

Tutorial 9 – Week 10

We'll be starting at the 10 minute mark

if nothing else, write `#cleancode`

Agenda

- Lecture review
 - Aliasing
 - Passing Mutable Objects into a Function
 - Passing Immutable Objects into a Function
 - Default function values
 - File I/O
- Practice questions

Learning Objectives

After this tutorial, learners should be able to:

- recognize / describe / create aliases for Python objects
- recognize / describe mutable/immutable objects
- use mutable/immutable objects as arguments for functions
- recognize / describe / create optional function parameters
- open regular files
- open csv files
- operate with regular file objects, e.g., iterate over, close, etc
- operate with csv file objects, e.g., iterate over, close, etc
- use the built-in context manager “open” (for file management)
- recognize / describe / create dictionaries
- recognize / describe / create sets
- iterate over tuples/sets/dictionaries

Review of Lecture

Aliasing

if nothing else, write `#cleancode`

Aliasing (Review)

- Two variables are said to be **aliases** when they reference the same object.
- If the object represents a mutable value, changes made through one variable are visible to all aliases,
- Example:

```
>>> lst1 = [2, 4, 6, 8]
>>> lst2 = lst1
>>> lst2[0] = "hi"

>>> print(lst1)
['hi', 4, 6, 8]
>>> print(lst2)
['hi', 4, 6, 8]
```

- You can check if two variables are aliases by using the **is** operator, which returns **True** if both variables reference the same object

```
>>> lst1 is lst2
True
```

Using Mutable Objects as Function Arguments¹

- If an object passed to a function as argument is **mutable**, modification of the object made within the function may be “visible” outside the function
- **WHY?**
The function gets a **reference** to the object, not a copy of it, and modifications to the object may be visible to variables outside the scope of the function via the aliasing mechanism

Using Mutable Objects as Function Arguments²

```
def func(my_input):  
    my_input *= 2
```

 The list object `my_input` references is changed “in place”

```
>>> x = [[1, 2], [2, 3]]
```

```
>>> print(x)  
[[1, 2], [2, 3]]
```

```
>>> func(x)
```


When `func` is called, variables `x` and `my_input` become aliases

```
>>> print(x)  
[[1, 2], [3, 4], [1, 2], [3, 4]]
```

The value of variable `x` was affected by the execution of `func()`

Using Mutable Objects as Function Arguments³

```
def func1(my_input):  
    my_input = my_input + my_input
```

 **my_input** will reference a NEW list object !

```
>>> x = [[1, 2], [2, 3]]
```

```
>>> print(x)  
[[1, 2], [2, 3]]
```

```
>>> func1(x)
```

```
>>> print(x)  
[[1, 2], [2, 3]]
```

The value of variable x was NOT affected by the execution of func()

Using Immutable Objects as Function Arguments¹

- If the object passed as an argument to a function is **immutable**, the function gets a **reference** to the immutable object
- If the the immutable object has no mutable components, no changes to the object are possible (no “side effects” occur)

```
def func(my_input):  
    my_input *= 2
```

```
>>> x = 5  
>>> func(x)  
>>> print(x)  
5
```

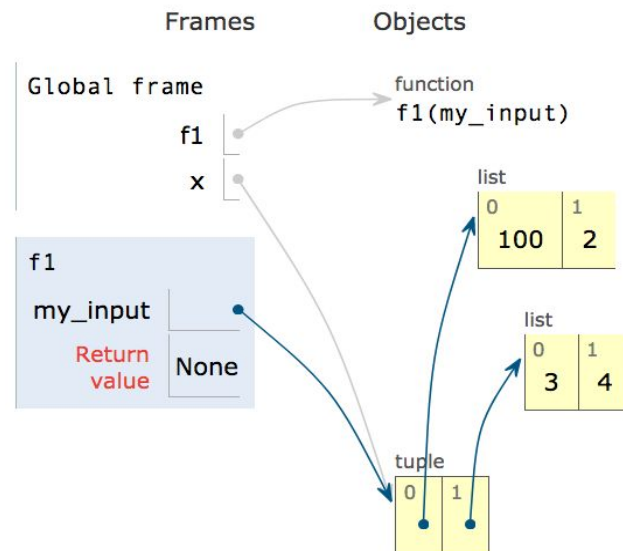
The value of variable `x` was not affected by the execution of `func2()`

