Individual characters are accessed using zero-based indexing

```
In [69]: s = 'modflow'
```

```
In [70]: s.upper()
```

```
Out[70]: 'MODFLOW'
```

```
In [71]: s.capitalize()
```

```
Out[71]: 'Modflow'
```

```
In [72]: s[0]
```

```
Out[72]: 'm'
```

```
In [73]: s[-1]
```

```
Out[73]: 'w'
```

```
In [74]: s[0:4]
```

```
Out[74]: 'modf'
```

```
In [75]: len(s)
```

```
Out[75]: 7
```

```
In [76]: 'Modflow' + '-88'
```

```
Out[76]: 'Modflow-88'
```

Lists

- A mutable collection of objects
- List members are accessed using a zero-based indexing scheme
- A list can contain different types

```
In [79]: l = []
```

```
In [80]: l.append('first')
```

```
In [81]: l.append(2)
```

```
In [82]: l.append(3.0)
```

```
In [83]: l  
Out[83]: ['first', 2, 3.0]
```

```
In [84]: l[0]  
Out[84]: 'first'
```

```
In [85]: l[1]  
Out[85]: 2
```

```
In [86]: l[2]  
Out[86]: 3.0
```

```
In [87]: len(l)  
Out[87]: 3
```

List Methods

- append
- count
- extend
- index
- insert
- pop
- remove
- reverse
- sort

```
In [115]: l
Out[115]: ['mf.dis', 'mf.bas', 'mf.pcg', 'mf.lpf']
```

```
In [116]: l =
['mf.dis', 'mf.bas', 'mf.lpf', 'mf.pcg']
```

```
In [117]: l.index('mf.bas')
Out[117]: 1
```

```
In [118]: l.remove('mf.pcg')
```

```
In [119]: l.append('mf.sip')
```

```
In [120]: l
Out[120]: ['mf.dis', 'mf.bas', 'mf.lpf', 'mf.sip']
```


Dictionaries

- type 'dict'
- A mutable collection of keys and values where `d[key] = value`
- Useful for quickly looking up a value based on a key
- Keys must be immutable

```
In [21]: d = {}  
  
In [22]: d[1] = 'January'  
  
In [23]: d[2] = 'February'  
  
...  
  
In [33]: d[12] = 'December'  
  
In [34]: d  
Out[34]:  
{1: 'January',  
 2: 'February',  
 3: 'March',  
 4: 'April',  
 5: 'May',  
 6: 'June',  
 7: 'July',  
 8: 'August',  
 9: 'September',  
10: 'October',  
11: 'November',  
12: 'December'}
```

Tuples

Others

Sets
Boolean
None

Shared References

- In-Place Changes
- Shared References and Equality

See pages 116-121 in Learning Python, Third Edition

Zip

- What is Zip?

Summary