

DSA5101 Introduction to Big Data for Industry

Lecture 2 Primer to Python

LX Zhang

Department of Mathematics

National University of Singapore

Python

“It (Python) has

- high-level data structures and
 - a simple but effective approach
to object-oriented programming”
- Python is a mix language
 - Python documentation:
<https://docs.python.org/3/index.html>
<https://www.jetbrains.com/lp/python-developers-survey-2019/>

Why can you do with Python?

1. Scripting

- Python has a powerful library function for processing string.

2. Data processing in data science, machine learning and AI

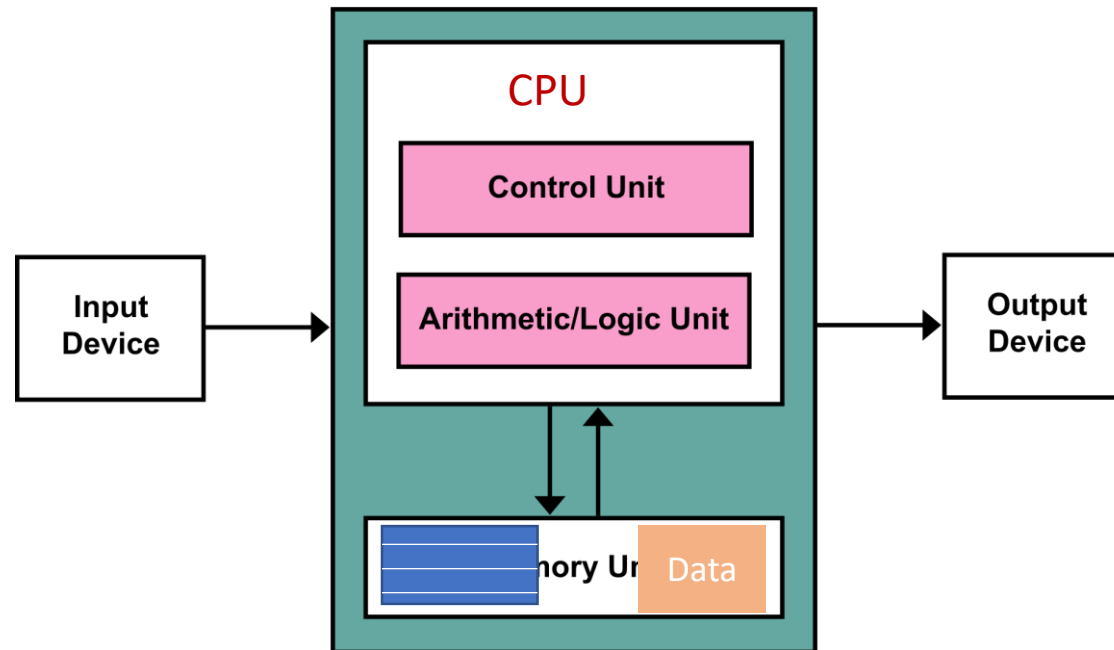
- Process text data
- Machine learning application
- Visualization

3. Web development

- Web development framework like Django and Flask are based on Python
- Python is used to support databases
- Python is also used to generate dynamic HTML page

