

LGT3109  
Introduction to Coding for  
Business with Python  
(week 6)

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# Summary of Week 5

- Loop: Repeat
    - Iteration, iteration variable
  - for loop: definite
    - Iteration for each item of a sequence
  - while loop: Indefinite
    - Iteration until condition is violated
  - break and continue
- 
- Loop Patterns:
    - Initialize, Iteration over each entry of data, and repeat processing and updates
      - Maximum of data
      - Sum of data
      - Counting of data
    - Filtering of data by conditions, and use of Flag variables
    - Use of None, is, and is not
      - Minimum

# Strings and Files

- Strings
  - Basics
  - Inside structure:  
numbering, length, loop
  - String operations
  - String functions
- Files
  - Opening files
  - Processing files
  - Writing and closing files

# Motivation Case

- Foxconn ships cargoes from Hong Kong to Los Angeles.
- Shipping rates stored the in a text file ([rates.txt](#)).
- Carrier's ID has 3 letters: AAA, ABC
- Followed by a space and a shipping rate.
- Foxconn wants to know the shipping rate for a specific carrier.

1	MMM	100
2	OOC	90
3	SSS	95

```
Enter carrier name: OOC
Shipping rate of carrier ooc is 90
>>>
```

```
Enter carrier name: AAA
Shipping rate of carrier AAA is not found
```

# Motivation Case-Code

- For each line read from the input file:
- If the line starts with the carrier\_name:
- Extract the shipping rate from the line.

```
carrier_name = input('Enter carrier name: ')
file = open('rates.txt', 'r')
flag_found = False
for line in file:
    if line.startswith(carrier_name):
        rate = int(line[4:])
        print('Shipping rate of carrier', carrier_name, 'is', rate)
        flag_found = True
        break

if not flag_found:
    print('Shipping rate of carrier', carrier_name, 'is not found')
file.close()
```

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# String Review

- A **string** is a **sequence of characters**.
  - A string containing **numbers** is still a string.
  - A string uses quotes ‘Hello’ or “Hello”.
- 
- For strings, “+” combines, and “\*” duplicates strings.
- How about number?
- 
- Convert numbers in a string into a number using **int()** or **float()**.

# Escape Characters

- Some special requirement to write a string.
  - Error: `txt = "We are the "Vikings" from the north."`
  - Correct: `txt = "We are the \"Vikings\" from the north."`
- Common escape characters used in Python:

Code	Result	Code	Result
\"	Double Quote	\'	Single Quote
\\"	Backslash	\n	New Line
\t	Tab	\b	Backspace
\r	Carriage Return		

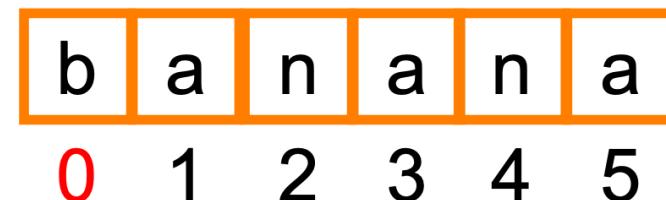
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# Looking inside a String

- We can get at any single **character** in a **string** using an **index** specified in **square brackets**, e.g., `fruit[1]`.
- The **index** value must be **an integer** and starts at **zero**.
- The **index** value can be an **expression** that is computed.

**fruit**

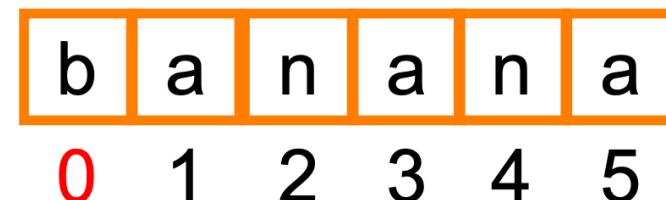


```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> letter = fruit[1]  
>>> print(letter)  
a  
>>> x = 3  
>>> w = fruit[x - 1]  
>>> print(w)  
n
```

# Error: Index Out of Range

- You will get a python **error** if you attempt to index **beyond the end of a string**.
- So be careful when constructing index values and slices.

