

## The Four-Step Computational Problem Solving Method

### Step 1: Understand the Problem

- **Objective(s):** what is/are the objective(s) of the solution? What is specified and what is implied?
- **Input:** What are the arguments? What kind of data (how much does it need?)
- **Output:** What is the result? What is produced? Is anything returned?
- **Constraints/Assumptions:** What assumptions are made? What data types are appropriate?
- **Relevant equations:** what mathematical equations, if any, are relevant to the solution?

### Step 2: Design an Algorithm

#### Algorithms must:

- Be written in English and not contain computer code.
- Be easy to read and understand.
- Be ordered in sequence.
- Contain enough detail to solve the problem.

### Step 3: Implement a Solution

#### Implement your algorithm from step 2.

- Include a multiline comment for problem description, including inputs, outputs, constraints and assumptions.
- Specify your algorithm using in-line comments.
- Expand your algorithm by writing the code that corresponds to each of the parts of your algorithm.
- Save and test your code after each block of code that you add.

### Step 4: Test the Code

#### Develop test cases to check your program works as desired.

For example:

- **Sequencing:** Test normal values, boundary values, and bad values.
- **Conditionals:** Test all possible paths in conditional statements
- **Loops:** Test what happens when loops are not entered, loop boundaries, and normal values.
- **Combination:** Test each function and procedure individually, and the program in its entirety.

**Example Prompt:** Write a procedure called `count_ones()` that takes a list as its only parameter. Your function should count and display the number of times the integer 1 appears in that list.

#### Sample use case:

```
>>> count_ones([2,1,3,2,1])
There are 2 1s in the list
```

#### Step 1: Understand the problem:

- Objectives: Goal is to count the number of 1s in a list
- Input: one argument (list of integers)
- Output: displays number of 1s in list (no return value)
- Assumption is that input list contains only numbers
- Need a counter that keeps track of the number of 1s

#### Step 2: Design an Algorithm

**Problem:** Count Ones

**Input/parameters:** list of integers

**Displays:** Frequency of 1s in the provided list

1. initialize a counter to 0
2. for each number in the list:
  3. determine if the number is equal to 1
  4. if so, increment the counter by one.
5. display the value of the counter to the screen

#### Step 3: Implement your Solution

```
"""
procedure: count_ones
parameters: sequence of integers (list)
displays: the number of times the integer 1 appears in
the list
"""
def count_ones(integer_lst):
    counter = 0 # initialize a counter to 0

    for number in integer_lst: # for each number:
        if number == 1: # if number is equal to 1
            counter = counter + 1 # increment count by 1

    # display the value of the counter to the screen
    print("There are", counter, "1s in the list")
```



Math Module			
Function name	Arguments	Return Type	Description
<code>floor(x)</code>	<code>x(int)</code>	<code>int</code>	Returns the floor of <code>x</code> , the largest integer less than or equal to <code>x</code> .
<code>ceil(x)</code>	<code>x(int)</code>	<code>int</code>	Returns the ceiling of <code>x</code> , the smallest integer greater than or equal to <code>x</code> .
<code>isclose(a, b)</code>	<code>a(float)</code> , <code>b(float)</code>	<code>bool</code>	Returns True if the values <code>a</code> and <code>b</code> are close to each other and False otherwise.
<code>exp(x)</code>	<code>x(int or float)</code>	<code>float</code>	Returns $e$ to the power of <code>x</code> , where $e = 2.718281...$ the base of all natural logarithms
<code>log(x, [base])</code>	<code>x(int or float)</code> optional: <code>base(int)</code>	<code>float</code>	With one argument, return the natural logarithm of <code>x</code> (to base $e$ ). With two arguments, returns the logarithm of <code>x</code> to the given base.
<code>pow(x, y)</code>	<code>x(float)</code> , <code>y(float)</code>	<code>float</code>	Return <code>x</code> raised to the power <code>y</code> . Unlike the built-in <code>**</code> operator, <code>math.pow()</code> converts both arguments to type float. <code>**</code> is better for integers.
<code>sin(x)</code> , <code>cos(x)</code> , <code>tan(x)</code>	<code>x(float)</code>	<code>float</code>	Returns the sine of <code>x</code> radians, cosine of <code>x</code> radians, and tangent of <code>x</code> radians, respectively.

