



Python (& Jython) introduction

for C++ and Java programmers

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Python is... lots of nice buzzwords....:

- a Very-High-Level Language (VHLL)
- clean, spare syntax
- simple, regular, orthogonal semantics
- **high-productivity**
- open-source, cross-platform
- object-oriented
- ...



Python is... a lot like Java...:

- compiler to bytecode + VM/interpreter
 - however, compilation is implicit (“auto-make”)
- everything (in 2.2) inherits from object
- consistent “object-reference” semantics
 - assignment, argument-passing, ...
 - applies to numbers too (immutable, like strings)
- large, powerful standard library
- introspection, serialization, threading...



Python is... a lot like C++....:

- multi-paradigm
 - object-oriented, procedural, ...
- multiple inheritance
- operator overloading
- **signature-based polymorphism**
 - as if “everything was a template”... w/ clean syntax
- choices, choices everywhere
 - GUIs, Web server frameworks, COM/Corba/...



Python is... quite unlike either...:

- strong but dynamic typing
 - **objects** have (strong) types, **names** don't
 - no declarations -- only statements
- clean syntax, minimal "chart-junk"
 - blocks have no { } -- just indentation
 - if/while have no ()
- most everything is a first-class object
 - including classes, functions, modules, packages...



Python versions/releases

- **Classic Python**: currently 2.2 -> 2.3
 - implemented in 1990-level ISO C
- **Jython**: currently 2.1 -> (2.2/2.3)
 - implemented as 100% pure Java
 - deploy just like Java, on a JVM
 - **transparently** use/extend/implement arbitrary Java classes and interfaces / compile to Java / ...
- **Others: experimental/research level**
 - Python.NET , PyPy , Vyper (O'CAML), ...



Python resources on the net

- [http:// www.python.org](http://www.python.org)
 - just about everything: downloads, docs, mailing lists, SIGs, pointers to [whatever], ...
 - <http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.3/Python-2.3a2.exe>
- <http://www.jython.org>
 - mostly Jython-specific stuff
- <news:comp.lang.python>
 - any kind of question, request, discussion
- <http://www.google.com> (no, **really!!!**)



Python fundamentals

- interactive interpreter (text and IDLE)
 - mostly for trying things out, or as a calculator
 - prompts with `>>>`, shows expressions' results
- program files (`afile.py`, `afile.pyc`, ...)
 - for most uses; compilation is automatic
- **assignment** (simplest form):
 - `name = <any expression>`
 - creates name if needed, binds it to the value
 - names are not declared, and have no type per se



assignments, print

```
myvar = 'hello'      # creates a name
myvar = 23           # rebinds name
question = answer = 42
myvar, answer = answer, myvar
print myvar, answer, question
42, 23, 42
if myvar<20: myvar = 10 # not executed
if myvar>40: myvar = 50 # executed
print myvar
50
```



conditional statements

```
if question>30:           # 'if' guards a suite
    question = 20         #   the suite is shown
    x = 33                 #   by its indentation
else:                       # optional 'else'
    x = 99                 #   indentation again
if x<30: myvar = 10        # not met
elif x<40: myvar = 20     # met
elif x<50: myvar = 40    # not evaluated
else: myvar = 40          # this neither
print x, question, myvar
33 20 20
```



comparisons, tests, truth

equality, identity: `==` `!=` `is` `is not`

order: `<` `>` `<=` `>=`

containment: `in` `not in`

comparisons **chain**: `5<x<9` `a==b==c`

false: any `==0`, `""`, `None`, empty containers

true: every other value

in Python 2.2.1 and higher:

`False==0`, `True==1`

`bool(x)` gives `True` or `False`



short-circuit and/or; not

and/or short-circuit and *return either operand*:

`x = y and z` is like: `if y: x=z`
`else: x=y`

`x = y or z` is like: `if y: x=y`
`else: x=z`

`print 0 and 0j, 0j and 0, 0 or 0j, 0j or 0`
0 0j 0j 0

`x = not y` is like: `if y: x=0 # True (2.2)`
`else: x=1 # False`

`print not 0, not 1, not 0j, not 1j # 2.3`
True False True False



numbers

int (usually 32-bit) and Long (unlimited precision):

```
print 2**100
```

1267650600228229401496703205376

float (usually 64-bit IEEE):

```
print 2**100.0
```

1.26765060023e+030

complex (float real and imag parts):

```
print 2**100.0j
```

(0.980130165912+0.19835538276j)



arithmetic

add, subtract, multiply, power: + - * **

division (true, truncating, mod): / // %

bitwise and shift: ~ & | ^ << >>

built-in functions: abs divmod max min
pow round

conversions: complex float int long

```
print 2**100%999, pow(2,100,999)  
160 160
```



loops

```
while myvar>10: myvar -= 7
```

```
print myvar
```

```
3
```

```
for i in 0, 1, 2, 3: print i**2,
```

```
0 1 4 9
```

```
for i in range(4): print i**2,      # "UBX"
```

```
0 1 4 9
```

`while` and `for` normally control suites (blocks)

may contain **break**, **continue**

optional **else** clause == "natural termination"



files (example: copying)

```
fin = open('in', 'r') # or just open('in')
fou = open('ou', 'w') # 'a', 'r+', 'wb'...
```

```
fou.write(fin.read()) # or:
data=fin.read(); fou.write(data) # or:
fou.writelines(fin.readlines()) # or:
for line in fin: fou.write(line) # 2.2/+
```

```
fin.close() # good practice, but only
fou.close() # "mandatory" in Jython
```



strings (example: file-listing)

```
# in 2.3:
for lineNumber, lineText in enumerate(fin):
    fou.write('Line number %s: %s'
              % (lineNumber+1, lineText))

# or, in 2.2:
lineNumber = 0
for lineText in fin:
    lineNumber += 1
    ...

# or, in 2.1:
lineNumber = 0
for lineText in fin.readlines():
    ...
```



strings are sequences

```
for c in 'ciao': print c,  
c i a o
```

```
print len('cip'), 'i' in 'cip', 'x' in 'cip'  
3 True False # or 3 1 0 in 2.2  
# also: 'ia' in 'ciao' -- but, 2.3 only
```

```
print 'Oxford'[2], 'Oxford'[1:4]  
f xfo
```

```
print 'ci'+ 'ao', 'cip'*3, 4 * 'pic'  
ciao cipcipcip picpicpicpic
```



lists are heterogeneous vectors

```
x = [1, 2, 'beboop', 94]
```

```
x[1] = 'plik'          # lists are mutable
```

```
print x
```

```
[1, 'plik', 'beboop', 94]
```

```
x[1:2] = [6,3,9]      # can assign to slices
```

```
print x
```

```
[1, 6, 3, 9, 'beboop', 94]
```

```
print [it*it for it in x[:4]]
```

```
[1, 36, 9, 81]
```



lists are also sequences

```
print x
[1, 6, 3, 9, 'beboop', 94]
for it in x: print it,
1 6 3 9 beboop 94

print len(x), 6 in x, 99 in x
6 True False # or 3 1 0 in 2.2

print x[2], x[1:5]
3 [6, 3, 9, 'beboop']

print [1]+[2], [3,4]*3
[1, 2] [3, 4, 3, 4, 3, 4]
```



sequence indexing and slicing

```
x = 'helloworld'  
print x[1], x[-3]  
e r
```

```
print x[:2], x[2:], x[:-3], x[-3:]  
he lloworld helloworld rld
```

```
print x[2:6], x[2:-3], x[5:99]  
llow llowo world
```

```
# step is only allowed in Python 2.3:  
print x[::2], x[-3:4:-1]  
hlool row
```



sequence packing/unpacking

```
x = 2, 3, 9, 6      # tuple (immutable)
print x
(2, 3, 9, 6)
```

```
a, b, c, d = x      # unpacking
print c, b, d, a
9 3 6 2
```

```
RED, YELLOW, GREEN = range(3) # enum-like
```

```
a, b, c, d = 'ciao' # unpacking
print c, b, d, a
a i o c
```



string methods

```
x = 'ciao'
```

```
print x.upper(), x.title(), x.isupper()
```

```
CIAO Ciao False
```

```
print x.find('a'), x.count('a'), x.find('z')
```

```
2 1 -1
```

```
print x.replace('a', 'e')
```

```
cieo
```

```
print x.join('what')
```

```
wciaohciaoaciaot
```



list methods

```
x = list('ciao')
print x
['c', 'i', 'a', 'o']

print x.sort()
None
print x
['a', 'c', 'i', 'o']
print ''.join(x)
acio

x.append(23); print x
['a', 'c', 'i', 'o', 23]
```



