



item cheat sheet

Python 3.5 or higher



Help

help(m)	Display help for module, function...
pluginHelp("name") ¹	Display information for plugin
filterHelp("name") ¹	Display information for item-filter
widgetHelp("name") ¹	Display information for widget in plugin
dir(m)	Display names in module m

Common Data Types

int	Integer (32/64bit)	3, -4, 0
float	Floating point number	3.0, -6.55, float('nan')
complex	Complex number	2+3j, 4j, 5-0j
bool	Boolean	True, False
str	String of characters	"Python"
byte	Sequence of integers	b"Python"
tuple	Immutable sequence	(2,), (2.3,"a"), (2.3,-1)
list	Mutable sequence	[2], [2.3,"a"], [2.3,-1]
dict	Mapping, dictionary	{"x":2, "name":"a"}
numpy.ndarray	Numpy-Array	
dataObject ¹	item data object	compatible to np.array

Module Import

Example: How to call method *plot* of module *item*

import item	item.plot(args,...)
from item import plot	plot(args,...)
from item import *	plot(args,...) [Import all]
from item import plot as fct	fct(args,...) [Alias]

Operators and their Precedence

func_name(args,kwds)	Function call
x[startIdx : endIdx]	Slicing (startIdx incl., endIdx excl.)
x[index]	Indexing (index zero-based)
x.attribute	Attribute reference
**	Exponentiation
*, /, %, @	Multiply, Divide, Modulo, Matrix Mult.
+, -	Add, Subtract
&, , ^, ~	Binary And, Or, Xor, Not
>, <, <=, >=, !=, ==	Comparison
in, not in	Membership tests [2 in (1,2,3)]->True
not, and, or	Boolean operators

¹ only available in item

Common Syntax Structures

exp [any expression], stmt [(sequence of) command(s)]

Note: Indentation is important for control sequences!

Assignment	a = 1 a, b = 1, 2 c = [1,2,3]; c[1] = 4	a=1 a=1,b=2 c=[1,4,3]
Output	print(exp [,expr2...])	print("test")
Comment	# single line	"""multi line"""
Selection	If boolean_exp: stmt [elif boolean_exp: stmt] [else: stmt]	If 2>1: print("2>1") else: print("what?")
Repetition	while(boolean_exp): stmt	repeat while bool_exp is True
Traversal	for var in obj: stmt	Iterate over all elements in traversable obj.
Loop	for i in range(0,5): print(i)	Use range for creating an iterable list [0,1,2,3,4]
Exception Handling	try: stmt ... except [exc_type] [,var]: stmt ...	try: 1/0 except ZeroDivisionError: print("uups")
Function Definition	def fctname(params): "doc-string" stmt return obj	def test(i, j=4): a = i + j # j has default 4 return [a, "done"]
Function Call	ret = fctname(args)	ret = test(2) # ret is [6, "done"]

Common Built-in Functions

abs(x)	Absolute value of x
float(x, int(x)	Convert x to float / int (if possible)
len(s)	Number of items in sequence (list, tuple,...)
str(obj)	String representation of obj
range(x,y)	A list [x, x+1, x+2, ..., y-1] (y excluded)
dict()	Empty dictionary
list()	Empty list
tuple()	Empty tuple

Common Functions of Module *math* (from math import *)

cos(x), sin(x), tan(x)	Cosine, sine, tangent of x radians
sqrt(x)	Positive square root of x
degrees(x), radians(x)	Convert from rad to deg, deg to rad
exp(x)	e ** x
floor(x)	Largest whole number <= x
pow(x,y)	x ** y
pi	Math constant π (15 sig figs)
e	Math constant e (15 sig figs)

Common List (L) and Tuple (T) Methods

LT[idx], LT[idx1:idx2]	get items or slice of items from list/tuple
LT.count(obj)	number of occurrences of <i>obj</i> in LT
LT.index(obj)	index of first occurrence of <i>obj</i> in LT; raises ValueError if does not occur
L[idx]=obj	assigns new value to index (list only)
L.append(obj)	Appends <i>obj</i> to end of list L
L.remove(obj)	Removes first occurrence of <i>obj</i> from L

Common List (L) or Tuple (T) Methods, (LT both)

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Common Dictionary (D) Methods

D["key"]	returns value corresponding to key
D["key"] = obj	replaces/adds <i>obj</i> under given key
"key" in D	True if key exists in D, else False
D.clear()	clears dictionary
D.keys()	Returns list of D's keys
D.values()	Returns list of D's values

Formatting Numbers as Strings

Syntax: "%width.precision type" % expression

width (optional)	total width (+/- right/left aligned)
precision (optional)	specified digits of float precision
type (required)	d (int), f (float), s (string), e (exp. Notation)
Examples:	">%6d" % 123 -> ..123 ">%04d" % 1 -> 0001 ">%8.2f" % 456.789 -> ..456.79 ">%8.2e" % 456.789 -> 4.57e+02

Working with dataIO-Devices (Grabber, AD-Converter...)¹

pluginHelp("name")	Prints information about plugin
dataIO("name",params)	Creates obj (instance) of device
obj.getParam("name")	Returns value of parameter
obj.setParam("name",val)	Sets parameter to val
obj.startDevice()	Starts device (camera...)
obj.stopDevice()	Stops device (camera...)
obj.acquire()	triggers image acquisition
obj.getVal(dObj)	after call, dataObject dObj references to last acquired image
obj.copyVal(dObj)	after call, dObj contains deep copy of last acquired image
obj.setAutoGrabbing(bool)	En-/Disables continuous grab for connected live views