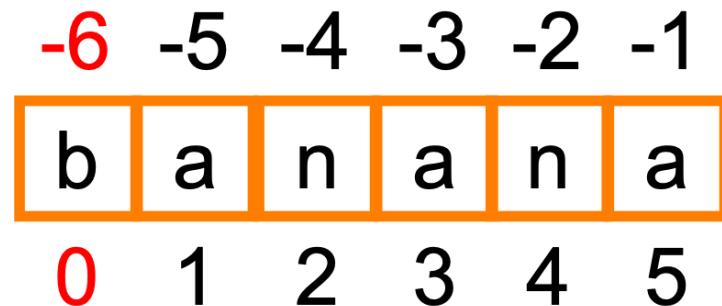
fruit



```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> print(fruit[6])  
Traceback (most recent call  
last): File "<stdin>", line  
1, in <module>  
IndexError: string index out  
of range  
>>>
```

# Negative Index: Backward

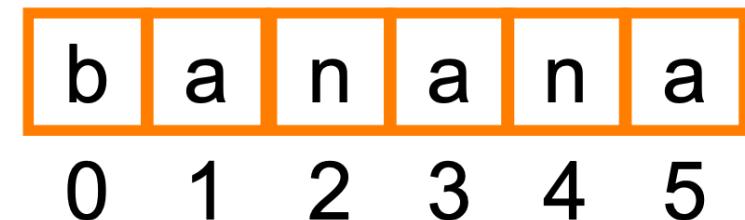
- The **index** value can be negative.
- Negative indices count backward from the end of the string.



```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> letter = fruit[-1]  
>>> print(letter)  
a  
>>> x = 3  
>>> w = fruit[-x]  
>>> print(w)  
a
```

# String Length

- The built-in function **len** gives the length of a string.

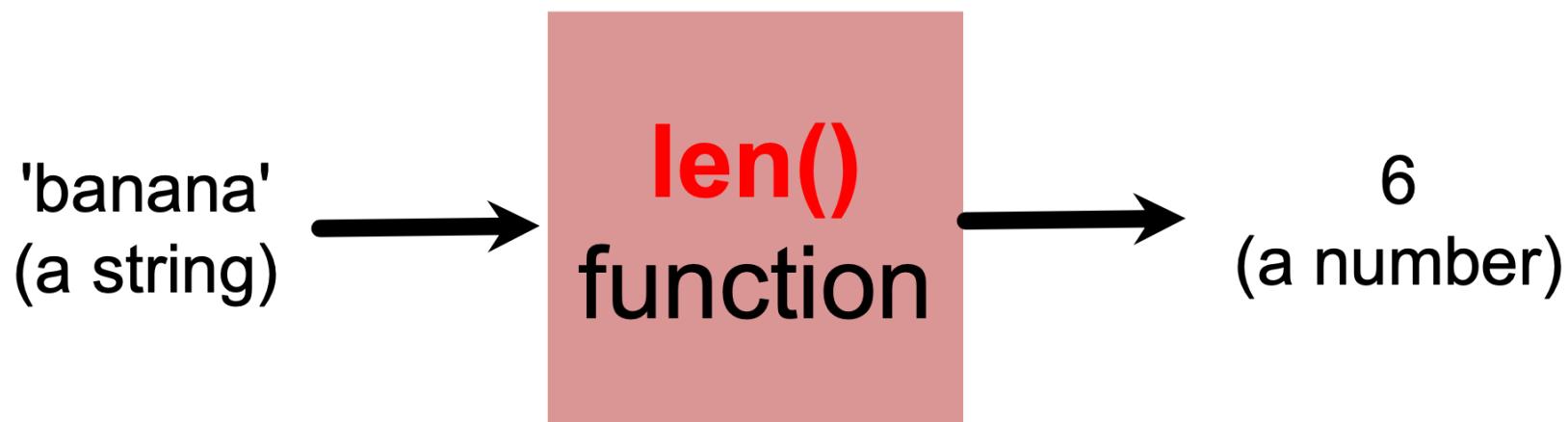


```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> print(len(fruit))  
6
```

# String Length

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> x = len(fruit)  
>>> print(x)  
6
```

A **function** is some stored code that we use. A function takes some input and produces an output.



# How to Get the Last Character of a String

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> length = len(fruit)  
>>> last = fruit[length]
```

IndexError: string index out of range

- no letter in 'banana' with the index 6

-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
b	a	n	a	n	a
0	1	2	3	4	5

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> length = len(fruit)  
>>> last = fruit[length-1]  
>>> last = fruit[-1]
```

- To get the last character, you have to subtract 1 from *length*
- *Negative Index*: count backward from the end

# Looping Through a String

The loop condition is `index < len(fruit)`  
Note that `len(fruit) = 6`

Using a `while` statement, an **iteration variable**, and the `len` function, we can construct a *indefinite loop* to look at each of the characters in a string individually

```
fruit = 'banana'          0 b
index = 0                 1 a
while index < len(fruit): 2 n
    letter = fruit[index] 3 a
    print(index, letter)  4 n
    index = index + 1     5 a
```

# Looping Through a String

A *definite loop* using a **for statement** is much more elegant

The **iteration variable** is completely taken care of by the for loop

```
fruit = 'banana'  
for letter in fruit:  
    print(letter)
```

b  
a  
n.  
a  
n  
a

# Looping Through a String

A definite loop using a **for statement** is much more elegant

The **iteration variable** is completely taken care of by the for loop

