

# Scientific Programming

## Practical 3

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### Introduction

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# Lists

**Ordered** collections of  
(homogeneous) objects

**Mutable** objects

**Defined** using the `[]`  
items separated by commas

```
my_first_list = [1,2,3]
print("first:" , my_first_list)

my_second_list = [1,2,3,1,3] #elements can appear several times
print("second: ", my_second_list)

fruits = ["apple", "pear", "peach", "strawberry", "cherry"] #elements can be strings
print("fruits:", fruits)

an_empty_list = []
print("empty:" , an_empty_list)

another_empty_list = list()
print("another empty:", another_empty_list)

a_list_containing_other_lists = [[1,2], [3,4,5,6]] #elements can be other lists
print("list of lists:", a_list_containing_other_lists)

my_final_example = [my_first_list, a_list_containing_other_lists]
print("a list of lists of lists:", my_final_example)
```

```
first: [1, 2, 3]
second: [1, 2, 3, 1, 3]
fruits: ['apple', 'pear', 'peach', 'strawberry', 'cherry']
empty: []
another empty: []
list of lists: [[1, 2], [3, 4, 5, 6]]
a list of lists of lists: [[1, 2, 3], [[1, 2], [3, 4, 5, 6]]]
```

# Lists

## Operators and functions

NOTE: as in strings,  
list indexing starts from 0!

Result	Operator	Meaning
bool	=, !=	Check if two lists are equal or different
int	len(list)	Return the length of the list
list	list + list	Concatenate two lists (returns a new list)
list	list * int	Replicate the list (returns a new list)
list	list[int:int]	Extract a sub-list

The whole object  
must be there!

Result	Operator	Meaning
bool	obj in list	Check if an element is present in a list

Lists are **mutable**  
so now we can  
change values!

Result	Operator	Meaning
obj	list[int]	Read/write an element at a specified index

# Lists

## Operators and functions

NOTE: as in strings,

list indexing starts from 0!

in slicing list[S:E]

S is included

E is excluded

```
A = [1, 2, 3 ]
B = [1, 2, 3, 1, 2]

print("A is a ", type(A))

print(A, " has length: ", len(A))
print("A[0]: ", A[0], " A[1]:", A[1], " A[-1]:", A[-1])

print(B, " has length: ", len(B))
print("Is A equal to B?", A == B)

C = A + [1, 2]
print(C)
print("Is C equal to B?", B == C)
D = [1, 2, 3]*8
print(D)

E = D[12:18] #slicing
print(E)
print("Is A*2 equal to E?", A*2 == E)
```

```
A is a <class 'list'>
[1, 2, 3] has length: 3
A[0]: 1 A[1]: 2 A[-1]: 3
[1, 2, 3, 1, 2] has length: 5
Is A equal to B? False
[1, 2, 3, 1, 2]
Is C equal to B? True
[1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3]
[1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3]
Is A*2 equal to E? True
```

# Lists

## Operators and functions

NOTE: as in strings,  
list indexing starts from 0!

**IN operator:** the whole element must be there!

Lists are **mutable objects** so now we can **change values!**

```
A = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
B = [1, 3, 5]
print("A:", A)
print("B:", B)

print("Is B in A?", B in A)
print("A's ID:", id(A))
A[5] = [1,3,5] #we can add elements
print(A)
print("A's ID:", id(A))
print("A has length:", len(A))
print("Is now B in A?", B in A)
```

```
A: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
B: [1, 3, 5]
Is B in A? False
A's ID: 140419415368200
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, [1, 3, 5]]
A's ID: 140419415368200
A has length: 6
Is now B in A? True
```

# Lists

**ERROR: do not exceed boundaries!**

```
A = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
print("A has length:", len(A))

print("First element:", A[0])
print("7th-element: ", A[6])
```

```
A has length: 6
First element: 1
```

```
-----
IndexError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-5-699e5f04cae0> in <module>()
      3
      4 print("First element:", A[0])
----> 5 print("7th-element: ", A[6])

IndexError: list index out of range
```

# Lists

## Methods

Return	Method	Meaning
None	<code>list.append(obj)</code>	Add a new element at the end of the list
None	<code>list.extend(list)</code>	Add several new elements at the end of the list
None	<code>list.insert(int,obj)</code>	Add a new element at some given position
None	<code>list.remove(obj)</code>	Remove the first occurrence of an element
None	<code>list.reverse()</code>	Invert the order of the elements
None	<code>list.sort()</code>	Sort the elements
int	<code>list.count(obj)</code>	Count the occurrences of an element

Note that lists are **mutable objects** and therefore virtually all the previous methods (except *count*) do not have an output value, but **they modify the list**



