



Politecnico
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Python programming

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- **Python language**
 - Python data types
 - Controlling program flow
 - Functions
 - Lambda functions
 - List comprehensions
 - Classes
- **Structuring Python programs**



- Python is an **object oriented** language
- Every piece of data in the program is an **Object**
 - Objects have **properties** and **functionalities**
 - Even a simple **integer** number is a Python **object**

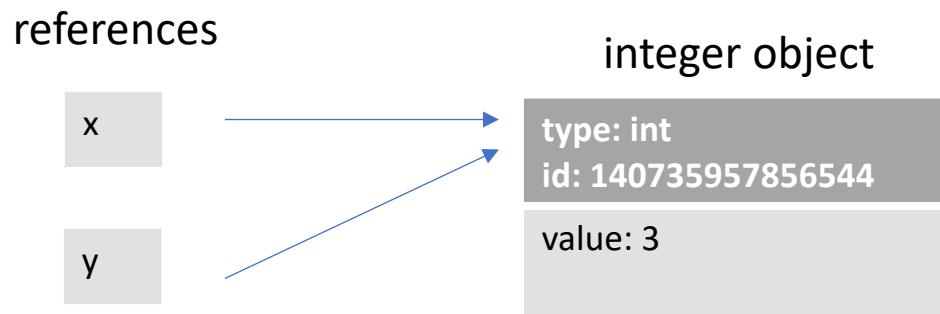
Example of an integer object

type: int
id: 140735957856544

value: 3



- **Reference = symbol** in a program that refers to a particular **object**
- A single Python object can have **multiple references (alias)**





- In Python
 - **Variable = reference** to an object
- When you **assign** an object to a variable it becomes a **reference** to that object

variables (references)

x

y

integer object

type: int
id: 140735957856544

value: 3



■ Defining a variable

- No need to specify its data type
- Just assign a value to a new variable name

```
a = 3
```

a



type: int
id: 140735957856544

value: 3



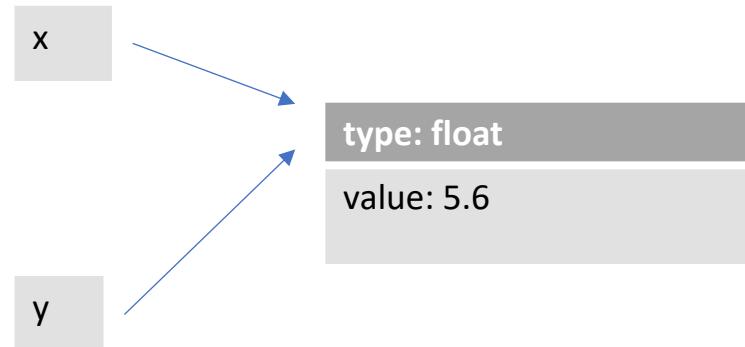
Python data types

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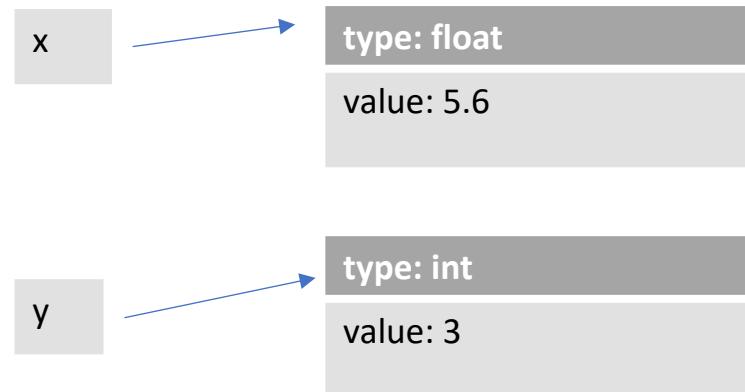
Example

```
x = 5.6  
y = x
```



- If you assign `y` to a new value...

```
y = 3
```





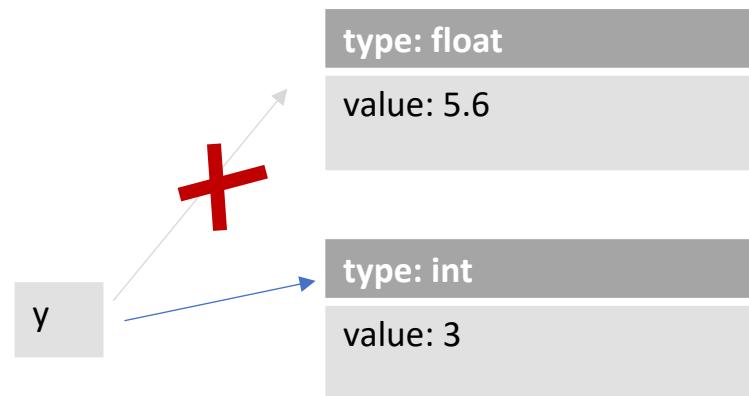
Python data types

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- From the previous example we learn that:
 - Basic data types, such as integer and float variables are **immutable**:
 - Assigning a new number will not change the value inside the object by rather create a new one

