SciComp with Py

Functions & Sequences

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Outline

- 2nd (and Firmer!) Handshake with Functions
- Sequences: Strings, Lists, Tuples (aka Toops)
- Indexing & Slicing Sequences
- Iterating over Sequences
- Destructive & Constructive Modification of Sequences
- Function References
- Anonymous Functions



2nd Handshake with Functions

Newton Square Root Approximation



Newton's Square Root Approximation

- A common way to compute the square root of a number n is to use Newton's method
- Suppose that we initially guess that $sqrt(n) = g_0$; a better guess g_1 is obtained by computing the average of g_0 and n/g_0
- In general, given the current guess \mathbf{g}_i , the next guess \mathbf{g}_{i+1} is obtained as $(\mathbf{g}_i + \mathbf{n}/\mathbf{g}_i)/2$
- We keep going until our current guess is good enough



Functional Abstraction

We can abstract the following functions from the algorithm's description to implement it:

- 1) average(x, y): average of x and y
- 2) next_guess(n, g): next guess to sqrt(n) given current guess g
- 3) is_good_enough(n, g, error): is guess g good enough?
- 4) newton_sqrt_root(n, g, error): keep going until g is good enough
- 5) newton_sqrt(n): call newton_sqrt_root(n, 1, 0.0001)



Py2 Solution



AVERAGE

def average(x, y): return (x+y)/2.0

But keep in mind that you can also do from __future__ import division



NEXT_GUESS

This is next guess

This is current guess

Math

$$g_{i+1} = \frac{g_i + \frac{n}{g_i}}{2}$$

Py

def next_guess(n, g):
 return average(g, float(n)/g)



IS_GOOD_ENOUGH

Math
$$|g^2 - n| \le \epsilon$$

def is_good_enough(n, g, error):
 return abs(g**2 - n) <= error</pre>



NEWTON_SQUARE_ROOT

```
def newton_square_root(n, g, error):
    if is_good_enough(n, g, error):
        return g
    else:
        ng = next_guess(n, g)
        return newton_square_root(n, ng, error)
```



Py Solution: NEWTON_SQRT

0.0001 is the default value of error

def newton_sqrt(n):
return newton_square_root(n, 1, 0.0001)



Py2 & Py3 Solutions Side by Side

Py2 solution is in newton_square_root.py

Py3 solution is in newton_square_root_py3.py



Py Sequences

Strings, Lists, Tuples



Some Terminology

- BUILT-IN sequence type provided as part of the language
- HOMOGENEOUS sequence can store elements of only one type
- HETEROGENEOUS sequence can store elements of different types
- INDEXED/INDEXABLE elements of a sequence can be referred to by integers
- MUTABLE any element at a legal index can be changed
- IMMUTABLE no element at a legal index can be changed



Strings

- Strings are built-in, homogeneous, indexed, & immutable sequences of characters enclosed in matching double or single quotes
- Examples: "one", 'two', "abracadabra", 'abracadabra'
- String indexing is 0-based
- Strings are immutable: cannot be assigned into, only read out of



Example

```
>>> s = 'abracadabra'
>>> s[0]
                      This error shows that strings are immutable
'a'
>>> s[2]
>>> s[0] = '0'
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<pyshell#38>", line 1, in <module>
```

TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment

s[0] = '0'



Lists

- Lists are built-in, heterogeneous, indexed, & mutable sequences
- A list is any sequence of valid Py elements separated by commas and enclosed in []
- Lists are heterogeneous: [1, 2, 3], [1, 'one', 2, "two"]
- List indexing is **0**-based, i.e., indexes start at **0**
- A list can be assigned to a regular variable (so long as the variable's name is legal)
- Examples:



Programmatic Construction of Lists

Lists can be programmatically constructed by the methods list.insert() and list.append(); for those of you who know OOP, note that lists are objects:

list.insert(i, x) inserts **x** at position i in the list **list.append(x)** inserts **x** at the end of the list



