# ILP 2023 – W3S1 For loops iterations, generators

Matthieu DE MARI – Singapore University of Technology and Design



## Outline (Week3, Session1 – W3S1)

- The list type (quick intro, much more to come on W3)
- The for statement
- The range() generator
- The enumerate() generator
- The zip() generator
- Nesting for loops
- Breaking for loops

#### The list type

- Let us first introduce a new type of objects, called **lists**.
- Definition (lists): a list is a sequence of several variable elements, listed in order, between brackets and separated by commas.
- It can contain variables of any types (int, float, string, etc.).
- List can also contain mixed types of variables.

```
1 a list = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
 2 print(a list)
 3 print(type(a list))
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
<class 'list'>
 1 another list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
 2 print (another list)
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
 1 | a float = 3.14
 2 an int = 10
 3 a string = 'Hello'
 4 mixed_list = [a_float, an_int, a_string]
 5 print (mixed list)
[3.14, 10, 'Hello']
```

### The list type

# We will learn more about lists on the next two sessions!

```
1 a_list = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
2 print(a_list)
3 print(type(a_list))

[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
<class 'list'>

1 another_list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

```
1 a_float = 3.14
2 an_int = 10
3 a_string = 'Hello'
4 mixed_list = [a_float, an_int, a_string]
5 print(mixed_list)
```

2 print (another list)

['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']

[3.14, 10, 'Hello']

- Sometimes in programming, there is a block of code that you want to repeat for a fixed number of times.
- It could be done with a while statement, but there is a more convenient way.
- More convenient way: the for statement is used to repeat a given block of code for a given number of times.

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (While loop edition)
3  i = 0
4  while(i<5):
5     i += 1
6     print(i)</pre>
```

#### The for loop - How it works:

• Use the **for** keyword,

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (For loop edition)
3  my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
4  for i in my_list:
    print(i)
1
2
```

#### The for loop - How it works:

- Use the for keyword,
- It is immediately followed by a variable name, called an iteration variable,

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (For loop edition)
3  my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
4  for i in my_list:
5  print(i)
```

#### The for loop - How it works:

- Use the for keyword,
- It is immediately followed by a variable name, called an iteration variable,
- Use the in keyword to indicate that the iteration variable will take values in a given list,

#### The for loop - How it works:

- Use the for keyword,
- It is immediately followed by a variable name, called an iteration variable,
- Use the in keyword to indicate that the iteration variable will take values in a given list,
- Provide a list object, finish with a: symbol.

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (For loop edition)
3  my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
for i in my_list:
5  prin i)
```

#### The for loop - How it works:

- Use the for keyword,
- It is immediately followed by a variable name, called an iteration variable,
- Use the in keyword to indicate that the iteration variable will take values in a given list,
- Provide a list object, finish with a: symbol.
- Indent some code to be repeated inside the for, as in if/while.

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (For loop edition)
3  my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
4  for i in my_list:
5  print(i)
```

#### The for loop - How it works:

- Use the for keyword,
- It is immediately followed by a variable name, called an iteration variable,
- Use the in keyword to indicate that the iteration variable will take values in a given list,
- Provide a list object, finish with a: symbol.
- Indent some code to be repeated inside the for, as in if/while.

```
1  # Counting from 1 to 5
2  # (For loop edition)
  my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
  for i in my_list:
      print(i)

1
2
2
3
```



Notice how the iteration variable value changes after each repetition of the code inside the for loop.

#### An example: average grade for student

#### Not using a for loop: lots of variables

- Lots of variable
- Long code

```
grade1 = 75
grade2 = 85
grade3 = 80
grade4 = 72
grade5 = 65
number_of_grades = 5
total_grade = grade1 + grade2 + grade3 + grade4 + grade5
average_grade = total_grade/number_of_grades
print(average_grade)
```

#### Using a for loop

- Cleaner and shorter code
- Modular (works with any number of grades in list)

```
grades_list = [75, 85, 80, 72, 65]
number_of_grades = 0
total_grade = 0
for grade in grades_list:
    number_of_grades += 1
    total_grade += grade
average_grade = total_grade/number_of_grades
print(average_grade)
```