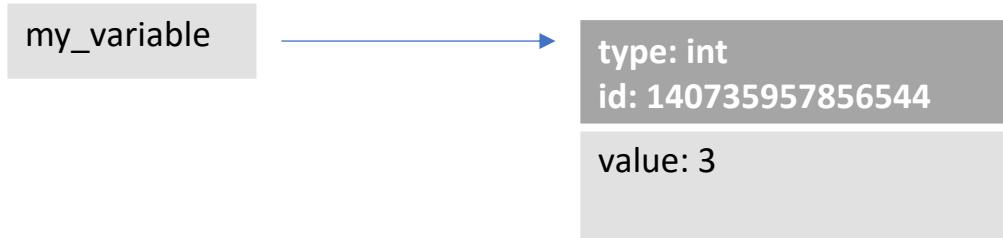
```
y = 5.6  
y = 3
```





Python data types

- Verify this reasoning with `id()`
 - `id(my_variable)` returns the **identifier** of the object that the variable is referencing





- **Jupyter example**
 - Type in your code

```
In [1]: x = 1  
        y = x  
        print(id(x))  
        print(id(y))
```

- Press CTRL+ENTER to run and obtain a result

```
Out[1]: 140735957856544  
        140735957856544
```



- **Basic data types**
 - *int, float, bool, str*
 - *None*
 - All of these objects are **immutable**
- **Composite data types**
 - *tuple* (**immutable** list of objects)
 - *list, set, dict* (**mutable** collections of objects)



■ **int, float**

- No theoretical size limit
 - Effectively limited by memory available
- Available operations
 - +, -, *, /, // (integer division), % remainder, ** (exponentiation)
 - Example

In [1]:

```
x = 9
y = 5
r1 = x // y      # r1 = 1
r2 = x % y      # r2 = 4
r3 = x / y      # r3 = 1.8
r4 = x ** 2      # r4 = 81
```

- Note that dividing 2 **integers** yields a **float**



■ **bool**

- Can assume the values True, False
- Boolean operators: **and**, **or**, **not**
 - Example

```
In [1]: is_sunny = True
        is_hot = False
        is_rainy = not is_sunny          # is_rainy = False
        bad_weather = not (is_sunny or is_hot) # bad_weather = False

        temperature1 = 30
        temperature2 = 35
        raising = temperature2 > temperature1 # raising = True
```



■ String

In [1]:

```
string1 = "Python's nice"          # with double quotes  
string2 = 'He said "yes"'         # with single quotes  
  
print(string1)  
print(string2)
```

Out[1]:

```
Python's nice  
He said "yes"
```

- Definition with single or double quotes is equivalent



- **Conversion** between types
 - Example

In [1]:

```
x = 9.8
y = 4
r1 = int(x)                      # r1 = 9
r2 = float(y)                     # r2 = 4.0
r3 = str(x)                       # r3 = '9.8'
r4 = float("6.7")                  # r4 = 6.7
r5 = bool("True")                  # r5 = True
r6 = bool(0)                       # r6 = False
```

- Only 0, "", [], {}, set(), () convert to False through bool()



Working with strings

- **len**: get string length
- **strip**: remove leading and trailing spaces (tabs or newlines)
- **upper/lower**: convert uppercase/lowercase

In [1]:

```
s1 = ' My string '
length = len(s1)                      # length = 11
s2 = s1.strip()                        # s2 = 'My string'
s3 = s1.upper()                        # s3 = ' MY STRING '
s4 = s1.lower()                        # s4 = ' my string '
```



■ Sub-strings

■ str[start:stop]

- The start index is **included**, while stop index is **excluded**
- Index of characters starts **from 0**
- We can optionally specify a step str[start:stop:step] (*)

■ Shortcuts

- **Omit start** if you want to start from the beginning
- **Omit stop** if you want to go until the end of the string

In [1]:

```
s1 = "Hello"  
  
charact = s1[0]                      # charact = 'H'  
  
s2 = s1[0:3]                          # s2 = 'Hel'  
  
s3 = s1[1:]                            # s3 = 'ello'  
  
s4 = s1[:3]                            # s4 = 'Hell'  
  
s5 = s1[:]                             # s5 = 'Hello'
```



■ Sub-strings

■ Negative indices:

- count characters **from the end**
- **-1 = last character**

```
In [1]: s1 = "MyFile.txt"

s2 = s1[:-1]                      # s2 = 'MyFile.tx'
s3 = s1[:-2]                      # s3 = 'MyFile.t'
s4 = s1[-3:]                       # s4 = 'txt'
```



■ Strings: concatenation

- Use the + operator

```
In [1]:    string1 = 'Value of '
              sensor_id = 'sensor 1.'
              print(string1 + sensor_id)          # concatenation
              val = 0.75
              print('Value: ' + str(val))         # float to str
```

```
Out[1]:  Value of sensor 1.
          Value: 0.75
```



- **Strings are immutable**

```
In [1]: str1 = "example"  
        str1[0] = "E" # will cause an error
```

- Use instead:

```
In [1]: str1 = "example"  
        str1 = 'E' + str1[1:]
```



- **Formatted string literals (or f-strings)**
 - Introduced in Python 3.6
 - Useful pattern to build a string from one or more variables
 - E.g. suppose you want to build the string:

My float is **var1** 17.5 and my int is **var2** 5

- Syntax:
 - `f"My float is {var1} and my int is {var2}"`



■ Formatting strings (older versions)

■ Syntax:

■ "My float is **%f** and my int is **%d**" % (17.5, 5)

float placeholder

int placeholder

values to be replaced

My float is

17.5

and my int is

5

■ "My float is **{0}** and my int is **{1}**".format(17.5, 5)

index of variable
that
will replace the braces



■ Example (>= Python 3.6)

```
In [1]: city = 'London'  
       temp = 19.23456  
       str1 = f"Temperature in {city} is {temp} degrees."  
       str2 = f"Temperature with 2 decimals: {temp:.2f}"  
       str3 = f"Temperature + 10: {temp+10}"  
       print(str1)  
       print(str2)  
       print(str3)
```

```
Out[1]: Temperature in London is 19.23456 degrees.  
        Temperature with 2 decimals: 19.23  
        Temperature + 10: 29.23456
```



■ None type

- Specifies that a reference does not contain data

In [1]:

```
my_var = None

if my_var is None:
    my_var = 10
```

- Useful to:
 - Represent "missing data" in a list or a table
 - Initialize an empty variable that will be assigned later on
 - (e.g. when computing min/max)



■ Tuple

- **Immutable** list of variables
- Definition:

```
In [1]:      t1 = ('Turin', 'Italy')      # City and State
              t2 = 'Paris', 'France'     # optional parentheses

              t3 = ('Rome', 2, 25.6)     # can contain different types
              t4 = ('London',)          # tuple with single element
```



■ Tuple unpacking

- **Assigning** a tuple to a set of variables

In [1]:

```
city_data = ('Turin', 'Italy', 12)
city, state, temperature = city_data

print(city)      # Turin
print(state)     # Italy
print(temperature) # 12
```



■ Swapping elements with tuples

- This is an interesting case of unpacking

In [1]:

```
a = 1
b = 2
a, b = b, a
print(a)
print(b)
```

Out[1]:

```
2
1
```



■ Tuple

- Tuples can be **concatenated**
- A new tuple is generated upon concatenation

```
In [1]: city = 'Turin', 'Italy'  
        temperatures = 6, 15  
        city_data = city + temperatures  
        print(city_data)
```

```
Out[1]: ('Turin', 'Italy', 6, 15)
```



Tuple

- Accessing elements of a tuple
 - `t [start:stop]`
 - We can optionally specify a step `str[start:stop:step]` (*)

```
In [1]: t1 = ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd')

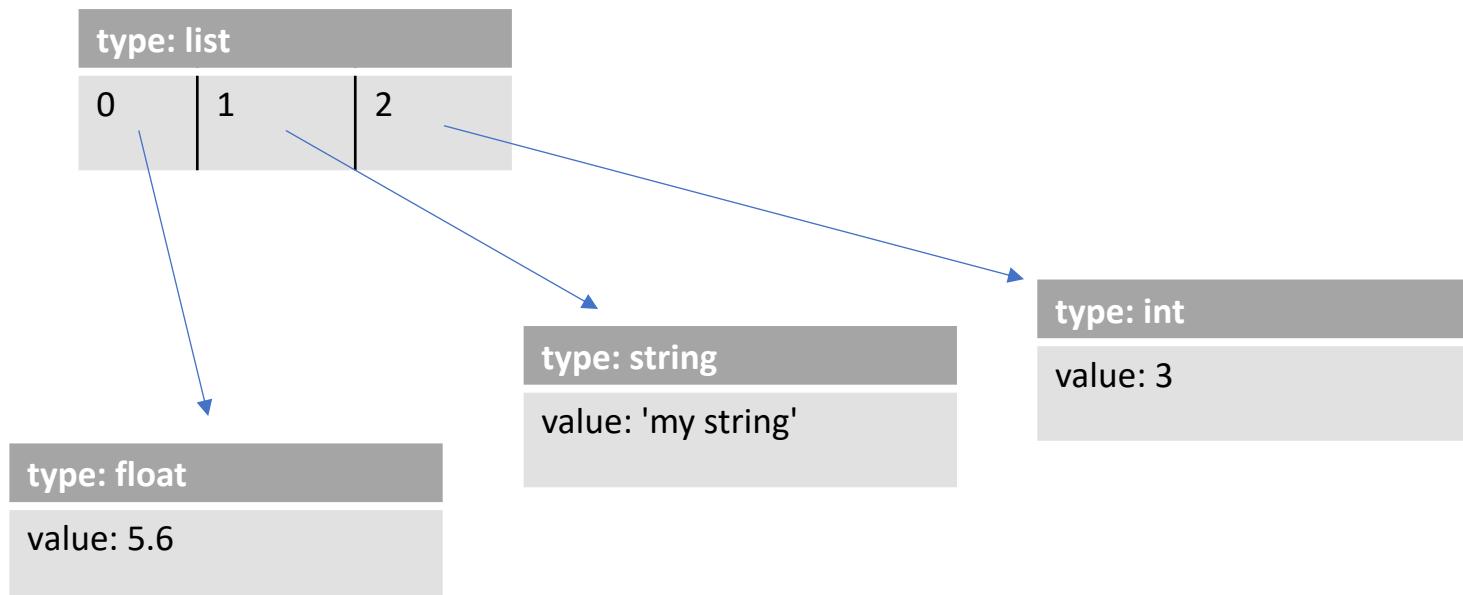
val1 = t1[0]                      # val1 = 'a'
t2 = t1[1:]                        # t2 = ('b', 'c', 'd')
t3 = t1[:-1]                       # t3 = ('a', 'b', 'c')

t1[0] = 2                          # will cause an error
                                  # (a tuple is immutable)
```



