

# [220] Files

Meena Syamkumar  
Mike Doescher

# Relation to Recent Topics...

1

file objects are a type of iterator (lecture 24)

2

exceptions occur a lot with files (lecture 25)  
*not found, out of space, no permissions, etc*

# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

- opening/closing
- reading/writing

## OS module

- listdir, mkdir, exists, isdir, isfile, join

## File exceptions

## Encodings

# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

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## File exceptions

## Encodings

# File objects

The diagram illustrates the process of opening a file in Python. It features a code block with the following lines:

```
f = open(path)
# read data from f
# OR
# write data to f

f.close()
```

Three red arrows point from text labels to the code:

- An arrow from "built-in open function" points to the `open` function in the first line.
- An arrow from "file object" points to the variable `f` in the first line.
- An arrow from "file path" points to the `path` argument in the first line.

# File objects

main.py:

```
f = open("file.txt")
```

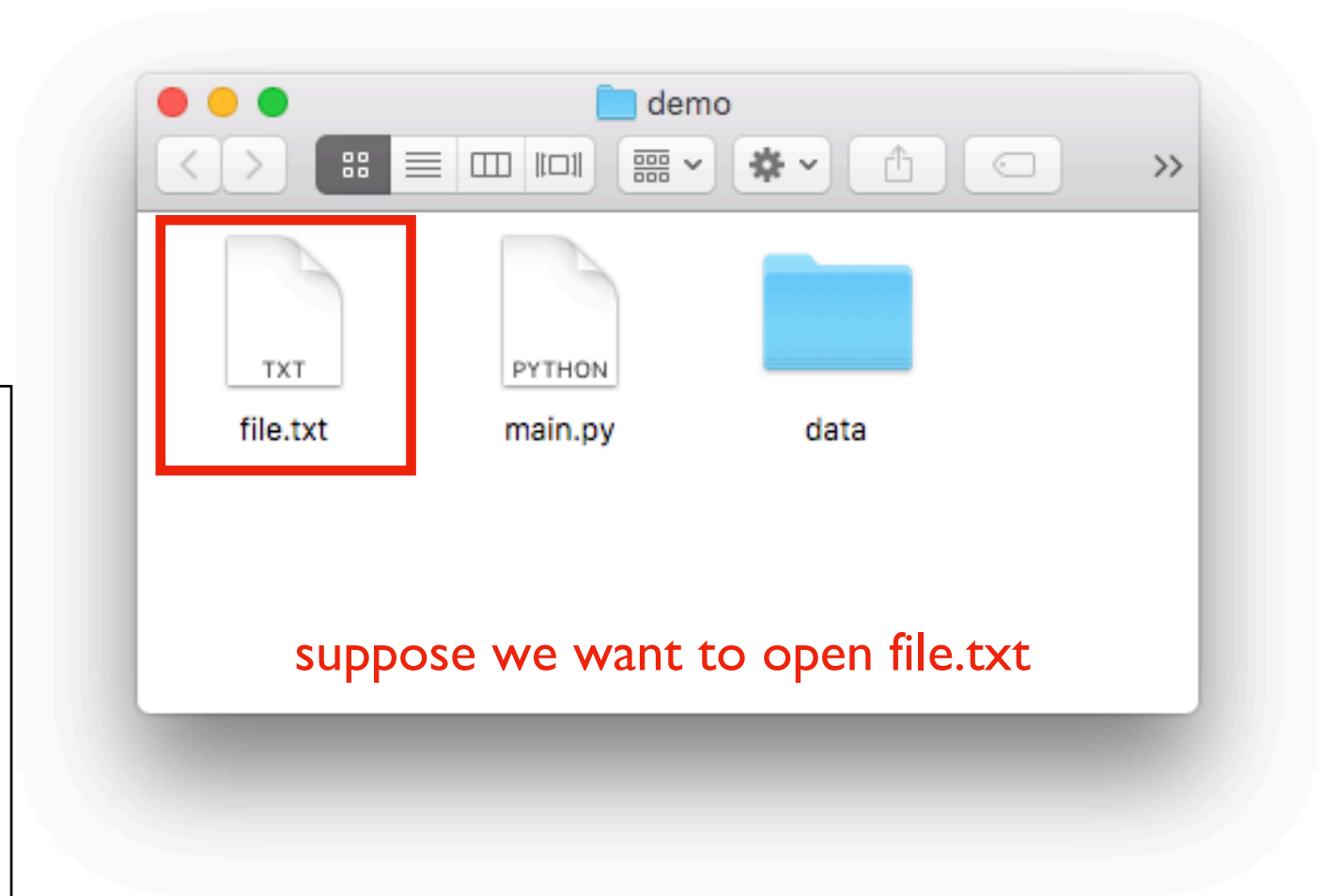
built-in open function

file object

file path

```
# read data from f  
# OR  
# write data to f
```

```
f.close()
```



# File objects

main.py:

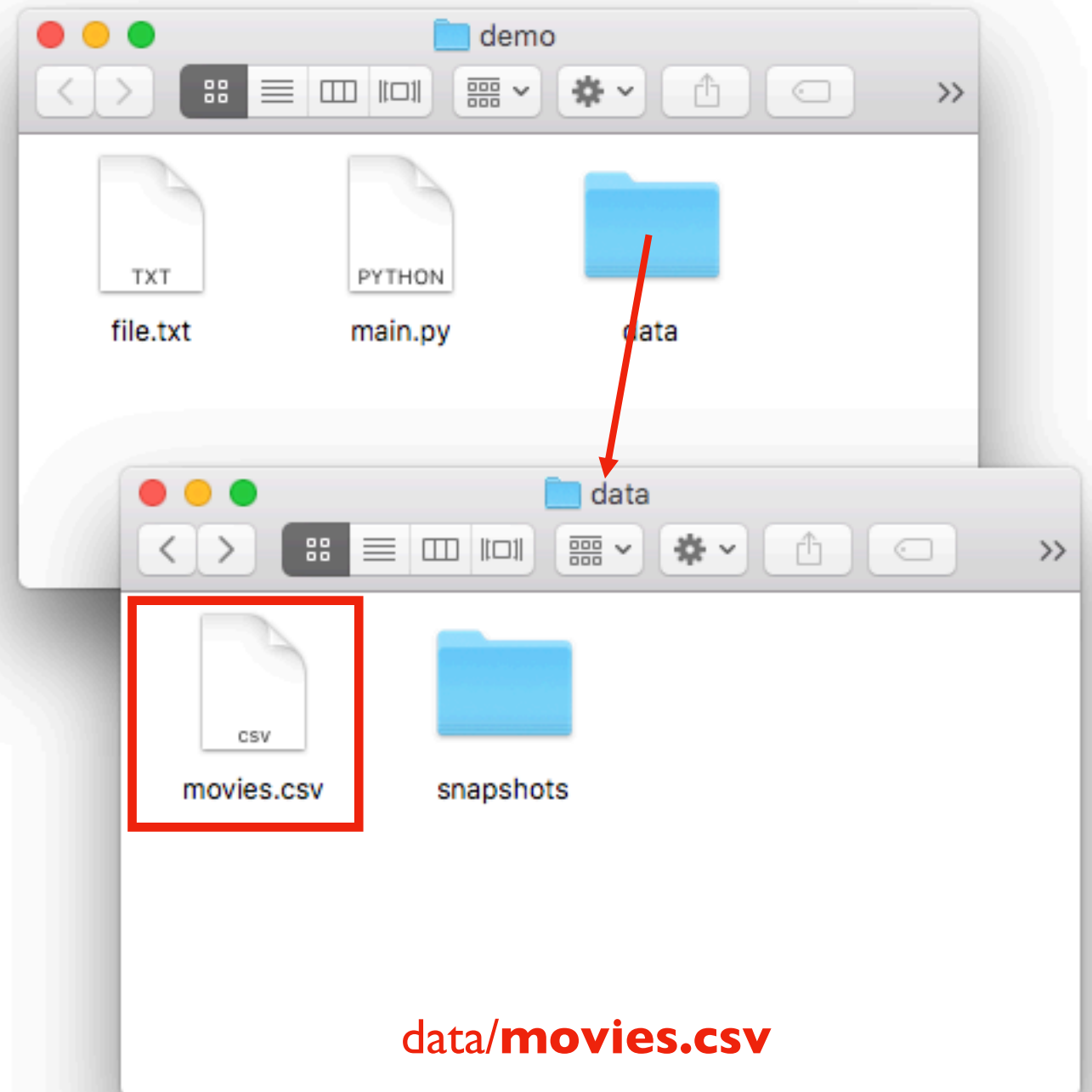
```
f = open(  
    "data/movies.csv")
```

file object

file path

```
# read data from f  
# OR  
# write data to f
```

```
f.close()
```



# File objects

main.py:

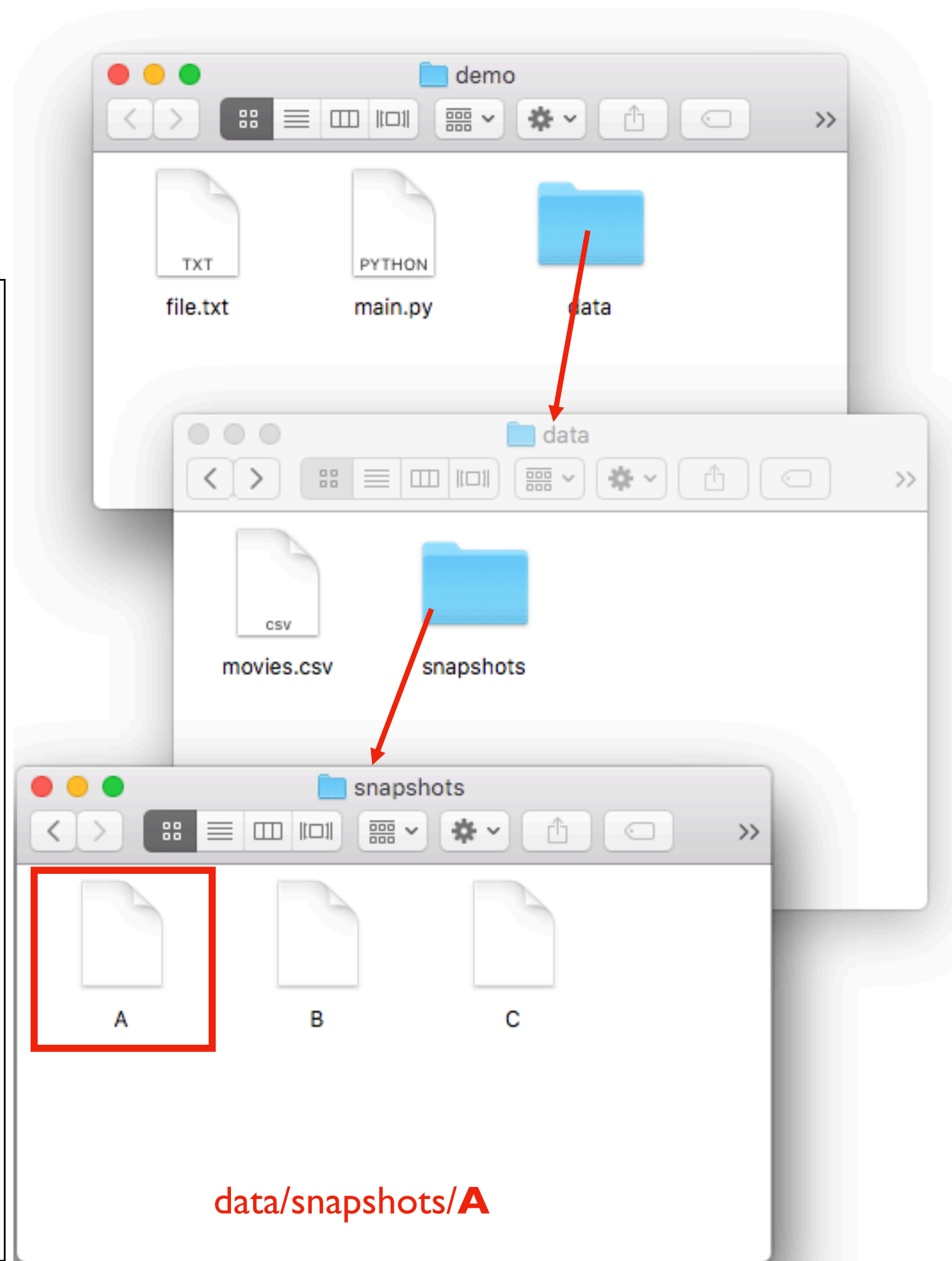
```
f = open(  
    "data/snapshots/A")
```

