



Introducing Python

Lecture# 4

by



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OBJECTIVES

After this session, students will be able to:

- Describe the difference between mutable and non-mutable data types
- Define sequences and their types
- Describe why sequences are useful in programming and how to create sequences like list, tuples and strings
- Explore common operations for sequences
- Use the `len`, `min`, `max`, `sum`, and `random.shuffle` functions with a list
- Access sequence elements by using indexed variables
- Obtain a subsequence from a larger sequence by using the slicing operator `[start : end]`
- Use the `+` (concatenation), `*` (repetition), and `in/not in` operators on sequences
- Invoke a list's `append`, `count`, `extend`, `index`, `insert`, `pop`, `remove`, `reverse`, and `sort` methods
- Split a string into a list using the str's `split` method

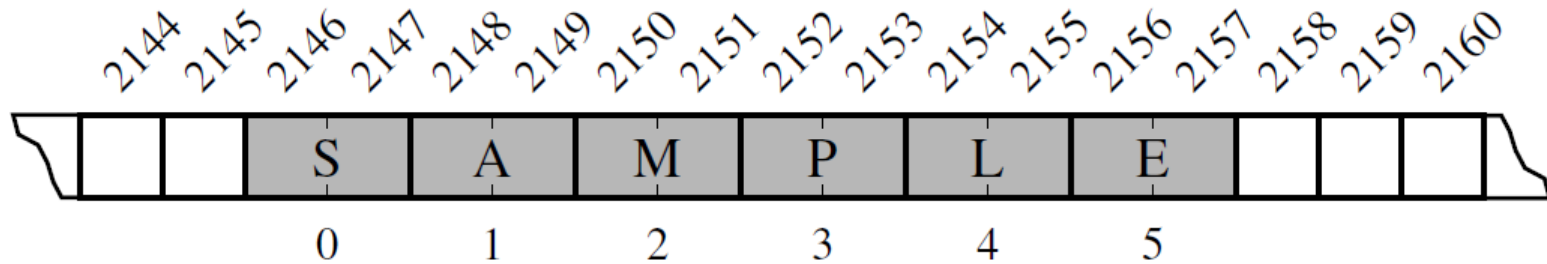
MUTABLE AND NON-MUTABLE OBJECTS

- Objects are divided into two distinct categories: mutable and immutable.
- An immutable object is one in which the state cannot be changed once it has been created.
- If the data fields of the object can be changed after the object has been created, the object is said to be mutable.

Class	Description	Immutable?
bool	Boolean value	✓
int	integer (arbitrary magnitude)	✓
float	floating-point number	✓
list	mutable sequence of objects	
tuple	immutable sequence of objects	✓
str	character string	✓
set	unordered set of distinct objects	
frozenset	immutable form of set class	✓
dict	associative mapping (aka dictionary)	

SEQUENCES

- There are three sequence class types: List, Tuple and String
- The name sequence relates it to the way it is stored in the memory. A sequence is stored in a sequence of memory blocks, one after the other.



- Sequences can be easily accessed via indexes similar to the way the elements of an array are accessed.
- An array has a fixed size. A Python list's size is flexible. It can grow and shrink on demand.

LIST OBJECT

- A list is a sequence defined by the list class. It contains the methods for creating, manipulating, and processing lists. Elements in a list can be accessed through an index.
- To create a list, you can use list's constructor, as follows:
 - `list1 = list()` # Create an empty list
 - `list2 = list([2, 3, 4])` # Create a list with elements 2, 3, 4
 - `list3 = list(["red", "green", "blue"])` # Create a list with strings
 - `list4 = list(range(3, 6))` # Create a list with elements 3, 4, 5
 - `list5 = list("abcd")` # Create a list with characters a, b, c, d
- You can also create a list by using the following syntax, which is a little simpler:
 - `list1 = []` # Same as list()
 - `list2 = [2, 3, 4]` # Same as list([2, 3, 4])
 - `list3 = ["red", "green"]` # Same as list(["red", "green"])
 - `list4 = [2, "three", 4]` # Mixed data-type elements

COMMON SEQUENCE OPERATIONS

- Common operations for sequences are:

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Description</i>
<code>x in s</code>	True if element x is in sequence s.
<code>x not in s</code>	True if element x is not in sequence s.
<code>s1 + s2</code>	Concatenates two sequences s1 and s2.
<code>s * n, n * s</code>	n copies of sequence s concatenated.
<code>s[i]</code>	ith element in sequence s.
<code>s[i : j]</code>	Slice of sequence s from index i to j - 1.
<code>len(s)</code>	Length of sequence s, i.e., the number of elements in s.
<code>min(s)</code>	Smallest element in sequence s.
<code>max(s)</code>	Largest element in sequence s.
<code>sum(s)</code>	Sum of all numbers in sequence s.
<code>for loop</code>	Traverses elements from left to right in a for loop.
<code><, <=, >, >=, =, !=</code>	Compares two sequences.

COMMON LIST OPERATIONS

- Common operations for list are:
 - `append(element)` method adds a new object as an element to the list
 - `extend(list)` method joins a new list to an existing list.
 - `insert(index, element)` method inserts a new *element* at *index* location
 - `index(element)` method returns the index location of an *element*
 - `count(element)` method returns the number of times an element is present
 - `pop(index)` method removes and returns the element at the given *index*
 - `remove(element)` method removes the given *element*
 - `reverse()` method reverses all the element of the list
 - `sort()` method sorts the elements in ascending order.
 - `clear()` method removes all the elements making it an empty list
 - `copy()` method makes a copy of the list and save it in a new list
 - `split()` a string method capable of splitting string into elements of a list

Questions & Answers

