

EGM722 – Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing

Week 1, Part 2: Built-in types



Recall: The world is filled with objects

- Python is an object-oriented programming language
- Object: the basic "thing" that python works with
- Objects have:
 - type
 - properties
 - methods

```
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>>> type("Hello, World!")

<class 'str'>
>>> type(42)

<class 'int'>
>>> type(math.pi)

<class 'float'>
>>> type((1,000,000))

<class 'tuple'>
>>> type('42')

<class 'str'>
>>> |
```

Ulster Numbers University

- Python has three main numeric types:
 - integers
 - floating-point (decimal) numbers
 - complex numbers
- When combining types, result uses the 'wider' definition
 - e.g., int + float => float
 - float + complex => complex

```
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>>> x = 2

>>> y = 3

>>> x + y

5

>>> x - y

-1

>>> x * y

6

>>> x ** y

8

>>> type(x), type(y)

(<class 'int'>, <class 'int'>)

>>> x / y

0.66666666666666666666666666666666665

>>> type(x / y)

<class 'float'>

>>> | |
```

Ulster Strings

- Python handles text as strings
- Strings are immutable arrays of text characters
 - Cannot modify/change elements
- Individual characters are located at an index
 - NB: in python, arrays start from 0
- To access multiple indices, can slice: s[n:m]
 - If we omit n, starts from beginning
 - If we omit m, goes to end
 - Can also use negative numbers

```
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>>> s = "I live GIS!"

>>> s[3] = 'o'

Traceback (most recent call last):
    File "sstdins", line 1, in <module>

TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment

>>> s = "I love GIS!"

>>> s[0]

'I'

>>> s[2:6]

'love'

>>> s[2:]

'love GIS!'

>>> s[2:]

'|ove GIS!'

>>> s[-1]

'|'

|'|'

>>> [-1]
```

Ulster LISTS University

- A list is a sequence of values called elements or items
- Can create with [], list()
- Elements can be any type
 - Can also be mixed types
 - Can be nested (a list of lists)
- lists are mutable

Ulster Tuples

- tuples work like lists:
 - Can contain multiple types
 - Index using []
 - Can be nested
- Create with commas, ()
- Tuples are immutable

```
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>>> myTuple = 'a', 2, 'c', 4.0

>>> myTuple
('a', 2, 'c', 4.0)

>>> myTuple = ('a', 2, 'c', 4.0)

>>> myTuple
('a', 2, 'c', 4.0)

>>> myTuple
('a', 2, 'c', 4.0)

>>> myTuple
[1]
2

Traceback (most recent call last):
   File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>

TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment

>>>
```

Ulster Dictionaries

- A dictionary is like a list, but more general
 - List indices: integers
 - Dictionary indices: almost anything
- Create using dict(), { }
- Dictionaries map indices (keys) to values: key-value pair

```
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>>> english2spanish = dict()

>>> english2spanish['one'] = 'uno'

>>> print(english2spanish)

{'one': 'uno'}

>>> english2spanish = {'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos', 'three': 'tres'}

>>> print(english2spanish)

{'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos', 'three': 'tres'}

>>> english2spanish['four']

Traceback (most recent call last):

File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>

KeyError: 'four'

>>> □
```

Ulster Summary University

- Python has a number of built-in types that we can use
- Most common (for now) are numbers and sequences
- Sequences can be indexed, sliced to access smaller parts of the whole
- Lists can be changed; strings and tuples cannot