

Python

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Contents

Preface	2
I Basic	3
1 Numbers, booleans and dynamic typing in Python	4
2 Lists, tuples and immutability AND Lambda functions	6
3 Reference counting and del	8
4 Control flow	9
5 Strings	10
6 Functions and more on dynamic typing	12
7 Classes	15
8 Garbage collection	21
II Cont.	22
9 Unix shell integration	23
10 The Python interpreter	24
11 Multithreading and the Global Interpreter Lock (GIL)	25
12 Debugging	26
III Standard library	27
13 Copy	28

<i>CONTENTS</i>	2
14 os, sys, subprocess	29
15 Reading and saving data with pickle, xml, csv	30
16 math, cmath, random, statistics	31
17 string and re	32
18 doctest	33
19 functools	34
20 dataclasses	35
21 dis	36
IV Standard library: Data types	37
22 linkedListsSetsQueueStackNodes	38
V Standard library: Parallel processing and async	40
23 threading	41
VI Implementations	42
24 cpython and pypy	43
VII Writing modules and libraries	44
25 Writing modules using python	45
26 Writing modules using c and cython	46
27 pip and venv	47
VIII Basic scientific libraries	48
28 NumPy	49
29 Matplotlib	50
30 SciPy	51

<i>CONTENTS</i>	3
IX Other scientific libraries	52
31 pandas	53
32 seaborn	54
33 sklearn	55
34 biopython	56
35 plotly	57
36 statsmodels	58
X Tensor libraries	59
37 tensorflow and keras	60
38 pytorch	61
39 jax	62
XI Other	63
40 Jupyter	64

Preface

This is a live document, and is full of gaps, mistakes, typos etc.

Part I

Basic

Chapter 1

Numbers, booleans and dynamic typing in Python

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Introduction

ints and floats

complex

type checking. na checking

define as specific data type in python. long int etc

null/na etc in python. nan. inf

overflows of int etc size in python what happens if number gets too big?

1.1.2 Arithmetic

// in python is integer point division. / is floating point division

1.1.3 References and copying on write

```
a = 1000  
b = a
```

This gives *b* the same address as *a*.

If we instead do the following then *b* will have a different reference after it is changed.

```
a = 1000
b = a
b = b + 1
```

1.1.4 Small integer caching

Everything in Python is an object.

Normally, when a number is referenced an object for it is created.

If the number is a small integer (between -5 and 256 inclusive) instead a reference to these objects are used.

1.1.5 Casting

1.1.6 Booleans

1.1.7 Dynamic typing and lack of generics

Don't need generics because of dynamic typing.

Uses ducktyping.

1.1.8 Type hints

```
x: int = 1
y: float = 2
```


Chapter 2

Lists, tuples and immutability AND Lambda functions

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Introduction

Python get array size, size of other iterables, sets

map and filters run on iterable. also the loops? is a set an iterable?

+ conditional substitutions of lists in python

2.1.2 Lists

Python lists are dynamic arrays.

```
a = [1,2,3]
```

Lists are mutable.

2.1.3 List slices

2.1.4 List comprehensions

2.1.5 Lambda functions

filter

+ map function + lambda functions

2.1.6 Tuples

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

Tuples are immutable.

why not just use copy on write instead of tuples? + complex to implement?

why tuples broadly safety + mean that if create one tuple based on another, deep copy? if mutable + a=(1,2,3) + b=a + b[0]=2 * this fails, but if it didn't we might get the following + print(a) * (2,2,3) + print(b) * (2,2,3)

with mutability can still do eg a=a[2] because this is creating a new thing and using it in name immutability means can't do eg b[3] = 2 allows optimiser to assume not mutable. can cause speed ups

Chapter 3

Reference counting and del

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 "del"

Second "print()" fails because we have released the variable.

```
x = 1000
print(x)
del x
print(x)
```

3.1.2 Reference counting in Python

Reference count on each object.

References tracked automatically.

If references hits 0, object is automatically deleted.

Chapter 4

Control flow

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Introduction

generators as type of iterable

+ `list(range())` to get actual enumerated

+ zip function

+ match/case in python

Enumerate Range Zip

and or in python

+ iterate over list in python: `enumerate` + iterate over dict in python: `for in dict.items()` + iterate over copy to prevent problems in changing stuff. `for x in dict.copy().items()` + `for i in range(5)` + `for i in range(0, 5, 1)`

python: + question mark notation if else

logical functions in base: + `any()`; `all()`

Chapter 5

Strings

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Defining strings

```
x = "Hello"
```

Can type hint a string

```
x: str = "Hello"
```

5.1.2 String pool

Strings stored in a pool. If 100 variables are of the same string, not stored 100 times.