Random Module			
Function name	Arguments	Return Type	Description
<code>random()</code>	<code>n/a</code>	<code>float</code>	Returns a random floating-point number <code>x</code> , such that $0.0 \leq x < 1.0$
<code>randint(a, b)</code>	<code>a(int)</code> , <code>b(int)</code>	<code>int</code>	Returns a random integer <code>N</code> such that $a \leq N \leq b$
<code>randrange([start], stop, [step])</code>	<code>stop(int)</code> optional: <code>start(int)</code> , <code>end(int)</code>	<code>int</code>	Returns a random integer <code>N</code> such that $0 \leq N < \text{stop}$ . Optional parameters <code>start</code> and <code>step</code> work identically to <code>range()</code> .
<code>choice(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	varies	Returns a random element from the non-empty list <code>seq</code> . If <code>seq</code> is empty, raises an error.
<code>choices(seq, k)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code> , <code>k(int)</code>	<code>list</code>	Returns list with <code>k</code> elements that were selected from the population <code>seq</code> , with replacement.
<code>sample(seq, k)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code> , <code>k(int)</code>	<code>list</code>	Returns list with <code>k</code> unique elements that were selected from the population <code>seq</code> , without replacement.
<code>shuffle(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	<code>n/a</code>	Randomly shuffles the list <code>seq</code> in-place (this function is mutable). To return a new list, use <code>sample(seq, len(seq))</code>

Stats Module			
Function name	Arguments	Return Type	Description
<code>mean(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	<code>float</code>	Returns the arithmetic mean of <code>seq</code>
<code>median(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	varies	Returns the median (middle value) of numeric data using the common “mean of middle two” method
<code>mode(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	varies	Returns the single most common data point in <code>seq</code> . If there are multiple modes with same frequency, returns first encountered.
<code>stdev(seq)</code>	<code>seq(list)</code>	<code>float</code>	Returns the sample standard deviation of <code>seq</code> .
<code>correlation(seq1, seq2)</code>	<code>seq1(list)</code> , <code>seq2(list)</code>	<code>Float</code>	Return's the Pearson's correlation coefficient for two inputs. Returned value will be between $-1$ and $1$ .

**Precedence of Operators**

Evaluate left to right when precedence is equal

1. Parentheses `()`
2. Exponent `**`
3. Multiplication `*`, Division `/`, Floor Division `//`, Modulus `%`
4. Addition `+`, Subtraction `-`
5. Comparison (`<`, `>`, `==`, etc.), Membership Operators (`in`, `not in`)
6. `not`
7. `and`
8. `or`

**Input and Print**

```
name = input('What is your name? ')
print('Hi', name+'!')
num = int(input('Guess a number: '))
print(name+', your number was:', num)
```

**File I/O**

```
in_file = open('data.txt') #open file
out = open('out.txt', 'w') #open file
for writing
for line in in_file: #reads line
    print(line) #prints line to screen
    out.write(line) #writes line to out
in_file.close() #close in_file
out.close() #close out
```

**For Loop**

```
#print each item in a sequence
for item in sequence:
    print(item) #loop body
```

**While Loop**

```
num = int(input('Guess a number: '))
count = 1 #initialize accumulator
while (num != 5):
    num = int(input('Guess again: '))
    count = count + 1 #update accumulator
print('Right! It took', count, 'tries.')
```

