Methodenwerkstatt Statistik Introduction to Python

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1 Data types and structures

1.1 First examples

First examples

- Printing to the standard output:

In [1]:

```python
print("Hello World")
```

```
Hello World
```

First examples

- A calculator:

In [2]:

```python
2+4
```

Out[2]:

6

In [3]:

```python
2-4
```

Out[3]:

-2

In [4]:

```python
2**12
```

Out[4]:

4096

- A double asterisk (`**`) is the operator for taking powers.
- The code in a cell is executed by clicking on "Run" or via the shortcut `Shift + Enter.`

1.2 Variables

Variables

- The kernel stores data in variables. The assignment operator `=` assigns a variable name (left-hand side) a value (right-hand side).

In [5]:

```python
a = 5
b = 2
a*b
```

Out[5]:

10

In [6]:

```python
savings = 50
```

In [7]:

```python
savings
```

Out[7]:

50

Variables

- Calculate the savings value in seven years, given an interest rate of 7%.

In [8]:

```python
r = 0.07
future_value = savings*(1+r)**7
future_value
```

Out[8]:

80.28907382392153

Built-in functions

- A number of built-in functions are available ([link (https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html)](https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html)):

		Built-in Functions		
abs()	delattr()	hash()	memoryview()	set()
all()	dict()	help()	min()	setattr()
any()	dir()	hex()	next()	slice()
ascii()	divmod()	id()	object()	sorted()
bin()	enumerate()	input()	oct()	staticmethod()
bool()	eval()	int()	open()	str()
breakpoint()	exec()	isinstance()	ord()	sum()
bytearray()	filter()	issubclass()	pow()	super()
bytes()	float()	iter()	print()	tuple()
callable()	format()	len()	property()	type()
chr()	frozenset()	list()	range()	vars()
classmethod()	getattr()	locals()	repr()	zip()
compile()	globals()	map()	reversed()	__import__()
complex()	hasattr()	max()	round()	

Built-in functions

In [9]:

```python
round(future_value, 4)
```

Out[9]:

80.2891

Use `help()` to learn more about functions:

In [10]:

```python
help(round)
```

```
Help on built-in function round in module builtins:

round(number, ndigits=None)
    Round a number to a given precision in decimal digits.

    The return value is an integer if ndigits is omitted or None.  Oth
erwise
    the return value has the same type as the number.  ndigits may be
negative.
```

1.3 Basic Data Types

Basic Data Types

Object type	Meaning	Used for
int	Integer value	Natural numbers
float	Floating-point number	Real numbers
bool	Boolean value	Something true or false
str	String object	Character, word, text

Integers

- Zero, natural numbers and their negative counterparts, i.e., $\mathbb{Z} = \{\ldots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$

In [11]:

```python
a = 4
type(a)
```

Out[11]:

```
int
```

Floating point numbers ("floats")

- Computer representation of real numbers, i.e., $\mathbb{R}$

In [12]:

```python
1.6 / 4
```

Out[12]:

```
0.4
```

In [13]:

```python
type(1.6/4)
```

Out[13]:

```
float
```

Integers and floats

In [14]:

```python
int(5)
```

Out[14]:

```
5
```

In [15]:

```python
float(5)
```

Out[15]:

```
5.0
```

In [16]:

```python
type(5)
```

Out[16]:

```
int
```

In [17]:

```python
type(5.)
```

Out[17]:

```
float
```

Boolean: True or False

- Data type associated with logical expressions
- A Boolean is either `True` or `False`

In [18]:

```python
type(5>4)
```

Out[18]:

```
bool
```

In [19]:

```python
5 == 3
```

Out[19]:

```
False
```

In [20]:

```python
5 != 3
```

Out[20]:

```
True
```

Booleans

In [21]:

```python
5 < 3
```

Out[21]:

```
False
```

In [22]:

```python
5 > 3
```

Out[22]:

```
True
```

In [23]:

```python
5 >= 3
```

Out[23]:

```
True
```

In [24]:

```python
5 <= 3
```

Out[24]:

```
False
```

Integer representation of Booleans

In [25]:

```python
int(True)
```

Out[25]:

```
1
```

In [26]:

```python
int(False)
```

Out[26]:

0

Logical operators: `and, or`

In [27]:

```python
True and True
```

Out[27]:

True

In [28]:

```python
True and False
```

Out[28]:

False

In [29]:

```python
False and False
```

Out[29]:

False

In [30]:

```python
True or False
```

Out[30]:

True

Strings

- Strings represent text, i.e., a string is a sequence of characters.
- The basic object to represent strings is `str`.
- A string object is defined by wrapping its contents in in single or double quotation marks.

In [31]:

```python
t = 'this is a string object'
```

In [32]:

```
t
```

Out[32]:

```
'this is a string object'
```

In [33]:

```
t = "this is a string object"
t
```

Out[33]:

```
'this is a string object'
```

- Simple operations can be achieved with built-in string functions:

In [34]:

```
t.capitalize()
```

Out[34]:

```
'This is a string object'
```

In [35]:

```
t.split()
```

Out[35]:

```
['this', 'is', 'a', 'string', 'object']
```

- `\n` is used to force a new line.
- Note: Writing `t.` and hitting the `TAB` key shows the available built-in functions.

Useful string methods

Method	Arguments	Returns/result
capitalize	()	Copy of the string with first letter capitalized
count	(*sub*[, *start*[, *end*]])	Count of the number of occurrences of substring
decode	([*encoding*[, *errors*]])	Decoded version of the string, using *encoding* (e.g., UTF-8)
encode	([*encoding*+[, *errors*]])	Encoded version of the string
find	(*sub*[, *start*[, *end*]])	(Lowest) index where substring is found
join	(*seq*)	Concatenation of strings in sequence *seq*
replace	(*old, new*[, *count*])	Replaces *old* by *new* the first *count* times
split	([*sep*[, *maxsplit*]])	List of words in string with *sep* as separator
splitlines	([*keepends*])	Separated lines with line ends/breaks if *keepends* is True
strip	(*chars*)	Copy of string with leading/lagging characters in *chars* removed
upper	()	Copy with all letters capitalized

Source: Python for Finance, 2nd ed.

Printing

- Use `print()` to print strings and other objects.

In [36]:

```python
print('Python for Finance')
```

```
Python for Finance
```

In [37]:

```python
print(t)
```

```
this is a string object
```

Printing

In [38]:

```python
i = 0
while i < 4:
    print(i)
    i += 1
```

```
0
1
2
3
```

In [39]:

```python
i = 0
while i < 4:
    print(i, end='|')
    i += 1
```

0|1|2|3|

Formatted printing

- The syntax with curly braces (`{}`) is new in Python 3.7.
- The print syntax has a tendency to change with each major release, which can be quite annoying.

In [40]:

```python
'this is an integer %d' % 15
```

Out[40]:

```
'this is an integer 15'
```

In [41]:

```python
'this is an integer {:d}'.format(15)
```

Out[41]:

```
'this is an integer 15'
```

In [42]:

```python
'this is an integer {:4d}'.format(15)
```

Out[42]:

```
'this is an integer   15'
```

Formatted printing

In [43]:

```python
'this is a float %f' % 15.3456
```

Out[43]:

```
'this is a float 15.345600'
```

In [44]:

```python
'this is a float %.2f' % 15.3456
```

Out[44]:

```
'this is a float 15.35'
```

In [45]:

```python
'this is a float {:f}'.format(15.3456)
```

Out[45]:

```
'this is a float 15.345600'
```

In [46]:

```python
'this is a float {:.2f}'.format(15.3456)
```

Out[46]:

```
'this is a float 15.35'
```

Another useful way to print is to concatenate strings with a + sign:

In [47]:

```python
'this is a float ' + str(15.3456)
```

Out[47]:

```
'this is a float 15.3456'
```

1.4 Basic Data Structures

Basic Data Structures

Object type	Meaning	Used for
tuple	Immutable container	Fixed set ob objects, record
list	Mutable container	Changing set of objects
dict	Mutable container	Key-value store
set	Mutable container	Collection of unique objects

- We shall skip dictionaries and sets here as they will be rarely used (if at all) once we have introduced `pandas`.
- Similarly, we shall just skim over lists as they are often used as an auxiliary data structure, e.g. in loops.

