Python Exercises

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1 Beginner

1.1 Hi, guys!

Define a function called greet, which takes no argument and prints a random string by choosing a random greeting response from one of {"Welcome:))", "Heyy!", "Sup bro!", "Ahoy!", "Howdy-doody", "Greetings and salutations!", "Yo!", "Hola!", "Konichiwa!", "There you are!", "Well well, look at you!", "Salute plurimam dicit. Si vales, bene est, ego valeo.", "Valar morghulis". }

Hints:

1. random.choice

1.2 PrintPrint..Print nn..n timestimes..times

Define a function called print_n_times, which takes two arguments, a string s and an integer n, and prints the string n times, each on a separate line. If n is meaningless (negative, float etc.) or s is not string whatsoever, then call greet function from 1.1.

Hints:

1. If greet is far far away, import it.

1.3 How many minutes do we have today?

Knowing when the day will over is always useful. Define a function called get_minutes_left that takes two integer arguments, one is the hour $0 \le \text{hour} \le 23$ and the other is minute $0 \le \text{minute} \le 59$. Check the boundaries with assert, and returns how many minutes left to the midnight?

How many minutes left to the next day if the clock is 00.00?

2 Intermediate

2.1 Heads Tails Heads Tails

The coin flip experiment results in binomial distribution. The probability of getting exactly k successes in n trials is given by

$$\binom{n}{k}p^k(1-p)^{n-k} \tag{1}$$

where p = 0.5 is the probability of success in one event (heads or tails) and

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \tag{2}$$

Define a function called $\mathtt{get_coin_flip_prob}$ that takes n and k as arguments and returns the probability in Equation 1.

Hints:

1. math.factorial

2.1.1 Sample size matters

Test your function by computing the probability of 51 tails out of 100 trials and 510 tails out of 1000 trials. Which one is more probable?

2.2 Am I primal?

Write a function that checks given number is prime or not. If it is, print "Congrats! I am proud, you are prime."; if not, print "Well, you are not primal, but highly evolved."

Hints:

 $1. \ \, \hbox{Go up to square root}.$

2.3 Long live Euclid!

Euclid's algorithm is a method for finding the greatest common divisor (GCD) of two numbers. Recall that the GCD of two numbers ${\tt m}$ and ${\tt n}$ is the largest number that divides both ${\tt m}$ and ${\tt n}$.

Algorithm 1 Division method

```
1: function GCD(a, b)
2: while b ≠ 0 do
3: temp = b
4: b = a mod b
5: a = temp
6: end while
7: return a
8: end function
```

Algorithm 2 Subtraction method

```
1: function GCD(a, b)
2:
      while a \neq b do
          if a > b then
3:
             a = a - b
4:
          else
5:
             b = b - a
6:
7:
          end if
      end while
8:
      return a
10: end function
```

Algorithm 3 Recursive method

```
1: function GCD(a, b)
2: if b = 0 then
3: return a
4: else
5: return GCD(b, a mod b)
6: end if
7: end function
```

2.3.1 Divide, subtract and recurse

Implement all three versions above which takes two integers as its arguments and returns their GCD. You may assume that both inputs are integers, so there is no need to include any error checking in your function.

2.3.2 Dare testing Euclid?

Test your functions for following pairs and compare functions to their running times.

- 13, 13
- 20, 10
- 2017, 2018
- 5040, 60
- 73, 37

2.4 Rohan had come at last

In rode the Lord of the Nazgûl.

A great black shape against the fires beyond he loomed up, grown to a vast menace of despair.

In rode the Lord of the Nazgûl, under the archway that no enemy ever yet had passed, and all fled before his face.

All save one. There waiting, silent and still in the space before the Gate, sat Gandalf upon Shadowfax: Shadowfax who alone among the free horses of the earth endured the terror,

unmoving, steadfast as a graven image in Rath Dínen.

"You cannot enter here," said Gandalf, and the huge shadow halted.

