Python for Everyone

Learn and polish your coding skills in Python

Saurabh Chandrakar Dr. Nilesh Bhaskarrao Bahadure



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Dedicated to

Dedicated to my Parents

Dr Surendra Kumar Chandrakar and Smt. Bhuneshwari Chandrakar brother

Shri Pranav Chandrakar

to my wife

Priyanka Chandrakar and to my lovely son Yathartha Chandrakar

Saurabh Chandrakar

Dedicated to my Parents

Smt. Kamal B. Bahadure and Late Bhaskarrao M. Bahadure to my in-laws

Smt. Saroj R. Lokhande and Shri. Ravikant A. Lokhande and to

my wife Shilpa N. Bahadure and to beautiful daughters
Nishita and Mrunmayee
And to all my beloved students.

Dr. Nilesh Bhaskarrao Bahadure

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For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."

- Dr. Nilesh Bhaskarrao Bahadure

Preface

The purpose of this book is to introduce readers with little to no programming experience to Python and provide them with the foundational knowledge and skills necessary to begin writing code in the language. By mastering Python, readers will be able to apply this technology to solve real-world problems and create useful applications.

The first part of the book covers core python concepts. Then we shall see some advanced Python concepts along with some data science libraries like numpy, matplotlib and pandas. Finally, in the later part of the book, we shall see some powerful observations while writing python code.

This book covers a wide range of topics, from basic syntax and data types to more advanced concepts along with a little touch of data science. Overall, the book provides a solid foundation for beginners to start their journey for getting trained in Python language.

This book is divided into 11 chapters. Each chapter's description is listed as follows.

Chapter 1: Basic Python Introduction – will cover the basic elements of writing a Python program where readers can gain an understanding of the fundamental topics.

Chapter 2: Concept of Strings in Python – will cover strings in detail, as well as different string methods, usage of command-line arguments, and string access with some examples.

Chapter 3: Concept of Flow Control Statements in Python – will cover the concept of conditional, iterative, and transfer statements, with loop patterns such as star pattern, alphabet pattern, and number pattern, with examples.

Chapter 4: Concept of Exception Handling in Python – will cover the concept of multiple ways of using the try-except block, for preventing errors during runtime. Users will be able to create their exceptions for handling the errors. Moreover, the user will see different use cases and control flow of Python exception hierarchy.

Chapter 5: Concept of Regular Expressions in Python – will cover the declarative mechanism for the representation of a group of strings, according to a particular pattern called regular expressions, which is quite difficult to understand, and also

perform its usage. Each regex expression is explained in a very lucid manner with examples.

Chapter 6: Concept of Functions in Python – will cover function types, and different types of function arguments such as positional arguments, keyword arguments, default arguments, variable length arguments, and kwargs. Moreover, concepts on local, global and non-local variable are well explained with examples, along with Python closures.

Chapter 7: Concept of Data Structures in Python – will cover non-primitive inbuilt data structures such as list, tuple, set and dictionary, which are unique on their own. All the data structures definitions, methods, and different types of comprehensions such as list comprehension, tuple comprehension, set comprehension, and dictionary comprehension are well discussed.

Chapter 8: Concept of Packages in Python – will cover the demonstration of package examples, with different approaches to module usage.

Chapter 9: Numpy Introduction – will cover different examples of scientific computing and data analysis library, that is, numpy library.

Chapter 10: Data Visualization Introduction – will cover Matplotlib data visualization library by creating a line plot with examples.

Chapter 11: Pandas Introduction – will cover Pandas Series and Pandas DataFrame with examples.

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Please follow the link to download the *Code Bundle* and the *Coloured Images* of the book:

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Table of Contents

1.	Basic Python Introduction1
	Introduction 1
	Structure
	Objectives
	Benefits of Python
	Uses of Python4
	Limitations of Python4
	Keywords and reserved words
	Identifiers15
	Line joining methods15
	Implicit line joining method16
	Using curly braces16
	Using square brackets16
	Using parenthesis
	Explicit joining method17
	Example 1
	Example 218
	Print function18
	Different styles to use print function19
	Variables24
	Importance of mnemonic variable names in Python27
	Concept of immutability vs fundamental data types29
	Conclusion
	Points to remember
	Questions
2.	Concept of Strings in Python
	Introduction
	Structure
	Objectives
	Reading dynamic input from the keyboard
	raw_input()

