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Research

Teaching

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Python语言程序设计

# Python Programming

2025/26



Session 02

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# Review

# Using a Variable

- A variable stores a value (like a label)
- Variable declaration is very easy in Python - just assign a value
- You can reuse and change it
- `message` is the variable name

```
5  
6     message = "Hello, Python!"  
7     print(message)  
8
```



# Using a Variable

- You can assign a new value to a variable anytime
- Python will always use the latest value

```
5  
6     message = "Hello, Python!"  
7     print(message)  
8     message = "Hello, Crash Course!"  
9     print(message)  
10  
11
```



# Careful!



- This flexibility of Python can cause problems

```
5
6 message = "Hello, Python!"
7 print(message)
8 message = "Hello, Crash Course!"
9 print(message)
10 message = 29.5
11 print(message)
12
13
```

# Variable Naming Rules



- Use letters, numbers, and underscores: `greeting_1`
- Must start with a letter or underscore (not a number)
- No spaces allowed
- Cannot use Python keywords (like `print`, `for`, etc.)
- Use lowercase and descriptive names: `user_name`, not `u`



# Strings and String Methods

```
name = "john doe"

name_title = name.title()
print(name_title)

print(name.title())
print(name.upper())
print(name.lower())
```



# f-Strings (Formatted Strings)

- f-strings let you insert variables inside strings
- Very useful for dynamic messages

```
first_name = "john"  
last_name = "doe"  
  
full_name = f"{first_name} {last_name}"  
  
print(f"Hello, {full_name.title()}!")
```

```
Hello, John Doe!
```



# Syntax Errors with Strings

```
message = 'One of Python's strengths is...'  
# SyntaxError: unterminated string
```

```
message = "One of Python's strengths is..."  
  
message2 = 'One of Python\'s strengths is...'
```



# Python Number Types



- **Integers** (whole numbers)
  - Examples: -2, 0, 42
- **Floats** (numbers with decimals)
  - Examples: 3.14, 0.0, -2.5
- Python automatically chooses the type

```
print(type(5)) # <class 'int'>
print(type(2.0)) # <class 'float'>
```

- You don't need to declare types in advance

# Division and Mixed Operations



- `/` always returns a float, even for integers
- `//` performs integer division (truncates decimal)
- Mixing int and float in any operation → result is a float

```
print(4 / 2) # 2.0
print(5 // 2) # 2 (integer division)
print(5 / 2) # 2.5
print(1 + 2.0) # 3.0
```

# Exponents and Floats

- `**` is the exponent operator

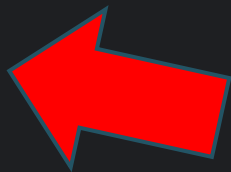
```
print(2 ** 3) # 8  
print(3 ** 2) # 9
```



# Exercise

- *Clean up the string from `string_session2.txt` found at [http://www.t-l.earth/teaching/python2025\\_26/special/](http://www.t-l.earth/teaching/python2025_26/special/) using the string methods we have covered in Session 1.*

```
message = ""
```



# Understanding and Creating Lists



# What Is a List?

- A list is a collection of items in a particular order.
- Lists can contain:
  - Strings, numbers, booleans, other lists
  - Even mixed types (though not recommended)
- Think of a list as a shelf where each item has a position.

```
bicycles = ['trek', 'cannondale', 'redline', 'specialized']  
print(bicycles)
```

# List Syntax

- Lists use square brackets []
- Items are separated by commas ,
- Choose plural names for variables (e.g., names, cars)

```
names = ['Tom', 'Anna', 'Zhang Wei']
```

# Accessing Elements by Index

- Use brackets to get an item: `list[index]`
- Index starts at 0
- Negative indices count from the end

```
names = ['Tom', 'Anna', 'Zhang Wei']  
  
print(names[0]) # Tom  
print(names[-1]) # Zhang Wei
```

# Formatting List Items

- You can use string methods like `.title()`
- Combine values with f-strings

```
names = ['Tom', 'Anna', 'Zhang Wei']  
print(f"My friend is {names[1].title()}")
```

# Common Pitfall: Index Errors

- IndexError: list index out of range
- Happens when you access a non-existent item

```
friends = ['Alice', 'Bob']  
print(friends[2]) # Error
```

