

# [220 / 319] Dictionary Nesting

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# Learning Objectives Today

## More dictionary operations

- len, in, for loop
- d.keys(), d.values()
- defaults for get and pop

## Syntax for nesting (dicts inside dicts, etc)

- indexing/lookup
- step-by-step resolution

## Understand common use cases for nesting

- binning/bucketing (**list** in **dict**)
- a more convenient table representation (**dict** in **list**)
- transition probabilities with Markov chains (**dict** in **dict**)

one of the most common  
data analysis tasks

we'll generate random  
English-like texts

list

dict

dict

dict

# Today's Outline

## Dictionary Ops

Binning (dict of list)

Table Representation (list of dict)

Probability Tables and Markov Chains (dict of dict) – self-interest study; **not required for quizzes and exams**

# Creation of Empty Dict - self-review

## Non-empty dict:

```
d = {"a": "alpha", "b": "beta"}
```

## Empty dict (way 1):

```
d = {}
```

## Empty dict (way 2):

```
d = dict() # special function called constructor
```

similar for lists: `L = []`

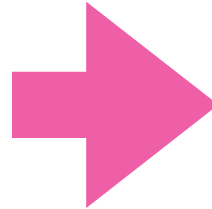
similar for lists: `L = list() # special function called constructor`

similar for sets: `s = set() # special function called constructor`

# len, in, for - self-review

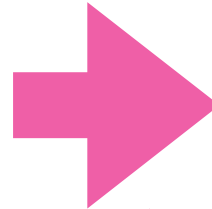
```
num_words = {0:"zero", 1:"one", 2:"two", 3:"three"}
```

```
print(len(num_words))
```



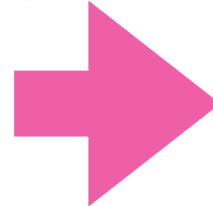
**4**

```
print(1 in num_words)
```



**True**

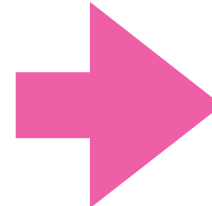
```
print("one" in num_words)
```



**False**

(it is only checking keys, not vals)

```
for x in num_words:  
    print(x, num_words[x])
```



**0 zero**  
**1 one**  
**2 two**  
**3 three**



you can iterate over values  
by combining a **for loop** with **lookup**

# Extracting keys and values

```
num_words = {0:"zero", 1:"one", 2:"two", 3:"three"}
```

```
print(type(num_words.keys()))
```



**<class 'dict\_keys'>**

```
print(type(num_words.values()))
```



**<class 'dict\_values'>**

don't worry about these  
new types, because we  
can force them to be lists

# Extracting keys and values

```
num_words = {0:"zero", 1:"one", 2:"two", 3:"three"}
```

```
print(type(num_words.keys()))
```



**<class 'dict\_keys'>**

```
print(type(num_words.values()))
```



**<class 'dict\_values'>**

```
print(list(num_words.keys()))
```



**[0, 1, 2, 3]**

```
print(list(num_words.values()))
```



**["zero", "one",  
"two", "three"]**

# Defaults with get and pop

```
suffix = {1:"st", 2:"nd", 3:"rd"}
```

 `suffix.pop(0)` # delete fails, because no key 0

 `suffix[4]` # lookup fails because no key 4




# Defaults with get and pop

```
suffix = {1:"st", 2:"nd", 3:"rd"}
```

 `suffix.pop(0)` # delete fails, because no key 0

 `suffix[4]` # lookup fails because no key 4

 `suffix.get(4, "th")` # returns "th" because no key 4

  
specify a default if  
key cannot be found

# Defaults with get and pop

```
suffix = {1:"st", 2:"nd", 3:"rd"}
```

specify a default if  
key cannot be found

 `suffix.pop(0)` # delete fails, because no key 0

 `suffix[4]` # lookup fails because no key 4

 `suffix.get(4, "th")` # returns "th" because no key 4

specify a default if  
key cannot be found

# Defaults with get and pop

```
suffix = {1:"st", 2:"nd", 3:"rd"}
```

specify a default if  
key cannot be found

✓ `suffix.pop(0, "th")` # returns "th" because no key 0

✗ `suffix[4]` # lookup fails because no key 4

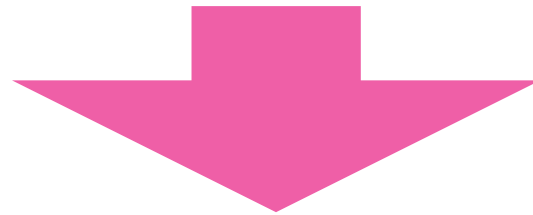
✓ `suffix.get(4, "th")` # returns "th" because no key 4

specify a default if  
key cannot be found

# Defaults with get and pop

```
suffix = {1:"st", 2:"nd", 3:"rd"}
```

```
for num in range(6):  
    print(str(num) + suffix.get(num, "th"))
```



0th  
1st  
2nd  
3rd  
4th  
5th

# Today's Outline

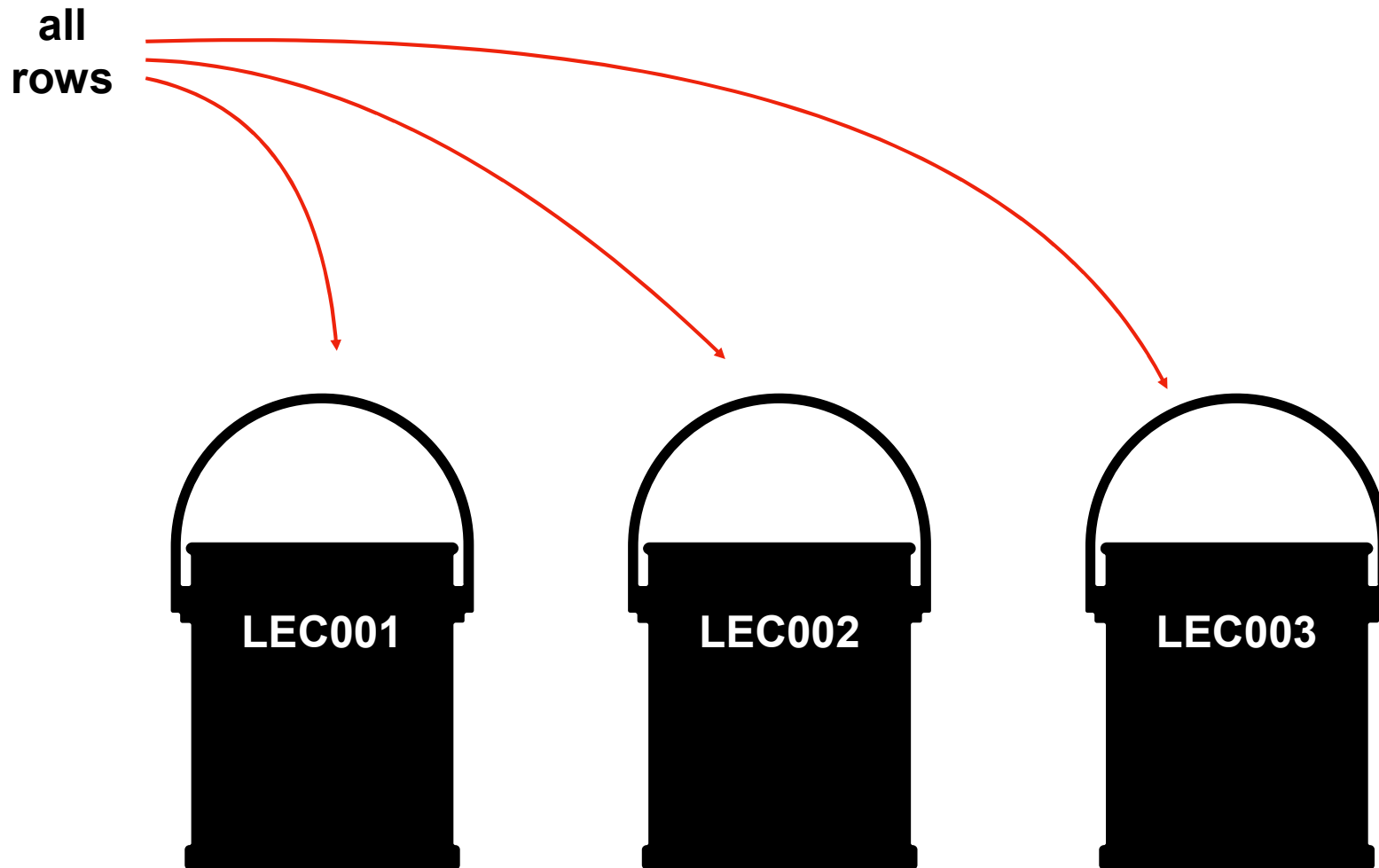
Dictionary Ops

Binning (dict of list)

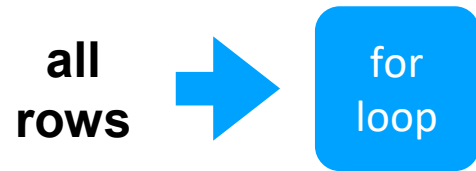
Table Representation (list of dict)