Example: Adding Elements on the Left

Py Source

```
Istx = [ ]
```

lstx.insert(0, 3)

lstx.insert(0, 2)

lstx.insert(0, 1)

print 'lstx[0]', '=', lstx[0]
print 'lstx[1]', '=', lstx[1]
print 'lstx[2]', '=', lstx[2]

Output

$$Istx[0] = 1$$

$$Istx[1] = 2$$

$$Istx[2] = 3$$



Function LIST()

Py has **list()** function that can be used as a constructor to make empty lists or convert other sequences to lists; comes in handy when you need to convert strings to lists of characters

```
>>> x = list()
>>> x
[]
>>> y = list("abc")
>>> y
['a', 'b', 'c']
```



Tuples

- Tuples are built-in, heterogeneous, indexed, & immutable sequences of elements enclosed in ()
- Examples: (1, 2, 3), (1, "one", 2, 'two')
- Indexing is 0-based
- Tuples are immutable: cannot be assigned into, only read out of



Example: Immutability of Tuples

$$>> t = (1, 'a', 2)$$

This error shows that tuples are immutable

Traceback (most recent call last):

File "<pyshell#13>", line 1, in <module>

$$t[0] = 10$$

TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment



Indexing & Slicing



Non-Negative Indexing: Lists

Non-negative indexing allows you to access elements in lists from left to right. Examples:

```
lst = [1, 2, 3]
lst[0] == 1 ## returns True
lst[1] == 2 ## returns True
lst[2] == 3 ## returns True
lst[4] ## Index out of range error
```



Non-Negative Indexing: Tuples

Non-negative indexing allows us to access elements in tuples from left to right. Examples:

```
toop = (1, 2, 3)
toop[0] == 1 ## returns True
toop[1] == 2 ## returns True
toop[2] == 3 ## returns True
toop[4] ## Index out of range error
```



Non-Negative Indexing: Strings

Non-negative indexing allows us to access elements in strings from left to right. Examples:

```
s = 'abracadabra'

s[0] == 'a' ## returns True

s[1] == 'b' ## returns True

s[2] == 'r' ## returns True

s[2] == 'w' ## returns False
```



Negative Indexing

Negative indexing allows us to access elements in sequences *from right to left*. Negative indexing works the same way on lists, toops, strings. Examples:

```
Ist = ['a', 'b', 'c']
Ist[-1] == 'c' ## returns True, because 'a' is 1<sup>st</sup> element from the right
Ist[-2] == 'b' ## returns True, because 'b' is 2<sup>nd</sup> element from the right
Ist[-3] == 'a' ## returns True, because 'c' is 3<sup>rd</sup> element from the right
```



Sequence Slicing

- If seq is a sequence (list, string, toop), a slice of that seq is a subsequence of elements
- For example, if seq is a list, then a slice is a sub-list; if seq is a tuple, then a slice is a tuple
- A slice is specified by its start and end indexes; e.g., seq[start:end]
- A slice seq[start:end] includes all elements from seq[start] upto seq[end-1]



Sequence Slicing

Both negative and non-negative indices can be used in slicing. Examples:

```
Ist = ['one', 'two', 'three', 'four', 'five']
    slice_01 = Ist[1:4] ## ['two', 'three', 'four']
    Ist = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
    Ist[-4:-1] == [2, 3, 4] ## returns True
## Ist[-4:-1] consists of Ist[-4], Ist[-3], and Ist[-2]. The
## element Ist[-1] is not included.
```



Sequence Slicing

- If the start index of a slice is omitted, the slice is assumed to start at 0
- If the end index of a slice is omitted, the slice is assumed to go upto and *including* the last valid index
- Examples:

```
Ist = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
Ist[:3] == [1, 2, 3] ## returns True
Ist = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
print Ist[2:], "\n" ## prints [3, 4, 5]
```



