

MAPPING AND ACCUMULATION

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Mapping and Accumulation

Mapping → applying a callable to each element of an iterable

→ `map(fn, iterable)`

Accumulation → reducing an iterable down to a single value

→ `sum(iterable)` calculates the sum of every element in an iterable

→ `min(iterable)` returns the minimal element of the iterable

→ `max(iterable)` returns the maximal element of the iterable

→ `reduce(fn, iterable, [initializer])`

→ `fn` is a function of two arguments

→ applies `fn` cumulatively to elements of iterable

map

You should already be familiar with `map` → quick review

`map(fn, iterable)` applies `fn` to every element of `iterable`, and returns an `iterator (lazy)`

→ `fn` must be a callable that requires a `single` argument

`map(lambda x: x**2, [1, 2, 3, 4])` → `1, 4, 9, 16` → `lazy iterator`

Of course, we can easily do the same thing using a `generator expression` too

`maps = (fn(item) for item in iterable)`

reduce

You should already be familiar with `reduce` → quick review

Suppose we want to find the sum of all elements in an iterable: `l = [1, 2, 3, 4]`

`sum(l)` → $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10$

`reduce(lambda x, y: x + y, l)` → 1
→ $1 + 2 = 3$
→ $3 + 3 = 6$
→ $6 + 4 = 10$

To find the product of all elements:

`reduce(lambda x, y: x * y, l)` → 1
→ $1 * 2 = 2$
→ $2 * 3 = 6$
→ $6 * 4 = 24$

We can specify a different "start" value in the reduction

`reduce(lambda x, y: x + y, l, 100)` → 110

`itertools.starmap`

`starmap` is very similar to `map`

- it unpacks every sub element of the iterable argument, and passes that to the map function
- useful for mapping a multi-argument function on an iterable of iterables

```
l = [ [1, 2], [3, 4] ]      map(lambda item: item[0] * item[1], l)  → 2, 12
```

We can use `starmap`: `starmap(operator.mul, l)` → 2, 12

we could also just use a generator expression to do the same thing:

```
(operator.mul(*item) for item in l)
```

We can of course use iterables that contain more than just two values:

```
l = [ [1, 2, 3], [10, 20, 30], [100, 200, 300] ]
```

```
starmap(lambda: x, y, z: x + y + z, l)  → 6, 60, 600
```


`itertools.accumulate(iterable, fn)` → lazy iterator

The `accumulate` function is very similar to the `reduce` function

But it returns a (lazy) iterator producing all the intermediate results

→ `reduce` only returns the final result

Unlike `reduce`, It does not accept an initializer

Note the argument order is not the same!

`reduce(fn, iterable)`

`accumulate(iterable, fn)`

→ in `accumulate`, `fn` is optional

→ defaults to addition

Coding Exercises