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Chapter 4. WORKING WITH FILES

Course: Programming



OBJECTIVES

After completing this chapter, you should be able to

- Select text files and binary files to read and write data.
- Demonstrate the use of built-in functions to navigate the file system.
- Make use of os module to operate on underlying Operating System tasks.

CONTENTS

- INTRODUCTION OF DIFFERENT FILE TYPES IN PYTHON
- INTERACT WITH FILES WITH THE HELP OF BUILT-IN FUNCTION
- PERFORM OPERATIONS SUCH AS READ, WRITE, AND MANIPULATE FILES

TYPES OF FILES



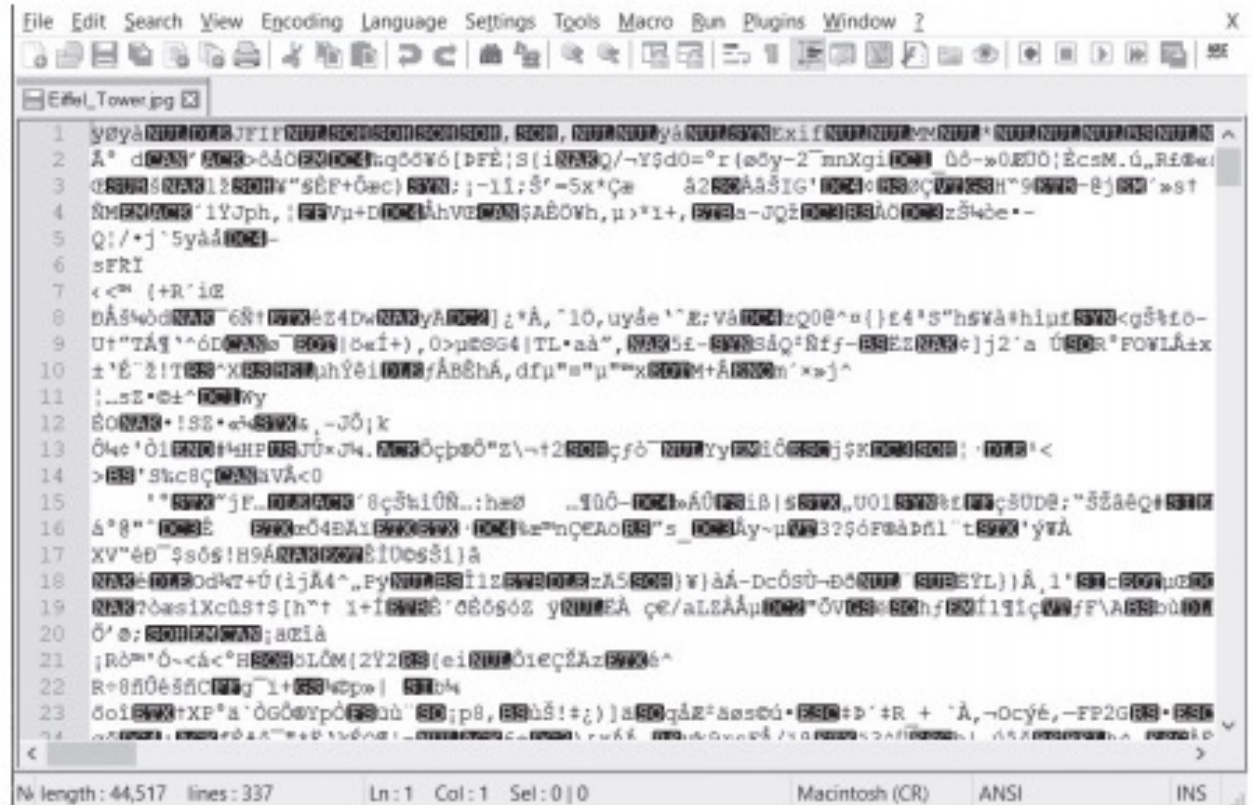
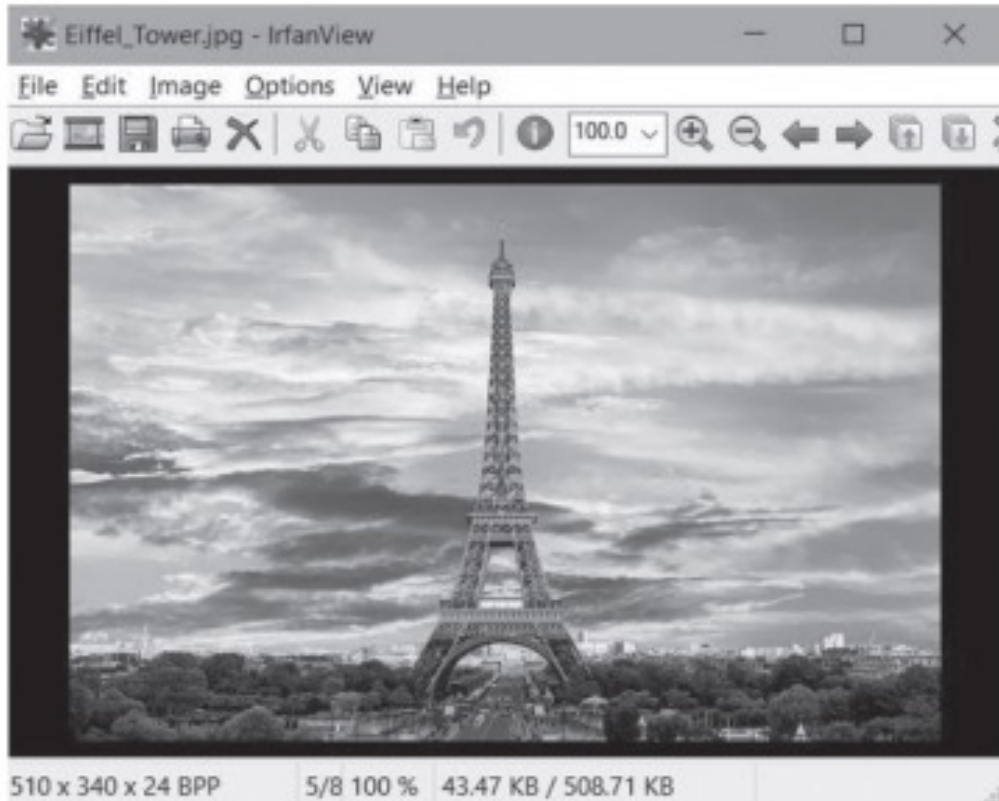
TYPES OF FILES



