

Python Dictionaries

Chapter 9

What is a Collection?



A collection is nice because we can put more than one value in it and carry them all around in one convenient package

We have a bunch of values in a single “variable”

We do this by having more than one place “in” the variable

We have ways of finding the different places in the variable

What is not a “Collection”

Our **variables** have one value in them - when we put the **variable** - the old value is overwritten

```
$ python
```

```
darwin
```

```
>>> x = 2
```

```
>>> x = 4
```

```
>>> print x
```

```
!
```

Story of Two Collections

Linear collection of values that stay in order



Primary



"Bag" of values, each with its own label



ionaries



calculator

perfume

money

candy

Dictionaries

Dictionaries are Python's most powerful data collection

Dictionaries allow us to do fast database-like operations in Python

Dictionaries have different names in different languages

Associative Arrays - Perl / PHP

Properties or Map or HashMap - Java

Property Bag - C# / .Net

Dictionaries

index their entries
on the position in

t

ictionaries are like bags -
ler

e index the things we
the dictionary with a
p tag”

```
>>> purse = dict()
>>> purse['money'] = 12
>>> purse['candy'] = 3
>>> purse['tissues'] = 75
>>> print purse
{'money': 12, 'tissues': 75}
>>> print purse['candy']
3
>>> purse['candy'] = purse['tissues']
>>> print purse
{'money': 12, 'tissues': 75}
```

Comparing Lists and Dictionaries

Dictionaries are like lists except that they use keys instead of numbers to look up values

```
lst = list()
lst.append(21)
lst.append(183)
print lst
[21, 183]
lst[0] = 23
print lst
[23, 183]
```

```
>>> ddd = dict()
>>> ddd['age'] = 21
>>> ddd['course'] = 182
>>> print ddd
{'course': 182, 'age': 21}
>>> ddd['age'] = 23
>>> print ddd
{'course': 182, 'age': 23}
```



```
lst = list()
lst.append(21)
lst.append(183)
print lst
21
183]
lst[0] = 23
print lst
23
183]
```

List

Key	Value
-----	-------

[0]	21
-----	----

[1]	183
-----	-----

```
ddd = dict()
ddd['age'] = 21
ddd['course'] = 182
print ddd
{'course': 182, 'age': 21}
ddd['age'] = 23
print ddd
{'course': 182, 'age': 23}
```

Dictionary

Key	Value
-----	-------

['course']	182
------------	-----

['age']	23
---------	----

Dictionary Literals (Constants)

Dictionary literals use curly braces and have a list of **key : value**

To make an **empty dictionary** using empty curly braces

```
jjj = { 'DI' : 1 , 'Team' : 42 , 'jan' : 100 }  
print jjj  
' : 100 , 'DI' : 1 , 'Team' : 42 }  
ooo = { }  
print ooo
```

Most Common Name?

quard

cwen

cwer

n

marquard

zhen

n

zhen

csev

n

csev

marc

zhen

Most Common Name?

quard

cwen

cwer

n

marquard

zhen

n

zhen

csev

n

csev

marc

zhen

Most Common Name?

