

# Welcome to Data C88C!

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## **Lecture 10: Containers**

Tuesday, July 8th, 2025

Week 3

Summer 2025

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# Announcements

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- Project 01 ("Maps") released! [[link](#)]
  - Checkpoint: due Sunday July 13th
  - All: Due Thursday July 24th
  - Group size 2, but you can also work lone
- Practice online midterm (SU24) released on Gradescope
  - "(Optional) Practice Online Midterm (SU24)"
  - Get used to Gradescope exam format, as well as timed exam (120 mins)

# Midterm

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- Midterm scheduling
  - Midterm "main" time: Tuesday July 15th, 3pm-5pm PST
  - There will be a few alternate exam times
  - If you can't make ANY exam time: we will extrapolate your midterm score from your final exam score [\[link\]](#)
- DSP students: 150%, 200% time accommodations
- Midterm will cover everything up to and including Lecture 12 (Object Oriented Programming)
  - Includes: Lab07, HW07, Disc07
- More info will be shared out in the next 1-2 days!

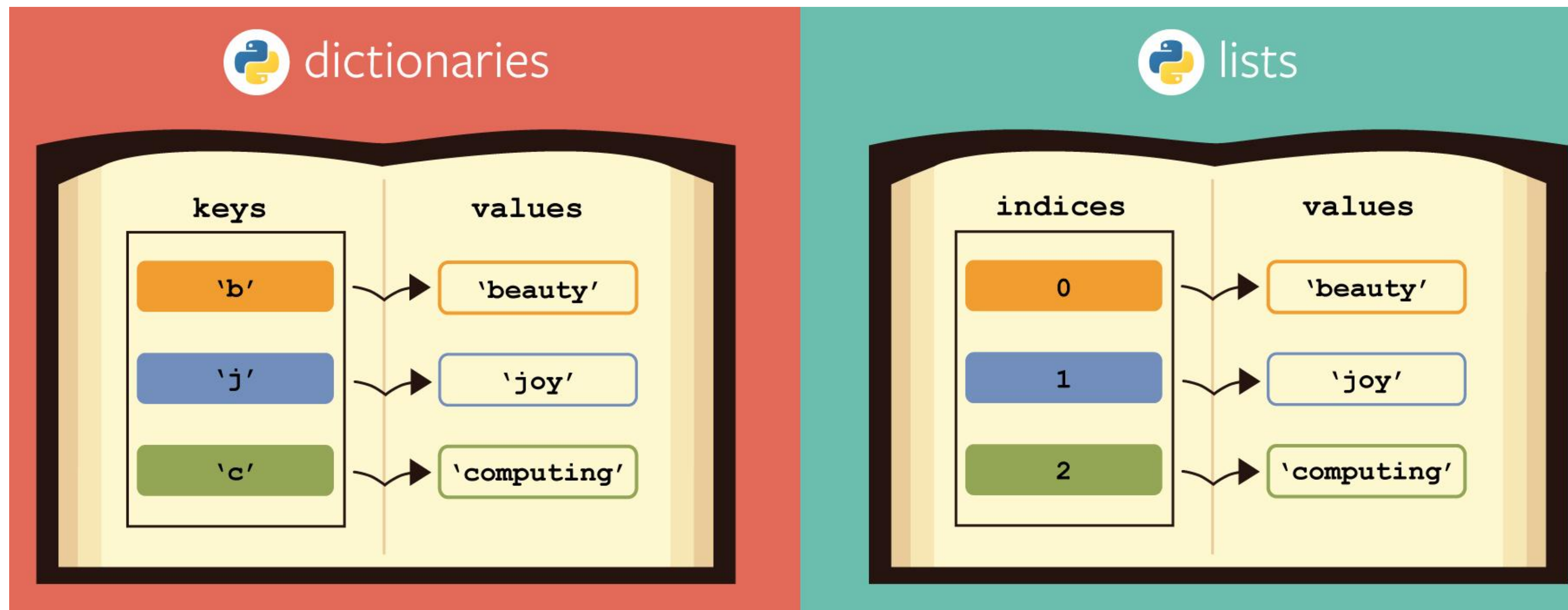
# Lecture Overview

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- Containers
  - dicts

# Python `dict`

- **Lists** let us index a value by a number, or position.
- **Dictionaries** let us index data by other kinds of data.
  - KEY -> VALUE mapping. Aka "**lookup table**"
- Extremely useful data type used in many languages/systems
- 



