

Simulation of computer's execution of given line of command

Our task is to build an interpreter for a simple Python program with a limited syntax, simulating the computer's execution. Let us start by interpreting an input text file consisting of a sequence of statements, each statement on a separate line. The informal syntax of a statement is indicated below.

Informal Grammar

A STATEMENT is of the form: VARIABLE = EXPRESSION

EXPRESSION is one of:

- TERM
- UNARY_OPERATOR TERM
- TERM BINARY_OPERATOR TERM

BINARY_OPERATOR is one of: $+$, $*$, $/$, $>$, $<$, $>=$, $<=$, $=$, $!=$, and, or

UNARY_OPERATOR is one of: $-$, not

TERM is one of: VARIABLE, INTEGER_CONSTANT, True, False

VARIABLE is a sequence of one or more letters

INTEGER_CONSTANT is a sequence of one or more numeric characters ('0' to '9')

Interpreting the Input Program

Read the input file one statement at a time and INTERPRET ("execute") the statement by maintaining all the variables and values encountered so far in a list called DATA.

To read a file in Python, use the built-in open() method. The open() function returns a file object, which has a read() method for reading the content of the file:

Example:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.read())
```

If your input file is located in a different location,

```
f = open("filepath/demofile.txt", "r")
```

```
print(f.read())
```

You can also use the `open()` method to create a new text file as follows-

```
f= open("demofile.txt","w+")
```

- We declared the variable “f” to open a file named `demofile.txt`. `Open` takes 2 arguments, the file that we want to open and a string that represents the kinds of permission or operation we want to do on the file
- We used “w” letter in our argument, which indicates Python write to file and it will create file in Python if it does not exist in library
- Plus sign indicates both read and write for Python create file operation.

You can learn more about I/O methods in Python:

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/inputoutput.html>

<https://www.programiz.com/python-programming/file-operation>

Example 1

Here is a possible list of actions taken by the interpreter for the input program:

```
x = 1 + 3
y = 4
x = 5
```

- On reading “`x = 1 + 3`”:
 - insert elements 1 and 3 into the DATA list.
 - Add 1 + 3 to get 4. Insert 4 into DATA. Let this be stored in list position i (that is, `DATA[i]` contains 4).
 - insert element (x, i) into DATA. This is a way to implement “reference” (x refers to object 4).
- On reading “`y = 4`”:
 - search for 4 in the DATA list. Locate it in position i (`DATA[i]` already contains 4).
 - insert list element (y, i) into DATA.
- On reading “`x = 5`”:
 - search for 5 in DATA. Since it is not present, insert new list element 5. Let this be in list position j (that is, `DATA[j]` contains 5).
 - search for x in DATA. Replace (x, i) by (x, j) . x now refers to 5.
- After parsing the above lines final DATA list should be as follows:

<i>index</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<i>value</i>	1	3	4	$(x, 5)$	$(y, 2)$	5

- The final values of the variables in the DATA list are $x = 5$ and $y = 4$. Garbage value are 1 and 3.

Example 2

Here is a possible list of actions taken by the interpreter for the input program:

$q = 6$
 $p = q + 5$
 $r = p$

- On reading “ $q = 6$ ”:
 - insert element 6 into DATA. Let this be stored in list position i (DATA[i] contains 6).
 - insert element (q, i) into DATA.
- On reading “ $p = q + 5$ ”:
 - search for 5 in DATA. Since it is not present, insert new list element 5. Let this be in list position j (that is, DATA[j] contains 5).
 - search for q in DATA. Since (q, i) is present, follow the reference i and read the value 6 from DATA[i].
 - Add 5 and 6 to obtain 11. Search for 11 in DATA. Since it is not present, insert new element 11. Let this be stored in list position k (that is, DATA[k] contains 11).
 - search for p in DATA. Since it not present, insert list element (p, k) into DATA.
- On reading “ $r = p$ ”:
 - search for p in DATA. You will find (p, k) .
 - search for r in DATA. Since it is not present, insert (r, k) into DATA.
- After parsing the above lines, the final DATA list should be as follows:

<i>index</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<i>value</i>	6	$(q, 0)$	5	11	$(p, 3)$	$(r, 3)$

- The final values of the variables in the DATA list are $q = 6$, $p = 11$ and $r = 11$. Garbage value is 5.

Example with error

Here are the possible actions taken by the interpreter for the input program:

$x = 5$
 $y = x + z$

- On reading “ $x = 5$ ”:
 - insert element 5 into DATA. Let this be stored in list position i (DATA[i] contains 5).
 - insert element (x, i) into DATA.
- On reading “ $y = x + z$ ”:
 - search for x in DATA. Since (x, i) is present, follow the reference i and read the value 5 from the list position i (that is, DATA[i] contains 5).
 - search for z in DATA. Since it is not present, we can’t find the value of this expression. Issue the error message “**Variable ‘z’ is not defined**”.

Output

When the program completes, print out:

- The name and current value of all the variables used in the input program.
- The list of GARBAGE integer objects used in the program but not referred to any more by any variable at the end of the program.

Notes

- Number of lines in the input program file can take any value, your code should execute/interpret till it reaches the end of the file.
- The above language supports two types of variables: integer and boolean. All variables are scalar (no aggregate types such as list).
- If there is any error in the input, print the error and terminate the program.
- Use the Python **open**, **readlines**, and **split** functions to help in reading the input file. Assume that spaces separate the different syntactic “tokens” in each line (VARIABLE, TERM, =, +, etc.)
- Assume that there are no type mismatches (e.g., adding an integer to a boolean value).

About the split function

- Whenever there is a need to break bigger strings or a line into several small strings, you need to use the split() function in Python.
- The split() function still works if the separator is not specified by considering white spaces, as the separator to separate the given string or given line.
- The syntax of the split function is
str.split(separator, maxsplit)

where,

- separator represents the delimiter based on which the given string or line is separated,
- maxsplit represents the number of times a given string or a line can be split up. The default value of max is -1. In case the max parameter is not specified, the split() function splits the given string or the line whenever a separator is encountered

You can learn more about the split function here

<https://www.programiz.com/python-programming/file-operation>