# Lists

## Methods

```
[1, 2, 3]
[1, 2, 3, 72]
[1, 2, 3, 72, 1, 5, 124, 99]
[99, 124, 5, 1, 72, 3, 2, 1]
[1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 72, 99, 124]
Min value: 1
Max value: 124
Number 1 appears: 2 times
While number 837: 0
```

Done with numbers, let's go strings...

```
['apple', 'banana', 'pineapple', 'cherry', 'pear', 'almond', 'orange']
['pineapple', 'pear', 'orange', 'cherry', 'banana', 'apple', 'almond']
['pineapple', 'pear', 'orange', 'cherry', 'apple', 'almond']
['pineapple', 'pear', 'orange', 'cherry', 'apple', 'wild apple', 'almond']
```

```
#A numeric list
A = [1, 2, 3]
print(A)
A.append(72) #appends one and only one object
print(A)
A.extend([1, 5, 124, 99]) #adds all these objects, one after the other.
print(A)
A.reverse()
print(A)
A.sort()
print(A)
print("Min value: ", A[0]) # In this simple case, could have used min(A)
print("Max value: ", A[-1]) #In this simple case, could have used max(A)
print("Number 1 appears:", A.count(1), " times")
print("While number 837: ", A.count(837))

print("\nDone with numbers, let's go strings...\n")
#A string list
fruits = ["apple", "banana", "pineapple", "cherry", "pear", "almond", "orange"]
#Let's get a reverse lexicographic order:
print(fruits)
fruits.sort()
fruits.reverse()
print(fruits)
fruits.remove("banana")
print(fruits)
fruits.insert(5, "wild apple") #put wild apple after apple.
print(fruits)
```



# Lists

## Some important things on lists

### 1. append is different from extend

```
A = [1, 2, 3]

A.extend([4, 5])
print(A)
B = [1, 2, 3]
B.append([4, 5])
print(B)
```

```
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
[1, 2, 3, [4, 5]]
```

### 2. to remove an object it must exist

```
A = [1, 2, 3]
A.remove(2)
print(A)
A.remove(7)
```

```
[1, 3]
```

```
-----
ValueError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-9-bdf156ee14f6> in <module>()
      2 A.remove(2)
      3 print(A)
----> 4 A.remove(7)

ValueError: list.remove(x): x not in list
```

# Lists

## Some important things on lists

### 3. a list is sortable if all its elements are (i.e. it is homogeneous)

```
A = [4,3, 1,7, 2]
print(A)
A.sort()
print(A)
A.append("banana")
print(A)
A.sort()
print(A)
```

```
[4, 3, 1, 7, 2]
[1, 2, 3, 4, 7]
[1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 'banana']
```

```
-----
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-1-91b77adb823f> in <module>
      5 A.append("banana")
      6 print(A)
----> 7 A.sort()
      8 print(A)
```

```
TypeError: '<' not supported between instances of 'str' and 'int'
```

# Lists

## REMEMBER:

Lists are **MUTABLE** objects...  
... hence they hold references  
to objects rather than objects.

```
A = ["hi", "there"]
B = A
print("A:", A)
print("B:", B)
A.extend(["from", "python"])
print("A now: ", A)
print("B now: ", B)

print("\n---- copy example -----")
#Let's make a distinct copy of A.
C = A[:] #all the elements of A have been copied in C
print("C:", C)
A[3] = "java"
print("A now:", A)
print("C now:", C)

print("\n---- be careful though -----")
#Watch out though that...
D = [A, A]
E = D[:]
print("D:", D)
print("E:", E)

D[0][0] = "hello"
print("D now:", D)
print("E now:", E)
```

```
A: ['hi', 'there']
B: ['hi', 'there']
A now: ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'python']
B now: ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'python']

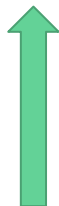
---- copy example -----
C: ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'python']
A now: ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'java']
C now: ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'python']

---- be careful though -----
D: [['hi', 'there', 'from', 'java'], ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'java']]
E: [['hi', 'there', 'from', 'java'], ['hi', 'there', 'from', 'java']]
D now: [['hello', 'there', 'from', 'java'], ['hello', 'there', 'from', 'java']]
E now: [['hello', 'there', 'from', 'java'], ['hello', 'there', 'from', 'java']]
```

# The split method

## Syntax:

**LIST = str.split(str)**



string to be split



split at characters

```
text = "This is my sentence. How many words have I written?"  
words = text.split(' ')  
  
print(text)  
print(words)  
print("\nThe sentence contains ", len(words), "words")
```

This is my sentence. How many words have I written?

['This', 'is', 'my', 'sentence.', 'How', 'many', 'words', 'have', 'I', 'written?']

