

Tough Questions

- ▶ The string: “Stringinginging”
 - ▶ How long is the string?
 - ▶ How many ‘n’ characters are there in the string?
 - ▶ What is the position of the first ‘i’ character in the string?

- ▶ The list: [23, -56, 2.2, 5, 17, -3]
 - ▶ How long is the list?
 - ▶ What is the biggest number in the list?
 - ▶ What is the smallest number in the list?
 - ▶ What is the sum of the numbers in the list?



Abstraction: Sequence

- ▶ **Strings and lists are both *sequences***
 - ▶ A set of things in single-file order
 - ▶ It makes sense to talk about the length of a sequence, and the position or *index* of each element
- ▶ **Python lists are identified by square brackets**
 - ▶ `favorite_numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4]`
 - ▶ Can hold different data types, but that's usually a bad idea
- ▶ **Python sequence operators and functions work on lists and strings the same**
 - ▶ `"one" + "two" => "onetwo"`
 - ▶ `[1,2] + [3,4] => [1,2,3,4]`
 - ▶ `len("This string") => 11`
 - ▶ `len([4, 5, 'bob', 17.6]) => 4`



Abstraction: Sequence

- ▶ In a sequence, each element has an index
 - ▶ We count indices starting with 0
 - ▶ `scores = [98, 92, 45, 93, 91]`
 - ▶ The index of the value 98 is 0
 - ▶ The index of the value 45 is 2
 - ▶ The index of the value 91 is 4
- ▶ Each position in the sequence is a variable
 - ▶ Stores data, just like any other variable
 - ▶ Has a name, just like any other variable
 - ▶ That name uses the *subscript operator* `[]`
 - ▶ `scores[0]` evaluates to 98
 - ▶ `scores[3]` evaluates to 93
 - ▶ `scores[2] = 17` assigns the value 17 into the third slot of the list
 - ▶ `print(scores[4] + scores[2])` prints 108



Abstraction: Sequence

- ▶ Lists and strings are both sequences
 - ▶ However, strings are *immutable*
 - ▶ You cannot assign new values to the elements of a string

```
name = "Mothuselah"
name[1] = 'e'
Error!
```



Abstraction: Sequence

- ▶ **More sequence functions**
 - ▶ min, max, sum
- ▶ ***Method* syntax is a different way to call a function**
 - ▶ len(name) vs. name.len()
 - ▶ Tells a certain variable *object* to do something
- ▶ **Some built in sequence methods**
 - ▶ my_string = "hop on pop"
 - ▶ my_string.index('n') => returns 5, the index of the first 'n' char
 - ▶ some_list = [15, 4, 15, 6, 15]
 - ▶ some_list.count(15) => returns 3, the number of 15s in the list



Abstraction: Sequence

- ▶ **Computers are really good at repetitive tasks!**
 - ▶ Simple construct to do something to every element in a sequence
 - ▶ For each loop!

```
for item in [1,2,3,4]:  
    print(item)
```

```
1  
2  
3  
4
```

- ▶ *item* is a variable which is assigned each value in the sequence
- ▶ *for* and *in* are keywords (reserved for the language)
- ▶ The indented lines after the `:` will be executed once for each item in the sequence