 Problem: typing a list of numbers manually is cumbersome, especially if it is supposed to contain lots of elements/numbers.

```
1 my_list = [0,1,2,3,4]
2 for i in my_list:
3 print(i)
```

1 2 3

LAZINESS: THE MOST PROMINENT

CHARACTERISTIC

OF A DEVELOPER

• Solution: The range() generator can be used to replace the list object in the for loop definition.

```
1 my_list = [0,1,2,3,4]
2 for i in my_list:
3 print(i)
```

```
1 for j in range(5):
2 print(j)
```

- Solution: The range() generator can be used to replace the list object in the for loop definition.
- It receives an integer **n**.
- Here, range(n) means: the
   iteration variable will take n
   successive values, starting from
   0 and incrementing by 1 each
   time.

```
1 my_list = [0,1,2,3,4]
2 for i in my_list:
3 print(i)
```

```
1 for j in range(5):
2 print(j)
```

```
0 1 2 3
```

**Up to three parameters** can be given to the **range()** generator.

• 2 parameters: range(m, n) makes the iteration variable take successive values, starting from m (instead of 0) and incrementing by 1 each time, until we reach n (n not included).

```
1 for j in range(-1, 6):
2 print(j)
```

**Up to three parameters** can be given to the **range()** generator.

- 2 parameters: range(m, n) makes the iteration variable take successive values, starting from m (instead of 0) and incrementing by 1 each time, until we reach n (n not included).
- 3 parameters: range(m, n, p) makes the iteration variable take successive values, starting from m (instead of 0) and incrementing by p (instead of 1) each time, until we reach n (n not included).

```
for j in range (-1, 6):
        print(i)
-1
    for j in range (1, 9, 2):
        print(j)
```

**Up to three parameters** can be given to the **range()** generator.

- 2 parameters: range(m, n) makes the iteration variable take successive values, starting from m (instead of 0) and incrementing by 1 each time, until we reach n (n not included).
- 3 parameters: range(m, n, p) makes the iteration variable take successive values, starting from m (instead of 0) and incrementing by p (instead of 1) each time, until we reach n (n not included).

```
for j in range (-1, 6):
        print(j)
-1
    for j in range (1, 9, 2):
        print(j)
   for j in range (10, -4, -2):
        print(j)
10
```

**Note:** if two or more parameters are used, we can play with negative values.

# The zip() generator

- Want to browse through the elements of multiple lists at the same time?
- Use the zip() generator!

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8, 4]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana", "Pineapple", "Peach"]
for number, fruit in zip(my_list, my_list2):
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print index and value iteration variables
    # on each loop iteration
    print(number)
    print(fruit)
```

```
2
Apple
----
7
Banana
----
8
Pineapple
----
4
Peach
```

# The zip() generator

- Want to browse through the elements of multiple lists at the same time?
- Use the zip() generator!
- The zip() generator takes
   multiple lists of equal length
   (same number of elements).

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8, 4]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana", "Pineapple", "Peach"]
for number, fruit in zip(my_list, my_list2):
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print index a value iteration variables
    # on each loop iteration
    print(number)
    print(fruit)
```

```
2
Apple
----
7
Banana
----
8
Pineapple
----
4
Peach
```

# The zip() generator

- Want to browse through the elements of multiple lists at the same time?
- Use the zip() generator!
- The zip() generator takes
   multiple lists of equal length
   (same number of elements).
- Updates that many iteration
   variables on each loop iteration,
   in a synchronized manner.

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8, 4]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana", "Pineapple", "Peach"]
for number, fruit in zip(my_list, my_list2):
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print index and value iteration variables
    # on each loop iteration
    print(number)
    print(fruit)
```

```
Apple
----
7
Banana
----
8
Pineapple
-----
4
```

Peach

### The enumerate() generator

• The **enumerate()** generator can be used to **update two iteration variables** at once.

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8, 4, 9]
for index, value in enumerate(my_list):
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print index and value iteration variables
    # on each loop iteration
    print(index)
    print(value)
```

```
0
2
-----
1
7
-----
2
8
-----
3
4
-----
4
9
```