The sentence contains 10 words

# The split method

**Example** Recall the protein seen in the previous practical:

```
chain_a = ""SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRNTFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGDRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT""
```

how can we split it into several lines?

```
chain_a = ""SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRNTFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGDRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT""
```

```
lines = chain_a.split('\n')  
print("Original sequence:")  
print(chain_a, "\n") #some spacing to keep things clear  
print("line by line:")  
print("1st line:", lines[0])  
print("2nd line:", lines[1])  
print("3rd line:", lines[2])  
print("4th line:", lines[3])  
print("5th line:", lines[4])  
print("6th line:", lines[5])  
  
print("Split the 1st line in correspondence to FRL:\n", lines[0].split("FRL"))
```

Original sequence:  
SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRNTFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGDRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT

line by line:  
1st line: SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
2nd line: FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
3rd line: RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRNTFR  
4th line: HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
5th line: IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGDRRTEENLRKKG  
6th line: EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT  
Split the 1st line in correspondence to FRL:  
['SSSVPSQKTYQGSYG', 'GFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM']

# The split method

**Example** Recall the protein seen in the previous practical:

```
chain_a = ""SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRN TFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGRRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT""
```

how can we split it into several lines?

where is FRL gone?



```
chain_a = ""SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRN TFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGRRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT""
```

```
lines = chain_a.split('\n')  
print("Original sequence:")  
print(chain_a, "\n") #some spacing to keep things clear  
print("line by line:")  
print("1st line:", lines[0])  
print("2nd line:", lines[1])  
print("3rd line:", lines[2])  
print("4th line:", lines[3])  
print("5th line:", lines[4])  
print("6th line:", lines[5])
```

```
print("Split the 1st line in correspondence to FRL:\n", lines[0].split("FRL"))
```

Original sequence:

```
SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRN TFR  
HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGRRRTEENLRKKG EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT
```

line by line:

```
1st line: SSSVPSQKTYQGSYGFR LGFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM  
2nd line: FCQLAKTCPVQLWVDSTPPPGTRVRAMAIYKQSQHMTEVV  
3rd line: RRCPHHERCSDSDGLAPPQH LIRVEGNLRVEYLDDRN TFR  
4th line: HSVVVPYEPPEVGSDCTTIHYNM CNSSCMGGMNRRPILT  
5th line: IITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRVCACPGRRRTEENLRKKG  
6th line: EPHHELPPGSTKRALPNNT
```

```
Split the 1st line in correspondence to FRL:  
['SSSVPSQKTYQGSYG', 'GFLHSGTAKSVTCTYSPALNKM']
```



# The join method

**Example** Given the list ['Oct', '5', '2018', '15:30'], let's combine all its elements in a string joining the elements with a dash ("-") and print them. Let's finally join them with a tab ("\t") and print them.

Syntax:

`str.join(list)`



elements to join

string used to join  
them

```
vals = ['Oct', '5th', '2018', '15:30']  
print(vals)  
myStr = "-".join(vals)  
print("\n" + myStr)  
myStr = "\t".join(vals)  
print("\n" + myStr)
```

```
['Oct', '5th', '2018', '15:30']
```

```
Oct-5th-2018-15:30
```

```
Oct      5th      2018      15:30
```



# Tuples

Tuples are the IMMUTABLE  
version of lists  
(ordered sequence of objects)

```
first_tuple = (1,2,3)
print(first_tuple)

second_tuple = (1,) #this contains one element only, but we need the comma!
var = (1) #This is not a tuple!!!
print(second_tuple, " type:", type(second_tuple))
print(var, " type:", type(var))
empty_tuple = () #fairly useless
print(empty_tuple)
third_tuple = ("January", 1, 2007) #heterogeneous info
print(third_tuple)

days = (third_tuple, ("February", 2, 1998), ("March", 2, 1978), ("June", 12, 1978))
print(days, "\n")

#Remember tuples are immutable objects...
print("Days has id: ", id(days))
days = ("Mon", "Tue", "Wed", "Thu", "Fri", "Sat", "Sun")
#...hence reassignment creates a new object
print("Days now has id: ", id(days))
```

---

```
(1, 2, 3)
(1,) type: <class 'tuple'>
1 type: <class 'int'>
()
('January', 1, 2007)
(('January', 1, 2007), ('February', 2, 1998), ('March', 2, 1978), ('June', 12, 1978))

Days has id: 140419415813880
Days now has id: 140419416147240
```

# Tuples

Functions

working as in lists...