**Chained if, elif, else**

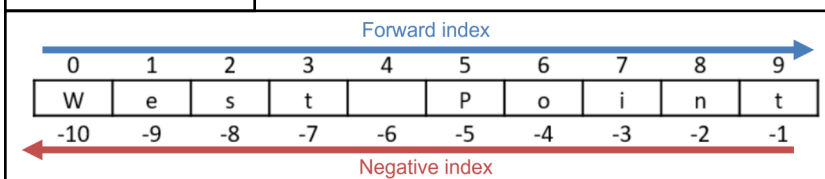
```
if boole1:
    #runs if boole1 is True
elif boole2:
    #runs if boole2 is True
    #but boole1 is False
elif boole3:
    #runs if boole3 is True
    #but boole1 and boole2 are False
else:
    #runs if everything else is False
```

List Methods			
Method name	Arguments	Return Type	Description
<code>.count(item)</code>	item (any type)	int	Returns the number of occurrences of <code>item</code> in the list. Does not modify the list.
<code>.append(item)</code>	item (any type)	n/a	Adds <code>item</code> to the end of the list.
<code>.insert(pos, item)</code>	pos (int), item (any type)	n/a	Inserts <code>item</code> at the given position <code>pos</code> .
<code>.remove(item)</code>	item (any type)	n/a	Removes the first occurrence of <code>item</code> in the list. It raises an error if <code>item</code> is not in the list.
<code>.pop([pos])</code>	optional: pos (int)	varies	Removes and returns the item at position <code>pos</code> in the list. If no argument is provided, removes and returns the last item. Raises an error if the list is empty or the index is outside of the list's range.
<code>.index(item)</code>	item (any type)	int	Returns the zero-based index of the first occurrence of <code>item</code> . Raises an error if <code>item</code> is not in the list. Does not modify the list.
<code>.reverse()</code>	n/a	n/a	Reverses the elements of the list, in place.
<code>.sort([reverse=False])</code>	optional only	n/a	Sorts the elements of the list in ascending order, in place. If <code>reverse=True</code> is set, will sort the list in descending order.

String Methods			
Method name	Arguments	Return Type	Description
<code>.count(substring)</code>	substring (str)	int	Returns the number of occurrences of <code>substring</code> in the string.
<code>.find(substring)</code>	substring (str)	int	Returns the lowest index in the string where <code>substring</code> is found. Returns <code>-1</code> if the <code>substring</code> is not found.
<code>.index(substring)</code>	substring (str)	int	Like <code>find</code> , but raises an error if <code>substring</code> is not found.
<code>.isalnum()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if string is non-empty and all the characters in the string are alphanumeric; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.isalpha()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if string is non-empty and all the characters in the string are alphabetic; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.isdigit()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if string is non-empty and all the characters in the string are digits; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.isspace()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if string is non-empty and all the characters in the string are spaces; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.islower()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if all the cased characters in the string are lowercase and there is at least one cased character; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.isupper()</code>	n/a	bool	Returns <code>True</code> if all the cased characters in the string are uppercase and there is at least one cased character; otherwise, returns <code>False</code> .
<code>.lower()</code>	n/a	str	Returns a copy of the string with all the cased characters converted to lowercase.
<code>.upper()</code>	n/a	str	Returns a copy of the string with all the cased characters converted to uppercase.
<code>.strip([chars])</code>	optional: chars (str)	str	Returns a copy of the string with leading and trailing characters removed. The optional <code>chars</code> string specifies the set of chars to be removed.
<code>.split([sep=None])</code>	optional: sep (str)	list	Returns a list of words in the string, using <code>sep</code> as the delimiter string. If <code>sep</code> is not specified, spaces are used as the delimiter.
<code>.join(list)</code>	list of strings (list)	str	Returns a string which is the concatenation of the elements in <code>list</code> , which must all be strings. The separator between elements is the string providing this method.

## Indexing Lists and Strings



## Writing Functions

```
# procedure example (note no return)
# print word in all uppercase:
def cow_say(word):
    print(word, 'moo!')    #hello moo!

cow_say('hello')           #invocation

#fruitful function example
def my_func(val):
    return val**3          #cubes val

ans = my_func(3)           #invocation
print(ans)                 # ans is 27
```