## The enumerate() generator

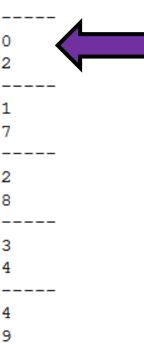
- The enumerate() generator can be used to update two iteration variables at once.
   On each loop iteration:
- The first one takes values consisting of the **position index** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>,3<sup>rd</sup>,... element),
- The second is takes **value** of the element in the list.

```
0
2
-----
1
7
-----
2
8
-----
3
4
-----
4
```

## The enumerate() generator

- The enumerate() generator can be used to update two iteration variables at once.
   On each loop iteration:
- The first one takes values consisting of the **position index** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>,3<sup>rd</sup>,... element),
- The second is takes value of the element in the list.

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8, 4, 9]
for index, value in enumerate(my_list):
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print index and value iteration variables
    # on each loop iteration
    print(index)
    print(value)
```



Note: In Python, we start counting from 0.

What we call the 1<sup>st</sup> element of the list in English, is called the 0<sup>th</sup> element (index = 0) in programming.

# Nesting for loops

• Just like we **nested if** statements earlier, we can **nest for** loops.

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana"]
for number in my_list:
    for fruit in my_list2:
        # Separator
        print("----")
        # Print index and value iteration variables
        # on each loop iteration
        print(number)
        print(fruit)
```

Apple Banana Apple Banana Apple Banana

## Nesting for loops

- Just like we **nested** if statements earlier, we can **nest for** loops.
- Works "almost" like the zip generator,
- But updates the iteration variables in an unsynchronized manner.

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana"]
for number in my_list:
    for fruit in my_list2:
        # Separator
        print("----")
        # Print index and value iteration variables
        # on each loop iteration
        print(number)
        print(fruit)
```

Apple Banana Apple Banana Apple

Banana

### Nesting for loops

- Just like we nested if statements earlier, we can nest for loops.
- Works "almost" like the zip generator,
- But updates the iteration variables in an <u>unsynchronized</u> manner.
- Convenient for checking all combinations of values in two given lists!

```
my_list = [2, 7, 8]
my_list2 = ["Apple", "Banana"]
for number in my_list:
    for fruit in my_list2:
        # Separator
        print("----")
        # Print index and value iteration variables
        # on each loop iteration
        print(number)
        print(fruit)
```

Apple Banana Apple Banana Apple Banana

## The break statement (episode 2)

- In W2S3, we have seen how the break statement can be used to interrupt a while loop.
- It also works with for loops!

```
1 my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
2 for value in my_list:
3  # Separator
4  print("----")
5  # Print iteration variable value
6  print(value)
7  # Break if
8  if(value == 3):
9  print("Breaking for loop")
10  break
```

```
1
-----
2
-----
3
Breaking for loop
```

We have seen multiple ways to make for loops work

1. Pass a list: easiest way, browse through each element one by one.

- 1. Pass a list: easiest way, browse through each element one by one.
- 2. The range() generator: Replace a list of regularly spaced values with a range() generator, as to avoid having to type the elements of the list manually.

- 1. Pass a list: easiest way, browse through each element one by one.
- 2. The range() generator: Replace a list of regularly spaced values with a range() generator, as to avoid having to type the elements of the list manually.
- **3. The zip() generator:** Browse through multiple lists elements in a synchronized manner.

- 1. Pass a list: easiest way, browse through each element one by one.
- 2. The range() generator: Replace a list of regularly spaced values with a range() generator, as to avoid having to type the elements of the list manually.
- 3. The zip() generator: Browse through multiple lists elements in a synchronized manner.
- 4. The enumerate() generator: Updates two iteration variables at once, one being the position index of the element in the list, and the second being the value of said element in list.

- 1. Pass a list: easiest way, browse through each element one by one.
- 2. The range() generator: Replace a list of regularly spaced values with a range() generator, as to avoid having to type the elements of the list manually.
- 3. The zip() generator: Browse through multiple lists elements in a synchronized manner.
- **4. The enumerate() generator:** Updates two iteration variables at once, one being the position index of the element in the list, and the second being the value of said element in list.
- **5. Nesting for loops:** Browse through multiple lists elements in an unsynchronized manner.

### Practice activities: basic for loops

Let us practice a bit with for loops, with the following activities

Activity 1 - How many items in my inventory.ipynb
Activity 2 - Best equipment finder.ipynb
Activity 3 - Best equipment finder v2.ipynb
Activity 4 - Find the missing card.ipynb

### Activity 1 - How many items in my inventory

• In several video games, the main character will have an **inventory**, i.e. a list of items that he/she is carrying at the moment.



# Activity 1 - How many items in my inventory

• In several video games, the main character will have an **inventory**, i.e. a list of items that he/she is carrying at the moment. This **inventory** could be defined as a **list**, as shown below.