"Go back to the abyss prepared for you! Go back! Fall into the nothingness that awaits you and your Master. Go!"

The Black Rider flung back his hood, and behold! he had a kingly crown; and yet upon no head visible was it set.

The red fires shone between it and the mantled shoulders vast and dark.

From a mouth unseen there came a deadly laughter. "Old fool!" he said.

"Old fool! This is my hour. Do you not know Death when you see it? Die now and curse in vain!" And with that he lifted high his sword and flames ran down the blade.

And in that very moment, away behind in some courtyard of the city, a cock crowed.

Shrill and clear he crowed, recking nothing of war nor of wizardry,

welcoming only the morning that in the sky far above the shadows of death was coming with the dawn.

And as if in answer there came from far away another note.

Horns, horns, in dark Mindolluin's sides they dimly echoed.

Great horns of the north wildly blowing. Rohan had come at last.

2.4.1 Counting 'is' good

An \mathbf{n} -gram is a sequence of items from a given sample of text. For a unigram, n is equal to 1. For a bigram n is equal to 2. An \mathbf{n} -gram can be at character level as well as word level. We will look at word level \mathbf{n} -grams here.

Extract the word-level unigram for the text above. Clean all punctuation, lowercase the words, and collect all the words.

Count all the words. What is the count of word 'is'?

Hints:

- 1. string.punctuation
- 2. collections.Counter

2.4.2 Oh my Lord

Extract the word-level bigram of the text, namely, the list of each two adjacent words.

Count all the pairs. What is the count of the phrase 'the lord'?

2.5 Behold, euler!

The base of the natural logarithm, e, can be defined as the infinite sum (Taylor expansion)

$$e = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{24} + \dots$$
 (3)

But earlier (18th century), Bernoulli defined the compound interest problem

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^x \tag{4}$$

Suppose you have a money in the bank. And the bank compounds the money annually. Equation 4 gives the increase rate of money if 100% interest is compounded in one year where x defines the number of the time that interest is applied. If x=1, 100% interest is applied only at the end of the year. Then total rate becomes 2, namely money is doubled. If x=2, 50% interest is applied twice through one year. In this case, total rate becomes 2.25. What happens when $x \to \infty$ as in the Equation 4? This is where Euler comes in. He calculated this converging sum and ended up an irrational number e=2.718281...

2.5.1 Compute $\lim_{x\to\infty} 1 + \frac{1}{x}^x$ uler

Define a function called $euler_limit$ that takes number n and approximates Equation 4. You may assume that the input to your function will be a positive integer.

2.5.2 Compute $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!}$ uler

Define a function called euler_infinite_sum that takes a non-negative integer argument n, and returns an approximation to e based on the first n terms of Equation 3.

Hints:

1. euler_infinite_sum(0) should give 0.

2.5.3 Get to know ϵ uler?

Define a function called euler_approx that takes an argument, a float epsilon, and uses the sum in Equation 3 for an approximation of e that is within epsilon of the true value of e.

Hints:

1. math.e

2.5.4 Say his name repeatedly!

Define a function called $print_euler_sum_table$ that takes a positive integer n as an argument and prints the successive values obtained from $euler_infinite_sum(k)$ as k ranges from 1 to n, one per line.

3 Advanced

3.1 A Story of Creation

3.1.1 What are Gods? Immortal Men.

In the beginning, there was only Chaos. No space, no time just endless Chaos. But Chaos was made of two siblings: the darkness (Erebus) and the night (Nyx). Their love gave birth to the Mother Earth, Gaia. And Gaia gave birth to the Father Sky, Uranus to equally cover herself. Then from their love 6 Titans, 6 Titanesses, one-eyed Cyclopses and hundred-arms Hecatoncheires were born. Titans ruled the Universe for a very long time.