file object

file path

```
# read data from f  
# OR  
# write data to f
```

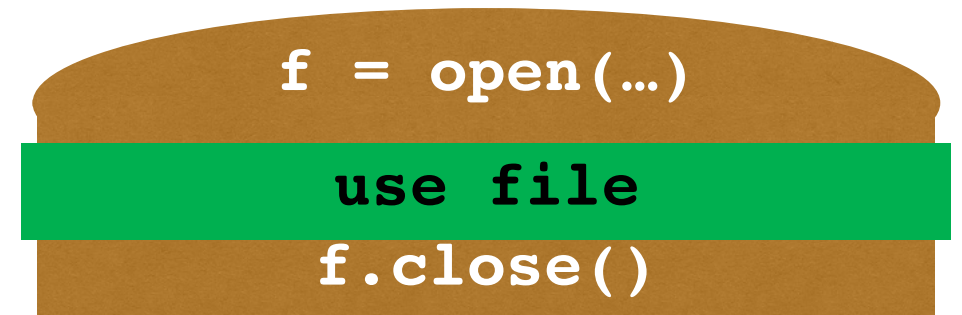
```
f.close()
```





# File objects

imagine a *file object* as a *sandwich*...



main.py: `f = open("file.txt")`

```
# read data from f  
# OR  
# write data to f
```

using file

```
f.close()
```

cleanup

## Reasons for closing

- avoid data loss
- limited number of open files

# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

- opening/closing
- reading/writing

## OS module

- listdir, mkdir, exists, isdir, isfile, join

## File exceptions

## Encodings

# Reading a file

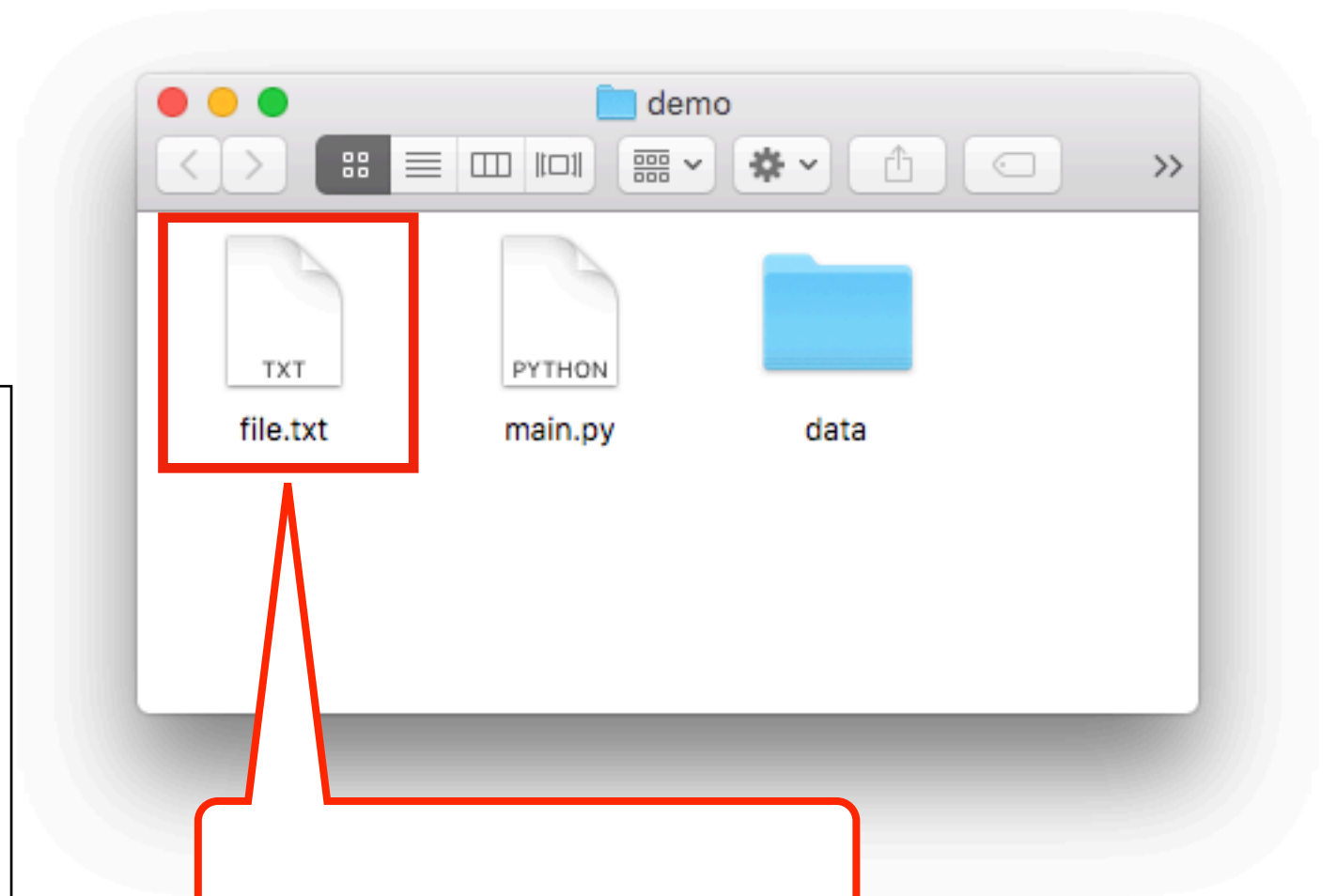
```
f = open("file.txt")
```

```
# read data from f
```

```
# OR
```

```
# write data to f
```

```
f.close()
```



I promise  
to always  
close my files

# Reading a file

```
f = open("file.txt")
```

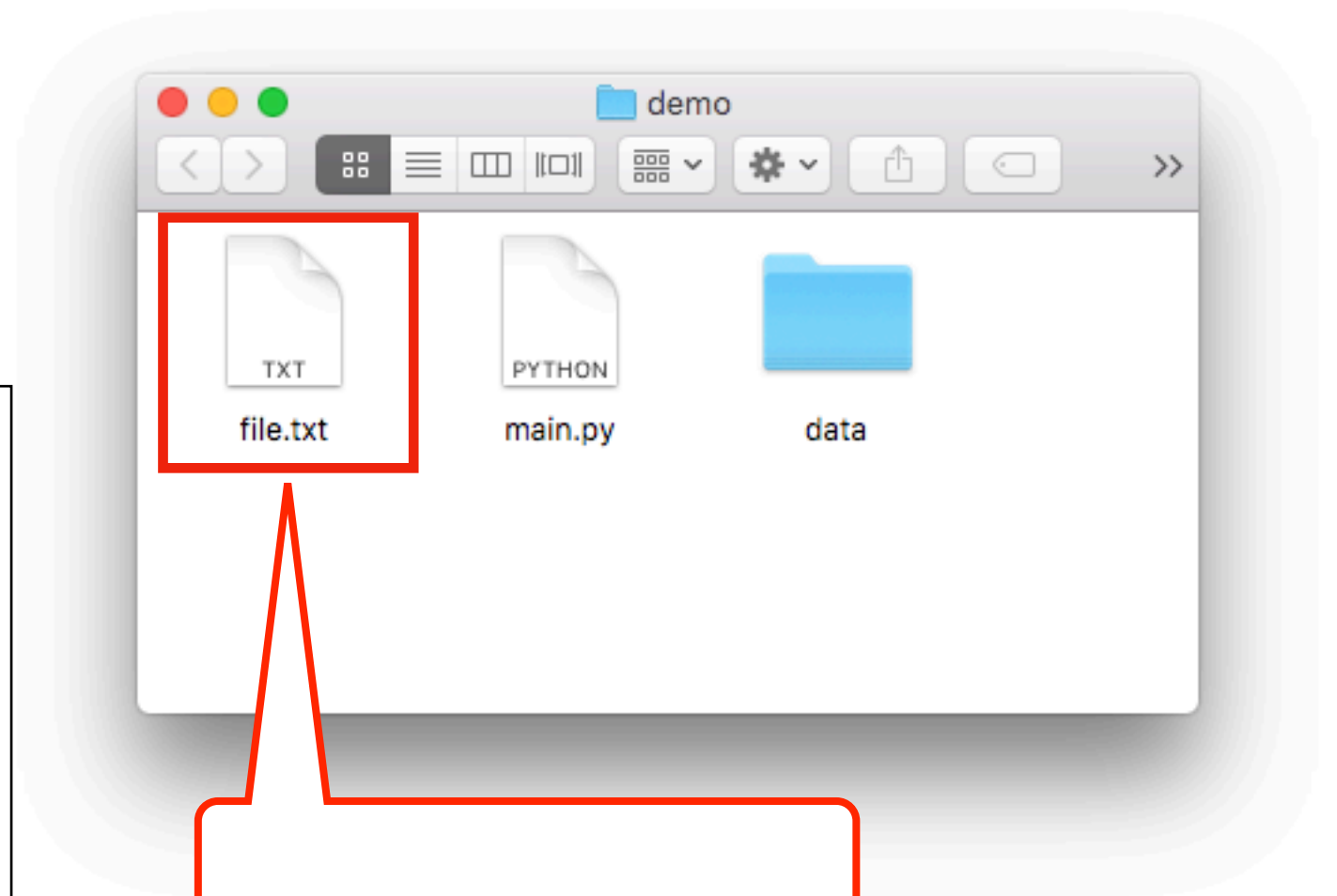
```
data = f.read()
```

Option 1

```
print(data)
```

```
f.close()
```

data is: "I promise\n to always\nclose my files"