# Key Takeaways

- Lists let you group related values
- You can access items with indexing
- Negative indices count from the end
- Lists work well with string formatting
- You will use lists everywhere in Python



# Modifying Lists: Add, Change, Remove



# Changing Elements in a List

- You can change any value by accessing it via its index
- Syntax: `list[index] = new_value`

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha', 'suzuki']  
motorcycles[0] = 'ducati'  
print(motorcycles)
```

# Adding Items with append()

- append() adds an element to the end of the list
- Often used to build lists dynamically

```
motorcycles = []  
motorcycles.append('honda')  
motorcycles.append('yamaha')  
print(motorcycles)
```

# Inserting Elements

- `insert(index, value)` adds an item at any position
- Shifts following elements right

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha']  
motorcycles.insert(__index: 1, __object: 'suzuki')  
print(motorcycles)
```

# Inserting Elements

- `insert(index, value)` adds an item at any position
- Shifts following elements right

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha']  
motorcycles.insert(__index: 1, __object: 'suzuki')  
print(motorcycles)
```

# Removing Items with del

- del removes an item by index
- You cannot access the value after deleting

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha', 'suzuki']  
del motorcycles[1]  
print(motorcycles)
```

## By the way: del ?

- del is a keyword in Python, it is not a function (similar to if, for, return)
- It is not specific to lists
- Can be used to delete many things

```
x = 10
del x
print(x) # NameError: name 'x' is not defined
```

# Removing Items with pop()

- pop() removes the last item by default
- You can store and use the removed item

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha', 'suzuki']
motorcycles.pop()
print(motorcycles) # ['honda', 'yamaha']

popped = motorcycles.pop()
print(popped) # suzuki
```

# pop() from Specific Position

- You can specify the index inside pop(index)

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha', 'suzuki']  
first = motorcycles.pop(0)  
print(first)
```



## Removing by Value with remove()

- remove(value) deletes the first occurrence
- Useful when you know the value, not the index

```
motorcycles = ['honda', 'yamaha', 'ducati']  
motorcycles.remove('ducati')  
print(motorcycles) # ['honda', 'yamaha']
```

# Key Takeaways

- Lists are dynamic: you can change, add, and remove items
- Use `append()`, `insert()`, `del`, `pop()`, and `remove()` depending on the need
- `pop()` and `remove()` let you keep the item for later use



# Looping and Organizing Lists

# Looping Through a List

- Use a for loop to repeat actions for every item
- Syntax: `for variable in list:`

```
magicians = ['alice', 'david', 'carolina']  
  
for magician in magicians:  
    print(magician)
```

# Looping Through a List

- Use a for loop to repeat actions for every item
- Syntax: `for variable in list:`
- Indentation is required

```
magicians = ['alice', 'david', 'carolina']  
  
for magician in magicians:  
    print(magician)
```

# By the Way: Indentation

- Python uses indentation to group code blocks
- All indented lines belong to the loop
- Non-indented code runs after the loop ends
- This makes Python readable, but indentation must be exact

```
for x in [1,2,3]:  
    for y in [1,2,3]:  
        for z in [1,2,3]:  
            print(x,y,z)
```

# Looping Through a List

- You can do multiple things in a loop
- Each indented line runs for every item

```
for magician in magicians:  
    print(f"{magician.title()}, that was a great trick!")  
    print(f"I can't wait to see your next trick, {magician.title()}.")
```



# Sorting a List

- `sort()` changes the list permanently
- `sorted()` returns a new sorted list
- Use `reverse=True` for reverse order

```
cars = ['bmw', 'audi', 'toyota']  
cars.sort()  
cars.sort(reverse=True)
```

# Reversing a List

- Use `reverse()` to flip the list order
- Not the same as reverse sorting!

```
cars = ['bmw', 'audi', 'toyota']  
cars.reverse()  
print(cars)
```

# Finding List Length

- Use `len()` to count how many items

```
x = len(cars)  
print(x)
```

# Slicing a List

- Get part of a list: `list[start:end]`
- End index is not included

```
players = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']  
print(players[1:4]) # ['b', 'c', 'd']  
print(players[-3:]) # ['c', 'd', 'e']
```