Neither Father Uranus did not love his children nor the children did not love him back. He imprisoned them in Tartarus deep within the Earth where they gave pain to Gaia. She incited a riot among her children. One of the children, Cronus was willing to help his mother. He castrated Uranus and threw his testicles into the sea from which Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love was emerged.

New ruler, Cronus and his sister Rhea gave birth to the Hestia, Demeter, Hera, Hades, Poseidon and Zeus. Cronus thought that Zeus would be an opponent against him so he wanted to eat Zeus up. Rhea deceived Cronus by giving him a stone wrapped in baby's clothes.

After years, Gods have declared a war against the Titans. Gods have prevailed. Poseidon, Hades and Zeus possessed the Sea, the Underworld and the Sky respectively and sat on the throne in Mount Olympus. The Age of Gods had begun.

Define an Immortal class with following attributes: name, gender, essence.

- name: String. Name of the immortal.
- gender: String. Gender of the immortal. female or male.
- essence: String. Origin of the immortal. e.g. Sky for the God of Sky.

Write an initializer method that takes name, gender, essence. Immortals are binary(!) (gender must be female or male). Check if gender is given correctly.

Hints:

1. assert

3.1.2 Immortals, how should I call you?

Define two classes that inherit from Immortal: Titan and God. Both have attributes name, gender, essence. Write printing methods for both Titan and God to see the name and essence when you print it. e.g. "Apollo, the God of Sun", "Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom", "Gaia, the Titaness of Earth".

Hints:

- 1. __str__ or __repr__
- 2. Mind the gender!
- 3. Name and essence are titled.

3.1.3 What are Men? Mortal Gods.

... Titans were imprisoned in the eternal hell of Tartarus. But two Titans, Prometheus and Epimetheus stood by the side of the Gods. Zeus honored them with the task of creating all living things on Earth. Epimetheus gave the creatures a portion of Gods' abilities. Some had the ability to swim, to fly or to run fast. Some had thick furs and sharp claws for hunting. Meanwhile, Prometheus created humans with a great effort and gave them a reflection of the image of Gods. Zeus worried of seeing their reflections from above. He warned Prometheus that Humans must remain mortal and worship the Gods themselves.

Although humans have specialized in many areas like craft, art, philosophy, science, they were in need of protection and care of the Gods to stay alive on the wild Earth.

Define a Mortal class with following attributes: name, gender, profession.

- name: String. Name of the mortal.
- gender: String. Gender of the mortal.
- profession: Optional String. Default value is empty string. Profession of the mortal.

Write an initializer method that takes name, gender and optional profession. Mortals are free in genders. (Any type of gender is acceptable, no need Assertion).

Define classes that inherit from Mortal: Human and Creature. All have attributes name, gender, profession. Write a printing method for all to see the name and the profession of the mortal when you print it. e.g. "Mortal man Achilles the Warrior", "Mortal man Homer the Author", "Mortal woman Hypatia the Mathematician", "Mortal creature Succubus the Seducer".

3.1.4 Prometheus, show me how to burn!

...Prometheus was in agony to see his creations under oppression. He felt anger and vengeance against Zeus. So he presented less valuable parts of the meat of sacrifices made by Humans to the Gods. This made Zeus mad. He forbade the use of Fire on Earth to cook the meat or for any other purposes.

But Prometheus could not bear that his creations were unable to use this power. He climbed to Mount Olympus where the Fire was hidden inside the forge of Hephaestus, the God of Fire. He carried it down to the Humans. This power released the potential of Human mind and imagination. Hereafter, humans were able to harness nature, obtain better food resources and forge weapons. Civilization progress ramped up.

Zeus, the God of Gods were outraged when he saw all the lights spreaded around the Earth. He ordered that Prometheus was to be chained at the top of Mount Caucasus. A vulture would come daily to eat his liver which will be replenished at the end of the day. Prometheus was captured in an endless painful loop. However, he was at peace when looked at down below and see the sea of lights that illuminate his creations.

