

Python

BASICS

Introduction to Python programming, basic concepts: formatting, naming conventions, variables, etc.



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO



Identikit

- First appeared in 1991
- Designed by Guido van Rossum
- General purpose
- High level
- Emphasis on code readability and conciseness
- Website
 - <http://www.python.org>
- We will use Python 3
 - not Python 2



```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    printf("Hello, world!");
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

```
print("Hello, world!")
```

inline comment



```
# this will print "Hello, world!"  
print("Hello, world!")
```

Keywords

- and
- del
- from
- not
- while
- as
- elif
- global
- or
- with
- assert
- else
- if
- pass
- yield
- break
- except
- import
- class
- exec
- in
- raise
- continue
- finally
- is
- return
- def
- for
- lambda
- try

Variables

this is a string



```
language_name = "Python"
```



naming convention: joined_lower

Variables

```
language_name = "Python"  
version = '3.6.0'  
introduced = 1991  
is_awesome = True
```


Type Inference

→ `play_with_types.py`

```
language_name = "Python" # string
version = '3.6.0'      # another string
introduced = 1991     # integer
is_awesome = True     # boolean
```

actual type can be checked with `type()`



String

```
some_string = "I'm a string"
```

```
another_string = 'I'm a string, too'
```

String

```
some_string = "I'm a string"
```

```
another_string = 'I'm a string, too'  
# SyntaxError: invalid syntax
```

String

```
another_string = 'I am a string, too'
```

```
another_strig = 'I\'m a string, too'
```

escape sequence



String

```
long_string = """I am a long string.  
I span over two lines."""
```

```
long_string = '''I am another long  
string.
```

```
I span over three lines.
```

```
I am composed by three sentences.'''
```

If Statement

```
people = 20
```

```
cats = 30
```

```
if people < cats:
```

```
    print("Too many cats! We are doomed!")
```



```
if people > cats:
```

```
    print("Not many cats! We are safe!")
```



If Statement

```
people = 20
```

```
cats = 30
```

```
if people < cats:
```

```
    print("Too many cats! We are doomed!")
```

```
elif people > cats:
```

```
    print("Not many cats! We are safe!")
```

```
else:
```

```
    print("We can't decide.")
```

Comparators and Booleans Operators

```
print(2 == 1)
```

```
print('string' == "string")
```

```
print(not False)
```

```
print(2==1 and True)
```

```
print(2==1 or True)
```


Comparators and Booleans Operators

```
print(2 == 1) # False
```

```
print('string' == "string") # True
```

```
print(not False) # True
```

```
print(2==1 and True) # False
```

```
print(2==1 or True) # True
```

Characters


```
for char in "hello":  
    print(char)
```

```
h  
e  
l  
l  
o
```

Characters

```
say_hello = "hello!"  
print(say_hello[1])
```

index



e

Characters

```
say_hello = "hello!"  
print(type(say_hello[1]))
```

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

Combining Strings

```
language_name = "Python"  
version = '3.6.0'
```

concatenation

```
python_version = language_name + version  
# python_version is Python3.6.0
```



```
print("my " + "name") # my name
```

Combining Strings

```
language_name = "Python"
```

```
a_lot_of_python = language_name*3
```

```
# a_lot_of_python is PythonPythonPython
```

repetition



Building Complex Strings

```
a = 3
```

```
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
print(a, "times", b, "is", a*b)
```

 works with `print()`, only

Building Complex Strings

```
a = 3
```

```
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
result = a + " times " + b + " is " + a*b
```


Building Complex Strings

```
a = 3
```

```
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
result = a + " times " + b + " is " + a*b
```

```
#TypeError: unsupported operand type(s)
```

Building Complex Strings

```
a = 3
```

```
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
result = str(a) + " times " + str(b) + "  
is " + str(a*b)
```

String Interpolation

```
a = 3  
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
result = "%d times %d is %d" % (a, b, a*b)
```

Specifiers

- %s, format strings
- %d, format numbers
- %r, raw representation

→ `specifiers.py`

tuple


String Interpolation

```
a = 3
```

```
b = 5
```

```
# 3 times 5 is 15
```

```
result = "{} times {} is {}".format(a, b,  
a*b)
```



new way!

String Immutability

```
# hello  
say_hello = "helko"  
  
# ops...  
say_hello[3] = "l"
```

String Immutability

```
# hello  
say_hello = "helko"  
  
# ops...  
say_hello[3] = "l"  
# TypeError
```

String Immutability

```
# hello  
say_hello = "helko"  
  
# ops...  
say_hello = "hello"
```

Other operations with strings? → Python docs

Getting Input

```
print("How old are you?")  
age = input() # age is a string  
  
print("You are " + age + " years old")
```


Getting Input

```
print("How old are you?")  
age = input() # age is a string  
  
print("You are " + age + " years old")  
  