■ List

- **Mutable** sequence of heterogeneous elements
- Each element is a **reference** to a Python object





■ List

■ Definition

```
In [1]: 11 = []                      # empty list  
        12 = [1, 'str', 5.6, None]    # can contain different types  
  
        a, b, c, d = 12              # can be assigned to variables  
                                # a=1, b='str', c=5.6, d=None
```



■ List

■ Adding elements and concatenating lists

```
In [1]: l1 = [2, 4, 6]
         l2 = [10, 12]
         l1.append(8)           # append an element to l1
         l3 = l1 + l2          # concatenate 2 lists
         print(l1)
         print(l3)
```

```
Out[1]: [2, 4, 6, 8]
         [2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12]
```



■ List

■ Other methods:

- `list1.count(element):`
 - Number of occurrences of element
- `list1.extend(l2):`
 - Extend list1 with another list l2
- `list1.insert(index, element):`
 - Insert element at position
- `list1.pop(index):`
 - Remove element by position



■ List

■ Accessing elements:

- Same syntax as tuples, but this time assignment is allowed

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 2, 4, 6]
         val1 = l1[0]                      # val1 = 0
         a, b = l1[1:-1]                   # a=2, b=4
         l1[0] = 'a'
         print(l1)
```

```
Out[1]: ['a', 2, 4, 6]
```



■ List

■ Accessing elements

- Can also specify a **step**: [start:stop:step]
 - **step = 2** skips 1 element
 - **step = -1** reads the list in reverse order
 - **step = -2** reverse order, skip 1 element

```
In [1]: 11 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
         12 = 11[::-2]                      # 12 = [0, 2, 4]
         13 = 11[::-1]                      # 13 = [4, 3, 2, 1, 0]
         14 = 11[:: -2]                     # 13 = [4, 2, 0]
```



■ List

■ Assigning multiple elements

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]  
        l1[1:4] = ['a', 'b', 'c']    # l1 = [0, 'a', 'b', 'c', 4]
```

■ Removing multiple elements

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]  
        del l1[1:-1]      # l1 = [0, 4]
```



■ List

- Check if element belongs to a list

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
         myval = 2
         if myval in l1:
             print("found")          # printed because 2 is in list
```

- Iterate over list elements

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
         for el in l1:
             print(el)
```



■ List

■ Sum, min, max of elements

```
In [1]: l1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
         min_val = min(l1)           # min_val = 0
         max_val = max(l1)           # max_val = 4
         sum_val = sum(l1)           # sum_val = 10
```

■ Sort list elements

```
In [1]: l1 = [3, 2, 5, 7]
         l2 = sorted(l1)           # l2 = [2, 3, 5, 7]
```



Notebook Examples

- **1-Python Examples.ipynb**
 - 1) Removing list duplicates





■ Set

- **Unordered** collection of **unique** elements
- Definition:

```
In [1]: s0 = set()                      # empty set  
       s1 = {1, 2, 3}  
       s2 = {3, 3, 'b', 'b'}            # s2 = {3, 'b'}  
       s3 = set([3, 3, 1, 2])          # from list: s3 = {1,2,3}
```



■ Set

■ Operators between two sets

- | (union), & (intersection), - (difference)
- <, <= ((proper) subset), >, >= ((proper) superset)

```
In [1]: s1 = {1, 2, 3}
         s2 = {3, 'b'}
         union = s1 | s2           # {1, 2, 3, 'b'}
         intersection = s1 & s2    # {3}
         difference = s1 - s2     # {1, 2}

         {1,2} <= s1             # True
         {1,2,3} < s1            # False (not a proper subset)
         {1,2,3} <= s1           # True (same set)
```



■ Set

■ Add/remove elements

```
In [1]: s1 = {1,2,3}  
        s1.add('4')                      # s1 = {1, 2, 3, '4'}  
        s1.remove(3)                      # s1 = {1, 2, '4'}
```



■ Set

- Check whether element belongs to a set

```
In [1]: s1 = set([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])  
        myval = 2  
  
        if myval in s1:  
            print("found")          # printed because 2 is in set
```

- Iterate over set elements

```
In [1]: s1 = set([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])  
        for el in s1:  
            print(el)
```



■ Set

- Check whether element belongs to a set

```
In [1]: s1 = set([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])  
        myval = 2  
        if myval in s1:  
            print("found") # printed
```

- Iterate over set elements

```
In [1]: s1 = set([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])  
        for el in s1:  
            print(el)
```

Note

Sets are unordered – the order during iterations is not well-defined

```
[In 1]: {1,2,3} == {3,2,1}  
Out[1]: True  
  
In [2]: for i in {1,2,3}:  
...:     print(i)  
...:  
1  
2  
3  
  
In [3]: for i in {3,2,1}:  
...:     print(i)  
...:  
1  
2  
3
```



■ Set example: removing list duplicates