Stepping Through Slices

- You can specify a sampling step when specifying a slice
- Both non-negative and negative indices can be used
- Examples:

```
lst = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
lst[0:10:3]  ## every 3rd element from 0 upto 9: [1, 4, 7, 10]
lst[1:10:2]  ## every 2nd element from 1 upto 9: [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
lst[9:0:-3]  ## every 3rd element from 9 to 1: [10, 7, 4]
lst[5::-2]  ## start at lst[5] and go left every 2nd element
lst[:5:-2]  ## end at 5 by going left from the right end of the list
```



Iterating Over Sequences



Iteration

- Sequence iteration is an operation of traversing individual elements of a sequence in a specific order, typically, either left to right or right to left
- Standard control structures are used to iterate over sequences: for & while loops
- Sequences can also be iterated over with list comprehension and generators (we will study both later in the course)



Problem

Write a Py program that take a list of numbers and prints each number on a separate line.



FOR Loop

Py Source

Output

```
1
2
3
4
```



FOR Loops & Ranges

Py Source

Output

```
Ist[ 0 ]= 1
Ist[ 1 ]= 2
Ist[ 2 ]= 3
Ist[ 3 ]= 4
```



Numerical Ranges in Py2 & Py3

Py2 has two numerical range functions: range(start, end) & xrange(start, end)

range() constructs an explicit list from start to end-1
xrange() constructs a lazy sequence from start to end-1
in lazy sequences, elements are produced on demand, one at a
 time, as they are accessed, w/o storing all elements in memory
bottom line: in Py2, use xrange() on large ranges, e.g.,
xrange(0, 1000000)

Py3 does not have xrange(); range() works the same way as xrange() in Py2: this is another case of backward incompatibility

Numerical Ranges in Py2 & Py3

Py2

Py3

Py2 Output

Py3 Output



Problem

Write Py & PL programs that take a list of numbers and replaces each number in the list with its square root.



List Iteration & Destructive Modification

Py2 Source

Output

```
1.0
1.41421356237
1.73205080757
2.0
```



Destructive Modification of Sequences



Passing Sequences by Reference

- In Py, sequences are passed to functions *by reference*, not by value (there is no such thing in Py as *pass by value* like in C++)
- If a function destructively modifies a mutable sequence, e.g., a list or a set, passed to it, the sequence is permanently modified
- If you want to keep the original sequence unmodified, make a copy of it

Passing Lists by Reference

Problem

Write a function that takes a list of numbers and destructively modifies it by replacing each number with its square root. This is called *destructive modification*.

Py2 source is in py2_lists.py Py3 source is in py3_lists.py



Passing Lists by Reference

Py2

```
def sqrt_list(a_lst):
   for i in xrange(0, len(a_lst)):
      a_lst[i] **= .5
```

```
lst = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print lst
sqrt_list(lst)
print lst
```

Py2 Output

```
[1, 2, 3, 4]
[1.0, 1.4142135623730951, 1.7320508075688772, 2.0]
```



Passing Lists by Reference

Py3

```
def sqrt_list(a_lst):
    for i in range(0, len(a_lst)):
        a_lst[i] **= .5
```

```
Ist = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print(lst)
sqrt_list(lst)
print(lst)
```

Py3 Output

```
[1, 2, 3, 4]
[1.0, 1.4142135623730951, 1.7320508075688772, 2.0]
```



