



Program Design

Invasion Percolation: The Grid



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5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3	4
8	5	6	5	7	2	3	6	2
2	5	8	7	5	5	6	5	9
5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6	5
4	6	8	8	5	9	7	3	9
7	6	4	5	1	2	6	8	5
5	4	2	5	8	5	5	5	8
5	7	5	1	5	3	8	5	5
4	5	1	9	7	8	6	5	1

Need:
- a random 2D grid

5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3	4
8	5	6	5	7	2	3	6	2
2	5	8	7	5	5	6	5	9
5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6	5
4	6	8	8	5	9	7	3	9
7	6	4	5	1	2	6	8	5
5	4	2	5	8	5	5	5	8
5	7	5	1	5	3	8	5	5
4	5	1	9	7	8	6	5	1

Need:

- a random 2D grid
- to mark cells

5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3	4
8	5	6	5	7	2	3	6	2
2	5	8	7	5	5	6	5	9
5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6	5
4	6	8	8		9	7	3	9
7	6	4	5			6	8	5
5	4	2	5	8		5	5	8
5	7	5	1	5	3	8	5	5
4	5	1	9	7	8	6	5	1

Don't care about a
cell's value after it
has been filled

5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3	4
8	5	6	5	7	2	3	6	2
2	5	8	7	5	5	6	5	9
5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6	5
4	6	8	8	-1	9	7	3	9
7	6	4	5	-1	-1	6	8	5
5	4	2	5	8	-1	5	5	8
5	7	5	1	5	3	8	5	5
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So use any value that
can't ever be a real
cell value to mark
filled cells

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This kind of error can be very hard to track down

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Are grids always square?

5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3
8	5	6	5	7	2	3	6
2	5	8	7	5	5	6	5
5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6
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7	6	4	5	-1	-1	6	8

Are grids always square?

Are they always odd \times odd (so that there is a unique center square)?

5	3	7	2	6	1	1	3
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5	2	6	4	9	3	9	6
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How general should
we make the first
version of our
program?

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“Don’t build it until you need it.”

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How general should
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program?

“Don’t build it until you need it.”

VS.

“A week of hard work can sometimes save you
an hour of thought.”