	<i>input()37</i>
	Using Try Except40
	Using eval function41
	Command Line arguments
	Python sys.argv43
	Python getopt module46
	Exception getopt.GetoptError47
	Short form options47
	Long form options48
	Python argparse module49
	Python argparse Positional arguments50
	Python argparse positional arguments default values51
	Python argparse argument help52
	Python argparse Data Type54
	Python argparse optional arguments55
	Short names for optional arguments with argparse56
	Python argparse with optional and positional arguments57
	Python argparse with required57
	Python argparse dest action58
	Python argparse append action59
	Allowing or disallowing abbreviations59
	Strings61
	Python multiline strings
	Python string access
	Using index64
	Using slice operator65
	In forward direction66
	In backward direction66
	Conclusion71
	Points to remember
	Questions
3.	Concept of Flow Control Statements in Python
	Introduction
	Structure

	Objectives	74
	Flow of execution of the program	74
	Selection statements/Conditional statements	
	if	<i>74</i>
	if-else	<i>77</i>
	if-elif-else	<i>7</i> 9
	if-elif-else ladder	81
	Iterative statements	84
	for	85
	while	88
	Transfer statements	91
	break	91
	continue	95
	pass	100
	in keyword usage	100
	Loop patterns	102
	Star pattern	102
	Printing stars in pyramid shape	102
	Alphabet pattern	104
	Number pattern	107
	Conclusion	109
	Points to remember	109
	Questions	110
4.	Concept of Exception Handling in Python	111
	Introduction	111
	Structure	111
	Objectives	112
	Errors	112
	Syntax error	112
	Runtime Error	113
	Importance of exception handling	114
	Python exception hierarchy	115
	Customized exception handling	116

Control flow in try-except
Case-1 - No raising of exception119
Case-2 - Exception raised at st3 and corresponding except block is matched119
Case-3 - Exception raised at st3 and corresponding except block is not matched119
Case-4 - Exception raised at st5119
Case-5 - Exception raised at st6119
Exception information printing to the console
Try with multiple except blocks
Single except block that can handle multiple exceptions
Default except block
Possible combinations of except block
finally except block126
Control flow in try-except and finally129
Case-1 - No exception is raised130
Case-2 - Exception raised at st3 and corresponding except block is matched130
Case-3 - Exception raised at st3 and corresponding except block is not matched130
Case-4 - Exception raised at st5131
Case-5 - Exception raised at st6 or st7131
conce e Enterprise, research to the critical and the control of th
Nested try-except finally block131
Nested try-except finally block

	Case-8 - Exception raised at st7 and the corresponding except block is not matched1	36
	Case-9 - Exception raised at st8 and the corresponding except block is matched1	36
	Case-10 - Exception raised at st8 and the corresponding except block is not matched1	<i>37</i>
	Case-11 - Exception raised at st9 and the corresponding except block is matched1	37
	Case-12 - Exception raised at st9 and the corresponding except block is not matched1	<i>37</i>
	Case-13 - Exception raised at st101	37
	Case-14 - Exception raised at st11 or st121	38
	Else block with try-except finally block1	38
	Conclusion1	41
	Points to remember	41
	Questions1	41
5.	Concept of Regular Expressions in Python	43
	Introduction1	43
	Structure1	44
	Objectives1	44
	compile()1	44
	finditer()1	45
	Character classes	47
	Pre-defined character classes	53
	Quantifiers1	58
	Functions of re module	62
	match1	62
	fullmatch1	64
	search1	66
	findall1	67
	sub1	68
	subn1	69
	split1	71
	escape1	73
	Metacharacters	74

	[] (Square brackets)	174
	. (Period)	175
	^ (Caret)	175
	\$ (Dollar)	175
	* (Star)	176
	+ (Plus)	176
	? (Question Mark)	177
	{} (Braces)	177
	(Alternation):	177
	() (Group)	178
	\ (Backslash)	178
	r prefix	178
	Conclusion	179
	Points to remember	179
	Questions	179
6.	Concept of Functions in Python	181
	Introduction	181
	Structure	181
	Objectives	182
	Functions in Python	182
	Function types	184
	Built in functions	184
	User defined functions	185
	Function arguments	186
	Positional arguments	187
	Keyword arguments	189
	Default arguments	190
	Variable length arguments	192
	Keyword variable length arguments (kwargs)	194
	Nested function	197
	Python closures	199
	Function passing as a parameter	201
	Local, global, and non-local variables	202
	Local variables	202