Tuples

- The elements of a tuple are written between parentheses, or just separated by commas.
- Tuples are immutable.

In [48]:

```python
t = 1, 2, 3, 'Tom'
t
```

Out[48]:

```
(1, 2, 3, 'Tom')
```

In [49]:

```python
t = (1, 2, 3, 'Tom')
t
```

Out[49]:

```
(1, 2, 3, 'Tom')
```

In [50]:

```python
t[3]
```

Out[50]:

```
'Tom'
```

> NOTE: Indices start at 0, not at 1.

Lists

- A list is created by listing its elements within square brackets, separated by commas.

In [51]:

```python
l = [1.2,"john", "timmy", "helena"]

l
```

Out[51]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [52]:

```python
l[2]
```

Out[52]:

```
'timmy'
```

In [53]:

```python
type(l)
```

Out[53]:

```
list
```

> NOTE: Indices start at 0, not at 1.

Lists

- Negative indices: Count from the end

In [54]:

```
l
```

Out[54]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [55]:

```
l[-1]
```

Out[55]:

```
'helena'
```

In [56]:

```
l[-2]
```

Out[56]:

```
'timmy'
```

Lists

- Extract elements using `[from:to]`:

In [57]:

```
l
```

Out[57]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [58]:

```
l[1:3]
```

Out[58]:

```
['john', 'timmy']
```

> NOTE: names[from:to] contains the elements from "from" to ("to"-1).

Lists

- Extract sublists, e.g. from index 2 or until index 2:

In [59]:

```python
l[2:]
```

Out[59]:

```
['timmy', 'helena']
```

In [60]:

```python
l[:2]
```

Out[60]:

```
[1.2, 'john']
```

Lists

- Extract sublists by using `[from:to:step]`, e.g. every second element or all elements from index 2:

In [61]:

```python
l
```

Out[61]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [62]:

```python
l[::2]
```

Out[62]:

```
[1.2, 'timmy']
```

In [63]:

```python
l[2::]
```

Out[63]:

```
['timmy', 'helena']
```

Lists

- Use `[from:to:step]` to reverse a list:

In [64]:

```python
l[::-1]
```

Out[64]:

```
['helena', 'timmy', 'john', 1.2]
```

Lists

- Use `*` and `+` to repeat and join lists:

In [65]:

```python
l*2
```

Out[65]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena', 1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [66]:

```python
l + l[::-1]
```

Out[66]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena', 'helena', 'timmy', 'john', 1.2]
```

Lists

- Lists are mutable

In [67]:

```python
l
```

Out[67]:

```
[1.2, 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [68]:

```python
l[0] = "thomas"
```

In [69]:

```python
l
```

Out[69]:

```
['thomas', 'john', 'timmy', 'helena']
```

In [70]:

```python
l[2:4] = ["hannah", "laura"]
```

In [71]:

```python
l.append([4,3])
```

In [72]:

```python
l
```

Out[72]:

```
['thomas', 'john', 'hannah', 'laura', [4, 3]]
```

List methods

- To view the methods available to a list, type the list name with a full-stop (e.g. `l.`)and press the `Tab` button.

Method	Arguments	Returns/result
`l[i] = x`	`[i]`	Replaces i-th element by x
`l[i:j:k] = s`	`[i:j:k]`	Replaces every k-th element from i to $j-1$ by s
`append`	`(x)`	Appends x to object
`count`	`(x)`	Number of occurrences of object x
`del l[i:j:k]`	`[i:j:k]`	Deletes elements with index values i to $j-1$
`extend`	`(s)`	Appends all elements of s to object
`index`	`(x[, i[, j]])`	First index of x between elements i and $j-1$
`insert`	`(i, x)`	Inserts x at/before index i
`remove`	`(i)`	Removes element with index i
`pop`	`(i)`	Removes element with index i and returns it
`reverse`	`()`	Reverses all items in place
`sort`	`([cmp[, key[, reverse]]])`	Sorts all items in place

Source: Python for Finance, 2nd ed.