# I want "age" to be a number!  
age = int(input())
```

Getting Input

```
age = input("How old are you? ")
```

```
print("You are " + age + " years old")
```

List

```
fruits = ["apples", "oranges", "pears"]  
count = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]  
change = [1, "pennies", 2, "dimes"]
```



a datatype to store multiple items, in sequence

Dictionary

key, immutable

value

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0, "cow": 4}
states = {"Italy": "IT", "Germany": "DE"}
```

a datatype to store multiple items, not in sequence

Loops

```
doctor = 1
```

```
while doctor <= 13:  
    exterminate(doctor)  
    doctor += 1
```

For Loop: Strings

```
for char in "hello":  
    print(char)
```

```
h  
e  
l  
l  
o
```

For Loop: Ranges

```
for number in range(0,5):  
    print(number)
```

```
0  
1  
2  
3  
4
```

For Loop: Ranges

```
for number in range(0,25,5):  
    print(number)
```

```
0  
5  
10  
15  
20
```


For Loop: Lists

```
fruits = ["apples", "oranges", "pears"]
```

```
for fruit in fruits:  
    print("I love", fruit)
```

```
I love apples  
I love oranges  
I love pears
```

For Loop: Dictionaries

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0, "cow": 4}
```

```
for (animal, number) in legs.items():  
    print("{} has {} legs".format(animal,  
number))
```

```
ant has 6 legs  
snake has 0 legs  
cow has 4 legs
```

Printing a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]  
print(to_buy)
```

```
['eggs', 'milk']
```

Printing a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]  
print(to_buy[0])
```

eggs

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]  
print(to_buy[0])
```

```
to_buy[0] = "butter"  
print(to_buy[0])
```

eggs

butter

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]
```

```
# I need to buy chocolate!
```

```
to_buy.append("chocolate")
```

```
['eggs', 'milk', 'chocolate']
```

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]  
to_buy.append("chocolate")
```

```
to_buy.extend(["flour", "cheese"])
```

```
['eggs', 'milk', 'chocolate', 'flour', 'cheese']
```

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk"]
```

```
to_buy.append("chocolate")
```

concatenation

```
to_buy = to_buy (+) ["flour", "cheese"]
```



```
['eggs', 'milk', 'chocolate', 'flour', 'cheese']
```


Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk", "chocolate",  
"flour", "cheese"]
```

slice operator

```
print(to_buy[1:3])
```

```
['milk', 'chocolate']
```

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk", "chocolate",  
"flour", "cheese"]
```

```
# make a full copy of the list
```

```
remember = to_buy[:]
```

 works with strings, too

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk", "chocolate",  
"flour", "cheese"]
```

```
# I don't need cheese!
```

```
to_buy.pop()
```

```
# ... neither milk, by the way!
```

```
to_buy.pop(1)
```

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk", "chocolate",  
"flour", "cheese"]
```

```
# I don't need cheese!
```

```
to_buy.remove("cheese")
```

```
# ... neither milk, by the way!
```

```
to_buy.remove("milk")
```

Modifying a List

```
to_buy = ["eggs", "milk", "chocolate",  
"flour", "cheese"]
```

```
# I want my original list back!  
del to_buy[2:6]
```

```
['eggs', 'milk']
```

Strings vs. Lists

A string is a sequence of characters...

... but a list of characters is not a string

```
language_name = "Python"
```

```
# string to list
```

```
name = list(language_name)
```

Strings vs. Lists

```
sentence = "this is AmI"
```

```
# break a string into separate words  
words = sentence.split()
```

```
['this', 'is', 'AmI']
```

Copying Lists

```
fruits = ['apple', 'orange']
favorite_fruits = fruits

# add a fruit to the original list
fruits.append('banana')

print('The fruits now are:', fruits)
print('My favorite fruits are', favorite_fruits)
```

```
Fruits are: ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']
My favorite fruits are: ['apple', 'orange',
'banana']
```



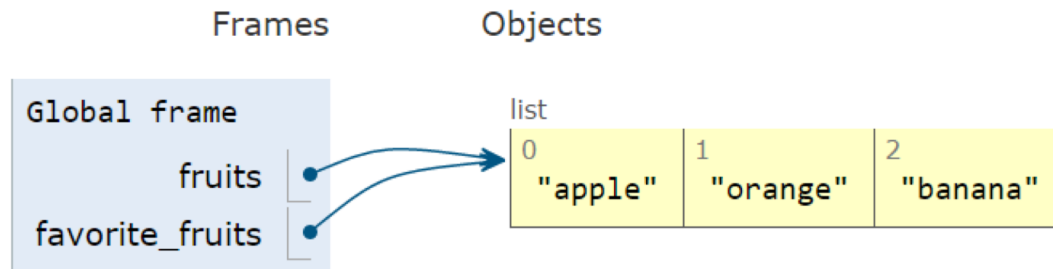
Copying Lists

```
fruits = ['apple', 'orange']  
favorite_fruits = fruits
```

```
# add a fruit to the original  
fruits.append('banana')
```

We **do not** make a copy of the entire list, but we only make a **reference** to it!