I promise  
to always  
close my files

`read()` method

- fetch entire file contents
- return as a string

# Reading a file

```
f = open("file.txt")
```

```
# read data from f
```

```
# OR
```

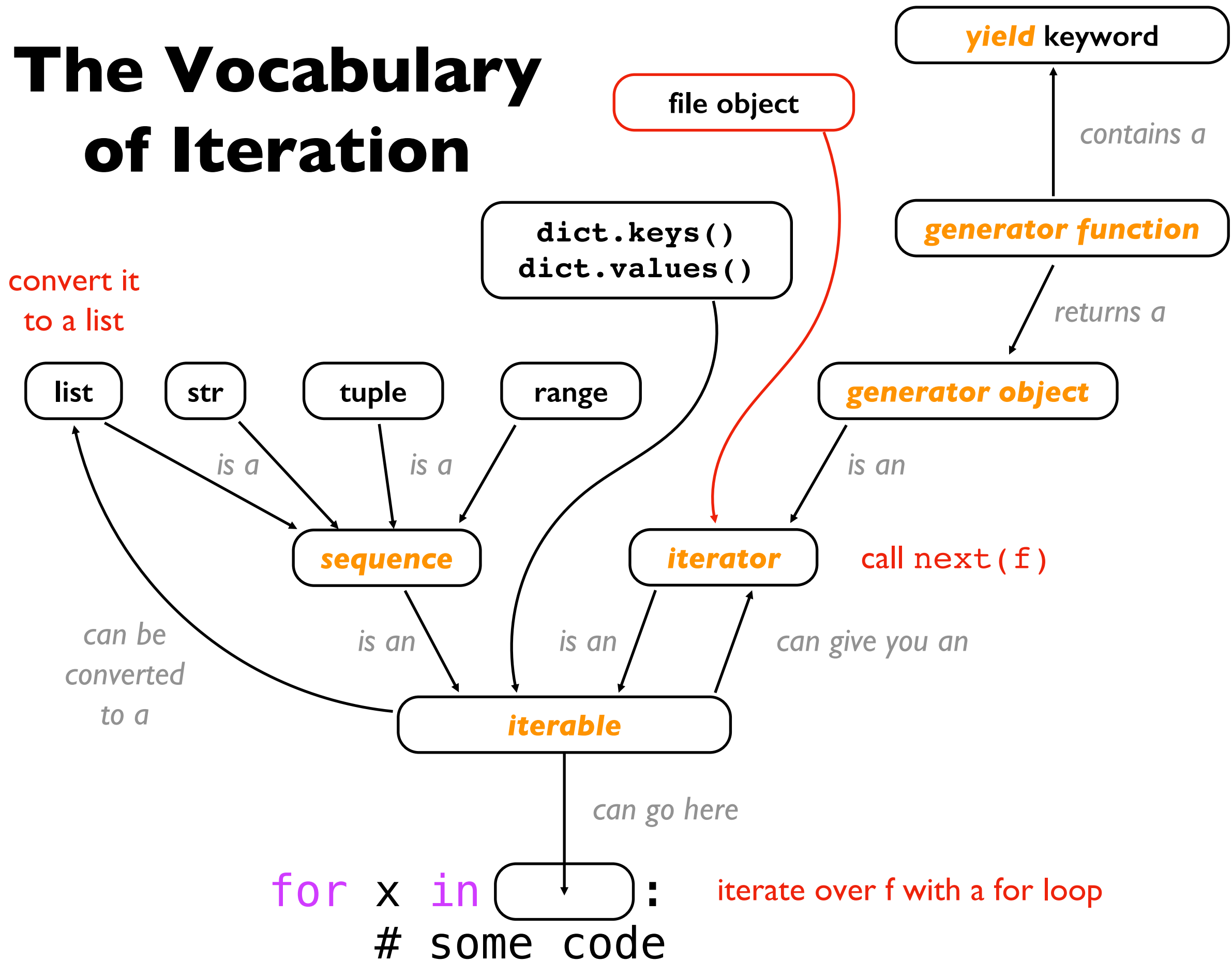
```
# write data to f
```

```
f.close()
```

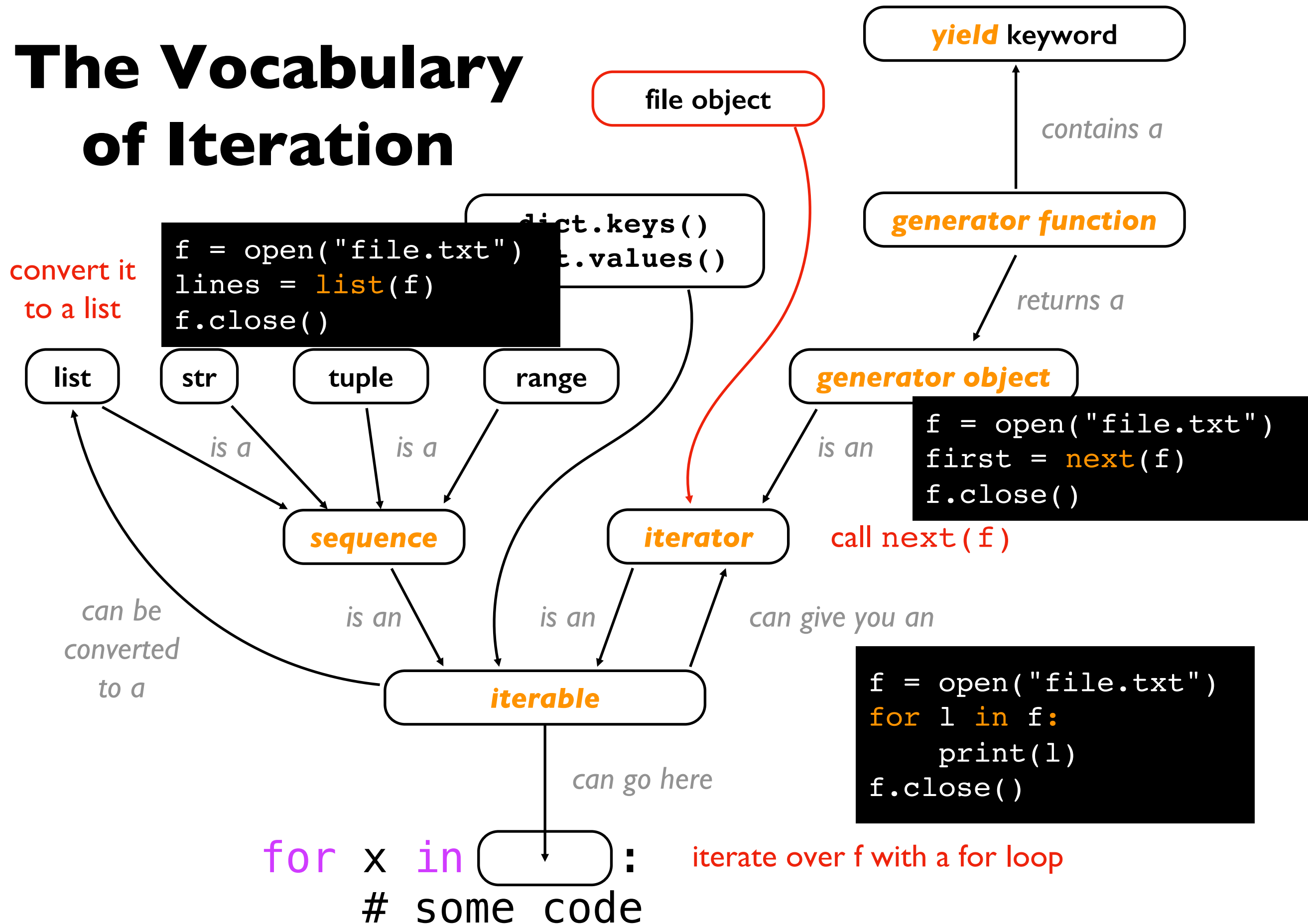
Option 2

file objects are iterators!

# The Vocabulary of Iteration



# The Vocabulary of Iteration



# Write a file

“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

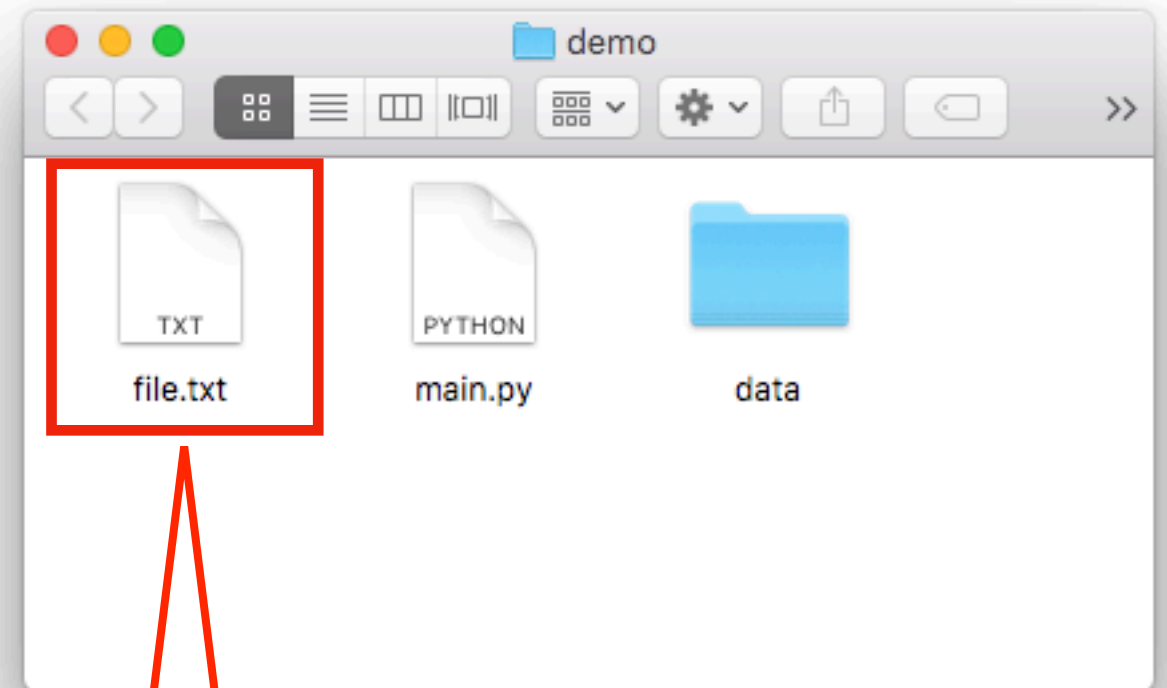
```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```

```
# read data from f
```

```
# OR
```

```
# write data to f
```

```
f.close()
```

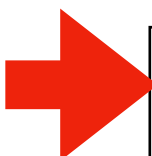


**I promise  
to always  
close my files**



# Write a file

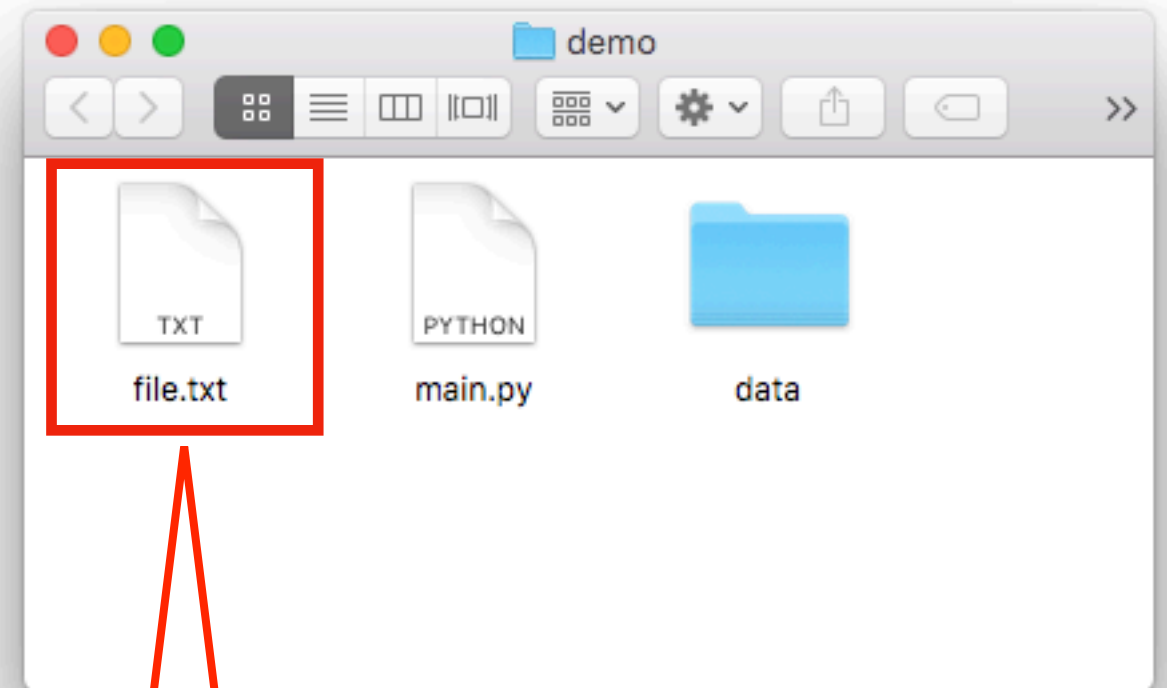
“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file



```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```

```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!\n")
```

```
f.close()
```



