

Example: Summing the Elements of a List

```
def sum(thelist):
    """Returns: the sum of all elements in thelist
    Precondition: thelist is a list of all numbers
    (either floats or ints)"""
    result = 0
    result = result + thelist[0]
    result = result + thelist[1]
    ...
    return result
```

There is a problem here

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Working with Sequences

- Sequences are potentially **unbounded**
 - Number of elements inside them is not fixed
 - Functions must handle sequences of different lengths
 - Example:** sum([1,2,3]) vs. sum([4,5,6,7,8,9,10])
- Cannot process with **fixed** number of lines
 - Each line of code can handle at most one element
 - What if # of elements > # of lines of code?
- We need a new **control structure**

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The For-Loop

```
# Create local var x          # Write as a for-loop
x = seqn[0]                   for x in seqn:
print(x)                       | print(x)
x = seqn[1]
print(x)
...
x = seqn[len(seqn)-1]
print(x)
```

Not valid Python

Key Concepts

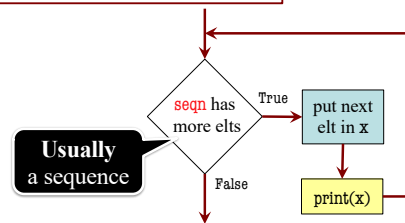
- iterable:** seqn
- loop variable:** x
- body:** print(x)

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Executing a For-Loop

The for-loop:
for x in seqn:
 | print(x)

- iterable:** seqn
- loop variable:** x
- body:** print(x)



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Example: Summing the Elements of a List

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def sum(thelist):
    """Returns: the sum of all elements in thelist
    Precondition: thelist is a list of all numbers
    (either floats or ints)"""
    result = 0
    for x in thelist:
        result = result + x
    return result
```

Accumulator variable

- iterable:** thelist
- loop variable:** x
- body:** result=result+x

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Example: String-Based Accumulator

```
def despace(s):
    """Returns: s but with its spaces removed
    Precondition: s is a string"""
    result = ""
    for x in s:
        if x != " ":
            result = result+x
    return result
```

Body

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Modifying the Contents of a List

```
def add_one(thelist):
    """(Procedure) Adds 1 to every element in the list
    Precondition: thelist is a list of all numbers
    (either floats or ints)"""
    for x in thelist:
        x = x+1
    # procedure; no return
```

DOES NOT WORK!

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On The Other Hand

```
def copy_add_one(thelist):
    """Returns: copy with 1 added to every element
    Precondition: thelist is a list of all numbers
    (either floats or ints)"""
    mycopy = [] # accumulator
    for x in thelist:
        x = x+1
        mycopy.append(x) # add to end of accumulator
    return mycopy
```

Accumulator keeps
result from being lost

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How Can We Modify A List?

- **Never** modify loop var!
- This is an infinite loop:
- Need a second sequence
- How about the *positions*?

```
for x in thelist:
    thelist.append(1)

thelist = [5, 2, 7, 1]
thepos = [0, 1, 2, 3]
```

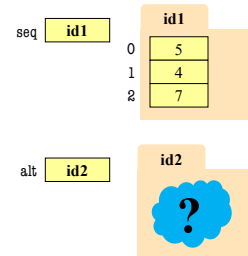
Try in Python Tutor
to see what happens

```
for x in thepos:
    thelist[x] = x+1
```

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This is the Motivation for Iterables

- **Iterables** are objects
 - Contain data like a list
 - **But cannot slice them**
- Have list-like properties
 - Can use them in a for-loop
 - Can convert them to lists
 - `mylist = list(myiterable)`
- **Example:** Files
 - Use `open()` to create object
 - Makes iterable for reading



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The Range Iterator

- **range(x)**
 - Creates an iterator
 - Stores `[0, 1, ..., x-1]`
 - **But not a list!**
 - But try `list(range(x))`
- **range(a, b)**
 - Stores `[a, ..., b-1]`
- **range(a, b, n)**
 - Stores `[a, a+n, ..., b-1]`
- Very versatile tool
- Great for processing ints

```
total = 0
# add the squares of ints
# in range 2..200 to total
for x in range(2, 201):
    total = total + x*x
```

Accumulator

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Modifying the Contents of a List

```
def add_one(thelist):
    """(Procedure) Adds 1 to every element in the list
    Precondition: thelist is a list of all numbers
    (either floats or ints)"""
    size = len(thelist)
    for k in range(size):
        thelist[k] = thelist[k]+1
    # procedure; no return
```

Iterator of list
positions (safe)

WORKS!

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