Probability Tables and Markov Chains (dict of dict) – self-interest study; not required for quizzes and exams

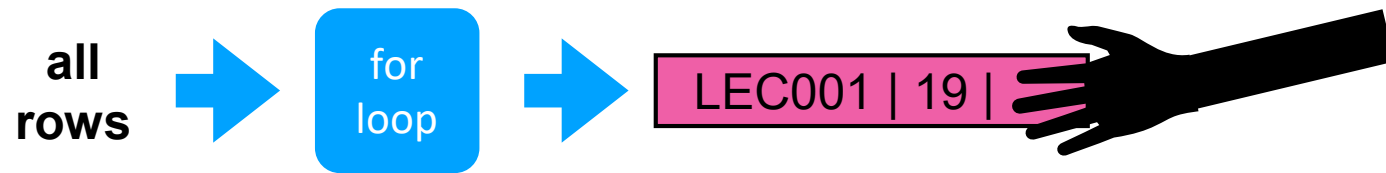
# Bucketizing/Binning



# Bucketizing/Binning

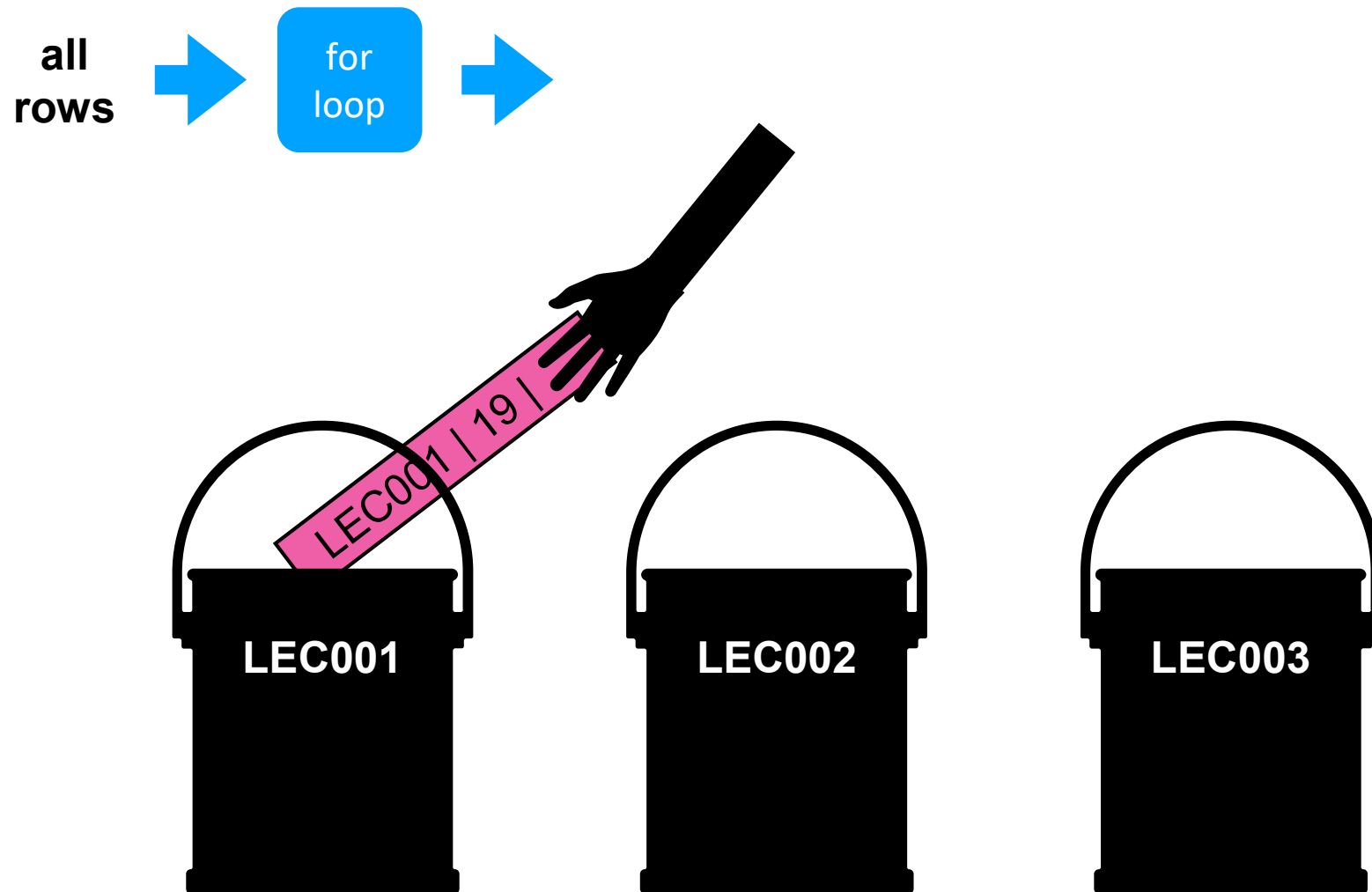


# Bucketizing/Binning

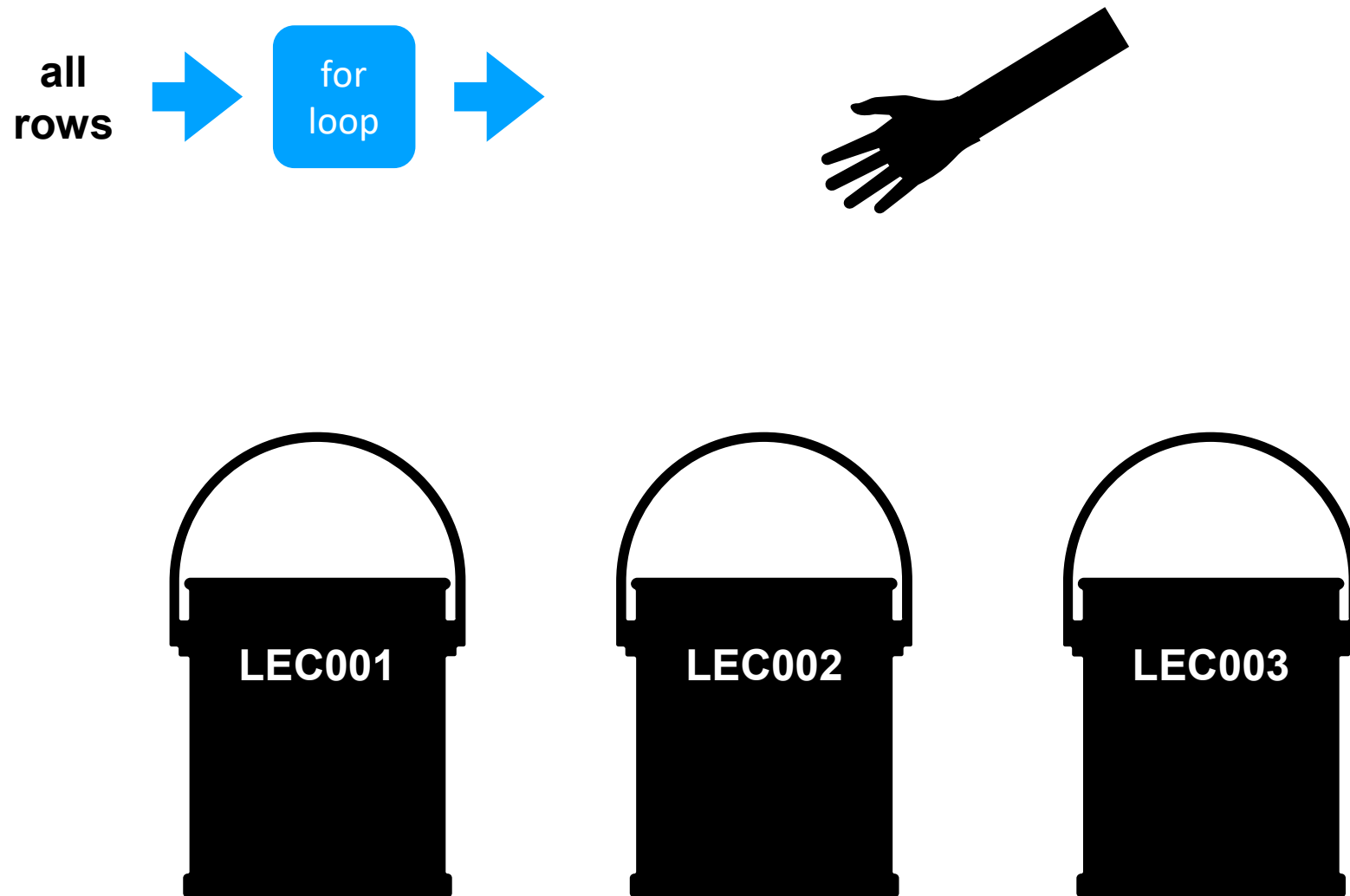




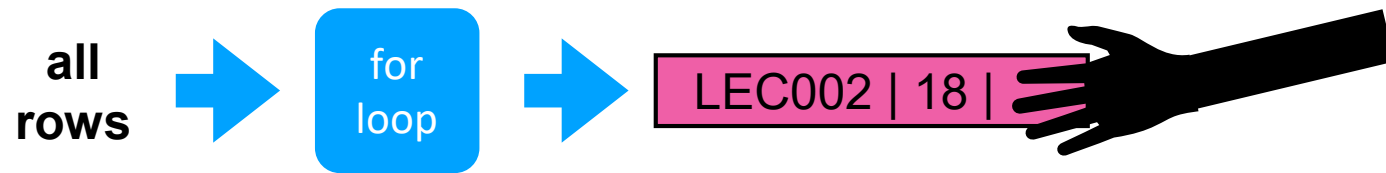
# Bucketizing/Binning



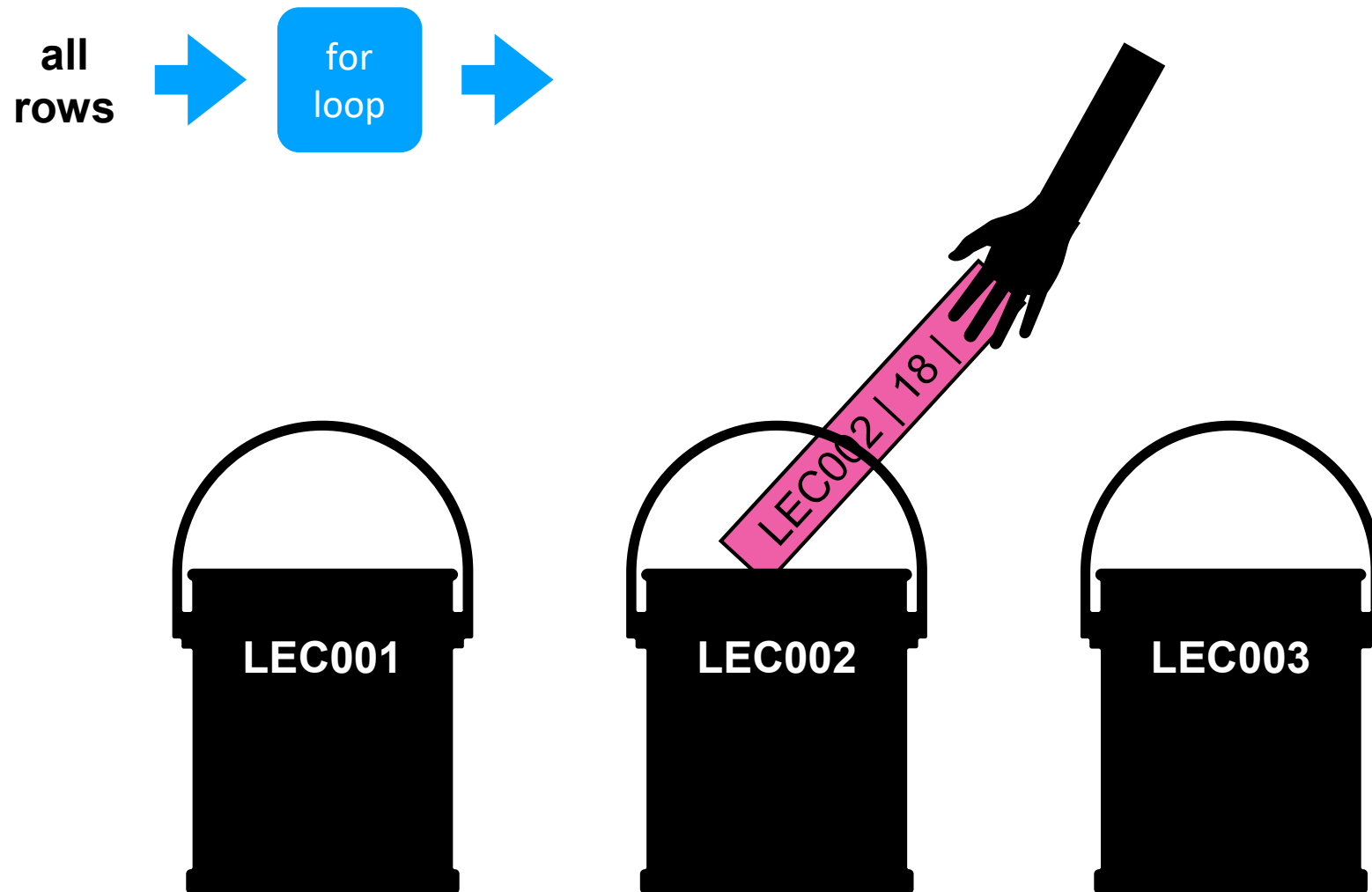
# Bucketizing/Binning



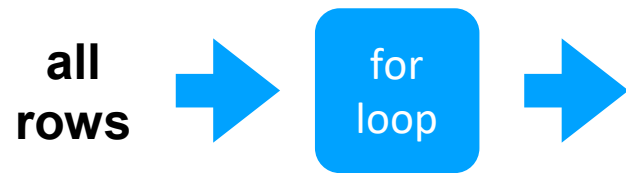
# Bucketizing/Binning



# Bucketizing/Binning



# Bucketizing/Binning



# Bins with lists and dicts

all data

```
rows = [  
    ["LEC001", 19, "CS"],  
    ["LEC002", 18, "Eng"],  
    ["LEC002", 21, "Econ"],  
    ["LEC003", 25, "Stat"],  
    ["LEC002", , "DS"],  
    ["LEC003", , "DS"],  
]
```

# Bins with lists and dicts

all data

```
rows = [  
    ["LEC001", 19, "CS"],  
    ["LEC002", 18, "Eng"],  
    ["LEC002", 21, "Econ"],  
    ["LEC003", 25, "Stat"],  
    ["LEC002", , "DS"],  
    ["LEC003", , "DS"],  
]
```

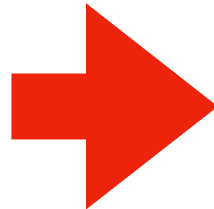


```
bins = {  
    "LEC001": [  
        ["LEC001", 19, "CS"],  
    ],  
    "LEC002": [  
        ["LEC002", 18, "Eng"],  
        ["LEC002", 21, "Econ"],  
        ["LEC002", , "DS"],  
    ],  
    "LEC003": [  
        ["LEC003", 25, "Stat"],  
        ["LEC003", , "DS"],  
    ],  
}
```

# Bins with lists and dicts

all data

```
rows = [  
    ["LEC001", 19, "CS"],  
    ["LEC002", 18, "Eng"],  
    ["LEC002", 21, "Econ"],  
    ["LEC003", 25, "Stat"],  
    ["LEC002", , "DS"],  
    ["LEC003", , "DS"],  
]
```



```
bins = {  
    "LEC001": [  
        ["LEC001", 19, "CS"],  
    ],  
    "LEC002": [  
        ["LEC002", 18, "Eng"],  
        ["LEC002", 21, "Econ"],  