Working with actuator-Devices (Motors, Stages...)¹

Position units are in mm, angles in degree.

pluginHelp("name")	Prints information about plugin
actuator("name",params)	Creates obj (instance) of device
obj.getParam("name")	Returns value of parameter
obj.setParam("name",val)	Sets parameter to val
obj.getPos(idx1[,idx2...])	Returns current position for all given axes indices (0-based)
obj.setPosRel(idx1,pos1,...)	Relatively moves axis idx1 by pos1
obj.setPosAbs(idx1,pos1,...)	Moves axis idx1 to pos1

Working with itom-Filters¹

filterHelp("name")	Lists all algorithms/filters containing name or detailed information about filter that matches name
ret=filter("name",param1,...)	Calls filter name with given parameters and returns tuple of output parameters (or None)

Plots¹

plot(dObj)	1D or 2D plot of dObj (depending on its size)
liveImage(dataIO-instance)	Live view of camera

Common DataObject¹ and Numpy.Array Data Types

"uint8", "int8", "uint16", "int16", "uint32", "int32"	(Un-)Signed integer 8,16,32 bit
"float32", "float64"	Floating point numbers
"complex64", "complex128"	Complex values (64 = 2x32 bit)

Numpy.array (import numpy as np, np.array), DataObject¹ (import itom, itom.dataObject)

arr=np.ndarray([2,3],'uint8')	dObj=dataObject([2,3],'uint8')	create a randomly filled 2x3 array with type uint8
arr=np.array([[1,2,3],[4,5,6]])	dObj =dataObject([2,3],data=(1,2,3,4,5,6))	create the 2x3 array [1,2,3 ; 4,5,6]
arr=np.array(dObj)	dObj =dataObject(arr)	convert np.array <-> dataObject
arr.ndim	dObj.dims	Returns number of dimensions (here: 2)
arr.shape	dObj.shape	Returns size tuple (here: [2,3])
arr.shape[0]	dObj.shape[0]	Returns size of first dimensions (here: y-axis)
c=arr[0,1]; arr[0,1]=7	dObj [0,1]; b[0,1]=7	Gets or sets the element in the 1 st row, 2 nd col
c=arr[:,1:3] or c=arr[0:2,1:3]	c=dObj[:,1:3] or c= dObj [0:2,1:3]	Returns shallow copy of array containing the 2 nd and 3 rd columns
arr[:,:] =7	dObj [:,:]=7	sets all values of array to value 7
arr.transpose() (shallow copy)	dObj.trans() (deep copy)	transpose of array
np.dot(arr1,arr2), arr1 @ arr2	dObj1 @ dObj2 (float only)	matrix multiplication
arr1 * arr2	dObj1.mul(dObj2)	element-wise multiply
arr1 / arr2	dObj1.div(dObj2)	element-wise divide
arr1 +- arr2	dObj1 +- dObj2	sum/difference of elements
arr1 +- scalar	dObj1 +- scalar	adds/subtracts scalar from every element in array
arr1 &, arr2	dObj1 &, dObj2	element-wise, bitwise AND/OR operator
arr2 = arr1	dObj2 = dObj1	referencing (both still point to the same array)
arr2 = arr1.copy()	dObj2 = dObj1.copy()	deep copy (entire data is copied)
arr2 = arr1.astype(newtype)	dObj2 = dObj1.astype('newtypestring')	type conversion
arr = np.zeros([3,4],'float32')	dObj = dataObject.zeros([3,4], 'float32')	3x4 array filled with zeros of type float32
arr = np.ones([3,4],'float32')	dObj = dataObject.ones([3,4], 'float32')	3x4 array filled with ones of type float32
arr = np.eye(3,dtype='float32')	dObj = dataObject.eye(3, 'float32')	3x3 identity matrix (type: float32)
arr2 = arr1.squeeze()	dObj2 = dObj1.squeeze() (ignores last two dims)	converts array to an array where dimensions of size 1 are eliminated (deep copy if necessary)
np.linspace(1,3,4)	-	4 equally spaced samples between 1 and 3, inclusive
[x,y] = np.meshgrid(0:2,1:5)	-	two 2D arrays: one of x values, the other of y values
np.linalg.inv(a)	-	inverse of square matrix a
x=np.linalg.solve(a,b)	-	solution of ax=b (using pseudo inverse)
[U,S,V] = np.linalg.svd(a)	-	singular value decomposition of a (V is transposed!)
np.fft.fft2(a), np.fft.ifft2(a)	filter available	(Inverse) 2D fourier transform of a
a[a>0]=5	-	sets all elements > 0 of a to 5
arr2 = arr1.reshape([3,2])	-	reshapes arr1 to new size (equal number of items)

Subject

Subject	Matlab	Python/Numpy-Arrays/DataObjects
Data Copying	Matlab always uses deep copying. $b = a \rightarrow b$ and a contain separated data in memory	Python usually creates shallow copies (deep copy only if necessary). Therefore a and b share the same data.
Indexing	Matlab uses one-based indexing	Python always uses zero-based indexing
Ranges	1:4 means the items at one-based indices [1,2,3,4] Both boundaries are included in the range.	In Python the same is achieved by 0:4 -> [0,1,2,3] The second boundary is always excluded!

List Comprehension (fast list manipulation)

S = [x**2 for x in range(10)]	print(S) → [0, 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81]
M = [x*2 if not x is None else -1 for x in [0,1,None,2]]	print(M) → [0,2,-1,4]