list comprehensions

```
[ <expr> for v in seq ]  
[ <expr> for v in seq if <cond> ]
```

```
# squares of primes between 3 and 40
```

```
def p(x):
```

```
    return [n for n in range(2,x) if x%n==0]
```

```
print [x*x for x in range(3,40) if not p(x)]
```

```
[9, 25, 49, 121, 169, 289, 361, 529, 841, 961, 1369]
```



reference semantics

```
x = ['a', 'b', 'c']
```

```
y = x
```

```
x[1] = 'zz'
```

```
print x, y
```

```
['a', 'zz', 'c'] ['a', 'zz', 'c']
```

```
# explicitly ask for a copy if needed:
```

```
y = list(x) # or x[:], or...
```

```
x[2] = 9999
```

```
print x, y
```

```
['a', 'zz', 9999] ['a', 'zz', 'c']
```



dicts are mappings

```
x = {1:2, 'beboop':94}
```

```
x[1] = 'plik'          # dicts are mutable  
print x  
{1:'plik', 'beboop':94}
```

```
x['z'] = [6,3,9]      # can add new items  
print x  
{1:'plik', 'z':[6, 3, 9], 'beboop':94}
```

```
print dict([ (i,i*i) for i in range(4) ])  
{0:0, 1:1, 2:4, 3:9}
```



dicts keys

Must be *hashable* (normally: immutable)....:

```
x = {}
```

```
x[[1,2]] = 'a list'
```

```
TypeError: list objects are unhashable
```

```
x[{1:2}] = 'a dict'
```

```
TypeError: dict objects are unhashable
```

```
x[1,2] = 'a tuple' # ok, tuple's hashable
```

```
x[0j] = 'a complex' # all numbers are OK
```

```
x[0.0] = 'a float' # **however**....:
```

```
print x[0] # 0==0.0==0j, so....:
```

```
a float
```



dicts are not sequences, but...:

```
print x  
{1: 'plik', 'z': [6, 3, 9], 'beboop': 94}
```

```
for it in x: print it, # in 2.2 / 2.3  
1 z beboop
```

```
for it in x.keys(): print it,  
1 z beboop
```

```
print len(x), 'z' in x, 99 in x  
3 True False # or 3 1 0 in 2.2
```



dict methods

```
print x.get(1), x.get(23), x.get(45, 'bu')  
p7ik None bu
```

```
print x  
{1: 'p7ik', 'z': [6, 3, 9], 'beboop': 94}
```

```
print x.setdefault(1, 'bah')  
p7ik
```

```
print x.setdefault(9, 'w')  
w
```

```
print x  
{1: 'p7ik', 9: 'w', 'z': [6, 3, 9], 'beboop': 94}
```



example: indexing a textfile (2.3)

```
# build a word -> line numbers mapping
idx = {}
for n, line in enumerate(open('some.txt')):
    for word in line.split():
        idx.setdefault(word, []).append(n)

# display by alphabetically-sorted word
words = idx.keys(); words.sort()
for word in words:
    print "%s:" % word,
    for n in idx[word]: print n,
    print
```



example: C++ equivalent

```
#include <string>
#include <iostream>
#include <sstream>
#include <map>
#include <vector>
int main()
{
    std::map<std::string, std::vector<int> > idx;
    std::string line;
    int n = 0;
    while(getline(std::cin, line)) {
        std::istringstream sline(line);
        std::string word;
        while(sline >> word) {
            idx[word].push_back(n);
        }
        n += 1;
    }

    for(std::map<std::string, std::vector<int> >
        ::iterator i = idx.begin();
        i != idx.end(); ++i) {
        std::cout << i->first << ": ";
        for(std::vector<int>
            ::iterator j = i->second.begin();
            j != i->second.end(); ++j) {
            std::cout << ' ' << *j;
        }
        std::cout << "\n";
    }

    return 0;
}
```

on KJB, 4.4MB: C++ 8.5/17.40 (opt. 7.38/15.01)
Python 5.4/11.22 (opt. 3.85/8.09)



functions

```
def sumsquares(x, y): return x**2+y**2
print sumsquares(1, 2)
```

5

```
def sq1(x, y=1): return sumsquares(x, y)
print sq1(1, 2), sq1(3)
```

5 10

```
def ssq(*args):          # varargs-like
    total = 0
    for arg in args: total += arg**2
    return total
```