        ["LEC002", , "DS"],  
    ],  
    "LEC003": [  
        ["LEC003", 25, "Stat"],  
        ["LEC003", , "DS"],  
    ]  
}
```



avg 19



avg 19.5



avg 25



# Demo 1: Average Age per Section

Goal: print **average age** of students in each section

## Input:

- CS220 Information survey

## Output:

- Average age within each section

## Example:

**SEC001: 19**

**SEC002: 19.5**

**SEC003: 25**

# Today's Outline

Dictionary Ops

Binning (dict of list)

Table Representation (list of dict)

Probability Tables and Markov Chains (dict of dict)

# Table Representation

name	x	y
Alice	30	20
Bob	5	11
Cindy	-2	50

list of list representation



```
header = ["name", "x", "y"]
rows = [
    ["Alice", 30, 20],
    ["Bob", 5, 11],
    ["Cindy", -2, 50],
]
```

list of dict representation



```
[
    {"name": "Alice", "x": 30, "y": 20},
    {"name": "Bob", "x": 5, "y": 11},
    {"name": "Cindy", "x": -2, "y": 50},
]
```

# Table Representation

name	x	y
Alice	30	20
Bob	5	11
Cindy	-2	50

list of list representation

```
header = ["name", "x", "y"]
rows = [
    ["Alice", 30, 20],
    ["Bob", 5, 11],
    2 → ["Cindy", -2, 50],
]
```

↑  
2

`rows[2][header.index("y")]`

list of dict representation

```
[
    {"name": "Alice", "x": 30, "y": 20},
    {"name": "Bob", "x": 5, "y": 11},
    2 → {"name": "Cindy", "x": -2, "y": 50},
]
```

↑  
"y"

`rows[2]["y"]`

# Demo 2: Table Transform

Goal: create function that transforms list of lists table to a list of dicts table

## Input:

- List of lists (from a CSV)

## Output:

- List of dicts

## Example:

```
>>> header = ["x","y"]
>>> rows = [[1,2], [3,4]]
>>> transform(header, rows)
[{"x":1, "y":2}, {"x":3, "y":4}]
```

# Today's Outline

Dictionary Ops

Binning (dict of list)