Structure of Computer Programs

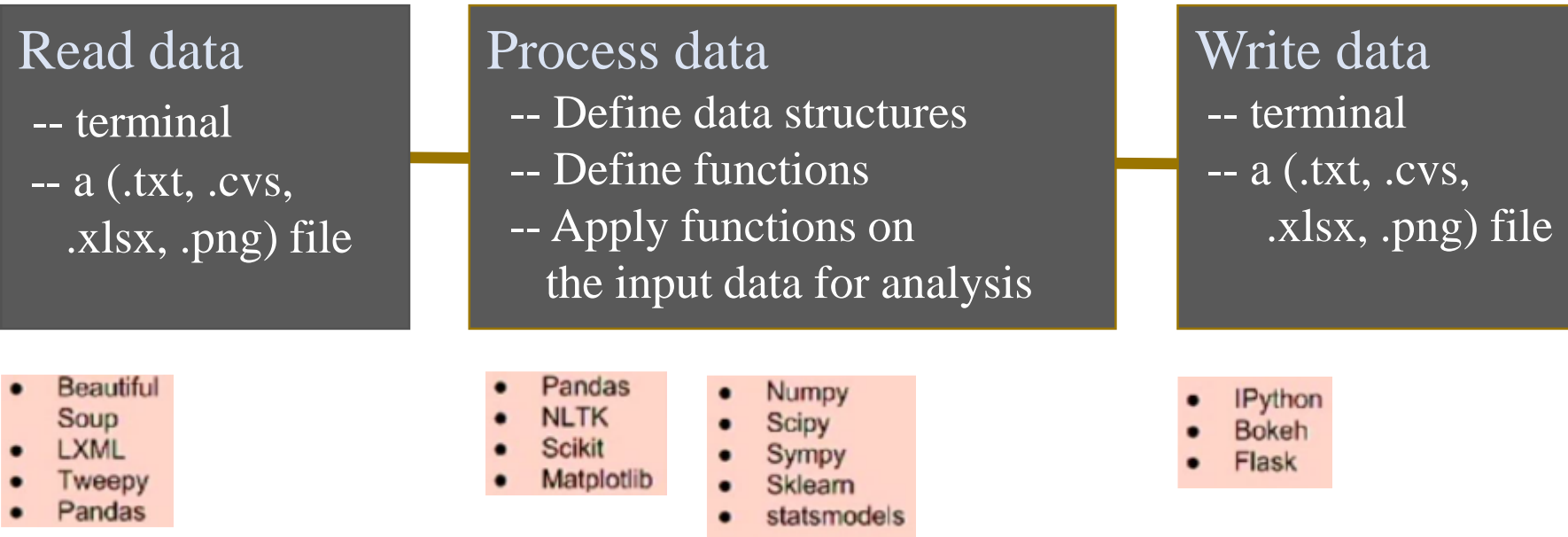
A program is **a sequence of instructions** that perform a specific function once it is executed



From-WikiPEDIA

A computer program consists of three components

- Input component
- Data analysis using an algorithm
- Output component



Basic Data Types

- **int** { -maximum, ..., -1, 0, 1, 2, ..., maximum }
- **float** { ..., -2.1, ... 0, ..., 0.2, ..., 0.22222, ... }
- **Boolean** { True, False }

-- For each data type, there are a set of built-in operations for computatin

Remarks: (1) A number cannot be too large or too small; what is the max integer in python?
(2) In Python, each line can contain only one statement

Quiz What operator is “//” ? Are empty lines allowed?

String Type

- A **string** is a sequence of symbols
- Single vs double vs triple quotes
- There are a lots of built-in operations for string manipulation, such as
 - length function
 - slicing functions
 - upper and lower conversion
 - substring (word) count
 - replace a word with another
- Use `dir(str)` to check the methods and attributes associated with a type
- Use `help(str)` to check details of function and methods.

```
name = "Joe Smith"
college = 'NUS'
fact = name + " graduated from " + college
print(fact)
print (f'{name} graduated from {college}')
first_name=name[0:3]
reverse = name[-4:-1]
print(name.lower())
```

Warning: Anything input from terminal is a string

Quiz What is the function of triple quotes?

Homework Grasp the functions defined on strings

Advanced topic regular expression

Lists, Sets and Tuples

- (**Ordered**) List instances [1, 2, “tree”, 4, “john”, 2, 2.5]
- Slicing and other functions are associated with list
- Conversion between sentences and words lists:
 - **s.split('-')** splits s into a list of words not contains the parameter ‘-’
 - **‘-’.join(L)** to concatenate a list of words and ‘-’ into a string.

```
courses=["math", "science", "history", "chemistry"]
courses.append("art")
courses.insert(2, "art")
course.extend(["art", "education"])
my_module=course[2]
course.pop()
course.sort()
```

Quiz What is the value of my_module?

Homework Grasp functions defined on lists

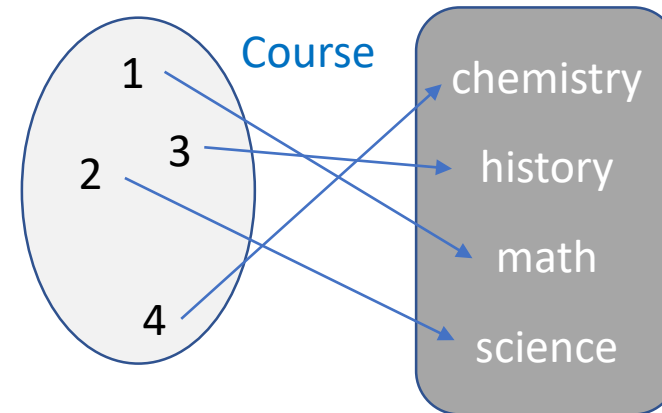
Mathematics is all about the following objects

