

03-classes

January 20, 2017

```
In [144]: # Ignore the code in this cell!!
```

```
import svgwrite
import collections

nobinding = "nobinding"

def binding(var):
    try:
        return eval(var)
    except NameError:
        return nobinding

class listis:
    def __init__(self):
        self.lis = []
    def get(self, key):
        for k,v in self.lis:
            if key is k:
                return v
    def put(self, key, val):
        new = True
        for pair in self.lis:
            if pair[0] is key:
                pair[1].append(val)
                new = False
        if new:
            self.lis.append([key, [val]])
    def keys(self):
        return [k for k,v in self.lis]

class memgraph:
    def __init__(self, vars):
        self.vars = sorted(vars)

    def _repr_svg_(self):
        d = svgwrite.Drawing(size=(800,200))
```

```

left = 100
right = 260
dy = 30
vv = listis()
ais = listis()

for var in self.vars:
    val = binding(var)
    if val != nobinding:
        vv.put(val, var)
        ais.put(val, val)

vals = ais.keys()
vary = dict()

y = dy
d.add(d.text("Variables", insert=(left, y), text_anchor="end", fill="red"))
y += dy

for var in self.vars:
    d.add(d.text(var, insert=(left, y), text_anchor="end", fill="black"))
    vary[var] = y
    y += dy

y = dy
d.add(d.text("Objects in the Heap", insert=(right, y), fill='blue'))
y += dy

for val in vals:
    d.add(d.text(str(val), insert=(right, y), fill='black'))

    for var in vv.get(val):
        ly = vary[var]
        d.add(d.line((left, ly), (right, y), stroke=svgwrite.rgb(0, 0, 0)))
    y += dy

return d.tostring()

def svg(self):
    return self._repr_svg_()

```

1 Class

- classes define “templates or blueprints” for building objects
- once a class is defined, any number of objects can be “constructed”, or “instantiated”
- everything in Python is an ‘object’
 - not true in Java/C++

- all python objects 'live' in the 'heap'
- each object has a fixed 'type', which can be accessed via the 'type' function
- objects have attributes, which are "named objects"
- a 'method' is an attribute holding a function object, which can access and modify the object attributes
- class methods are invoked by functions, operators, and the "." syntax. examples below in 'List'

2 Numbers

- int - arbitrary precision
- float - 64 bits
- complex

```
In [146]: # numbers evaluate to themselves
```

```
1234 # anything after a '#' is a comment and ignored by Python
```

```
Out[146]: 1234
```

```
In [147]: # Python has the usual arithmetic operators
```

```
3*4 - 2**3
```

```
Out[147]: 4
```

```
In [148]: # a float "contaminates" an expression and
# makes it a float
```

```
3*4 - 2**3.2
```

```
Out[148]: 2.810413160023719
```

```
In [149]: # arbitrary precision integers
# integer size limited only by available memory
```

```
2**250
```

```
Out[149]: 1809251394333065553493296640760748560207343510400633813116524750123642650
```

```
In [150]: # 'type' returns the type or class name of an object
```

```
type(2**100)
```

```
Out[150]: int
```

2.0.1 Division operators

- slightly different from most languages
- with integers

```
In [151]: # in most languages this would int 2, but in Python, it is a float
```

```
7/2
```

```
Out[151]: 3.5
```

```
In [152]: # // is integer divide
```

```
7//2
```

```
Out[152]: 3
```

```
In [153]: # mod or remainder
```

```
7%2
```

```
Out[153]: 1
```

2.0.2 Division operators

- with floats

```
In [154]: 7.0 / 2.0
```

```
Out[154]: 3.5
```

```
In [155]: 7.0 // 2.0
```

```
Out[155]: 3.0
```

```
In [156]: 7.0 % 2.0
```

```
Out[156]: 1.0
```

```
In [157]: # XeY is X*10^Y
```

```
3e3
```

```
Out[157]: 3000.0
```

```
In [158]: 2.3 * 3e3
```

```
Out[158]: 6899.999999999999
```