Passing Sets by Reference

Problem

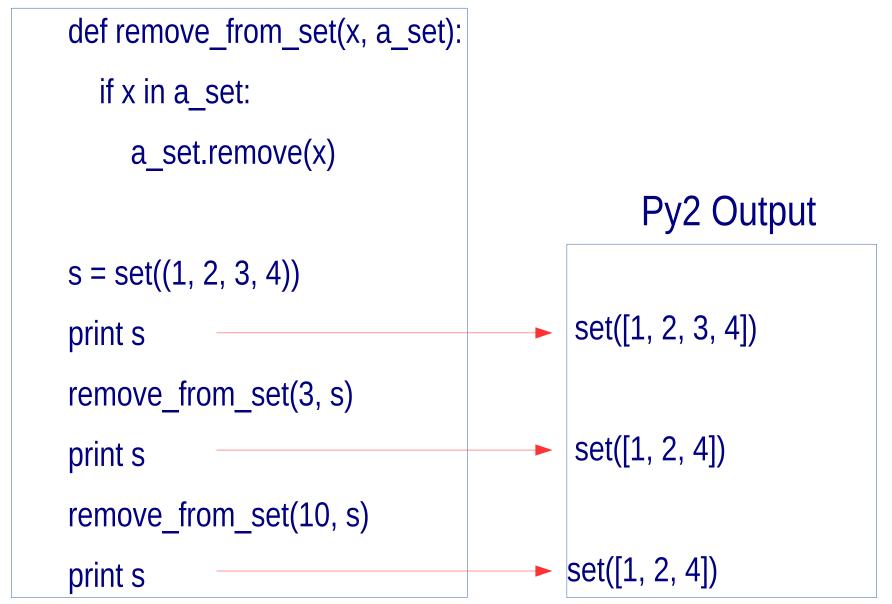
Write a function that takes a set of numbers and destructively modifies it by removing a given number if that number is in the set.

Py2 source is in py2_sets.py Py3 source is in py3_sets.py



Passing Sets by Reference in Py2

Py2





Passing Sets by Reference in Py3

Py3

Py3 Output

```
def remove_from_set(x, a_set):
  if x in a set:
                                     Note that sets in Py3 are displayed
     a set.remove(x)
                                     differently than in Py2
s = set((1, 2, 3, 4))
                                   {1, 2, 3, 4}
print(s)
remove_from_set(3, s)
                                   1, 2, 4
print(s)
remove from set(10, s)
                                     \{1, 2, 4\}
print(s)
```



Constructive Modification of Sequences



Copying Lists

Problem

Write a function that takes a list of numbers and returns a new list of the square roots of the numbers in the original list. The original list is unchanged.

Py2 source is in py2_lists.py Py3 source is in py3_lists.py



Copying Lists

Making a shallow copy of argument list

Py2 Output

```
Py2
import copy
def sqrt_list_copy(a_list):
  shallow_copy = copy.copy(a_list)
  for i in xrange(len(shallow_copy)):
     shallow copy[i] **= 0.5
  return shallow copy
lst = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print lst
sqrt of lst = sqrt list copy(lst)
print sqrt_of_lst
print lst
```

```
[1, 2, 3, 4]
[1.0, 1.4142135623730951, 1.7320508075688772, 2.0]
[1, 2, 3, 4]
```



Copying Lists

Making a shallow copy of argument list

Py3 Output

```
import copy
def sqrt_list_copy(a_list):
  shallow_copy = copy.copy(a_list)
  for i in range(len(a list)):
     shallow copy[i] **= 0.5
  return shallow_copy
lst = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print(lst)
sqrt_of_lst = sqrt_list_copy(lst)
print(sqrt_of_lst)
print(lst)
```

Py3

```
[1, 2, 3, 4]
[1.0, 1.4142135623730951, 1.7320508075688772, 2.0]
[1, 2, 3, 4]
```



Copying Sets

Problem

Write a function that takes a set **S** of numbers and a number **x** and returns a new set that contains all numbers of **S** except **x**. The original set is unchanged.

Py2 source is in py2_sets.py Py3 source is in py3_sets.py



Py2

```
def remove_from_set_copy(x, a_set):
  shallow_copy = a_set.copy()
  if x in a set:
     shallow copy.remove(x)
     return shallow copy
  else:
     return shallow copy
s = set([1, 2, 3, 4])
print s
copy_of_s = remove_from_set_copy(2, s)
print copy of s
print s
```

Copying Sets in Py2

Py2 Output

```
set([1, 2, 3, 4])
set([1, 3, 4])
set([1, 2, 3, 4])]
```



Py3

```
def remove_from_set_copy(x, a_set):
  shallow copy = a set.copy()
  if x in a set:
     shallow_copy.remove(x)
     return shallow copy
  else:
     return shallow copy
s = set([1, 2, 3, 4])
print(s)
copy_of_s = remove_from_set_copy(2, s)
print(copy_of_s)
print(s)
```

