5) Accessing Tuples

Accessing tuple elements using positive and negative indexing.

Introduction to Tuple Indexing

Tuples are ordered sequences, meaning each element has a fixed position. Python provides two indexing methods:

- Positive indexing (left to right, starting at 0)
- Negative indexing (right to left, starting at -1)

1. Positive Indexing

Characteristics:

- Starts at 0 for the first element
- Increases by 1 for each subsequent element
- Last element at index len(tuple) 1

```
animals = ("cat", "dog", "elephant", "lion")

print(animals[0]) # Output: cat

print(animals[2]) # Output: elephant
```

2. Negative Indexing

Characteristics

- Starts at -1 for the last element.
- Decreases by 1 moving leftward
- First element at index -len(tuple)

```
animals = ("cat", "dog", "elephant", "lion")

print(animals[-1]) # Output: lion

print(animals[-3]) # Output: dog
```

• Slicing a tuple to access ranges of elements

Introduction to Tuple Slicing

Tuple slicing extracts a subsequence (sub-tuple) from a tuple using the syntax:

tuple[start:stop:step]

- start (inclusive): index where slicing begins
- stop (exclusive): index where slicing ends
- step (optional): stride between elements (can be negative)
- Returns a new tuple (original remains unchanged)
- Works similarly to list slicing but produces immutable results

Indexing Systems

Slicing works with both indexing schemes:

- **Positive indices**: Count from left (0 = first element)
- **Negative indices**: Count from right (-1 = last element)

Positive indices

```
t = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

# Slicing examples

print("t[2:6] \rightarrow", t[2:6]) # Output: (2, 3, 4, 5)

print("t[:4] \rightarrow", t[:4]) # Output: (0, 1, 2, 3)

print("t[5:] \rightarrow", t[5:]) # Output: (5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

print("t[:] \rightarrow", t[:]) # Output: (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) — full
```

Negative indices

```
# Tuple initialization t = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
# Slicing with negative indices print("t[-4:-1] \rightarrow ", t[-4:-1]) \quad \text{# Output: } (6, 7, 8)
print("t[-6:] \rightarrow ", t[-6:]) \quad \text{# Output: } (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
print("t[:-7] \rightarrow ", t[:-7]) \quad \text{# Output: } (0, 1, 2)
print("t[-5:-2] \rightarrow ", t[-5:-2]) \quad \text{# Output: } (5, 6, 7)
print("t[::-1] \rightarrow ", t[::-1]) \quad \text{# Output: } (9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0) \rightarrow \text{reversed tuple}
```