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Introduction to Computing using Python (UE19CS101)

Concept of Library

The "Python library" contains several different kinds of components.

- It contains data types that would normally be considered part of the "core" of a language, such as numbers and lists.
 - For these types, the Python language core defines **the form of literals** and **places some constraints on their semantics**, but does not fully define the semantics. (On the other hand, the language core does define syntactic properties like the spelling and priorities of operators.)
- Python contains a large library of standard functions which can be used for common programming tasks (You can also create your own).
- The functions in the library are contained in separate modules, similar to the ones you have been
 writing and saving in the editor so far. In order to use a particular module, you must explicitly
 import it. This gives you access to the functions it contains.

Modules in Python are simply Python files with a .py extension. The name of the module will be the name of the file. A Python module can have a set of functions, classes or variables defined and implemented.

Math module

It provides access to the mathematical functions.

Syntax

import math

ceil(...)
ceil(x)

Return the ceiling of x as an Integral. This is the smallest integer $\geq x$.

Examples:

```
>>> math.ceil(-10.9999)
                               -10
• floor(...)
         floor(x)
               Return the floor of x as an Integral. This is the largest integer <= x.
 Examples:
        >>> math.floor(10.9999)
              10
        >>> math.floor(10.3456)
              10
        >>> math.floor(-10.3456)
              -11
>>> math.e
             2.718281828459045
● exp(...)
       exp(x)
         Return e raised to the power of x.
   Example:
        >>>math.exp(10)
              22026.465794806718
factorial(...)
      factorial(x) -> Integral
      Find x!. Raise a ValueError if x is negative or non-integral.
      Examples:
      >>> math.factorial(5)
            120
      >>> math.factorial(-5)
            Traceback (most recent call last):
           File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
           ValueError: factorial() not defined for negative values
• sqrt(...)
       sqrt(x)
```

Return the square root of x.

```
Examples:
          >>> math.sqrt(4)
               2.0
           >>> math.sqrt(-4)
               Traceback (most recent call last):
                File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
               ValueError: math domain error
• >>> math.pi
         3.141592653589793
• trunc(...)
      trunc(x:Real) -> Integral
               Truncates x to the nearest Integral toward 0.
   Examples:
            >>> math.trunc(10.003)
                  10
            >>> math.trunc(10.903)
                  10
            >>> math.trunc(-10.903)
                  -10
• gcd(...)
        gcd(x, y) \rightarrow int
               greatest common divisor of x and y
     Example:
            >>> math.gcd(5,10)
                  5
• fabs(...)
       fabs(x)
         Return the absolute value of the float x.
   Example:
               >>> math.fabs(-29)
                      29.0
               >>> math.fabs(-29.2)
```

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Random module

This module implements pseudo-random number generators for various distributions.

import random

• random(...) method of random.Random instance

```
random() \rightarrow x in the interval [0, 1).
```

Return the next random floating point number in the range [0.0, 1.0).

Examples:

randint(a, b) method of random.Random instance

Return random integer in range [a, b], including both end points.

Examples:

randrange(start, stop=None, step=1) method of random.Random instance
 Choose a random item from range(start, stop[, step]).

This fixes the problem with randint() which includes the endpoint.

Examples:

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• uniform(a, b)

Return a random floating point number N such that a <= N <= b for a <= b and b <= N <= a for b < a. The end-point value b may or may not be included in the range depending on floating-point rounding.

Examples

seed(a=None)

Initialize the random number generator.

If a is omitted or None, the current system time is used. If randomness sources are provided by the operating system, they are used instead of the system time. If a is an int, it is used directly.

Examples

• shuffle(x) method of random.Random instance

Shuffle list x in place, and return None.

Examples

sample(population, k)

Return a *k* length list of unique elements chosen from the population sequence or set. Used for random sampling without replacement.

Examples

```
[1, 4]
>>> random.sample(a,3)
      [4, 1, 3]
>>> random.sample(a,7)
      Traceback (most recent call last):
      raise ValueError("Sample larger than population or is negative")
      ValueError: Sample larger than population or is negative
```

• choice(seq)

Return a random element from the non-empty sequence *seq*. If *seq* is empty, raises IndexError.

Examples

```
>>> a=[10,20,30,40,50]
>>> a
       [10, 20, 30, 40, 50]
>>> random.choice(a)
       10
>>> random.choice(a)
       50
>>> a=[]
>>> random.choice(a)
       Traceback (most recent call last):
       raise IndexError('Cannot choose from an empty sequence')
       from None
       IndexError: Cannot choose from an empty sequence
```

You may also read the following:

In Builtins module: pow(),round()