

Lecture #13: More Sequences and Strings

Map

- Python's built-in `map` function applies a function to one or more sequences:

```
>>> from operator import *
>>> tuple(map(abs, (-1, 2, -4, 5)))
(1, 2, 4, 5)
>>> tuple(map(add, (1, 2, 3, 18), (5, 2, 1)))
(6, 4, 4)
```

- That is, `map` takes a function of N arguments plus N sequences and applies the function to the corresponding items of the sequences (throws away extras, like 18).
- So, how do we do this:

```
def deltas(L):
    """Given that L is a sequence of N items, return
    the (N-1)-item sequence (L[1]-L[0], L[2]-L[1],...)."""

    return _____
```

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    return map(sub, tuple(L)[1:], L)
```

Representing Multi-Dimensional Structures

- How do we represent a two-dimensional table (like a matrix)?
- Answer: use a sequence of sequences (such as a tuple of tuples).
- The same approach is used in C, C++, and Java.
- Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

becomes

`((1, 2, 0, 4), (0, 1, 3, -1), (0, 0, 1, 8))`

`# or`

`[[1, 2, 0, 4], [0, 1, 3, -1], [0, 0, 1, 8]]`

The Game of Life: Another Problem

- J. H. Conway's Game of Life is an example of a *cellular automaton* on an infinite grid of squares.
- Each square may be occupied or unoccupied.
- One generation of cells is computed from the preceding according to a simple rule:
 - An occupied empty square with 2 or 3 occupied neighbor squares in one generation remains occupied in the next.
 - An empty square with exactly 3 occupied neighbor squares in one generation becomes occupied in the next.
 - All other squares become or remain unoccupied in the next generation.
- One can build arbitrary computations from these simple rules, resulting in remarkable patterns.
- (See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2vgICfQawE>)

Counting Neighbors

- Consider the problem of computing the number of occupied neighbors of each cell on a grid.
- We'll use a slight modification: a finite grid that wraps around: the top row is adjacent to the bottom, and the left column adjacent to the right.
- Example (1 indicates occupancy; blank squares are 0):

Board

		1	1	1			
		1	1	1			
		1		1			
		1			1	1	
					1	1	

Neighbor Count

0	2	3	5	3	2	0	0
0	3	4	7	4	3	0	0
0	2	2	5	2	2	0	0
0	2	2	3	2	3	2	1
0	1	0	1	2	3	3	2
0	1	1	1	2	3	3	2
0	0	0	0	1	2	2	1
0	1	2	3	2	1	0	0

Strategy (I): Map2

- Suppose that we have a function like `map` that operates on sequences of sequences.

```
def map2(f, A, B):  
    """Given that A and B are 2-dimensional sequences, the result of  
    applying f to corresponding elements of A and B(as a tuple of tuples).  
    Extra rows or columns in one or the other argument are thrown away.  
    >>> map2(add, ((1, 2, 3), (4, 5, 6)), ((7, 8, 9), (10, 11, 12)))  
    ((8, 10, 12), (14, 16, 18))  
    """  
    return tuple(map(lambda ra, rb: tuple(map(f, ra, rb)),  
                    A, B))
```

- With this, we can find the number of neighbors of each cell (with a little help).

Strategy (II): rotate2

- *Rotating* a sequence right by N means moving its last N values to the front, shifting the rest over.
- Rotating left by N moves the first N values to the end.
- We rotate 2D lists in two directions: rotating the rows and the columns:

```
def rotate2(A, dr, dc):
    """Given that A is a 2-dimensional sequence the result of rotating each
    row of A by DC columns and each column by DR rows. That is, a new
    2D tuple, B, in which B[r+dr][c+dc] is A[r][c], wrapping at the ends.
    >>> rotate2( ((1, 2, 3), (4, 5, 6), (7, 8, 9), (10, 11, 12)), (1, -1))
    ((11, 12, 10), (2, 3, 1), (5, 6, 4), (8, 9, 7))"""
    def rotate(R, d):
        # Negative slice indices count from the right.
        if d < 0:
            return R[-len(R)-d: ] + R[0: -d]
        else:
            return R[-d:] + R[0: len(R)-d]
    rows = tuple(map(lambda row: rotate(row, dc), A))
    return rotate(rows, dr)
```


Strategy (III): Adding Up Neighbors

- Now we can find number of neighbors (with wrap-around) by shifting and adding:

$A =$

	1	1	1	
	1	1	1	
	1		1	

$$\text{neighbor_count}(A) =$$

1	1	1		
1		1		
1	1	1		

 $+$

	1	1	1	
	1		1	
	1	1	1	

 $+$

		1	1	1
		1		1
		1	1	1

1	1	1		
1	1	1		
1		1		

 $+$

		1	1	1
		1	1	1
		1		1

 $+$

1	1	1		
1	1	1		
1		1		

 $+$. . .

Finally, neighbor_count

Putting it all together:

```
def neighbor_count(A):
    """Given a life board A, the number of neighbors corresponding to each
    cell as a tuple of tuples, assuming the board wraps around.
    >>> neighbor_count(((0, 0, 0, 0),
    ...                 (0, 1, 0, 0),
    ...                 (0, 1, 1, 0),
    ...                 (0, 0, 0, 0)))
    ((1, 1, 1, 0), (2, 2, 3, 1), (2, 2, 2, 1), (1, 2, 2, 1))
    """
    sum2 = lambda A, B: map2(add, A, B)
    neighbors = ((-1, -1), (-1, 0), (-1, 1),
                 (0, -1),          (0, 1),
                 (1, -1),  (1, 0),  (1, 1))
    return reduce(sum2,
                  map(lambda d: rotate2(A, d[0], d[1]),
                      neighbors))
```

Strings: A Specialized Type of Sequence

- Strings are sequences of characters, with a good deal of special syntax.
- Rather odd property: the base cases are circular. Characters are themselves strings of length 1!
- The usual operations on tuples apply also to strings:

```
>>> "abcd"[0]
'a'
>>> len("abcd")
4
>>> "abcd"[1:3]
'bc'
>>> "ab" + "cd"
'abcd'
>>> "x" * 5
'xxxxx'
>>> for c in "abcd":
        print(c, end=" ")
a, b, c, d,
```

Modified Operations

- Sequences support the membership operation:

```
>>> 5 in (2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19)
True
>>> 6 not in (2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19)
True
```

- Membership is not quite the same for strings:

```
>>> 'b' in ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd')      # A sequence, not a string
True
>>> 'bc' in ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd')
False
# But...
>>> 'b' in 'abcd'
True
>>> 'bc' in 'abcd'                  # in Finds substrings
True
```

- The substring is generally more important than the character, in other words.

Numerous Functions and Methods

- The calls `str(x)` and `x.__str__()` convert values of any type into strings that depict them:

```
>>> str(3+7)
'10'                                A string, not an int
```

- The methods reflect common manipulations from “real life”:

```
>>> "i can't find my shift key".capitalize()
'I can't find my shift key'.capitalize()
>>> "cHaNge".upper() + " CaSe".lower() + " raNDomLY".swapcase()
'CHANGE case RAndOMly'
>>> '1234'.isnumeric() and 'abcd'.isalpha()
True
>>> 'SNAKEeyes'.upper().endswith('YES')
True
>>> '{x} + {y} = {answer}'.format(answer=7, x=3, y=4)
'3 + 4 = 7'
```

A Cast of Thousands

- Python3 uses Unicode its basic character set: an international standard comprising most alphabets (dead and alive).
- Characters have standard numbers (indicating position in the character set) and names. The Python `ord` and `chr` convert from character to number and back.
- Getting your computer to actually render them all properly, however, is another matter entirely, which is outside Python.
- The character codes from 0-127 (7-bit codes) are known as ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange). Everything you typically type uses this subset.
- Nice property: 1 byte (8 bits) per character.
- This is lost with Unicode, but since there is an extra bit, we can *encode* larger character codes (UTF-8).

Denoting Characters and Strings

- You've seen string literals all along. Python has 8 (!) styles. Consider the string

```
\begin{quote}  
"I'd rather be in Philadelphia."  
\end{quote}
```

which we can write:

```
>>> "\\begin{quote}\\n\"I'd rather be in Philadelphia.\"\\n\\end{quote}"  
>>> '\\begin{quote}\\n"I'd rather be in Philadelphia."\\n\\end{quote}''  
>>> """\\begin{quote}  
... "I'd rather be in Philadelphia."  
... \\end{quote}"""  
>>> '''\\begin{quote}  
... "I'd rather be in Philadelphia."  
... \\end{quote}'''  
>>> r"""\\begin{quote}  
... "I'd rather be in Philadelphia."  
... \\end{quote}"""
```

Escapes

- The `\` escape allows us to introduce special, non-graphical characters" newline `\n`, tab `\t`
- Or to insert quoting characters.
- Or Unicode characters:

```
"\u006b\u03b1\u03b2\u03b3\u03b6\u05d1\u05d0\u8071\u8072"  
"\u263a\u2639"
```

[Try printing this on your home computer].

Strings as Sequences

- Most string operations are variations on the sequence operations we've seen.
- Example: take a string, break it into lines, indent the lines by N spaces, glue the lines back together, and return the result

```
def indent_lines(s, n):  
    """The result of indenting each line in s by n spaces."""  
    return "\n".join(map(lambda line: " " * n + line,  
                          s.split('\n')))
```

- Use it to indent a file:

```
print(indent_lines(open("afile").read(), 4))
```

- An even more general manipulation: regular expressions:

```
import re  
def indent_lines(s, n):  
    return re.sub(r'(?m)^\s*', ' ' * n, s)
```

Further exploration left to the reader.