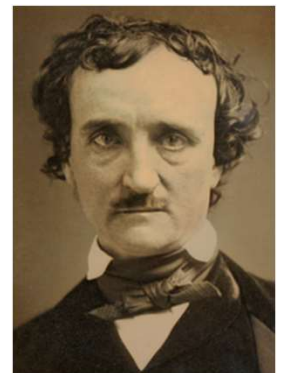
Table Representation (list of dict)

Probability Tables and Markov Chains (dict of dict) – self-interest study; not required for quizzes and exams

# Challenge - Demo 3: Letter Frequency

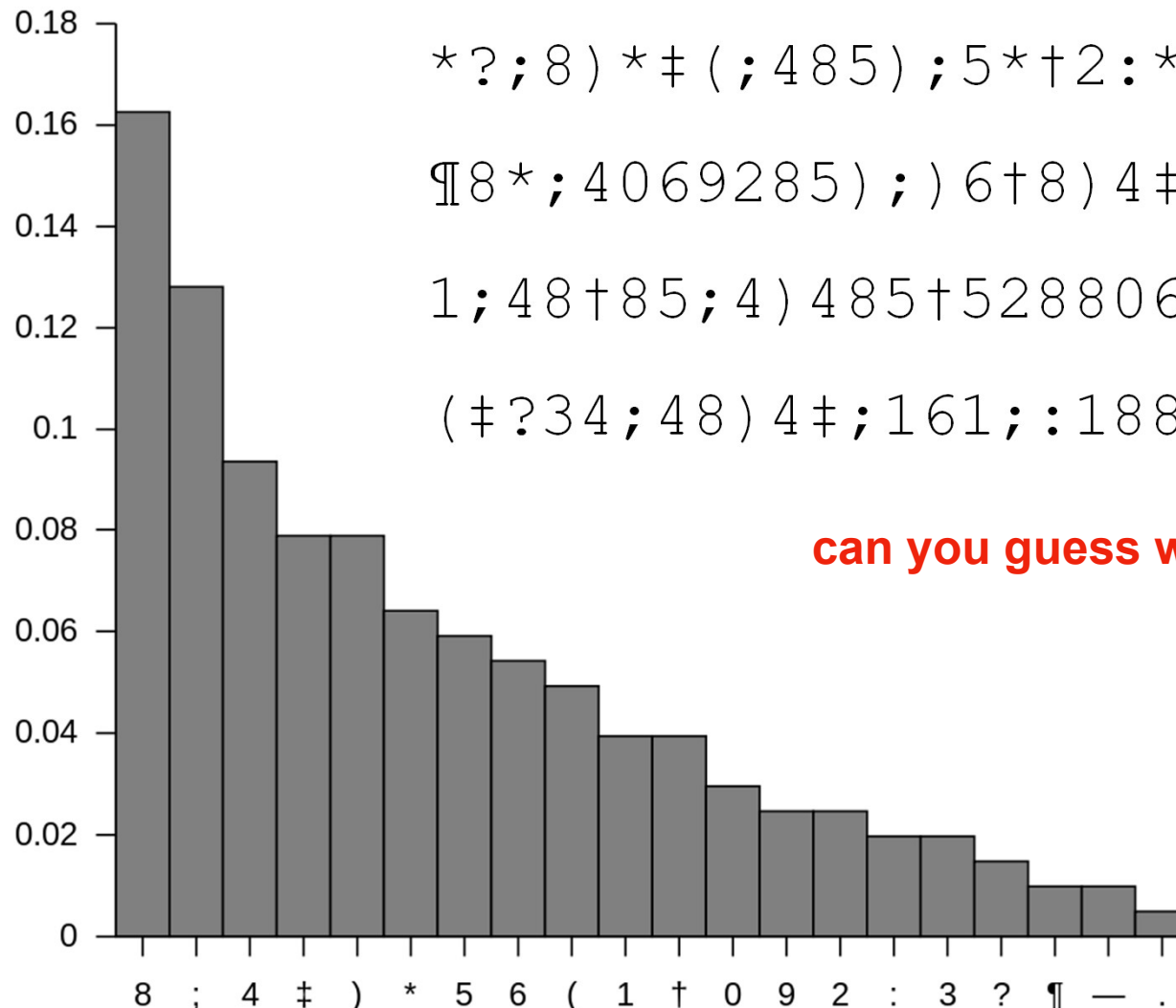
53†††305) ) 6\* ; 4826) 4†. ) 4†) ; 806\* ; 48†8  
¶60) ) 85 ; ; ] 8\* ; : †\*8†83 (88) 5\*† ; 46 ( ; 88\*96  
\*? ; 8) \*† ( ; 485) ; 5\*†2 : \*† ( ; 4956\*2 (5\*—4) 8  
¶8\* ; 4069285) ; ) 6†8) 4†† ; 1 (†9 ; 48081 ; 8 : 8†  
1 ; 48†85 ; 4) 485†528806\*81 (†9 ; 48 ; (88 ; 4  
(†?34 ; 48) 4† ; 161 ; : 188 ; †? ;

**can you guess what 8 represents?**

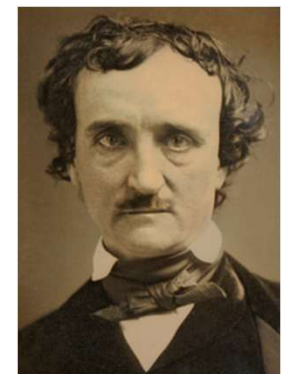


# Challenge - Demo 3: Letter Frequency

53‡‡†305) ) 6\* ; 4826) 4‡. ) 4‡) ; 806\* ; 48†8  
 ¶60) ) 85 ; ; ] 8\* ; : ‡\*8†83 (88) 5\*† ; 46 ( ; 88\*96  
 \*? ; 8) \*‡ ( ; 485) ; 5\*†2 : \*‡ ( ; 4956\*2 (5\*—4) 8  
 ¶8\* ; 4069285) ; ) 6†8) 4‡‡ ; 1 (‡9 ; 48081 ; 8 : 8‡  
 1 ; 48†85 ; 4) 485†528806\*81 (‡9 ; 48 ; (88 ; 4  
 (‡?34 ; 48) 4‡ ; 161 ; : 188 ; ‡? ;

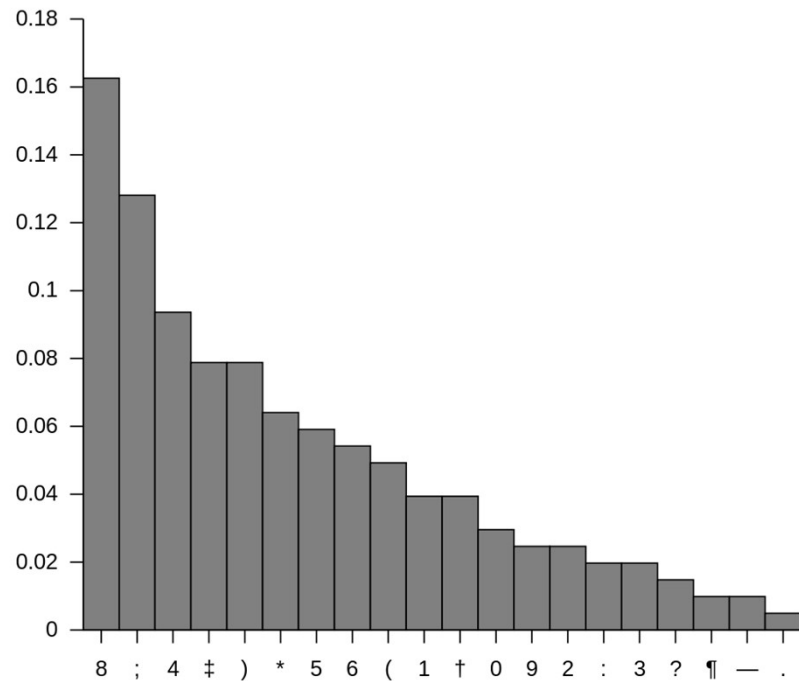


**can you guess what 8 represents?**

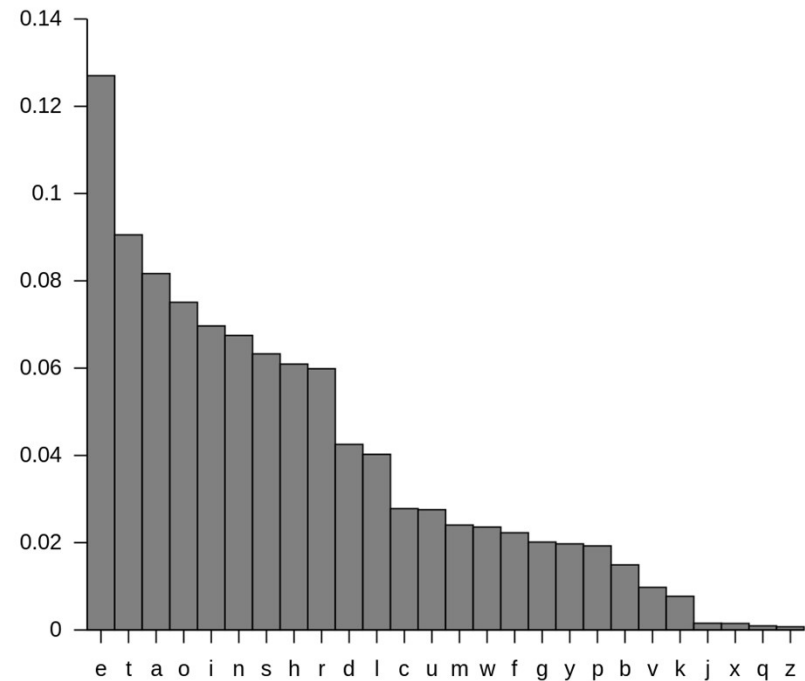




# Challenge - Demo 3: Letter Frequency

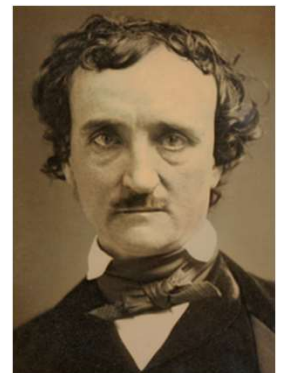


**letters**



**symbols**

how to compute these?