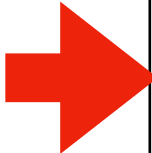
I promise  
to always  
close my files

**let's run it!**

# Write a file

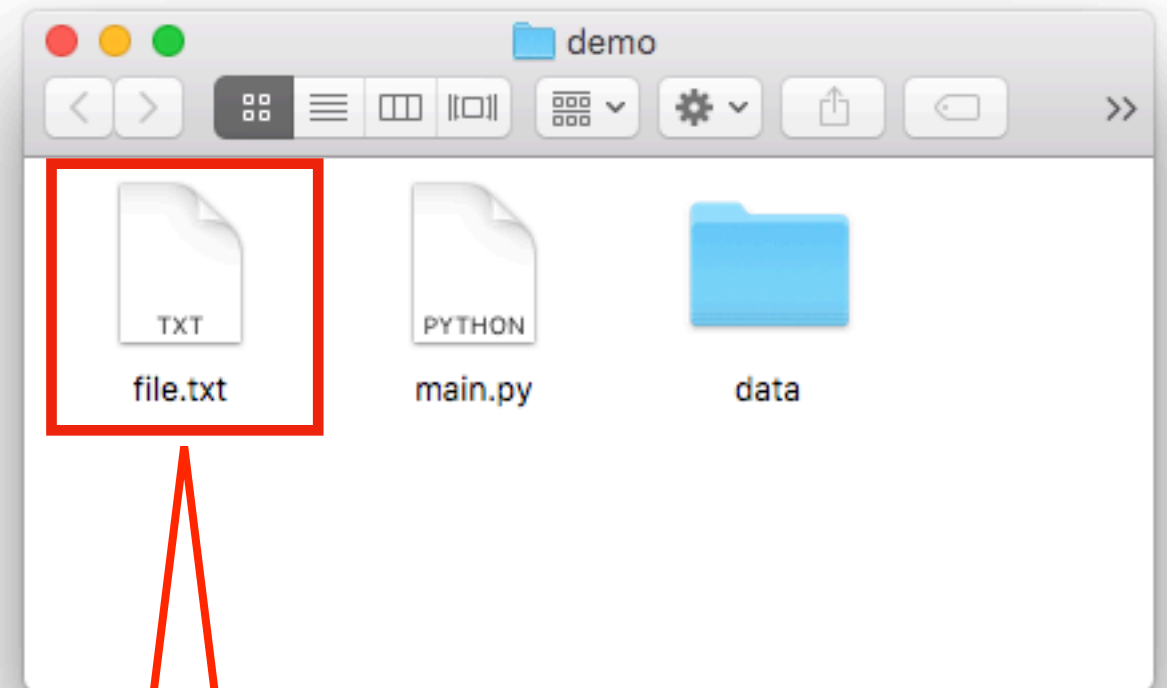
“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```



```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!\n")
```

```
f.close()
```



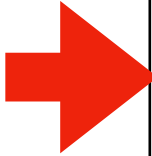
opening with “w” is dangerous. It immediately wipes out your file.

(or creates a new one if there isn't already a file.txt)

# Write a file

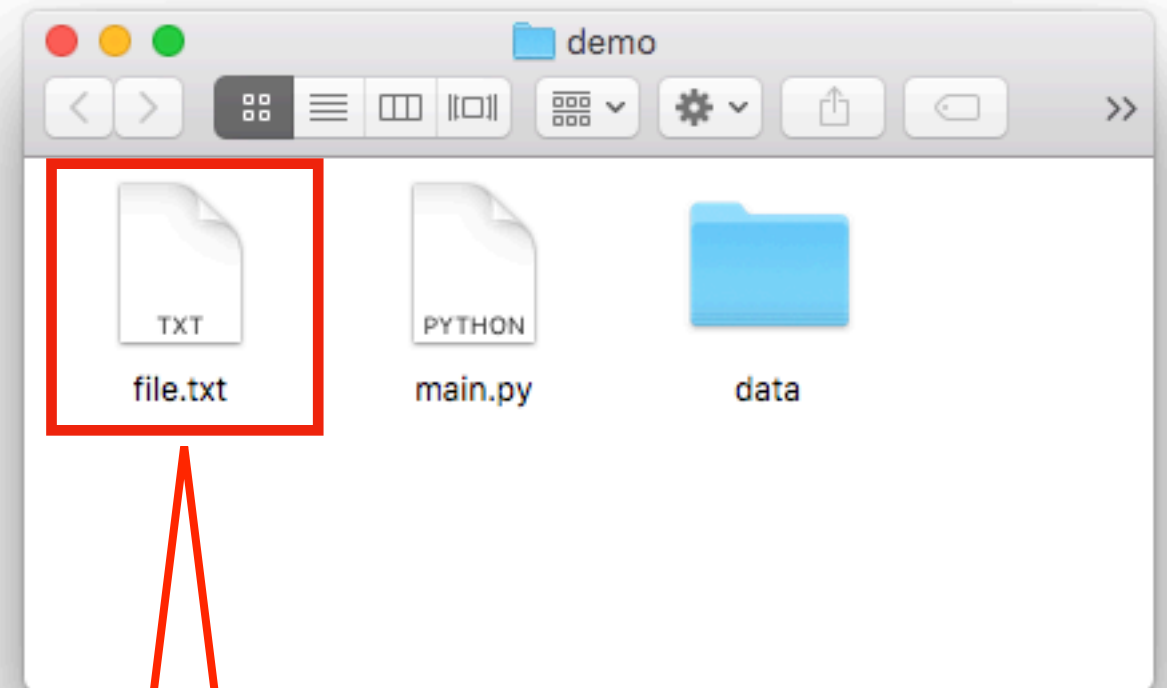
“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```



```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!\n")
```

```
f.close()
```



hello

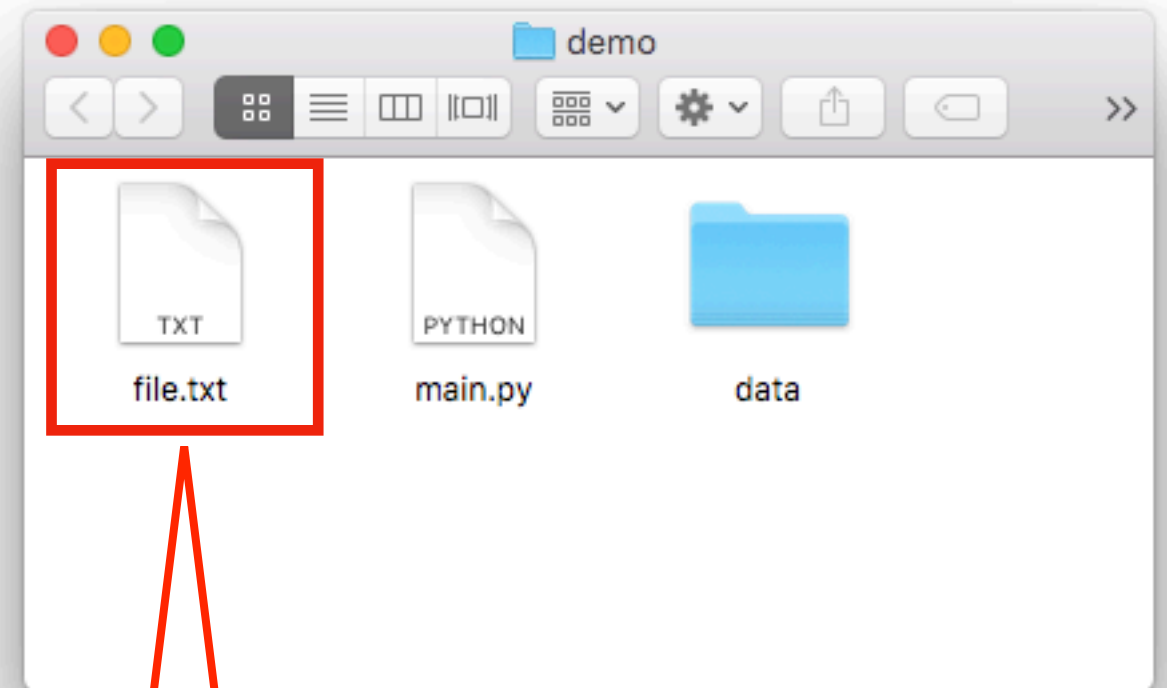
# Write a file

“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```

```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!\n")
```

```
f.close()
```



hello world

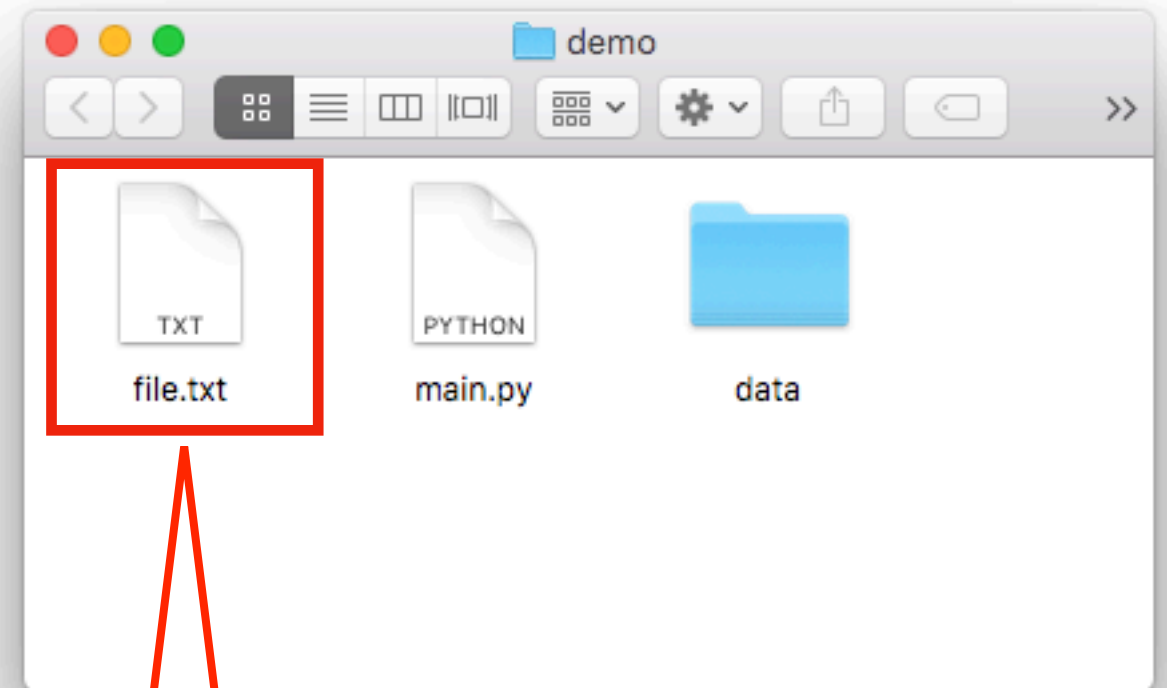
# Write a file

“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```

```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!!\n")
```

➔ `f.close()`



hello world  
!!!!!!

