

Lecture

Intro to Docstrings





Docstrings

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Documentation Strings



Docstrings

```
>>> def add(a, b):  
    """Add two integers and return the resulting integer."""  
    return a + b
```



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Docstrings

- ◆ String literal
- ◆ First statement in a class, method, module, or function.
- ◆ Should be included for all public methods (including `__init__()`).
- ◆ One-line or Multi-line



Docstrings

◆ Document your code

- Human-Readable comments.
- Purpose and logic.
- Data types (parameters, return value).
- Specific and relevant information:
 - Valid ranges and values for the context, exceptions.



Docstring vs. Comment



Docstring vs. Comment

- ◆ Docstrings can be read using **help(<elem>)** in the interactive shell. Comments can only be read directly in the source code.
- ◆ Docstrings are “linked” to the element that they describe through the **__doc__** attribute. Comments are not part of the code at all.
- ◆ Docstrings can be converted into documentation.



Syntax & Content