Using Immutable Objects as Function Arguments²

If the the immutable object has mutable components, changes to the mutable components are possible and these changes can become visible outside the function

```
def f1(my_input):  
    my_input[0][0] = 100  
  
>>> x = ([1,2], [3,4])  
>>> f1(x)  
>>> print(x)  
    ([100, 2], [3, 4])
```

The value of variable `x` was affected by the execution of `f1()`



Recap: Aliasing and Functions – 1

- In Python, arguments are passed to functions **by reference**.
 - In other words, **links** to objects are passed to functions, **NOT copies** of the objects.
- If the object being passed to a function is:
 - **mutable** (e.g., a list, dictionary, set), if a function modifies the object passed as an argument, the change is visible outside the function (the function is said to produce “side effects”);
 - **immutable** (e.g., integer, string, tuple): it is not possible to change anything about that object in the function (no side effects)

Recap: Aliasing and Functions – 2

Aliasing can be helpful, but if you do not intend for the function to change a mutable object, create a copy of the mutable object and pass that to functions, or use copies of the mutable object inside functions and change those.

Aliasing:

```
>>> x = [1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> y = x
>>> print(x is y)
True
```

Copying 1:

```
>>> y = [1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> x = y.copy()

>>> print(x is y)
False
```

Copying 2:

```
>>> x = [1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> y = x[:]

>>> print(x is y)
False
```

Copying 3:

```
>>> x = [1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> y = list(x)
>>> print(x is y)
False
```

Review of Lecture

Advanced Functions

if nothing else, write `#cleancode`

Optional Parameters – Default Values

- Parameters can be set up in function definitions to have default values
=> these values are optional and you don't need to specify them when calling the function
- Example: `sep`, `end`, `file` and `flush` are optional parameters in `print()`**

```
>>> help (print)
print(...)
print(value, ..., sep=' ', end='\n', file=sys.stdout, flush=False)
```

Prints the values to a stream, or to `sys.stdout` by default.

Optional keyword arguments:

`file`: a file-like object (stream); defaults to the current `sys.stdout`.

`sep`: string inserted between values, default a space.

`end`: string appended after the last value, default a newline.

`flush`: whether to forcibly flush the stream.

Optional Parameters in Built-in Functions

- **Example:** in function `print()`, the default values of the optional parameters `sep` and `end` are a blank space and `'\n'` (the newline marker), respectively:

```
>>> print("one", "two", "three", "four")
one two three four
```

- We can specify different values for `sep` and `end`:

```
>>> print("one", "two", "three", "four", sep = '...', end = "!!!")
one...two...three...four!!!!
```

Optional Parameters in User-defined Functions

- Optional parameters can also be defined in user-defined functions

```
def func(x, y = 2):  
    return x * y
```

```
# the y parameter takes on the default value 2  
print('Using the default value:', func(3))
```

```
# the default value of y is overridden  
print('Default value overridden:', func(3, 5))
```

When using the default value func() returns 6

When the default value is overridden, func() returns 15

Review of Lecture

Program Input and Output – Files

if nothing else, write `#cleancode`

Opening Files

The general form for opening a file is:

```
open(file_path, mode)
```

mode can be:

- 'r' for reading

- 'w' for writing

- 'a' for appending

- 'r+' for reading and writing

- 'a+' for appending and reading

`open()` returns a **file object**.

