

CS3245

# Information Retrieval

Py

Python Tutorial

KAN Min-Yen

(originally compiled by LIN Ziheng)



Python Tutorial

# INSTALLATION



# Install Python on Windows

- Download Python 2.7.3 for Windows from  
[http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.3/  
python-2.7.3.msi](http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.3/python-2.7.3.msi)
- Run the installer `python-2.7.3.msi`
- Follow the instructions to install Python
- The default installed directory should be like  
`C:\Python27`

It's ok to run any Python between 2.6.x and 2.7.x. Just make sure you **don't** install Python 3.x for this course.



# Install Python on Mac

- Some Mac machines come with Python installed: try typing `python --version`
- If you need to install Python on your Mac: download Python 2.7.3 for Mac from  
[http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.3/  
python-2.7.3-macosx10.6.dmg](http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.3/python-2.7.3-macosx10.6.dmg)  
(for newer Macs on OSX 10.6 or higher)

It's ok to run any Python between 2.6.x and 2.7.x. Just make sure you **don't** install Python 3.x for this course.



# Install Python on Linux

- If you are using Ubuntu, Python (probably version 2.6.x) is installed by default
- If you want to install Python 2.7.3: download the gzipped or bzipped source file from  
<http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.3/>  
[Python-2.7.3.tar.bz2](#)
- Unzip the file, cd to the unzipped directory, and run the normal “./configure → make → sudo make install” commands

It's ok to run any Python between 2.6.x and 2.7.x. Just make sure you **don't** install Python 3.x for this course.



# Sunfire, SoC's UNIX cluster

- Much slower than your laptop or desktop
  - Yet cost hundreds of thousands of dollars
- But you must use it (so that we have an even playing field)
  - Beware that your code may run much slower, especially when indexing documents
  - We are running python 2.6.4 instead of 2.7.3 on sunfire, but this shouldn't affect any of your code for this class



Python Tutorial

# CRASH COURSE IN PYTHON



# Features of Python

---

- Simple
- Easy to learn
- Very high-level language (VHLL)
- Portable
- Interpreted
- Strongly object oriented
- Extensible
- Embeddable
- Extensive libraries



# Python Interpreter

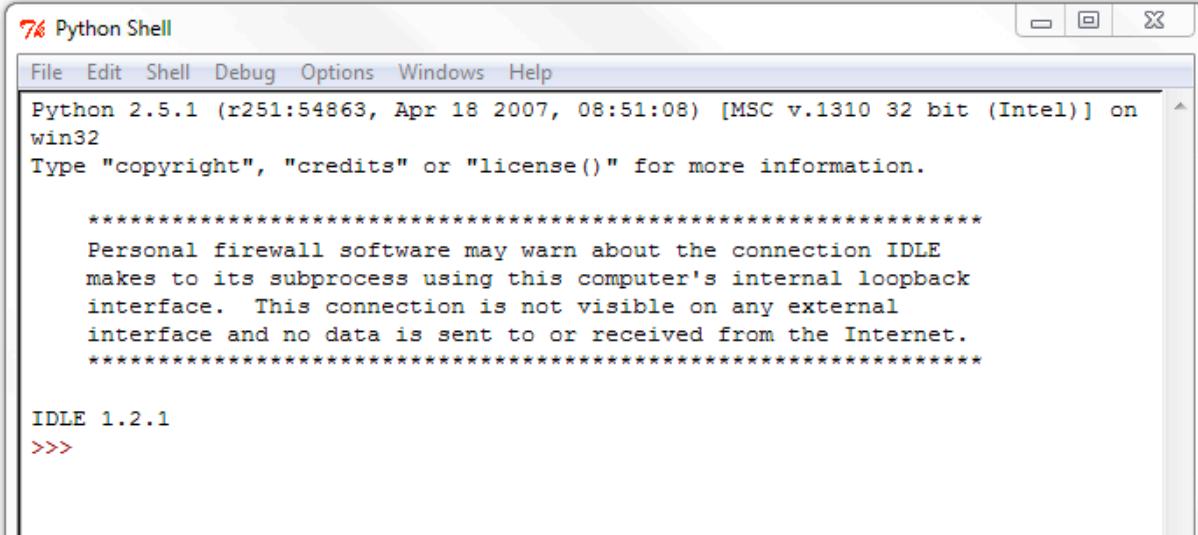
- Interactive interface to Python
  - On Windows: Start → All Programs → Python 2.6 → Python (command line)
  - On Linux: type `python`
  - Python prompt: `>>>`
  - To exit:
    - On Windows: Ctrl-Z + <Enter>
    - On Linux: Ctrl-D
- Run python program on Linux:
  - ‰ `python filename.py`



```
rob:~$ python
Python 2.7.2 (default, Jun 20 2012, 16:23:33)
[GCC 4.2.1 Compatible Apple Clang 4.0 (tags/Apple/clang-418.0.60)] on darwin
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> print("hello world")
hello world
>>> █
```