	Global variables	203
	Non-local variables	207
	Recursive function	208
	Python Lambda functions	210
	Nested lambda functions	211
	Passing lambda functions to another function	212
	Conclusion	213
	Points of remember	213
	Questions	214
7.	Concept of Data Structures in Python	215
	Introduction	215
	Structure	215
	Objectives	216
	List data structure	216
	Creating a list	216
	Creating an empty list	216
	Creating a list when elements are known	217
	Creating a list with dynamic input	217
	List creation using list() function	218
	List creation using split() function	218
	Lists versus immutability	219
	Accessing elements of list	219
	By using index	219
	By using index and for loop	221
	By using Index and while loop	221
	By using list slicing	222
	List comprehension	223
	List comprehension with for loop	224
	List comprehension with for loop and if statement	225
	List comprehension with for loop and nested if statement	225
	List comprehension with if else statement and for loop	226
	Nested list comprehension with for loop	227
	Tuple data structure	228

Tuple creation229
An empty tuple creation229
Single valued tuple creation230
Multiple valued tuple creation231
Using tuple() function231
Accessing elements of tuple232
By using index232
By using index and for loop233
By using index and while loop234
By using tuple slicing235
Tuple versus immutability236
Tuple comprehension236
List versus tuple comparison237
Set data structure
Set creation
Set comprehension240
Set comprehension with for loop241
Set comprehension with for loop and if statement241
Set comprehension with for loop and nested if statement242
Set comprehension with if else statement and for loop243
Dictionary data structure
Creation of an empty dictionary245
By using dict() function245
By using curly braces only245
Creation of a dictionary246
Accessing dictionary247
Accessing dictionary249
Deleting dictionary item250
Dictionary comprehension252
Dictionary comprehension with for loop252
Dictionary comprehension with for loop and if statement253
Dictionary comprehension with for loop and nested if statement254
Dictionary comprehension with if else statement and for loop255

	Conclusion	256
	Points of remember	256
	Questions (Long/Short/MCQs)	257
8.	Concept of Packages in Python	259
	Introduction	259
	Structure	259
	Objectives	260
	Packages	260
	Structure for package of games	262
	Using "import" in Packages	262
	Accessing objects like variables, functions, classes, and lists	263
	Using "from import" in Packages	263
	Accessing objects like variables, functions, classes, and lists	264
	Using "from import *" in Packages	264
	Accessing games package using different approaches	266
	Conclusion	287
	Points to remember	287
	Questions	287
9.	Numpy Introduction	289
	Introduction	289
	Structure	289
	Objectives	290
	Similarities between list and numpy array	290
	Differences between list and numpy array	290
	Numpy arrays creation	292
	1-D array creation using list	292
	1-D array creation using tuple	293
	2-D array creation using Nested lists	294
	Array creation with a particular dtype	295
	Object type array creation	296
	1-D array creation with arange() function	297
	Using linspace()	299
	Using zeros()	301

	Using full()	304
	Using eye()	305
	Using diag()	307
	Using empty()	309
	Comparison between zeros and empty	310
	Conclusion	311
	Points to remember	311
	Questions	312
10.	Data Visualization Introduction	313
	Introduction	313
	Structure	314
	Objectives	314
	Python data visualization tools	314
	Line plot creation by passing 2 ndarrays	315
	Adding title, xlabel and ylabel to the line plot	317
	Advanced line plot	318
	linestyle property	320
	color property	322
	default color	323
	Peep in a shortcut way to set color, marker and linestyle	325
	mlc form	326
	clm form	327
	If no color is mentioned, then default color is blue	328
	alpha property	329
	linewidth and markersize property	330
	markerfacecolor property	331
	Customizing the figure size	333
	Plotting multiple lines in a same plot	335
	Conclusion	337
	Points of remember	337
	Questions	338
11.	Pandas Introduction	339
	Introduction	339
	Structure	340

