



Iterators

Browsing on Containers

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Iterators

What is an Iterator?

Iterators are special objects that understand the iterator protocol

- `__iter__` to build the iterator structure;
- `__next__` to get the next element in the container, and
- raise the `StopIteration` exception when data in container are finished.

Generators are a special case of iterators.

```
class Fib:
    '''iterator that yields numbers in the Fibonacci sequence'''
    def __init__(self, max):
        self.max = max
    def __iter__(self):
        self.a = 0
        self.b = 1
        return self
    def __next__(self):
        fib = self.a
        if fib > self.max: raise StopIteration
        self.a, self.b = self.b, self.a + self.b
        return fib

if __name__ == "__main__":
    f = Fib(1000)
    for i in f: print(i)
```



Iterators

Lazy Pluralize

```
class LazyRules:
    def __init__(self, rules_filename):
        self.pattern_file = open(rules_filename, encoding='utf-8')
        self.cache = []
    def __iter__(self):
        self.cache_index = 0
        return self
    def __next__(self):
        self.cache_index += 1
        if len(self.cache) >= self.cache_index:
            return self.cache[self.cache_index - 1]
        if self.pattern_file.closed: raise StopIteration
        line = self.pattern_file.readline()
        if not line:
            self.pattern_file.close()
            raise StopIteration
        pattern, search, replace = line.split(None, 3)
        funcs = build_match_and_apply_functions(pattern, search, replace)
        self.cache.append(funcs)
        return funcs
rules = LazyRules()
```

1. minimal startup cost: just instantiating a class and open a file
2. maximum performance: the file is read on demand and never re-read
3. code and data separation: patterns are stored on a file separated from the code



Iterators

Cryptarithms

The riddle:

HAWAII + IDAHO + IOWA + OHIO == STATES

is a cryptarithms

- the letters spell out actual words and a meaningful sentence
- each letter can be translated to a digit (0-9) no initial can be translated to 0
- to the same letter corresponds the same digit along the whole sentence and no digit can be associated to two different letters
- the resulting arithmetic equation represents a valid and correct equation

That is, the riddle above:

HAWAII + IDAHO + IOWA + OHIO == STATES
510199 + 98153 + 9301 + 3593 == 621246





Iterators

Cryptarithms: the Solution

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How can we face the riddle automatic solution? A **brute force** approach

First step consists of organizing the data

- to find the words that need to be translated
- to determine which characters compose such a sentence
- to determine which characters are at the beginning of the words

Then, we look for the solution, if any, by

- generating every possible permutation of ten digits (0-9)
- skimming those permutations with 0 associated to an initial
- trying if the remaining permutations represent a valid solution



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Cryptarithms: the Solution

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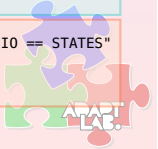
References

```
import re, itertools, sys

def solve(puzzle):
    words = re.findall('[A-Z]+', puzzle.upper())
    unique_characters = set(''.join(words))
    assert len(unique_characters) <= 10, 'Too many letters'
    first_letters = {word[0] for word in words}
    n = len(first_letters)
    sorted_characters = ''.join(first_letters) + ''.join(unique_characters - first_letters)
    characters = tuple(ord(c) for c in sorted_characters) # generator expression
    digits = tuple(ord(c) for c in '0123456789')
    zero = digits[0]
    for guess in itertools.permutations(digits, len(characters)):
        if zero not in guess[:n]:
            equation = puzzle.translate(dict(zip(characters, guess)))
            if eval(equation): return equation

if __name__ == '__main__':
    for puzzle in sys.argv[1:]:
        print(puzzle)
        solution = solve(puzzle)
        if solution: print(solution)
```

```
[15:06]cazzola@ulik:~/python3 cryptarithms.py "HAWAII + IDAHO + IOWA + OHIO == STATES"
HAWAII + IDAHO + IOWA + OHIO == STATES
510199 + 98153 + 9301 + 3593 == 621246
```



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Iterators

the module itertools: an overview

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A number of iterator building blocks that form a "iterator algebra" to succinctly and efficiently implement specialized tools.