## dict basic examples

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```
>>> item_to_price = {}  
>>> item_to_price["apple"] = 1  
>>> item_to_price["soda"] = 2  
>>> item_to_price  
{'apple': 1, 'soda': 2}
```

Create the dict ("constructor").  
Another way to create this dict:

```
>>> item_to_price = {"apple": 1, "soda": 2}
```

```
>>> item_to_price["soda"]  
2
```

Retrieve value for a key ("Getter")

```
>>> item_to_price["latte"] = 5  
>>> item_to_price  
{'apple': 1, 'soda': 2, 'latte': 5}
```

Add new key+value mapping ("Setter")

```
>>> item_to_price["burger"]  
Traceback (most recent call last):  
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>  
KeyError: 'burger'
```

Note: asking for a key that's not in the dict will result in an error!

# (reference) common dict operations

Operation	Result
<code>dict((( 'key1', 'value1', 'key2', 'value2')))</code> <code>dict(key='value1', key2='value2')</code> <code>{'key1': 'value1', 'key2': 'value2'}</code>	Creates a dictionary with 'key1'-'>'value1, 'key2'-'>'value2' mappings. Constructors.
<code>d['key1']</code>	Returns the value for 'key1'. Throws a "KeyError" if 'key1' is not in the dict.
<code>'key1' in d</code>	Returns True if 'key1' is in the dict, False otherwise.
<code>d['key1'] = 42</code>	Sets a 'key1'-'>42 mapping. If 'key1' already exists in the dict, this overwrites the existing value.
<code>{key: value for (key, value) in [("key1", "value"), ("key2", "value2")]}</code>	Dictionary comprehension. Creates a new dict.
<code>d.pop('key1')</code>	Removes the key 'key1' (and its associated value) from the dict. Returns the value of 'key1'. Throws a "KeyError" if 'key1' is not in the dict.
<code>len(d)</code>	Returns the number of key+value pairs in dict.
<code>d.keys()</code>	Returns an iterator over the keys of the dict.
<code>d.values()</code>	Returns an iterator over the values of the dict
<code>d.items()</code>	Returns an iterator over the key+value pairs of the dict

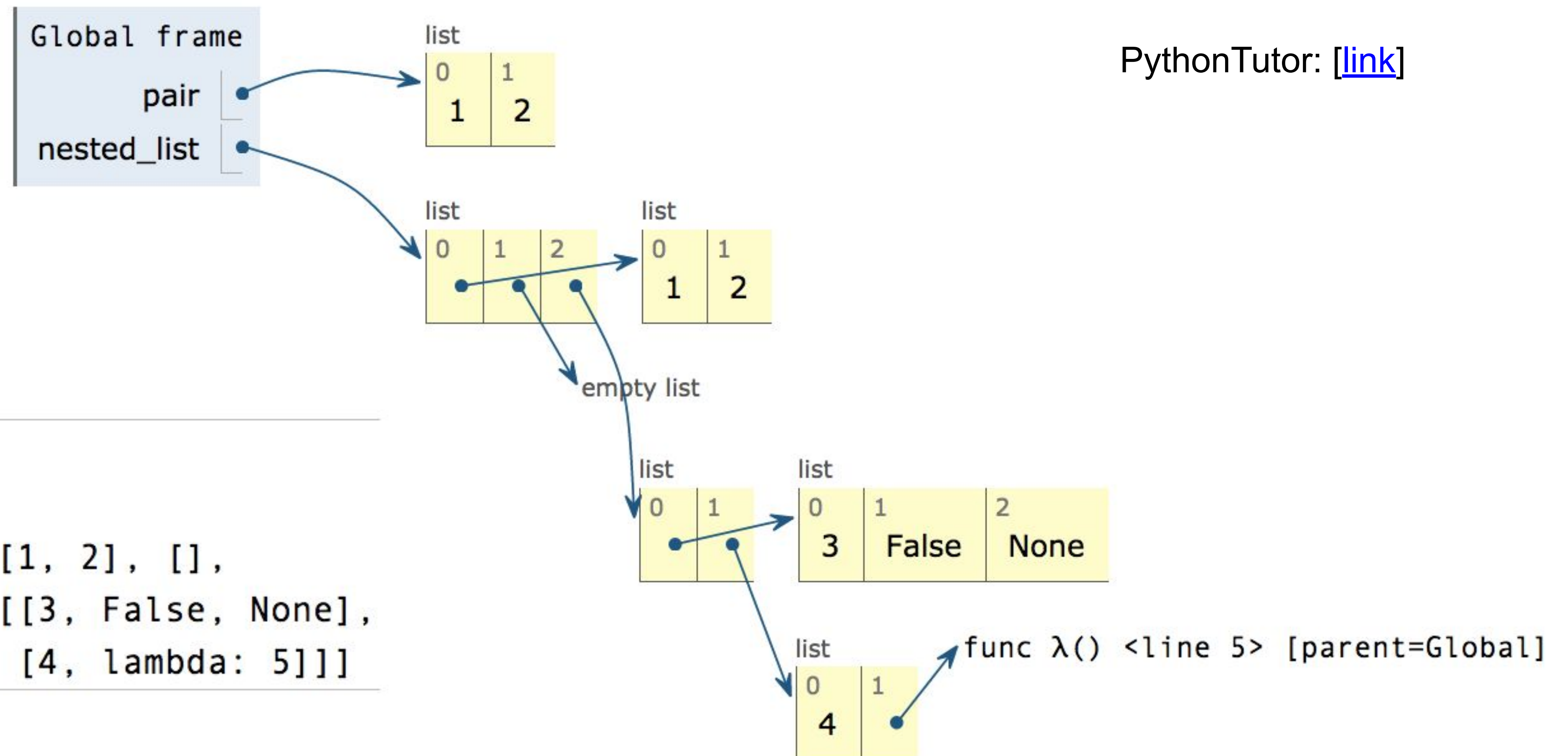
# Box-and-Pointer Notation



# Box-and-Pointer Notation in Environment Diagrams

Lists are represented as a row of index-labeled adjacent boxes, one per element

Each box either contains a **primitive value** (eg int) or points to a **compound value** (another arrow)



PythonTutor: [[link](#)]