Binary

Text

TYPES OF FILES



The screenshot shows a text editor window titled "Eiffel_Tower.jpg". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Search, View, Encoding, Language, Settings, Tools, Macro, Run, Plugins, and Window. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and editing. The main canvas displays the binary content of the Eiffel_Tower.jpg file, which is a sequence of characters representing the image data in a specific encoding. The status bar at the bottom shows the file length as 44,517 lines: 337, the current line as Ln: 1, the current column as Col: 1, and the selection as Sel: 0 | 0. The encoding is set to Macintosh (CR) and the character set is ANSI.

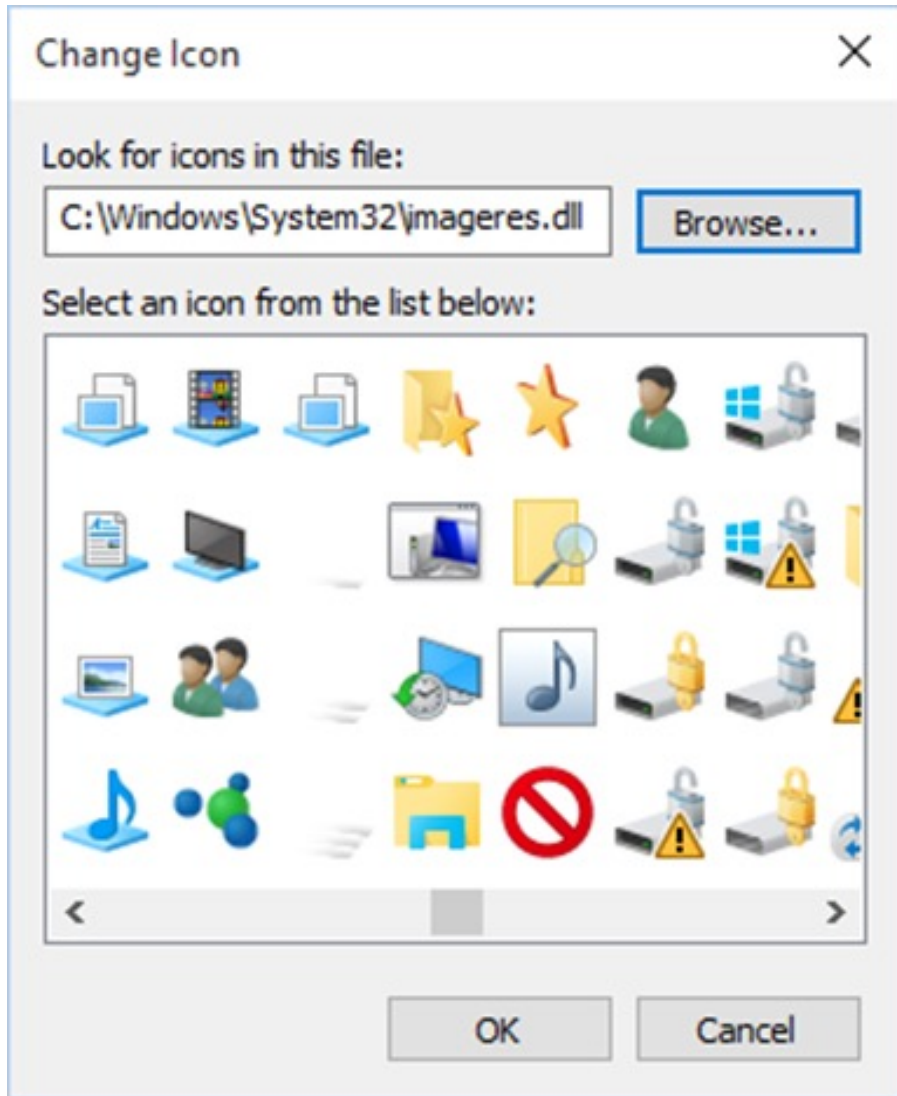
Images and its binary content

TYPES OF FILES



Text files

FILE PATHS



In the Windows Operating System, the maximum length for a path is 260 characters and in the Linux Operating System the maximum path length is of 4096 characters.

FULLY QUALIFIED VS RELATIVE FILE PATH

The fully qualified path (Absolute path): A path points to the file location, which always contains the root and the complete directory list

Ex:

- *"C:\python.txt"*
- *"C:\learning\python.txt"*

FULLY QUALIFIED VS RELATIVE FILE PATH

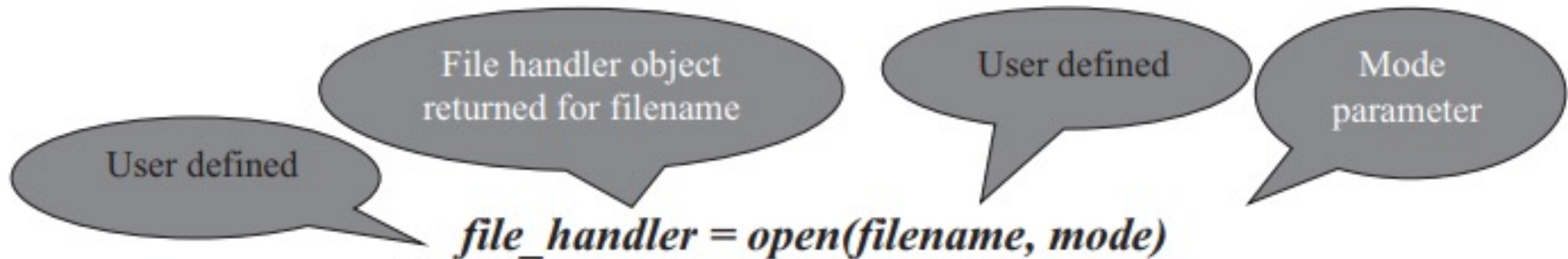
The relative path: A path contains “double-dots”; that is, two consecutive periods together as one of the directory components in a path or “single-dot” that is, one period as one of the directory components in a path.