```
fruit = 'banana'  
for letter in fruit:  
    print(letter)
```

```
fruit = 'banana'  
index = 0  
while index < len(fruit):  
    letter = fruit[index]  
    print(index, letter)  
    index = index + 1
```

b  
a  
n  
a  
n  
a

# Looping and Counting

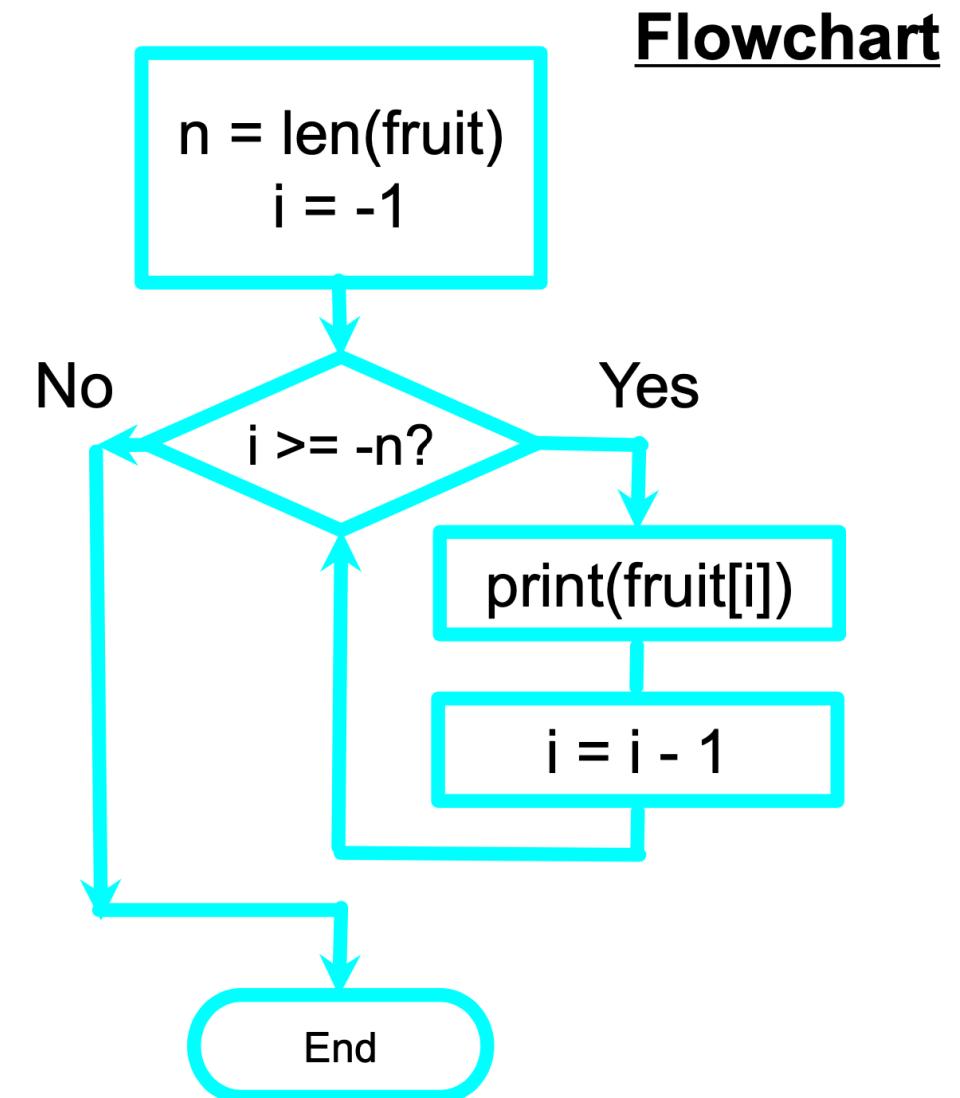
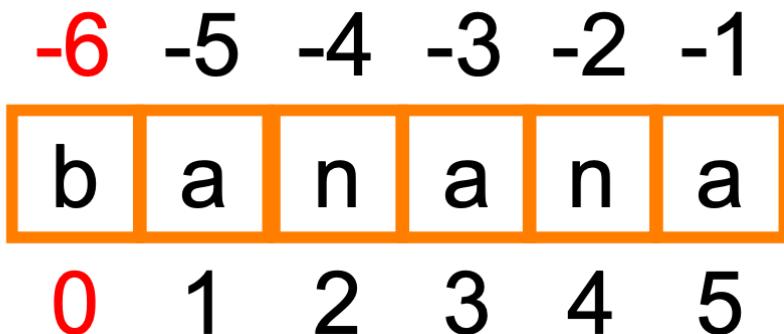
E.g., to count how many times 'a' appear in 'banana'

This is a simple loop that loops through each character in a string and counts the number of times the loop encounters the 'a' character