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- True

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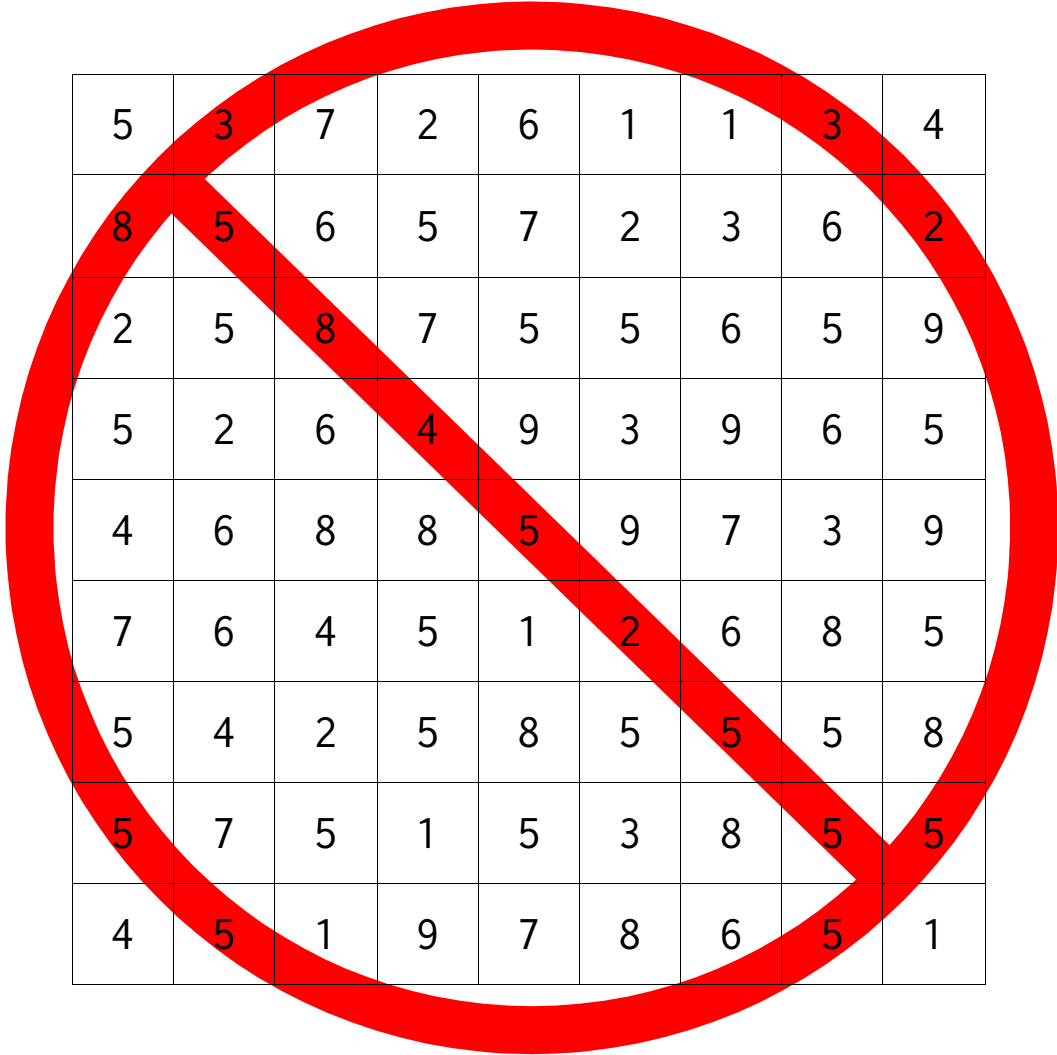
Knowing what rules to apply when comes with experience

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- True
- Not particularly useful

Knowing what rules to apply when comes with experience

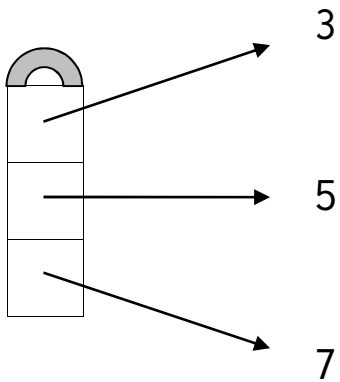
The only way to get experience is to work through many examples



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Problem: Python
doesn't actually have
2D arrays