quard

cwen

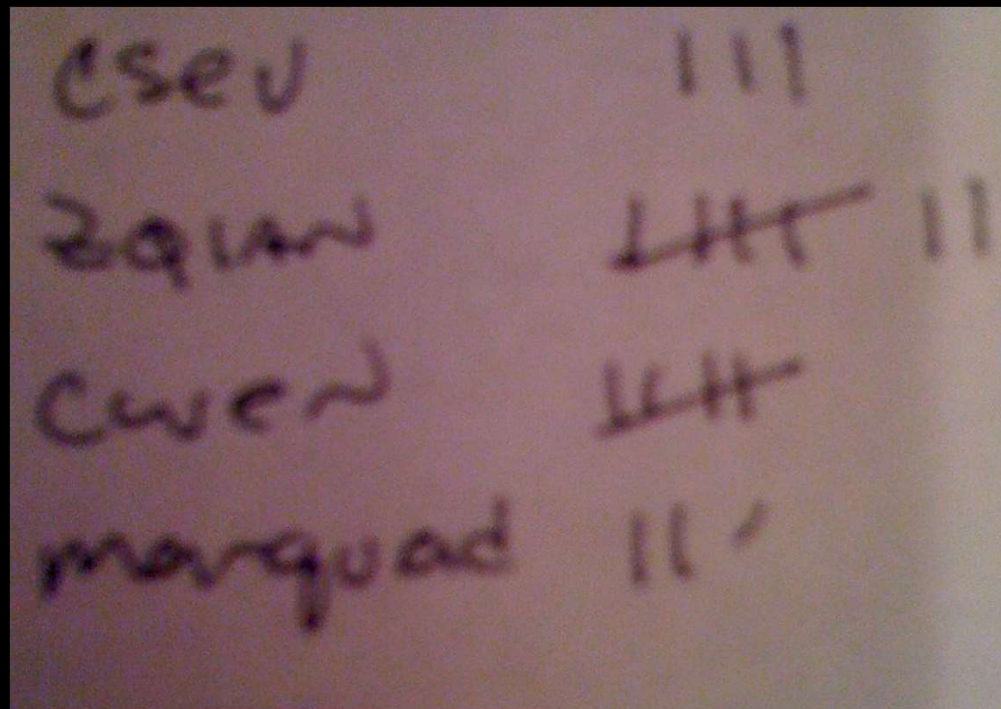
cwer

zhen

csev

marc

zhen



A photograph of a piece of paper with handwritten text. The text is organized into two columns. The left column lists names, and the right column lists corresponding counts or frequencies. The names are 'csev', 'zhen', 'cwen', and 'marquard'. The counts are '111', '111', '111', and '11' respectively. The handwriting is somewhat blurry and the paper appears to be a scan of a physical document.

csev	111
zhen	111
cwen	111
marquard	11

csev

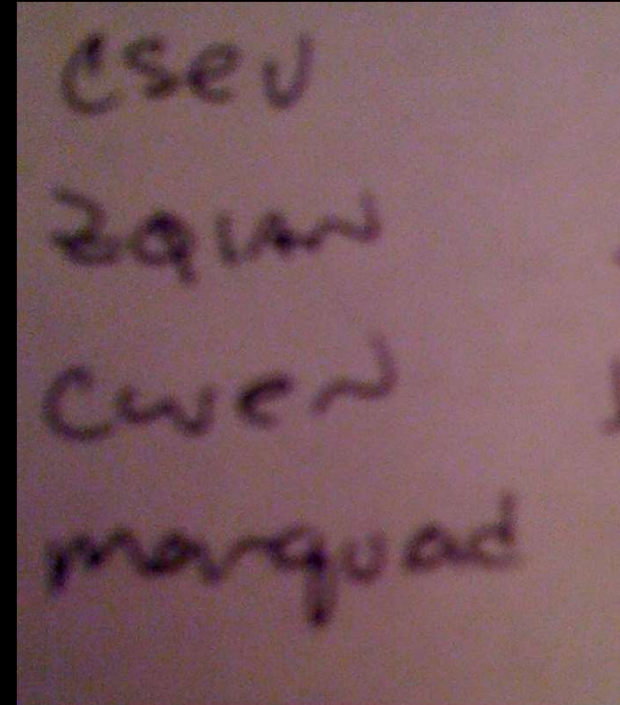
my Counters with a Dictionary

common use of dictionary is

counting how often we “see” something

```
ccc = dict()
ccc['csev'] = 1
ccc['cwen'] = 1
print ccc
{'csev': 1, 'cwen': 1}
ccc['cwen'] = ccc['cwen'] + 1
print ccc
{'csev': 1, 'cwen': 2}
```

Key



Dictionary Tracebacks

an **error** to reference a key which is not in the dictionary

can use the **in** operator to see if a key is in the dictionary

```
>>> ccc = dict()
>>> print ccc['csev']
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
KeyError: 'csev'
>>> print 'csev' in ccc
False
```