- IDLE: the Python IDE
  - On Windows: Start → All Programs → Python 2.6 → IDLE (Python GUI)
  - On Linux: type `idle`



The screenshot shows the Python Shell window with the title bar "Python Shell". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Shell, Debug, Options, Windows, and Help. The main window displays the following text:  
Python 2.5.1 (r251:54863, Apr 18 2007, 08:51:08) [MSC v.1310 32 bit (Intel)] on win32  
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Personal firewall software may warn about the connection IDLE  
makes to its subprocess using this computer's internal loopback  
interface. This connection is not visible on any external  
interface and no data is sent to or received from the Internet.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
IDLE 1.2.1  
>>>



# The Basics

- Numbers: integers, long integers, floating points, and complex numbers
- Strings:
  - Single quotes: 'hello! '
  - Double quotes: "what's your name?"
  - Triple quotes: multi-line string

```
''''This is multi-line
string.
'''
```
  - Immutable: once created, cannot change
  - Concatenation: 'hi ' 'there' same as 'hi ' + 'there'



- **Variables:** `x = 1, y = 'NUS', x = y = z = 'SoC'`
- **Identifier naming:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> char: a letter of the alphabet (upper or lowercase) or an underscore ('\_')
  - The rest: letters (upper or lowercase), underscores ('\_'), or digits (0-9)
  - Case-sensitive: `myname != myName`
- **Reserved words:**
  - `and, assert, break, class, continue, def, del, elif, else, except, exec, finally, for, from, global, if, import, in, is, lambda, not, or, pass, print, raise, return, try, while`



- Strongly object oriented: everything is an object, including numbers, string, functions
- Statements and semicolons:

- Don't need to put () if you write one statement in one single line

```
i = 5  
print i
```

- Statements in one line are separated by ;)

```
i = 5; print I
```

- Continuing a line with ()\

```
s = 'This is a string. \  
This continues the string.'
```



- Indentation:

- No braces { } to mark blocks of code
- Leading whitespaces (spaces and tabs) are important
- Statements in the same block have same indentation

```
i = 5
    print i } wrong
```

```
i = 5 } correct
    print i
```

- Recommendation: consistently use a single tab or 2/4 spaces



- Comments:
  - Single line uses #
  - Multi-line uses """...""""

```
# this is single line comment
""" this is multiple
line comment """
```



# Operators and Expressions

- Operators:

+, -, \*, \*\*, /, //, %,  
<<, >>, &, |, ^, ~,  
<, >, <=, >=, ==, !=,  
not, and, or

- Expression:

```
length = 5
```

```
breadth = 2
```

```
area = length * breadth
```

```
print 'Area is', area
```

```
print 'Perimeter is', 2 * (length + breadth)
```

Pretty print:

Try: print "He's", 5, 'years', 'old.'

- Assignment uses =, comparison uses ==

- Multiple assignments: x, y = 2, 'abc'



# Control Flow

- if...elif...else statement:

```
number = 23
guess = int(raw_input('Enter an integer : '))
if guess == number:
    print 'Congratulations, you guessed it.' # New block starts here
    print "(but you do not win any prizes!)" # New block ends here
elif guess < number:
    print 'No, it is a little higher than that' # Another block
    # You can do whatever you want in a block ...
else:
    print 'No, it is a little lower than that'
    # you must have guess > number to reach here
print 'Done'
```



## ■ while statement:

```
number = 23
running = True
while running:
    guess = int(raw_input('Enter an integer : '))
    if guess == number:
        print 'Congratulations, you guessed it.'
        running = False # this causes the while loop to stop
    elif guess < number:
        print 'No, it is a little higher than that.'
    else:
        print 'No, it is a little lower than that.'
else:
    print 'The while loop is over.'
    # Do anything else you want to do here
print 'Done'
```