Define _illumination variable for only Human class at its initializer. Write get and _set methods for it. Define illuminate method that calls _set to increment _illumination. All the changes defined below in detail should be in Human class. Remember, Humans got the Fire!

- _illumination : Private Integer. At initializer. Initial value is 1 (A faint flame).
- _max_illumination : Private Integer. At initializer. Initial value is 1000.
- get_illumination(): Public method. Returns _illumination.
- _set_illumination(n): Private method. Sets _illumination to n. Bound it between [0, _max_illumination]. (Hint: max() of min() or min() of max())
- illuminate(delta): Public method. Increments _illumination by delta calling _set_illumination(n) and print new _illumination value e.g. Archimedes's illumination is 73. Prevent exceeding _max_illumination.

3.1.5 Eternal Fire, show me how to become Immortal!

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." — Pericles

Define influence_range for all classes that you have written. Define influence(character) method for both Immortal and Mortal classes. Define _become_immortal() method for only Human class. When _max_illumination is reached at illuminate(delta) method call _become_immortal().

- influence_range : Public range. At initializer of all classes. Initial values are as follows:
 - range(-1, 2) for Immortal
 range(-1, 2) for Mortal
 range(-2, 7) for Titan
 range(-5, 9) for God
 range(-1, 11) for Human
 range(-3, 5) for Creature
- influence(character): Public method. At only Immortal and Mortal classes. Takes a Human character, chooses random number delta in influence_range and call illuminate(delta) method. (Hint: Check character type with assert.)
- _become_immortal(): Private method. At only Human class. First check if _illumination reached to _max_illumination. Then change class type to Immortal, assign profession to essence and print new self. Call _become_immortal() method under illuminate(delta) method when _max_illumination is reached. (Hints: Use __class__ to change class type. Assign self.profession to a variable before changing class type.)

3.1.6 Ignite, burn and explode!

...The Fire was spread on Earth at the hands of Humans who are blessed and guided by Prometheus, the Titan of Fire. One of the regions on Earth where the lights of Fire shine very bright was called Ionia. Ionia's people held the Fire for generations and they harnessed the power of it to turned into knowledge and imagination. And some of the people were illuminated brightest among the mortals. So bright that meant to never fading fire which would be burning to the end of time, eternity. Their Fire guided all others who wanted to escape from darkness as once Prometheus guided them. They had become Immortals.

Define a stand-alone function (not a part of any class) spread_the_fire(influencers, flame_holders) as described below.

- influencers: List of Immortal and Mortal instances.
- flame_holders: List of Immortal and Mortal instances. Both list should contain at least one Human. The best influencers for Humans are Humans themselves! (Hint: Check with any and assert)

Algorithm 4 Spreading the fire algorithm

```
1: function SPREAD_THE_FIRE(influencers, flame_holders)
2:
      assert flame_holders contain at least one Human
      assert influencers contain at least one Human
3:
      while True do
4:
         Randomly choose one influencer
5:
         Randomly choose one flame_holder
6:
7:
         try influencing flame_holder
8:
         if AssertionError is caught then
             print the error
9:
             continue
10:
11:
12:
         if flame_holder became an Immortal then
13:
             break
         end if
14:
      end while
15:
16: end function
```

Some Immortal and Mortal instances you might want to use are as follows:

- Gaia, the Titaness of Earth Uranus, the Titan of Sky Chronus, the Titan of Harvest Atlas, the Titan of Endurance Prometheus, the Titan of Fire
- Zeus, the God of Sky Poseidon, the God of Sea Hades, the God of Underworld Apollo, the God of Sun Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom Dionysus, the Goddess of Wine Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love Ares, the God of War Hera, the Goddess of Marriage Artemis, the Goddess of Hunt Demeter, the Goddess of Harvest
- ullet Mortal man Homeros the Author ullet Mortal man Thales the Philosopher ullet Mortal man Socrates the Philosopher ullet Mortal man Plato the Philosopher ullet Mortal man Aristotle the Philosopher ullet Mortal man Archimedes the Inventor ullet Mortal man Aristarchus the Astronomer ullet Mortal man Herodotus the Historian ullet Mortal woman Theano the Philosopher ullet Mortal man Sophocles the Poet ullet Mortal man Ictinus the Architect ullet Mortal man Philias the Sculptor ullet Mortal woman Hypatia the Mathematician
- ullet Mortal gorgon Medusa the Monster ullet Mortal horse Pegasus the Flyer ullet Mortal hound Cerberus the Guard