functions support lexical closure

```
def makeAdder(addend):  
    def adder(augend):  
        return augend+addend  
    return adder
```

```
ad23 = makeAdder(23)  
ad42 = makeAdder(42)
```

```
print ad23(100), ad42(100), ad23(ad42(100))  
123 142 165
```



classes

```
class act:
    cla = [] # class attribute
    def __init__(self): # constructor
        self.ins = {} # inst. attribute
    def meth1(self, x):
        self.cla.append(x)
    def meth2(self, y, z):
        self.ins[y] = z
```

calling the class creates an instance:

```
ex1 = act()
ex2 = act()
```



classes and instances

```
print ex1.cla, ex2.cla, ex1.ins, ex2.ins  
[] [] {} {}
```

```
ex1.meth1(1); ex1.meth2(2, 3)  
ex2.meth1(4); ex2.meth2(5, 6)
```

```
print ex1.cla, ex2.cla, ex1.ins, ex2.ins  
[1, 4] [1, 4] {2: 3} {5: 6}
```

```
print ex1.cla is ex2.cla  
True
```



subclasses

```
class sub(act):  
    def meth2(self, x, y=1): # override  
        act.meth2(self, x, y) # supercall
```

```
class stutter(list): # 2.2/2.3  
    def append(self, x):  
        for i in 1,2:  
            list.append(self, x)
```

```
class dataoverride(sub):  
    cla = stutter()
```



new-style classes (2.2, 2.3)

```
class ns(object):
    def hlo(): return 'hello'
    hlo = staticmethod(hlo)
    def hi(cls): return 'hi,%s'%cls.__name__
    hi = classmethod(hi)
class sn(ns): pass
print ns.hlo(), sn.hlo(), ns.hi(), sn.hi()
hello hello hi,ns hi,sn
x = ns(); y = sn()
print x.hlo(), y.hlo(), x.hi(), y.hi()
hello hello hi,ns hi,sn
```



properties (2.2, 2.3)

```
class evener(object):  
    def __init__(self, num): self.x = num  
    def getNum(self): return self.x*2  
    def setNum(self, num): self.x = num//2  
    num = property(getNum, setNum)
```

```
x = evener(23); print x.num
```

```
22
```

```
x.num = 27.12; print x.num
```

```
26.0
```



operator overloading

```
class faker:
    def __add__(self, other): return 23
    def __mul__(self, other): return 42
x = faker()
print x+5, x+x, x+99, x*12, x*None, x*x
23 23 23 42 42 42
```

Can overload: all arithmetic, indexing/slicing, attribute access, length, truth, creation, initialization, copy, ...
but **NOT** "assignment of objects of this class to a name"
(there's no "assignment TO objects", only OF objects)



exceptions

- Python *raises an exception* for errors, e.g.:
`x=[1,2,3]; x[3]=99`
Traceback (most recent call last):
`.....`
IndexError: list assignment index out of range
- You can define your own exception classes:
`class MyError(Exception): pass`
- You can raise any exception in your code:
`raise NameError, 'unknown name %s' % nn`
`raise MyError, 223961`
- You can re-raise the exception last caught:
`raise`



exception handling

```
try:  
    x[n] = value  
except IndexError:  
    x.extend((n-len(x))*[None])  
    x.append(value)  
else:  
    print "assignment succeeded"
```

```
f = open('somefile')  
try: process(f)  
finally: f.close()
```



iterators may be non-terminating

```
class fibonacci:  
    def __init__(self): self.i=self.j=1  
    def __iter__(self): return self  
    def next(self):  
        r, self.i = self.i, self.j  
        self.j += r  
        return r
```

```
for rabbits in fibonacci():  
    if rabbits>100: break  
    print rabbits,  
1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89
```



iterators can terminate

```
class fibonacci:
    def __init__(self, bound):
        self.i=self.j=1
        self.bound= bound
    def __iter__(self):
        return self
    def next(self):
        r, self.i = self.i, self.j
        self.j += r
        if r >= bound: raise StopIteration
        return r
for rabbits in fibonacci(100):
    print rabbits,
1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89
```