- **for statement:**

```
for i in range(1,5):  
    print i  
  
else:  
    print 'the for loop is over'
```

- **range(1,5) generates the list [1,2,3,4]**
- **range(a,b,s) generates a list from a to b-1 with a step s**
  - **range(1,10,2) → [1,3,5,7,9]**



- **break statement:**
  - break from current loop
- **continue statement:**
  - skip the rest of the current iteration and continue to the next iteration



# Functions

- Defining a function with `def`:

```
def printMax(a, b):  
    if a > b:  
        print a, 'is maximum'  
    else:  
        print b, 'is maximum'  
printMax(3, 4) # directly give literal values  
x = 5  
y = 7  
printMax(x, y) # give variables as arguments
```

Function name and parameters

Function body

Outside the function



- Local variables: variables declared inside a function

```
>>> def func(x):  
...     print 'x is', x  
...     x = 2  
...     print 'Changed local x to', x  
...  
>>> x = 50  
>>> func(x)  
x is 50  
Changed local x to 2  
>>> print 'x is still', x  
x is still 50
```



- Use `global` to explicitly assign a value to a variable declared outside the function

```
>>> def func():
...     global x
...     print 'x is', x
...     x = 2
...     print 'Changed global x to', x
...
>>> x = 50
>>> func()
x is 50
Changed global x to 2
>>> print 'Value of x is', x
Value of x is 2
```



- Default argument value: make some parameters optional by providing default values

```
>>> def say(message, times = 1):  
...     print message * times  
...  
>>> say('Hello')  
Hello  
>>> say('World', 5)  
WorldWorldWorldWorldWorld
```

- Note: only those at the end of the parameter list can be given default value
  - `def func(a,b=5)` is valid,  
`def func(a=5,b)` is not valid



- Keyword arguments: use names instead of positions to specify the arguments to the function

```
>>> def func(a, b=5, c=10):  
...     print 'a is', a, 'and b is', b, 'and c is', c  
...  
>>> func(3, 7)  
a is 3 and b is 7 and c is 10  
>>> func(25, c=24)  
a is 25 and b is 5 and c is 24  
>>> func(c=50, a=100)  
a is 100 and b is 5 and c is 50
```



- Use `return` to break out of a func and/or return a value

```
def maximum(x, y):  
    if x > y:  
        return x  
    else:  
        return y  
print maximum(2, 3)
```



# Modules

- Module: a file containing all functions and variables that you have defined
- The module file should end with .py
- Use `import` to import a module:
  - Like Java *import* and C++ *include*
  - 3 formats:
    - `import somefile`
    - `from somefile import *`
    - `from somefile import className`
  - Import standard library and math library:

```
import sys
import math
```



## ■ Make your own module:

```
# Filename: mymodule.py
def sayhi():
    print 'Hi, this is mymodule speaking.'
version = '0.1'
# End of mymodule.py
```

Save the module  
into mymodule.py

```
import mymodule
mymodule.sayhi()
print 'Version', mymodule.version
```

Import mymodule  
from the same dir

Output:

```
Hi, this is mymodule speaking.
Version 0.1
```



# Data Structures

- Built-in data structures: list, tuple, dictionary
- List:
  - Specified by [item0, item1, ...]
  - Stores a sequence of items
  - List is mutable: we can add, remove, change items
- List can store different types of items:
  - [1, 'nus', [3, 'soc'], None, True]



```
# This is my shopping list
shoplist = ['apple', 'mango', 'carrot', 'banana']
print 'I have', len(shoplist), 'items to purchase.'
print 'These items are:', # Notice the comma at end of the
    line
for item in shoplist:
    print item,
print '\nI also have to buy rice.'
shoplist.append('rice')
print 'My shopping list is now', shoplist
print 'I will sort my list now'
shoplist.sort()
print 'Sorted shopping list is', shoplist
print 'The first item I will buy is', shoplist[0]
olditem = shoplist[0]
del shoplist[0]
print 'I bought the', olditem
print 'My shopping list is now', shoplist
```