# Key Takeaways

- for loops repeat actions for every item
- Indentation defines what is inside the loop
- Use sort, reverse, len, and slicing to organize your data



# Numerical Lists, Comprehensions

# Using range() to Generate Numbers

- range(start, stop) creates a sequence of numbers
- stop value is excluded
- Combine with list() to get a full list

```
r = range(1, 6)
print(type(r)) #<class 'range'>
numbers = list(range(1, 6))
print(numbers) # [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
```



# range() with Steps

- Use a third argument to skip values

```
r = list(range(0, 50, 5))  
print(r) # [0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45]
```

# Squares with Loops

- Use a loop and append to build a list of squares

```
squares = []  
for value in range(1, 11):  
    squares.append(value**2)  
  
print(squares) # [1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100]
```

# List Comprehensions

- A list comprehension is a one-line shortcut for creating a new list by looping through an iterable and applying an expression.
- Basic syntax: `result = [expression for item in iterable]`

```
result = []  
for item in iterable:  
    result.append(expression)
```

# List Comprehensions

```
squares = [value**2 for value in range(1, 11)]
```

- Loop through numbers from 1 to 10
- Square each number
- Store each result in the list squares

```
squares = []  
for value in range(1, 11):  
    squares.append(value**2)
```

# List Comprehensions

```
squares = [value**2 for value in range(1, 11) if value < 5]
```

- Only square the even numbers from 1 to 10

```
squares = []  
for value in range(1, 11):  
    if value < 5:  
        even_squares.append(value**2)
```

# List Comprehensions

- Very flexible

```
names = ['tom', 'anna', 'bob']  
names = [name.title() for name in names]
```

# Copying a list safely

- Use slicing ([:]) to copy a list
- Avoid direct assignment, which creates a reference

```
original = ['pizza', 'pasta']  
copy = original[:]  
copy.append('salad')  
print(original) # ['pizza', 'pasta']  
print(copy) # ['pizza', 'pasta', 'salad']
```

# Copying a list safely

- Use slicing ([:]) to copy a list
- Avoid direct assignment, which creates a reference

```
original = [1,2,3]
copy = original # wrong, not a copy!
print(copy) # [1,2,3]
original.append(4)
print(copy) # [1,2,3,4] ! copy is a reference to original
```



# Simple List Math

- Use `min()`, `max()`, `sum()` on number lists

```
digits = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]  
print(min(digits))  
print(max(digits))  
print(sum(digits))
```

# Key Takeaways

- Use `range()` to create number sequences
- Use list comprehensions for compact logic
- Use `min`, `max`, `sum` for quick analysis

# What does `[x**2 for x in range(1, 4)]` return?

0

[1, 4, 9]

0

[2, 4, 6]

0

[1, 2, 3, 4]

0

[1, 8, 27]

# Which of these creates a true copy of a list?

0

`copy = original[:]`

0

`copy = original`

0

`copy = list(original)`

0

`copy = original.copy()`

# Exercises

# Exercise 1

- Create a list of at least 3 names and print each using indexing
- Print a personalized message for each name using f-strings
- Make a list of transport modes and print statements like "I would like to own a \_\_\_\_"

## Exercise 2

- Make a guest list and send each person an invitation
- Replace one guest who can't come and resend invitations
- Insert guests at beginning, middle, and end, then print all invitations
- Shrink guest list to 2 using `pop()`, apologize, then delete all

## Exercise 3

- List 3 pizzas, loop to print them all, then "I really love pizza!"
- List 3 animals and say why each makes a good pet; end with summary
- List 5 places. Print in original, sorted, reversed order (sorted() and reverse())



## Exercise 4

- Use a loop to print numbers from 1 to 20
- List numbers to 1 million, use `min()`, `max()`, `sum()` on the list
- Confirm list starts at 1 and ends at 1 million
- Print odd numbers from 1 to 20
- Print multiples of 3 from 3 to 30
- List cubes of 1-10 using a loop
- List cubes of 1-10 using list comprehension
- Copy a list and show both are different

# Which topic felt hardest today?

0  
Slicing

0  
Comprehensions

0  
Looping



# The speed of the session was too...

