

Today

Lazy lists

Side effects

Looking at creative uses of
"functions of data"

—
Lazy evaluation - only generate
data when you need it

Typically, we code w/ "eager evaluation"
- run your code right now, when
you call your functions

Paradigms of programming
- side effects

Major programming paradigms

Imperative programming -

- series of operations modifying machine state as you go
- most of what you've done
- most of C, some of Python, Java, 'etc'

Object-oriented programming

- operations modifying objects
- OO parts of Python, Java, Kotlin, 'etc'.

Logical programming

- program is a collection of facts and rules, and the program makes logical deductions

Prolog, libraries for major languages that do this stuff

Functional programming
- everything is a function call
Scheme, Haskell, parts of Python,
Java, Kotlin, etc.

One main reason this model is useful is it can make debugging dramatically easier if you have to reason about all the wacky things your functions might be changing

In pure functional programming, there are no side-effect

— A function call, or any expression has a side-effect if it makes any kind of observable change or interaction, beyond returning a value.

```
def inc(x):  
    return x+1
```

∴
inc(3) → 4

There are no
side-effects
when I call
inc(3)

```
print("hello")
```

returns None, but has a
side-effect of displaying
"hello" in the terminal.

What are examples where side-effects
can be problematic?

Example 1:

list1 = [3, 2, 1]

list2 = list1

millions of lines of code

switch developers

list2.sort()

print(list1)

} list1 → ~~[3, 2, 1]~~
list2 →

[1, 2, 3]

→ side effect of
modifying object
might be viewed unexpected^{edly}

↳ and programmer is shocked
to discover it prints [1, 2, 3]

Example 2:

(see code) example.py

if you are not (potentially) modifying
things, there's no confusion about
what you might have modified.

Example 3: (concept, not actual Python)

$x = 3$

```
def doit1():  
    global x  
    x = 8
```

```
def doit2():  
    global x  
    x = 10
```

doesn't exist, but does in concept

```
do-in-parallel(doit1, doit2)  
print(x)  
  ^
```

never any guarantee on precise timing
when things are running simultaneously

I don't know which x I will get.

If there are no side-effects, it
doesn't matter what order they run in

```

3
4 def remove_last(lst):
5     result = lst[:len(lst)-1]
6     done = True ← side-effect observable
7     return result here within the remove-last
8
9 items = [1,2,3]
10 new_items = remove_last(items)
11 print(items)
12 print(new_items)

```

side effect!

When I call `remove_last`, no observable changes happen from the perspective of the caller of `remove_last`.

"Calling `remove_last` results in no side-effects." Accurate.

But `done = True` modifies a variable done.