Combinatoric Generators

- permutations(), combinations(), and so on

```
>>> list(itertools.combinations('ABCD',2))
[('A', 'B'), ('A', 'C'), ('A', 'D'), ('B', 'C'), ('B', 'D'), ('C', 'D')]
```

Infinite Iterators

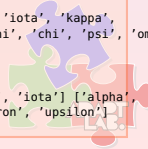
- count(), cycle() and repeat()

```
>>> list(itertools.repeat('ABCDF',3))
['ABCDF', 'ABCDF', 'ABCDF']
```

Iterators

- zip_longest(), groupby(), islice() and so on

```
>>> list(itertools.starmap(lambda x,y: x+y, itertools.zip_longest('a'*7, '1234567')))
['a1', 'a2', 'a3', 'a4', 'a5', 'a6', 'a7']
>>> names = ['alpha', 'beta', 'gamma', 'delta', 'epsilon', 'zeta', 'eta', 'theta', 'iota', 'kappa',
'lambda', 'mu', 'nu', 'xi', 'omicron', 'pi', 'rho', 'sigma', 'tau', 'upsilon', 'phi', 'chi', 'psi', 'omega']
>>> names = sorted(names, key=len)
>>> groups = itertools.groupby(names, len)
>>> for g, itr in groups: print(list(itr), end=' ')
['nu', 'mu', 'xi', 'pi'] ['eta', 'rho', 'tau', 'phi', 'chi', 'psi'] ['beta', 'zeta', 'iota'] ['alpha',
'gamma', 'delta', 'theta', 'kappa', 'sigma', 'omega'] ['lambda'] ['epsilon', 'omicron', 'upsilon']
```



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Iterators

the module itertools: precooked recipes

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Derived Iterators

```
def enumerate(iterable, start=0):
    return zip(count(start), iterable)

def pairwise(iterable):
    """s -> (s0,s1), (s1,s2), (s2, s3), ..."""
    a, b = tee(iterable)
    next(b, None)
    return zip(a, b)

def tabulate(function, start=0):
    """Return function(0), function(1), ..."""
    return map(function, count(start))

def consume(iterator, n):
    """Advance the iterator n-steps ahead.
    If n is None, consume entirely."""
    collections.deque(islice(iterator, n), maxlen=0)

def nth(iterable, n, default=None):
    """Returns the nth item or a default value"""
    return next(islice(iterable, n, None), default)

def quantify(iterable, pred=bool):
    """Count how many times the predicate is true"""
    return sum(map(pred, iterable))

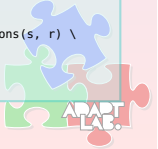
def ncycles(iterable, n):
    """Returns the sequence elements n times"""
    return chain.from_iterable(repeat(iterable, n))

def dotproduct(vec1, vec2):
    return sum(map(operator.mul, vec1, vec2))

def flatten(listOfLists):
    return list(chain.from_iterable(listOfLists))

def roundrobin(*iterables):
    # roundrobin('ABC', 'D', 'EF') --> A D E B F C
    # Recipe credited to George Sakkis
    pending = len(iterables)
    nexts = \
        cycle(iter(it).__next__ for it in iterables)
    while pending:
        try:
            for next in nexts:
                yield next()
        except StopIteration:
            pending -= 1
            nexts = cycle(islice(nexts, pending))

def powerset(iterable):
    # powerset([1,2,3]) -->
    # () (1,) (2,) (3,) (1,2) (1,3) (2,3) (1,2,3)
    s = list(iterable)
    return \
        chain.from_iterable(combinations(s, r) \
            for r in range(len(s)+1))
```



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Iterators

eval()

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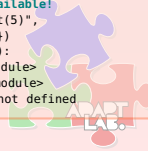
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eval() is an expression evaluator: it takes a string and evaluates it in the current context.

```
[14:08]cazzola@ulik:~/esercizi-pa>python3
>>> eval('9567 + 1085 == 10652')
True
>>> eval('MARK'.translate({65: 79}))
'MORK'
>>> x = 5
>>> eval("x * 5")
25
>>> eval("pow(x, 2)")
25
>>> import math
>>> eval("math.sqrt(x)")
2.23606797749979
>>> def ack(m,n):
...     if m == 0: return n+1
...     elif m>0 and n==0: return ack(m-1,1)
...     else: return ack(m-1, ack(m, n-1))
...
>>> import sys
>>> sys.setrecursionlimit(100000)
>>> eval('ack(2,1000)')
2003

>>> eval("__import__('subprocess').getoutput('ls -x')")
alphabet-merge.py args.py counter.py
cryptarithms.py factorial.py fib-iterator.py
fibonacci.py functional gfib.py
hanoi.py humanize.py ifibonacci.py
imp-sieve.py ls-l.py matrix.py
modules oop plural.py
quicksort.py sieve.py sol-eulero.py
sol-fib1000.py temperatures.py tfact.py
# unsafe! I could evaluate malicious code! solutions?
>>> eval('math.sqrt(x)', {}, {})
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
NameError: name 'math' is not defined
>>> eval('__import__("math").sqrt(x)', {}, {})
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
NameError: name 'x' is not defined
>>> eval('__import__("math").sqrt(x)', {'x': x}, {})
2.23606797749979
# still unsafe! built-ins are available!
>>> eval("__import__('math').sqrt(5)",
... {"__builtins__":None}, {})
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 2, in <module>
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
NameError: name '__import__' is not defined
```



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References

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