# Challenge - Demo 3: Letter Frequency

Goal: if we randomly pick a word in a text, what is the probability that it will be a given letter?

## Input:

- Plaintext of book (from Project Gutenberg)

## Output:

- The portion of letters in the text that are that letter

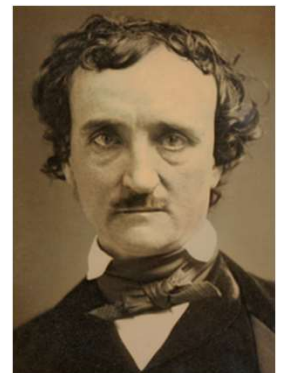
## Example:

text: AAAAABBBCCC

A: 50%

B: 20%

C: 30%



# Sequence Data

Consider this sequence: "the quick tiger is quiet"

What letter likely comes after "t" in this text?

# Sequence Data

Consider this sequence: “**th**e quick **ti**ger is quiet**t**”

What letter likely comes after “t” in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
h	50%
i	50%
a	0%
...	0%

**dict for “t”:**

```
{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}
```

# Sequence Data

Consider this sequence: "the **qu**ick tiger is **qu**iet"

What letter likely comes after "t" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
h	50%
i	50%
a	0%
...	0%

**dict for "t":**

```
{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}
```

What letter likely comes after "q" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
u	100%
...	0%

**dict for "q":**

```
{"u": 1.0}
```

# Sequence Data

Consider this sequence: "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog"

Imagine a next-letter probability dictionary for every letter

What letter likely comes after "t" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
h	50%
i	50%
a	0%
...	0%

**dict for "t":**

```
{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}
```

What letter likely comes after "q" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
u	100%
...	0%

**dict for "q":**

```
{"u": 1.0}
```

# Sequence Data

Consider this sequence: "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog"

**Imagine a next-letter probability dictionary for every letter**

What letter likely comes after "t" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
h	50%
i	50%
a	0%
...	0%

**dict for "u":**

`{"i": 1.0}`

**dict for "t":**

`{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}`

**dict for "i":**

`{"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25, "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25}`

What letter likely comes after "q" in this text?

Next Letter	Probability
u	100%
...	0%

**dict for "q":**

`{"u": 1.0}`

...

# Sequence Data

Organize all the dicts with a dict:

```
probs = {  
    "u":  
}
```

Imagine a next-letter probability  
dictionary for every letter

**dict for "u":**

```
{"i": 1.0}
```

**dict for "t":**

```
{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}
```

**dict for "i":**

```
{"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
"s": 0.25, "e": 0.25}
```

**dict for "q":**

```
{"u": 1.0}
```

...



# Sequence Data

Organize all the dicts with a dict:

```
probs = {  
    "u": {"i": 1.0},  
  
    }  
}
```

Imagine a next-letter probability dictionary for every letter

**dict for "u":**

`{"i": 1.0}`

**dict for "t":**

`{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}`

**dict for "i":**

`{"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
"s": 0.25, "e": 0.25}`

**dict for "q":**

`{"u": 1.0}`

...

# Sequence Data

**Organize all the dicts with a dict:**

```
probs = {  
    "u": {"i": 1.0},  
    "t": {"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}  
    "i": {"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
          "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25},  
    "q": {"u": 1.0},  
    ...  
}
```

**Imagine a next-letter probability  
dictionary for every letter**

**dict for "u":**  
{ "i": 1.0 }

**dict for "t":**  
{ "h": 0.5, "i": 0.5 }

**dict for "i":**  
{ "c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
 "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25 }

**dict for "q":**  
{ "u": 1.0 }

■ ■ ■

# Sequence Data

Organize all the dicts with a dict:

```
probs = {  
    "u": {"i": 1.0},  
    "t": {"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}  
    "i": {"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
          "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25},  
    "q": {"u": 1.0},  
    ...  
}
```

`probs["i"]`

Imagine a next-letter probability  
dictionary for every letter

**dict for "u":**

`{"i": 1.0}`

**dict for "t":**

`{"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}`

**dict for "i":**

`{"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
"s": 0.25, "e": 0.25}`

**dict for "q":**

`{"u": 1.0}`

...

# Sequence Data

Organize all the dicts with a dict:

```
probs = {  
    "u": {"i": 1.0},  
    "t": {"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}  
    "i": {"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
          "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25},  
    "q": {"u": 1.0},  
    ...  
}
```

`probs["i"]["e"]` ➡ 0.25

There is a 25% probability that  
the letter following an "i" is an "e"

Imagine a next-letter probability  
dictionary for every letter

**dict for "u":**  
{ "i": 1.0 }

**dict for "t":**  
{ "h": 0.5, "i": 0.5 }

**dict for "i":**  
{ "c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
 "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25 }

**dict for "q":**  
{ "u": 1.0 }

...

# Vocabulary

```
probs = {  
  "u": {"i": 1.0},  
  "t": {"h": 0.5, "i": 0.5}  
  "i": {"c": 0.25, "g": 0.25,  
        "s": 0.25, "e": 0.25},  
  "q": {"u": 1.0},  
  ...  
}
```

The collection of transition probabilities like this is sometimes called a **“stochastic matrix”**

Processes that make probabilistic transitions like this (e.g., from one letter to the next) are called **“Markov chains”**

# Random Text Generation

which looks  
closest to  
English?

1

XFOML RXKHRJFFJUJ  
ZLPWCFWKCYJ FFJEYVKCQSGHYD  
QPAAMKBZAACIBZLHJQD.

2

OCRO HLI RGWR NMIELWIS EU LL  
NBNESEBYA TH EEI ALHENHTTPA  
OOBTTVA NAH BRL.

3

ON IE ANTSOUTINYS ARE T  
INCTORE ST BE S DEAMY ACHIN D  
ILONASIVE TUCOOWE AT  
TEASONARE FUSO TIZIN ANDY  
TOBE SEACE CTISBE.

Examples from *A Mind at Play*, by Soni and Goodman

# Random Text Generation

all letters equally likely

XFOML RXKHRJFFJUJ  
ZLPWCFWKCYJ FFJEYVKCQSGHYD  
QPAAMKBZAACIBZLHJQD.

weighted random, based  
on frequency in a text  
(implement with dict)

OCRO HLI RGWR NMIELWIS EU LL  
NBNESEBYA TH EEI ALHENHTTPA  
OOBTTVA NAH BRL.

probability of each letter  
based on previous letter  
(implement with dict of dicts)

ON IE ANTSOUTINYS ARE T  
INCTORE ST BE S DEAMY ACHIN D  
ILONASIVE TUCOOWE AT  
TEASONARE FUSO TIZIN ANDY  
TOBE SEACE CTISBE.

Examples from *A Mind at Play*, by Soni and Goodman

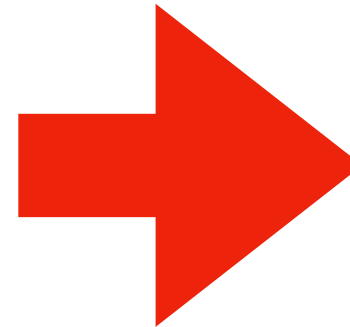
# Hypothetical Use Case

## DNA sequences

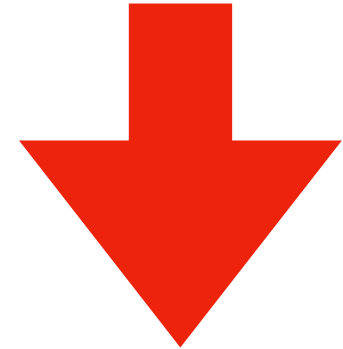
GATACAGATACAGATACA

GCTATAGCTATAGCGCGC

AAAATTTTAAAATTTTAAAA



stochastic model



**BIOINFORMATICS APPLICATIONS NOTE** Vol. 22 no. 12 2006, pages 1534–1535  
doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btl113

*Sequence analysis*

### GenRGenS: software for generating random genomic sequences and structures

Yann Ponty<sup>1</sup>, Michel Termier<sup>2</sup> and Alain Denise<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>LRI, UMR CNRS 8623, Université Paris-Sud 11, F91405 Orsay cedex, France and <sup>2</sup>IGM, UMR CNRS 8621, Université Paris-Sud 11, F91405 Orsay cedex, France

Received on February 21, 2006; revised on March 13, 2006; accepted on March 21, 2006

Advance Access publication March 30, 2006

Associate Editor: Martin Bishop

CATCATC?TC?TCATC?TCAT  
CATCATCATCATCATCATCAT

**synthetic sequences,  
filling in gaps**



# Challenge - Demo 4: Conditional Letter Frequency

Goal: if we look at given letter, what is the next letter likely to be?

