**Zentrale Informatik** 

# Foundations of Programming in Python

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## **About me**

- Education
  - Informatiker Applikationsentwicklung EFZ (BMS / Passerelle)
  - Bachelor of Informatics at UZH
  - Master of Informatics at UZH (Thesis)
- Work Experience
  - Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI)
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# What about you?

- Name
- Field of Study
- Do you have any programming experience?
  - Languages / Projects?
- Expectations for this course?
- Special requests?

# **Learning Targets**

- After this course...
- ... you will know what programming is
- ... you will know how to write a basic computer program
- ... you will know the fundamental components of programming
- ... you are able to run some Python code
- ... you are able to write a Python program based on a written-out problem statement
- ... you know where you can find more information to improve your programming skills

 And nevertheless you will confess your friends that programming is fun!

# **Course Overview**

- Introduction to Programming
- Fundamental Components
  - Values, Variables, Expressions, Operators, Comments
  - Functions
  - Conditionals
  - Functions with return values
  - Lists
  - Iterations
  - Dictionaries
- Persistence

## **Download Material**

- The material is saved as a GIT-Repository
- The material will be updated whenever I add material or change some of it (I will notice you as well)

You can always find the newest copy on: <a href="http://bit.ly/2OJbIOQ">http://bit.ly/2OJbIOQ</a>

# Introduction to Programming

# What is a computer program?

#### Modular system

- Input: Data input from keyboard, files, internet, etc.
- Output: Processed data is displayed or saved to a file
- Assignment: Values are assigned to variables
- Conditional execution: Statements are executed only if certain conditions are fulfilled
- Loops: Repeating statement or group of statements
- Libraries: Using existing implementations

# **Examples – Hello World**

```
Java

public class HelloWorld{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        System.out.println('Hello World!');
    }
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main() {
   cout << 'Hello World!' << endl;
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

# **Examples – Hello World**

# **Python**

print('Hello World')

# **Why Python**

- Simple syntax
- High-level programming language
- Cross-platform
- Interpreted
- Object-oriented
- Many libraries available

# **Development Environment**

- Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
- Collection of tools that are commonly used for software development
- Popular IDEs
  - Eclipse with Python Plugin (PyDev): http://pydev.org/
  - JetBrains PyCharm: http://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/
    - Community Edition is available for free: http://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download/

## **Demo time! Hello World**

#### **Options to run Python code**

- Directly in the terminal
- Save Python-Code to a file and run it directly
- Use an IDE to run Python-Code
- Run it in Jupyter Notebook

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
print('Hello World')
```

# **But WAIT! How? Let's try together!**

- With your terminal (Mac OS)
  - Magnifying glass → Type "Terminal" → Hit enter
  - Type python & hit enter again
  - Code ☺
- Run directly
  - Save hello.py on your desktop
  - Open the Terminal again
  - Run >> python /Users/dave/Desktop/hello.py
- With Pycharm (harder to understand, easier for later)
  - https://www.jetbrains.com/help/pycharm/creating-and-running-yourfirst-python-project.html.html
- Jupyter Notebook (web or local)
  - Put the code in and hit run

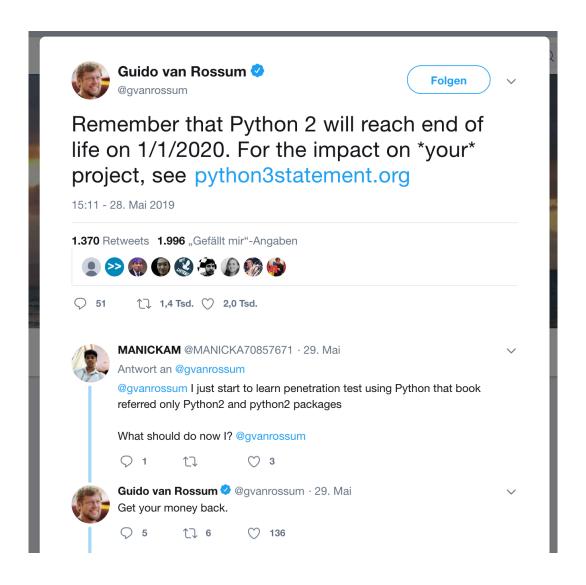
# Python 3 or 2?