5.1.3 Immutability of strings

Can't do the following.

```
x = "Hello"  
x[2] = "b"
```

For security (if not, presumably copy on write could be implemented).

5.1.4 Operations on strings

string strip

concatenation

5.1.5 Iterating over a string

Can treat strings like an array

Following prints out each character on a new row.

```
x = "Hello"
for ch in x:
    print(ch)
```

5.2 Printing strings

5.2.1 print

```
x = "apple"
print(x)
```

5.2.2 repl

```
x = "apple"
repl(x)
```

5.2.3 string.format()

5.2.4 F strings

```
x = "apples"
y = 2
print(f"I eat {y} {x}")
```

5.2.5 % operators

5.2.6 Using commas in print()

```
x = "apple"
y = banana"
print(a, b)
```

Chapter 6

Functions and more on dynamic typing

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Defining functions

Best practice is to name them *lower_case_and_underscore*.

Everything including functions are objects. As a result functions are first class. Functions can accept functions and can return functions.

```
def my_function_no_parameters():
    return 0

def my_function_with_parameters(x, y):
    return x + y
```

6.1.2 Decorators

apply @ function to function below to decorate it. syntactic sugar

```
def my_decorator(func):
    def inner(a):
        print("Printing ", a, " in a decorated way")
        return
    return inner
```

```
@my_decorator
def just_printing(a):
    print(a)
```

6.1.3 Default parameters

```
def f(a: int = 1, b: int = 2) -> int:
    return a + b
```

6.1.4 Side effects of functions

Can have side effects on objects in parameters if mutable.

Can have side effects on global variables if present.

6.1.5 Passing lists and objects to functions rather than doing literally

```
def f(a, b):
    return a + b
```

Can accept multiple variables with *arguments

```
l=[1,2]
f(*l)
```

Or can accept named literals with **kwargs (ie key word arguments)

```
args = {"a":1, "b":2}
f(**args)
```

6.1.6 Main function in python

```
def main():
    // Do stuff
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

6.1.7 Generators and the yield function

functions which make generators: yield function

6.2 Documentation

6.2.1 Function annotations


```
def my_function(x: "annotation of the input variable x") -> "annotation of the return":
    return x
```

6.2.2 Type hints

Can but types in annotations. Types are not checked at run time.

```
def f(a: str, b: str = "apple") -> str:
    return a
```

6.2.3 Function documentation

defining functions: + triple quote comment at start for documentation

```
def my_function_no_parameters():
    """
    This is the documentation of my function.
    """
    return 0
```

6.3 Partial functions, Currying and lambda functions

6.3.1 Defining functions using lambdas

```
my_function = lambda a: a + 1
```

6.3.2 Closures in Python

6.3.3 Partial functions

```
from functools import partial
```

```
def f(a, b):
    return a + b
```

```
g = partial(f,
```

6.3.4 Currying

Chapter 7

Classes

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Instance methods and the init constructor

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name
        self.data = []

    def do_something(self, x):
        self.data.append(x)

myObject = MyClass("bob")
```

Or optionally with type hints:

```
myObject: MyClass = MyClass("bob")
```

7.1.2 Class documentation

```
class MyClass:

    """
    Documentation of class
    """
```

```
def do_something(self, x):
    """Documentation of method"""
    self.data.append(x)
```

7.1.3 Global variables in classes and class methods

Need to use decorators for classmethod and staticmethod to get them to work properly, though possibly being phased out?

```
class MyClass:

    x = 1

    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name
        self.data = []

    @classmethod
    def do_something(cls, y):
        cls.x = y
```

7.1.4 Static methods

```
class MyClass:

    @staticmethod
    def do_something(x):
        print(x)
```

7.1.5 Getaddr and setaddr

Can be used to validate data, present properly and ensure encapsulation.

```
__getaddr__
```

```
__setaddr__
```

```
__deladdr__
```

7.1.6 Class destructor

Called when object deleted (eg by garbage collector or "del myObject")

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name
        self.data = []

    def __del__(self):
        pass
```

7.1.7 Replacing built in functions

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, things):
        self.things = things

    def __len__(self):
        return len(self.things)
```

7.1.8 Operator overloading

Can overload other operators too.