```
inventory = ["Sword", "Armor", "Potion", "Potion", "Torch", "Potion",
"Bow", "Potion", "Torch", "Potion"]
```

# Activity 1 - How many items in my inventory

• In several video games, the main character will have an **inventory**, i.e. a list of items that he/she is carrying at the moment. This **inventory** could be defined as a **list**, as shown below.

```
inventory = ["Sword", "Armor", "Potion", "Potion", "Torch", "Potion",
"Bow", "Potion", "Torch", "Potion"]
```

- Our objective is to write a function how\_many\_items(), which:
  - receives an inventory list, such as the one above, as its first parameter,
  - receives an item name, as a second parameter (e.g. item\_name = "Torch")
  - and returns the number of times the item in question appears in the inventory.

### Activity 2 - Best equipment finder

• Let us define an **inventory list**, below, which contains a list of weapons that our character has acquired during gameplay.

inventory = ["Dull Sword", "Wooden Branch", "Master Sword", "Iron Sword", "Silver Sword"]

## Activity 2 - Best equipment finder

• Let us define an **inventory list**, below, which contains a list of weapons that our character has acquired during gameplay.

inventory = ["Dull Sword", "Wooden Branch", "Master Sword", "Iron Sword", "Silver Sword"]

• Let us also consider we have been given a **second list**, which contains the **attack points for each weapon** currently in inventory, in order:

```
weapon_stats = [1, 1, 10, 5, 8]
```

### Activity 2 - Best equipment finder

• Let us define an **inventory list**, below, which contains a list of weapons that our character has acquired during gameplay.

inventory = ["Dull Sword", "Wooden Branch", "Master Sword", "Iron Sword", "Silver Sword"]

• Let us also consider we have been given a **second list**, which contains the **attack points for each weapon** currently in inventory, in order:

```
weapon_stats = [1, 1, 10, 5, 8]
```

- Write a function maximal\_attack\_points(), which
  - receives the weapon\_stats list as its only parameter,
  - and returns the maximal attack points we would have if we were to equip the best weapon currently in inventory.

### Activity 3 - Best equipment finder v2

- Let us define an **inventory list**, below, which contains a list of weapons that our character has acquired during gameplay.
- inventory = ["Dull Sword", "Wooden Branch", "Master Sword", "Iron Sword", "Silver Sword"]
- Let us also consider we have been given a **second list**, which contains the **attack points for each weapon** currently in inventory, in order:

```
weapon_stats = [1, 1, 10, 5, 8]
```

• Task: As in activity 2, but I want the name of the best weapon to be returned instead of the maximal attack points I would obtain if I decided to equip it!

## Activity 4 - Find the missing card

