



# Programming I

Course 5

Introduction to  
programming

# What we talked about?

- Functions
  - Function definition
  - Functions call
- Variables visibility domain
  - Local
  - global

# What we will talk about?

- Modules
- Characters
- Strings
- Formatting Strings
- Regular expressions

# Modules in Python

- What is a module?
  - A set of functions grouped into a file, which can be accessed
- Modules types (libraries)
  - Predefined (build-in)
  - External (created by you, created by somebody else)
- Example
  - math – mathematical functions (build-in)
  - Random – random number generator (build-in)
  - cv2 – image processing (external)
  - numpy – fast operations with arrays (external)

# How to use

## **import**

- Allows the import of all function from module
- Not recommended

```
import math
print(math.sqrt(100))
print(math.log10(100))
```

## **from**

- Allows the import of a individual function from module
- Recommended

```
from math import sqrt
from math import log10
print(sqrt(100))
print(log10(100))
```

# Rename Modules

- Using **as** keyword

## **import**

- Allows the import of all function from module
- Not recommended

```
import math as m
print(m.sqrt(100))
print(m.log10(100))
```

## **from**

- Allows the import of a individual function from module
- Recommended

```
from math import sqrt as sq, log10 as lg
print(sq(100))
print(lg(100))
```

# What we will take about?

- Modules
- **Characters**
- Strings
- Formatting Strings
- Regular expressions

# Characters

- Character representation
  - a translation scheme is used which maps each character to its representative number
- Schemes
  - ASCII
    - covers the common Latin characters
  - Unicode
    - provide a numeric code for every possible character, in every possible language, on every possible platform
- Functions
  - `chr()` - Converts an integer to a character
  - `ord()` - Converts a character to an integer

Example:

```
print(ord('a'))  
print(chr(97))
```



# Strings

- Arrays of characters
- Can be defined
  - Using " or '
- Example
  - 'a valid string', not ~~'an invalid string'~~
  - "a valid string"
  - "another' valid string"
  - 'another "valid string'
  - ~~"not a valid string'~~

# Escape characters

- Character with special meaning
- Formed from \ followed from a character
- Example
  - Use " inside a string specified using "
    - "a new \"cuvant\""
  - New line \n
    - "first line\n second line"
  - Tab \t
  - Backspace \b
- For more details see: <https://docs.python.org/2.0/ref/strings.html>

# Strings

- An ordered characters sequence
  - Similar with list
  - Allow indexing
    - Accessing character ay position
    - Slicing
- Example
  - `S="hello"`
  - `S[0]` -> h
  - `S[1]` -> e
  - `S[::-1]` -> olleh
  - `S[1:3]` -> el
- Number of characters into a string
  - `len()`
- Example
  - `S="hello"`
  - `print(len(s))` -> 5

# Other String Methods

- +

- Concatenates 2 string values

- Example

`S1="ab"`

`S2="cd"`

`S1+S2 -> "abcd"`

- \*

- Multiply a string value

- Example

`S1="ab"`

`S1*3 -> "ababab"`

# Strings. Immutable

- Immutable
  - in order to change the content of an object a new object is created

- Example

```
S="course"
```

```
S[0]="C" -> ERROR: 'str' object does not support item assignment
```

Possible solution

```
S = "C"+S[1:]
```

# Other String Methods

- `upper()/lower()`
  - Transform a string to upper/lower cases
  - The functions are not destructive (do not change the content of the object)
- Example
  - `S = "Hello"`
  - `S.upper()` -> "HELLO"

- `split([separator[, max]])`
  - Returns a list with elements from the string that are separated by *separator* (default value is space) having *max* elements (default value for *max* is -1 meaning all elements)
- Example
  - `S="red green blue"`
  - `s.split()` -> ["red", "green", "blue"]
  - `S="red;green;blue"`
  - `s.split(";")` -> ["red", "green", "blue"]

# Other String Methods

- `join(sequence)`
  - Return a string that contains the elements of the sequence separated by the string value on which the function is applied
- Example
  - " ".`join(["red", "green", "blue"])` -> "red green blue"
  - " and ".`join(["red", "green", "blue"])` -> "red and green and blue"
  - " ".`join([1,2,4])` -> ERROR expected sequence str

# Exercise

- Write a program that draws the following triangle for input number  $n$ . For example for  $n=4$  the result is the following

```
*  
**  
***  
****
```

## Solutions?

1. Using `*` operator for strings
2. Using `+` operator for strings
3. Using formatted *print* function



# Formatting Strings

- Remember: string are immutable
- How many string objects are creating in order to evaluate the following line?

```
S = " This " + " course " + " is " + " about " + " strings"
```

- What is result of evaluating the following sequence?

```
A=10
```

```
B=20
```

```
S="a=" + a + " b=" + b
```

# Formatting Strings

- Method to insert values into a string
  - Preserve arguments order
  - Change arguments order
- Example

A=10

B=20

S="a={} b{}".format(a, b)

S="int value={} string value={}".format("abc", a)

S="a={1} b={2}".format(a, b)

S="a={2} b={1}".format(a, b)

