Python: Sorting How To

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- To access the updated handouts, please click on the following link:
  https://yasirbhutta.github.io/python/docs/sorting.html

Sorting Basics

list.sort()

Sorts the elements of a list in place, meaning it modifies the original list directly.

Syntax:

```
list.sort(key=None, reverse=False)
```

Parameters:

key (optional): A function that takes a single element from the list and returns a key to be used for sorting. This allows for custom sorting criteria. **reverse (optional):** A boolean value. If True, sorts the list in descending order. Defaults to False (ascending order).

Example:

- Video: List sort() Function

sorted Function

Creates a new sorted list from an iterable object (like a list, tuple, or string), leaving the original iterable unchanged.

Syntax:

```
sorted(iterable, key=None, reverse=False)
```

Parameters:

iterable: The iterable object to be sorted (e.g., a list, tuple, string). **key (optional):** A function that takes a single element from the iterable and returns a key to be used for sorting. This allows for custom sorting criteria. **reverse (optional):** A boolean value. If True, sorts the iterable in descending order. Defaults to False (ascending order).

Examples:

- [Video: sorted() Function](#)

Key Functions

Examples:

- [Video: Sorting a List of Colors by Length using Python's sorted() Function](#)
- [Video: How to Sort a List of Fruit Tuples](#)
- [Video: Sorting a List of Dictionaries by Age using Lambda Function](#)

Operator Module Functions

Ascending and Descending

Sort Stability and Complex Sorts

Decorate-Sort-Undecorate

Comparison Functions

True/False (Mark T for True and F for False)

Multiple Choice (Select the best answer)

Exercises

Review Questions

References and Bibliography

- [Sorting HOW TO: Python - Documentation](#)