- Python 3 because it is state of the art
- References to Python 2 at some occasions
  - Because some tools are not yet migrated

#### A very good overview:

http://sebastianraschka.com/Articles/2014 python 2 3 key diff.html

# Python 2 EOL



**Fundamental Components** 

Values, Variables, Expressions, Operators, Comments

# **Values**

- Numbers
  - 2
  - 1000000
  - -2
  - 3.2
  - 4.23333333
- Strings (Text)
  - 'Hello World'
  - "Good morning"

# **Data Types**

# Values have data types

#### **Numbers**

- Integers: No dot
  - 3
  - -5
  - 10000000
- Floats: Have a dot
  - 23.222
  - 3.0
  - -2.2

# **Data Types**

### **Strings**

- Either " or "" are used to declare them
  - 'Hello World'
  - "Hello World"
  - "5"

#### Boolean

- Binary expression
  - True (1)
  - False (0)

- Hold values
- Similar to mathematics
  - X = 2
  - Y = X + 2
- Values are assigned using the = operator

# **Examples**

- Use meaningful names
- Declaration

```
salutation = 'Hello'
name = 'Monty Python'
pi = 3.14159
```

Usage

print(name)

#### Variables and values can be combined

- print(2 +2)
- a = 2
- print(a + 2)
- salutation = 'Hello'
- name = 'Monty Python'
- print(salutation + ' ' + name)

## **Exercise 0**

- Save a string with the name of your favourite Movie
- Save another string with your favourite character of the Movie
- Print out the line: I love «character» in the movie «Movie»
  - Hint: print('I love ' + character + 'in') concats a string
  - Alternative: print('I love {} in'.format(character))

## **Keywords – reserved words**

and, assert, break, class, continue, def, del, elif, else, except, exec, finally, for, from, global, if, import, in, is, lambda, not, or, pass, print, raise, return, try, while, yield

# **Operators**

## Order of precedence

- ()
- \*\* (exponential 2\*\*4 = 16)
- \*, /, %, //
- +, -
- <<, >>, &, ^, | (bitwise operations)
- <, > <=, >= (comparison)
- <>, !=, == (equality)
- =, %=, /=, //=, -=, +=, \*=, \*\*= (assignment)
- is, is not (identity)
- in, not in (membership)
- not, or, and (logical)

## **Comments**

- Comments have no impact on the program
- Should explain the code (if necessary)
- A comment starts with the # sign

```
# The following line declares the name
name = 'David'
print(name) # David is printed out
```

## **Exercise 00**

- Try out both ways of commenting in the past exercise
  - #movie = 'Lord of the Rings'
  - movie = 'Lord of the Rings' # This is my favourite movie
- What happens if you only comment one of the variables?
- What happens if you comment out everything (The whole program)?

# **Fundamental Components**

**Functions** 

- print() is a function that you used already
- A function can take arguments, which are values that are bound to variables inside the function

```
name = 'Monty Python'
print(name) # Monty Python is printed out
```

- Functions can also return a result
  - return statement

## **Example**

```
text = 'Python programming language'
print(text) # Python programming language is printed out
text_length = len(text)
print(text_length) # 27 is printed out
```

## Type conversions

- int('32')
  - Converts a string that holds a number to an integer
- int('Hello')
  - Only a string that hold an integer can be converted to an integer
    - ValueError: invalid literal for int() with base 10: 'Hello'
- float('313.333')
  - Converts a string that holds a decimal number to a float

# **Type conversions**

- str(32)
- Converts a number to a string

## **Example**

```
a = 20

b = 10

sum = a + b

print('The sum of ' + str(a) + ' and ' + str(b) + ' is ' + str(sum))
```