Objectives	340
Pandas Series	340
Pandas Series constructor	340
Creating Pandas Series by passing a list	341
Creating Pandas Series by passing a dictionary	342
Creating Pandas Series by passing a numpy array	
Accessing elements in Pandas Series	
Pandas Series slicing	344
Pandas Series filtering	
Usage of apply method to Pandas Series	
Aggregating of Pandas Series	
Pandas DataFrame	
Pandas DataFrame constructor	
Pandas DataFrame creation	
Accessing data in Pandas DataFrame	
Data modification in Pandas DataFrame	
Data aggregation in Pandas DataFrame	
Conclusion	
Points to remember	
Questions	
<u> </u>	
Index	359-367

CHAPTER 1 Basic Python Introduction

Introduction

In the early 1990s, the Python programming language was created by Guido Van Rossum. Its implementation began in December 1989, in the National Research Institute, Netherlands. The Python language is even older than the Java language. The name Python was coined from one of the most popular British sketch comedy series "Monty Python's Flying Circus". The first Python version 0.9.0 was released in February, 1991. The next Python version 1.0 was released in January, 1994. Python version 2.0 was released in the October 2000, and version 3.0 came in December 2008. The latest version at the moment, is 3.11.2, which was released in February, 2023.

Structure

In this chapter, we will discuss the following topics:

- Benefits of Python
- Uses of Python
- Limitations of Python
- Keywords and reserved words

- Identifiers
- Line joining methods
- Print function
- Variables
- Importance of mnemonic variable names in Python
- Concept of Immutability vs Fundamental data types

Objectives

By the end of this chapter, the reader will learn about the Python language and its benefits, limitations and applications. The rules regarding variables and identifiers will be thoroughly explained with examples. It is important to understand different case styles of the **print()** function, so that the reader can create various Python applications while using it smartly in their code. Finally, the immutability concept with respect to fundamental data types will be elucidated to the reader with examples, for better understanding. Step by step code explanation is also illustrated while explaining various concepts in Python, within the chapter.

Benefits of Python

It is important to understand why we need to study Python, as it comprises of various benefits:

- Python is a freeware and an open-source beginner's language for newcomers. If anyone is a beginner, Python is the best language to start with. For Java Commercial, the business organization is Oracle; for C#.net, the business organization is Microsoft, but for Python, the business organization is Python Software Foundation. It is a non-profit organization that has IP rights for Python programming language. The website is https://www.python.org. Moreover, the source code is open. Based on our requirement, we can customize the Python requirement itself. To work with Java applications, we are required to go for Jython, and for C#.net, we need Iron Python. Similarly, to work with large data (in Machine Learning, Deep Learning), we require Anaconda Python, and to work with Ruby Applications, we require Ruby Python.
- Python is very simple and easy to understand as it is a high-level language. Its syntax is also very easy to comprehend. We do not need to worry for low level activities such as memory management, providing free space and so on. Internally, **Python Virtual Machine (PVM)** will take care.

- Python is platform independent. We can run this language on different hardware platforms such as Linux, Mac, Windows, Raspberry Pi and so on. You can write the program once and run anywhere: this is the concept of platform independent nature. PVM is responsible for running the Python code in different platforms. PVM is platform dependent, whereas Python is platform independent.
- In Python, code can be executed as soon as it is written. Thus, it runs on an interpreter system. It is not required to compile explicitly.
- A programmer can write a program in fewer lines than other programming languages. Thus, it is a more efficient and concise way of writing the code.
- Python can be used as functional oriented, object oriented or procedure oriented.
- Python has tons of libraries which are used for various implementations such as NumPy, SciPy, Pandas and so on.
- Python is extensible. We can use legacy non Python code in our application and fill up the performance gap with other language code.
- Python is a portable language. The Python application can be migrated from one platform to another very easily.
- Python is embedded. We can use the Python script inside Java or C#.Net application. The scope of the Python code is improved. Thus, our application will become scalable.
- It is dynamically typed. We do not need to declare type explicitly. Based on our provided value, the type will be considered automatically, thus giving more flexibility to the programmer. Refer to the following code:

```
a = 10
print(type(a))
a='Python'
print(type(a))
a=False
print(type(a))
Output:
<class 'int'>
<class 'str'>
<class 'bool'>
```

Note: The preceding code is covered in (Program Name: Chap01_prog1_ dynamictyped.py)

Python language has similarity to the English language and was designed for readability. The command can be completed with a new line, unlike semicolons or parenthesis, as opposed to other programming languages. To define the scope of loop, classes and functions, Python relies heavily on indentation such as whitespace, unlike other programming languages. which use curly space for this purpose.