Ex:

- `"..\python.txt"`
- `".\python.txt"`

OPERATIONS WITH FILES

1. File open() method



OPERATIONS WITH FILES

1. File open() method

Mode	Description
"r"	Opens the file in read only mode and this is the default mode.
"w"	Opens the file for writing. If a file already exists, then it'll get overwritten. If the file does not exist, then it creates a new file.
"a"	Opens the file for appending data at the end of the file automatically. If the file does not exist it creates a new file.
"r+"	Opens the file for both reading and writing.
"w+"	Opens the file for reading and writing. If the file does not exist it creates a new file. If a file already exists then it will get overwritten.
"a+"	Opens the file for reading and appending. If a file already exists, the data is appended. If the file does not exist it creates a new file.
"x"	Creates a new file. If the file already exists, the operation fails.
"rb"	Opens the binary file in read-only mode.
"wb"	Opens the file for writing the data in binary format.
"rb+"	Opens the file for both reading and writing in binary format.

Access modes of the files

OPERATIONS WITH FILES

2. File open() method

Example:

```
>>> file_handler = open("example.txt", "x")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("example.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("C:\\example.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("C:\\learning\\example.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("C:\\\\forme\\byme.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("C:\\\\noway\\python.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open(r"C:\\noway\\python.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler = open("example.txt", "r")
```

OPERATIONS WITH FILES

2. File close() method

file_handler.close()

Example:

```
>>> file_handler = open("python.txt", "r")
```

```
>>> file_handler.close()
```

OPERATIONS WITH FILES

2. File close() method

try:

f = open("file", "w")

try:

f.write(Write something here!)

finally:

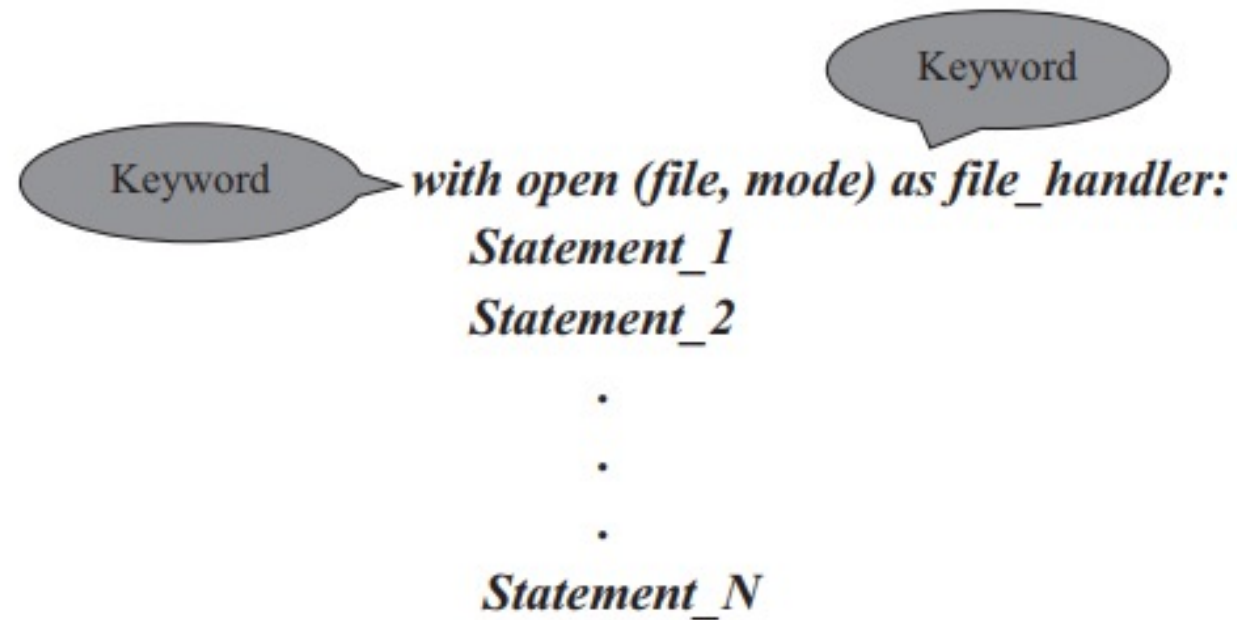
f.close()

except IOError:

print('File error!')