2.0.3 Complex numbers

```
In [159]: # a complex number times its conjugate is real
          # j is the square root of -1
          # type name is 'complex'

          [(3+4j)*(3-4j), type(3+4j)]
```

```
Out[159]: [(25+0j), complex]
```

```
In [160]: # int function tries to convert arg to an int

          int('2345')
```

```
Out[160]: 2345
```

```
In [161]: int(3.45)
```

```
Out[161]: 3
```

```
In [162]: # likewise for float

          float('3.45')
```

```
Out[162]: 3.45
```

```
In [163]: float(3)
```

```
Out[163]: 3.0
```

3 Object references and variables

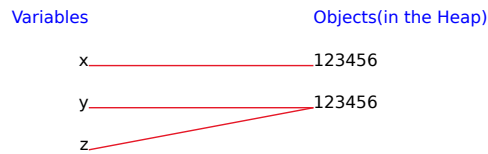
- variables hold ‘references’ to objects.
- variables do not have or enforce any notion of type
- a given object can have any number of references to it
- there are TWO notions of equality in Python
 - the ‘is’ operator is true if the two references are to the same object
 - the ‘==’ operator is true if
 - * the two references are to the same object, or two different objects “print the same way”(vague!! we will refine later)

```
In [164]: x = 123456
          y = 123456
          z = y

          # graph memory

          memgraph(['x', 'y', 'z'])
```

Out[164]:



```
In [165]: # are x & y references to the same object?
```

```
x is y
```

Out[165]: False

```
In [166]: # are y & z references to the same object?
```

```
y is z
```

Out[166]: True

```
In [167]: # y is z => y == z
```

```
y == z
```

Out[167]: True

```
In [168]: # are x & y 'equivalent' in some sense?
```

```
# yes - x & y are different objects, but they represent the same integer
```

```
x == y
```

Out[168]: True

```
In [169]: # if we try a small int, like 4, instead of 123456,
```

```
# we get a different result!
```

```
# small ints are singletons(interned) for efficiency reasons.
```

```
# so, no matter how you compute a '4', you'll get the same '4'
```

```
# object
```

```
a = 4
```

```
b = 4
```

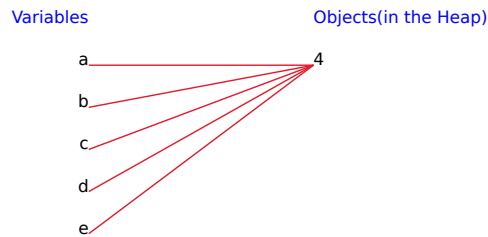
```
c = 6 - 2
```

```
d = 2*2
```

```
e = 2**2
```

```
memgraph(['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e'])
```

Out [169]:



4 Automatic memory Management

- when an object has no references to it, it becomes eligible for 'garbage collection'. the storage it uses is recycled
 - Python uses reference counting
- the user does not have to manage allocating and freeing memory, like Java, unlike C++

5 None

- Like 'null' in other languages
- Means failure or absence of a value
- is a singleton (there is only one object of class None)
- does not print at top level

```
In [170]: # no output
```

None

```
In [171]: # explicit print will show it
```

```
print(None)
```

None

```
In [172]: x = None  
          y = None
```

```
memgraph(['x', 'y'])
```

Out [172]:



6 Boolean

- Objects: False, True(both singletons)
- Operators: 'not', 'and', 'or'
- <,<=, etc
- unlike many languages, &, &&, |, ||, ~, are not boolean operators

```
In [173]: not (True and (True or False))
```

```
Out[173]: False
```

```
In [174]: 1234<=1234
```

```
Out[174]: True
```

```
In [175]: 123<345
```

```
Out[175]: True
```

7 Immutable vs Mutable Objects

- Immutable objects, once created, can never be modified
- Mutable objects can be modified at any time

8 Functions

- functions are “first class” objects in Python - they can be assigned as variables, passed as args
- functions are (mostly) immutable objects
- by default, functions return 'None' - you must use the 'return' statement to return a value
- note the ':' at the end of the first line, and the indenting of the function body. this is how you define a 'statement block' in python
- Java/C++ uses '{...}' for statement blocks
- much more about functions later


```
In [176]: # returns 'None'
```

```
def add2(x):  
    x + 2  
  
print(add2(4))
```

