

Google Colab

An Overview and Key Advantages

- Website address: <https://colab.research.google.com>

Key advantages of using Google Colab for academic and research purposes:

- Free online access to high-performance computing hardware, including Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) and Tensor Processing Units (TPUs), eliminating the need for expensive local infrastructure.
- Seamless storage and management of Jupyter notebooks and associated files directly in Google Drive, ensuring persistent access and automatic versioning.

Google Colab

- Seamless storage and management of Jupyter notebooks and associated files directly in Google Drive, ensuring persistent access and automatic versioning.
- Pre-installed access to a comprehensive suite of widely used scientific computing and machine learning libraries — such as NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, TensorFlow, and PyTorch — without any local installation or environment configuration requirements.
- Facilitated collaboration through easy sharing and real-time simultaneous editing of the same notebook by multiple users, making it particularly suitable for team-based research, teaching, and academic projects.

```
def main()  
    print("Hello World")  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    main()
```

HELLO WORLD

Print statement

- `print()`
- Displays messages or output in the console
- Multiple arguments can be placed in a single print statement, separated by commas (,)
- f-string formatting can also be used inside print
- Let's look at a few examples:
colab.research.google.com

Variables

Variables in Python

What they do?

- Storing and Managing Data

- Variables are named containers used to store data values in memory
- No explicit type declaration is required – Python is dynamically typed
- Assignment is performed using the (=) operator
- Variable names are case-sensitive and should follow a special naming conventions

Variables

Key points to remember:

- A variable can change its value (and even type) during execution
- Descriptive names improve code readability and maintainability
- Essential building block for all Python programs and data processing tasks

Strings

Working with Text Data

- Strings are sequences of characters enclosed in single (') or double (") quotes
- Immutable : once created, their content cannot be changed
- Support indexing, slicing, and a rich set of built-in methods
- Useful methods: `.upper()`, `.lower()`, `.strip()`, `.replace()`, `.split()`, `.join()`, f-strings

Arithmetic Operators

How to do simple math in python?

Performing Mathematical Calculations Operator:

Operator Table:

Operator	Description	Example	Result
+	Addition	8 + 5	13
-	Subtraction	20 - 7	13
*	Multiplication	4 * 3	12
/	Division (float)	10 / 3	3.333...
//	Floor division (integer)	10 // 3	3
%	Modulus (remainder)	10 % 3	1
**	Exponentiation	2 ** 4	16

Arithmetic Operators

How to do simple math in python?

Performing Mathematical Calculations Operator:

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Operator precedence follows standard mathematical rules (PEMDAS/BODMAS). Use parentheses () to control order explicitly.

Python Built-in Data Structures

Python Objects & Collections

- List
- Tuple
- Set
- Dictionary



Python Built-in Data Structures

List

An Ordered and Mutable Collection

- Lists are the most flexible data structure in Python
- They maintain the order of elements exactly as inserted
- Elements can be of any type — even mixed types in the same list

Python Built-in Data Structures

List

- Lists are mutable: you can add, remove, or modify elements after creation
- Ideal for sequences that need to grow or change during program execution
- Commonly used in data processing, machine learning pipelines, and result storage

Python Built-in Data Structures

Tuple

An Ordered **but** Immutable Collection

- Tuples are similar to lists but cannot be changed after creation
- They preserve insertion order and allow duplicate elements
- Can contain mixed data types, including other containers

Python Built-in Data Structures

Tuple

- Immutability makes tuples perfect for fixed data records and as dictionary keys
- Faster than lists and provide integrity protection for constant data
- Widely used to represent records, coordinates, and return multiple values from functions

Python Built-in Data Structures

set

An Unordered Collection of Unique Elements

- Sets contain only unique items — duplicates are automatically removed
- No guaranteed order of elements (unordered collection)
- Highly optimized for membership testing and eliminating duplicates

Python Built-in Data Structures

set

- Support powerful mathematical set operations: union, intersection, difference, symmetric difference
- Perfect for removing duplicates from data, checking belonging, and performing logical operations
- Commonly used in data cleaning and exploratory data analysis

Python Built-in Data Structures

Dictionary

Mapping of Unique Keys to Values

- Dictionaries store data as key–value pairs
- Keys must be unique and immutable (strings, numbers, tuples)
- Values can be of any type and can be duplicated

Python Built-in Data Structures

Dictionary

- Extremely fast lookup by key
- Order of insertion is preserved (Python 3.7+)
- The standard way to represent structured and labeled data (e.g., JSON-like objects, database records, configuration settings)

Python Built-in Data Structures

Python Objects & Collections

Structure	Syntax	Ordered?	Mutable?	Allows Duplicates?	Typical Use Case
List	[]	Yes	Yes	Yes	General-purpose sequences, dynamic arrays
Tuple	()	Yes	No	Yes	Fixed data, heterogeneous records
Set	{ }	No	Yes	No	Unique items, membership testing, set operations
Dictionary	{k: v}	Yes*	Yes	Keys: No	Mapping/lookup tables, structured data

Python Built-in Data Structures

Introduction to len()

Measuring the Size of Python Objects

- Returns the number of items or length of an object
- One of the most frequently used built-in functions in Python
- Behavior depends entirely on the type of object
- Essential for loops, conditionals, input validation, and debugging
- Works with all major built-in container types

Python Built-in Data Structures

len() with Sequence Types

Length of Ordered Sequences
(Strings ▪ Lists ▪ Tuples)

- String: counts individual characters (including **spaces** and **punctuation**)
- List: counts all elements, regardless of type or duplication