```
In [1]: input_list = [1, 5, 5, 4, 2, 8, 3, 3]
         out_list = list(set(input_list))

         print(out_list)
```

- **Note:** order of original elements is not preserved

```
Out [1]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8]
```



Dictionary

- Collection of key-value pairs
- Allows fast **access** of elements **by key**
 - Keys are **unique**
- **Definition:**

```
In [1]: d1 = {'Name' : 'John', 'Age' : 25}  
        d0 = {}                                # empty dictionary
```



Dictionary keys

- Must be **hashable** types
 - E.g. int, float, string, bool, **tuple**
 - Note: lists and dictionaries are not hashable
 - Hashable types are hashed with the `hash()` function
- Example: itemsets and their support

```
In [1]: d1 = {('a','b') : 120, ('c','d','e') : 1000}
```

Dictionary values

- Any Python object is allowed



Dictionary

- Access by key:

```
In [1]: images = {10 : 'plane.png', 25 : 'flower.png'}  
        img10 = images[10]          # img10 = 'plane.png'  
        img8 = images[8]           # Get an error if key does not exist  
        img8 = images.get(8)       # .get() returns None if the key does not exist  
        img8 = images.get(8, 'notfound.png') # we can optionally specify a default value
```

- Reading **keys** and **values**:

- Note: `keys()` and `values()` return **views on original data**

```
In [2]: occurrences = {'Car' : 33, 'Truck' : 55}  
        keys = list(occurrences.keys())      # keys = ['Car', 'Truck']  
        values = list(occurrences.values())   # values = [33, 55]
```



Dictionary

Adding/updating values:

```
In [1]: occur = {'Car' : 33, 'Truck' : 55}  
        occur ['Car'] = 56           # Update existing value  
        occur ['Road'] = 3          # Add a new key
```

Deleting a key:

```
In [2]: occur = {'Car' : 33, 'Truck' : 55}  
        del d2['Truck']           # occur = {'Car':33}
```



■ Dictionary

- Check whether a key exists:

```
In [1]: occur = {'Car' : 33, 'Truck' : 55}  
        if 'Truck' in occur:  
            print("Found")
```



Dictionary

- Iterating keys and values
 - note: no guarantee on the order
- E.g. get the cumulative price of items in a market basket

```
In [1]:    basket = {'Cola' : 0.99, 'Apples' : 1.5, 'Salt' : 0.4}  
           price = 0  
           for k, v in basket.items():  
               price += v  
               print(f'{k}: {price}')
```

```
Out [1]: Cola: 0.99  
          Apples: 2.49  
          Salt: 2.89
```



■ Default dictionary

- Access by key with **default value**:

```
In [1]: from collections import defaultdict

experience = defaultdict(lambda: 1)
experience['Mario']=3
experience['Elena']+=[1] # Even if key 'Elena' not defined
```

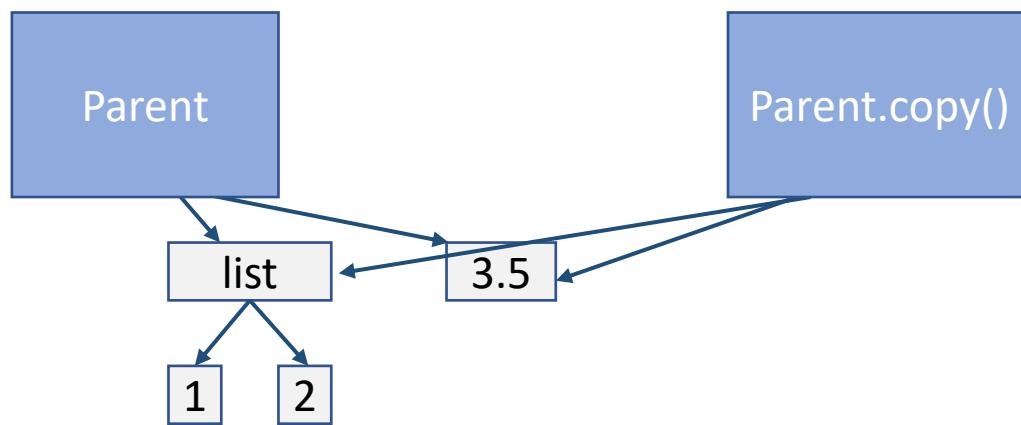
- Instead of writing:

```
In [2]: if 'Elena' in experience:
    experience['Elena']+=[1]
else:
    experience['Elena']=2
```



■ Shallow vs deep copy

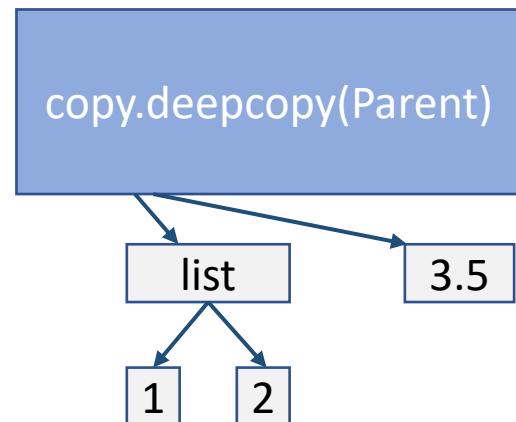
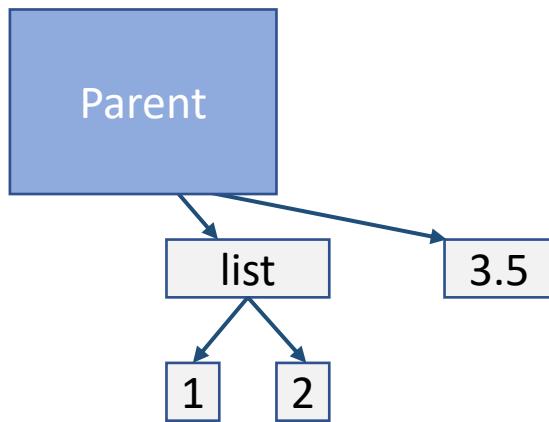
- Shallow: copies the `parent` object, shares references to `children`





■ Shallow vs deep copy

- Deep: recursively copies all children nodes of parent object





■ Shallow copies of Python objects

```
In [1]: temperatures = {'Turin':[10,12,10], 'Milan':{15,16,16}}  
temp2 = temperatures.copy()  
temp2['Turin'].append(13)                      # Edit child node  
temp2['Rome'] = [10, 11, 10]                   # Edit parent node  
print(temperatures)  
print(temp2)
```

```
In [2]: {'Turin': [10, 12, 10, 13], 'Milan': {16, 15}}  
{'Turin': [10, 12, 10, 13], 'Milan': {16, 15}, 'Rome': [10, 11, 10]}
```



■ Deep copy of Python objects

```
In [1]: import copy  
  
temperatures = {'Turin':[10,12,10], 'Milan':{15,16,16}}  
temp2 = copy.deepcopy(temperatures)  
temp2['Turin'].append(13)                      # Edit child node  
temp2['Rome'] = [10, 11, 10]                   # Edit parent node  
print(temperatures)  
print(temp2)
```

```
In [2]: {'Turin': [10, 12, 10], 'Milan': {16, 15}}  
{'Turin': [10, 12, 10, 13], 'Milan': {16, 15}, 'Rome': [10, 11, 10]}
```



■ if/elif/else

- Conditions expressed with `>`, `<`, `>=`, `<=`, `==`, `!=`
 - Can include boolean operators (and, not, or)

In [1]:

```
if sensor_on and temperature == 10:  
    print("Temperature is 10")  
  
elif sensor_on and 10 < temperature < 20:  
    in_range = True  
    print("Temperature is between 10 and 20")  
  
else:  
    print("Temperature is out of range or sensor is off.")
```

indentation is
mandatory



■ While loop

- Iterate while the specified condition is True

In [1]:

```
counter = 0

while counter < 5:

    print (f"The value of counter is {counter}")

    counter += 2      # increment counter of 2
```

Out [1]:

```
The value of counter is 0
The value of counter is 2
The value of counter is 4
```



- **Iterating** for a fixed number of times
 - Use: `range(start, stop)`

In [1]:

```
for i in range(5, 8):  
    txt = f"The value of i is {i}"  
    print(txt)
```

Out [1]:

```
The value of i is 5  
The value of i is 6  
The value of i is 7
```



■ Enumerating list objects

- Use: `enumerate(my_list)`

```
In [1]: my_list = ['a', 'b', 'c']
          for i, element in enumerate(my_list):
              print(f"The value of my_list[{i}] is {element}")
```

```
Out [1]: The value of my_list[0] is a
          The value of my_list[1] is b
          The value of my_list[2] is c
```



■ Iterating on multiple lists

- Use: `zip(list1, list2, ...)`

```
In [1]: my_list1 = ['a', 'b', 'c']
         my_list2 = ['A', 'B', 'C']
         for el1, el2 in zip(my_list1, my_list2):
             print(f"El1: {el1}, el2: {el2}")
```

```
Out [1]: El1: a, el2: A
          El1: b, el2: B
          El1: c, el2: C
```



Notebook Examples

- **1-Python Examples.ipynb**
 - 2) Euclidean distance between lists





■ Break/continue

- Alter the flow of a **for** or a **while** loop
- Example

my_file.txt

```
car
skip
truck
end
van
```

```
with open("./data/my_file.txt") as f:
    for line in f:          # read file line by line
        if line=='skip':
            continue          # go to next iteration
        elif line=='end':
            break             # interrupt loop
        print(line)
```

Out [1]:

```
car
truck
```



Functions

- **Essential** to organize code and avoid repetitions

```
In [1]: def euclidean_distance(x, y):  
    dist = 0  
    for x_el, y_el in zip(x, y):  
        dist += (x_el-y_el)**2  
    return math.sqrt(dist) # alternatively, dist**0.5  
  
print(f"{euclidean_distance([1,2,3], [2,4,5]):.2f}")  
print(f"{euclidean_distance([0,2,4], [0,1,6]):.2f}")
```

function name → `def euclidean_distance(x, y):`

return value → `return math.sqrt(dist) # alternatively, dist**0.5`

invocation → `print(f"{euclidean_distance([1,2,3], [2,4,5]):.2f}")`
`print(f"{euclidean_distance([0,2,4], [0,1,6]):.2f}")`