None

```
In [177]: # must use return
```

```
def add2(x):  
    return x + 2  
  
add2(3)
```

Out[177]: 5

```
In [178]: # can return multiple values by returning a list (or other data structures)
```

```
def addsub2(x):  
    return [x+2, x-2]  
  
addsub2(10)
```

Out[178]: [12, 8]

9 Collection Types

- hold multiple objects in various configurations
- several kinds are built into the language
- can write “collection literals”
- very easy to use

10 list

- the heart of Python
- much of the “art” of Python involves getting good at manipulating lists
- a list holds a ordered sequence of objects
- duplicates are allowed
- list objects do not have to be the same type
- lists are zero origin - index of first element is 0
- lists are mutable
- some methods, like ‘index’ and ‘count’, have no ‘side effects’ - they don’t modify the list
- others, like reverse, modify the list
- methods that modify the list typically return ‘None’
- type name is ‘list’

```
In [179]: # can make a list by just typing it in
```

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

```
Out[179]: [1, 2, 3]
```

```
In [180]: type([2,3,4])
```

```
Out[180]: list
```

11 range

- the 'range' form is often used to specify a list of numbers
- often used for iteration purposes
- range evaluates to itself
- range is our first example of "lazy evaluation"
 - major theme in Python 3.X

```
In [181]: range(0, 10)
```

```
Out[181]: range(0, 10)
```

```
In [182]: # to see the corresponding list, use the list function
          # note range arguments are inclusive/exclusive - there's no 10 in the list
```

```
list(range(0, 10))
```

```
Out[182]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
```

```
In [183]: # same as above, assume 0 start
```

```
list(range(10))
```

```
Out[183]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
```

```
In [184]: # 3rd arg is increment
```

```
list(range(0, 10, 2))
```

```
Out[184]: [0, 2, 4, 6, 8]
```

```
In [185]: # can go backwards too - note no 0 in list
```

```
list(range(12, 0, -3))
```

```
Out[185]: [12, 9, 6, 3]
```

```
In [186]: # 'len' forces evaluation,
          # and returns the "length" of a collection object
```

```
len(range(12,0, -3))
```

```
Out[186]: 4
```

```
In [187]: # order matters for lists
```

```
[1,2,3] == [2,1,3]
```

```
Out[187]: False
```

```
In [188]: [2,1,3] == [2,1,3]
```

```
Out[188]: True
```

```
In [189]: # duplicates are ok in a list
```

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

```
Out[189]: [1, 1, 2, 3]
```

```
In [190]: # in languages like Java/C++ would have to select a  
# 'collection' type, instantiate it, and somehow  
# 'stuff' the values in.
```

```
# in python, can just directly "write" a list  
# the assignment statement does not print the right hand side value
```

```
x = [0, 111.111, "zap", True, None]  
y = x  
x
```

```
Out[190]: [0, 111.111, 'zap', True, None]
```

```
In [191]: # variable by itself prints its value
```

```
x
```

```
Out[191]: [0, 111.111, 'zap', True, None]
```

```
In [192]: # len returns the length of a list
```

```
len(x)
```

```
Out[192]: 5
```

```
In [193]: # 'count' method returns a value, does not modify the list  
# count the number of 'True's  
# here the 'dot syntax' is used to invoke the list 'count method'
```

```
x.count(2343)
```

```
Out[193]: 0
```

```
In [194]: # reverse returns None - a hint that it modifies the list
          # the 'reverse method' on the list class is invoked
```

```
          x.reverse()
```

```
In [195]: x
```

```
Out[195]: [None, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]
```

```
In [196]: # what happened to y?
          # we didn't explicitly do anything to y, but
          # since y references the same object as x,
          # it 'sees' the reverse that x.reverse() did
```

```
          y
```

```
Out[196]: [None, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]
```

```
In [197]: # common mistake
          # reverse does NOT return the reversed list
          # if you do this, you just lost your list
```

```
          z = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
          z = z.reverse()
          print(z)
```

```
None
```

```
In [198]: # Another mistake
          # leaving off the '()' just
          # returns the function object
          # the function does NOT run
```

```
          z = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
          z.reverse
```

```
Out[198]: <function list.reverse>
```

```
In [199]: # so no change to z
```

```
          z
```

```
Out[199]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