OPERATIONS WITH FILES

2. File close() method



OPERATIONS WITH FILES

3. File object attributes

List of File Attributes

Attribute	Description
<code>file_handler.closed</code>	It returns a Boolean True if the file is closed or False otherwise.
<code>file_handler.mode</code>	It returns the access mode with which the file was opened.
<code>file_handler.name</code>	It returns the name of the file.

Example:

```
>>> file_handler = open("python.txt", "w")
>>> print(f"File Name is {file_handler.name}")
>>> print(f"File State is {file_handler.closed}")
>>> print(f"File Opening Mode is {file_handler.mode}")
```

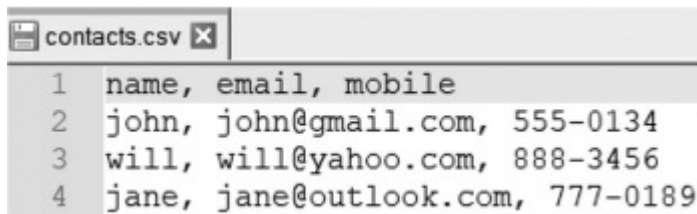
OPERATIONS WITH FILES

4. Read and write data

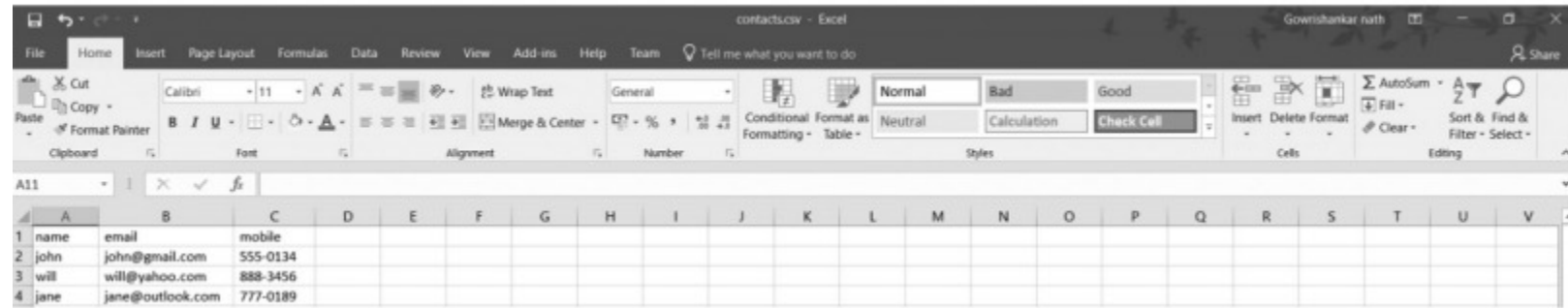
Method	Syntax
<code>read()</code>	<code>file_handler.read([size])</code>
<code>readline()</code>	<code>file_handler.readline()</code>
<code>readlines()</code>	<code>file_handler.readlines()</code>
<code>write()</code>	<code>file_handler.write(string)</code>
<code>writeline()</code>	<code>file_handler.writelines(sequence)</code>
<code>tell()</code>	<code>file_handler.tell()</code>
<code>seek()</code>	<code>file_handler.seek(offset,from_what)</code>

CSV FILES

Read and write CSV (Comma Separated Values) files



```
contacts.csv
1 name, email, mobile
2 john, john@gmail.com, 555-0134
3 will, will@yahoo.com, 888-3456
4 jane, jane@outlook.com, 777-0189
```



name	email	mobile
john	john@gmail.com	555-0134
will	will@yahoo.com	888-3456
jane	jane@outlook.com	777-0189

Using built-in function module called csv, some methods are:

```
>>>csv.reader(csvfile)
```

```
>>>csv.writer(csvfile)
```

```
>>>csvwriter.writerow(row)
```

```
>>>csvwriter.writerows(rows)
```