- Tuple
  - Specified by (item0, item1, ...)
  - Like lists except they are immutable: cannot be modified
  - Used when you can assume the collection of items will not change
- Tuple can store different types of items:
  - (1, 'nus', [3, 'soc'], None, True, (1, 'a'))
  - Empty tuple: ()
  - Tuple with one item: (1, ) not (1)



```
zoo = ('wolf', 'elephant', 'penguin')
print 'Number of animals in the zoo is', len(zoo)
new_zoo = ('monkey', 'dolphin', zoo)
print 'Number of animals in the new zoo is', len(new_zoo)
print 'All animals in new zoo are', new_zoo
print 'Animals brought from old zoo are', new_zoo[2]
print 'Last animal brought from old zoo is', new_zoo[2][2]
```

Output:

```
Number of animals in the zoo is 3
Number of animals in the new zoo is 3
All animals in new zoo are ('monkey', 'dolphin', ('wolf',
'elephant', 'penguin'))
Animals brought from old zoo are ('wolf', 'elephant', 'penguin')
Last animal brought from old zoo is penguin
```



- Tuples and the `print` statement: one of the most common usage of tuple, use `%` to format output

```
age = 22
name = 'Alex'
print '%s is %d years old' % (name, age)
print 'Why is %s playing with that python?' % name
```

Output:

```
Alex is 22 years old
Why is Alex playing with that python?
```



- Dictionary:
  - hash with key/value pairs
  - Keys must be unique
  - Specified by:
    - { key0:value0, key1:value1, ... }



```
ab = { 'Alex' : 'alex@gmail.com',
       'Bob' : 'bob@yahoo.com' }
print "Alex's email is %s" % ab['Alex']
# Adding a key/value pair
ab['Cindy'] = 'cindy@gmail.com'
# Deleting a key/value pair
del ab['Alex']
print '\nThere are %d contacts in the address-book\n' % len(ab)
for name, address in ab.items():
    print 'Contact %s at %s' % (name, address)
if 'Cindy' in ab:      # OR ab.has_key('Cindy')
    print "\nCindy's email is %s" % ab['Cindy']
```

Output:

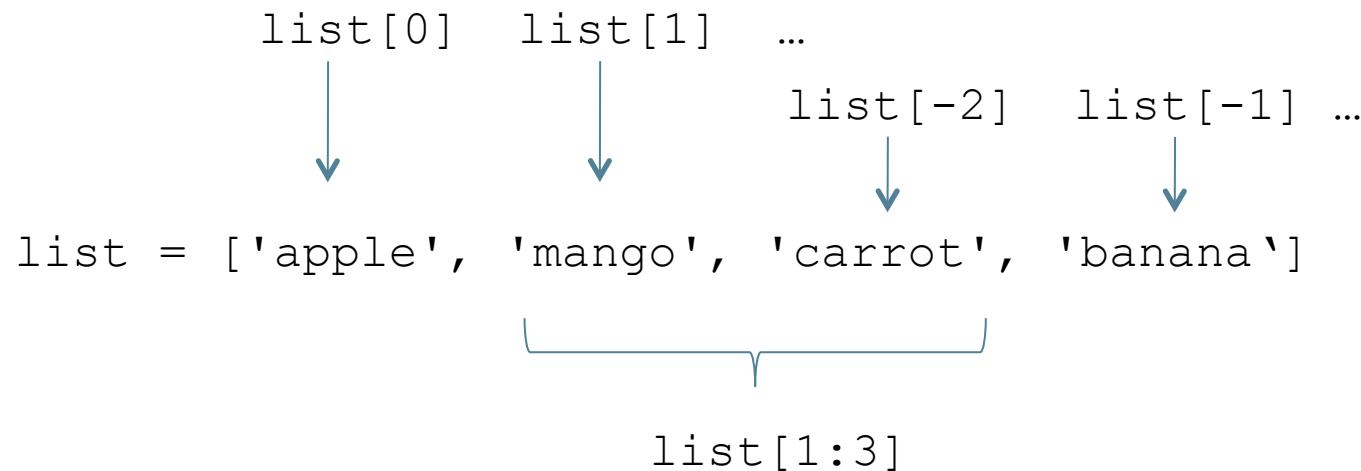
```
Alex's email is alex@gmail.com
There are 2 contacts in the address-book
Contact Bob at bob@yahoo.com
Contact Cindy at cindy@gmail.com
Cindy's email is cindy@gmail.com
```