```
In [200]: x
```

```
Out[200]: [None, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]
```

```

In [201]: # Python has very convenient techniques for accessing
          # and modifying list elements
          # can index into the list like an array,
          # and retrieve one element

          x[2]

Out[201]: 'zap'

In [202]: # negative index starts from the last list element

          x[-1]

Out[202]: 0

In [203]: # can take a subsequences (slice) of the list
          # like range, inclusive/exclusive
          # slices always COPY the original list

          x[0:2]

Out[203]: [None, True]

In [204]: # missing second index means continue slice to the end of the list

          x[3:]

Out[204]: [111.111, 0]

In [205]: # missing first index means start slice at beginning of the list

          x[:2]

Out[205]: [None, True]

In [206]: # can add a index increment to a slice

          x[0:8:2]

Out[206]: [None, 'zap', 0]

In [207]: # index missing on both sides of ":" - slice
          # is the whole list.
          # common python shorthand for copying
          # an entire list

          x2 = x[:]

          # reverse modifies x2, but x will not be changed, because
          # x and x2 are referencing different objects

```

```

    # reverse() returns 'None'

    print(x2)
    print(x2.reverse())
    print(x2)
    print(x)

[None, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]
None
[0, 111.111, 'zap', True, None]
[None, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]

In [208]: # can set list elements

        x[0] = -1
        x

Out[208]: [-1, True, 'zap', 111.111, 0]

In [209]: # can set slices

        x[3:5] = [2**8, False]
        x

Out[209]: [-1, True, 'zap', 256, False]

In [210]: # 'in' operator - is an element in the list somewhere?
        # uses == to test

        ['zap' in x, 55 in x]

Out[210]: [True, False]

In [211]: # where is the element?
        # 'index' is a 'method' on the list class

        x.index('zap')

Out[211]: 2

In [212]: # index throws an error if it doesn't find anything
        # we will learn more about errors later

        x.index("not in there")

```

ValueError

Traceback (most recent call last)

```
<ipython-input-212-83c8fd21a8b8> in <module>()
    2 # we will learn more about errors later
    3
----> 4 x.index("not in there")
```

ValueError: 'not in there' is not in list

```
In [213]: # + concatenates lists
         # note: what '+' actually does depends on the type of its arguments
```

```
x = list(range(5))
x + x
```

```
Out[213]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

```
In [214]: x
```

```
Out[214]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

```
In [215]: # add one element at the end
```

```
x.append([22,33])
x
```

```
Out[215]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, [22, 33]]
```

```
In [216]: # add N elements at the end
```

```
x.extend([22,33])
x
```

```
Out[216]: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, [22, 33], 22, 33]
```

```
In [217]: # add one element anywhere
```

```
x.insert(2, 5)
x
```

```
Out[217]: [0, 1, 5, 2, 3, 4, [22, 33], 22, 33]
```

```
In [218]: # pop method removes and returns a
         # list element, by default the last element
```

```
print(x.pop())
print(x)
```

33

```
[0, 1, 5, 2, 3, 4, [22, 33], 22]
```

```
In [219]: # but can specify which element to pop
```

```
print(x.pop(2))
print(x)
```

5

```
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, [22, 33], 22]
```

```
In [220]: # remove first 4 found
```

```
x.remove(4)
print(x)
```

```
[0, 1, 2, 3, [22, 33], 22]
```

```
In [221]: # sort modifies the list
```

```
x = [34, 3, 5, 22]
x.sort()
x
```

```
Out[221]: [3, 5, 22, 34]
```

```
In [222]: # can preserve original list by using 'sorted'
# sorted makes a copy of the input list
```

```
x = [34, 3, 5, 22]
y = sorted(x)
[x, y]
```

```
Out[222]: [[34, 3, 5, 22], [3, 5, 22, 34]]
```

```
In [223]: # dir shows the methods defined on a class
# __XYZ__ are "special" methods - ignore them for now
```

```
dir(list)
```

```
Out[223]: ['__add__',
            '__class__',
            '__contains__',
            '__delattr__',
            '__delitem__',
            '__dir__',
```