```
word = 'banana'  
count = 0  
for letter in word :  
    if letter == 'a' :  
        count = count + 1  
print(count)
```

# Reverse Loop

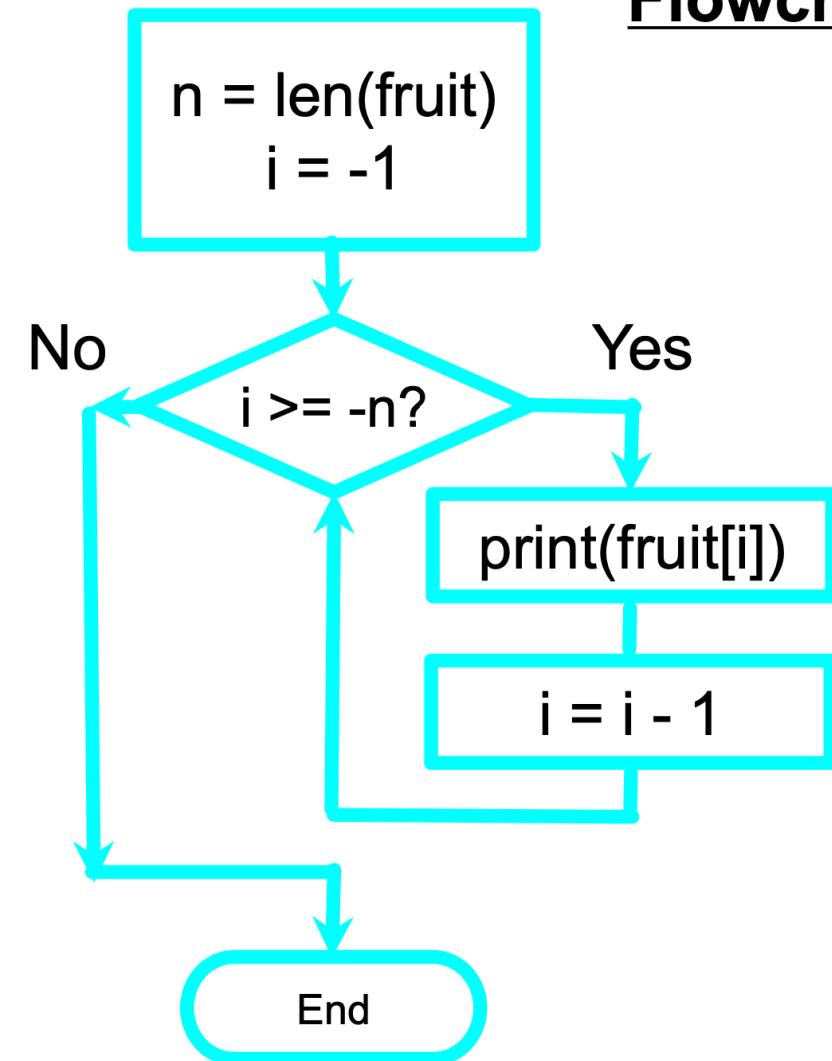
- Write a loop that
  - starts at the last character in the string and
  - works its way backwards to the first character in the string



# Reverse Loop

```
fruit='banana'  
n = len(fruit)  
i = -1  
while i>=-n:  
    print(fruit[i])  
    i=i-1
```

## Flowchart



# Strings and Files

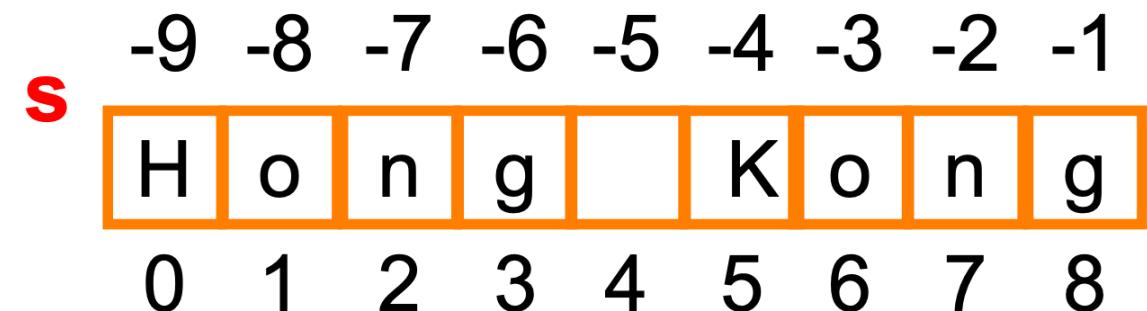
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# Slicing Strings

`s[i:j]` equals `s[i]s[i+1]...s[j-1]`

The second number is one beyond  
the end of the slice - “**up to but  
not including**”

If the second number is beyond the  
end of the string, it stops at the end