```
1 pair = [1, 2]
2
3 nested_list = [[1, 2], [],
4                 [[3, False, None],
5                 [4, lambda: 5]]]
```

# Discussion Question

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**Question:** What's the environment diagram? What gets printed?

```
def f(s):  
    x = s[0]  
    return [x]  
  
t = [3, [2+2, 5]]  
u = [f(t[1]), t]  
print(u)
```

**Answer:** `[[4], [3, [4, 5]]]`

PythonTutor: [\[link\]](#)

## Double-Eights with a List

Implement `double_eights`, which takes a list `s` and returns whether two consecutive items are both 8.

*using positions (indices)...*

```
def double_eights(s):  
    """Return whether two consecutive items  
    of list s are 8.
```

```
>>> double_eights([1, 2, 8, 8])
True
>>> double_eights([8, 8, 0])
True
>>> double_eights([5, 3, 8, 8, 3, 5])
True
>>> double_eights([2, 8, 4, 6, 8, 2])
False
"""
for i in range(len(s)-1):
    if s[i] == 8 and s[i+1] == 8:
        return True
return False
```

*using slices...*

```
def double_eights(s):  
    """Return whether two consecutive items  
    of list s are 8.
```

```
>>> double_eights([1, 2, 8, 8])
True
>>> double_eights([8, 8, 0])
True
>>> double_eights([5, 3, 8, 8, 3, 5])
True
>>> double_eights([2, 8, 4, 6, 8, 2])
False
"""
if s[:2] == [8, 8]:
    return True
elif len(s) < 2:
    return False
else:
    return double_eights(s[1:])
```

## Double-Eights with a List

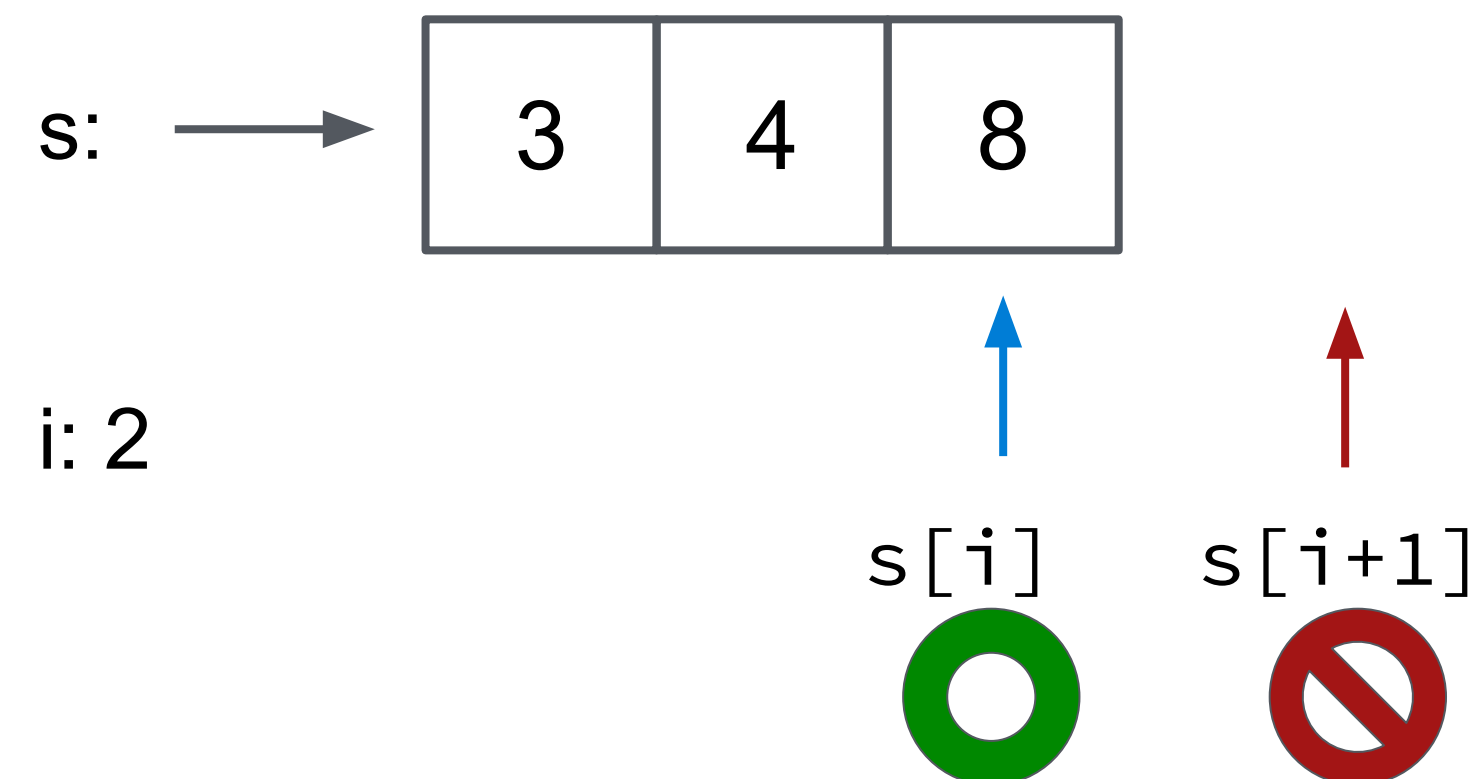
Implement `double_eights`, which takes a list `s` and returns whether two consecutive items are both 8.

```