```

'__doc__',
'__eq__',
'__format__',
'__ge__',
'__getattr__',
'__getitem__',
'__gt__',
'__hash__',
'__iadd__',
'__imul__',
'__init__',
'__iter__',
'__le__',
'__len__',
'__lt__',
'__mul__',
'__ne__',
'__new__',
'__reduce__',
'__reduce_ex__',
'__repr__',
'__reversed__',
'__rmul__',
'__setattr__',
'__setitem__',
'__sizeof__',
'__str__',
'__subclasshook__',
'append',
'clear',
'copy',
'count',
'extend',
'index',
'insert',
'pop',
'remove',
'reverse',
'sort']

```

12 Iterating over Lists

- Many ways to iterate, we'll look at the two most important here, 'for' and 'list comprehensions'
- Python does NOT have C++/Java style loops, like:

```
for(int j = 0; j<5; j++) { }
```

13 for loop

- Python version of C++/Java loop above
- Python loops are simpler
- note trailing ':', and indented print statements - defines a statement block
- Python uses indents and ':' to define blocks, unlike C/Java, which uses '{}'

```
In [224]: for j in range(10,15):  
           print(j)  
           print(j+10)  
           print('loop finished')
```

```
10  
20  
11  
21  
12  
22  
13  
23  
14  
24  
loop finished
```

```
In [225]: # to sum up a list of numbers  
          # use zn 'accumulation variable'  
  
          sum = 0  
  
          for j in range(5):  
              sum += j  
  
          sum
```

```
Out[225]: 10
```

```
In [226]: # add 10 to every element of a list  
          # use list accumulation variable  
  
          a10 = []  
  
          for j in range(5):  
              a10.append(10+j)  
  
          a10
```

```
Out[226]: [10, 11, 12, 13, 14]
```

14 list comprehension

- above technique is not considered 'pythonic'
- syntax is a little odd at first glance
- no accum var needed
- can optionally do filtering

```
In [227]: # add 10 again
```

```
[j+10 for j in range(5)]
```

```
Out[227]: [10, 11, 12, 13, 14]
```

```
In [228]: # filter - add 10 only to even ints
          # '%' is mod operator
```

```
[j+10 for j in range(5) if j % 2 == 0]
```

```
Out[228]: [10, 12, 14]
```

15 Tuples

- like lists, but immutable - can't be modified after creation
 - however, objects that the tuple refers to can still be modified
- useful for functional programming
- 'tuple' is the type name

```
In [232]: # len returns length of top level elements
```

```
t = (1, [5, 6], 4)
[t, len(t), type(t)]
```

```
Out[232]: [(1, [5, 6], 4), 3, tuple]
```

```
In [233]: len(t)
```

```
Out[233]: 3
```

```
In [234]: # can retrieve
```

```
t[0]
```

```
Out[234]: 1
```

```
In [235]: # but can't modify
```

```
t[0] = 3
```

```

-----
TypeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-235-5ac5b4647ba0> in <module>()
      1 # but can't modify
      2
----> 3 t[0] = 3

```

```

TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment

```

```

In [236]: t

```

```

Out[236]: (1, [5, 6], 4)

```

```

In [237]: # but - objects the tuple refers to are NOT made immutable

```

```

      t[1][0] = 45
      t

```

```

Out[237]: (1, [45, 6], 4)

```

```

In [238]: # tuples loop like lists

```

```

      for x in (1,2,3):
          print(x)

```

```

1
2
3

```

16 Iterables

- ‘iterables’ are objects you can iterate over
- lists and tuples are iterables

17 Strings

- immutable - once created, cannot be modified
- in Python version 3.X, strings are unicode
- many useful methods
- the ‘re’ module provides regular expression pattern matching
- three types of string literals ‘foo’, “foo”, and “”foo””
- triple quotes can include multiple lines

- unlike other languages, there is no 'character' type
- a Python 'character' is just a length 1 string
- 'str' is the type name