# Rounding

# **Example**

```
a = 1.888
int(a) # Equals 1
int(round(a)) # Equals 2
int(a + 0.5) # Equals 2
```

#### **Math Functions**

## **Example**

```
import math
log = math.log(17.0)
sinus = math.sin(45)
angle = 20
x = math.cos(angle + math.pi/2)
```

http://docs.python.org/library/math.html

#### **User-Defined Functions**

- A function encapsulates some functionality
- Reduction of complexity and redundancy

## **Example**

```
def my_function(parameter1, parameter2):
    print(parameter1)
    print(parameter2)
```

- Syntax is very important!
  - Indentation is necessary (4 spaces or 1 tab)
  - Don't forget the colon (not the semi-colon)

## **User-Defined Functions – Example**

```
def line_separator():
    print(")

print('First Line')
line_separator()
print('Second Line')
line_separator()
print('Third Line')
line_separator()
print('Fourth Line')
```

#### **User-Defined Functions**

 If we want to change the line separator to a dashed line we only need to change a single line of code

```
def line_separator():
print('-----')
```

```
def line_separator():
print('**********')
```

## **User-Defined Functions – Example**

 If the line separator should output two lines we can define a new function that calls the line\_separator() function

```
def two_lines():
    line_separator()
    line_separator()

print ('First Line')
two_lines()
print('Second Line')
```

#### **User-Defined Functions – Conclusion**

- A function can be called multiple times
- Less code needs to be written if functions are used multiple times
  - Higher factorization
  - Less redundancy
  - Better maintenance
- Functions can also call other functions

# **Parameters and Arguments**

- Arguments are passed when calling a function
- Value of arguments is assigned to parameters

```
def print_sum(number_1, number_2):
    result = number_1 + number_2
    print(result)

print_sum(1, 3)
print_sum(10, 5)
```

## **Parameters and Arguments**

- Variables are valid within a scope
- Variables that are defined in a function are only valid in the function's scope
- Indentation helps to identify scope

```
def concat_twice(part1, part2):
    concat = part1 + part2
    print(concat)

concat_twice('Hello','World')
print(concat)
# NameError: name 'concat' is not defined
```

# **Naming Conventions & Debugging**

# **Naming Conventions**

## How to name your functions and variables

- Naming convention is a set of rules for choosing names of functions and variables
- Every programming language has different naming conventions
- Python
  - No spaces in variable and function names
  - Variable and function names are in lowercase and \_ is used to separate words

```
length_in_cm = 15
def say_hello():
print('Hello')
```

# **Finding and resolving Defects**

- Programming is a complex activity
- Mistakes happen all the time
- A mistake made in programming is called a bug
- The process of finding and resolving bugs is called debugging

#### **Errors**

## Syntax Error

- Incorrect syntax of a statement
- e.g. print(Hello World) instead print('Hello World')

#### Runtime Error

- Error that occurs during the execution of a program
- e.g. division by 0

#### **Errors**

#### Semantic Error

- Program does not deliver correct results
- No error messages
- Fixing semantic errors can be extremely complicated

# **Techniques**

- Reading code (multiple times)
- Print variables to examine the values
  - e.g. using print(variable)
- Go through program step by step
  - Debugger Tool
- Rubber Duck Debugging
  - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubber\_duck\_debugging

# **Fundamental Components**

**Conditionals** 

- Boolean algebra is a part of mathematics
- Often used in programming
- A boolean expression is either true or false

```
5 == 5 # --> True

5 == 6 # --> False

6 > 4 # --> True

5 >= 8 # --> False
```

#### if

- The expression if defines a condition
- If the condition is true, subsequent statements will be executed
- If the condition is false, subsequent statements will not be executed
- There has to be at least one statement after the condition

if

```
x = 10
if x > 0:
  print(str(x) + ' is positive')
if True:
  # This statement will always be executed
  print('Yes')
if False:
  # This statement will never be executed
  print('No')
```

#### else

- Expression else is executed if the if condition is false
- · Can only be used in combination with an if expression

```
if x == 0:
    print(str(x) + ' is zero')
else:
    print(str(x) + ' is not zero')
```