CSV FILES

Read and write CSV (Comma Separated Values) files

Example

```
import csv

def main():

    with open('example.csv', newline='') as csvfile:

        csv_reader = csv.reader(csvfile)

        print("Print each row in CSV file")

        for each_row in csv_reader:

            print(",".join(each_row))

if __name__ == "__main__":

    main()
```

EXCEL FILES

Using openpyxl

Openpyxl is a Python library that provides various methods to interact with Excel Files using Python. It allows operations like reading, writing, arithmetic operations, plotting graphs, etc.

```
from openpyxl import Workbook
```

```
workbook = Workbook()
```

```
sheet = workbook.active
```

```
sheet["A1"] = "hello"
```

```
sheet["B1"] = "world!"
```

```
workbook.save(filename="hello_world.xlsx")
```

EXCEL FILES

Using pandas

pandas is a Python library that provides fast, flexible, and expressive data structures designed to make working with “relational” or “labeled” data both easy and intuitive. It aims to be the fundamental high-level building block for doing practical, real world data analysis in Python.

```
>>>import panda as pd
```

```
>>>df = pd.DataFrame({'a':pd.Series([1, 2]), 'b':pd.Series([10, 20, 30, 40, 50]), 'c':pd.Series([100, 200, 300])})
```

```
>>> df_csv = pd.read_csv("foo.csv")
```

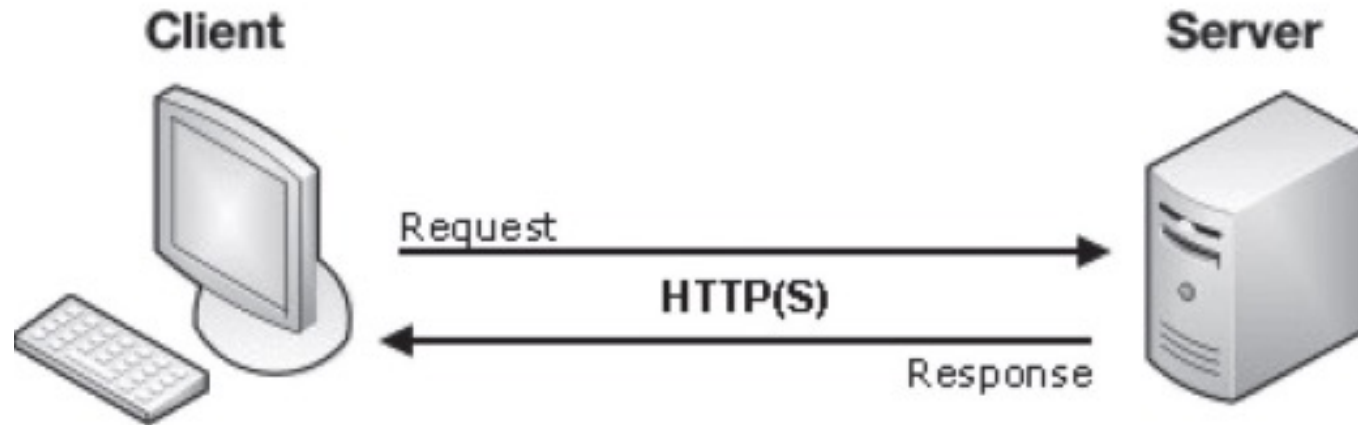
```
>>> df_excel = pd.read_excel("foo.xlsx")
```

```
>>> df.to_csv('foo.csv')
```

```
>>> df.to_excel('foo.xlsx', sheet_name='Sheet1')
```


JSON AND XML FILES

JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) and XML (EXtensible Markup Language) standards are commonly used for transmitting data in web applications.



JSON FILES

The built-in data types in JSON are strings, numbers, booleans (i.e., true and false), null, objects, and arrays. JSON is built on two structures:

- A collection of *string: value* properties. In various languages, this is realized as an object, record, struct, dictionary, hash table, keyed list, or associative array.
- An ordered list of values. In most languages, this is realized as an array, vector, list, or sequence.