```
complete deck = ['Ace of Hearts', 'Two of Hearts', 'Three of Hearts', 'Four of Hearts', \
                    'Five of Hearts', 'Six of Hearts', 'Seven of Hearts', 'Eight of Hearts', \
                    'Nine of Hearts', 'Ten of Hearts', 'Jack of Hearts', 'Queen of Hearts', \
                    'King of Hearts', 'Ace of Diamonds', 'Two of Diamonds', 'Three of Diamonds', \
                    'Four of Diamonds', 'Five of Diamonds', 'Six of Diamonds', 'Seven of Diamonds', \
                    'Eight of Diamonds', 'Nine of Diamonds', 'Ten of Diamonds', 'Jack of Diamonds', \
                    'Queen of Diamonds', 'King of Diamonds', 'Ace of Spades', 'Two of Spades', \
                    'Three of Spades', 'Four of Spades', 'Five of Spades', 'Six of Spades', 'Seven of Spades', \
 8
                    'Eight of Spades', 'Nine of Spades', 'Ten of Spades', 'Jack of Spades', 'Queen of Spades', \
 9
                    'King of Spades', 'Ace of Clubs', 'Two of Clubs', 'Three of Clubs', 'Four of Clubs', \
10
11
                    'Five of Clubs', 'Six of Clubs', 'Seven of Clubs', 'Eight of Clubs', 'Nine of Clubs', \
12
                    'Ten of Clubs', 'Jack of Clubs', 'Queen of Clubs', 'King of Clubs']
13 print(complete deck)
```

['Ace of Hearts', 'Two of Hearts', 'Three of Hearts', 'Four of Hearts', 'Five of Hearts', 'Six of Hearts', 'Seven of Hearts', 'Eight of Hearts', 'Nine of Hearts', 'Ten of Hearts', 'Jack of Hearts', 'Queen of Hearts', 'King of Hearts', 'Ace of Diamonds', 'Two of Diamonds', 'Three of Diamonds', 'Four of Diamonds', 'Five of Diamonds', 'Six of Diamonds', 'Seven of Diamonds', 'Leight of Diamonds', 'Nine of Diamonds', 'Ten of Diamonds', 'Jack of Diamonds', 'Queen of Diamonds', 'King of Diamonds', 'Ace of Spades', 'Two of Spades', 'Three of Spades', 'Four of Spades', 'Five of Spades', 'Six of Spades', 'Seven of Spades', 'Eight of Spades', 'Nine of Spades', 'Three of Clubs', 'Four of Clubs', 'Five of Clubs', 'Six of Clubs', 'Seven of Clubs', 'Eight of Clubs', 'Nine of Clubs', 'Ten of Clubs', 'Jack of Clubs', 'Queen of Clubs', 'King of Clubs', 'Eight of Clubs', 'Nine of Clubs', 'Ten of Clubs', 'Jack of Clubs', 'Queen of Clubs', 'King of Clubs', 'Eight of Clubs', 'Nine of Clubs', 'Ten of Clubs', 'Jack of Clubs', 'Queen of Clubs', 'King of Clubs']

## Activity 4 - Find the missing card

## Activity 4 - Find the missing card

Write a function **find\_missing\_card()**, which **receives** a **complete deck of cards** as its first parameter, and **receives a second deck**, as its second parameter.

- The second deck is a standard deck that has been shuffled and may be missing a single card.
- The function find\_missing\_card() should return the name of the one card that is missing in the second deck. It should return None, if no card is missing.
- Note that:
  - The decks are missing one card at most,
  - The decks will contain no duplicates.

#### Conclusion

- The list type (quick intro, more to come on W3S1)
- The for statement
- The range() generator
- The enumerate() generator
- The zip() generator
- Nesting for loops
- Breaking for loops

#### The **continue** statement

- Similar to the break statement, which was be used to interrupt a while/for loop...
- We can define the continue statement!
- When encountered in the indented code inside a loop, it ends the current iteration and moves on to the next one.

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
for value in my_list:
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Continue if
    if(value == 3):
        print("Skipping instructions in for loop")
        continue
    # Print iteration variable value
    print(value)
```

```
1
----
2
----
Skipping instruction in for loop
----
4
----
```

## The else statement (episode 2)

- Similar to the else statement, which was used in if statements...
- We can define the else statement in for loops.
- It defines a piece of code to be executed when the for loop ends normally.
- Normally: completed all iterations, <u>not interrupted</u> by a break.

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
for value in my_list:
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # Print iteration variable value
    print(value)

else:
    # Instruction to execute, once the for loop ends
    print("We're done!")
```

1 -----2 -----3 -----4 -----5 We're done!

### The else statement (episode 2)

- Similar to the else statement, which was used in if statements...
- We can define the else statement in for loops.
- It defines a piece of code to be executed when the for loop ends normally.
- Normally: completed all iterations, <u>not interrupted</u> by a break.

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

for value in my_list:
    # Separator
    print("----")
    # If break
    if(value == 3):
        break
    # Print iteration variable value
    print(value)

else:
    # Instruction to execute, once the for loop ends
    print("We're done!")
```

1 \_\_\_\_\_2