

Consider the following fragment of Python code:

```
import pandas as pd

column_names = ["col1", "col2", "col3"]
values = [("a", 0, 1),
          ("a", 1, 1),
          ("b", 0, 0)]

d = pd.DataFrame(values, columns=column_names)

def mysterious_function(val):
    if val == 0: return val * 7 + 1
    return val * 2

d["col4"] = d["col3"].apply(mysterious_function)

d.groupby("col1").col4.sum()
```

1. Qualitatively explain what the program does and describe the expected output.

The code creates a pandas DataFrame using the three tuples in values as rows.

A fourth column is added applying mysterious_function to the values of column col3. The function returns 1 if value is 0, else it returns the double of value.

Finally, the records are grouped by col1 values and the values of col4 in each group are summed, leading to:

```
a 4
b 1
```

2. Implement an alternative mysterious_function that returns a list of all the integers from 0 to val included.

```
def mysterious_function(val):
    return list(range(0, val + 1))
```

3. Choose a pure Python data structure to store the output of the code execution, and motivate your choice

After grouping, col1 values are unique, each one corresponding to the sum of col4 calculated per group. A Python dictionary would be a natural choice for key / value pairs.