



Leibniz-Rechenzentrum  
der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften



# Using Python at LRZ

Ferdinand.Jamitzky@LRZ.de



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# Python Intro



# Python module

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- On each node there is a system python installed. Don't use it!
- Use the module system:

```
$ module avail python
```

```
----- /lrz/sys/share/modules/files/tools -----  
python/2.7_anaconda_nompi  python/2.7_intel(default)  python/3.5_intel
```

```
$ module load python
```

```
$ python
```

```
Python 2.7.13 (default, Jan 11 2017, 10:56:06) [GCC] on linux2
```

```
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
```

```
>>>
```



# Generate your own python environment

---

- LRZ uses the conda package manager for python libraries. In the default module only a minimal set of libraries is provided. You have to generate your own environment to get more

```
$ module load python
```

```
$ conda create -n py36 python=3.6
```

```
$ source activate py36
```

```
$ conda install scipy=0.15
```

```
$ conda list
```

## Zen of python (20.2.1991-?)

---

- Beautiful is better than ugly
- Explicit is better than implicit
- Simple is better than complex
- Complex is better than complicated
- Readability counts



**“There should be one (and only one) obvious way to do it“**

"We should forget about small efficiencies, say about 97% of the time: premature optimization is the root of all evil. Yet we should not pass up our opportunities in that critical 3%" (Donald Knuth)



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Python in a nutshell

- 
- basic syntax
    - import, for, if, while, list comprehensions
  - advanced syntax
  - builtin data types
    - lists, tuples, arrays, sets
    - dicts
    - strings

```
if x==0:
    print "x is zero"
elif x>0 and x<1:
    print "x between 0 and 1"
else:
    print "x = ", x
```

**“Python is executable pseudocode. Perl is executable line noise.” (– Old Klingon Proverb)**



- indentation matters!
- file type matters (\*.py)!
- directory hierarchy matters!
- comments are #
- lists start from 0

```
$ python
>>> import myfile
>>> import mymod
>>> myfile.myfunc()
hello
>>> mymod.myfunc()
world
```

```
$ ls
myfile.py
mymod/
mymod/__init__.py
```

```
myfile.py:
def myfunc():
    print("hello")

__init__.py:
def myfunc():
    print("world")
```

- Python has the following number types:
  - int, long, float, complex
  - del var
- Strings
  - `"this"`, `'this'`, `"""this"""`, `'''this'''`, `u'this'`, `b'this'` (python3)
  - interpolation: `"one plus %i = %s" % (1, "two")`
- Lists and tuples
  - `a=[1,2,3]` is a list, `b=(1,2,3)` is a tuple (immutable)
  - `a+a`, `a[0:2]`, `a[-1]`, `a[0:]`
- Dictionaries
  - `a={ 'one': 1, 'two': "zwei"}` is a dict, `a['one']`



## Keywords (more than 90% of python code)

---

```
import lib as name           [expr for it in list if cond]
from lib import n as n

while condition:

if condition:
elif condition:
else:

def function:
    """doc string"""
    return value

for iterator in list:
    pass
    break
    continue

class name:
    def __init__(self):
    def method(self):
```



## Keywords (less than 10% of python code)

---

**raise** `name`

**lambda** `var: expression`

**try:**

**@decorator**

**except** `name:`

**finally:**

**async def** `fun -> ann:`

**assert** `condition`

**with** `expression as var:`

**yield** `value`

**yield from** `generator`

**global** `variable`

**await** `expression`

**nonlocal** `variable`

- Python has the following number types:
  - int, long, float, complex
  - del var

```
>>> x=0
```

```
>>> x=1234567890123456789012345
```

```
>>> x**2
```

```
152415787532388367504953347995733866912056239  
9025
```

```
>>> x=1234567890123456789012345
>>> float(x)**12
1.2536598767934103e+289
>>> float(x**12)
1.2536598767934098e+289
>>> x**12
125365987679340988385155987957344620719772763
435558412643918634708860008684622476289189408
122904124025079348898207042504644463778641104
140990841878266383680568044115362044043884095
444413842891790950870476081757908423384415448
872287884941281209197912958987211967647326426
09051396426025390625
```

Imaginary and complex numbers are built in:

```
>>> 1j**2                    #imaginary unit
(-1+0j)
>>>(1+1j)**4                 #4th root of -4
(-4+0j)
>>> 1j**1j                   # i to the i
(0.20787957635076193+0j)
>>> import cmath
>>> cmath.log(-1)
3.141592653589793j          # pi
```