Using the algorithm and sample characters described above, run spread_the_fire(influencers, flame_holders) and see who will be the first Immortal. You can also define an _influencers variable to see the most influent characters upon your Immortal.

- _influencers : Dictionary(Immortal or Mortal, Integer). Keys are influencer instance, values are their influence amount.
- get_influencers(): Public method. Returns _influencers.
- _set_influencers(influencer, delta): Private method. Increments the value of influencer in _influencers dictionary by delta.

Hints:

- 1. Call _set_influencers(influencer, delta) in Human class. Do not call it from outside!
- 2. Use setdefault to set default value of _influencers dictionary.
- Get influencer object with inspect.currentframe().f_back.f_locals['self']
- 4. import inspect
- 5. Set new influencers dictionary for Mortals that became Immortals since you cannot reach get_influencers() method.

3.2 Again, euler

Euler method is used to solve ordinary differential equations (ODE)s.

General first order differential equation form is

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y), \qquad y(t_0) = y_0 \tag{5}$$

We want to approximate the solution to (1) near t_0 . We only know the value of the solution and its derivative at initial point. We can get this by plugging the initial condition into f(t, y) into the differential equation itself. So, the derivative at this point is.

$$\frac{dy}{dt}\Big|_{t=t_0} = f(t_0, y_0) \approx \frac{y - y_0}{t - t_0}$$
 (6)

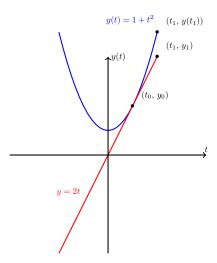


Figure 1: Sample approach for the plot of $f(x) = 1 + t^2$ with a tangent at $t_0 = 1.0$.

In Fig. 1, if t_1 is close enough to t_0 then the point y_1 on the tangent line should be fairly close to the actual value of the solution at t_1 . Finding y_1 is easy enough. All we need to do is plug t_1 in the equation for the tangent line.

$$y_1 = y_0 + f(t_0, y_0)(t_1 - t_0) (7)$$

This y_1 is only an approximation. If we accept the error, we can continue build up lines similarly.

$$y_2 = y_1 + f(t_1, y_1)(t_2 - t_1)$$
(8)

$$y_3 = y_2 + f(t_2, y_2)(t_3 - t_2) \tag{9}$$

In general, starting from the initial point, (t_n, y_n) we have an approximation at (t_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) like

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + f(t_n, y_n)(t_{n+1} - t_n)$$
(10)

If we were to take a constant step size

$$t_{n+1} - t_n = h \tag{11}$$

Equation (6) would be,

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h.f(t_n, y_n) (12)$$

But of course this step size may not be constant, but adaptive.

We start at initial point (t_0, y_0) and repeatedly evaluate new points with selected or adaptive step size. We continue until we reach the target point that we want to compute (We will acquire $y(t_f)$ for target point t_f).

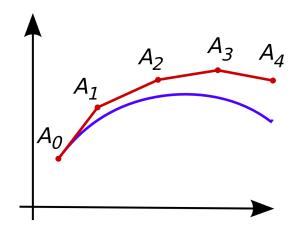


Figure 2: Euler approximation steps

Here is a pseudo-code for algorithm where n is the number of steps.