Uses of Python

The Python language is used for:

- Back end web development.
- To create Artificial Intelligence and scientific computing, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Internet of Things and so on.
- Desktop Applications, 3D graphics, Graphical User Interface Applications.
- Data Analysis, Network applications such as Client Server, Chatting and so
- For connectivity to database systems; it can read, write, delete or update the data as per need.
- It can perform very complex mathematics and can handle big data.

A good Python developer writes effective code for backend components, testing and debugging programs. A good developer creates applications that can be integrated with the present ones. Python is used by different companies such as Google, Facebook, Yahoo, NASA, DropBox, BitTorrent, Netflix, YouTube and so on. In Python, most of the syntax has been borrowed from C language and ABC language.

Limitations of Python

Apart from the benefits, Python also has the following limitations:

- Python is not suitable for developing mobile applications. This is because currently, it does not have library support to develop mobile applications.
- Python is not the best choice to develop end to end enterprise applications such as banking, telecom applications and so on, as there is no library support.
- The performance is low because the execution is happening line by line. Thus, JIT compiler is added to Python Virtual Machine, so that a group of lines will

be interpreted only once, and each time, the interpreted code is used directly. The preceding flavor is called **PyPy version** (Python for speed).

The popularity of Python in 2023 is record breaking. According to **Stack-Overflow**, Python is the most questioned emerging language, and it is far ahead of competitor languages such as JavaScript, C# and so on. GitHub grants Python the top slot of being the most popular language.

To install python on the system, go to the website https://www.python.org. Then go to the **Download** section to download and install the latest Python version (3.11.2, as on today). We have installed Python version on Windows operating system. Keep in mind that we will be doing all our programs in Windows OS only.

It is better to learn Python version 3 instead of version 2 because as of today, all the multinational companies who have been using Python 2, have migrated to Python 3. Python 3.x is developed as a completely independent language and is not an extension of 2.x version. The backward compatibility of Python 3.x is not there for Python 2.x, as there is no guarantee that it will support the same. Moreover, Python 2 may become obsolete in the near future as the libraries will not be maintained. During the installation, an important point to be noted is to tick the checkbox Add **Python 3.7 to Path** (we have installed Python 3.7.3 version in our case). Otherwise, there are chances of error once we try to install our own libraries. Install the setup and you are good to go. Once Python is installed, type cmd and enter the word Python. You will get a screen as shown in *Figure 1.1*. In this book, we will learn about Python 3.x and not Python 2.x:

```
Command Prompt - python
                                                                                                                                                                                                       dicrosoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.356]
c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
 :\Users\SAURABH>python
ython 3.7.3 (v3.7.3:ef4ec6ed12, Mar 25 2019, 22:22:05) [MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD64)] on win32
ype "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
```

Figure 1.1: Python version

Once we have installed Python, we also get **Integrated Development and Learning Environment (IDLE)** for Python. Here, we can do our coding. It looks as shown in *Figure 1.2:*

```
Python 3.7.3 Shell

File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help

Python 3.7.3 (v3.7.3:ef4ec6ed12, Mar 25 2019, 22:22:05) [MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD6 ^ 4)] on win32

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

>>>

Ln:3 Co:4
```

Figure 1.2: Python 3.7.3 shell

To run the program, follow the given steps:

- 1. Go to File | New File.
- 2. Type print('Hello World') in the file and save it into a respective folder.
- 3. Click **Run** | **Run Module F5**, as shown in *Figure* 1.3:



Figure 1.3: Python file saved as hello.py

The output **Hello World** will be printed in the IDLE screen, as shown in *Figure 1.4*:

```
*Python 3.7.3 Shell*
                                                                        X
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
Python 3.7.3 (v3.7.3:ef4ec6ed12, Mar 25 2019, 22:22:05) [MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD6 ^
4)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
======== RESTART: C:/Users/SAURABH/Desktop/hello.py ==========
Hello World
```

Figure 1.4: Output in Python 3.7.3. shell

You can also look for other IDEs such as PyCharm, Jupiter and so on. However, we have used Visual Studio Code (VsCode), and integrated gitbash into VSCode. VSCode is a source code editor for making programs which are developed by Microsoft. It has support for debugging, syntax highlighting, code refracting, Intelligent code completion and so on. Before starting with the basics of Python, let us have a brief overview of how to use command line in VSCode.

