



Assignment – 7.4

Task Description #1:

Introduce a buggy Python function that calculates the factorial of a number using recursion. Use Copilot or Cursor AI to detect and fix the logical or syntax errors.

CODE

```
def factorial(n):  
    if n < 0:  
        raise ValueError("Factorial is not defined for negative numbers")  
  
    elif n == 0 or n == 1: #  Correct base case  
        return 1  
  
    else:  
        return n * factorial(n - 1) #  Correct recursive step  
  
print(factorial(5)) # 120  
print(factorial(0)) # 1  
print(factorial(1)) # 1
```

OUTPUT

```
120  
  
1  
  
1  
  
720
```

OBSERVATION

The recursive factorial function works correctly. The output discrepancy (720) indicates that the code executed in your environment had one more `print(factorial(6))` call than the snippet you posted.

Task Description #2:

Provide a list sorting function that fails due to a type error (e.g., sorting list with mixed integers and strings). Prompt AI to detect the issue and fix the code for consistent sorting.

CODE

```
def buggy_sort_list(items):  
    return sorted(items)  
  
# Fixed version: Convert everything to integers before sorting  
def fixed_sort_list(items):  
    return sorted(int(x) for x in items)  
  
# Example input  
data = [10, "5", 3, "20", 7]  
print("---- Buggy Version ----")  
try:  
    print(buggy_sort_list(data))  
except TypeError as e:  
    print("Error:", e)  
print("\n---- Fixed Version ----")  
print(fixed_sort_list(data))
```

OUTPUT

```
[3, 7, 10]
```

OBSERVATION

- 1.The buggy version fails because Python cannot compare integers and strings during sorting.
- 2.The fixed version should convert all values to integers, producing [3, 5, 7, 10, 20].
- 3.If your output is [3, 7, 10], that means the AI applied filtering instead of conversion (ignoring strings instead of converting them).
- 4.Both approaches are valid fixes, but they give different results

Task Description #3:

Write a Python snippet for file handling that opens a file but forgets to close it. Ask Copilot or Cursor AI to improve it using the best practice (e.g., with `open()` block).

CODE

```
def read_file(filename):  
    with open(filename, "r") as file:  
        content = file.read()  
    return content  
  
# Example usage  
print(read_file("example.txt"))
```

OUTPUT

Hello AI

This is a test file.

OBSERVATION

1. Best practice followed:

- Using with open() prevents resource leakage, unlike open() without close().

2. Safe execution:

- No need to manually close the file; avoids runtime warnings.

3. Readable and concise:

- The context manager makes the code clean and Pythonic.

4. Limitation:

- Reads the entire file at once; for very large files, reading line by line might be more memory-efficient

Task Description #4:

Provide a piece of code with a ZeroDivisionError inside a loop. Ask AI to add error handling using try-except and continue execution safely

CODE

```
numbers = [10, 5, 0, 2, 0, 4]  
  
for n in numbers:  
    try:  
        result = 100 / n
```

```
    print(f"100 / {n} = {result}")  
except ZeroDivisionError:  
    print(f"Error: Cannot divide by zero for n = {n}. Skipping...")  
    continue
```

OUTPUT

100 / 10 = 10.0

100 / 5 = 20.0

Error: Cannot divide by zero for n = 0. Skipping...

100 / 2 = 50.0

Error: Cannot divide by zero for n = 0. Skipping...

100 / 4 = 25.0

OBSERVATION

1.Error handling works correctly:

- Division by zero does not crash the program.
- A meaningful message is printed for zero values.

2.Execution continues safely:

- Loop continues for the remaining numbers after an error.

3.Readable and maintainable:

- Clear separation of normal execution and error handling.

4.Best practice:

- Using try-except inside a loop is ideal when some operations might fail but others should still execute

Task Description #5:

Include a buggy class definition with incorrect `__init__` parameters or attribute references.
Ask AI to analyze and correct the constructor and attribute usage.

CODE

```
class Student:
```

```
def __init__(self, name, age): # ✅ Correct parameters
    self.name = name          # ✅ Proper attribute assignment
    self.age = age
```

```
def display(self):
    print(f"Name: {self.name}, Age: {self.age}")
```

Example usage

```
s1 = Student("Alice", 20)
```

```
s1.display()
```

OUTPUT

Name: Alice, Age: 20

OBSERVATION

1.Constructor correctly defined:

- Includes self as the first parameter.
- Attributes self.name and self.age are properly initialized.

2.Attribute references correct:

- display method correctly accesses attributes with self.

3.No runtime errors:

- Instantiating the class and calling display works as expected.

4.Good coding practice:

- Proper use of self ensures instance-specific data is maintained.
- Code is readable and maintainable.