

Exercises

Level 3: Intermediate Python Syntax

3.1: Advanced Functions

- 1) Create a stored lambda function that calculates the hypotenuse of a right triangle; it should take base and height as its parameter. Invoke (test) this lambda with different arguments.
- 2) This exercise is a modification of Exercise 1.5.8, to use the **reduce** function. To this end, create a list of loan terms and a list of rates:
 - a. Use the **reduce** function, with a regular function as its callable, to calculate the WAM of the list of terms.
 - b. Use the **reduce** function, with a lambda as its callable, to calculate the WAR of the list of rates.
 - c. Modify your WAR and WAM functions in your **LoanPool** class to use the above code.
- 3) Create a regular function (called **reconcileLists**) that takes two separate lists as its parameters. In this example, List 1 represents risk valuations per trade (i.e. Delta) from *Risk System A* and List 2 has the same from *Risk System B*. The purpose of this function is to reconcile the two lists and report the differences between the two systems. To this end, it should return a list of True or False values, corresponding to each value in the lists (True means they match at *index*, False means they don't match at *index*).

Test the **reconcileLists** function with different lists of values (lists should be of at least length ten). Note that the assumption is that both lists are the same length (report an error otherwise).

- 4) To incorporate lambda into the previous exercise, do the following:
 - a. Create a **breakAbsolute** stored lambda which takes two values and an *epsilon* parameter. This lambda should 'return' True if the two values are not within *epsilon* of each other.
 - b. Create a **breakRelative** stored lambda which takes two values and a *percent* parameter. This lambda should 'return' True if the percent difference between the two values exceeds *percent*.
 - c. Create a **breakAbsRelative** function which takes two values and a *percent* parameter. This should return True if the percent difference between the absolute values of the two values exceeds *percent*.
 - d. Modify the **reconcileLists** function to take a third parameter, called *breakFn* (this represents a passed-in function or lambda). The **reconcileLists** function should utilize the passed-in *breakFn* function to build the True/False list. You will need to use **functools.partial** to specify the parameter of the *breakFn* function (i.e., epsilon or percent).
 - e. Test **reconcileLists** with different lists of values (should be large lists of numbers) and with each of the above **break*** functions.

- 5) The previous exercise presents a good use-case for **functools.partial**:
- a. Create a *partial* called **reconcileListsBreakAbsolute** (which uses the **breakAbsolute** function). Test this comprehensively.
 - b. Create similar *partial* functions for each of the **break*** functions in the previous exercise.

3.2: Generators 101

- 1) Create a list of 1000 numbers. Convert the list to an iterable and iterate through it.
- 2) Create a list of 1000 numbers. Convert the list to a reversed iterable and iterate through it.
- 3) Modify your **LoanPool** class to be an iterable. To do this, you will need to define an `__iter__` method within the class; this method should be a generator, that returns one **Loan** at a time. Effectively, the result will be that you should be able to loop over a **LoanPool** object's individual **Loan** objects. For example, the following should now work:

```
for loan in loanPool:  
    print loan.notional
```

- 4) Modify the Fibonacci function from Exercise 1.3.2 to be a generator function. Note that the function should no longer have any input parameter since making it a generator allows it to return the infinite sequence. Do the following:
 - a. Display the first and second values of the Fibonacci sequence.
 - b. Iterate through and display the next 100 values of the sequence.
- 5) Generator expressions:
 - a. Create a list comprehension that contains the square of all numbers from 0-5,000,000, using **range**. Sum this list, using the built-in *sum* function.
 - b. Port the above to a generator expression, using **xrange**. Sum this generator expression, using the built-in *sum* function.
 - c. Compare the total time taken to build and sum each. Which one is faster? What are the benefits of using the generator instead of the list comprehension? Why?
- 6) Create three generator expressions and use **itertools.chain** to attach them together. Print out the result as a list.
- 7) Create three generator expressions and zip them together. Print out the result as a list.
- 8) Create three generator expressions and use the appropriate **itertools** function to get all the combinations of the values. Print out the result as a list.
- 9) Create a list of ten names. Loop through the list and output each name in the following format:
Name 1: Henry
Name 2: Jake

3.3: Exception Handling

- 1) Create code that takes a numerator and denominator input from the user. Output the quotient in decimal form. Handle the divide-by-zero case gracefully, using exception handling.
- 2) Extend exercise 1) to handle the situation when the user inputs something other than a number, using exception handling. If the user does not enter a number, the code should provide the user with an error message and ask the user to try again.

Note that this is an example of *duck typing*.

- 3) Create a function that calculates the factorial of an input number. If the input value is invalid, raise an exception. Test this out in `main()`, and handle the exception. Provide several examples, using explicit error handling and general error handling (catching all error types).
- 4) Modify all the applicable **Loan** classes from Level 2 so that if an incorrect **Asset** type is passed-into the `__init__` function, an exception is raised (instead of printing the message to the user). Test this out in `main`, and handle the exception.

Note that all future exercises should utilize exception raising/handling instead of printing error messages to the user.

3.4: Context Managers

- 1) Open a file and write to it, using the *with* statement. Verify that the file has indeed been closed, once the *with* statement exits (check the *closed* attribute on the file handle variable).
- 2) Modify the Timer class to work as a context manager. Essentially, it should be possible to do the following:

```
with Timer('timerName'):
    print 'Do Work Here'
```

An example output would look like: **timerName: 1.5467 seconds**

The timer class should still have a configurable display. The context manager should be coded so that the following code works, to configure the display when using the context manager:

```
with Timer('timerName') as timer:
    timer.configureTimerDisplay('hrs')
    print 'Do Work Here'
```

How does this compare to the previous approach of using the regular Timer class?