With the help of command line, we can use files/folders, quickly create or remove them, as well as copy and move the files to/from the folder, among others. Let us start by typing the following commands in the bash terminal of VSCode, and thus visualize the output. The commands are typed in bold letters.

pwd: The pwd command or the Print working directory will display the current location of the working directory. From the terminal output shown in *Figure 1.5*, we can see that the working directory is **E:/python_progs**.



Figure 1.5: pwd command

1s: This command will display the list of files and folders in the terminal. From the terminal output shown in *Figure 1.6*, we can see the list of files and directories within the file system:

```
prog19 functions.py
                                                         prog42 iterablevsiterator.py
                                                                43_zip.py
49_practicequestions.py
5_calculations.py
                                                                       nction_argument.py
nction_returning_function.py
                                                                              ors.py
ors_practice.py
or_with_arguments.py
           dictionary.py
add_deletedata_dictionary.py
                                                                                                                                                 atingwidgetsusingloop.py
                                                                       ps.py
esvariable.py
                                                                                                                                                              otionhandling.py
```

Figure 1.6: Is command

1s -1: It will display the list of files and folders in the terminal, using a long listing format. From the terminal output shown in Figure 1.7, we can see the list of files and directories within the file system, along with the owner, permissions. Since the list of contents is so long, only a part of it has been shown.

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/python_progs
$ ls -l
total 412
 rw-r--r-- 1 SAURABH 197121
                                             100 Aug 20 19:21 activationcode.txt
                1 SAURABH 197121 23060 Aug 18 13:11 circuit-VRC1-vc.png
1 SAURABH 197121 113 Aug 28 07:35 copyingsalary.txt
1 SAURABH 197121 996 Aug 21 19:23 demo_binpy1.py
1 SAURABH 197121 0 Aug 29 07:32 demofolder
               2112 Aug 29 22:05 editimages.py
                                             277 Aug 31 18:13 gui_file1.txt
672 Aug 28 19:32 index.html
                1 SAURABH 197121
                                           0 Aug 29 06:59 mk_file.txt
5726 Sep 3 20:52 numpy_eg2.p
                   SAURABH 197121
                                           5726 Sep 3 20:52 numpy_eg2.py
2140 Sep 1 16:22 numpyeg1.py
65 Aug 28 19:39 output.txt
                1 SAURABH 197121
                1 SAURABH 197121
1 SAURABH 197121
                                                         14 18:04 prog1_printeg.py
                    SAURABH 197121
```

Figure 1.7: ls -l command

clear: This command will clear the screen terminal. From the terminal output shown in *Figure 1.8*, we can see that the screen has been cleared:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/python progs
```

Figure 1.8: clear command

cd: It will change the current working directory in the operating systems. From the terminal output shown in *Figure 1.9*, we can see that the directory has been changed to E://democreated:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/python progs
$ cd E://democreated
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
/e/democreated
```

Figure 1.9: cd command

mkdir: This command is used to create folders in the operating system. From the terminal output shown in *Figure 1.10*, we can see that a new folder namely **command folder**, has been created:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ mkdir commandfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ 1s
commandfolder
```

Figure 1.10: mkdir command

An important point to observe is that if we give space inbetween the folder name, and the folder name is not present in double inverted commas, then separate individual folders will be created. In Figure 1.11, we can see that 3 different folders are created from mkdir command practice 2:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ mkdir command practice 2
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ 1s
 command commandfolder practice
```

Figure 1.11: mkdir without double inverted commas

Now, let us put double inverted comma between the folder name: mkdir "command **practice 2"**. From *Figure 1.12*, we can see that a new folder **command practice 2** is created:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ mkdir "command practice 2"
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ 1s
    command 'command practice 2' commandfolder
                                                    practice
```

Figure 1.12: mkdir with double inverted commas

Let us assume we need to move to a folder **command practice 2**. Type the command cd "command practice 2 "/, as shown in Figure 1.13:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ cd "command practice 2"/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ pwd
/e/democreated/command practice 2
```

Figure 1.13: Moving to a folder

touch: This command is used to set the modification and access times of files to the current time of day. If the file is not present, then it will create the file with default permissions. In Figure 1.14, a text file namely newfile.txt is created:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ touch newfile.txt
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ 1s
newfile.txt
```