def double_eights(s):  
    """Return whether two consecutive items  
    of list s are 8.  
  
    >>> double_eights([1, 2, 8, 8])  
    True  
    >>> double_eights([2, 8, 4, 6, 8, 2])  
    False  
    """  
    for i in range(len(s)-1):  
        if s[i] == 8 and s[i+1] == 8:  
            return True  
    return False
```

**Question:** why is it important for the range to be `range(len(s)-1)`? What if I instead used `range(len(s))`?

**Answer:** for certain inputs (ex: `s=[3, 4, 8]`), the code will crash with an "IndexError: list index out of range".

This is because, at the final iteration, `s[i+1]` will attempt to index outside of the list, and throw an `IndexError`.



Demo: PythonTutor: [\[link\]](#)

# Processing Container Values

# Aggregation

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Several built-in functions take iterable arguments and aggregate them into a value

- **sum**(iterable[, start]) -> value

Return the sum of an iterable (not of strings) plus the value of parameter 'start' (which defaults to 0). When the iterable is empty, return start.

- **max**(iterable[, key=func]) -> value  
**max**(a, b, c, ...[, key=func]) -> value

With a single iterable argument, return its largest item.  
With two or more arguments, return the largest argument.

- **all**(iterable) -> bool

Return True if bool(x) is True for **all** values x in the iterable.  
If the iterable is empty, return True.

- **any**(iterable) -> bool: return True if bool(x) is True for **any** value in iterable. If iterable is empty, return False.