- Sequences:
  - Examples: list, tuple, string
- 2 main features of sequences:
  - Indexing: fetch a particular item
    - `[1, 'a'][1], (1, 'a')[1], 'hello'[1]`
  - Slicing: retrieve a slice of the sequence
    - `'hello'[1:4] => 'ell'`
- Key difference:
  - Tuples and strings are immutable
  - Lists are mutable



- Indexing and slicing a sequence:



```
>>> a = "Singapore"
>>> a[2]
'n'
>>> a[:]
'Singapore'
>>> a[2:5]
'nga'
```



- Sequence operators:
  - `in`: boolean test whether an item is inside a sequence
    - `1 in [2, 'a', 1] → True`
    - `'a' in 'abcd' → True`
  - `+`: produces a new sequence by joining two
    - `(1, 2) + (3, 4) → (1, 2, 3, 4)`
    - `'ab' + 'cd' → 'abcd'`
  - `*`: produces a new sequence by repeating itself
    - `[1, 2] * 2 → [1, 2, 1, 2]`
    - `'Hello' * 3 → 'HelloHelloHello'`



- Sequence methods:

- `len(s)` : return length of the sequence `s`
- `min(s)` and `max(s)` : return the min and max value in `s`
- `list(s)` : convert a sequence to a list



- List: + vs extend() vs append()
  - + creates a fresh list (new memory reference)
  - extend a list with another list
  - append a list with another item

```
>>> a = [1,2]
>>> b = [3,4]
>>> a + b
[1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> a + b
[1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> a.append([5,6])
>>> a
[1, 2, [5, 6]]
>>> a.append(7)
>>> a
[1, 2, [5, 6], 7]
>>> b.extend([5,6])
>>> b
[3, 4, 5, 6]
```

A new list



- More list methods:

- `s.count(x)` : counts the occurrences of an element in a list
- `s.index(x)` : finds the first location of an element in a list
- `s.remove(x)` : searches for and removes an element in a list
- `s.sort()` : sorts a list
- `s.reverse()` : reverses the order of a list



- References: when you bind a variable and an object, the variable only refers to the object and does not represent the object itself
- A subtle effect to take note:

```
list1 = ['a', 'b', 'c']
list2 = list1 # list2 points to the same list object
list3 = list1[:]      # list3 points to a new copy
```



## ■ More string methods

- `str1.startswith(str2)`: check whether str1 starts with str2

```
'Hello'.startswith('He') → True
```

- `str2 in str1`: check whether str1 contains str2

```
'ell' in 'Hello' → True
```

- `str1.find(str2)`: get the position of str2 in str1; -1 if not found

```
'Hello'.find('ell') → 1
```



## ■ String $\leftrightarrow$ list

- `delimiter.join(list)`: join the items in list with delimiter

```
'_'.join(['a', 'b', 'c']) → 'a_b_c'
```

- `str.split(delimiter)`: split the str with delimiter into a list

```
'a_b_c'.split('_') → ['a', 'b', 'c']
```



- More dictionary methods:

- `a[k] = x`: sets a value in the dictionary
- `a.has_key(k)`: tests for the presence of a keyword
- `a.get(k, d)`: returns a default if a key is not found
- `a.keys()`: returns a list of keys from a dictionary
- `a.values()`: returns a list of values



# Typing in Python

- Built-in types: str, bytes, list, tuple, set, dict, int, float, complex, bool
- Dynamic typing: determines the data types of variable bindings automatically

```
var = 2
var = 'hello'
```

- Strong typing: enforces the types of objects

```
>>> print 'The answer is ' + 23
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: cannot concatenate 'str' and 'int'
objects
>>> print 'The answer is ' + str(23)
The answer is 23
```



# Object-oriented Programming

- Class: a data type
- Object: an instance of the class
- Fields: variables that belong to an object or class
  - Two types: instance variables and class variables
- Methods: functions that belong to a class
- Fields and methods are referred to as the attributes of that class



- The `self`:
  - The first parameter of a class method is the `self` (similar to `self` in C++ and `this` in Java)
  - But you don't need to specify `self` when calling the method



- Creating a simple class:

```
class Person:  
    def sayHi(self):  
        print 'Hi there!'
```

```
p = Person()  
print p  
p.sayHi()
```

Output:

```
<__main__.Person instance at  
0xf6fc18c>  
Hi there!
```

p.sayHi() is  
internally  
transformed into  
Person.sayHi(p)

This tells us we have  
an instance of the  
Person class in the  
\_\_main\_\_ module  
and its address in the  
memory



