

Fundamentos de Programação

António J. R. Neves João Rodrigues

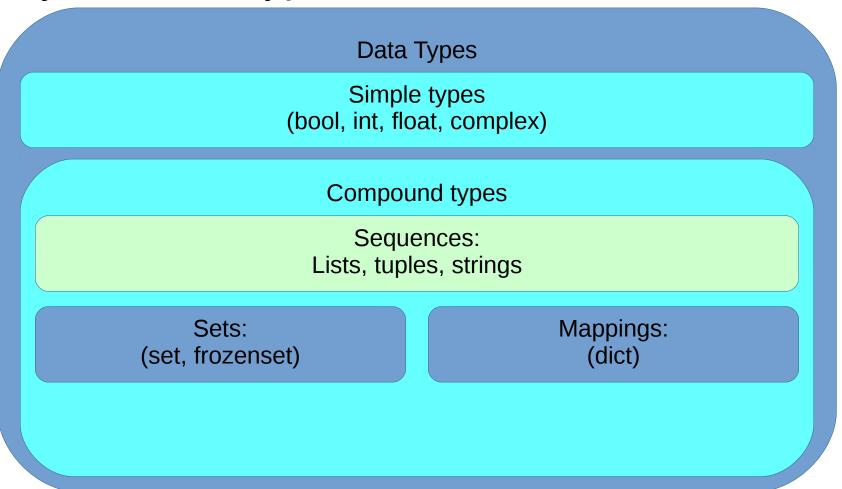
Departamento de Electrónica, Telecomunicações e Informática
Universidade de Aveiro

Summary

- Sequence types
 - Lists
 - Tuples
 - Strings

Sequences

Python data types



Lists

- A list is a <u>sequence</u> of values of any type.
- The values in a list are called elements or sometimes items.
- List literals are written in brackets.

```
numbers = [10, 20, 30, 40]
fruits = ['banana', 'pear', 'orange']
things = ['spam', 2.0, 5, [1, 2]] # a list inside!
empty = [] # an empty list
```

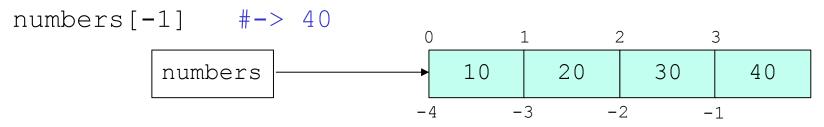
Function len returns the length of a sequence.

```
len(numbers) \#-> 4
len(things) \#-> 4
len(empty) \#-> 0
```

Indexing

 We can be access each element of a sequence using the bracket operator and a value – the index.

A negative index counts backward from the end.



Any integer expression may be used as an index.

```
numbers [(6+1)\%4] #-> 40
```

Using an index outside the list bounds is an error.

```
numbers[4] #-> IndexError
numbers[-5] #-> IndexError
```

Slicing

We can extract a subsequence using slicing.

```
numbers[1:3] #-> [20, 30]

numbers[0:4:2] #-> [10, 30] (step = 2)

numbers[2:2] #-> []

numbers

10 20 30 40

-4 -3 -2 -1
```

Negative indices may be used too.

```
numbers[-4:-2] #-> [10, 20]
numbers[1:-1] #-> [20, 30]
```

Indices may be omitted for the start or end.

```
numbers[:2] #-> [10, 20]
numbers[3:] #-> [40]
numbers[:] # a full copy of numbers
```

Traversing

The most common way to traverse the elements of a sequence is with a for loop.

pear

orange

```
for f in fruits:
    print(f)
```

But sometimes we use the indices, e.g., when updating.

```
for i in range(len(numbers)):
    numbers[i] = numbers[i] * 2
```

In this case, we could have used a while loop instead.

Sequence operations and methods

The + operator concatenates and * repeats sequences.

```
s = [1, 2, 3] + [7, 7] #-> [1, 2, 3, 7, 7]

z = [0]*3 #-> [0, 0, 0]
```

 Operator in checks if an element is included in the sequence. Operator not in means the opposite.

```
7 in s #-> True
4 not in s #-> True
```

Some methods allow finding and counting elements.

```
s.index(7) \# -> 3
s.count(7) \# -> 2
```

Some built-in functions apply to sequences.

```
sum(s) \#-> 20
min(s), max(s) \#-> 1, 7
```

Lists are mutable

Lists are mutable, i.e., we can change their contents.

```
numbers[1] = 99

numbers \#-> [10, 99, 20, 40]
```

We can even change a sublist.

```
numbers[2:3] = [98, 97]

numbers \#-> [10, 99, 98, 97, 40]
```

Lists have several methods to change their contents.

```
z = [1, 2]

z.append(3) # appends 3 to end of z \rightarrow [1, 2, 3]

x = z.pop() # z \rightarrow [1, 2], x \rightarrow 3

z.extend([4, 5]) # z \rightarrow [1, 2, 4, 5]

z.insert(1, 6) # z \rightarrow [1, 6, 2, 4, 5]

x = z.pop(0) # z \rightarrow [6, 2, 4, 5], x \rightarrow 1
```

Mutability and aliasing

In Python, variables store references to objects.