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, val):
        self.val = val

    def __add__(self, other):
        return len(self.val + other.val)

x = MyClass(1)
y = MyClass(2)
x + y
```

7.1.9 Class iterators

```
__iter__  
  
__next__
```

7.2 Inheritance

7.2.1 Inheritance

```
class BaseClass:  
  
    x = 1  
  
class DerivedClass(BaseClass):  
    y = 1
```

7.2.2 Identifying inheritance

```
issubclass(class, classinfo)
```

7.2.3 Encapsulation in Python

Public: Accessible from anywhere Protected: Accessible from within class and subclass Private: Accessible from within class

Done with underscores. *x* below is public. *y* is protected. *z* is private.

```
class MyClass:  
  
    def __init__(self, x, y, z):  
        self.x = x  
        self._y = y  
        self.__z = z
```

Can also do these for methods

```
class MyClass:  
  
    def a():  
        print(1)
```

```
def _b():
    print(2)
def __c():
    print(3)
```

7.2.4 Getters and setters

Used for encapsulation and cleaning.

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, x, y, z):
        self.x = x
        self._y = y
        self.__z = z

    def get_z(self):
        return(self.__z)
    def set_y(self, y):
        self._y = y
```

7.2.5 Multiple inheritance

```
class BaseClassA:

    x = 1
class BaseClassB:

    y = 1

class DerivedClass(BaseClassA, BaseClassB):
    z = 1
```

7.2.6 Super

Access methods and parameters from parent class.

```
class BaseClass:

    x = 1
```

```
class DerivedClass(BaseClassA):  
    z = super().x + 1
```

7.2.7 Overwriting

```
class BaseClass:  
  
    def do_thing(self):  
        print(1)  
  
class DerivedClass(BaseClassA):  
    def do_thing(self):  
        print(2)
```

7.2.8 Checking membership

Check is member of class or subclass.

```
isinstance(object, int)
```

Chapter 8

Garbage collection

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Reference counting in Python

8.1.2 Generational garbage collection in Python

Reference counting cannot detect circular references.

Part II

Cont.

Chapter 9

Unix shell integration

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Introduction

sys.argv to grab arguments

start with

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
```

start with

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
```

Chapter 10

The Python interpreter

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 Introduction

Python help function `help(print)`

Chapter 11

Multithreading and the Global Interpreter Lock (GIL)

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 Introduction

Chapter 12

Debugging

12.1 Introduction

12.1.1 Introduction

Logging

stop script from anywhere without throwing

print to log

assert try catch exception handling raise

Part III

Standard library

Chapter 13

Copy

13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 Introduction

Copy and deepcopy.

Chapter 14

os, sys, subprocess

14.1 Introduction

14.1.1 Introduction

os.system/eval/subprocess

Chapter 15

Reading and saving data with pickle, xml, csv

15.1 Introduction

15.1.1 Introduction

Chapter 16

math, cmath, random, statistics

16.1 Introduction

16.1.1 Introduction

Math package mostly a wrapper around C math.h.

Chapter 17

string and re

17.1 Introduction

17.1.1 Introduction

Compiling regexes.

Chapter 18

doctest

18.1 Introduction

18.1.1 Introduction

Chapter 19

functools

19.1 Introduction

19.1.1 Introduction

"reduce" function

Chapter 20

dataclasses

20.1 Introduction

20.1.1 Introduction

Automatically creates boilerplate for classes which used to store data, including `__init__` function with the relevant parameters.

```
from dataclasses import dataclass
```

```
@dataclass
class MyClass:
```

```
    x: str
    y: float
    z: int = 0
```

generates among other methods:

```
class MyClass:

    def __init__(self, x: str, y: float, z: int = 0):
        self.x = x
        self.y = y
        self.z = z
```

Chapter 21

dis

21.1 Introduction

21.1.1 Introduction

Disassembly of python code to see opcodes etc for virtual machine.

Part IV

Standard library: Data types

Chapter 22

linkedListsSetsQueueStackNodes

22.1 Introduction

22.1.1 Array

Array not in default data types. List is different: Dynamic, can hold different data types.

```
import array
```

22.1.2 Nodes

```
class Node(object):
    def __init__(self):
        self.data = None
        self.next = None
```

22.1.3 Linked Lists

```
class LinkedList:
    def __init__(self):
        self.current_node = None

    def add_node(self, data):
        new_node = Node()
        new_node.data = data
        new_node.next = self.current_node
        self.current_node = new_node
```

```
def print(self):
    node = self.current_node
    while node:
        print node.data
        node = node.next

linkedList = LinkedList()
linkedList.add_node(1)
linkedList.add_node(2)
linkedList.add_node(3)
linkedList.add_node(4)

ll.print()
```

22.1.4 Sets

Uses a hash table.