Copying Sets in Py3

Py3 Output

```
{1, 2, 3, 4}
{1, 3, 4}
{1, 2, 3, 4}
```



Function References



Function References

- It is possible to pass functions by reference to other functions/methods
- Functions are first-order objects, i.e., there is nothing special about a function reference - once there is a name for a function, it is possible to pass that name to other functions
- If a function has a name, you can pass a named reference
- If a function does not have a name, you can pass an anonymous reference

Passing Named Function References

Problem

Write a function predicate that returns **True** if a number is prime and **False** when it is not. Then write another function that takes a reference to this predicate to compute a list of primes in a specific range.

Py2 source is in py2_prime_sifter.py Py3 source is in py3_prime_sifter.py



Two Versions of IS_PRIME Predicate in Py2

```
import math
def is_prime(n):
  if n < 2: return False
  if n == 2: return True
  for d in xrange(2, int(math.sqrt(n))+1):
     if n \% d == 0:
        return False
  return True
```

```
import math
def is prime2(n):
  if n < 2: return False
  if n == 2: return True
  for d in xrange(2, int(n/2.0)+1):
     if n \% d == 0:
        return False
  return True
```



Two Versions of IS_PRIME Predicate in Py3

```
import math
def is_prime(n):
  if n < 2: return False
  if n == 2: return True
  for d in range(2, int(math.sqrt(n))+1):
     if n \% d == 0:
        return False
  return True
```

```
import math
def is prime2(n):
  if n < 2: return False
  if n == 2: return True
  for d in range(2, int(n/2)+1):
     if n \% d == 0:
        return False
  return True
```



Passing Named Function Reference to Another Function

Py2

```
def sift_primes_in_range(prime_pred, number_range):
  prime list = []
  for n in number_range:
     if prime pred(n):
       prime list.append(n)
  return prime list
prime_list_1 = sift_primes_in_range(is_prime, xrange(0, 31))
print prime list 1
prime list 2 = sift primes in range(is prime2, xrange(0, 31))
print prime list 2
```

is_prime is a named function reference

Py2 Output

[2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29]

[2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29]

is_prime2 is a named function reference



Passing Named Function Reference to Another Function

Py3

```
def sift_primes_in_range(prime_pred, number_range):
  prime list = []
  for n in number_range:
     if prime_pred(n):
       prime list.append(n)
  return prime list
prime list 1 = sift primes in range(is prime, range(0, 31))
print(prime list 1)
prime_list_2 = sift_primes_in_range(is_prime2, range(0, 31))
```

print(prime list 2)

is_prime is a named function referencev

Py3 Output

[2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29]

[2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29]

is_prime2 is a named function reference



Anonymous Functions



Py Lambdas

- Sometimes we may not want to define a named function
- Instead we would like to create a function as our program is running and then throw the function away instead of formally defining it with a name
- These forms are known as lambdas (aka anonymous functions)



Py Lambdas

- Lambda functions were planned to be dropped in Py3
- The Py3 community's arguments was as follows: lambdas are not needed when there is list comprehension (more on list comprehension later in the course)
- Having both lambdas & list comprehension violates the Zen of Python: there should be one obvious way to solve the problem
- However, lambdas are still part of Py3 due to the fierce resistance from the Py2 community

Py Lambda Syntax

- The general syntax for the lambda expression in Py is as follows: lambda argument_list: expression
- argument_list is a comma-separated list of arguments
- expression is any valid Py expression
- Examples:
 - lambda x: x**2
 - lambda x, y: x**2 + y**3
 - lambda x, y, z: (x**2, y**3, z**4)



Mapping Functions Over Sequences

- Anonymous functions are used in mapping over sequences
- In Py2 & Py3, the syntax is the same:

map(fun, seq0, seq1, seq2, ..., seqn)