1.5 Control flow

Control flow

- Control flow refers to control structures such as `if` -statements and `for` -loops that control the order in which code is executed.

Control flow: `if` -statements

- The `if/elif/else` statement executes code based on whether a condition is true or false:

In [73]:

```python
if 2+2 == 4:
    print("I am a math genius!")
```

```
I am a math genius!
```

- The condition `2+2==4` resolves to true, so the indented code following the condition is executed.
- Code blocks are delimited by indentation.

Control flow: `if` -statements

- In the code below the conditions are checked and the first block matching a `TRUE` condition is executed:

In [74]:

```python
x = 100
if x == 1:
    print(x)
elif x == 2:
    print(x)
elif x == 3:
    print(x)
elif x == 4:
    print(x)
else:
    print("{} > 4".format(x))
```

```
100 > 4
```

Control flow: `for` -loops

A `for` loop iterates over a sequence of values and executes the respective code block:

In [75]:

```python
names = ["John", "Alina", "Timmy", "Helena"]
for participant in (names):
    print('{} is taking this lecture.'.format(participant))
```

```
John is taking this lecture.
Alina is taking this lecture.
Timmy is taking this lecture.
Helena is taking this lecture.
```

- If the sequence is a counter, i.e., a sequence of numbers, then the function `range()` is useful:

In [76]:

```python
for (i) in range(4):
    print(i)
```

```
0
1
2
3
```

List comprehension allows to generate lists in a one-line `for` statement:

In [77]:

```python
l=[i for i in range(4)]
l
```

Out[77]:

```
[0, 1, 2, 3]
```

Control flow: `while` -statement

- The `while` loop repeatedly executes a block of statements provided the condition remains `TRUE`:

In [78]:

```python
a = 4
i = 0
while i < a:
    print("{} is smaller than {}." .format(i, a))
    i = i+1
```

```
0 is smaller than 4.
1 is smaller than 4.
2 is smaller than 4.
3 is smaller than 4.
```

- The `break` keyword interrupts control flow:

In [79]:

```python
for i in range(5):
    print("{} is smaller than {}".format(i, 3))
    if i == 2:
        break
```

```
0 is smaller than 3
1 is smaller than 3
2 is smaller than 3
```

1.6 Functions

Functions

- It is useful to group code that is repeatedly used in **functions**.
- A `function` -block consists of the function header and the function body.
- As with other code blocks, the function body must be indentend.

In [80]:

```python
def circle_circumference(radius):
    return 2 * 3.14159 * radius * 2
```

In [81]:

```
circle_circumference(5)
```

Out[81]:

```
62.8318
```

Function syntax

- The syntax for writing a function is:
    - keyword `def` followed by
    - function's name followed by
    - the arguments of the function, separated by commas, in parentheses followed by a colon (`:`)
    - function body (indented)
    - optional: within the function body the `return` keyword can be used to return an object or value

Function syntax

- Function arguments are passed "by reference" meaning that changes to an object can be made within a function:

In [82]:

```python
def try_to_modify(x, y, z):
    x = 23
    y.append(42)
    z = [99] # new reference
    print(x)
    print(y)
    print(z)

a = 77 # immutable variable
b = [99] # mutable variable
c = [28]

try_to_modify(a, b, c)
print(a)
print(b)
print(c)
```

```
23
[99, 42]
[99]
77
[99, 42]
[28]
```

Function syntax

- Function arguments can be given default values:

In [83]:

```python
def plus10(x = 50):
    return x + 10
```

In [84]:

```python
plus10()
```

Out[84]:

60

In [85]:

```python
plus10(20)
```

Out[85]:

30