```
Out [1]: 3.00  
          2.24
```



■ Variable scope

- Rules to specify the **visibility** of variables
- **Local scope**
 - Variables defined inside the function

In [1]:

```
def my_func(x, y):  
    z = 5      ← not accessible from outside  
    return x + y + z  
  
print(my_func(2, 4))  
print(z)      ← error: z undefined
```



Functions

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■ Variable scope

■ Global scope

- Variables defined outside the function

In [1]:

```
def my_func(x, y):  
    return x + y + z ← z can be read inside the  
                      function  
  
z = 5  
my_func(2, 4)
```

Out [1]:

```
11
```



Functions

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- Variable scope
 - Global scope vs local scope

In [1]:

```
def my_func(x, y):  
    z = 2      ← define z in local scope  
    return x + y + z ← use z from local scope
```

```
z = 5      ← define z in global scope  
print (my_func(2, 4))  
print (z)      ← z in global scope is not modified
```

Out [1]:

```
8  
5
```



■ Variable scope

- Force the usage of variables in the global scope

In [1]:

```
def my_func(x, y):  
    global z      ← now z refers to global scope  
    z = 2        ← this assignment is performed to z  
    return x + y + z  
  
z = 5  
print (my_func(2, 4))  
print (z)
```

Out [1]:

```
8  
2
```



Functions

Variable scope

- Force the usage of variables in the global scope

In [1]:

```
def my_func(x, y):  
    global z          ← now z refers to the global variable  
    z = 2            ← this assignment changes the global variable  
    return x + y + z  
  
z = 5  
print (my_func(2, 4))  
print (z)
```

now z refers to the global variable

this assignment changes the global variable

Note

Avoid mixing global-local variables if possible. Pass all variables needed as arguments!

Out [1]:

```
8  
2
```



Functions

- Functions can **return tuples**

In [1]:

```
def add_sub(x, y):  
    return x+y, x-y  
  
summ, diff = add_sub(5, 3)  
print(f"Sum is {summ}, difference is {diff}.")
```

Out [1]:

```
Sum is 8, difference is 2.
```



Functions

Parameters with **default value**



```
In [1]: def func(a, b, c='defC', d='defD'):  
    print(f"{a}, {b}, {c}, {d}")  
  
func(1, 2)                      # use default for c, d  
func(1, 2, 'a')                  # use default for d, not for c  
func(1, 2, d='b')                # passing keyword argument  
func(b=2, a=1, d='b')            # keyword order does not matter  
  
func(1, c='a')                  # Error: b not specified
```

```
Out [1]: 1, 2, defC, defD  
1, 2, a, defD  
1, 2, defC, b  
1, 2, defC, b
```



Lambda functions

- Functions that can be defined **inline** and **without a name**
- Example of lambda function definition:

input parameter(s) return value

In [1]: squared = **lambda** x: x**2 print(squared(5))

Out [1]: 25



Lambda functions

- These patterns are useful shortcuts...

- Example: **filter** negative numbers from a list:

```
In [1]:    numbers = [1, -8, 5, -2, 5]
              negative = []
              for x in numbers:
                  if x < 0:
                      negative.append(x)
```

- This code can be completely rewritten with lambda functions...



Filter and map patterns

- Both apply a function element-wise to the elements of a list (iterable)
- Filter** the elements of a list based on a condition
- Map** each element of a list with a new value

```
In [1]: numbers = [1, -8, 5, -2, 5]
          negative = list(filter(lambda x: x<0, numbers))
          squared = list(map(lambda x: x**2, negative))
          print(negative)
          print(squared)
```

```
Out [1]: [-8, -2]
          [64, 4]
```



- **Lambda functions and conditions**
 - Example **conditional mapping**:

```
In [1]: numbers = [1, 1, 2, -2, 1]
          sign = list(map(lambda x: '+' if x>0 else '-', numbers))
          print(sign)
```

```
Out [1]: ['+', '+', '+', '-', '+']
```



Lambda functions

■ Sort/min/max by key

```
In [1]: records = [{name:'v1', 'val':5}, {name:'v2', 'val':1},  
                 {name:'v3', 'val':6}]  
  
min_val = min(records, key=lambda r: r['val'])  
sorted_records = sorted(records, key=lambda r: r['val'])  
  
  
print(f"Min: {min_val}")  
print(f"Sorted: {sorted_records}")
```

```
Out [1]: Min: {'name':'v2', 'val':1}  
Sorted: [{'name':'v2', 'val':1}, {'name':'v1', 'val':5},  
          {'name':'v3', 'val':6}]
```



List comprehensions

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- Allow creating **lists** from other **iterables**
 - Useful for implementing the **map pattern**
 - Syntax:

In [1]:

```
res_list = [f(el)  for el in iterable]
```

transform **el** to
another value

iterate all the
elements

e.g. list or tuple



List comprehensions

- Example: convert to uppercase dictionary keys
 - (**map** pattern)

```
In [1]:    dct = {'a':10, 'b':20, 'c':30}
```

```
        my_list = [s.upper() for s in dct.keys()]
        print(my_list)
```

```
Out [1]:   ['A', 'B', 'C']
```



List comprehensions

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- Allow specifying **conditions** on elements
 - Example: **square positive** numbers in a list
 - **Filter + map** patterns