## **Input:**

- Plaintext of book (from Project Gutenberg)

## **Output:**

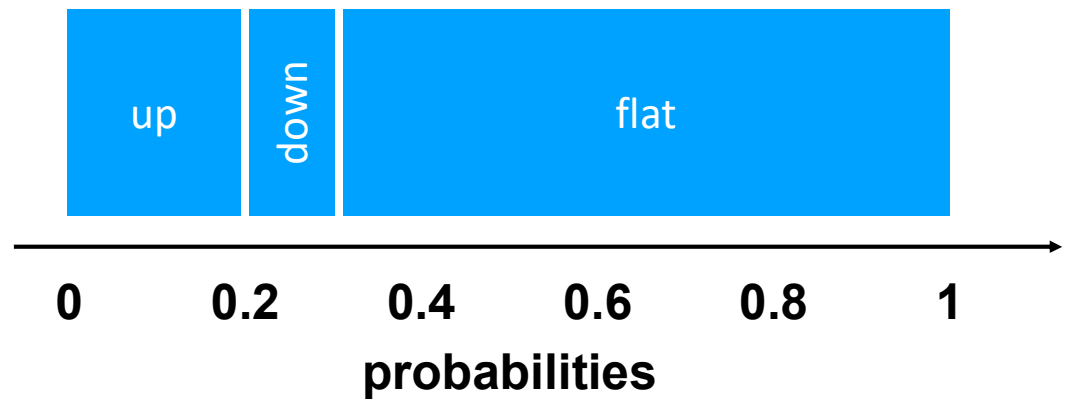
- Transition probabilities
- Randomly generated text, based on probabilities

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

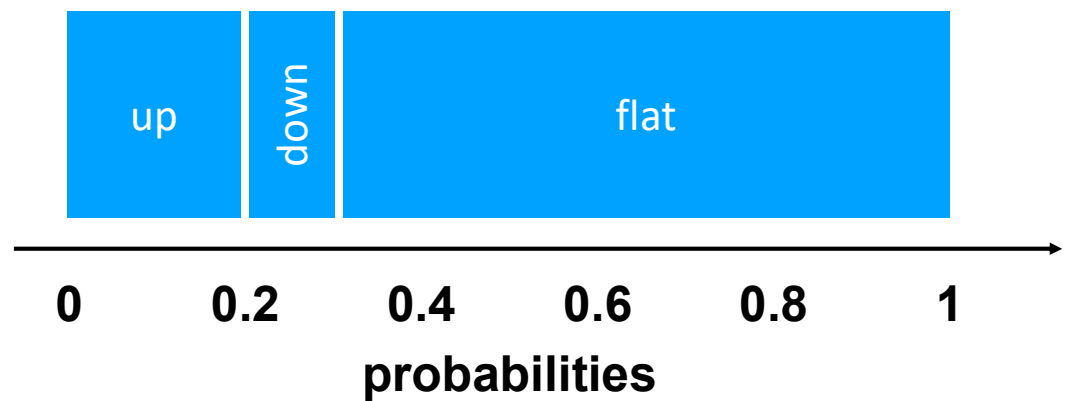
# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```



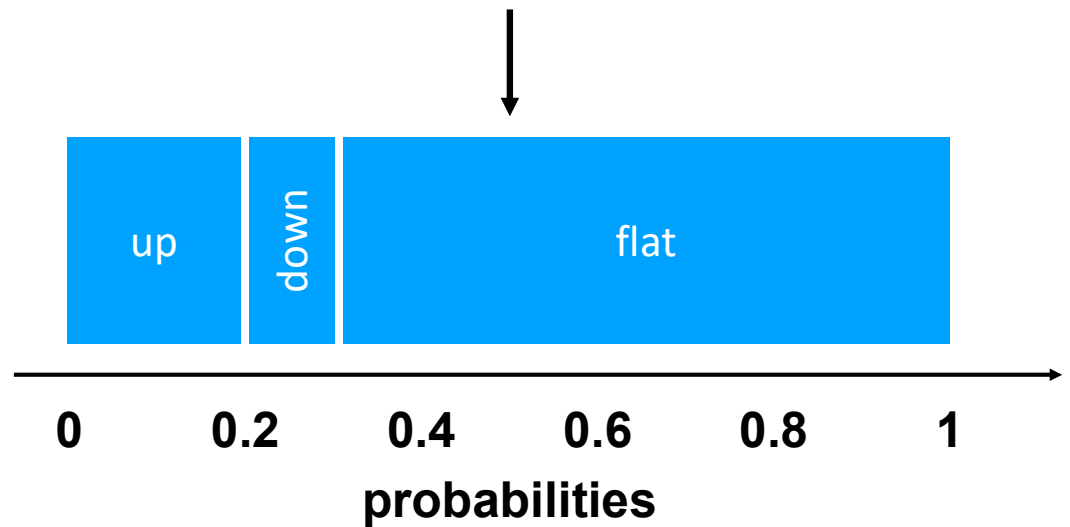
# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}  
  
x = random.random()
```



# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}  
  
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.5
```

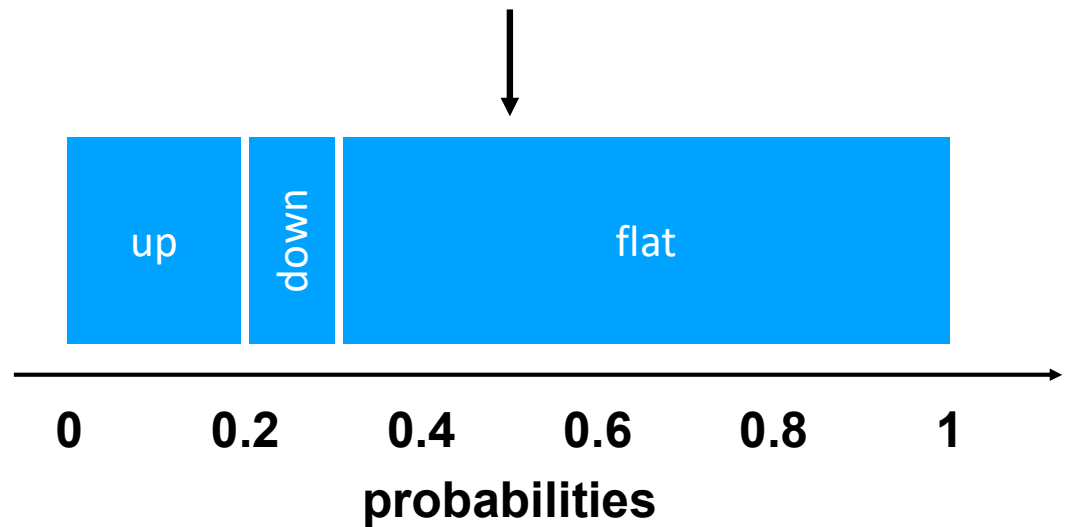


# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

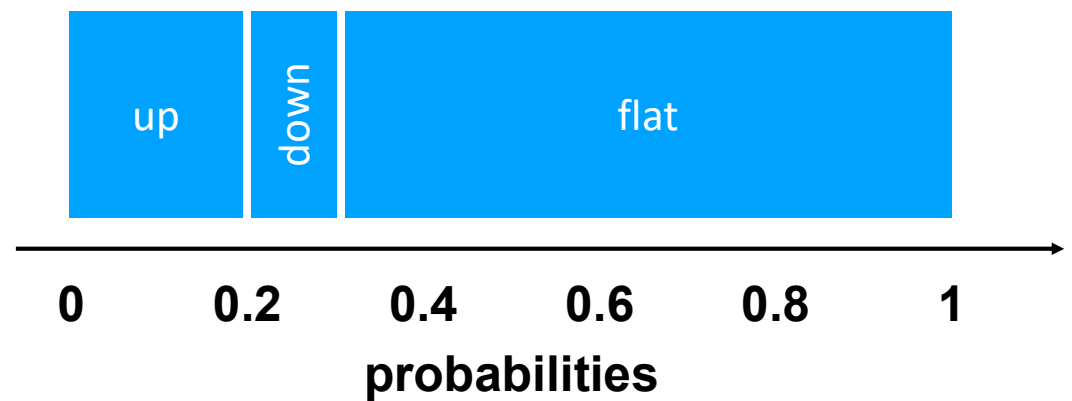
```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.5
```

