Python - Input, output and variables

Lecture 22 - COMPSCI111/111G SS 2016

Today's lecture

- What is Python?
- Displaying text on screen using print()

Variables

- Numbers and basic arithmetic
- Getting input from keyboard using input()



What is a programming language?

- A formal language that specifies how to perform a computational task
- Many programming languages exist:
 - Visual Basic
 - C and C++
 - ► C#
 - Java
 - Python
- Python was created in 1989 by Guido Van Rossum in The Netherlands



Statements

- A program consists of a series of commands called statements
- They are generally executed (ie. run) in the order they appear
- The statements must be written correctly otherwise you will get a syntax error
- Python programs are saved in files with the '.py' extension

Translating code

- The statements in our programs are translated into simpler instructions that the CPU can execute
- Two ways of doing this:
 - Compiler: translates the entire program file at once
 - Interpreter: repeatedly translates one line and runs it
- Python is an interpretative programming language
 - There are also compilers available for Python



IDLE Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

An IDE is used by programmers to:

- Write code
- Check for errors
- Translate code and run the program
- ▶ We use the IDLE IDE; a popular IDE for Python
- IDLE has a shell for the Python interpreter
- You can also create a new file that can be compiled when you've finished writing a program



IDLE IDE

- The interpreter allows you to type statements, translate them and see them run instantly
- Very helpful for experimentation and learning



IDLE IDE

- ► Create a new program by clicking on File → New File
- ► Type your statements in the file, then click on Run → Run Module...



"Hello world"

- Traditional first program is displaying "Hello World" on screen
- To display text on screen you use the print() function

🔓 test.py - C:/Users/Dell/Desktop/test.py (3.5.0) — 🗆 🗙	🔓 Python 3.5.0 Shell — 🗆 🗙
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help	File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
print("Hello world")	ART: C:/Users/Dell/Deskt
	op/test.py ====================================
-	Hello world
Ln: 1 Col: 20	Ln: 6 Col: 4

"Hello world"

Using the Python interpreter:

Python 3.5.0 Shell -	- [×
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help			
====== RESTART: She	11	=	<u> </u>
=======================================	==	==	
======			
>>> print("Hello wor	ld	")	
Hello world			
>>>			-
•		Ln: 10	Col: 4

Comments

- When writing a program, it is helpful to leave comments in the code
- You can write a comment in Python by typing a '#' in front of the line
- The compiler will ignore all text after the '#'

Data types

Strings:

- Sequence of characters
- Plain text (ASCII or Unicode)
- Enclosed in quote marks
- Eg: "Hello", "Goodbye"

Integers:

- Whole numbers (ie. without a decimal point)
- ▶ Eg. -100, 0, 45
- Floating point numbers:
 - Numbers with a decimal point
 - ▶ Eg. 5.2, -1.002, 0.0



- A 'container' in the computer's memory in which you can store data
- A variable's value can change when the program runs
- Python variables are loosely-typed; they can hold any data type



Rules to follow when naming your variables:

- Names should reflect what is stored in the variable
- Can begin with a letter or underscore (eg. '_')
- Variable names can include numbers
- Generally, all words are lowercase and words are separated using an underscore



Assigning a value to a variable:

Changing the value in a variable:

```
*test.py - C:/Users/Dell/Desktop/test.py (3.5.0)* - □ ×
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
age = 30
age = age + 1
course = "Compsci"
course = course + "111/111G"
```

Ln: 13 Col: 0

Arithmetic operations

Operation	Symbol	Example	
Exponent	**	2 ** 3 = 8	
Multiply	*	2 * 2 = 4	
Divide	/	10 / 3 = 3.333	
Divide (integer)	//	10 / 3 = 3	
Remainder	00	10 % 3 = 1	
Add	+	8 + 9 = 17	
Subtract	_	9 - 7 = 2	

Print() function

Used to display information on the screen

Code	Output	
print("This is text")	This is text	
print(10 / 3) print(2 ** 5)	3.33333333333333333 32	
age = 21 print("You are", age, "years old")	You are 21 years old	
<pre>age = age * 2 print("You are actually", age, "!")</pre>	You are actually 42 !	

Т

Print() function

Concatenation: this involves joining two or more strings together



Repetition: lets you print a string multiple times



Exercise

What is the output for the following print() statements:

l≩ *Untitled* − □ ×
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
a = 5
b = 10
<pre>print("This", "is", "a", "program")</pre>
print(5 ** 2)
<pre>print("This", "is", a, "program")</pre>
print("Result:", 50 / 2 * b)
Ln: 11 Col: 0

Exercises



Getting input

- Primary source of input for our programs will be the keyboard
- The input() function:
 - Prints a prompt for the user to read
 - Captures the user's keystrokes
 - When the user presses 'Enter', stores the string in a

variable



Getting input

- You convert the string value returned by input() to an integer or floating point value
 - You need to do this when you want the actual numerical value the user is entering

Exercise

Write a Python program that converts feet to metres. The conversion formula is:

1 foot = 0.3048 meters

Your program's output should look like this: Enter feet: 34 34 feet is equal to 10.3632 metres

You will need to use:

Variables

- Arithmetic operator
- input() and print()



Exercise

feet = int(input("Enter feet: "))

feet to metres = 0.3048

metres = feet * feet_to_metres

print(feet, "feet is equal to", metres, "metres.")

- print(1,2,3,4)
- print("1,2,3,4")
- print("1234", 1,2)
- print("1",2,3, "4")



- height = 10
- width = 20
- area = height * width
- print("Area =", area)



a = "hello"

- b="big"
- c="world"
- print(a+b+c)
- hellobigworld

- print(a,b,c)
- hello big world



d=1

e=2

f=3

print(d+e+f)

6

print(d*3)

3

d=``1``

e="2"

f=``3``

print(d+e+f)

123

print(d*3)

111



Summary

- Python programs consist of statements that are translated by an interpreter or compiler into instructions that the CPU can execute
- We've discussed the Python programming language and its features:
 - > print()
 - Data types: string, int, float
 - Arithmetic operators
 - Variables and variable naming convention
 - input() and int(), float()