# Formatting Strings

- Numbers

- Number of decimal digits

```
F = 1.2334456
```

```
#display first 2 decimals
```

```
print("f={:1.2f}".format(F))
```

- Padding numbers

```
i=12
```

```
#display number on 4 characters
```

```
print("i={:4d}".format(i))
```

# Formatting Strings

- Padding and alignment

  - `'{:>10}'.format('test')` #align right

  - `'{:10}'.format('test')` #align left

  - `'{:_  
<10}'.format('test')` # use \_ in steed of space

  - `'{:^10}'.format('test')` # center

- Truncating long strings

  - `'{:.5}'.format('xylophone')`

# Formatting with 'f' or 'r'

- Use f-string in seed of format

```
name="Ana"
```

```
age="20"
```

```
print(f"Student {name} has {age}.")
```

- Use r- (raw) to disable escape sequence

```
print("ana\nhas\n apples\n") => ana
```

```
has
```

```
apples
```

```
print(r "ana\nhas\n apples\n") => ana\nhas\n apples\n
```

# Usual String Operations

- Checking if a substring belongs to a string
  - Solution
    - Implement your own search algorithm
    - Use predefined functions from the language
      - Example
        - `find()` – returns the index of the first appearance of the substring in string

# Usual String Operations

- Verify if a string is in correct format
  - A value is an e-mail address
  - A date is entered in the correct format
- Split a string by a delimiter
  - comma separated values information
  - Find the words from a sentence

# Regular Expressions - Regex

- A compact notation for. String representation
- Defined using a mini-language
  - Depends on programming language
  - Independent of programming language
- Useful
  - Validating string format
  - Splitting strings after a criteria
  - Searching
  - Searching and replacing



# Regex Characters

- Used to search an exact string
  - Example regex='abc'
    - aabcc
    - ababc
    - ~~aabbcc~~
- Escape characters
  - \. ^ \$ ? + \* { } [ ] ( ) |
  - Have a significance if they are encountered inside a regex
  - Example: regex=ab+c #match multile b instances 'b+'
    - aabcc
    - ababc
    - aabbcc

# Regex Characters

- Escape characters
  - `\. ^ $ ? + * { } [ ] ( ) |`
  - Have a significance if they are encountered inside a regex
  - Example: `regex=a[bc]d` #match multiple b instances 'b' or 'c'
    - `abd`
    - `acd`
    - ~~`abcd`~~
    - ~~`acbd`~~
    - `aabdddd`
    - `acdd`

# Regex Characters

- Escape characters
  - `\. ^ $ ? + * { } [ ] ( ) |`
  - Example
    - `[0-9]` matching a digit
    - `[^0-9]` matching any character that is not a digit

# Regex Characters – shortcuts

Symbol	Semnification
.	any character except new line
\d	any digit
\D	any non-digit character
\s	white characters ([\t\n\r\f\v])
\S	any non white characters
\w	any “word” ([a-zA-Z0-9_])
\W	any non-word

# Regex. Example

- Regex to identify/validate dates into a text
  - **15/10/2018**
  - **Regex="[0-9][0-9]/[0-9][0-9]/[0-9][0-9][0-9][0-9]"**
  - **Regex="\d\d/\d\d/\d\d\d\d"**
  - **Regex="\d{1,2}/\d{1,2}/\d{4,4}"**
- Regex to validate e-mail
  - Formed: any letter, digit and \_, followed by @
    - **Regex="\w@[a-z] "**
    - string: marian[@google.com](mailto:marian@google.com)
    - result: n@g

# Regex - Quantifiers

- Syntax: {min,max}
  - Say how many times the expression is repeating
  - Example
    - regex - a{1,1}a{1,1} =>aa
    - regex - a{1,2} >a or aa
- For an exact number of repetitions it is enough {number}
- If no specifiers, the default value is 1

# Regex - Quantifiers

- $\{0,1\}$  equivalent with ?
  - example: regex - `ab{0,1}c`
  - example: regex - `ab?c`
- $\{1,n\}$  equivalent with +
  - At list one appearance
- $\{0,n\}$  equivalent with \*
  - Any number of repeated appearances included none

# Regex. Example

- Regex to validate e-mail
  - Formed: any letter, digit and \_, followed by @
    - **Regex**="`\w@[a-z]`"
    - string: `marian@google.com`
    - result: `n@g`
- =>
  - **Regex**="`\w+@[a-z]+\.[a-z]+`"
  - string: `marian@google.com`
  - result: `marian@google.com`



# Python module for regular expressions

- Module **re**
- Usage
  - Define a pattern
    - `Pattern = re.compile("regular expression")`
  - Use different features
    - `findall()` – returns a list with all appearances
    - `match()` – search exact match
    - `search()` – search a appearance in the string

# Python module for regular expressions

- Example

- Find all dates value from text

```
text=" Today 3/4/2017 was a day without any tests, next test will be on 4/11/2017"  
pattern=re.compile("\d{1,2}/\d{1,2}/\d{4,4}")  
retVals = pattern.findall(text)
```

*OR*

```
retVals = re.findall(pattren, text)
```

*OR*

```
retVals = re.findall(r"\d{1,2}/\d{1,2}/\d{4,4}", text)
```