```
>>> s = 'Hong Kong'  
>>> print(s[0:4])  
Hong  
>>> print(s[6:7])  
o  
>>> print(s[6:20])  
ong  
>>> print(s[-9:-6])  
Hon
```

# Slicing Strings

## s[:j] or s[i:]

- **s[:j]**: If we leave off the first number, it is assumed to be the beginning of the string,
  - i.e., equivalent to `s[0:j]`
- **s[i:]**: if we leave off the last number of the slice, it is assumed to be the end of the string,
  - i.e., equivalent to `s[i:len(s)]`

The diagram illustrates the indexing of the string "Hong Kong". The string is shown in a horizontal row of boxes, each containing a character: H, o, n, g, , K, o, n, g. Above the string, red labels 's' and 'H' are positioned to indicate the start of the string. Below the string, black numbers from 0 to 8 are aligned under each character, representing their index positions. Indexes from -9 to -1 are also shown above the string, with a vertical line connecting them to the corresponding characters. The indexes 0 through 8 are aligned with the characters H, o, n, g, , K, o, n, g respectively. The indexes -9 through -1 are aligned with the characters H, o, n, g, , K, o, n, g respectively.

```
>>> s='Hong Kong'  
>>> print(s[:2])  
Ho  
>>> print(s[0:2])  
Ho  
>>> print(s[5:])  
Kong  
>>> print(s[5:len(s)])  
Kong  
>>> print(s[:])  
Hong Kong  
>>> print(s[0:len(s)])  
Hong Kong  
>>> print(s[-8:-3])  
ong K
```

# String Concatenation

When the **+** operator is applied to strings, it means “concatenation”

```
>>> a = 'Hello'  
>>> b = a + 'There'  
>>> print(b)  
HelloThere  
>>> c = a + ' ' + 'There'  
>>> print(c)  
Hello There  
>>>
```

# String Multiplication

When the `*` operator is applied to strings, it means “repeat” a string for multiple times

```
>>> a = 'Hello'  
>>> b = a * 3  
>>> print(b)  
HelloHelloHello
```

# Logical Operators

The ***in keyword*** can also be used to check to see ***if one string is “in” another string***

The ***in expression*** is a logical expression that returns True or False and can be used in an if statement

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> 'n' in fruit  
True  
>>> 'm' in fruit  
False  
>>> 'nan' in fruit  
True  
>>> if 'a' in fruit :  
...     print('Found it!')  
...  
Found it!  
>>>
```

# String Comparison

Two strings are equal:

```
if word == 'banana':  
    print('All right, bananas.')
```

Other comparison operations are based on in **alphabetical order**:

```
if word < 'banana':  
    print('Your word, ' + word + ', comes before banana.')  
elif word > 'banana':  
    print('Your word, ' + word + ', comes after banana.')  
else:  
    print('All right, bananas.')
```

All the uppercase letters come before all the lowercase letters:

Your word, Pineapple, comes before banana.

# Strings are Immutable

- String variables are immutable
- Values of string variables cannot be changed
- The best you can do is create a new string that is a variation on the original

```
>>> greeting = 'Hello, Hong Kong!'
>>> greeting[0] = 'h'
TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment
```

*How to change the first character of greeting to 'h'?*

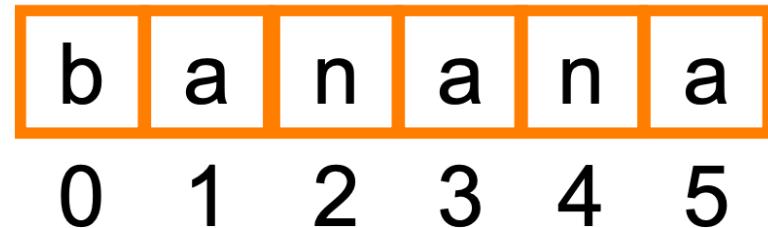
```
>>> greeting = 'Hello, Hong Kong!'
>>> new_greeting = 'h' + greeting[1:]
>>> print(new_greeting)
hello, Hong Kong!
```

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# Useful String Functions-find

- We use the **find()** function to search for a substring within another string.
  - **find()** finds the (non-negative) index of the first occurrence of the substring.
  - If the substring is not found, **find()** returns -1.
- Remember that string position starts at zero.



```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> pos = fruit.find('na')  
>>> print(pos)  
2  
>>> aa = fruit.find('z')  
>>> print(aa)  
-1
```