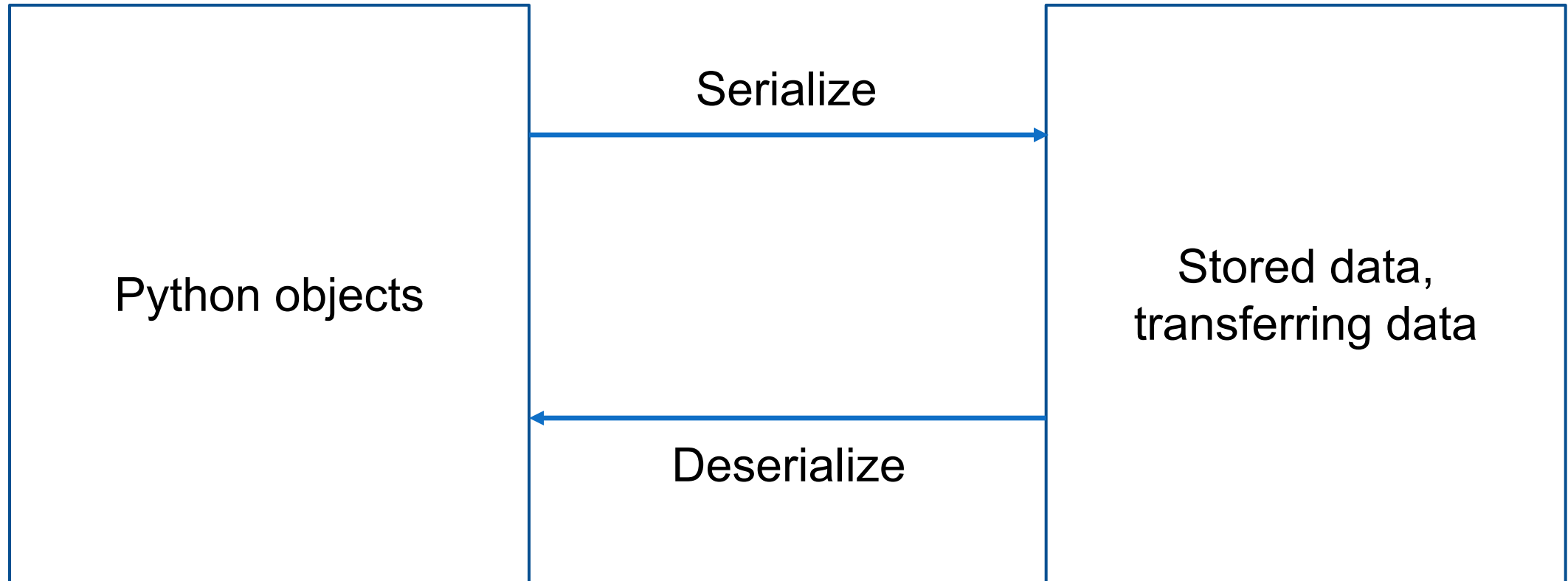
```

object      {}
pair
string:value
array       []
value
string
number
object
array
true
false
null
  
```

JSON FILES

```
1. { ← Object Start
2.   "first_name": "Andrew",
3.   "middle_name": "Wood",
4.   "last_name": "Ellis",
5.   "contact": { ← Object Starts
6.     "phone": "1 - 690 - 793 - 4521",
7.     "email": "andrewellis@gmail.com"
8.   }, ← Object Ends
9.   "address": [ ← Array Starts
10.     "address_type": "Office",
11.     "street": "3096 Euclid Avenue",
12.     "city": "Los Angeles", ← Value String
13.     "zip_code": 90017,
14.     "state": "California"
15.   },
16.   {
17.     "address_type": "Home",
18.     "street": "940 Lewis Street",
19.     "city": "Los Angeles",
20.     "zip_code": 90185, ← Value Number
21.     "state": "California"
22.   }
23. ] ← Array Ends
24. } ← Object Ends
```

JSON FILES



JSON FILES

The Python **json** module provides methods **load()** for turning JSON encoded data into Python objects from a file and **loads()** methods for turning JSON encoded data into Python objects from a string.