# **Modulo Operator – Example**

```
def print_parity(x):
    if x % 2 == 0:
        print(str(x) + ' is even')
    else:
        print(str(x) + ' is odd')
print_parity(2)
print_parity(3)
```

#### **Chained conditionals**

- Expression elif is used to combine multiple conditions
- The else expression is executed at the end if neither the if condition nor a single elif condition is true
- Any number of elif expressions can be used, but only one if and one else statement

#### **Chained conditionals**

```
if x < y:
    print(str(x) + ' is less than ' + str(y))
elif x > y:
    print(str(x) + ' is greater than ' + str(y))
else:
    print(str(x) + ' and ' + str(y) + ' are equal')
```

## **User input – Example**

```
# Python 3
answer = input('Do you like Python?')

# Python 2.7
# answer = raw_input('Do you like Python?')

if answer == 'yes':
    print('That is great!')
else:
    print('That is disappointing!')
```

- Write a function compare(x,y) that
  - prints out 1 if x is greater than y
  - prints out 0 if x is equal to y
  - prints out -1 if x is less than y
- input() should be used to receive the numbers as user input

By using python 2.7 it is raw\_input()

# Exercise 1 – Additional info

- Attention: input() stores the input as a string (not as a number!)
- If the input should be a number (integer or float), it must be converted

```
first_number = input('Please enter a first number ')
first_number = int(first_number)
second_number = input('Please enter a first number ')
second_number = int(second_number)
result = first_number + second_number
print(str(result))
```

#### **Nested conditionals**

```
if x > 0:
    if x < 10:
    print('x is a positive single digit')</pre>
```

#### and

- Deep nesting is often difficult to understand
- Can be combined with an and statement

```
if x > 0:
    if x < 10:
    print('x is a positive single digit')
# is the same as
if x > 0 and x < 10:
    print('x is a positive single digit')</pre>
```

#### or

- At least one statement must be true for the condition to be true
- If both statements are true, the condition is also satisfied

```
if x > 0 or x < 0:
    print('x is not zero')</pre>
```

not

```
(not True) becomes False(not False) becomes True
```

```
if not y == 0:
    print(x / y)
else:
    print('can not divide by zero')
```

X	Υ	X and Y	X or Y
False	False	False	False
False	True	False	True
True	False	False	True
True	True	True	True

**Fundamental Components** 

**Functions with return values** 

Some functions will return a value

```
# Python 3
answer = input('Do you like Python?')

# Python 2.7
# answer = raw_input('Do you like Python?')
```

 Our previously defined functions have never returned anything, but only printed something out

#### return

Functions that return a value use the return keyword

```
import math
def area(radius):
    result = math.pi * radius ** 2
    return result
print(area(10))
my_circle_area = area(8)
```

Functions can return any valid data type

#### **Boolean return values**

- Functions can return a boolean value (True, False)
- The function name should be formulated as a yes / no question

```
def is_divisible(x, y):
    if x % y == 0:
    return True
else:
    return False
```

#### **Boolean return values**

The return value can be used in a condition

```
if is_divisible(x, y):
    print(str(x) + ' is divisible by ' + str(y))
else:
    print(str(x) + ' is not divisible by ' + str(y))
```

- Write a function volume\_from\_radius(radius), which calculates the volume of a sphere
- Note
  - Pi is math.pi
  - Attention when dividing 4 / 3
  - $4/3 = \overline{1}$
  - 4.0 / 3.0 = 1.333333333
  - Use import math statement at the beginning of the file

 $volume = rac{4}{3}\pi*radius^3$ 

- Write a function called distance(x1, y1, x2, y2) which computes the distance between point1 (x1, y1) and point2 (x2, y2)
- Note
  - X<sup>2</sup> is represented by x\*\*2 in Python
  - The root of x is computed with math.sqrt(x)
  - Use import math statement at the beginning of the file

$$distance = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

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- Write a function volume\_from\_points(x1, y1, x2, y2)
- This function calculates the volume of a sphere whose radius is the distance between the points (x1, y1) and (x2, y2)