```
>>> sum([1, 2, 3])
6
>>> max([1, 2, 3])
3
>>> max(1, 2, 3)
3
>>> all([True, 1 == 1, True])
True
>>> any([True, False, False])
True
```



## Spring 2023 Midterm 2 Question

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**Definition.** A *prefix sum* of a sequence of numbers is the sum of the first  $n$  elements for some positive length  $n$ .

(a) (4.0 points)

Implement `prefix`, which takes a list of numbers `s` and returns a list of the prefix sums of `s` in increasing order of the length of the prefix.

```
def prefix(s):  
    """Return a list of all prefix sums of list s.
```

```
>>> prefix([1, 2, 3, 0, 4, 5])
```

```
[1, 3, 6, 6, 10, 15]
```

```
>>> prefix([2, 2, 2, 0, -5, 5])
```

```
[2, 4, 6, 6, 1, 6]
```

```
"""
```

```
return [sum(s[:k+1]) for k in range(len(s))]
```

(a)

(b)

ii. (1.0 pt) Fill in blank (b).

☐ `s`

☐ `[s]`

☐ `s[1:]`

☐ `range(s)`

☐ `range(len(s))`

## Tree Recursion (with Strings)



## (again) Spring 2023 Midterm 2 Question 5

**Definition.** When parking vehicles in a row, a motorcycle takes up 1 parking spot and a car takes up 2 adjacent parking spots. A string of length  $n$  can represent  $n$  adjacent parking spots using % for a motorcycle, <> for a car, and . for an empty spot.

For example: '.%%.<><>' (Thanks to the Berkeley Math Circle for introducing this question.)

Implement **count\_park**, which returns the number of ways that vehicles can be parked in  $n$  adjacent parking spots for positive integer  $n$ . Some or all spots can be empty.

```
def count_park(n):  
    """Count the ways to park cars and motorcycles in n adjacent spots.  
>>> count_park(1)  # '.' or '%'  
2  
>>> count_park(2)  # '.. ', '.%', '%.', '%%', or '<>'  
5  
>>> count_park(4)  # some examples: '<><>', '▶.%%.', '▶%<>%', '▶%.<>'  
29  
"""  
    if n < 0:  
        return _____  
    elif n == 0:  
        return _____  
    else:  
        return count_park(n-2) + count_park(n-1) + count_park(n-1)  
        return _____
```

Three choices:

- (a) Place a car down (n-2)
- (b) Place a motorcycle down (n-1)
- (c) Leave an empty space (n-1)

# Spring 2023 Midterm 2 Question 5(b) [modified a lot]

**Definition.** When parking vehicles in a row, a motorcycle takes up 1 parking spot and a car takes up 2 adjacent parking spots. A string of length  $n$  can represent  $n$  adjacent parking spots using % for a motorcycle, <> for a car, and . for an empty spot.

For example: '.%%.<><>' (Thanks to the Berkeley Math Circle for introducing this question.)

Implement **park**, which returns a list of all the ways, represented as strings, that vehicles can be parked in  $n$  adjacent parking spots for positive integer  $n$ . Spots can be empty.

```
def park(n):
    """Return the ways to park cars and motorcycles in n adjacent spots.
    >>> park(1)
    ['%', '.']
    >>> park(2)
    ['%%', '%.', '.%', '..', '<>']
    >>> len(park(4)) # some examples: '<><>', '.%%.', '%<>%', '%.<>'
    29
    """
    if n < 0:
        return []
    elif n == 0:
        return [""]
    else:
        return ['%' + s for s in park(n-1)] + ['. ' + s for s in park(n-1)] + ['<>' + s for s in park(n-2)]
```

- Three choices:
- (a) Place a car "<>" down (n-2)
  - (b) Place a motorcycle "%" down (n-1)
  - (c) Leave an empty space "." (n-1)

park(3):

%%%

%%.

%.%

%..

%<>

.%%

.%.

..%

...

.<>

<>%

<>.