The Python **json** module provides methods **dump()** for writing data to JSON file and **dumps()** for writing to a Python string

Python Serializing (a) and Deserializing (b) Conversion Table

Python	JSON	JSON	Python
dict	object	object	dict
list, tuple	array	array	list
str	string	string	str
int	number	number (int)	int
float	number	number (float)	float
True	true	true	True
False	false	false	False
None	null	null	None
(a)		(b)	

JSON FILES

```
1. import json
2. def main():
3.     with open('personal_data.json', 'r') as f:
4.         json_object_data = json.load(f)
5.         print(f"Type of data returned by json load is {type(json_object_data)}")
6.         print(f"First Name is {json_object_data['first_name']}")
7.         print(f"Middle Name is {json_object_data['middle_name']}")
8.         print(f"Last Name is {json_object_data['last_name']}")
9.         print(f"Phone Number is {json_object_data['contact']['phone']}")
10.        print(f"Email ID is {json_object_data['contact']['email']}")
11.        print("-----*****-----")
12.        for each_json_object in json_object_data['address']:
13.            print(f"Address Type is {each_json_object['address_type']}")
14.            print(f"Street Name is {each_json_object['street']}")
15.            print(f"City Name is {each_json_object['city']}")
16.            print(f"Zip Number is {each_json_object['zip_code']}")
17.            print(f"State Name is {each_json_object['state']}")
18.            print("-----*****-----")
19. if __name__ == "__main__":
20.     main()
```

XML FILES

- EXtensible Markup Language (XML) document is a simple and flexible text format that is used to exchange wide variety of data on the Web and elsewhere.
- An XML document is a universal format for data on the Web. XML allows developers to easily describe and deliver rich, structured data from any application in a standard, consistent way.
- XML documents have an .xml extension.

<root>

<child>

<subchild>.....</subchild>

</child>

</root>

XML FILES

```
1. import xml.etree.ElementTree as ET
2. def main():
3.     university_data = ""
4.     <top_universities>
5.         <year_2018>
6.             <university_name location="USA">MIT</university_name>

19. root = ET.fromstring(university_data)
20. for ranking_year in root.findall('year_2018'):
21.     university_name = ranking_year.find('university_name').text
22.     ranking = ranking_year.find('ranking').text
23.     location = ranking_year.find('university_name').get('location')
24.     print(f'{university_name} University has secured {ranking} Worldwide
        ranking and is located in {location}')
25. if __name__ == "__main__":
26.     main()
```

Construct an XML Formatted Data and Write Python Program to Parse that XML Data

XML FILES

The two most basic and broadly used APIs to XML data are the SAX and DOM interfaces

Simple API for XML (SAX):

- *This is useful when your documents are large or you have a memory limitation*
- *SAX is read-only*

XML FILES

Parsing XML with SAX API:

- SAX is a standard interface for event-driven XML parsing
- Requires you to create your own ContentHandler by subclassing `xml.sax.ContentHandler`
- The methods `startDocument` and `endDocument` are called at the start and the end of the XML file
- The ContentHandler is called at the start and end of each element.
- **The parse Method:**

`xml.sax.parse(xmlfile, contenthandler[, errorhandler])`

in which: `xmlfile`: This is the name of the XML file to read from

`contenthandler`: This must be a ContentHandler object

`errorhandler`: If specified, `errorhandler` must be a SAX ErrorHandler object.

XML FILES

Parsing XML with DOM APIs

The Document Object Model, or "DOM," is a cross-language API from the World Wide Web Consortium(W3C) for accessing and modifying XML documents

The DOM is extremely useful for random access applications

Easiest way to quickly load an XML document and to create a minidom object using the xml

XML FILES

```
from lxml import etree
from StringIO import StringIO
def parseXML(xmlFile):
    f = open(xmlFile) xml = f.read()
    f.close() tree= etree.parse(StringIO(xml))
    print tree.docinfo.doctype
    c=etree.iterparse(StringIO(xml))
    c = etree.iterparse(xmlFile) # other method
    for action,entry in c:
        text = entry.text
        print entry.tag + " => " + text
if __name__ == "__main__":
    parseXML('movie.xml')
```

IMAGE FILES

```
def main():  
    with open("rose.jpg", "rb") as existing_image, open("new_rose.jpg", "wb")  
    as new_image:  
        for each_line_bytes in existing_image:  
            new_image.write(each_line_bytes)  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    main()
```

Example of creating a new image from an existing image



THANK YOU

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