- The `__init__` method:
  - Is run as soon as an object is instantiated
  - Analogous to a constructor in C++ and Java

```
class Person:  
    def __init__(self, name):  
        self.name = name  
    def sayHi(self):  
        print 'Hello, my name is', self.name
```

```
p = Person('Jack')  
p.sayHi()
```

Output:

Hello, my name is Jack



- Class and object variables:
  - Class variable: accessed by all objects of the class
    - Changes will be seen by all objects
  - Object variables: owned by each individual object of the class
    - Not shared by other objects of the same class

```
class Person:  
    '''Represents a person.'''  
    population = 0  
    def __init__(self, name):  
        '''Initializes the person's data.'''  
        self.name = name  
        print '(Initializing %s)' % self.name  
        # When this person is created, he/she  
        # adds to the population  
        Person.population += 1  
    def __del__(self):  
        '''I am dying.'''  
        print '%s says bye.' % self.name  
        Person.population -= 1  
        if Person.population == 0:  
            print 'I am the last one.'  
        else:  
            print 'There are still %d people left.' % Person.population  
    def sayHi(self):  
        '''Greeting by the person.'''  
        print 'Hi, my name is %s.' % self.name  
    def howMany(self):  
        '''Prints the current population.'''  
        if Person.population == 1:  
            print 'I am the only person here.'  
        else:  
            print 'We have %d persons here.' % Person.population
```

population is a class variable, so is referred as Person.population

name is an object variable, so is referred as self.name

\_\_del\_\_ is called when the object is going to die

```
alex = Person('Alex')
alex.sayHi()
alex.howMany()
bob = Person('Bob')
bob.sayHi()
bob.howMany()
alex.sayHi()
alex.howMany()
```



Output:

```
(Initializing Alex)
Hi, my name is Alex.
I am the only person here.

(Initializing Bob)
Hi, my name is Bob.
We have 2 persons here.

Hi, my name is Alex.
We have 2 persons here.

Bob says bye.
There are still 1 people left.

Alex says bye.
I am the last one.
```



- Inheritance:

- Implement a type and subtype relationship between classes
- Reuse of code
- Multiple inheritance
- Declared by:

```
class DerivedClass(Base1, Base2, ...)
```



```
class SchoolMember:  
    '''Represents any school member.'''  
    def __init__(self, name, age):  
        self.name = name  
        self.age = age  
        print '(Initialized SchoolMember: %s)' % self.name  
    def tell(self):  
        '''Tell my details.'''  
        print 'Name:"%s" Age:"%s"' % (self.name, self.age),  
class Teacher(SchoolMember):  
    '''Represents a teacher.'''  
    def __init__(self, name, age, salary):  
        SchoolMember.__init__(self, name, age)  
        self.salary = salary  
        print '(Initialized Teacher: %s)' % self.name  
    def tell(self):  
        SchoolMember.tell(self)  
        print 'Salary: "%d"' % self.salary  
class Student(SchoolMember):  
    '''Represents a student.'''  
    def __init__(self, name, age, marks):  
        SchoolMember.__init__(self, name, age)  
        self.marks = marks  
        print '(Initialized Student: %s)' % self.name  
    def tell(self):  
        SchoolMember.tell(self)  
        print 'Marks: "%d"' % self.marks
```

Call base class  
\_\_init\_\_

Call base class  
method



# I/O

- Files:

- Create an object of the `file` class to use the `read`, `readline`, or `write` method

- Write to a file:

```
f = file('file.txt', 'w')  
f.write(str)  
f.close()
```



‘w’ for write  
‘r’ for read  
‘a’ for append

- Read from a file:

```
f = file('file.txt')  
for line in f:  
    print line  
f.close()
```



- Pickle:
  - Use the `pickle` module to store any object to a file so that you can get it back later intact → storing object persistently
  - Another module `cPickle` is written in C, and is upto 1000 times faster



```
import cPickle as p
#import pickle as p

shoplistfile = 'shoplist.data'
shoplist = ['apple', 'mango', 'carrot']

# Write to the file
f = file(shoplistfile, 'w')
p.dump(shoplist, f) # dump the object to a file
f.close()
del shoplist # remove the shoplist

# Read back from the storage
f = file(shoplistfile)
storedlist = p.load(f)
print storedlist
```