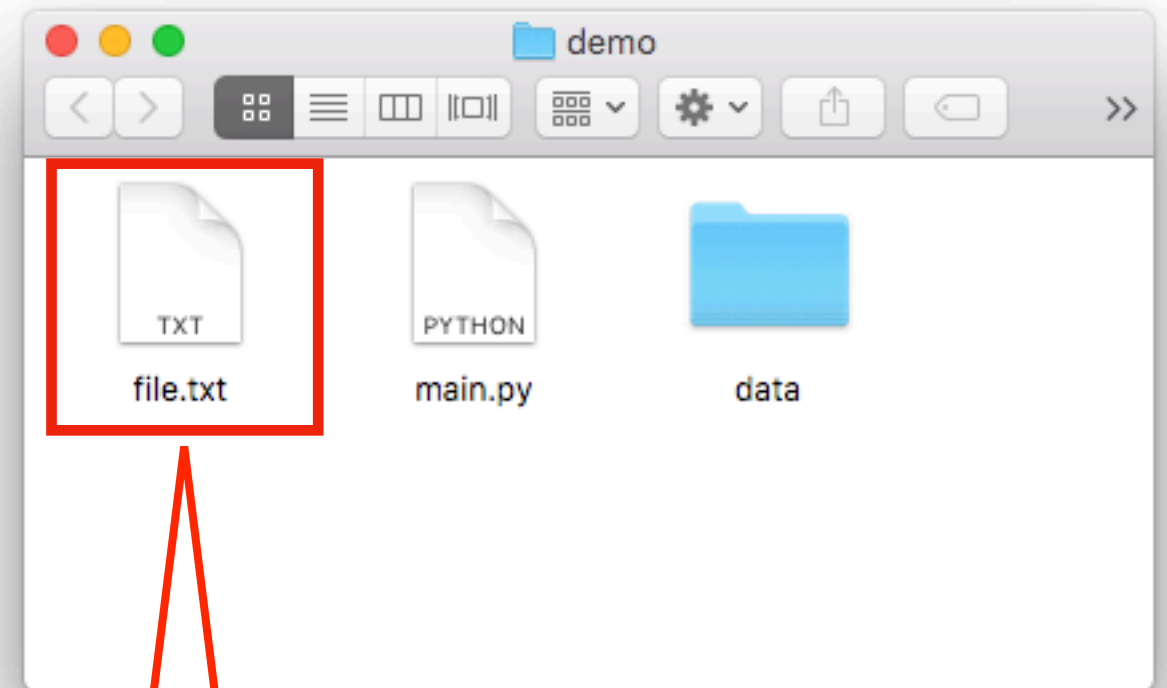
# Write a file

“w” mode indicates we want to write to this file

```
f = open("file.txt", "w")
```

```
f.write("hello")  
f.write(" world\n")  
f.write("!!!!!\n")
```

```
f.close()
```



hello world  
!!!!!!

**be careful with newlines**  
(write doesn't add them like print does)

# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

- opening/closing
- reading/writing

## OS module

- `listdir`, `makedirs`, `exists`, `isdir`, `isfile`, `join`

## File exceptions

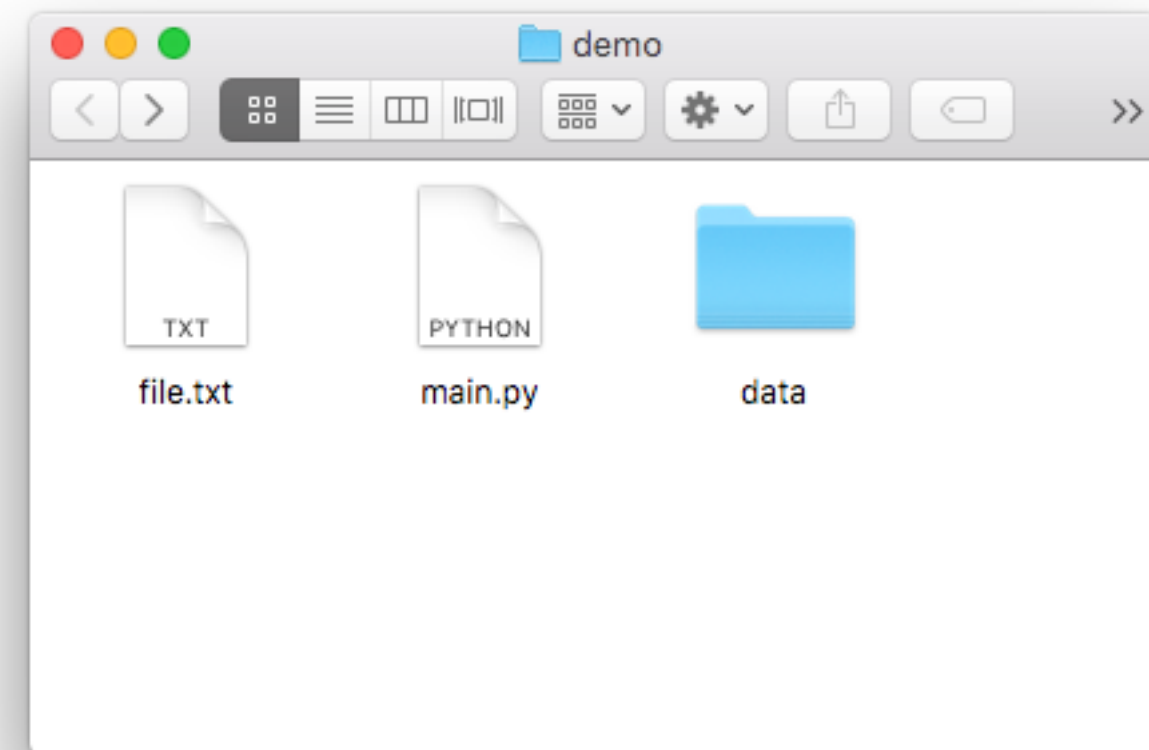
## Encodings

# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- **`os.listdir`**
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- `os.path.join`

```
>>> import os
>>> os.listdir(".")
["file.txt", "main.py", "data"]
```



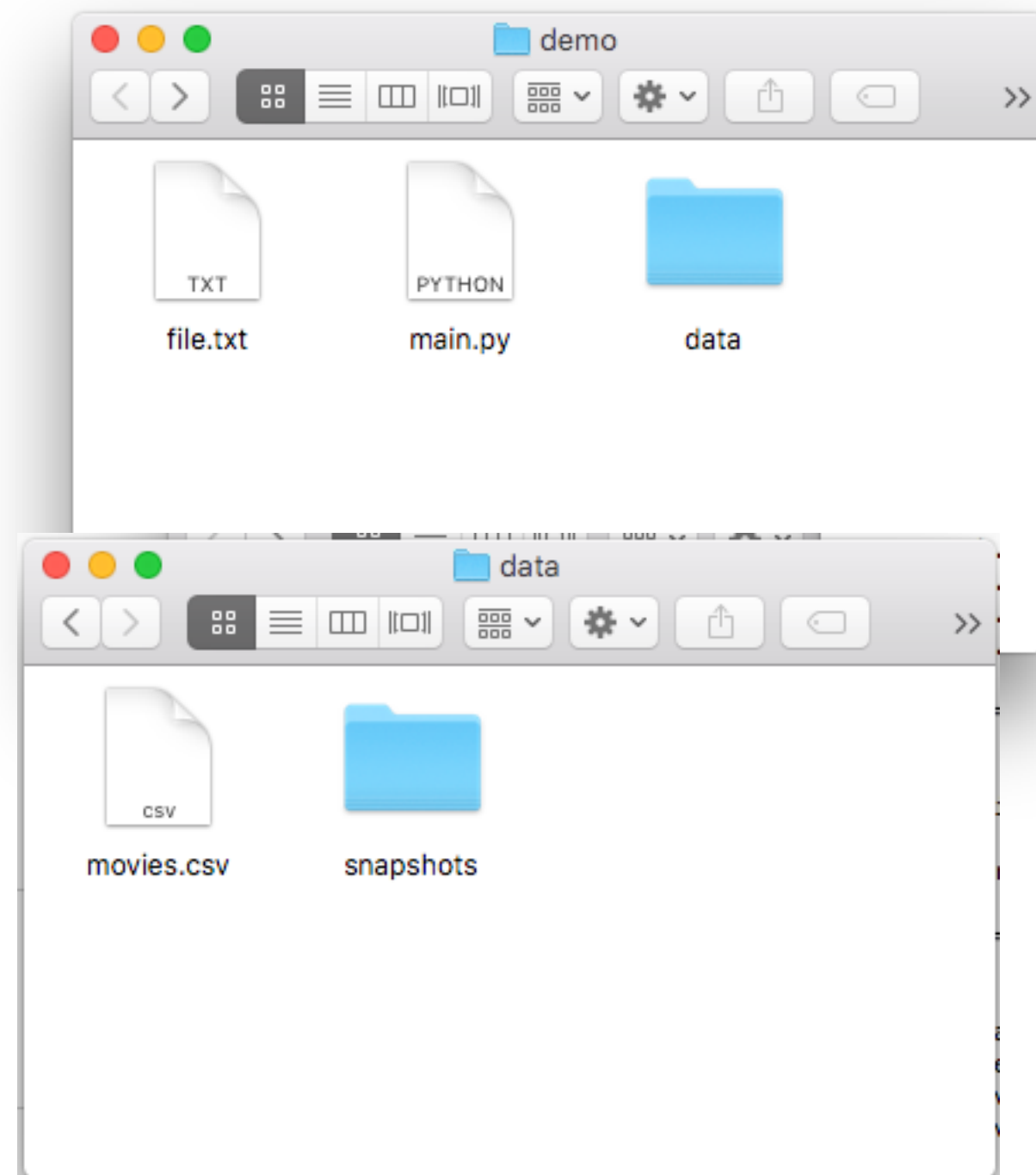


# OS Module (Operating System)

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- **`os.listdir`**
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- `os.path.join`

```
>>> import os
>>> os.listdir("data")
["movies.csv", "snapshots"]
```

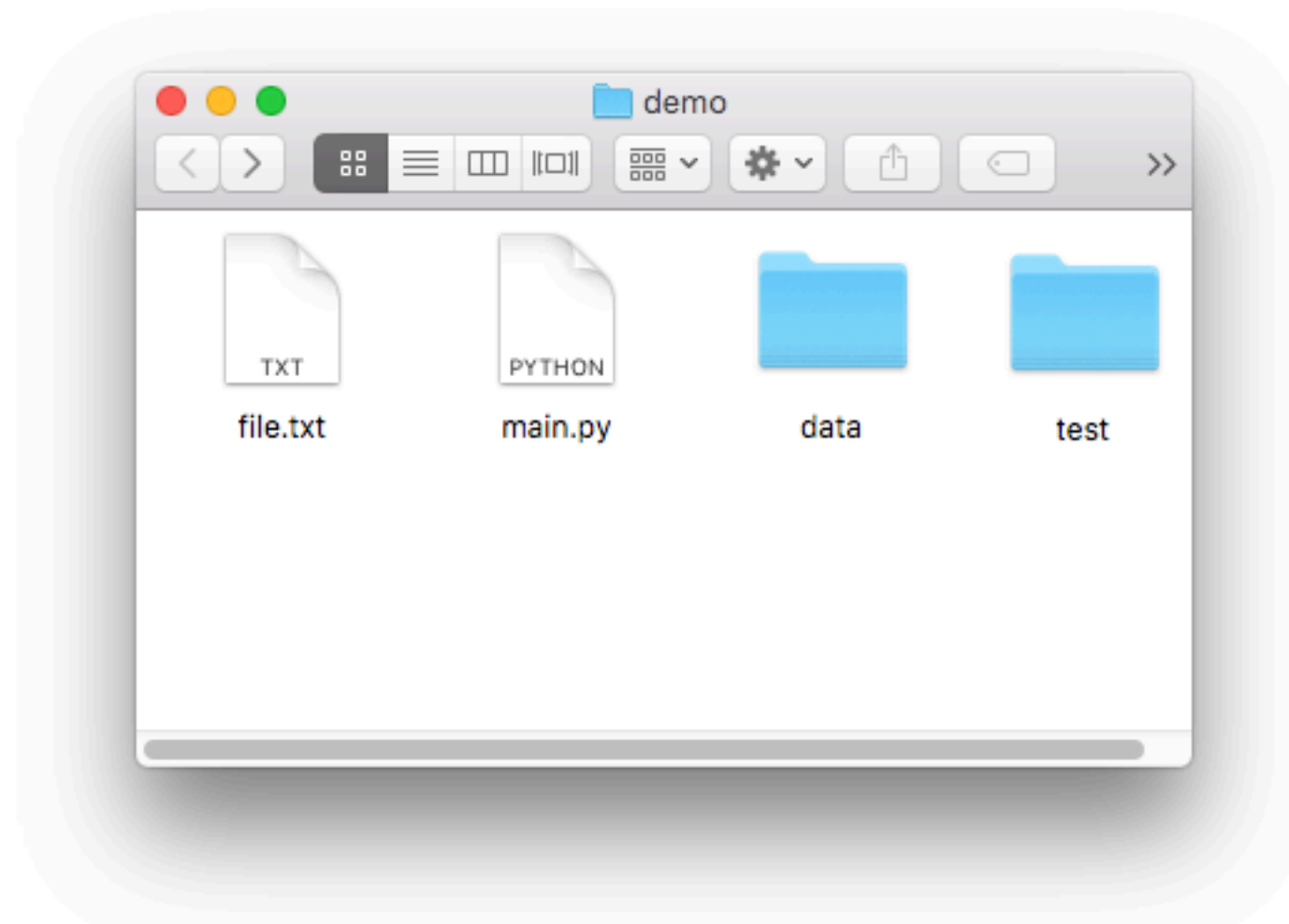


# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- **`os.mkdir`**
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- `os.path.join`

```
>>> import os  
>>> os.mkdir("test")
```