When we see a new name

we encounter a new name, we need to add a new entry to the **dictionary** and if this is the second or later time we have seen the name, we simply add one to the count in the **dictionary** under that name.

```
dict()
['csev', 'cwen', 'csev', 'zqian', 'cwen']
for name in names:
    if name not in counts:
        counts[name] = 1
    else:
        counts[name] = counts[name] + 1
print(counts)
```


the get method for dictionary

pattern of checking to see
if a key is already in a
dictionary and assuming a
default value if the key is not
found. So common, that there
is a method called `get()` that
does this for us

```
if name in counts:  
    x = counts[name]  
else:  
    x = 0
```

```
x = counts.get(name, 0)
```

value if key does not exist
(and no Traceback).

```
{'csev': 2, 'zqian': 1}
```

simplified counting with get

use `get()` and provide a default value of zero when the key is not in the dictionary - and then just add one

```
counts = dict()
names = ['csev', 'cwen', 'csev', 'zqian', 'cwen']
for name in names:
    counts[name] = counts.get(name, 0) + 1
print(counts)
```

Default



`{'csev': 2, 'zqian': 1}`

simplified counting with get

```
counts = Counter()
names = ['csev', 'cwen', 'csev', 'zqian', 'cwen']
for name in names:
    counts[name] = counts.get(name, 0) + 1
```

Counting Pattern

```
dict()
Enter a line of text: '
raw_input(' ')
line.split()
words: ', words
Counting... '
for words:
counts[word] = counts.get(word,0) + 1
print counts', counts
```

The general pattern to
words in a line of text
the line into words, then
through the words and
dictionary to track the
each word independently

Counting Words

count.py

of text:

after the car and the car ran into the tent

fell down on the clown and the car
, 'clown', 'ran', 'after', 'the', 'car',
, 'car', 'ran', 'into', 'the', 'tent', 'and',
, 'fell', 'down', 'on', 'the', 'clown',
, 'car']

: 3, 'on': 1, 'ran': 2, 'car': 3, 'into': 1,
'clown': 2, 'down': 1, 'fell': 1, 'the': 7,

```

)
line of text: '
ut('')
plit()

, words
g...'

rds:
d] = counts.get(word,0) + 1
, counts

```

python wordcount.py

Enter a line of text:

the clown ran after the car
into the tent and the tent fell
the clown and the car

Words: ['the', 'clown', 'ran',
'car', 'and', 'the', 'car', 'ran', 'i',
'tent', 'and', 'the', 'tent', 'fell',
'the', 'clown', 'and', 'the', 'car',
Counting...

Counts {'and': 3, 'on': 1, 'ran': 1,
'into': 1, 'after': 1, 'clown': 2, 'the': 7, 'tent': 2}

Infinite Loops and Dictionaries

Although **dictionaries** are not stored in order, we can write a loop that goes through all the **entries** in a **dictionary** - actually, it goes through all of the **keys** in the **dictionary** and **looks up** the value for each key.

```
counts = { 'chuck' : 1 , 'fred' : 42, 'jan': 1 }  
for key in counts:  
    print key, counts[key]
```

0

1

2

Getting lists of Keys and Values

get a list of
keys, or
(both) from a
dictionary

```
>>> jjj = { 'DI' : 1 , 'Team' : 42,  
>>> print list(jjj)  
['May', 'DI', 'Team']  
>>> print jjj.keys()  
['May', 'DI', 'Team']  
>>> print jjj.values()  
[100, 1, 42]  
>>> print jjj.items()  
[('May', 100), ('DI', 1), ('Team',  
>>>
```

What is a 'tuple'? - com

Thus: Two Iteration Variables

Loop through the
key-value pairs in a
dictionary using *two*
iteration variables

In each iteration, the first
variable is the **key** and
the second variable is
the corresponding **value**
of the **key**

```
>>> jjj = { 'DI' : 1 , 'May' : 100 }
>>> for aaa,bbb in jjj.items():
...     print aaa, bbb
...
May 100
DI 1
Team 42
>>>
```

```
input('Enter file:')
```

```
name)
```

```
file.read()
```

```
.split()
```

```
t()
```

```
words:
```

```
word] = counts.get(word,0) + 1
```

```
one
```

```
ne
```

```
nt in counts.items():
```

```
count is None or count > bigcount:
```

```
word = word
```

```
count = count
```

```
d, bigcount
```

python word

Enter file: wo

to 16

python word

Enter file: clo

the 7

Summary

What is a collection?

Lists versus Dictionaries

Dictionary constants

Most common word

Using the `get()` method

- Hashing, and lack of order
- Writing dictionary
- Sneak peek: tuples
- Sorting dictionaries