

Comprehensions

In addition to sequence operations and list methods, Python includes a more advanced operation called a list comprehension.

List comprehensions allow us to build out lists using a different notation. You can think of it as essentially a one line for loop built inside of brackets. For a simple example:

Example 1

```
In [1]: # Grab every letter in string  
lst = [x for x in 'word']
```

```
In [2]: # Check  
lst
```

```
Out[2]: ['w', 'o', 'r', 'd']
```

This is the basic idea of a list comprehension. If you're familiar with mathematical notation this format should feel familiar for example: $x^2 : x \text{ in } \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 10\}$

Lets see a few more example of list comprehensions in Python:

Example 2

```
In [1]: # Square numbers in range and turn into list  
lst = [x**2 for x in range(0,11)]
```

```
In [2]: lst
```

```
Out[2]: [0, 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100]
```

Example 3

Lets see how to add in if statements:

```
In [5]: # Check for even numbers in a range  
lst = [x for x in range(11) if x % 2 == 0]
```

```
In [6]: lst
```

```
Out[6]: [0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

Example 4

Can also do more complicated arithmetic:

```
In [7]: # Convert Celsius to Fahrenheit
celsius = [0,10,20.1,34.5]

fahrenheit = [ ((float(9)/5)*temp + 32) for temp in Celsius ]

fahrenheit
```

```
Out[7]: [32.0, 50.0, 68.18, 94.1]
```

Example 5

We can also perform nested list comprehensions, for example:

```
In [8]: lst = [ x**2 for x in [x**2 for x in range(11)]]
lst
```

```
Out[8]: [0, 1, 16, 81, 256, 625, 1296, 2401, 4096, 6561, 10000]
```

Later on in the course we will learn about generator comprehensions. After this lecture you should feel comfortable reading and writing basic list comprehensions.