

# Tuples

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## 1 Tuples

Tuples work a lot like lists, except they cannot be modified; they are immutable. Instead of brackets `[]` we use parentheses `()` around the elements.

```
[1]: food = ('eggs', 'bananas', 'lemonheads')
      food[1]
```

```
[1]: 'bananas'
```

```
[2]: food[1:3]
```

```
[2]: ('bananas', 'lemonheads')
```

```
[3]: food[1] = 'steak'
      food
```

```
-----
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
Cell In[3], line 1
----> 1 food[1] = 'steak'
      2 food

TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```

Lists and tuples turn out to be sequence data types – this means they support indexing and slicing. We will see below that strings are also a sequence type. We can also define a tuple by simply separating values by commas:

```
[4]: food = 'trail mix', 'nothing'
      food[0]
```

```
[4]: 'trail mix'
```

And of course, we can nest tuples and lists interchangeably:

```
[ ]: foo = ([1, 2, 3], [4, 5, (7, 8, 9)], (10, 11))
      foo
```

Tuples, like lists, can also be empty. Use `len()` to find the length of a tuple:

```
[ ]: foo = ()
      len(foo)
```

We can also unpack tuples, which means assigning each element of a tuple to a variable. For example:

```
[ ]: food = 'trail mix', 'nothing'
      tylerfood, chrisfood = food
      tylerfood = food[0]
      chrisfood = food[1]
      tylerfood
      chrisfood
```

### 1.0.1 Summary

- Tuples are like lists, but they are immutable.
- Syntax: like lists, but use parentheses `()` instead of brackets `[]`.
- Find more documentation about sequence types here:

### 1.0.2 Negative Indexing

Allows for negative indexing for its sequences. The index of `-1` refers to the last item, `-2` to the second last item and so on. For example:

```
[ ]: # accessing tuple elements using negative indexing
      letters = ('p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'i', 'z')

      print(letters[-1])
      print(letters[-3])
```

### 1.0.3 Slicing

We can access a range of items in a tuple by using the slicing operator colon

```
[ ]: # accessing tuple elements using slicing
      my_tuple = ('p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'i', 'z')
      print(my_tuple[1:4])
```

```
[ ]: print(my_tuple[7:])
```

```
[ ]: print(my_tuple[:])
```

### 1.0.4 Tuple Methods

Methods that add items or remove items are not available with tuple. Only the following two methods are available.

```
[ ]: my_tuple = ('a', 'p', 'p', 'l', 'e',)

print(my_tuple.count('p')) # prints 2
print(my_tuple.index('l')) # prints 3
```

### 1.0.5 Iterating through a Tuple in Python

```
[ ]: languages = ('Python', 'Swift', 'C++')

# iterating through the tuple
for language in languages:
    print(language)
```

### 1.0.6 Check if an Item Exists in the Tuple

```
[ ]: languages = ('Python', 'Swift', 'C++')

print('C' in languages)
print('Python' in languages)
```

### 1.0.7 Advantages of Tuple over List in Python

Since tuples are quite similar to lists, both of them are used in similar situations.

However, there are certain advantages of implementing a tuple over a list:

- We generally use tuples for heterogeneous (different) data types and lists for homogeneous (similar) data types.
- Since tuples are immutable, iterating through a tuple is faster than with a list. So there is a slight performance boost.
- Tuples that contain immutable elements can be used as a key for a dictionary. With lists, this is not possible.
- If you have data that doesn't change, implementing it as tuple will guarantee that it remains write-protected.

```
[ ]:
```