```
In [1]: my_list1 = [-1, 4, -2, 6, 3]
```

```
my_list2 = [el**2 for el in my_list1 if el>0]
print(my_list2)
```

```
Out [1]: [16, 36, 9]
```



List comprehensions

■ Example: euclidean distance

```
def euclidean_distance(x, y):  
    dist = 0  
  
    for x_el, y_el in zip(x, y):  
        dist += (x_el-y_el)**2  
  
    return math.sqrt(dist)
```



```
def euclidean_distance(x, y):  
    dist = sum([(x_el-y_el)**2 for x_el, y_el in zip(x, y)])  
  
    return math.sqrt(dist)
```



Other comprehensions

- Dictionary comprehensions
 - Similarly to lists, allow building dictionaries

```
In [1]: keys = ['a', 'b', 'c']
          values = [-1, 4, -2]

          my_dict = {k:v for k, v in zip(keys, values)}
          print(my_dict)
```

```
Out [1]: {'a': -1, 'b': 4, 'c': -2}
```

- Set comprehensions

```
[In [1]: { v ** 2 for v in [ 4, 3, 2, -2, 1 ] }
Out[1]: {1, 4, 9, 16}]
```



List comprehensions

- List comprehensions and lambda functions can shorten your code, but ...
 - Pay attention to **readability!!**
 - **Comments** are welcome!!



Classes

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- A class is a model that specifies a collection of
 - attributes (= variables)
 - methods (that interact with attributes)
 - a constructor (a special method called to initialize an object)
- An object is an **instance** of a specific class
- Example:
 - class: Triangle (all the triangles have 3 edges)
 - object: a specific instance of Triangle



Classes

- Simple class example:

In [1]:

```
class Triangle: ← class name  
    num_edges = 3 ← attribute definition  
  
triangle1 = Triangle() ← class instantiation  
print(triangle1.num_edges) ← access to attribute
```

Out [1]:

```
3
```

- In this example all the object instances of Triangle have the same attribute value for num_edges: 3



Classes

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Constructor and initialization:

In [1]:

self is a reference to the current object

```
class Triangle:  
    num_edges = 3  
    def __init__(self, a, b, c):  
        self.a = a  
        self.b = b  
        self.c = c  
  
triangle1 = Triangle(2, 4, 3)  
triangle2 = Triangle(2, 5, 2)
```

self is always the first parameter

constructor parameters

initialize attributes

invoke constructor and instantiate a new Triangle



Methods

- Equivalent to Python functions, but defined inside a class
- The first argument is always **self** (reference to current object)
 - **self** allows accessing the object attributes
- Example:

```
class MyClass:  
    def my_method(self, param1, param2):  
        ...  
        self.attr1 = param1  
        ...
```



Classes

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Example with methods

In [1]:

```
class Triangle:  
    def __init__(self, a, b, c):  
        self.a, self.b, self.c = a, b, c  
    def get_perimeter(self): ← method  
        return self.a + self.b + self.c  
  
triangle1 = Triangle(2,4,3)  
triangle1.get_perimeter() ← method invocation  
                           (self is passed to the  
                           method automatically)
```

use **self** for
referring to
attributes

Out [1]:

9



■ Private attributes

- Methods or attributes that are **available only inside the object**
- They are **not accessible** from outside
- Necessary when you need to define elements that are useful for the class object but must not be seen/modified from outside



Classes

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■ Private attributes

In [1]:

```
class Triangle:  
    def __init__(self, a, b, c):  
        self.a, self.b, self.c = a, b, c  
        self.__perimeter = a + b + c  
    def get_perimeter(self):  
        return self.__perimeter  
  
triangle1 = Triangle(2,4,3)  
print(triangle1.get_perimeter())  
print(triangle1.__perimeter) ← Error! Cannot access  
private attributes
```

2 leading
underscores
make variables
private

Out [1]:

9



Notebook Examples

- **1-Python Examples.ipynb**
 - 3) Classes and lambda functions: rule-based classifier





Exception handling

- To track errors during program execution

In [1]:

```
try:  
    res = my_dict['key1']  
    res += 1  
  
except:  
    print("Exception during execution")
```

In [2]:

```
try:  
    res = a/b  
  
except ZeroDivisionError:  
    print("Denominator cannot be 0.")
```

can specify →
exception type



Exception handling

- The **finally** block is executed in any case after try and except
 - It typically contains cleanup operations
 - Example: reading a file

In [1]:

```
try:  
    f = open('./my_txt','r')      # open a file  
    ...                          # work with file  
except:  
    print("Exception while reading file")  
finally:  
    f.close()
```



Exception handling

- The try/except/finally program in the previous slide can also be written as follows:

In [1]:

```
try:  
    with open('./my_txt', 'r') as f:  
        for line in f:  
            ... # do something with line  
    except:  
        print("Exception while reading file")
```

- If there is an **exception** while reading the file, the with statement ends
- In any case, when the with statement ends the file is automatically closed (similarly to the finally statement)



Notebook Examples

- **1-Python Examples.ipynb**
 - 4) Classes and exception handling: reading csv files