# Useful String Functions-upper/lower

- You can make a copy of a string in lower case or upper case
- Case-Insensitive Search: search a string regardless of case
  - Convert the string to lower case
  - Use find() to search

```
>>> greet = 'Hello Bob'  
>>> nnn = greet.upper()  
>>> print(nnn)  
HELLO BOB  
>>> www = greet.lower()  
>>> print(www)  
hello bob  
>>> res = greet.lower().find('bob')  
>>> print(res)
```

# Useful String Functions-replace

The `replace()` function is like a “**search and replace**” operation in a word processor

It replaces **all** occurrences of the **search string (ss)** with the **replacement string (rs)**

```
>>> greet = 'Hello Bob'  
>>> nstr = greet.replace('Bob', 'Jane')  
>>> print(nstr)  
Hello Jane  
>>> nstr = greet.replace('o', 'X')  
>>> print(nstr)  
HellX BXb  
>>>
```

# Useful String Functions-strip

Sometimes we want to take a string and **remove whitespace at the beginning and/or end**

- `lstrip()` and `rstrip()` remove whitespace at the left or right
- `strip()` removes both beginning and ending whitespace

```
>>> greet = 'Hello Bob '
>>> greet.lstrip()
'Hello Bob '
>>> greet.rstrip()
'Hello Bob'
>>> greet.strip()
'Hello Bob'
>>>
```

# Useful String Functions-startswith/endswith

- We want to know whether a given string starts with a certain prefix or ends with a certain suffix
  - `startswith(pf)` returns True if the string starts with the value of pf
  - `endswith(sf)` returns True if the string ends with the value of sf

```
>>> line = 'Hello Bob'  
>>> line.startswith('Hello')  
True  
>>> line.startswith('hello')  
False  
>>> line.endswith('Bob')  
True
```

# Useful String Functions-f/F

- Include Python expressions inside a string by prefixing the string with **f** or **F** and writing expressions as **{expression}**.

```
rate = 100.0
quantity = 150
print(f'{rate}*{quantity}={rate*quantity}.')
100.0*150=15000.0.
```

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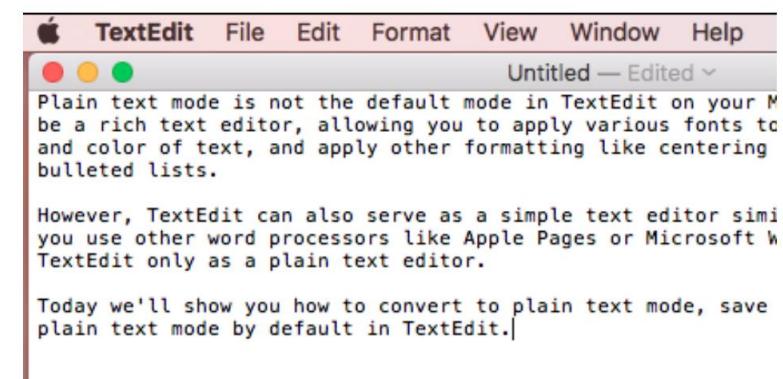
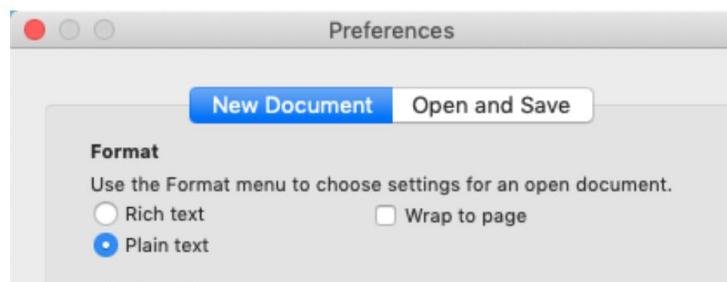
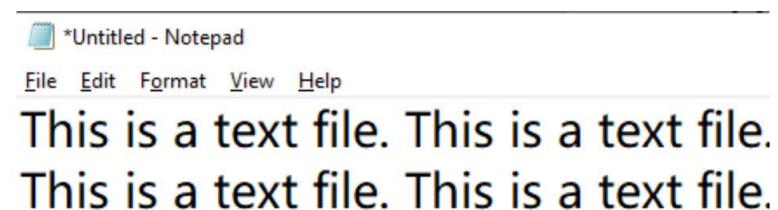
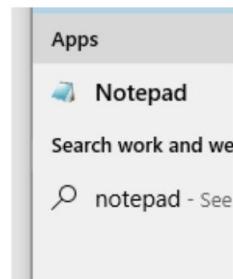
# File Structure

A text file can be thought of as a sequence of lines

```
From stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za Sat Jan  5 09:14:16 2008
Return-Path: <postmaster@collab.sakaiproject.org>
Date: Sat, 5 Jan 2008 09:12:18 -0500
To: source@collab.sakaiproject.org
From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
Subject: [sakai] svn commit: r39772 - content/branches/
Details: http://source.sakaiproject.org/viewsvn/?view=rev&rev=39772
```