- The number of sequences, i.e., **n**, depends on the number of arguments of the function **fun**; this function can be named or anonymous
- In Py2, map returns a list of outputs of applying fun to the corresponding elements of seq0, seq1, seq2, ..., seqn
- In Py3, map returns an iterable map object



Named Py2 Function

def add10(x):

return x+10

Mapping Named Py2 Function

>>> map(add10, [1, 2, 3, 4])

[11, 12, 13, 14]

>>> map(add10, (1, 2, 3, 4))

[11, 12, 13, 14]

>>> map(add10, set([1, 2, 3, 4]))

[11, 12, 13, 14]

Mapping add10 over a list

Mapping add10 over a tuple

Mapping add10 over a set



Named Py2 Function

def add10(x): return x+10

```
Mapping lamda over a list
Mapping Anonymous Py2 Function
>>> map(lambda x: x+1, [1, 2, 3])
                                              Mapping lamda over a tuple
[2, 3, 4]
>>> map(lambda x: x*10, (1, 2, 3))
                                               Mapping lamda over a set
[10, 20, 30]
>>> map(lambda c: ord(c), set('abc')
                                      Mapping 2-argument lambda over a list
[97, 99, 98]
                                                  and a tuple
>>> map(lambda x, y: x*y, [1, 2, 3], (4, 5, 6))
[4, 10, 18]
```



Named Py2 Function

def f(x, y): return x*y

Mapping Named Two-Argument Py2 Function

```
>>> map(f, [1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6])
[4, 10, 18]
>>> map(f, (1, 2, 3), [4, 5, 6])
[4, 10, 18]
>>> map(f, set([1, 2, 3]), [4, 5, 6])
[4, 10, 18]
```



Mapping Anonymous Functions Over Sequences in Py2

```
>>> map(lambda x: x+1, [1, 2, 3])
[2, 3, 4]
>>> map(lambda x: x*10, (1, 2, 3))
[10, 20, 30]
>>> map(lambda c: ord(c), set('abc'))
[97, 99, 98]
>>> map(lambda x, y: x*y, [1, 2, 3], (4, 5, 6))
[4, 10, 18]
```

Note that in Py2 map operations always return lists



Named Py3 Function

def add10(x):

return x+10

Mapping Named Py3 Function

```
>>> map1 = map(add10, [1, 2, 3, 4])
>>  map2 = map(add10, (1, 2, 3, 4))
>>> map3 = map(add10, set([1, 2, 3, 4]))
>>> map1
<map object at 0x7f1d60d40400>
>>> map2
<map object at 0x7f1d60d40b70>
>>> map3
<map object at 0x7f1d60d40b00>
```





Iterating over Maps in Py3

Py3 Map

```
>>> map1 = map(add10, [1, 2, 3, 4])
```

>>> map1

<map object at 0x7f1d60d40400>

Iterating over Py3 Map



List Construction from Maps in Py3

Py3 Map

```
>>> map2 = map(add10, (1, 2, 3, 4))
```

>>> map2

<map object at 0x7f1d60d40b70>

List Construction

```
>>> lst = list(map2)
>>> lst
[11, 12, 13, 14]
>>> s = set(map2)
>>> s
set()
```

You can iterate over a map only once



Tuple Construction from Maps in Py3

Py3 Map

```
>>> map3 = map(add10, set([1, 2, 3, 4]))
```

>>> map3

<map object at 0x7f1d60d40b00>

Tuple Construction

```
>>> t = tuple(map3)
>>> t
(11, 12, 13, 14)
```



Sequence Construction with Maps & Lambdas in Py3

```
>>> set(map(lambda c: ord(c), 'abc'))
{97, 98, 99}
>>> list(map(lambda x, y: x+y, [1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]))
[5, 7, 9]
```



References

 Here is a quick reference on Newton's method of computing square roots:http://mathworld.wolfram.com/NewtonsIteration.html