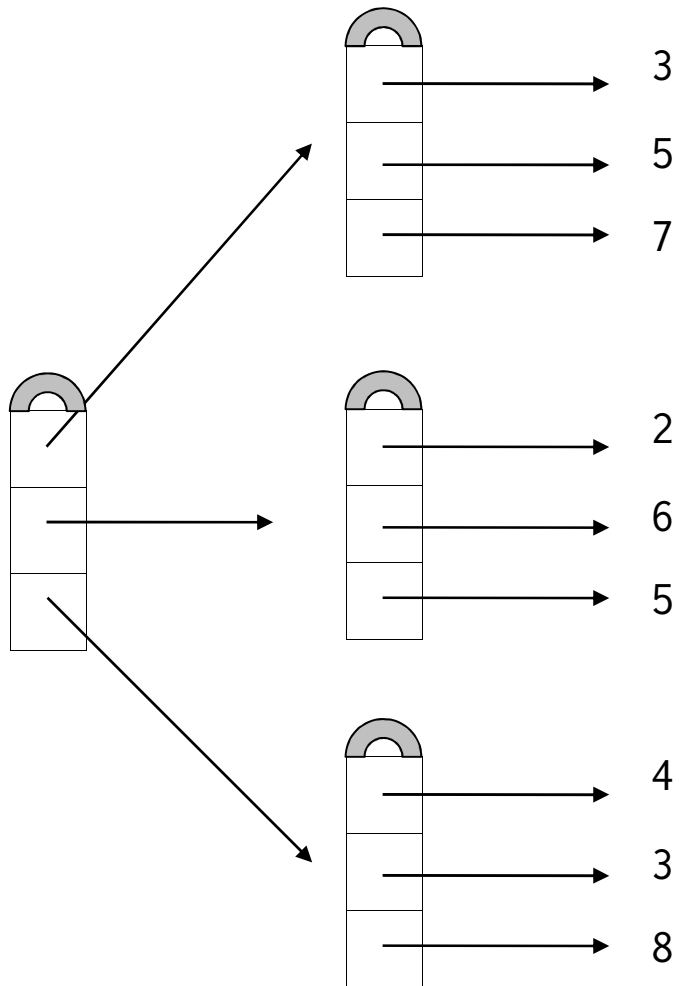
But it does have
1D lists



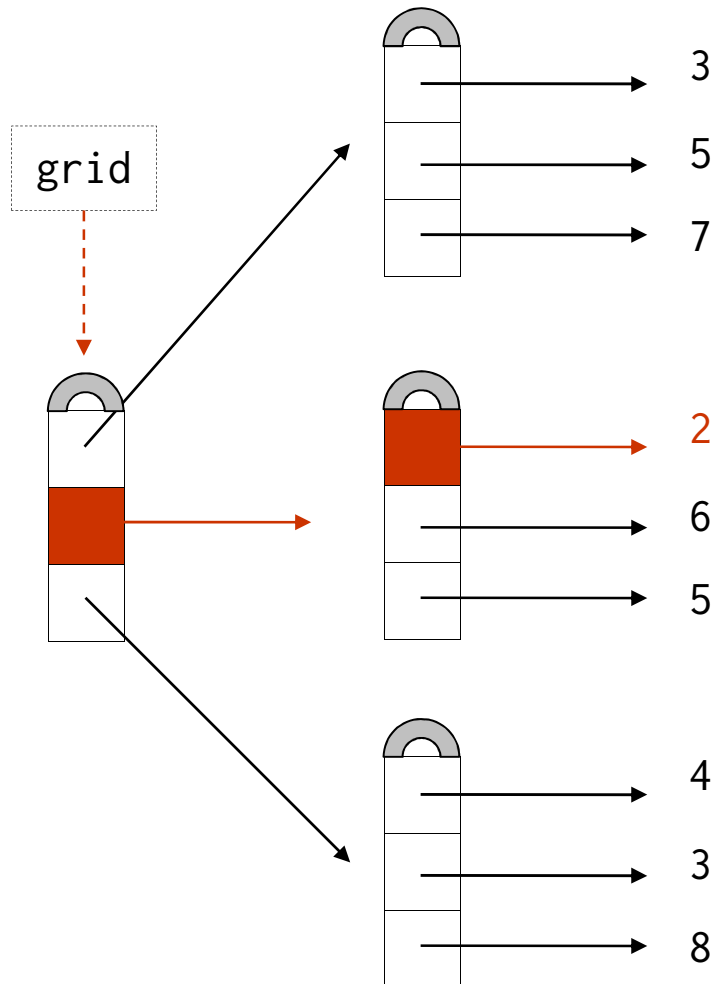
But it does have

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Which can refer to
other lists



