FUNCTIONS:

PARAMETER PASSING

BU MET CS-521: Data Structures with Python, v.2.1

Overview:

• describe role of mutability in parameter binding/passing

Parameter Passing

- parameters are input values passed to functions
- several method available
- passing parameters in Python is different from other languages

Parameters by Position

```
def mult_div(a, b):
    """ multiply & divide two numbers """
    result = a * b, a / b
    return result

x = 10; y = 20
result = mult_div(x, y)

Global frame function mult_div
    x    10
    y    20

mult_div
    a    10
    b    20
```

• parameters bound by position (default)

Parameters by Keyword

parameters bound by keywords

Parameters by Dictionary

```
def mult_div(a, b):
     """ multiply & divide two numbers
                                              11 11 11
     result = a * b, a / b
     return result
kwargs = {'a': 10, 'b': 20}
x, y = mult_div(**kwargs)
         Global frame
                            function
                            mult div(a, b)
          mult div
           kwargs
                            dict
         mult_div
              a 10
                 20
```

• syntax: function(**dict)

Optional Parameters

```
def mult_div(a, b = 20):
     """ multiply & divide two numbers
                                               11 11 11
     result = a * b, a / b
     return result
x = 10
result = mult_div(x)
         Global frame
                            function
                            mult_div(a, b)
         mult div
                           default arguments:
              x 10
         mult div
              a 10
              b 20
```

• bound upon creation

Function Signatures

```
def mult_div(a, b = 20):
    """ multiply & divide two numbers """
    result = a * b, a / b
    return result

x = 10; y = 20
kwargs = {'a': 10, 'b': 20}

results = mult_div(x)
results = mult_div(x, y)
results = mult_div(b = y, a = x)
results = mult_div(**kwargs)
```

 \bullet same name \mapsto same function

• show three ways to pass parameters to function f(a, d, n) that returns a list of first n values in arithmetic progression A(a, d)

• show three ways to pass parameters to function g(b, q, n) that returns a list of first n values in geometric progression G(b, q)

Variable Positional Args

```
def multiple_add(*args):
     result = 0
     for e in args:
          result = result + e
     return result
x = multiple_add();
y = multiple_add(1, 2)
z = multiple_add(1, 2, 3)
      Global frame
                            multiple_add(*args)
      multiple_add
               X
                            tuple
                 3
               У
                             1
                                   3
      multiple_add
             args
            result
                  3
            Return
             value
```

Parameter Passing

- call by value:
 - 1. parameters are copied
 - 2. changes to parameters are **not visible**
- call by reference:
 - 1. pointers to parameters are passed
 - 2. changes to parameters are visible
- Python: call by assignment

Call by value in C/C++

```
int main() {

void increment(int a) {
    a = a + 1; }

int x = 10;
inc_value(x);
printf("%d", x); }

main

x int
increment.1596
    a int
11
```

• changes are not visible

Call by reference in C/C++

```
int main() {

void increment(int* a) {
    *a = *a + 1; }

int x = 10;
increment(&x);
printf("%d", x); }

main

x int
increment.1596
    a pointer
```

• changes are visible

Mutable Parameter

• "in-place" \mapsto by reference

Mutable Parameter

```
def sort_list_2(x):
     x = sorted(x)
          return x
x_{list} = [3,1,2]
x_list = sort_list_2(x_list)
          Global frame
                               sort list 2(x)
          sort list 2
              x_list
                               list
                               0
                                3
                                   1
          sort_list_2
                               list
                                   2
                                1
```

• new object \mapsto by value

Immutable Parameter

```
def upper_case(x):
     x = x.upper()
     return x
x_str = 'pineapple'
y_str = upper_case(x_str)
     Global frame
                                    function
                                    upper case(x)
      upper_case
                "pineapple"
           x str
     upper_case
                 "PINEAPPLE"
          Return
                 "PINEAPPLE"
           value
```

- cannot modify "in-place"
- \bullet new object \mapsto by value

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Exercise(s):

• write a function check_arith that takes a list of values and determines if this list is an arithmetic progression.

• write a function $arith_{-}1()$ that takes $x_{-}list$ of values. If it is an arithmetic progression, it adds next value to x list.

```
x_list = [1,3,5,7]
# input is OK, add 9
x_list = [1,3,5,7,9]
```

```
x_list = [1,3,5,17]
# input is not OK
x_list = [1,3,5,17]
```

• write a function $arith_2()$ that takes x_list of values. If it is an arithmetic progression, it returns a y_list from x_list and the next value.

```
x_list = [1,3,5,7]
# input is OK
y_list = [1,3,5,7,9]
```

```
x_list = [1,3,5,17]
# input is not OK
y_list = [1,3,5,17]
```

• write a function *check_geom* that takes a list of values and determines if this list is a geometric progression.

• write a function $geom_{-}1()$ that takes $z_{-}list$ of values. If it is a geometric progression, it adds next value to z list.

```
z_list = [1,3,9,27]
# input is OK, add 81
z_list = [1,3,9,27,81]
```

```
z_list = [1,3,30,50]
# input is not OK
z_list = [1,3,30,50]
```

• write a function $geom_2()$ that takes z_list of values. If it is a geometric progression, it returns a w_list from z_list and the next value.

```
z_list = [1,3,9,27]
# input is OK, add 81
w_list = [1,3,9,27,81]
```

```
z_list = [1,3,30,50]
# input is not OK
w_list = [1,3,30,50]
```