Writing to a File

- The following statement opens the file for writing (note parameter **mode** is set to 'w')

```
myfile = open("test.txt", "w")
```

← **myfile** is a **file object**

- To write something to the file we can use the **write** method of the file object:

```
myfile.write("My first file ...")
```

- Once we have finished with the file, we need to close it:

```
myfile.close()
```

Reading a file

Approach	Code	When to use it
The read approach	<pre>myfile = open(filename, 'r') contents = myfile.read() myfile.close()</pre>	When you want to read the whole file at once and use it as a string
The readline approach	<pre>myfile = open(filename, 'r') contents = '' line = myfile.readline() contents = contents + line while line != '': contents += myfile.readline() myfile.close()</pre>	When you want to process only part of a file
The for line in file approach	<pre>myfile = open(filename, 'r') contents = '' for line in myfile: contents += line myfile.close()</pre>	When you want to process every line in the file one at a time
The readlines approach	<pre>myfile = open(filename, 'r') lines = myfile.readlines() myfile.close()</pre>	When you want to examine each line of a file by index

File I/O with Context Managers – the **with** statement

Every time we open a file we must also close it.

- Python allows us to use **context managers**, which will automatically close files when the context is exited.
- ➔ We can create context managers using the **with** statement.

Example: `with open('test.txt', 'r') as file:`
 `contents = file.read()`

`open()` returns a **context manager** object

```
>>> contents
      'Hello world!\nHello world again!'
```

- There's no need to call the `close()` method within the **with** statement.
- The file opened in the context manager used by the **with** statement will be closed automatically when the context is exited.

File I/O – Working with CSV Files

CSV files are text files containing values separated by commas.

- To read the contents of a CSV file `'grades.csv'` using a context manager:

```
with open('grades.csv', 'r') as file:
    contents = file.read()

>>> contents
'Name,Test1,Test2,Final\nJohn,100,50,
29\n,Mark,76,32,33\nSam,25,75,95\n'
```

Sample Spreadsheet

Name	Test1	Test2	Final
John	100	50	29
Mark	76	32	33
Sam	25	75	95

NOTE: `contents` is a string containing all the data in the CSV file (the rows are separated by *new line* characters and the “columns” are separated by commas)

File I/O – Working with CSV Files using the CSV reader Class of the **csv** module¹

- The `csv` module provides functions that work with CSV files
- Method **`csv.reader()`** takes a csv file object as input and returns a csv **reader object** that holds the content of the file
 - The csv reader object can be **iterated through**

File I/O – Working with CSV Files using the CSV reader Class of the CSV module²

```
import csv
```

Open the csv file and create a csv reader object

```
with open('grades.csv', 'r') as csvfile:  
    grades_reader = csv.reader(csvfile)
```

```
row_num = 1
```

Iterate through each row in the csv reader object

```
for row in grades_reader:  
    print('Row #', row_num, ': ', row)  
    row_num += 1
```

Display the content of the file to the standard output

Output

```
Row # 1 : ['Name', 'Test1', 'Test2', 'Final']  
Row # 2 : ['John', '100', '50', '29']  
Row # 3 : ['Mark', '76', '32', '33']  
Row # 4 : ['Sam', '25', '75', '95']
```


Practice Problems

if nothing else, write `#cleancode`

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**What does the following
code output?**

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Review Practice Problem 1

Q1. What does the following code output?

```
1  def my_fun1 (x, key, value):
2      x[key] = value
3      return x
4
5  def my_fun2(x, key, value):
6      x[key] = value
7
8  x = {}
9  my_fun1 (x, 1, 'hi')
10 my_fun2 (x, 2, 'bi')
11 print (x)
```

- A. {1: 'hi'}
- B. {1: 'hi', 2: 'bi'}
- C. {2: 'bi'}
- D. {2: 'bi', 1: 'hi'}
- E. None of the above