The import statement, which is used to import modules whose functions or variables can be used in the current program. There are four ways of using import:

```
>>> import numpy
```

```
>>> from numpy import *
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
```

```
>>> from numpy import pi as Pie
```



python2 has byte strings, python3 has Unicode strings

- `"this"`, `'this'`, `"""this"""`, `'''this'''`, `u'this'`, `b'this'`

- string interpolation (masks)

```
>>> "one plus %i = %s" % (1,"two")
```

- indexing strings: `a="1234"`

```
>>> print a[0]      -> 1
```

```
>>> print a[0:]    -> 1234
```

```
>>> print a[0:-1]  -> 123
```

```
>>> print a[0::2]  -> 13
```

```
>>> print a[::-1]  -> 4321
```

```
>>> print a[-1::-2]-> 42
```

- split strings

```
>>> dd="a b c d"
```

```
>>> dd.split()
```

```
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

- join strings

```
>>> " ".join(['a', 'b', 'c', 'd'])
```

- combine both

```
>>> " ".join([ "<" + x + ">" for x in dd.split()])
```

```
'<a/> <b/> <c/> <d/>'
```

```
x=0.1
n=0
while x>0 and x<10:
    x*=2
    n+=1
    if n>1000:
        break
```

run the loop until the "while" condition is false or the "if" condition is true.

```
for i in list:  
    do_something_with(i)  
    print result(i)  
    if cond(i):  
        break
```

loops over a list, prints the result and stops either when the list is consumed or the break condition is fulfilled



- text files

```
dd=open("data.txt").readlines()
```

- print lines

```
[x[:-1] for x in open("data.txt","r").readlines()]
```

- pretty print

```
from pprint import pprint
```

```
pprint(dd)
```

- binary files

```
xx=open("data.txt","rb").read()
```

```
xx.__class__
```



## interaction with the shell

---

make script executable:

```
$ chmod u+x myscript.py
```

myscript.py:

```
#!/usr/bin/python
```

```
#!/usr/bin/env python2.7
```

```
import sys
```

```
print "The name of the script: ", sys.argv[0]
```

```
print "Number of arguments: ", len(sys.argv)
```

```
print "The arguments are: " , str(sys.argv)
```

in larger scripts use the **argparse** library

- **Lists** are what they seem - a list of values. Each one of them is numbered, starting from zero. You can remove values from the list, and add new values to the end. Example: Your many cats' names.
- **Tuples** are just like lists, but you can't change their values. The values that you give it first up, are the values that you are stuck with for the rest of the program.
- **Dictionaries** are similar to what their name suggests - a dictionary, or aka associative array or key-value store

Simple list:

```
>>> x=[1,2,3]
>>> x.append("one")
>>> y=x
>>> y[0]=2
>>> x[0]
2
>>> x.append(x)
>>> x
[2, 2, 3, 'one', [...]]
```



tuples are immutable lists

```
>>> a=(1,2,3)
```

```
>>> a[1]=3
```

-> **error**

reason for tuples: faster access



# list comprehensions

---



- a list is defined by square brackets
- a list comprehension uses square brackets and for

```
>>> x=[1,2,3,4,5]
```

```
>>> y=[ i for i in x]
```

```
>>> "<br>".join([s.split("\n") for s in open("file.txt").readlines()])
```

```
>>> import random.uniform as r
```

```
>>> np=1000000
```

```
>>> sum([(r(0,1)**2+r(0,1)**2 < 1) for i in range(np)])/np*4.
```

```
3.141244
```

dictionaries **aka** associative arrays **aka** key/value stores

```
>>> a={'one':1, 'two':2.0, 'three':[3,3,3]}
```

dictionary comprehensions:

```
>>> {i:i**2 for i in range(4)}
```

```
{0: 0, 1: 1, 2: 4, 3: 9}
```

```
>>> a.keys()
```

```
>>> a.values()
```

you can loop over a dict by:

```
>>> knights = {'gallahad': 'the pure',  
'robin': 'the brave'}  
>>> for k, v in knights.items():  
...     print(k, v)
```

or

```
>>> {k+" " +v for k,v in knights.items()}  
>>> [k+" " +v for k,v in knights.items()]
```



## arrays

---



arrays are lists with the same type of elements  
there exists a special library for numeric arrays (numpy)  
which never made it into the official distribution.

they serve as an interface to c-code. If you need  
numerical arrays use the numpy library (see below)

sets are unordered lists. They provide all the methods from set theory like intersection and union. Elements are unique.

```
>>> x=set((1,2,3,4,1,2,3,4))
```

```
>>> x
```

```
{1, 2, 3, 4}
```

```
>>> x & y
```

```
>>> x | y
```

```
>>> x-y
```

```
>>> x ^ y
```