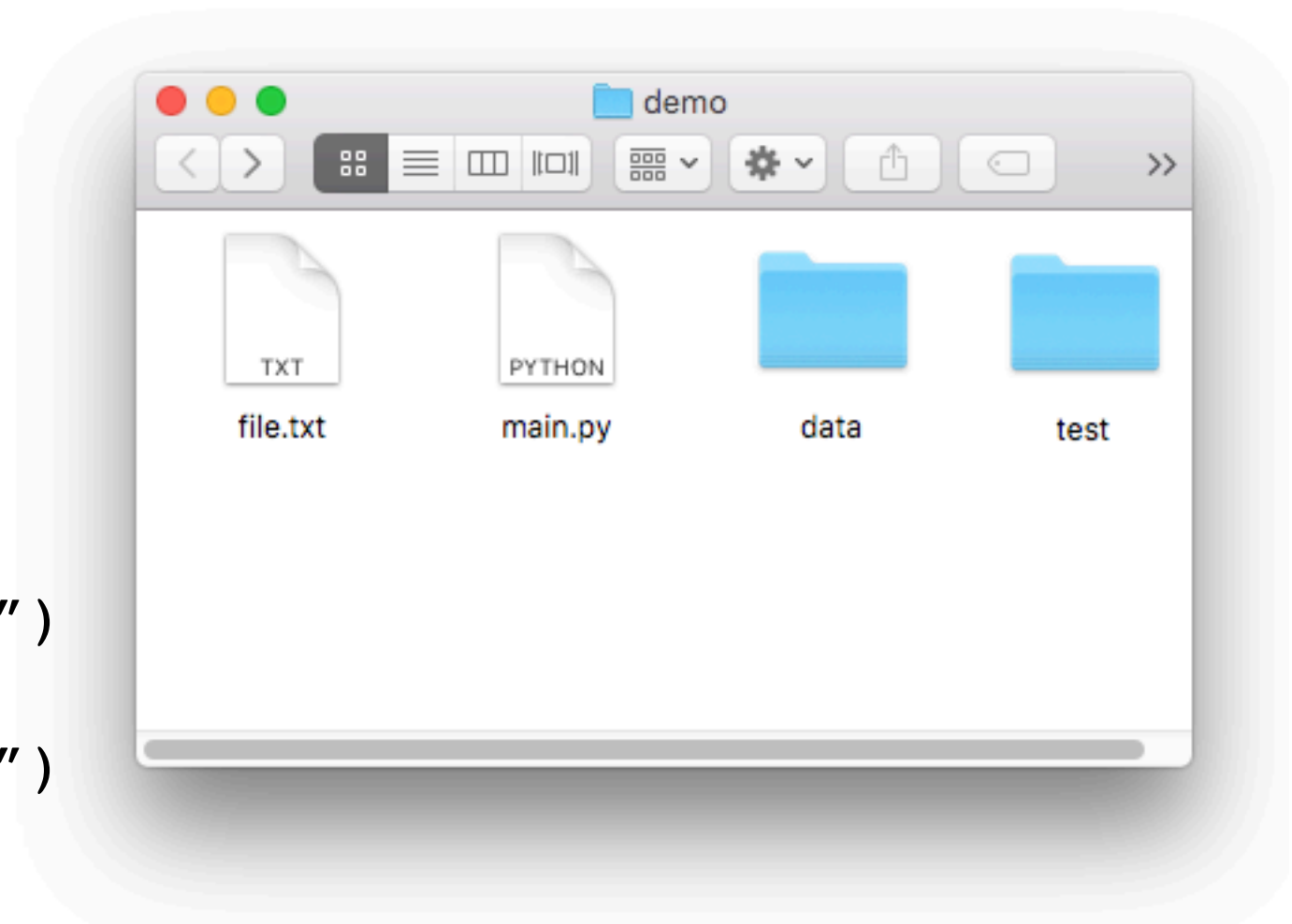


# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- `os.mkdir`
- **`os.path.exists`**
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- `os.path.join`

```
>>> import os
>>> os.path.exists("file.txt")
True
>>> os.path.exists("haha.txt")
False
```

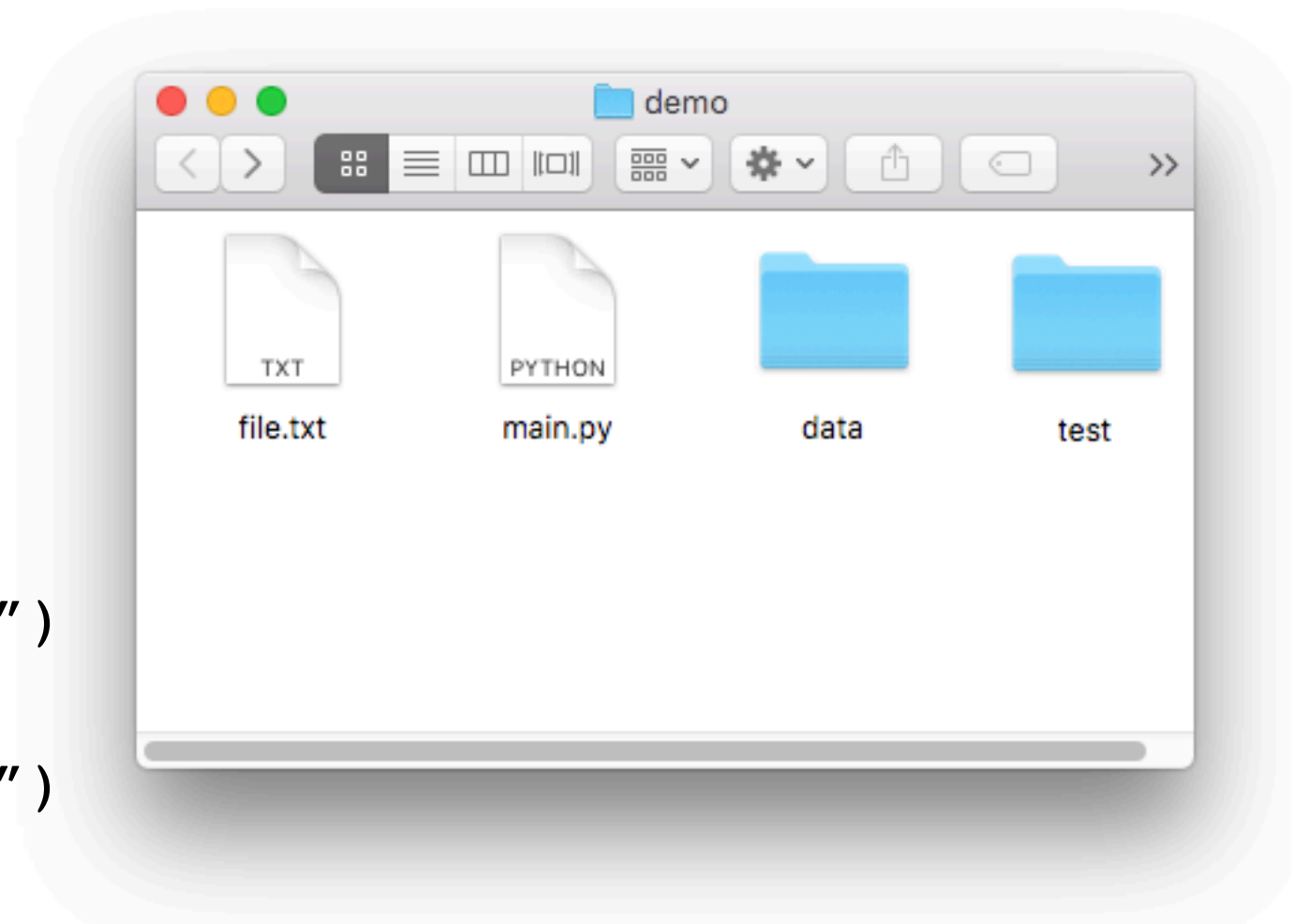


# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- **`os.path.isfile`**
- `os.path.isdir`
- `os.path.join`

```
>>> import os
>>> os.path.isfile("haha.txt")
False
>>> os.path.isfile("file.txt")
True
>>> os.path.isfile("data")
False
```

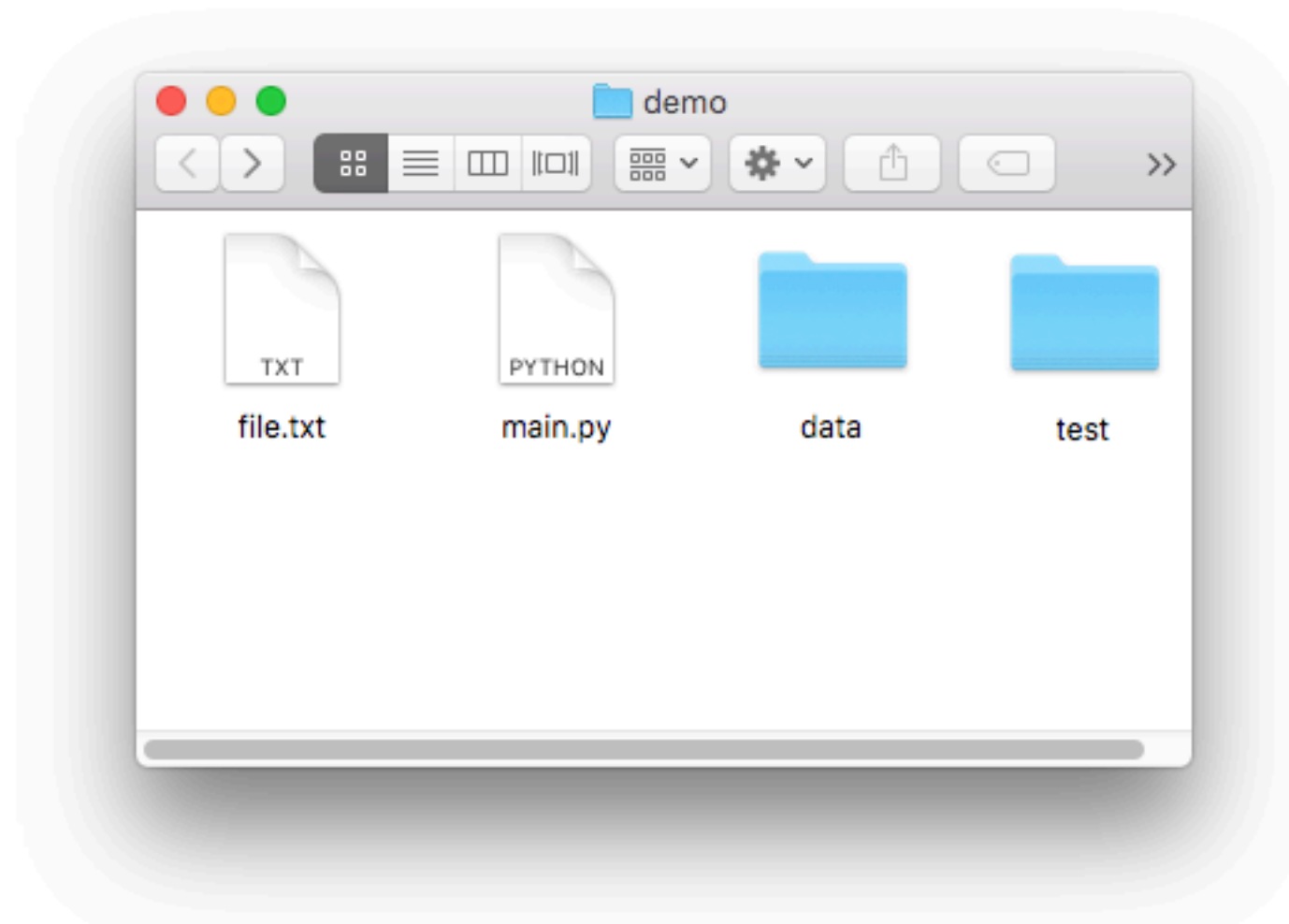


# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- **`os.path.isdir`**
- `os.path.join`