# Exceptions

- Errors are objects
  - More specific kinds of errors are subclasses of the general Error class
- Catch errors:

```
try ... except ...
```

```
try ... except ... else ...
```

```
try ... except ... else ... finally ...
```

- Raise errors:

```
raise ...
```



```
while True:  
    try:  
        x = int(raw_input("Please enter a number: "))  
        break  
    except ValueError:  
        print "That was no valid number. Try again..."
```



# Standard Library

- The `sys` module:
  - Contains system specific functionality
  - Use: `import sys`
  - `sys.argv`: list of arguments
  - `sys.exit()`
  - `sys.version`, `sys.version_info`: Python version information
  - `sys.stdin`, `sys.stdout`, `sys.stderr`
  - ...



- The `os` module:

- Generic operating system functionality
- Important if you want to make your program platform-independent
- Use: `import os`
- `os.sep`: windows → '\', linux → '/'
- `os.name`: windows → 'nt', linux → 'posix'
- `os.getcwd()`: get current working directory
- `os.getenv()`, `os.putenv()`: get and set environment variables
- `os.listdir()`: get names of all files in the specified directory
- `os.remove()`: delete a file
- `os.system()`: run a shell command
- `os.linesep`: windows → '\r\n', linux → '\n', mac → '\r'
- `os.path.split()`, `os.path.isfile()`,  
`os.path.isdir()`, ...



# More Python

- Special methods:
  - Used to mimic certain behavior
    - E.g.: to use indexing `x[key]` for your class, you implement the `__getitem__()` method
  - `__init__(self, ...)`: called to instantiate an object
  - `__del__(self)`: called just before the object is destroyed
  - `__str__(self)`: called when we print the object or use `str()`
  - `__lt__(self, other)`: called when less than (`<`) is used
  - `__getitem__(self, key)`: called when `x[key]` is used
  - `__len__(self)`: called when `len()` is used



- Random numbers:
  - Print a random number in [0,1]:

```
import random
print random.random()
```
  - `randrange(a, b)` : chooses an integer in the range [a, b)
  - `uniform(a, b)` : chooses a floating point number in the range [a, b)
  - `normalvariate(mean, sdev)` : samples the normal (Gaussian) distribution



- List comprehension:
  - Derive a new list from existing lists
  - Similar to the list comprehension in Haskell
  - Python programmers use list comprehension extensively
  - Syntax: [expression `for` name `in` list]

```
>>> [2*i for i in [2,3,4]]  
[4, 6, 8]  
>>>  
>>> [n * 3 for (x, n) in [('a', 1), ('b', 2), ('c', 3)]]  
[3, 6, 9]  
>>>
```



- Filtered list comprehension:

- Use filter condition

- [expression `for` name `in` list `if` filter]

```
>>> [2*i for i in [2,3,4] if i > 2]  
[6, 8]
```

- More examples:

```
>>> [x*y for x in [1,2,3,4] for y in [3,5,7,9]]  
[3, 5, 7, 9, 6, 10, 14, 18, 9, 15, 21, 27, 12, 20, 28, 36]  
>>>  
>>> [(x,y) for x in [1,3,5] for y in [2,4,6] if x < y]  
[(1, 2), (1, 4), (1, 6), (3, 4), (3, 6), (5, 6)]  
>>> [n * 2 for n in [m + 1 for m in [3,2,4]]]  
[8, 6, 10]  
>>>
```



- Aggregating function arguments:
  - You can use \* or \*\* to aggregate arguments in to a tuple or dictionary

```
def fun(a, *args):  
    print a  
    print args
```

```
fun(1, 3, 'a', True)
```

Output:

```
1  
(3, 'a', True)
```

```
def fun(a, **args):  
    print a  
    print args
```

```
fun(1, b=3, c='a', d=True)
```

Output:

```
1  
{'c': 'a', 'b': 3, 'd': True}
```



## ■ Lambda forms:

- Create anonymous functions at runtime
- Powerful when used with `filter()`, `map()`, `reduce()`

```
>>> foo = [2, 18, 9, 22, 17, 24, 8, 12, 27]
>>>
>>> print filter(lambda x: x % 3 == 0, foo)
[18, 9, 24, 12, 27]
>>>
>>> print map(lambda x: x * 2 + 10, foo)
[14, 46, 28, 54, 44, 58, 26, 34, 64]
>>>
>>> print reduce(lambda x, y: x + y, foo)
```