**flat “wins”**



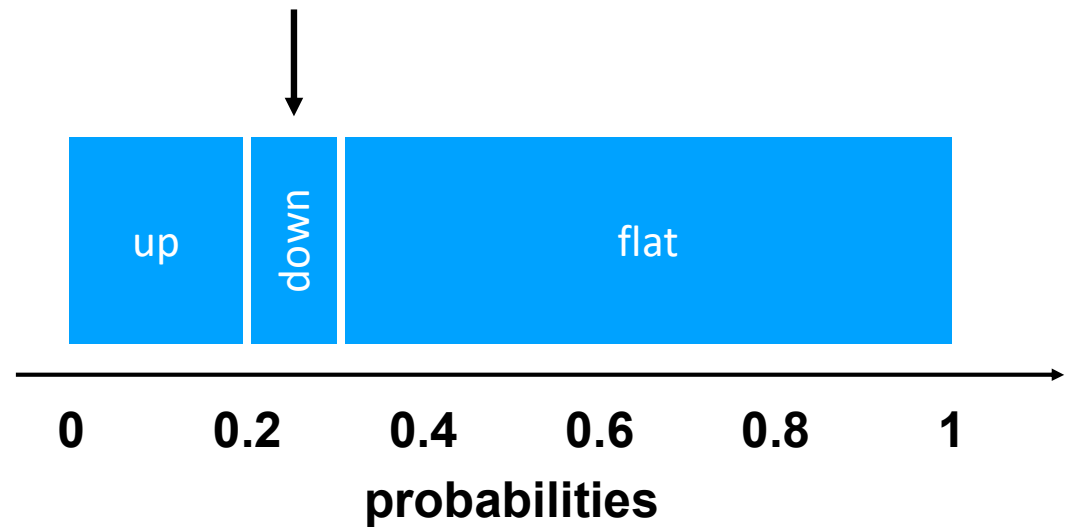
# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}  
  
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```



# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}  
  
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```



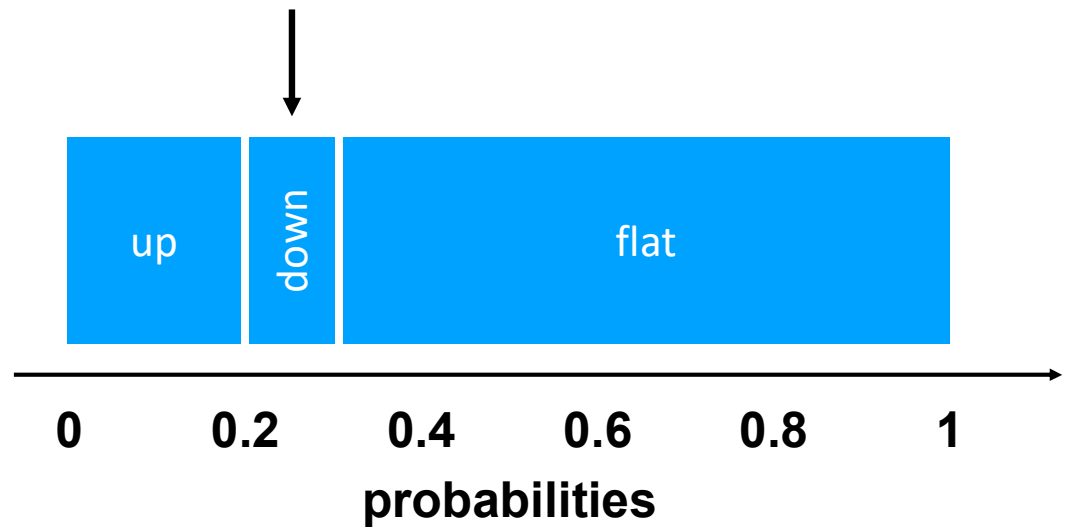


# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

**down “wins”**

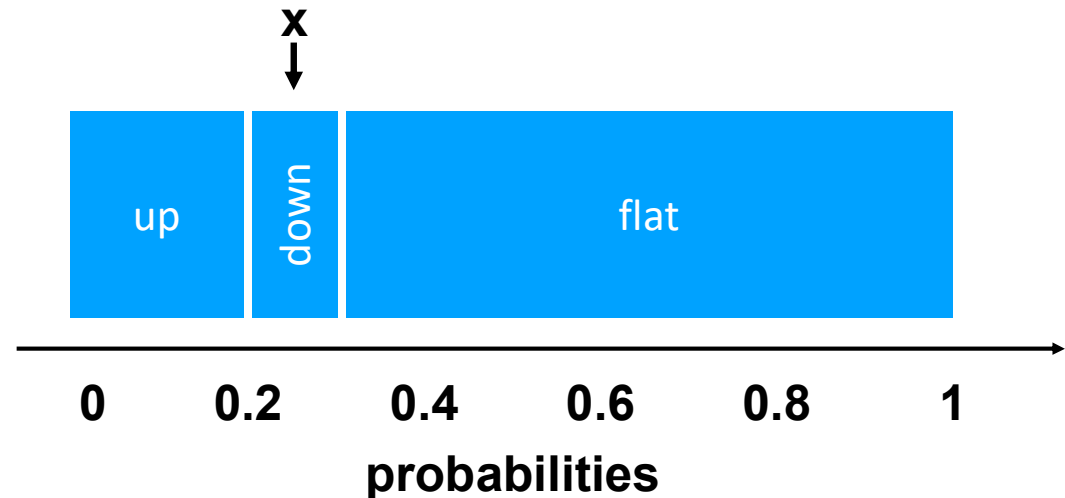


# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```

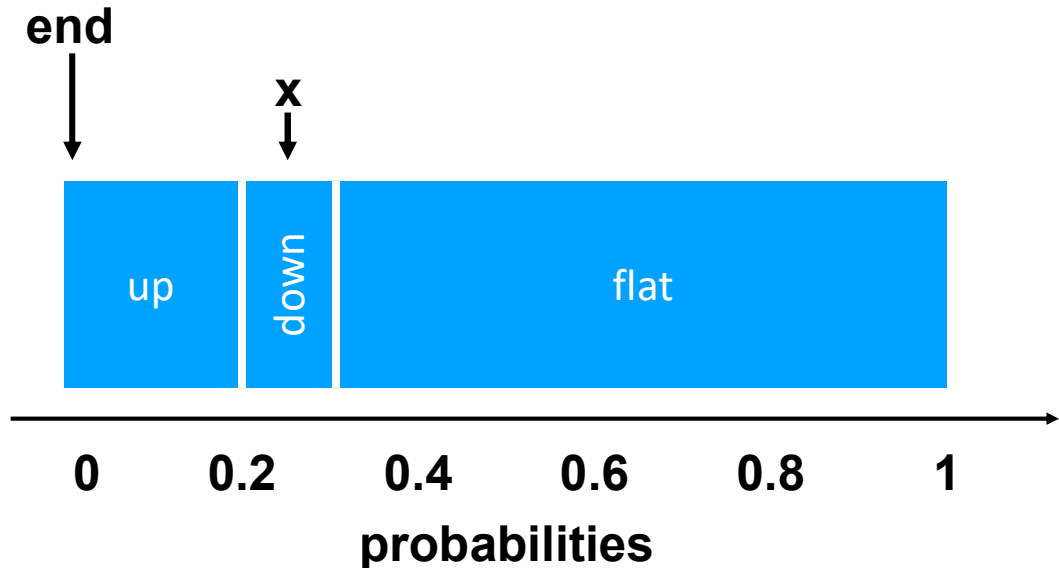


# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    ➡ end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```



