

Strings

Chapter 6



Python for Everybody www.py4e.com



String Data Type

- A string is a sequence of characters
- A string literal uses quotes 'Hello' or "Hello"
- For strings, + means "concatenate"
- When a string contains numbers, it is still a string
- We can convert numbers in a string into a number using int()

```
>>> str1 = "Hello"
>>> str2 = 'there'
>>> bob = str1 + str2
>>> print(bob)
Hellothere
>>> str3 = '123'
>>> str3 = str3 + 1
Traceback (most recent call
last): File "<stdin>", line 1,
in <module>
TypeError: cannot concatenate
'str' and 'int' objects
>>> x = int(str3) + 1
>>> print(x)
124
>>>
```

Reading and Converting

- We prefer to read data in using strings and then parse and convert the data as we need
- This gives us more control over error situations and/or bad user input
- Input numbers must be converted from strings

```
>>> name = input('Enter:')
Enter: Chuck
>>> print(name)
Chuck
>>> apple = input('Enter:')
Enter: 100
>>> x = apple - 10
Traceback (most recent call
last): File "<stdin>", line 1,
in <module>
TypeError: unsupported operand
type(s) for -: 'str' and 'int'
>>> x = int(apple) - 10
>>> print(x)
```





Looking Inside Strings

- We can get at any single character in a string using an index specified in square brackets
- The index value must be an integer and starts at zero
- The index value can be an expression that is computed

```
n a
>>> fruit = 'banana'
>>> letter = fruit[1]
>>> print(letter)
a
>>> x = 3
>>> w = fruit[x - 1]
>>> print(w)
```

A Character Too Far

- You will get a python error if you attempt to index beyond the end of a string.
- So be careful when constructing index values and slices

```
>>> zot = 'abc'
>>> print(zot[5])
Traceback (most recent call
last): File "<stdin>", line
1, in <module>IndexError:
string index out of range
>>>
```



Strings Have Length

The built-in function len gives us the length of a string

```
b a n a n a 0 1 2 3 4 5
```

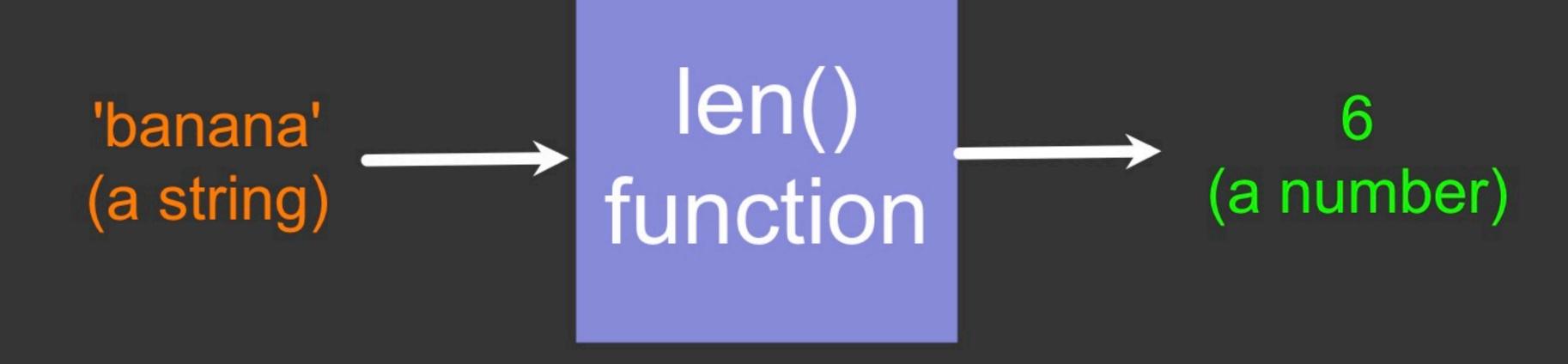
```
>>> fruit = 'banana'
>>> print(len(fruit))
6
```



len Function

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'
>>> x = len(fruit)
>>> print(x)
6
```

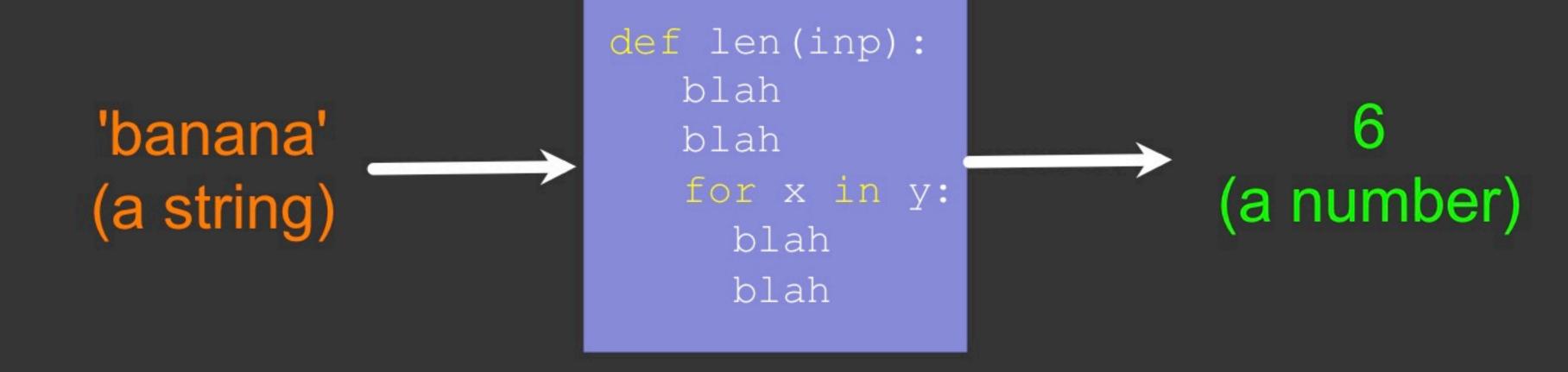
A function is some stored code that we use. A function takes some input and produces an output.



len Function

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'
>>> x = len(fruit)
>>> print(x)
6
```

A function is some stored code that we use. A function takes some input and produces an output.