# Create a Text File

- Use Text Editor
  - Windows: Notepad
  - MacOS:TextEdit
    - Preferences → Plain Text



# Opening a File

Before we can read the contents of the file,  
we must tell Python **which file we are going  
to work with** and **what we will be doing with  
the file**

This is done with the **open()** function

- **open()** returns a “file handle” - a variable used to perform operations on the file

Similar to “File -> Open” in a Word  
Processor

```
carrier_name = input('Enter carrier name: ')
infile = open('rates.txt', 'r')
outfile = open('rates-new.txt', 'w')
flag_found = False
for line in infile:
    if line.startswith(carrier_name):
        rate = float(line[4:])
        new_rate = rate * 1.1
        flag_found = True
        outfile.write('%s %g\n'%(carrier_name,
                               print('Shipping rate of carrier', ca:
else:
    outfile.write(line)

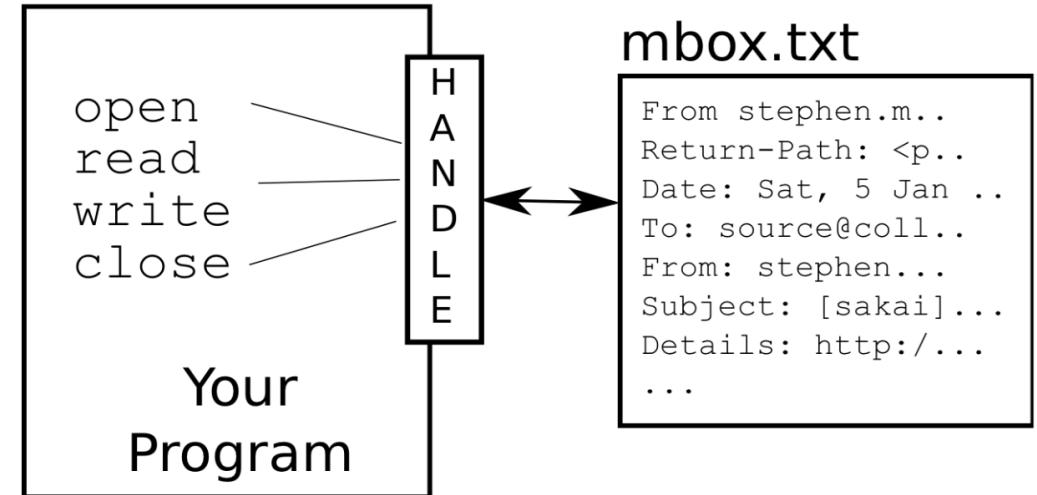
if not flag_found:
    print('Shipping rate of carrier', carrie:
infile.close()
```

# Opening a File

- handle = `open(filename, mode)`
- `open()` returns a handle used to manipulate the file
- filename is a string
- mode is optional and should be
  - 'r' if we are planning to read the file and
  - 'w' if we are going to write to the file
- encoding is optional to define how texts are encoded

# Handle

- The file handle is not the actual data contained in the file
- It is a "handle" (interface) that we can use to read data.
- You are given a handle if the requested file exists and you have the proper permissions to read the file.



# Handle

If the file does not exist, open will fail with a traceback and you will not get a handle to access the contents of the file:

```
>>> fhand = open('stuff.txt')
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] No such
file or directory: 'stuff.txt'
```

```
try:
    fhand = open('stuff.txt')
    print(fhand)
except:
    print('File not found')
```

File not found

We can use **try** and **except** to deal more gracefully with the situation where we attempt to open a file that does not exist

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# Newline Character

We use a special (escape) character called the “newline” to indicate when a line ends

We represent it as `\n` in strings

- Newline is still one character - not two

```
>>> stuff = 'Hello\nWorld!'
>>> stuff
'Hello\nWorld!'
>>> print(stuff)
Hello
World!
>>> stuff = 'X\nY'
>>> print(stuff)
X
Y
>>> len(stuff)
3
```

# File Processing

**A text file can be thought of as a sequence of lines**

From stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za Sat Jan 5 09:14:16 2008

Return-Path: <postmaster@collab.sakaiproject.org>

Date: Sat, 5 Jan 2008 09:12:18 -0500

To: source@collab.sakaiproject.org

From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za

Subject: [sakai] svn commit: r39772 - content/branches/

Details: <http://source.sakaiproject.org/viewsvn/?view=rev&rev=39772>

# File Processing

**A text file has newlines at the end of each line**

```
From stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za Sat Jan  5 09:14:16 2008\n
Return-Path: <postmaster@collab.sakaiproject.org>\n
Date: Sat, 5 Jan 2008 09:12:18 -0500\n
To: source@collab.sakaiproject.org\n
From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za\n
Subject: [sakai] svn commit: r39772 - content/branches/\n
\n
Details: http://source.sakaiproject.org/viewsvn/?view=rev&rev=39772\n
```