Tip: Use the implemented methods from the previous exercises

# **Exercise 5**

Write a function is\_between(x, y, z) which returns true if x <= y <= z and False otherwise</li>

# **Fundamental Components**

Lists

- Lists are a data type
- Lists are used in most programming languages (arrays)
- Lists are a set of values

```
list_a = [1, 2, 4]
list_b = ['Monty', 'Python']
```

## **Creating lists**

The easiest way to create is using []

```
numbers = [10, 12, 14, 19]
words = ['spam', 'bungee', 'swallow']
```

Data types can be mixed

```
my_list = ['music', 2000, 3.5, True]
```

## **Creating lists**

- Since numbers are often stored in a list, there is a special method for doing so
- With only one argument, range returns a number series starting at 0

```
list(range(4))
# returns [0, 1, 2, 3]
```

- · Using two arguments it's possible to define start and end
- The second argument defines the last number that is not part of the list

```
list(range(1,5))
# returns [1, 2, 3, 4]
```

## **Creating lists**

• The step size can be defined with a third argument

```
list(range(1, 10, 2))
# return [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
```

- An empty list can also be created
  - This is often done when the values to be inserted into the list are not yet known

```
empty_list = []
```

## **Creating lists**

• [INDEX] is used to access an element in a list

```
names = ['Anna', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
print(names[1])
# prints Tom
```

Important: Numbering of indices always starts at 0!

0	1	2	3
Anna	Tom	Ralph	Peter

# **Accessing lists**

A negative index is used to access the list from the end

```
names = ['Anna', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
print(names[-1])
# prints Peter
```

# Length

 The number of elements in a list (their length) can be obtained using the len() function

```
names = ['Anna', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
print(len(names))
# prints 4
```

## **Out of range**

 If there is no item in the list at the desired index, Python will print an error message

```
names = ['Anna', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
list_length = len(names)
print(names[list_length])
# IndexError: list index out of range
```

## **Changing elements in a list**

An element can be changed using [INDEX]

```
names = ['Anna', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
names[0] = 'Alice'
# ['Alice', 'Tom', 'Ralph', 'Peter']
```

## **Adding elements**

 The append() method can be used to add an element at the end of a list

```
numbers = range(5)
# [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
numbers.append(5)
# [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
```

#### **Concatenate lists**

• The + operator can be used to concatenate lists

```
a = [1, 2, 3]

b = [4, 5, 6]

c = a + b

# [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

#### **Slices**

- Lists can be cut into slices
- The operator [n:m] returns a list of the elements that starts at index n and stops before m
  - The element at index n is present in the list, the element at index m is not though

```
my_list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
my_list[1:3]
# ['b', 'c']
```

#### **Slices**

• If the first index is blank, the slice starts at the beginning

```
my_list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
my_list[:4]
# ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

• If the second index is blank, the slice will include all subsequent elements including the last one

```
my_list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
my_list[3:]
# ['d', 'e', 'f']
```

# **Deleting elements**

• The del() method can be used to delete items from a list

```
list_a = ['one', 'two', 'three']
del(list_a[1])
# ['one', 'three']

list_b = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f']
del(list_b[1:5])
# ['a', 'f']
```

# **Tuples**

#### **Tuples are immutable lists**

- Tuples are the same as lists, except the fact that they can not be changed
- Tuples are declared using () instead of []
- Tuples must not contain exactly two elements

```
tuple = ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e')
```

 Tuples containing only one element must have a comma at the end of the definition

```
tuple = ('a', )
```

# **Strings**

# Strings are immutable

- Unlike lists, strings can not be changed
- Operations on strings always return a modified copy of the string
- The original string remains unchanged

```
greeting = 'Hello, world!'
greeting[0] = 'H'
# TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment
```

# **Fundamental Components**

**Iterations** 

- Iterations are used to repeat statements
- There are two expressions for iterations
  - while
  - for