generators return iterators

```
from __future__ import generators # 2.2
```

```
def fibonacci(bound):  
    r, i, j = 0, 1, 1  
    while r < bound:  
        if r: yield r  
        r, i, j = i, j, j+j
```

```
for rabbits in fibonacci(100):  
    print rabbits,  
1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89
```



generator example: enumerate

```
# it's a built-in in 2.3, but, in 2.2....:
from __future__ import generators

def enumerate(iterable):
    n = 0
    for item in iterable:
        yield n, item
        n += 1

print list(enumerate('ciao'))
[(0, 'c'), (1, 'i'), (2, 'a'), (3, 'o')]
```



importing modules

```
import math          # standard library module
print math.atan2(1,3)
0.321750554397
print atan2(1,3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
...
NameError: name 'atan2' is not defined
atan2 = math.atan2
print atan2(1,3)
0.321750554397
# or, as a shortcut: from math import atan2
```



defining modules

Even easier...:

- every Python source file ***wot.py*** is a module
- can be imported via ***import wot***
 - ...as long as it resides on the import-path
 - ...which is list ***path*** in standard module ***sys***
 - ***sys.path.append('/some/extra/path')***
- a module's attributes are its top-level names
 - AKA "global variables" of the module
 - functions and classes are "variables" too



packages

- a package is a module containing other modules
 - possibly including other packages, recursively
- lives in a **directory** containing **`__init__.py`**
 - **`__init__.py`** is the package's body, may be empty
 - modules in the package are files in the directory
 - sub-packages are sub-directories with **`__init__.py`**
- *parent* directory must be in **`sys.path`**
- imported and used with **dot notation**:
`import email.MIMEImage`
or: `from email import MIMEImage`



batteries included

- standard Python library (round numbers...):
 - 180 plain modules
 - math, sys, os, sets, struct, re, random, pydoc, gzip, threading...
 - socket, select, urllib, ftplib, rfc822, SimpleXMLRPCServer, ...
 - 8 packages with 70 more modules
 - bsddb, compiler, curses, distutils, email, hotshot, logging, xml
 - 80 encodings modules
 - 280 unit-test modules
 - 180 modules in Demo/
 - 180 modules in Tools/ (12 major tools+60 minor)
 - compiler, faqwiz, framer, i18n, idle, webchecker, world...
 - byext, classfix, crlf, dutree, mkreal, pindent, ptabs, tabnanny...
- -- but wait! There's more...



other batteries -- GUI and DB

■ GUIs

- Tkinter (uses Tcl/Tk)
- wxPython (uses wxWindows)
- PyQt (uses Qt)
- Pythonwin (uses MFC -- Windows-only)
- AWT and Swing (Jython-only)
- PyGTK, PyUI, anygui, fltk, FxPy, EasyGUI, ...

■ DBs (with SQL)

- Gadfly, PySQLite, MkSQL (uses MetaKit)
- MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, DB2, SAP/DB, Firebird...
- JDBC (Jython-only)



other batteries -- computation

- Numeric (and numarray)
- PIL (image processing)
- SciPy
 - weave (inline, blitz, ext_tools)
 - fft, ga, special, integrate, interpolate, optimize, signal, stats...
 - plotting: plt, xplt, gplt, chaco
- gmpy (multi-precision arithmetic, uses GMP)
- pycrypto



other batteries -- net servers

- integration with Apache:
 - mod_python
 - PyApache
- high-level packages:
 - WebWare
 - Quixote
- stand-alone (async, highly-scalable):
 - Medusa
 - Twisted



other batteries -- dev't tools

- **development environments:**
 - Free: IDLE, PythonWin, BOA Constructor, ...
 - Commercial: WingIDE, BlackAdder, PythonWorks, ...
- **(GUI builders, debuggers, profilers, ...)**
- **packagers:**
 - distutils, py2exe
 - McMillan's Installer



integration with C/C++/...

- extending:
 - Python C API
 - SWIG
 - Boost Python
 - CXX, SCXX, sip, ...
 - Pyfort, pyrex, ...
 - COM (Windows-only), XPCOM, Corba, ...
- embedding
 - Python C API
 - Boost Python (*rsn...*)



integration with Java

- **extending:**
 - transparent: Jython can import Java-coded classes
 - from standard libraries, your own, third-party...
- **embedding**
 - Jython can implement Java-coded interfaces
 - jythonc generates JVM bytecode
 - the Jython interpreter is accessible from Java