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

# a and b refer to the same object!
# In other words, a and b are aliases.
```

Object contents may change, but the object is the same!

```
b[0] = 9  # object referenced by b is modified
b  #-> [9, 2, 3] (of course!)
a  #-> [9, 2, 3] (do you get it?)
# This effect is known as aliasing (in computing).
```

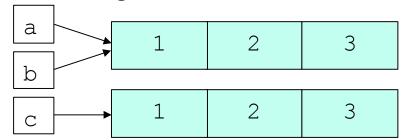
We can confirm that a and b refer to the same object.

```
a is b #-> True
```

Equality *versus* identity

Objects may be *equal* without being *the same*!

$$a = [1, 2, 3]$$
 $b = a$
 $c = [1, 2, 3]$



We test equality with == (or !=).

$$a == b #-> True a != b #-> False$$

$$a == c #-> True a != c #-> False$$

$$a != c #-> False$$

• We test identity with is (or is not).

a is b
$$\#->$$
 True a is not b $\#->$ False

a is c
$$\#-> False$$
 a is not c $\#-> True$

- Identity <u>implies</u> equality!
- Equality <u>does not imply</u> identity.

Identity and immutable types

Don't use is when you mean ==!

```
[1, 2] == [1, 2] #-> True
[1, 2] is [1, 2] #-> False
"abx"[:2] == "ab" #-> True
"abx"[:2] is "ab" #-> False (probably...)
1000+1 is 1001 #-> False (probably...)
```

• For some immutable types, Python can <u>sometimes</u> detect equal values and share the same object to save space.

```
"ab" is "ab" #-> probably True, but ...

10+1 is 11 #-> probably True, but ...
```

This is implementation-dependent, so do not rely on it!

Cloning

- Sometimes, we need to make <u>a copy</u> of an object, so we can change it without changing the original.
- To clone lists, we may use the slicing operator [:].

```
a = [1, 2]
b = a[:] # slicing creates a new list

b is a #-> False

b.append(3)
```

We could also use the more general copy method.

```
b = a.copy()  # clone a
b is a  #-> False
```

- Other mutable types (such as sets and dictionaries) also have a copy method.
- Immutable types (tuples, strings) don't need one.

Lists – more operations

- If we know the index of the element to delete, we can use pop - it modifies the list and returns the element that was removed.
- If we don't need the removed value, we can use the del operator.
- If we know the element to remove (but not the index), we can use remove.
- To remove more than one element, we can use del with a slice index.
- sort arranges the elements of the list from low to high.

Strings

- Strings are <u>sequences</u> of characters.
- String literals are delimited by single or double quotes.

```
fruit = 'orange'
```

Like other sequences, we can use indexing and slicing.

```
letter = fruit[0] #-> 'o' (1st character)
len(fruit) #-> 6 (length of string)
fruit[1:4] #-> 'ran'
fruit[:-1] #-> 'orang'
fruit[::-1] #-> 'egnaro'
```

We can also <u>concatenate</u> and <u>repeat</u> strings.

```
name = 'tom' + 'cat' #-> 'tomcat'
gps = 2 * 'tom' #-> 'tomtom'
```

Strings are immutable

 Unlike lists, strings in Python are immutable. Once a string is created it can't be modified.

```
fruit[0] = 'a' #-> TypeError
```

But we can create new strings by combining existing ones.

```
ape = fruit[:-1]+'utan' #-> 'orangutan'
```

 Even methods that imply modification actually only return a new string object.

```
fruit.upper() #-> 'ORANGE'
fruit.replace('a', 'A') #-> 'orAnge'
fruit #-> 'orange'(not changed)
```

String - traversal

One way to traverse strings is with a for loop:

```
fruit = 'banana'
for char in fruit:
    print(char)
```

Another way:

```
index = 0
while index < len(fruit):
    letter = fruit[index]
    print(letter)
    index = index + 1</pre>
```

Another example:

```
prefixes = 'JKLMNOPQ'
suffix = 'ack'
for letter in prefixes:
    print(letter + suffix)
```

Examples

 The following program counts the number of times the letter 'a' appears in a string:

```
word = 'banana'; count = 0
for letter in word:
    if letter == 'a':
        count = count + 1
print(count)
```

• For strings, the in operator returns True iff the first string appears as a substring in the second:

```
for letter in word1:
    if letter <u>in</u> word2:
        print(letter)
```

More on strings

The relational operators work on strings and other sequences.

```
if word < 'banana':
    print(word, 'comes before banana.')
elif word > 'banana':
    print(word, 'comes after banana.')
else:
    print ('the same')
```

- Characters (letters, digits, punctuation) are stored as numeric codes (according to Unicode in python3).
 - ord(c) returns the code of the character.
 - chr (n) returns character represented by code n.
- String class has various built-in methods which allows to check for different types of strings (isalpha, ...).