```
print('The fruits now are:', fruits)  
print('My favorite fruits are', favorite_fruits)
```



Copying Lists (For Real!)

```
# option 1: slice  
favorite_fruits = fruits[:]
```

```
#option 2: create a new list - best!  
favorite_fruits = list(fruit)
```

```
#extend an empty list  
favorite_fruits.extend(fruit)
```

Other operations with lists? → Python docs

Printing a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0 }  
print(legs)
```

```
{'ant': 6, 'snake': 0}
```

Modifying a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0 }  
legs["spider"] = 273
```

```
{'ant': 6, 'snake': 0, 'spider': 273}
```

Modifying a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0 }  
legs["spider"] = 273 # basically, run!  
legs["spider"] = 8 # better!
```

```
{'ant': 6, 'snake': 0, 'spider': 8}
```

Modifying a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0, "spider": 8}
```

```
# I don't like spiders
```

```
del legs["spider"]
```

```
# Clear all the things!
```

```
legs.clear()
```

Retrieving a Value from a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0}
```

```
# get "ant"!
```

```
legs["ant"] # 6
```

```
# get "spider"
```

```
legs["spider"]
```

Retrieving a Value from a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0}
```

```
# get "ant"!
```

```
legs["ant"] # 6
```

```
# get "spider"
```

```
legs["spider"]
```

```
# KeyError: spider
```


Retrieving a Value from a Dictionary

```
legs = {"ant": 6, "snake": 0}
```

```
# check if "spider" is in the dictionary  
"spider" in legs # False
```

```
# get "spider" without throwing errors  
legs.get("spider") # None
```

```
# get "spider" with a custom value  
legs.get("spider", "Not present")
```

Functions

```
def say_hello():  
    print("Hello!")
```

← definition

```
say_hello()
```

← call

Functions with Parameters

```
def say_hello_to(name):  
    print("Hello", name)  
  
say_hello_to("AmI students")
```

Default Parameter Values

```
def say_hello_to(name="AmI"):  
    print("Hello", name)
```

```
say_hello_to() # Hello AmI
```

```
say_hello_to("students") # Hello students
```

Returning Values

```
def build_greetings(name="AmI"):  
    return "Hello" + name
```

```
greeting = build_greetings()  
print(greeting) # Hello AmI
```

Returning Multiple Values

```
def build_greetings(name="AmI"):  
    return ("Hello", name)
```

```
(greeting, person) = build_greetings()  
print(greeting + " to " + person)  
# Hello to AmI
```

Documenting Functions

```
def build_greetings(name="AmI"):  
    '''Build a greeting in the format  
    Hello plus a given name'''  
    return ("Hello", name)
```

docstring



Modules

- A way to logically organize the code
- They are files consisting of Python code
 - they can define (and implement) functions, variables, etc.
 - typically, the file containing a module is called in the same way
 - e.g., the *math* module resides in a file named *math.py*

Importing a Module

```
import math # import the math module
```

```
print(math.pi) # print 3.141592...
```

```
from math import pi # import pi, only!
```

```
print(pi) # print 3.141592...
```

```
from math import * # import all the names
```

```
print(pi)
```

DO NOT USE

Command Line Parameters

```
from sys import argv
```

```
script, first = argv
```

← unpacking

```
print("The script is called:", script)
```

```
print("The parameter is:", first)
```

```
> python my_script.py one
```

```
The script is called: my_script.py
```

```
The parameter is: one
```

Reading Files

```
from sys import argv
```

```
filename = argv[1] ← open the file  
txt = open(filename)
```

```
print("Here's your file %r:", % filename)  
print(txt.read()) ← show the file content
```

Writing Files

```
from sys import argv

filename = argv[1]
# open in write mode and empty the file
target = open(filename, "w")

# write a string into the file
target.write("This is the new content")

target.close() # close the file
```

References and Links

- Python Documentation, <http://docs.python.org/3>
- The Python Tutorial, <http://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/>
- Online Python Tutor, <http://pythontutor.com>
- «*Think Python: How to think like a computer scientist*», 2nd edition, Allen Downey, Green Tea Press, Needham, Massachusetts
- «*Dive into Python 3*», Mark Pilgrim
- «*Learning Python*» (5th edition), Mark Lutz, O'Reilly

Questions?




01QZP AMBIENT INTELLIGENCE

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