#### while

 As long as the condition of the while loop is fulfilled, the loop body is executed

```
def countdown(n):
    while n > 0:
    print(n)
    n -= 1
    print('Lift off!')

countdown(10)
```

#### while

- If the condition is False at the beginning, the body of the loop is never executed
- If the variable that is used to check the condition of the while loop does not change, the loop will never terminate → infinite loop

#### while

Whether a while loop terminates or can be hard to determine

#### while

- A while loop can be used to iterate through a list
- In this case, every element of the list is printed out

```
names = ['Tom', 'Anna', 'Christopher']
index = 0
while index < len(names):
   name = names[index]
   print(name)
   index = index + 1</pre>
```

# **Exercise 6**

- Write a function calc\_sum(numbers), which expects a list of numbers as an argument and returns their sum.
- The method should be called as follows:
  - calc\_sum([4,6,10])

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#### for

 Since it is often necessary to operate through lists and other data types, there is a special expression for this

```
for my_element in my_list:
    print(my_element)
```

The for loop iterates through every element in a list

# **Exercise 7**

 Write a function print\_reverse(text) which expects a string as an argument and prints every character of the string in reverse order

Use a while loop to do this

## **Exercise 8**

- Write a function count\_words(words, min\_word\_length) that counts the number of words in a list that are at least as long as the specified word length
- Use a for loop to do this
- Example:

```
words = ['Emanuel', 'John', 'Ale']
count_words(words, 4)
# 2
```

# **Fundamental Components**

**Dictionaries** 

# Dictionaries are key-value pairs

- Dictionaries are very similar to lists, but have a key and value for each entry
- The entries of a dictionary are not ordered

## **Creating dictionaries**

Dictionaries are created using {}

```
eng2sp = {}
eng2sp['one'] = 'uno'
eng2sp['two'] = 'dos'
```

Values can be added directly

```
inventory = {
    'apples': 430,
    'bananas': 312,
}
```

# **Accessing entries**

Values can be accessed using dictionary\_name['key']

```
inventory = {
    'apples': 430,
    'bananas': 312,
}
print(inventory['apples'])
# 430
```

# **Assigning and modifying values**

- The key is assigned a value
- If the key already exists, the value of the corresponding key is modified

```
inventory = {
    'apples': 430,
    'bananas': 312,
}
inventory['oranges'] = 530

inventory['bananas'] = 250
print(inventory['bananas'])
# 250
```

# **Deleting entries**

Key value pairs can be deleted using the del() function

```
inventory = {
'apples': 430,
'bananas': 312,
}
del(inventory['bananas'])
```

#### **Number of entries**

• The len() function returns the number of entries

```
inventory = {
    'apples': 430,
    'bananas': 312,
}
len(inventory)
# 2
```

## **Checking if an entry exists**

The in keyword can be used to check if an entry exists

```
inventory = {
    'apples': 430,
    'bananas': 312,
}
if 'apples' in inventory:
    inventory['apples'] += 100
else:
    inventory['apples'] = 100
```

#### **Dictionaries**

#### **Iterating over entries**

 The items() function combined with the for statement can be used to iterate through every key value pair

```
for (my_key, my_value) in my_dict.items():
print(my_key + ' : ' + my_value)
```

 Write a function calculate\_mark(points, max\_points) which returns a grade in the Swiss grading scale

$$mark = \frac{points \times 5}{max\_points} + 1$$

- The function rounds the grade to the nearest 0.5
  - 5.6666 -> 5.5
  - $5.75 \rightarrow 6$
  - mark\_rounded = round(mark \* 2) \* 0.5
- The function should accept strings as arguments
  - Arguments should therefore be converted to floats

- Write a function that asks for points and max\_points as long as the user does not enter "exit"
- The grade should be printed out after each run
- Idea:

```
while True:
    # input points (use input)
    if points == 'exit':
        break
    # input max_points
    # call calculate_mark function
    # print result
```

- Change your code that it additionally asks for a name
- A dictionary should now store the grade of each name
  - The name is the key, the grade the value
- As soon as the user enters "exit", the program should print out the grades of all names before it quits