Python Built-in Data Structures

len() with Sequence Types

- Tuple: counts all contained elements (order is preserved)
- Duplicates are fully counted in all three sequence types

Python Built-in Data Structures

len() with Unordered & Mapping Types

Length of Sets and Dictionaries

❖ **len()** counts Unique Elements and Keys

- Set: counts only unique elements (automatic deduplication)
- Dictionary: counts the number of keys (values are ignored)
- Even if a value is a long list or complex object, it still counts as only one key

Python Built-in Data Structures

Introduction to len()

Data Type

What len() Counts

String

Number of characters

List

Total number of elements

Tuple

Total number of elements

Set

Number of unique elements only

Dictionary

Number of keys (not values)

Conditional Execution

The if Statement

Making Decisions in Python

- Allows the program to execute certain blocks only when specific conditions are true
- Fundamental building block of program logic and control flow

Conditional Execution

The if Statement

- Supports elif (else-if) and else clauses for multiple branches
- Conditions can be combined using and, or, not logical operators
- Indentation defines the block of code that belongs to each condition

Conditional Execution

Loops

Repeating Actions

- Automating Repetitive Tasks
- Loops let a program execute a block of code multiple times
- Two main types: for loops (iterate over sequences) and while loops (repeat while condition is true)

Conditional Execution

Loops

- Essential for processing datasets, training models, and numerical simulations
- Both types can be controlled with break, continue, and else clauses
- Proper loop design prevents infinite execution and improves performance

Conditional Execution

The For Loops

Iteration over Sequences

- Designed to iterate over elements of any iterable (list, tuple, string, range, etc.)
- Automatically handles the iteration process – no manual index management needed
- Clean, readable syntax – preferred whenever the number of repetitions is known or finite
- Commonly used in data analysis, file processing, and machine learning pipelines

Conditional Execution

The While Loops

- Repeats as long as a given Boolean condition remains true
- Useful when the number of iterations is not known in advance
- Requires careful condition updates to avoid infinite loops
- Frequently used in optimization algorithms, user input loops, and real-time simulations

Real-World Examples

if Statement

- Grading system: determine letter grade from numerical score
- Model selection: choose best hyperparameter set based on validation accuracy
- Data cleaning: keep or discard samples according to missing value threshold

Real-World Examples

If Loops

- Calculating mean and standard deviation over a dataset of measurements
- Processing every image in a folder for preprocessing and augmentation
- Training a neural network for a fixed number of epochs

Real-World Examples

While Loops

- Gradient descent optimization until convergence criterion is met
- Reading sensor data continuously until user terminates the experiment
- Simulating physical systems until equilibrium or maximum time is reached

REVIEW

Feature	if Statement	for Loop	while Loop
When to use	Decision making	Known/fixed number of items	Unknown number, condition-based
Risk of infinity	None	Very low	High (must update condition)
Typical in ML	Hyperparameter choice	Training epochs, batch loops	Optimization until convergence

Matplotlib

- Python's Standard Plotting Library **Subtitle:** Importing and Basic Setup
- Matplotlib is the most widely used plotting library in the Python scientific ecosystem
- Provides publication-quality 2D (and basic 3D) figures

Matplotlib

- Highly customizable and integrates seamlessly with NumPy, Pandas, and Jupyter/Colab
- Standard convention: import the pyplot submodule as plt
- Essential for data visualization in research, reports, and academic publications

Matplotlib

Why Matplotlib Matters in Academic Work?

What is the Role of Matplotlib in Scientific Python?

From Exploration to Publication

- Enables exploratory data analysis through quick plots
- Creates reproducible, high-quality figures for papers and theses

Matplotlib

- Supports a vast range of plot types: line, scatter, bar, histogram, contour, heatmap, 3D surfaces, etc.
- Full control over every visual element (colors, labels, fonts, legends, annotations)
- Output formats: PNG, PDF, SVG, EPS – perfect for LaTeX and journal submissions

Standard Import Pattern

- Almost every notebook, script, and paper uses the same import line

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

- Short alias plt makes code more readable and concise
- Often combined with NumPy import (np) since arrays are the primary data source
- Once imported, plt functions are available throughout the session

Matplotlib

What Comes Next After Import

- After Importing Matplotlib we use Prepare data (usually NumPy arrays or Pandas DataFrames)
- Create figure and axes objects (explicit style recommended)
- Plot data using various plt or axes methods
- Customize appearance (titles, labels, grid, legend, limits)
- Display inline (notebooks) or save to file (scripts and papers)
- Matplotlib is the cornerstone of scientific visualization in Python – mastering it is essential for every researcher and data scientist.

Functions

Why Functions Exist?

- The Key to Clean, Reusable Code
- Eliminate repeated code
- Give meaningful names to operations
- Make programs easier to read, test, and debug
- Essential building block of all serious scientific and research code

Functions

Flexibility Features:

- Default values → optional arguments
- Keyword arguments → call in any order
- Variable number of arguments (*args, **kwargs) for advanced use
- Clear function signatures make code self-documenting

Functions

Functions You Will Write Daily:

- Data loading and preprocessing
- Model training and evaluation steps
- Statistical calculations and metrics
- Plotting routines with consistent style
- Simulation steps and result analysis

Functions

*Golden Rule of Programming:
If you copy-paste the same
block more than twice
→ turn it into a function.*

Presented by
Zahra Garoosy

Content & Slides prepared by
Mohammad Sadat Rasoul



QUST
fall of 2025



انجمن علمی کوانتوم
دانشگاه علم و صنعت ایران

*Thank you
for your
attention!*