Review Practice Problem 1

Q1. What does the following code output?

```
1  def my_fun1 (x, key, value):  
2      x[key] = value  
3      return x  
4  
5  def my_fun2(x, key, value):  
6      x[key] = value  
7  
8  x = {}  
9  my_fun1 (x, 1, 'hi')  
10 my_fun2 (x, 2, 'bi')  
11 print (x)
```

- A. {1: 'hi'}
- B. {1: 'hi', 2: 'bi'}
- C. {2: 'bi'}
- D. {2: 'bi', 1: 'hi'}
- E. None of the above

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**What does the following
code output?**

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Review Practice Problem 2

Q2. What does the following code output?

```
1  def fun1 (lst1 = []):  
2      lst1.append(4)  
3      lst1 = lst1 + [5]  
4  
5  lst1 = [1,2,3]  
6  fun1 (lst1)  
7  print(lst1)
```

- A. [1, 2, 3]
- B. None
- C. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- D. [1, 2, 3, 4]
- E. Error

Review Practice Problem 2

Q2. What does the following code output?

```
1  def fun1 (lst1 = []):  
2      lst1.append(4)  
3      lst1 = lst1 + [5]  
4  
5  lst1 = [1,2,3]  
6  fun1 (lst1)  
7  print(lst1)
```

- A. [1, 2, 3]
- B. None
- C. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- D. [1, 2, 3, 4]
- E. Error

Review Practice Problem 3

Q3. What does the following code output?

```
1  def fun (tup, item = (4) ):
2      tup += item
3      return tup
4
5  tup = (1,2,3)
6  tup2 = fun (tup)
7  print (tup)
8  print (tup2)
```

- A. (1, 2, 3)
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- B. (1, 2, 3, 4)
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- C. (1, 2, 3)
(1, 2, 3, 4) (4,)
- D. None
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- E. Error

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**What does the following
code output? Note: ' | ' refers
to a new line**

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Review Practice Problem 3

Q3. What does the following code output?

```
1  def fun (tup, item = (4) ):
2      tup += item
3      return tup
4
5  tup = (1,2,3)
6  tup2 = fun (tup)
7  print (tup)
8  print (tup2)
```

- A. (1, 2, 3)
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- B. (1, 2, 3, 4)
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- C. (1, 2, 3)
(1, 2, 3, 4) (4,)
- D. None
(1, 2, 3, 4)
- E. Error

Coding Question 1

Write a Python function `count_vowels` to count the frequency of vowels in a file. `count_vowels` takes as input a file path and returns a dictionary with items vowel : vowel frequency. (The input file is provided on Tutorial Quercus page.)

Usage example:

```
>>> count_vowels(</path/to/file>)
{'a': 29, 'e': 40, 'i': 40, 'o': 29, 'u': 4}
```

Coding Question 2

Write a Python function `maximal_subsets()` that takes in a string representing the path to a csv file where each line is a set of numbers and returns a list with the maximal subsets in that file. A **maximal subset** is a set that is not a subset of another.

For example, when run on a file with content:

```
1, 2, 3
1, 2, 3
1, 2
2, 3
2, 4
```

`maximal_subsets()` returns
`[{1, 2, 3}, {1, 2, 3}, {2, 4}]`

Coding Question 2: Step 1

The each line of the input is a set of numbers

Step 1: Convert the file into a list of sets.

For example:

```
1 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10
2 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10
3 9, 2, 10
4 2, 3, 7, 8, 9
5 8, 5, 6
6 2, 11
7 8
8 3, 4, 5, 7, 10
9 8, 11, 5
10 3, 4, 5, 8, 9
11 3, 7
12 8
13 8, 10
14 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
```



```
[{3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10}, {2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10}, {2, 9, 10},  
... ]
```

Coding Question 2: Step 2

Step 2: Given the list of sets, find the maximal subsets (i.e. remove all sets that are subsets of other sets in the list).

Example:

the maximal subsets in:

$[\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{2, 4\}]$

are:

$[\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{2, 4\}]$

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Any Questions?

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