```
In [239]: # len returns number of characters
```

```
['foobar', 'foo"bar', type('foobar'), len('foobar')]
```

```
Out[239]: ['foobar', 'foo"bar', str, 6]
```

```
In [240]: # various ways to embed quotes
```

```
['foo"bar', "foo'bar", 'foo\'bar']
```

```
Out[240]: ['foo"bar', "foo'bar", "foo'bar"]
```

```
In [241]: # use triple quotes to define multi-line strings
```

```
'''
foo'
bar"
'''
```

```
Out[241]: '\nfoo\'\'nbar"\n'
```

```
In [242]: # Strings are iterables
```

```
for s in 'FooBar':
    print(s)
```

```
F
o
o
B
a
r
```

```
In [243]: # string methods that return a string always return a NEW string.
# the original string is NEVER modified
```

```
s = 'FooBar'
ls = [s, s.lower(), s.upper(), s.replace('o','X'), s.swapcase()]
```

```
In [244]: # first element of list is the original 'FooBar' - has not
# been modified by any of the methods run above
# rest of list contains 4 NEW string objects, derived from the
# original 'FooBar'
```

```
ls
```

```
Out[244]: ['FooBar', 'foobar', 'FOOBAR', 'FXXBar', 'fOObAR']
```

```
In [245]: # join is a very handy method
```

```
[' ','.join(ls), '|'.join(ls), '---'.join(ls)]
```

```
Out[245]: ['FooBar,foobar,FOOBAR,FXXBar,fOObAR',  
          'FooBar|foobar|FOOBAR|FXXBar|fOObAR',  
          'FooBar---foobar---FOOBAR---FXXBar---fOObAR']
```

```
In [246]: # the inverse, split, creates a list of tokens
```

```
s = "foo,bar,34,zap"  
s.split(",")
```

```
Out[246]: ['foo', 'bar', '34', 'zap']
```

```
In [247]: # strip can remove chars at the begining(left) and/or end(right) of a string  
# Note middle 'X' is not removed  
# Most commonly used to remove new lines from a string
```

```
s = 'XXfooXbarXXX'  
[s.strip('X'), s.lstrip('X'), s.rstrip('X')]
```

```
Out[247]: ['fooXbar', 'fooXbarXXX', 'XXfooXbar']
```

```
In [248]: # '+' concatenates strings as well as lists  
# the operation '+' performs depends on the type of the arguments
```

```
s + s
```

```
Out[248]: 'XXfooXbarXXXXXfooXbarXXX'
```

```
In [249]: # can repeat strings
```

```
[2*"abc", "xyz"*4]
```

```
Out[249]: ['abcabc', 'xyzxyzxyzxyz']
```

```
In [250]: # 'in' looks for substrings  
# case sensitive compares
```

```
s = 'zappa'  
['pa' in s, 'Za' in s, s.count('p'), s.count('ap')]
```

```
Out[250]: [True, False, 2, 1]
```

```
In [251]: # search for a substring with 'find' or 'index'
```

```
[s.find('pa'), s.index('pa')]
```

```
Out[251]: [3, 3]
```

```
In [252]: # on a miss, 'find' returns -1
```

```
s.find('32')
```

```
Out[252]: -1
```

```
In [253]: # but index throws an error
```

```
s.index('32')
```

```
-----  
ValueError                                Traceback (most recent call last)  
  
<ipython-input-253-calc8ab7d822> in <module>()  
    1 # but index throws an error  
    2  
----> 3 s.index('32')
```

```
ValueError: substring not found
```

```
In [254]: # 'ord' and 'chr' do character-number conversions
```

```
[ord('A'), chr(65)]
```

```
Out[254]: [65, 'A']
```

```
In [255]: # make the lower case chars, a-z
```

```
# somewhat terse one liner -
```

```
# in Python you can do alot with a little code,
```

```
# but can be hard to read
```

```
lc= ''.join([chr(c) for c in range(ord('a'), ord('z')+1)])  
lc
```

```
Out[255]: 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
```

```
In [256]: # let's break it into separate steps:
```

```
# get the ascii codes for 'a' and 'z'
```

```
a = ord('a')
```

```
z = ord('z')
```

```
[a,z]
```

```
Out[256]: [97, 122]
```

```
In [257]: # now we have all the codes for 'a' to 'z'
         # note the z+1 - need the +1 to get the z code
```

