

python  $\rightarrow$  p h t

Indexing

s123      f1       $\Rightarrow$

# Accessing Individual Characters In String



In **Python**, Strings are stored as individual characters in a contiguous memory location.

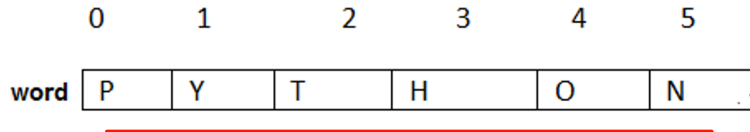
Each character in this memory location is assigned an index which begins from **0** and goes up to **length -1**

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For example, suppose we write

`word="Python"`

Then the internal representation of this will be



# Accessing Individual Characters In String

Now to access individual character we can provide this **index number** to the **subscript operator [ ]**.

```
>>> word="Python"  
>>> print(word[0])  
P  
>>> print(word[1])  
y  
>>> print(word[2])  
t
```

# Accessing Individual Characters In String

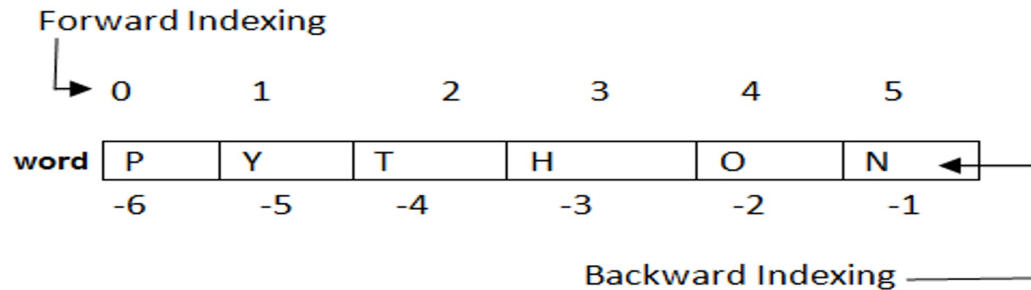
However if we try to provide an index number beyond the given limit then **IndexError** exception will arise

```
>>> word="Python"
>>> print(word[7])
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
IndexError: string index out of range
>>>
```

# Accessing Individual Characters In String

Not only this , Python even allows negative indexing which begins from the end of the string.

0 1 2 3 4 5  
P Y T H O N  
-6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1



the index of second last

# Accessing Individual Characters In String

```
>>> word="Python"  
>>> print(word[-1])  
n  
>>> print(word[-2])  
o
```

positive indexing

0 — len - 1

negative indexing

-1 — -len

-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
P	Y	T	H	O	N
0	1	2	3	4	5





$$s1 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \text{start} & : & \text{stop} - \frac{\text{step}}{1} \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ 0 & & \text{len}(s1) \end{array} \right]$$