Following returns 1, 3, 5.

```
a = {1,3,5,3}
a
```

22.1.5 Queues

Can use a list, but is slow. Requires moving everything around.

Short for double ended queue.

`collections.deque`

also can do `queue.Queue` but seems to be based on `collections.deque`

Double ended queues are implemented as double linked lists.

22.1.6 Stacks

Can also use a list, but can be slower if expanding array?

Like for queue, can use `collections.deque`

Part V

Standard library: Parallel processing and async

Chapter 23

threading

23.1 Introduction

23.1.1 Introduction

which packages do each of these 3 use?

23.1.2 asyncio

subject to gil?

23.1.3 threaded

subject to gil? only 1 thread at a time. other thread like io mean gil go to another thread, so still faster. ie, only one thread running at a time, but if one thread is waiting for io response, can go to other thread.

23.1.4 multiprocessing

(pool, process). in pool, each process has own gil. map, imap, imap unordered. used to get around gil by having multiple concurrent threads.

Part VI

Implementations

Chapter 24

cpython and pypy

24.1 Introduction

24.1.1 Introduction

python: + cpython (not jit?) + pypy (jit?)

why jit? can't do aot if dynamic types, array sizes. jit vs interpreter allows speed up

default is cpython pypy is alternative

cpython: can compile to .pyc bytecode which it then interprets

Part VII

Writing modules and libraries

Chapter 25

Writing modules using python

25.1 Introduction

25.1.1 Introduction

Packaging and installing code.

Chapter 26

Writing modules using c and cython

26.1 Introduction

26.1.1 Introduction

writing modules in c

```
#include <Python.h>
```

in c code

Chapter 27

pip and venv

27.1 Introduction

27.1.1 Introduction

page on pip + pip install -r requirements

python venv

Part VIII

Basic scientific libraries

Chapter 28

NumPy

28.1 Introduction

28.1.1 Introduction

get numpy size,

numpy algebra: + *, @, +, - + np.load, np.save

numpy + data structures

Chapter 29

Matplotlib

29.1 Introduction

29.1.1 Introduction

designed around numpy but can use math module

Chapter 30

SciPy

30.1 Statistics

30.1.1 Introduction

SciPy includes statistics functionality.

Built on numpy and matplotlib.

Part IX

Other scientific libraries

Chapter 31

pandas

31.1 Introduction

31.1.1 Introduction

built on numpy.

get pandas size

sort pandas

pandas: subsetting tables: `.loc[]` + selecting series from df + selecting row from df selecting element from series/row

pandas: apply

missing value, joins

pandas data structures

Chapter 32

seaborn

32.1 Introduction

32.1.1 Introduction

Works better with pandas natively than matplotlib?

Abstraction around matplotlib.

Chapter 33

sklearn

33.1 Introduction

33.1.1 Introduction

uses numpy, matplotlib/plotly, pandas, scipy

Chapter 34

biopython

34.1 Introduction

34.1.1 Introduction

Builds on numpy.

Chapter 35

plotly

35.1 Introduction

35.1.1 Introduction

Chapter 36

statsmodels

36.1 Introduction

36.1.1 Introduction

builds on numpy, pandas, matplotlib

Part X

Tensor libraries

Chapter 37

tensorflow and keras

37.1 Introduction

37.1.1 Introduction

keras is "front end" for tensorflow

XLA (Accelerated linear algebra)

Gradient accumulation?

Chapter 38

pytorch

38.1 Introduction

38.1.1 Introduction

making a tensor: `torch.tensor`

`torch.from_numpy`

`torch.ones_like`

`torch.ones`

`torch.rand`

`torch.zeros`

diff from numpy 1. device type (can attach cuda cores) 2. `requires_grad` (property of derivative)

linear algebra on tensors: * `@` * `+` * diff in any from numpy

thing on tensors: * `nn.Linear` * `nn.ReLU` * `nn.Softmax`

other tensor stuff * `torch.save/torch.load` * diff inf any from numpy

data: * `torch.utils.data.DataLoader` * `torch.utils.data.Dataset`

networks * `nn.Module` * `nn.sequential` * feedforward * backprob 1. `torch auto-grad`

specific types of models * `torchvision` (images) 1. datasets available * `torchtex` 1. datasets available * `torchaudio` 1. datasets available

JIT compiling and pytorch

XLA and pytorch * XLA is on TPU?

`fast.ai` is a thing that sits on top of pytorch

Chapter 39

jax

39.1 Introduction

39.1.1 Introduction

Part XI

Other

Chapter 40

Jupyter

40.1 Introduction

40.1.1 Introduction