Result	Operator	Meaning
bool	<code>=, !=</code>	Check if two tuples are equal or different
int	<code>len(tuple)</code>	Return the length of the tuple
tuple	<code>tuple + tuple</code>	Concatenate two tuples (returns a new tuple)
tuple	<code>tuple * int</code>	Replicate the tuple (returns a tuple)
tuple	<code>tuple[int]</code>	Read an element of the tuple
tuple	<code>tuple[int:int]</code>	Extract a sub-tuple

# Tuples

## Functions

```
practical1 = ("Friday", "28/09/2018")
practical2 = ("Tuesday", "02/10/2018")
practical3 = ("Friday", "05/10/2018")

#A tuple containing 3 tuples
lectures = (practical1, practical2, practical3)
#One tuple only
mergedLectures = practical1 + practical2 + practical3

print("The first three lectures:\n", lectures, "\n")
print("mergedLectures:\n", mergedLectures)

#This returns the whole tuple
print("1st lecture was on: ", lectures[0], "\n")
#2 elements from the same tuple
print("1st lecture was on ", mergedLectures[0], ", ", mergedLectures[1], "\n")
# Return type is tuple!
print("3rd lecture was on: ", lectures[2])
#2 elements from the same tuple returned in tuple
print("3rd lecture was on ", mergedLectures[4:], "\n")
```

```
The first three lectures:
(('Friday', '28/09/2018'), ('Tuesday', '02/10/2018'), ('Friday', '05/10/2018'))
```

```
mergedLectures:
('Friday', '28/09/2018', 'Tuesday', '02/10/2018', 'Friday', '05/10/2018')
1st lecture was on: ('Friday', '28/09/2018')
```

```
1st lecture was on Friday , 28/09/2018
```

```
3rd lecture was on: ('Friday', '05/10/2018')
3rd lecture was on ('Friday', '05/10/2018')
```

# Tuples

## Methods

working as in lists...

Return	Method	Meaning
int	<code>list.count(obj)</code>	Count the occurrences of an element
int	<code>list.index(obj)</code>	Return the index of the first occurrence of an object

# Tuples

## Methods

```
practical1 = ("Friday", "28/09/2018")
practical2 = ("Tuesday", "02/10/2018")
practical3 = ("Friday", "05/10/2018")
```

```
mergedLectures = practical1 + practical2 + practical3 #One tuple only
print(mergedLectures.count("Friday"), " lectures were on Friday")
print(mergedLectures.count("Tuesday"), " lecture was on Tuesday")

print("Index:", practical2.index("Tuesday"))
print("Index:", practical2.index("Wednesday"))
```

```
2 lectures were on Friday
1 lecture was on Tuesday
Index: 0
```

```
-----
ValueError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-16-fc543d476575> in <module>()
      9
     10 print("Index:", practical2.index("Tuesday"))
--> 11 print("Index:", practical2.index("Wednesday"))

ValueError: tuple.index(x): x not in tuple
```

Questions ?



# <https://qcbsciprolab2019.readthedocs.io/en/latest/practical3.html>

Go quickly  
through the  
text and do  
the exercises  
at the end

## Exercises

1. Given the following text string: `"""this is a text string on several lines that does not say anything."""`

a. print it; b) print how many lines, words and characters it contains. Finally, c) sort the words alphabetically and print the first and the last in lexicographic order.

Show/Hide Solution

2. The variant calling format (VCF) is a format to represent structural variants of genomes (i.e. SNPs, insertions, deletions) . Each line of this format represents a variant, every piece of information within a line is separated by a tab (`\t` in python). The first 5 fields of this format report the chromosome (chr), the position (pos), the name of the variant (name), the reference allele (REF) and the alternative allele (ALT). Assuming to have a variable VCF defined containing the following three lines (representing three SNPs):

```
VCF = """MDC000001.124\t7112\tFB_AFFY_000024\tG\tA
MDC000002.328\t941\tFB_AFFY_0000144\tC\tT
MDC000004.272\t2015\tFB_AFFY_0000222\tG\tA"""
```

1. Store these three variants as a list of lists, where each one of the fields is kept separate (e.g. the list should be similar to: `[[chr1,pos1,name1,ref1,alt1], [chr2, pos2, name2, ref2, alt2], ...]` where all the elements are as specified in the string VCF (note that `"..."` means that the list is not complete).

2. Print each variant changing its format in: `"name|chr|pos|REF|ALT"`.

Show/Hide Solution

3. Given the list `L = ["walnut", "eggplant", "lemon", "lime", "date", "onion", "nectarine", "endive"]`:

1. Create another list (called `newList`) containing the first letter of each element of `L` (e.g `newList = ["w", "e", ...]`).

2. Add a space to `newList` at position 4 and append an exclamation mark (!) at the end.

3. Print the list.

4. Print the content of the list joining all the elements with an empty space (i.e. use the method `join`: `"".join(newList)` )

Show/Hide Solution