139



- The `exec` and `eval` statements:
  - `exec`: execute Python statements stored in a string or file
  - `eval`: evaluate valid Python expressions stored in a string

```
>>> exec('a = "Hi " + "there!"; print a')  
Hi there!  
>>> eval('2**3')  
8
```



- The `repr()` and backticks (`) statement:
  - Return a printable representation of the object

```
>>> list = [1, 'a', True, [33]]  
>>> repr(list)  
"[1, 'a', True, [33]]"  
>>> `list`  
"[1, 'a', True, [33]]"
```



Python Tutorial

# **NATURAL LANGUAGE TOOLKIT (NLKT)**



# A Quick Look at NLTK

- Getting started with NLTK:
  - Download NLTK from [www.nltk.org](http://www.nltk.org)
    - If you plan to use python for several courses, you may want to use the virtualenv.py script to create separate installations
  - Install the data required for the NLTK textbook

```
import nltk
nltk.download()
```



```
Creating up...
(ir_env)cs3245@sunfire0:[588]$ python
Python 2.6.4 (r264:75706, Apr  2 2012, 20:24:27) [C] on sunos5
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> import nltk
>>> nltk.download()
NLTK Downloader
-----
d) Download  l) List   u) Update  c) Config  h) Help  q) Quit
-----
```

```
Collections:
[ ] all-corpora..... All the corpora
[ ] all..... All packages
[ ] book..... Everything used in the NLTK Book
([*] marks installed packages)

d) Download  l) List   u) Update  c) Config  h) Help  q) Quit
-----
```

Downloader> d book

```
Downloading collection 'book'
| |
| | Downloading package 'brown' to
| | /home/course/cs3245/nltk_data
```



- To use python (2.6.4) and nltk on sunfire:

```
source ~cs3245/ir_env/bin/activate
```

- You can then load some texts of several books by using:

```
from nltk.book import *
```

- Try typing text1 and text2



- Searching the text
  - Show a concordance view of a word with its contexts:  
`text1.concordance ("monstrous")`  
which shows contexts such as *the \_\_ pictures and the  
\_\_ size*
  - Show words that appear in the similar context:  
`text1.similar ("monstrous")`
  - Examine the contexts that shared by two or more words:  
`text2.common_contexts ( ["monstrous",  
"very"] )`



- Counting vocabulary
  - Count length of a text in terms of words and punctuations:  
`len(text3) → 44764`
  - Count the vocabulary size of a text:  
`len(set(text3)) → 2789`
  - Let's measure the lexical richness of a text:  
`float(len(text3)) / len(set(text3)) → 16.050197203298673`
  - Count word occurrence:  
`text3.count("smote")`



- Create lists from text items:

```
[w for w in set(text1) if len(w) > 15]
```

```
[len(w) for w in text1]
```

```
[w.upper() for w in text1]
```



Python Tutorial

# PRACTICE



# Practice 1 - Python

- Write a program to count word occurrences in a file.
  - Convert all words to lowercase
  - Excludes numbers and punctuation
  - Print the words and word counts by descending frequency
  - Reads the file name as the only argument

% python count\_words.py filename.txt



## Practice 2 - Python

- The “paper, scissors, stone” game: write a program to play “paper, scissors, stone” with the computer
  - User chooses how many points are required for a win
  - User keys in one of the three selections: (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one
  - Computer randomly generates one selection

Welcome to Paper, Scissors, Stone!



How many points are required for a win? 3

Choose (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one? t

Human: stone

Computer: paper

Computer wins!

Score: Human 0 Computer 1

Choose (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one? t

Human: stone

Computer: scissors

Human wins!

Score: Human 1 Computer 1

Choose (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one? p

Human: paper

Computer: paper

A draw

Score: Human 1 Computer 1

Choose (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one? s

Human: scissors

Computer: paper

Human wins!

Score: Human 2 Computer 1

Choose (p)aper, (s)cissors, or s(t)one? t

Human: stone

Computer: scissors

Human wins!

Final Score: Human 3 Computer 1



## Practice 3 - NLTK

- Write expressions for finding all words in `text6` that meet the following conditions. The result should be in the form of a list of words: `['word1', 'word2', ...]`.
  - Ending in `ize`
  - Containing the letter `z`
  - Containing the sequence of letters `pt`
  - All lowercase letters except for an initial capital (i.e., titlecase)