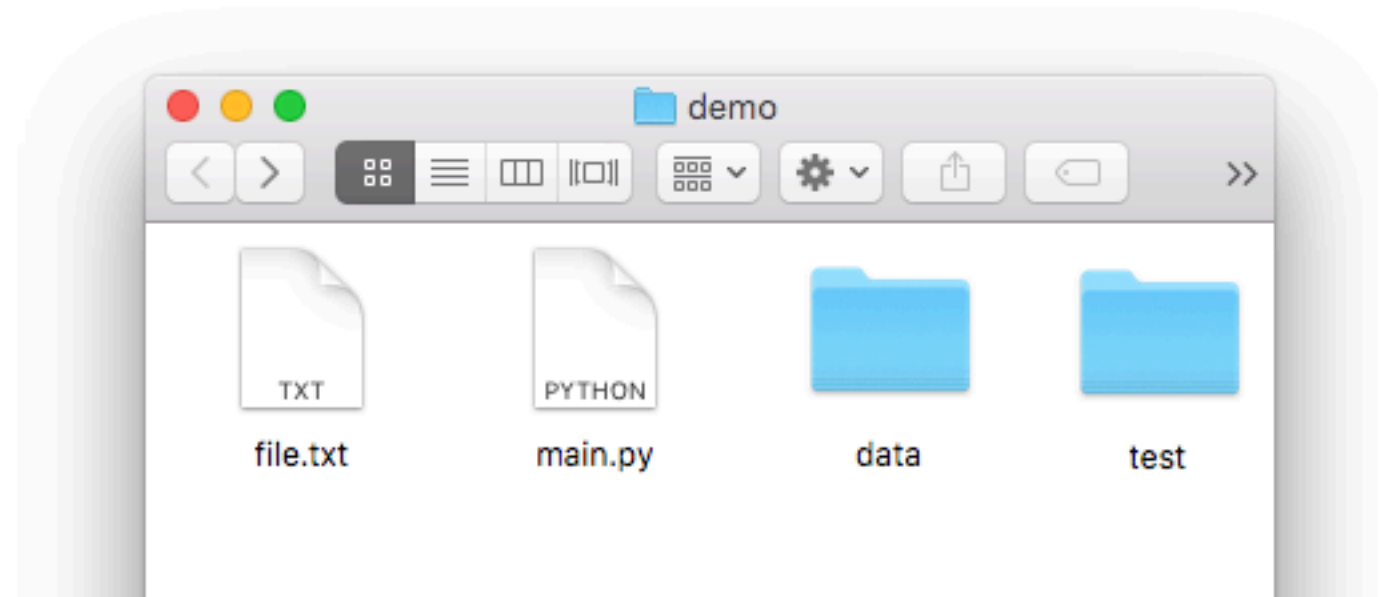
```
>>> import os
>>> os.path.isdir("data")
True
```



# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- **`os.path.join`**



```
>>> import os
>>> os.path.join("data", "movies.csv")
data/movies.csv
```

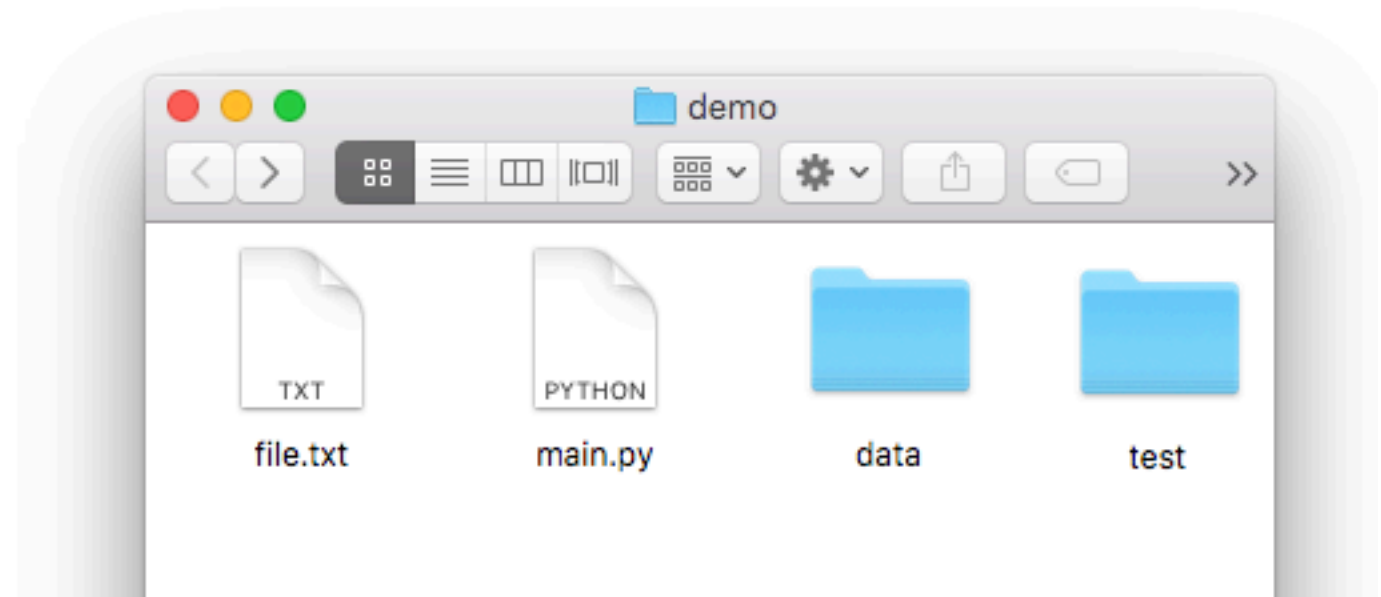


on Mac/Linux

# OS Module (Operating System)

Many functions in `os` and `os.path` for working w/ files

- `os.listdir`
- `os.mkdir`
- `os.path.exists`
- `os.path.isfile`
- `os.path.isdir`
- **`os.path.join`**



```
>>> import os
>>> os.path.join("data", "movies.csv")
data\\movies.csv
```

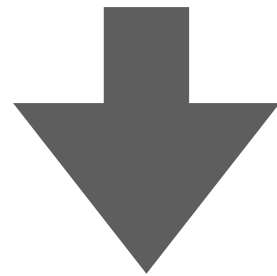


on Windows

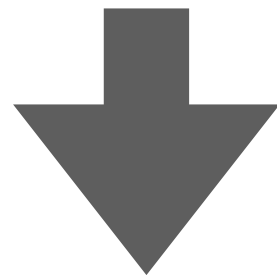
# Windows

## Your project:

```
path = "\".join("data", "movies.csv")  
f = open(path)  
...
```



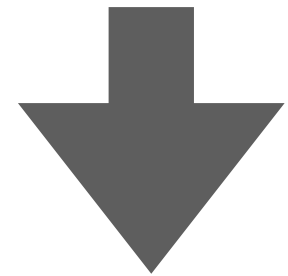
**you run test.py**



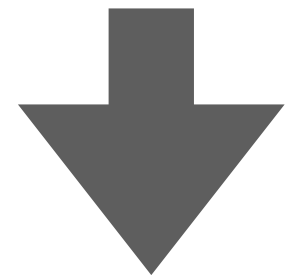
# Linux

**submit**

...



**we run test.py**





# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

- opening/closing
- reading/writing

## OS module

- listdir, mkdir, exists, isdir, isfile, join

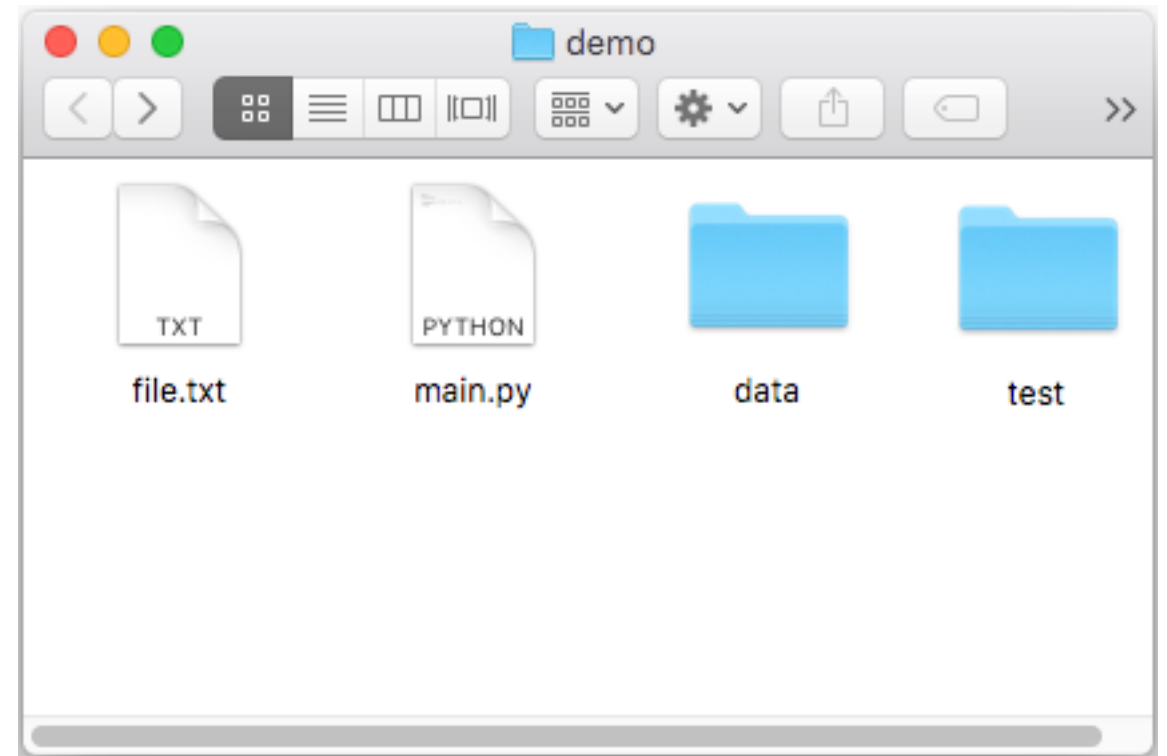
## File exceptions

## Encodings

# Exceptions

Working with files leads to many exceptions

- missing files
- lacking permissions
- not enough space
- mixing up directories and files
- corrupt formats
- etc, etc



```
import os
```