- Change your code in such a way that for each name it additionally outputs if the user has passed or failed
  - mark  $>= 4 \rightarrow passed$
  - mark  $< 4 \rightarrow$  failed

 Change your code in such a way that the application outputs the average grade before it stops

#### **Exercise 10**

- Write an application that generates a random number between 1 and 100
  - import random
  - random.randrange(min, max)
- The user makes a guess and enters a number. If the number is incorrect, the program outputs whether the entered number was too small or too large and allows the user to guess again.
- The application quits when the correct number is guessed
- The application should output how many user attempts have been made before it quits

### **Exercise 11**

- Implement the opposite of Task 10 so that the user thinks of a number and makes the computer guess
- The user provides feedback on whether the number is too high, too small, or correct
  - < (too low)</li>
  - > (too high)
  - = (correct)
- How many steps does the computer need?

# Persistence

#### **Persistence**

#### **Saving data**

- So far no data has been saved in any of our examples
- All data was deleted from the memory as soon as our examples quit
- There are several ways to permanently store data on the hard disk
  - Database
  - Simple text files

### **Persistence – Files**

### **Common procedure**

- 3 Steps:
  - Open file
  - Do something with the file
  - Close file

```
file = open('my_file.txt', 'modus')
# do some stuff
file.close()
```

#### Persistence - Files

#### Different modes

- The mode defines how the content of the file should be treated
- Modes
  - 'r': read only
  - 'w': write only
  - 'r+': read and write
  - 'a': append

```
file = open('my_file.txt', 'mode')
```

#### Persistence - Files

#### Write

- The write() function is used to write something into a file
- '\n' is used to insert a line break

```
file = open('my_file.txt', 'a')
file.write('Das ist eine Linie')
file.write('Das ist eine neue Linie')
file.close()
```

#### Persistence - Files

#### Read

- A for loop can be used to read a file line by line
- line.strip() removes the trailing \n'

```
file = open('my_file.txt', 'r')
for line in file:
    line = line.strip()
    print (line)
file.close()
```

#### Persistence – JSON

#### **Dictionaries/lists in JSON**

- file.write() only accepts strings as arguments
- If complex structures such as dictionaries or lists should be stored in a file, it's necessary the convert these structures into strings first
- An example of a standard used for this purpose is JSON (Javascript Object Notation)

```
my_dict = {'one': 'uno', 'two': 'dos'}
my_dict_as_string = json.dumps(my_dict)
print(my_dict_as_string)
```

### **Persistence – JSON**

#### Convert JSON back to dictionaries/lists

Example of a string in JSON that is converted into a dictionary

```
import json
my_dict_as_string = '{"two": "dos", "one": "uno"}'
my_dict = json.loads(my_dict_as_string)
print(my_dict)
```

- Write an application which repeatedly asks for a name and phone number until the user enters "exit"
- Each name/telephone number pair should be stored as an entry in a dictionary
  - The names are the keys of the dictionary
  - The telephone numbers are the values of the dictionary
- As soon as the user enters "exit", create a JSON string of the dictionary using the json.dumps() function and store the string in a file called address\_book.txt

- Extend your application so that it reads the address\_book.txt file when it starts
- Convert the JSON text into a dictionary again

```
import json
address_book_file = open('address_book.txt', 'r')
address_book_dict = json.load(address_book_file)
```

- Ask the user if he wants to add more names or not
- Let the user search for names in the dictionary and print out the according phone number

#### **Additional Resources**

- How to Think Like a Computer Scientist from Allen Downey, Jeffrey Elkner, and Chris Meyers
- Learning with Python: Interactive Edition 2.0
  - http://interactivepython.org/courselib/static/thinkcspy/index.html
- Official Python Documentation
  - http://www.python.org/doc/
- Project Euler: Mathematical problems that can be solved programmatically
  - http://projecteuler.net/
- Platforms to prepare for coding interviews
  - https://leetcode.com/
  - https://www.interviewbit.com/