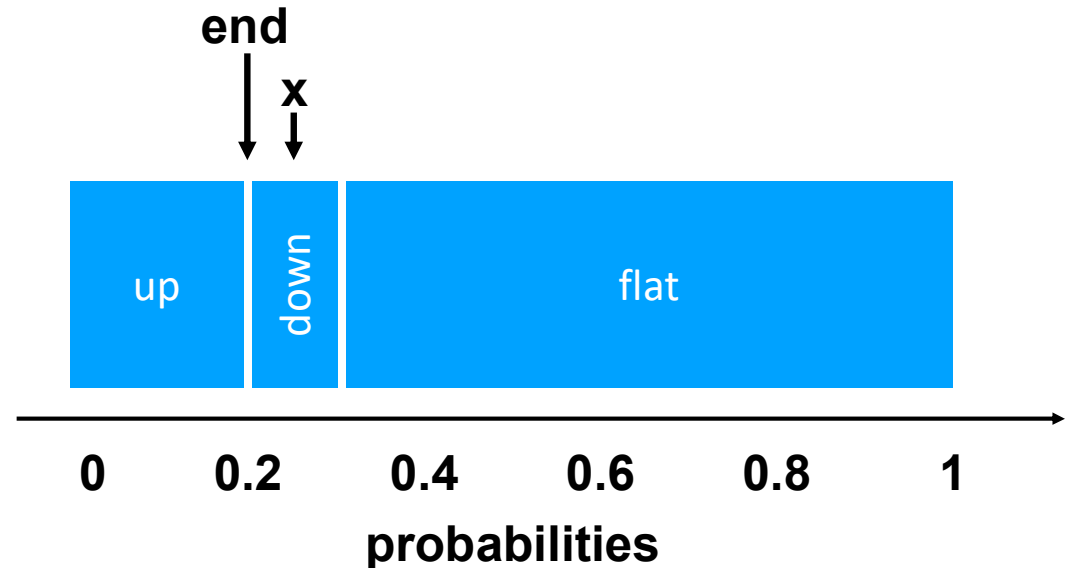
key	up
end	0

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```



key up

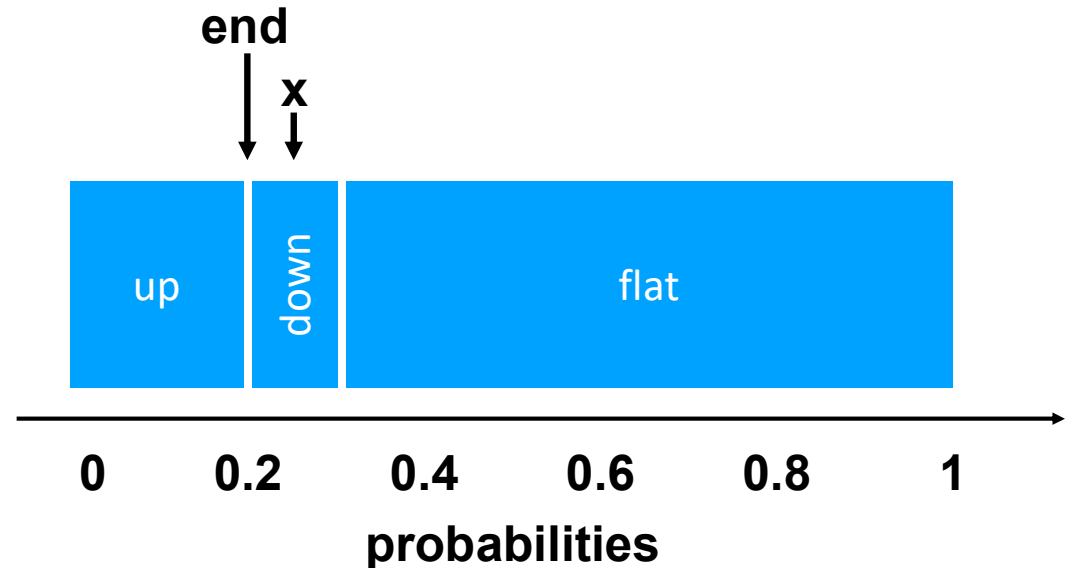
end 0.2

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
→ for key in keys:  
    end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```



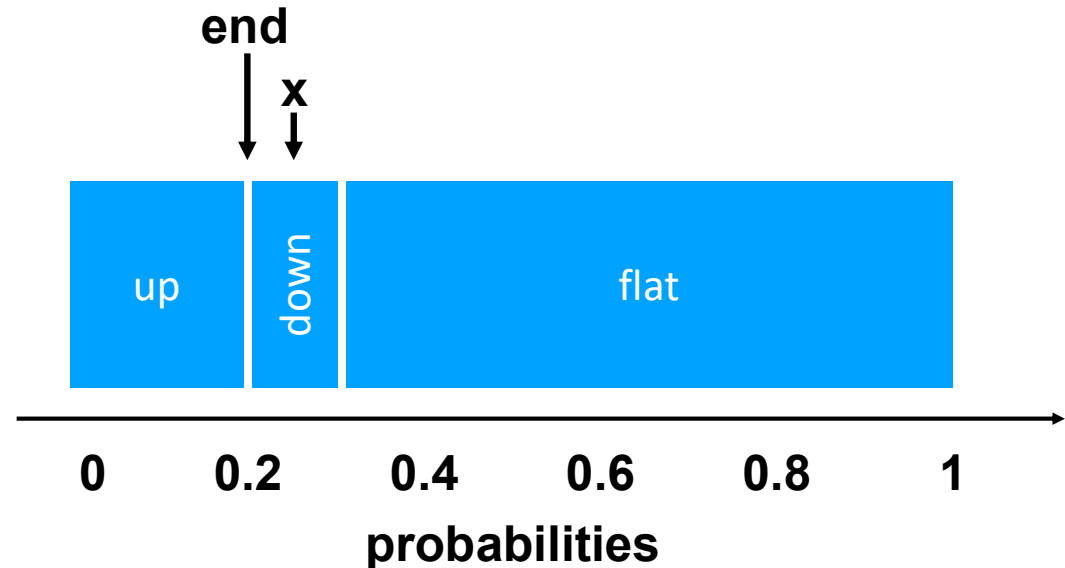
key	up
end	0.2

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    ➡ end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```



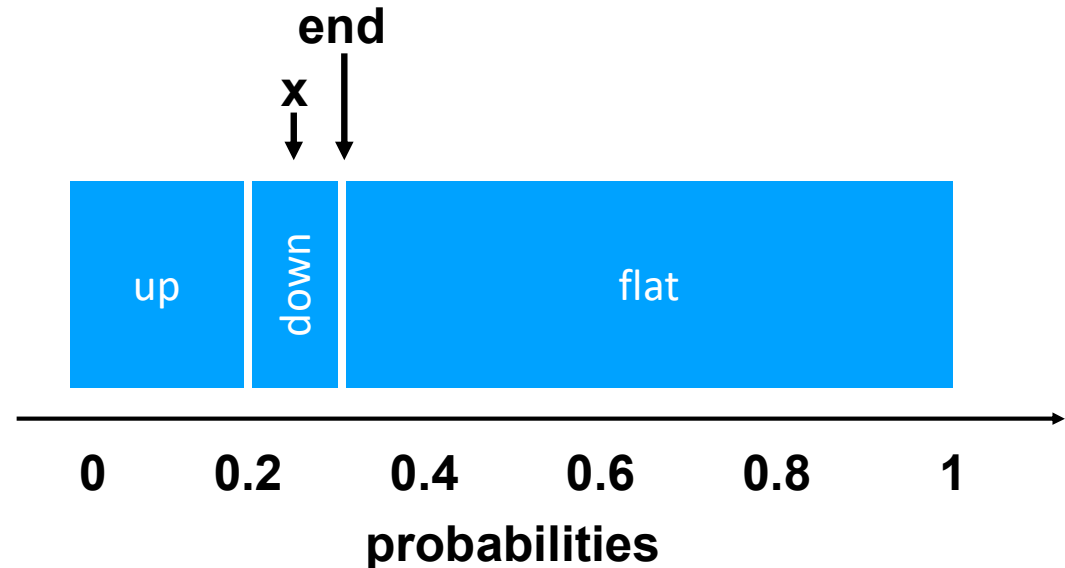
key down  
end 0.2

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        winner = key  
        break
```



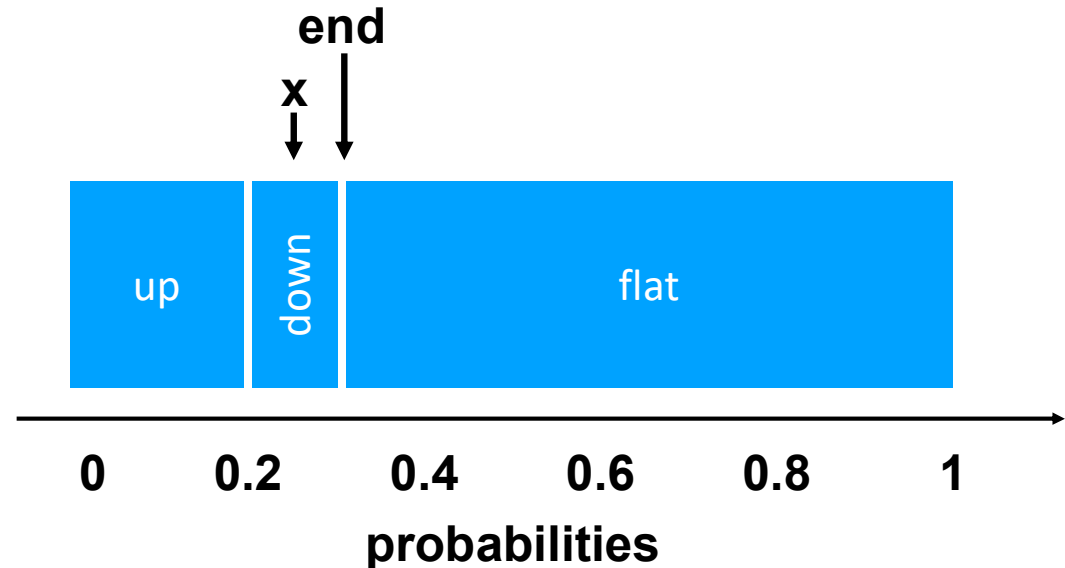
key down  
end 0.3

# Weighted Random

```
transitions = {  
    "up": 0.2,  
    "down": 0.1,  
    "flat": 0.7  
}
```

```
x = random.random()  
# assume 0.25
```

```
end = 0  
keys = ["up", "down", "flat"]  
winner = None  
for key in keys:  
    end += transitions[key]  
    if end >= x:  
        ➡ winner = key  
        break
```



key down  
end 0.3

**we randomly chose "down"**