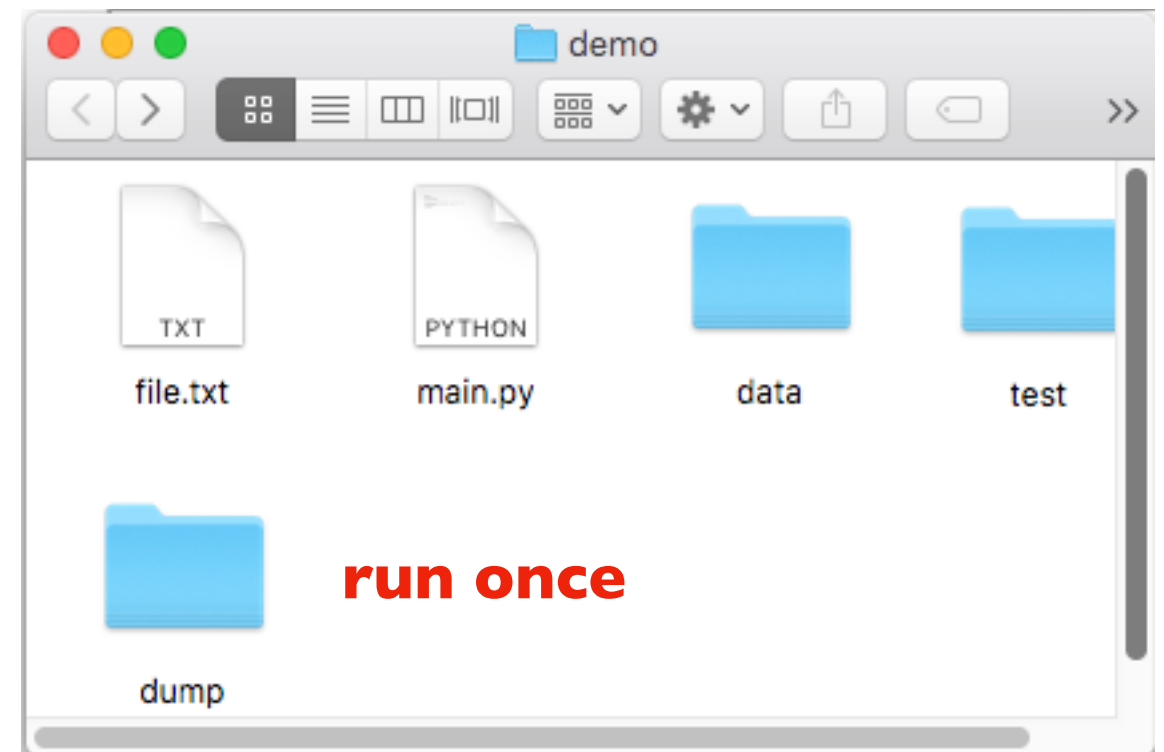
```
os.mkdir('dump')
```

```
f = open(os.path.join('dump', 'out.txt'), 'w')  
f.write('hi')  
f.close()
```

# Exceptions

Working with files leads to many exceptions

- missing files
- lacking permissions
- not enough space
- mixing up directories and files
- corrupt formats
- etc, etc



```
import os
```

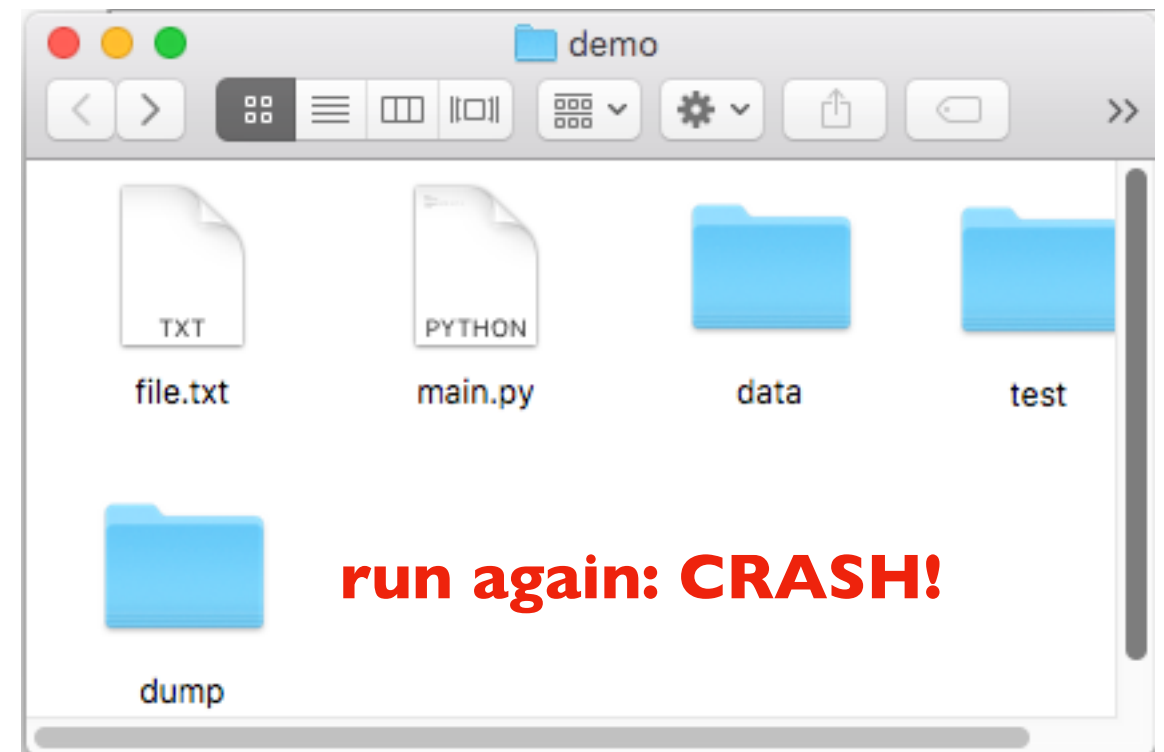
```
os.mkdir('dump')
```

```
f = open(os.path.join('dump', 'out.txt'), 'w')  
f.write('hi')  
f.close()
```

# Exceptions

Working with files leads to many exceptions

- missing files
- lacking permissions
- not enough space
- mixing up directories and files
- corrupt formats
- etc, etc



```
import os
```

```
os.mkdir('dump')
```

```
f = open(os.path.join('dump', 'out.txt'), 'w')
```

```
f.write('hi')
```

```
f.close()
```

Traceback (most recent call last):

File "test2.py", line 3, in <module>

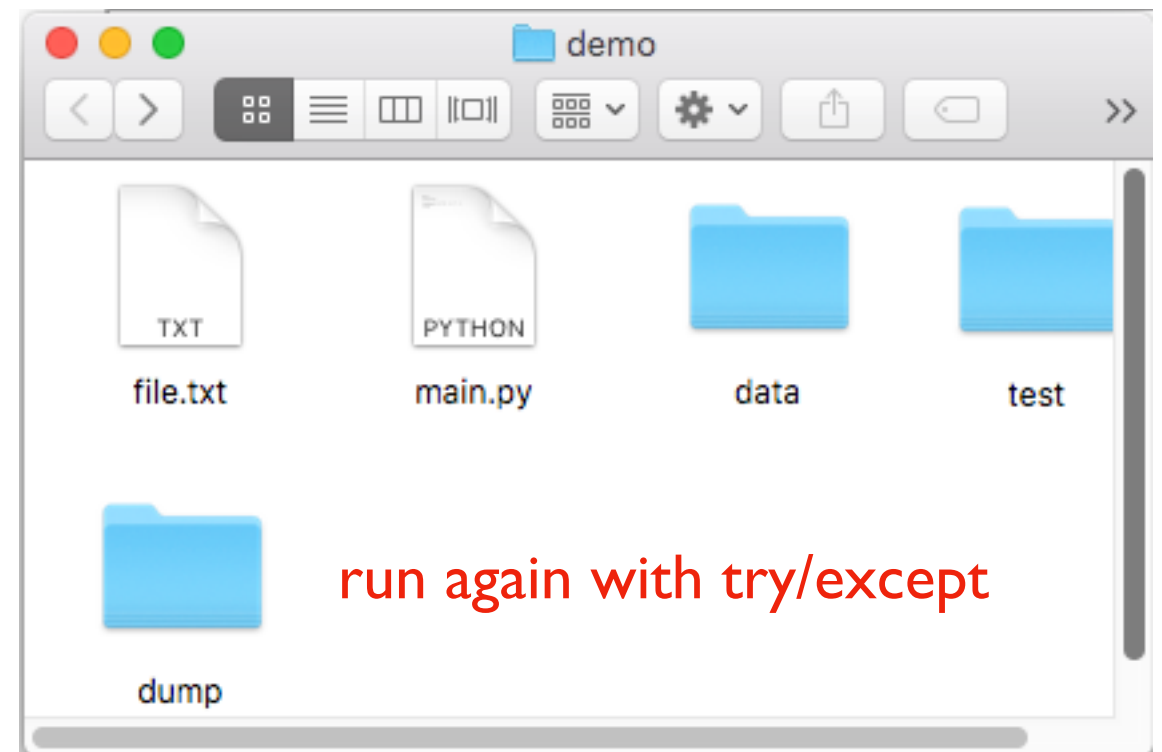
os.mkdir('dump')

FileExistsError: [Errno 17] File exists: 'dump'

# Exceptions

Working with files leads to many exceptions

- missing files
- lacking permissions
- not enough space
- mixing up directories and files
- corrupt formats
- etc, etc



```
import os

try:
    os.mkdir('dump')
except FileExistsError:
    pass # ignore it if dump already existed

f = open(os.path.join('dump', 'out.txt'), 'w')
f.write('hi')
f.close()
```

# Learning Objectives Today

## Basic file interactions

- opening/closing
- reading/writing

## OS module

- listdir, mkdir, exists, isdir, isfile, join

## File exceptions

## Encodings

**Exercise:** person 1 encodes a word with encoding 1,  
person 2 decodes with encoding 2

**Word:** ukulele

A	00001	N	01110
B	00010	O	01111
C	00011	P	10000
D	00100	Q	10001
E	00000	R	10010
F	00110	S	10011
G	00111	T	10100
H	01000	U	10101
I	01001	V	10110
J	01010	W	10111
K	01011	X	11000
L	11111	Y	11001
M	01101	Z	11010

encoding 1

A	00001	N	01110
B	00010	O	01011
C	00011	P	10000
D	00100	Q	10001
E	00000	R	10010
F	00110	S	10011
G	00111	T	10100
H	01000	U	01100
I	01001	V	10110
J	01010	W	10111
K	01111	X	11000
L	10101	Y	11001
M	01101	Z	11010

encoding 2

**Exercise:** person 1 encodes a word with encoding 1,  
person 2 decodes with encoding 2

**Word:** ~~ukulele~~  
lol?e?e

A	00001	N	01110
B	00010	O	01111
C	00011	P	10000
D	00100	Q	10001
E	00000	R	10010
F	00110	S	10011
G	00111	T	10100
H	01000	U	10101
I	01001	V	10110
J	01010	W	10111
K	01011	X	11000
L	11111	Y	11001
M	01101	Z	11010

encoding 1

A	00001	N	01110
B	00010	O	01011
C	00011	P	10000
D	00100	Q	10001
E	00000	R	10010
F	00110	S	10011
G	00111	T	10100
H	01000	U	01100
I	01001	V	10110
J	01010	W	10111
K	01111	X	11000
L	10101	Y	11001
M	01101	Z	11010

encoding 2



# Encoding Defaults Done Wrong

**Mac**

```
f = open('example.txt', 'w',  
        encoding='utf-8')  
f.write('baño')  
f.close()
```

example.txt

**Windows**

```
f = open('example.txt', 'r',  
        encoding='cp1252')  
print(f.read())  
f.close()
```

example.txt

Windows computer prints **“baÑ±o”** instead of **“baño”**

# Encoding Defaults Done Wrong

## Mac

```
f = open('example.txt', 'w',  
        encoding='utf-8')  
f.write('baño')  
f.close()
```

example.txt

## Windows

```
f = open('example.txt', 'r',  
        encoding='cp1252')  
print(f.read())  
f.close()
```

example.txt

**Takeaway:** if you see weird characters printed by your program, it's a good time to learn more about encodings

# Coding Demos

# Demo 1: Score Tracker

Goal: tally up points, and print who is winning

## Input:

- Person who just scored

## Output:

- Everybody's score

## Example:

```
prompt> python point.py alice  
alice: 1
```

```
prompt> python point.py bob  
alice: 1  
bob: 1
```

```
prompt> python point.py alice  
alice: 2  
bob: 1
```

# Demo 2: File Finder

Goal: search directories (recursively) for a given file name, then print that file

## **Input:**

- The filename to search for

## **Output:**

- The contents of that file