`grid[1][0] == 2`



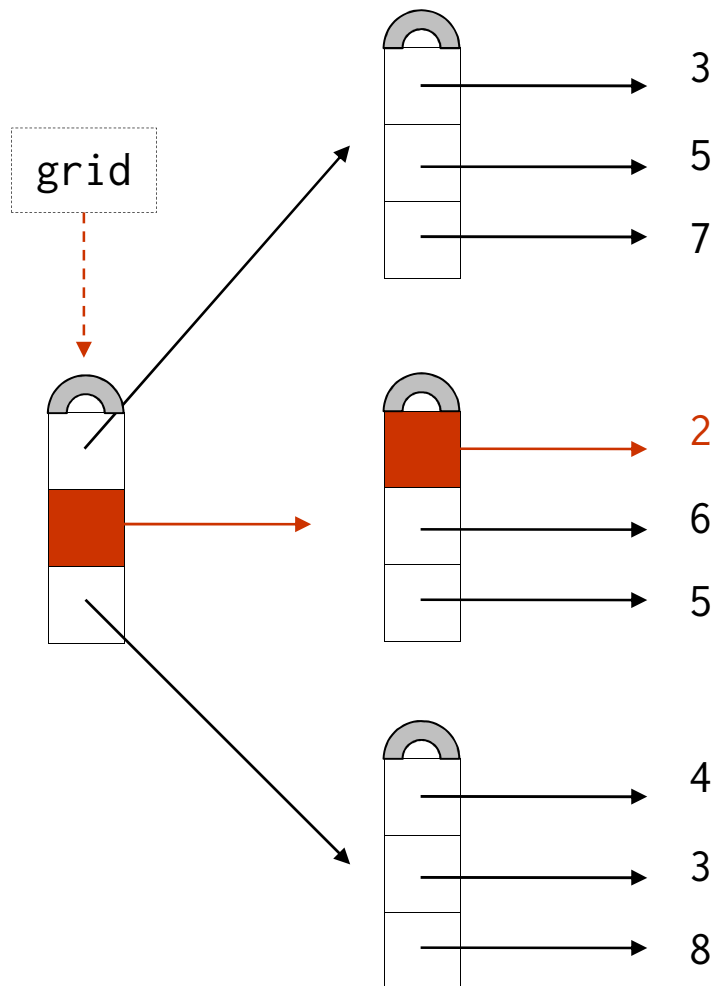
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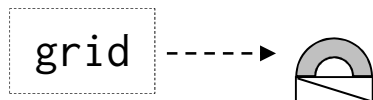
...which is really what
we mean by

“two-dimensional”

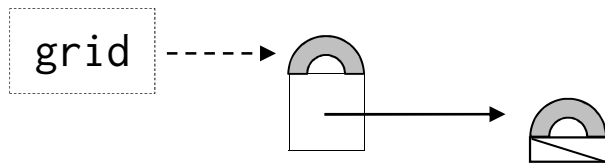
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# Create an NxN grid of random integers in 1..Z.
assert N > 0, "Grid size must be positive"
assert N%2 == 1, "Grid size must be odd"
grid = []
for x in range(N):
    grid.append([])
    for y in range(N):
        grid[-1].append(1) # FIXME: need a random value
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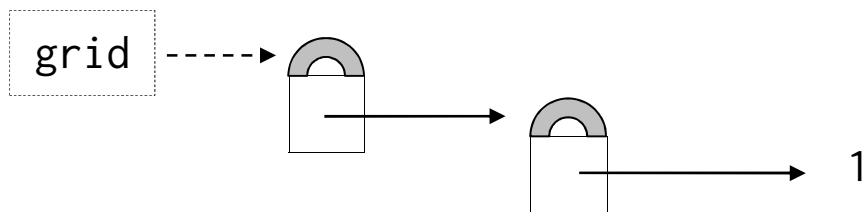
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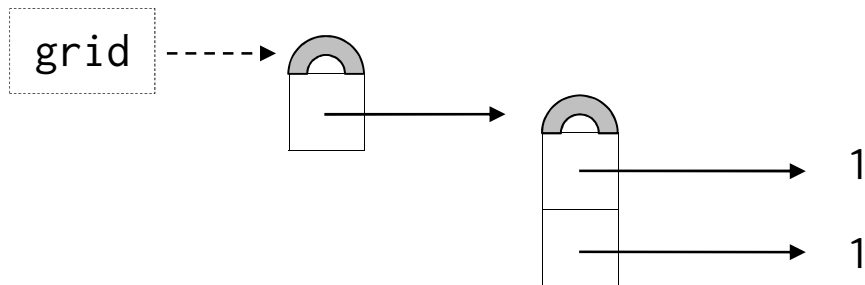
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created by

Greg Wilson

May 2010



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