# Counting Lines in a File

Open a file read-only

Use a for loop to read each line

- Count the lines and print out the number of lines

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt', 'r')
count = 0
for line in fhand:
    count = count + 1
print('Line Count:', count)
```

Line Count: 1910

# Reading the Whole File

We can read the whole  
file (newlines and all)  
into a single string

```
>>> fhand = open('mbox.txt')
>>> inp = fhand.read()
>>> print(len(inp))
94626
>>> print(inp[:20])
From stephen.marquar
```

```
>>> infile=open('rates.txt', 'r')
>>> s = infile.read()
>>> print(s)
MMM 100
OOC 90
SSS 95
```

# Searching Through a File

## Parsing-Extracting:

We can put an **if statement** in our for loop to only print lines that meet some criteria

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt')
for line in fhand:
    if line.startswith('From:'):
        print(line)
```

# Searching Through a File

What are all these blank  
lines doing here?

From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za

From: louis@media.berkeley.edu

From: zqian@umich.edu

From: rjlowe@iupui.edu

...

# Searching Through a File

What are all these blank lines doing here?

- Each line from the file has a newline at the end
- The print statement adds a newline to each line

From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za\n  
\n

From: louis@media.berkeley.edu\n  
\n

From: zqian@umich.edu\n  
\n

From: rjlowe@iupui.edu\n  
\n

...

# Searching Through a File

- We can **strip the whitespace (including \n)** from the right-hand side of the string using **rstrip()** from the string library
- The newline \n is considered “white space” and is stripped

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt')
for line in fhand:
    line = line.rstrip()
    if line.startswith('From:'):
        print(line)
```

From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za  
From: louis@media.berkeley.edu  
From: zqian@umich.edu  
From: rjlowe@iupui.edu  
....

# Skipping with Continue

We can conveniently  
skip a line by using the  
**continue** statement

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt')
for line in fhand:
    line = line.rstrip()
    if not line.startswith('From:'):
        continue
    print(line)
```

# Skipping with Continue

We can look for a string anywhere in a line as our selection criteria

```
From stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za Sat Jan  5 09:14:16 2008
X-Authentication-Warning: set sender to stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za using -f
From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
Author: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
From david.horwitz@uct.ac.za Fri Jan  4 07:02:32 2008
X-Authentication-Warning: set sender to david.horwitz@uct.ac.za using -f...
```

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt')
for line in fhand:
    line = line.rstrip()
    if not '@uct.ac.za' in line :
        continue
    print(line)
```



# Skipping with Continue

We can use **find** to determine whether the search string is anywhere in the line, using it as our selection criteria

```
From stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za Sat Jan  5 09:14:16 2008
X-Authentication-Warning: set sender to stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za using -f
From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
Author: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
From david.horwitz@uct.ac.za Fri Jan  4 07:02:32 2008
X-Authentication-Warning: set sender to david.horwitz@uct.ac.za using -f...
```

```
fhand = open('mbox.txt')
for line in fhand:
    line = line.rstrip()
    if line.find('@uct.ac.za') == -1:
        continue
    print(line)
```



# Strings and Files

- Strings
  - Basics
  - Inside structure:  
numbering, length, loop
  - String operations
  - String functions
- Files
  - Opening files
  - Processing files
  - Writing and closing files

# Writing and Closing File

- To write a file, **open** it with mode "**w**" as a second parameter:
- The **write** method puts data into the file, returning the number of characters written.
  - When *write* called again, it adds new data to the end, **without adding "\n" at the end**.
  - The print statement automatically appends a newline, but the write method does not add the newline automatically.
- When you are done writing and reading a file, you are suggested to **close** the file

```
>>> fout = open('output.txt', 'w')
```

```
>>> print(fout)
```

```
<_io.TextIOWrapper name='output.txt'  
mode='w' encoding='cp1252'>
```

```
>>> line1 = "Hello, Hong Kong!\n"
```

```
>>> fout.write(line1)
```

```
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```

```
>>> fout.close()
```

# Motivation Case Revisit

- For each line read from the input file:
- If the line starts with the carrier\_name:
- Extract the shipping rate from the line.

```
carrier_name = input('Enter carrier name: ')
file = open('rates.txt', 'r')
flag_found = False
for line in file:
    if line.startswith(carrier_name):
        rate = int(line[4:])
        print('Shipping rate of carrier', carrier_name, 'is', rate)
        flag_found = True
        break

if not flag_found:
    print('Shipping rate of carrier', carrier_name, 'is not found')
file.close()
```

# Acknowledgement

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