Looping Through Strings

Using a while statement and an iteration variable, and the len function, we can construct a loop to look at each of the letters in a string individually

```
fruit = 'banana'
index = 0
while index < len(fruit): 2 n
letter = fruit[index] 3 a
print(index, letter) 4 n
index = index + 1</pre>
```

b

a

n

a

n

a

Looping Through Strings

- A definite loop using a for statement is much more elegant
- The iteration variable is completely taken care of by the for loop

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



Looping Through Strings

- A definite loop using a for statement is much more elegant
- The iteration variable is completely taken care of by the for loop

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

index = 0

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



Looping and Counting

This is a simple loop that loops through each letter in a string and counts the number of times the loop encounters the 'a' character

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

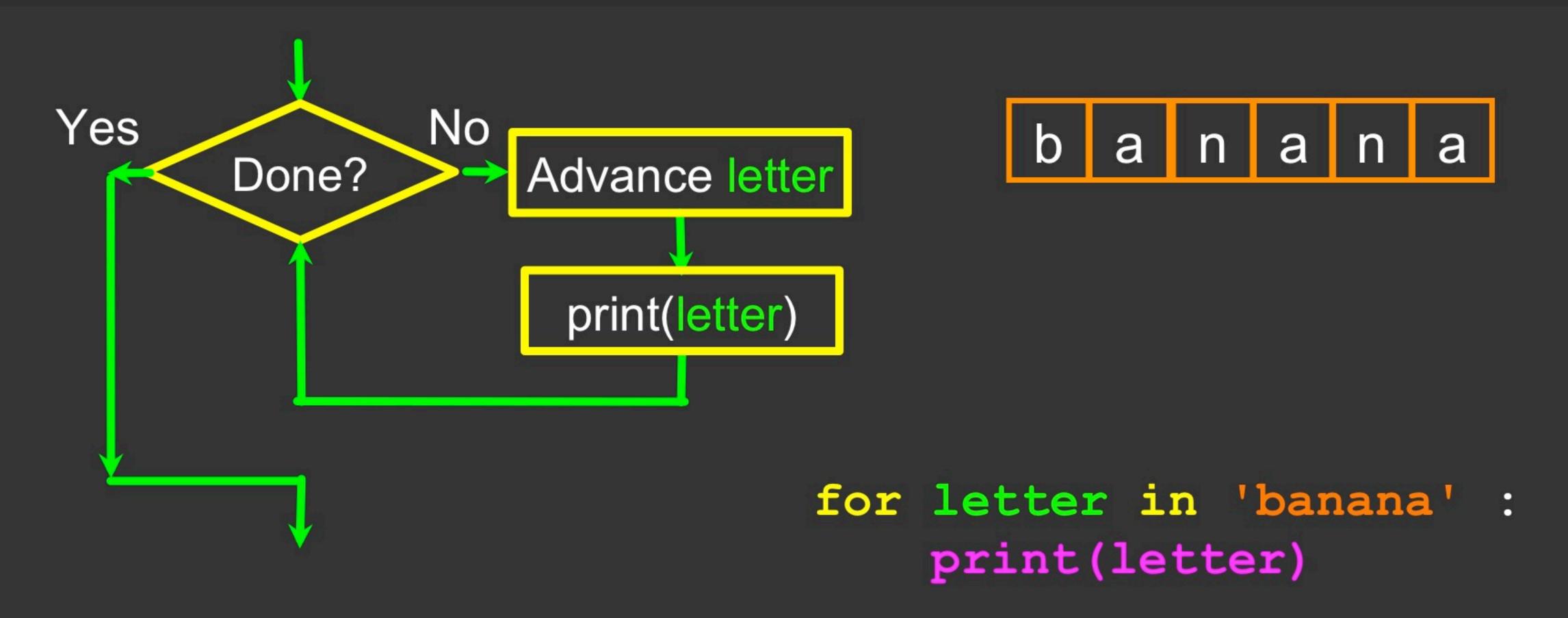


Looking Deeper into in

- The iteration variable "iterates" through the sequence (ordered set)
- The block (body) of code is executed once for each value in the sequence
- The iteration variable moves through all of the values in the sequence

```
Iteration
variable

for letter in 'banana':
    print(letter)
```



The iteration variable "iterates" through the string and the block (body) of code is executed once for each value in the sequence



Slicing Strings

- We can also look at any continuous section of a string using a colon operator
- The second number is one beyond the end of the slice -"up to but not including"
- If the second number is beyond the end of the string, it stops at the end

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
  >>> s = 'Monty Python'
  >>> print(s[0:4])
  Mont
  >>> print(s[6:7])
  P
  >>> print(s[6:20])
  Python
```



Slicing Strings



If we leave off the first number or the last number of the slice, it is assumed to be the beginning or end of the string respectively

```
>>> s = 'Monty Python'
>>> print(s[:2])
Mo
>>> print(s[8:])
thon
>>> print(s[:])
Monty Python
```



Manipulating Strings...





Acknowledgements / Contributions



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Initial Development: Charles Severance, University of Michigan School of Information

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