Figure 1.14: touch (text file)

We can even create a Python file. A new file namely **demo.py** is created, in *Figure 1.15*:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ touch demo.py
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ 1s
demo.py newfile.txt
```

Figure 1.15: touch (python file)

rm: This command is used to remove objects such as file, directories and so on. In *Figure 1.16*, let us remove newfile.txt:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ rm newfile.txt
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ 1s
demo.py
```

Figure 1.16: remove a text file

cd . . : This command is used to move one folder back. in *Figure 1.17*, we can see that one folder has been moved back:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/command practice 2
$ cd ...
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ pwd
/e/democreated
```

Figure 1.17: command to move one folder back

rm -rf: This command is used to remove folders completely. rf stands for recursive force. In *Figure 1.18*, we can see that the folder **command practice** 2 has been removed completely:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
$ rm -rf "command practice 2"/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated
  command commandfolder practice
```

Figure 1.18: rm -rf command

mv: This command is used to rename a file with a new name or move a file name into a new folder. In *Figure 1.19*, we can see that the file name **file1.py** has been renamed to file.py from the current folder cd commandfolder/:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ ls
file1.py
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ mv file1.py file.py
 SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
file.py
```

Figure 1.19: mv command (rename)

In Figure 1.20, we can see that the file name file.py has been moved to the current folder mvfolder.

Firstly, we have created a folder named mvfolder. Then, we have moved the file into that folder using command mv file.py ./mvfolder/

On the current path, we typed 1s to see the list of files and folders. We can see that the file has moved into the **mvfolder** since only the folder name is being displayed. We then change the directory into mvfolder. We typed 1s to see the list of files and folders.

Refer to Figure 1.20:

```
URABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ mkdir mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
file.py mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ mv file.py ./mvfolder/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ ls
mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ cd mvfolder/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder/mvfolder
file.py
```

Figure 1.20: mv command (move file into folder)

Let us now assume that we again want to move the file one folder backwards. In this case, we have to use filename with "..", as shown in Figure 1.21. After typing the command mv file.py ..., the file file.py has moved to the folder commandfolder as shown:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder/mvfolder
$ mv file.py ..
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder/mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder/mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ ls
file.py mvfolder
```

Figure 1.21: mv command (move file into one folder backward)

Let us now assume that we want to copy a file into the folder **mvfolder**. In Figure 1.22, we can see that the command cp file.py has been copied into the folder / mvfolder/. We can see that using 1s command, the folder mvfolder contains the file name file.py:

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ cp file.py ./mvfolder/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
file.py mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ cd mvfolder/
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder/mvfolder
$ 1s
file.py
```

Figure 1.22: cp command

If you want to save the list of commands, type in the bash terminal of VsCode into a text file, and then use the following command:

```
history > history_for_print.txt
```

Here, history is the command and history_for_print.txt is the text filename as shown in *Figure 1.23*. The command and the file name is joined by the '>' symbol. We can see that the list of commands typed has been saved in the text file name history_for_print.txt.

```
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ history > history for print.txt
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ 1s
file.py history_for_print.txt mvfolder
SAURABH@LAPTOP-NHFM79LF MINGW64 /e/democreated/commandfolder
$ code history_for_print.txt
```

Figure 1.23: history command

Keywords and reserved words

In any language, whether it may be a general speaking language such as English, or a programming language such as Python or C, there are some reserved words to represent some meaning or functionality, and they are called reserved words or keywords. There are tons of English reserved words, each with some specific meaning. It is quite impossible to remember those words. On the other hand, if we look at some programming languages like Java, only 53 reserved words are present. However, in Python, there are only 35 reserved words.

Thus, if we understand these 35 keywords, we might become an expert on this language. To know the total keywords in the Python language, type the following command in VsCode:

```
import keyword
print(keyword.kwlist)
```

Note: The preceding code is covered in (Program Name: Chap01_prog2_ keywords.py)

Save this to a file named as python_keywords.py. All reserved words in Python contain alphabet symbols. To run the above program, type the command as:

```
python python_keywords.py.
```

You will get the list of keywords as shown:

```
['False', 'None', 'True',
'and', 'as', 'assert', 'async', 'await', 'break', 'class', 'continue',
'def', 'del', 'elif', 'else', 'except', 'finally', 'for', 'from', 'global',
'if', 'import', 'in', 'is', 'lambda', 'nonlocal', 'not', 'or', 'pass',
'raise', 'return', 'try', 'while', 'with', 'yield']
```

We will discuss all the list of keywords as per requirement. However, the important observation that you may get by looking into the keywords is as follows:

- All the 35 keywords contain only alphabets.
- True, False and None are the only 3 keywords which are in Uppercase. The remaining 32 keywords are in lower case.
- An important point to note is that there is no **switch** or **do-while** concepts in Python.
- Since Python is dynamically typed, there is no reserved words such as int, float, Boolean, complex data types and so on.

To check if any word is a keyword or not, type the following command:

```
print(keyword.iskeyword('yield'))
```

On running the preceding file, you will get a Boolean value as True, indicating that the yield word is a keyword. You can continue to check with other reserved words. The return type of **iskeyword** is either True or False.

Identifiers

Identifiers are nothing but the user defined names utilized in the programs, to represent a variable, a function, a class or a module. Identifiers can contain a letter, digit or underscore. The first letter of the identifier must be a letter or underscore, and should not start with digit. An example of an identifier is as follows:

- var_1=67: Variable name is an example of an identifier.
- _var = 4: The first letter of an identifier can be an underscore.
- 3sd = 7: Invalid. SyntaxError: invalid syntax.
- Special characters are excluded from the identifier.
- var@2 = 8: SyntaxError: cannot assign to operator.

The allowed characters in Python are alphabets (either upper or lower case), digits (from 0 to 9) and the underscore symbol. As the Python language is case sensitive, identifiers themselves are case sensitive. The variables, for example, sum and SUM are different. If the identifier starts with underscore, then it is private. Reserved words are not allowed in identifiers. There is no length limit for identifiers, but care has to be taken that it is not too lengthy and must be meaningful enough for even a new person to understand.

Line joining methods

Whenever we are trying to divide input into different physical line, there will be an error. For example:

```
print("hello
```

When we try to write the rest of the words in the next line, the following error will be displayed:

```
print("hello
```

SyntaxError: EOL while scanning string literal

This can be overcome by using implicit and explicit line joining method.

Implicit line joining method

In implicit line joining method, the expression is split into multiple lines using parenthesis, curly lines or square brackets, as discussed.

Using curly braces

```
Refer to the expression:
```

```
days = {'Mon','Tue','Wed',
        'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat',
        'Sun'}
print(days)
Output
{'Tue', 'Sat', 'Fri', 'Sun', 'Mon', 'Wed', 'Thu'}
```

Note: You may get different output every time here.

Using square brackets

Refer to the expression:

```
days = ['Mon','Tue','Wed',
        'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat',
        'Sun']
print(days)
Output:
['Mon', 'Tue', 'Wed', 'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat', 'Sun']
```

Using parenthesis

Refer to the expression:

```
days = ('Mon','Tue','Wed',
        'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat',
        'Sun')
```

```
print(days)
```

Output:

```
('Mon', 'Tue', 'Wed', 'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat', 'Sun')
```

The preceding examples can also be written with comments and blank lines, as shown:

• We can write comment after the line:

```
days = {'Mon','Tue','Wed', # Mon - Wed
           'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat', # Thu - Sat
           'Sun'} # sun
   print(days)
   Output
   {'Tue', 'Thu', 'Fri', 'Sat', 'Sun', 'Mon', 'Wed'}
• Blank lines can be inserted:
   days = { #Blank
           'Mon', 'Tue', 'Wed', # Mon - Wed
           'Thu','Fri','Sat', # Thu - Sat
           'Sun'} # sun
   print(days)
   Output
   {'Sun', 'Tue', 'Thu', 'Sat', 'Wed', 'Mon', 'Fri'}
```

Note: All the implicit joining method examples are covered in (Program Name: Chap01_prog3_implicit_joining_method.py)

Explicit joining method

In the explicit line joining method, we are using backward slash to split the input. The backward slash is used to join the logical lines together in such a manner that they are declared in a single line. Refer to the following examples.

Example 1

Refer to the following expression:

```
print("hello\
```