Lecture 2—List and Collection

Version 1.0. Prepared by Makzan, 2020 June.

In last lecture, we learn to store values into variables. There were int, float, string, boolean. They are all singular value. In this notebook, we learn to store a collection of values by using list, tuple, dictionary, and Named Tuple.

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List

We can create list by using [] brackets. Then we separate each item by comma. For example: the following create a list with 4 items.

```
In [1]: [1,2,3,4]
Out[1]: [1, 2, 3, 4]
```

We need a variable to store the list. Otherwise, we cannot reference the list anymore.

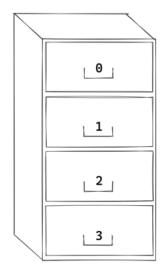
```
In [2]: sample_list = [1,2,3,4]
```

Count and Sum the list

There are basic built-in list functions: len, max, min, sum.

```
In [3]: len(sample_list)
Out[3]: 4
In [4]: max(sample_list)
Out[4]: 4
In [5]: min(sample_list)
Out[5]: 1
In [6]: sum(sample_list)
```

Index of List



We can get individual item from the list by using [index]. The index begins with 0.

```
        0
        1
        2
        3
        4

        Thomas
        Steven
        Jane
        Tom
        Susan

        -5
        -4
        -3
        -2
        -1

        Thomas
        Steven
        Jane
        Tom
        Susan
```

```
In [10]: names[0]
Out[10]: 'Thomas'
```

```
In [11]:    names[1]
Out[11]: 'Steven'
In [12]:    names[-1]
Out[12]: 'Susan'
In [13]:    names[-2]
Out[13]: 'Tom'
```

Appending items to list

We can append new item to the end of the list.

We can also insert item into any position of the list. For example, we can insert item to the beginning by using index 0.

```
In [16]: names.insert(0, "Peter")
In [17]: names
Out[17]: ['Peter', 'Thomas', 'Steven', 'Jane', 'Tom', 'Susan', 'John']
```

Sometimes, we will need to append multile items at once. We can do so by using extend function.

```
If we need to remove an item, we can use remove and provide the item value.

In [20]: names.remove('Thomas')
```

If we know the index of the item, we can use del to delete the item by using index. Beware that del is not a function. There is no () when using del.

Exercise: List creation, insert, and remove

Assuming now we want to store a list of cities. They are:

'Macao', 'Beijing', 'Helsinki', 'Kyoto', 'Sydney'

```
In [24]: # Your code here
    cities = None
    cities
```

Expected result

['Macao', 'Beijing', 'Helsinki', 'Kyoto', 'Sydney']

Now we want to append city "Hong Kong" to last of the list. Please use append () to append the item.

```
In [25]: # Your code here
None
     cities
```

Expected result

['Macao', 'Beijing', 'Helsinki', 'Kyoto', 'Sydney', 'Hong Kong']

Now we want to prepend city "Shanghai" to the first of the list. Please use insert() to prepend the item.

```
In [26]: # Your code here
None
cities
```

Expected result

['Shanghai', 'Macao', 'Beijing', 'Helsinki', 'Kyoto', 'Sydney', 'Hong Kong']

Now we want to append a list of cites to the current cities list. We can use extend() to do so. Given the following new_cities list.

```
In [27]: new_cities = ['London', 'Stockholm', 'Sao Paulo']
In [28]: # Your code here
None
cities
```

Expected result

['Shanghai', 'Macao', 'Beijing', 'Helsinki', 'Kyoto', 'Sydney', 'Hong Kong', 'London', 'Stockholm', 'Sao Paulo']

Slicing

In [32]: | sample_list[1:4:2]

Out[32]: [2, 4]

Given a list L, we can extract individual item by using L [index] where index begins with 0. For example, L [0] to get the first item, L [-1] to get the last item.

We can also extract a range of items by using slicing. The syntax is [start : end : step] .

The range includes the start index and exclude the end index.

We can omit 0 for the starting index. For example, this gets the first 5 items.

```
In [33]: sample_list[:5]
```

Out[33]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Items from beginning to last 5th item.

```
In [34]: sample_list[:-5]
```

Out[34]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

We need to omit the end value to indicate until-the-end. For example, this gets the last 3 items.

```
In [35]: sample_list[-3:]
```

Out[35]: [8, 9, 10]

Every second item from beginning to end

```
In [36]: sample_list[::2]
```

Out[36]: [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]

A copy of the whole list

```
In [37]: sample_list[:]
```

Out[37]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]

A copy of the whole list, in reversed order

```
In [38]: sample_list[::-1]
Out[38]: [10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]
```

Tuple

Tuple is the read-only version of list. We can express a tuple by using () .

```
In [39]: sample_tuple = (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10)
```

We can read the Tuple as same as reading List. But we cannot modify the Tuple.

```
In [40]: sample_tuple[0]
```

Out[40]: 1

Dictionary

Dictionary is a collection of key-value pairs. We can express a dictionary by using $\{\ \}$ with keys and values inside.

It is useful to collect information for the same subject together in one place. For example, we can store a student profile inside a dictionary. The benefit is that we can

We can store dictionaries inside a list. Indeed, an "item" in collection can be another collection. So we can put dictionary inside list. Or we can put list inside dictionary.

Here is another example that put a list as value inside dictionary.

Exercise: Using Dictionary

Assuming now we want to store data of book. There are 3 attributes for each book. They are title, category, price.

Please create a book varibale to store the following book.

```
title category price

Python Tricks Programming 240
```

```
In [45]: book = None book
```

Expected result

{'title': 'Python Tricks', 'category': 'Programming', 'price': 240}

Now we want to store a list of books. Here is the books data:

title	category	price
Python Tricks	Programming	240
Python Crash Course	Programming	200
Getting Real	Startup	200

```
In [46]: book_a = None
book_b = None
book_c = None

books = [
    book_a,
    book_b,
    book_c
]

books
```

```
Out[46]: [None, None, None]
```

Expected result

[{'title': 'Python Tricks', 'category': 'Programming', 'price': 240}, {'title': 'Python Crash Course', 'category': 'Programming', 'price': 200}, {'title': 'Getting Real', 'category': 'Startup', 'price': 200}] ||

Exercise: Slicing

Assuming now we have a list of numbers

```
In [47]: sample_list = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]
```

How to get the last item in the list?

```
In [48]: sample_list
```

```
Out[48]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
```

Expected result

10

How to get last 3 items in the list?

```
In [49]: sample_list
Out[49]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
```

Expected result

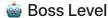
[8, 9, 10]

How to get the first 3 items in the list?

```
In [50]: sample_list
Out[50]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]

Expected result
```

[1, 2, 3]



Now assume we have a list of books.

How to get the first book title?

```
In [18]: result_1 = None
    result_1
```

Expected result

Python Tricks

How to get the price of last book?

```
In [19]: result_2 = None
    result_2
```

Expected result

200

Sorry! Your results are incorrect.

Expected result

Congratulations! You passed Lesson 2 Collection.

Summary

In this notebook, we learned the essential techniques to store a series of data into list. Next, we will take a look at logic-flow with if-condition and for-loop.