

Basics

Spaces and indentation (tabs) are relevant parts of the code

Instructions in a *block of code* will have the same indentation

A *block of code* contains one or more lines of code inside it. The contained lines will be indented one more level than the container one.

A colon `:` opens a new *block of code* in the following line.

`#` at the beginning of a line marks this line as non-executable. For example

```
# This is a single line comment
```

To create multiple line comments, use three apostrophes in a row

```
'''
```

```
This is a
```

```
Multiline comment
```

```
'''
```

Variables

There's no declaration of variables. When you use a new name in an assign sentence, that becomes a variable of the type of the value assigned to it

`a = 10` creates a variable called *a* that stores an *integer* value

The decimal separator is the point

`a = 3.14` creates a variable called *a* that stores a decimal (*float*) value

To transform a numerical value into a string you *cast* it using the function `str()`

`str(10)` will create the string value `"10"`

To transform a string value into an integer you *cast* it using the function `int()`

`int("10")` will create the integer value `10`

A variable contains a literal value of a certain type (integer, alphanumeric, decimal, boolean, etc) and it can be used to perform different operations or construct logical expressions

Basic input / output

`print(a)` Prints the content of the variable called *a* and opens a new line

```
print("Helo world")
Hello word
and opens a new line
```

`print(a,end=",")` Prints the content of the variable called *a* and then a comma without opening a new line

```
print(name,end=",")
My name,
```

`input()` Reads a **string** value form the keyboard

`a = input()` will store in a variable called *a* the value entered by the user as a **string**

`int(input())` Reads a **string** value form the keyboard, ant *casts* it into an **integer**

`a = int(input())` will store in a variable called *a* the value entered by the user casted as an **integer**

Arithmetic operators

`+` add `12 + 5` returns 17

`-` subtract `12 - 5` returns 7

`*` product `12 * 5` returns 60



Arithmetic operators (cont)

/	decimal division	12 / 5 returns 2.4
//	division (whole numbers)	12 // 5 returns 2
%	remainder of the division	12 % 5 returns 2
**	exponentiation	12 ** 5 returns 248832

Comparison operators (logical)

<	less than	12 < 5 evaluates as False
<=	less than or equal to	12 <= 5 evaluates as False
==	equal to	12 == 5 evaluates as False
>=	greater than or equal to	12 >= 5 evaluates as True
>	greater than	12 > 5 evaluates as True
!=	not equal to	12 != 5 evaluates as True

In a comparison, the sign of equality (=) can never be alone as it would be confused with the assignment of values ($a = 10$). This is why the logical equality operator is a double sign of equality. Therefore **a=10** means *assign the value 10 to the variable a* and **a==10** means *is the content of the variable a a number 10?*

Logical operators

<expr1> and <expr2>	True if and only if the two expressions are True	(a>0) and (a<5)
<expr1> or <expr2>	True if and only if at least one of the two expressions is True	(a<0) or (a>=5)
not <expr>	True if and only if <expression> is False	not (a==0)

By *logical* we understand an expression or operation that can only take two different values: **True** or **False**

Lists

len	Calculates the number of elements in the list.	while (position < len(myList)):
update	Modifies the content of a position of the list.	myList[position] = newValue
append	Add a new position at the end of the list, and stores there a value.	myList.append(newValue)
insert	Creates a new position in the middle of the list, and stores there a value.	myList.insert(position, newValue)
pop	Retrieves the value stored at a given position, and then, removes the position.	value = myList.pop(position)
delete	Erases a position of the list.	delete(myList[position])
remove	Locates the first occurrence of a value in the list, and then erases its position.	myList.remove(value)
in	Membership operation. Check for the existence of a value in the list.	if (value in myList):
index	Locates the first occurrence of a value in the list, and returns it's position. In case the value is not found, it will generate a run-time error.	position = myList.index(value)
count	Counts the number of occurrences of a value in the list.	occ = myList.count(value)



Lists (cont)

<code>reverse</code>	Flips all the values in the list, so the first will become the last and viceversa.	<code>myList.remove()</code>
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Maths

<code>abs(arg)</code>	receives an integer number as an argument and returns the integer absolute value	<code>abs(-12)</code> returns 12
<code>math.fabs(arg)</code>	receives a float as an argument and returns the float absolute value	<code>math.fabs(-12.34)</code> returns 12.34 <code>math.fabs(-12)</code> returns 12.0
<code>math.floor(arg)</code>	receives a float as an argument and rounds it down to the nearest integer	<code>math.floor(2.5)</code> returns 2 <code>math.floor(-3.4)</code> returns -4
<code>math.ceil(arg)</code>	receives a float as an argument and rounds it up to the nearest integer	<code>math.ceil(2.5)</code> returns 3 <code>math.ceil(-3.4)</code> returns -3
<code>math.pi</code>	returns the value of Pi	<code>math.pi</code> returns 3.141592653589793

You will need to **import math**

Flow control (more to be added along the course)

<code>if (<expr>):</code>	Forks the execution stream according to the logical value of the expression <code><expr></code>	<code>if (a == b):</code> <code><do something></code>
<code>else:</code>	As part of an <code>if .. else</code> block, starts the block code to be executed if the <code>expression</code> was False	<code>else:</code> <code><do something esle></code>
<code>elif (<expr2>):</code>	Compound an <code>else:</code> statement with a new <code>if</code> statement	<code>elif (a<b):</code> <code><and another></code>
<code>while (<expr>):</code>	Generates a <code>loop</code> that will run as long as the expression <code><expr></code> is True	<code>while (a<10):</code> <code><do something></code> <code><update a></code>