${\bf Algorithm} \,\, {\bf 5} \,\, {\bf Euler} \,\, {\bf method} \,\, {\bf with} \,\, {\bf constant} \,\, {\bf step} \,\, {\bf size}$

```
1: function EULER(f, t_0, y_0, n, t_f)
 2:
        Compute step size h
        \mathbf{for}\ i\ \mathrm{from}\ 1\ \mathrm{to}\ n\ \mathbf{do}
 3:
             Compute f(t_0, y_0)
 4:
             Compute new t_1
 5:
 6:
             Compute corresponding y_1
             Update t_0 and y_0
 7:
        end for
 8:
        return y_0
10: end function
```

3.2.1 Patience! Step by step

Write a function that takes function f, initial points t_0 and y_0 , number of steps n and target point t_f and returns approximate y_f value.

3.2.2 Dare to test euler?

Test your function for following differential equations with given initial points at desired target points with different number of steps n. Compare your results to given analytic solutions. Show your numerical results and analytic results and their relative errors for different n's.

$$i)$$
 $\frac{dy}{dt} = y + t$ $y(0) = 0$ analytic solution: $(y = e^t - t - 1)$

$$ii)$$
 $\frac{dy}{dt} = \sin t - \frac{y}{t}$ $y(0) = 0$

ii) $\frac{dy}{dt} = \sin t - \frac{y}{t}$ y(0) = 0 analytic solution: $(y = \frac{\sin t}{t} - \cos t)$

Hints:

- 1. Use only math library.
- 2. relative error = $\frac{|\text{predicted value-true value}|}{\text{true value}}$

3.3 Famous Monte Carlo

Monte Carlo methods are a broad class of computational algorithms based on repeated random sampling used for making numerical computations.

You will implement such an experiment to compute approximate value of π .

In Monte Carlo simulations two basic sampling methods exist. One of them is *direct sampling*. In the direct sampling method, we take samples independently for each step by choosing a random position in the space. Hence, if we use real random numbers, our new samples are independent of the previous ones, because we choose a new position randomly. By taking samples again and again, we sweep out the space and by using these samples, we can make calculations.

Other sampling method is Markov-Chain sampling. In the Markov-Chain sampling, our sample depends on the previous sample. Firstly, we start sampling from an initial position that is given or where the last simulation ends. Then, from the initial site, we move to another site on the space, in any direction and distance. This direction and distance again random, but, distance is limited to a value δ . By using this procedure, we visit other states and if the resulting state out of our space, then we reject the move. Hence, this limitation for the moves δ affects the rejection rate. If δ is very large, rejection rate shold be too high, this means that we generally do not move to another state; thus, our traveled path is small. Also, if δ is very small, acceptance rate becomes too high, this means that we generally move from state to another state; however, in this case our traveled path is, again, small and we cannot sweep out the space.

In this question you select random points with these two methods in space with circle and square where r is the radius of the circle and 2r is the length of square as seen below.

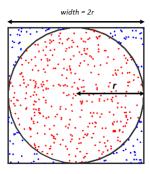


Figure 3: Collection of random selected points in sample space (tangential circle in a square)

3.3.1 Regresent with π ower and regretition

Use direct sampling to simulate experiment and compute approximate π value. Your simulations should take two parameters: power and repetition. Power represents number of samples. For example if power = 5, then number of samples should be 10^5 . Repetition represents number of repetition of one simulation to take the average of the π value. For example run your simulation with repetition = 10 and take the average π for those 10 simulations. Compare your results to real π value for different power and repetition values.

3.3.2 Chained to Markov!

Use Markov-chain sampling to simulate experiment and compute approximate π value. Start from random point in the space and move by random δ_x and δ_y along each axis at each step. If you go out of space, reject that point and choose different random points. Evaluate π values and rejection rate by

keeping step size constant and changing number of samples; and keeping number of samples constant and changing step size.

Hints:

- 1. Use only math and random libraries.
- 2. Use circle-to-square area ratio and solve for $\pi.$