```
codes = [c for c in range(a,z+1)]
print(codes)
```

```
[97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113,
```

```
In [258]: # now we have a list of the lower case characters
```

```
chars = [chr(c) for c in codes]
print(chars)
```

```
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n', 'o', 'p', 'q',
```

```
In [259]: # last step - using the 'join' method on string,
         # merge the chars into one string
```

```
''.join(chars)
```

```
Out[259]: 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
```

```
In [260]: # now that we have suffered, there is an easier way
         # string package has useful constants
```

```
import string
string.ascii_lowercase
```

```
Out[260]: 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
```

```
In [261]: # can slice strings too
```

```
[len(lc), lc[10:20], lc[10:20:2], lc[10:11]]
```

```
Out[261]: [26, 'klmnopqrst', 'kmoqs', 'k']
```

```
In [262]: # unlike a list, a string is immutable - you can't change anything
```

```
s = 'foobar'
s[0] = 't'
```

TypeError

Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-262-28c99246d7b8> in <module>()

2


```
3 s = 'foobar'
----> 4 s[0] = 't'
```

TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment

```
In [263]: # unlike list objects, string objects don't have a reverse method
          # but you can reverse with a slice
          # works with lists as well
```

```
s = '1234'
z = [1,2,3,4]
[s[::-1], z[::-1]]
```

```
Out[263]: ['4321', [4, 3, 2, 1]]
```

```
In [264]: # startswith, endwith string methods are sometimes
          # convenient alternatives to regular expressions
```

```
a = "foo.txt"

[a.startswith('foo'), a.endswith('txt'), a.endswith('txt2')]
```

```
Out[264]: [True, True, False]
```

```
In [265]: # 'str' converts objects to strings
```

```
[str(234), str(3.34), str([1,2,3])]
```

```
Out[265]: ['234', '3.34', '[1, 2, 3]']
```

```
In [266]: # 'list' converts a string into a list of
          # characters (length one strings)
```

```
list('foobar')
```

```
Out[266]: ['f', 'o', 'o', 'b', 'a', 'r']
```

18 'printf' style string formatting - old way

- still works, but deprecated

```
In [267]: 'int %d float %f string %s' % (3, 5.5, 'printf')
```

```
Out[267]: 'int 3 float 5.500000 string printf'
```

19 'printf' style string formatting - new way

- preferred method
- looks at the type of the arg, so don't have to specify type in control string
- [details](#)

```
In [268]: 'int {} float {} string {}'.format(3, 5.5, 'printf')
```

```
Out[268]: 'int 3 float 5.5 string printf'
```

```
In [269]: # lots of methods on strings
```

```
dir(str)
```

```
Out[269]: ['__add__',
            '__class__',
            '__contains__',
            '__delattr__',
            '__dir__',
            '__doc__',
            '__eq__',
            '__format__',
            '__ge__',
            '__getattr__',
            '__getitem__',
            '__getnewargs__',
            '__gt__',
            '__hash__',
            '__init__',
            '__iter__',
            '__le__',
            '__len__',
            '__lt__',
            '__mod__',
            '__mul__',
            '__ne__',
            '__new__',
            '__reduce__',
            '__reduce_ex__',
            '__repr__',
            '__rmod__',
            '__rmul__',
            '__setattr__',
            '__sizeof__',
            '__str__',
            '__subclasshook__',
            'capitalize',
            'casefold',
            'center',
```

```
'count',  
'encode',  
'endswith',  
'expandtabs',  
'find',  
'format',  
'format_map',  
'index',  
'isalnum',  
'isalpha',  
'isdecimal',  
'isdigit',  
'isidentifier',  
'islower',  
'isnumeric',  
'isprintable',  
'isspace',  
'istitle',  
'isupper',  
'join',  
'ljust',  
'lower',  
'lstrip',  
'maketrans',  
'partition',  
'replace',  
'rfind',  
'rindex',  
'rjust',  
'rpartition',  
'rsplit',  
'rstrip',  
'split',  
'splitlines',  
'startswith',  
'strip',  
'swapcase',  
'title',  
'translate',  
'upper',  
'zfill']
```