- elements
- (finite) sets
- (finite) functions and relations in general

- List, Set, Tuples are the mechanisms to definite
 - a finite set, or
 - a simple function on integers
- List of tuples defines a relation

```
courses=["math", "science", "history", "chemistry"]
```

```
Book_read=[('zhang', book1), ('zhang', book2),  
            ('wang', book3), ('li', book3)]
```



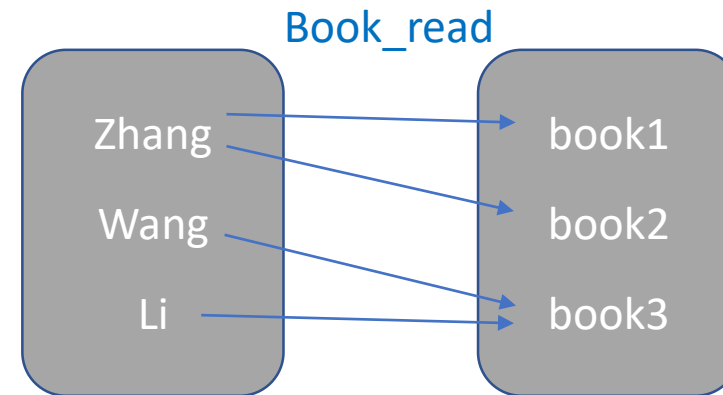
Mathematics is all about the following objects

- elements
- (finite) sets
- (finite) functions and relations in general

- List, Set, Tuples are the mechanisms to definite
 - a finite set, or
 - a simple function on integers
- List of tuples defines a relation

```
courses=["math", "science", "history", "chemistry"]
```

```
Book_read=[('zhang', book1), ('zhang', book2),  
            ('wang', book3), ('li', book3)]
```



```
num=[1, 2, 3, 4]
num2=num.copy()
num.append(10)
print(num2)
```

```
num=[1, 2, 3, 4]
num2=num
num.append(10)
print(num2)
```

Question What is the value of num2 after each piece of code is executed?

Exercise: Write a short code to remove the duplicates in a list.

List of List

- Two dimensional arrays

matrix=[[1, 2, 3], [3, 4, 5], [5, 6, 8]]

```
matrix=[ [1, 2, 3],  
          [3, 4, 5],  
          [5, 6, 8]]
```

```
matrix[1]
```

```
matrix[2]
```

Dictionaries

- A dictionary is a mapping or function from somethings to somethings.
- English dictionary is an example for dictionary data type

A list

0	item0
1	item1
2	item2
3	item3
4	item4

Natural index
element

A dictionary

key0	value0
key1	vlaue1
key2	value2
key3	value3
key4	value4

Custom index
element

`list`

vs

`dict`

- **ordered** sequence of elements
- look up elements by an integer index
- indices have an **order**
- index is an **integer**

- **matches** "keys" to "values"
- look up one item by another item
- **no order** is guaranteed
- key can be any **immutable** type

Branching and Iteration

- Branching is supported by

“**if** <condition1>:

 <actions>

elif <condition2>:

 <actions>

else:

 <actions>”

Q: How to form a condition?

```
# a code for defining a discrete function f
if x in [1, 2, 3]:
    f=-1
elif x in [4, 5]:
    f=1
else:
    f=0
```

```
# t_course denotes the course to take today
if t_course== "math:
    print("review math at 8am")
elif t_course=="computer science":
    print("code at 8am")
else:
    print("sleep")
```

Q: How to form a condition?

- An integer, a list, a dic
 - non-0 value is True
 - non-empty list is True
 - non-empty dic is True
- A logic sentence formed by logical operator

```
# x is an integer value
```

```
if x:  
    print("x is not zero")  
else:  
    print("x is zero")
```

```
# L is a list variable
```

```
if L and x in L:  
    print("x in L")  
elif L:  
    print("x is not in L")  
else:  
    print("L is empty")
```

Iterations

- Iteration is supported by

“**for** <statement>:

 <actions>”

or

“**while** <condition>:

 <actions>”

- for loop iteration over some **predefined values**
- Iteration can be nested

```
# a piece of code for search an item in a list  
# nums is a list
```

```
for item in nums:  
    if item==3:  
        print("3 is found")  
        break
```

Q: What are iterators?

-
- While loop performs dynamic iterations. Its outcome depends on computing within the loop condition
 - A “for loop” can be easily converted into a “while loop”

```
x=0
while x<=5:
    print(x*x)
    x +=1
```

```
x=0
while True:
    if (x>5)
        break
    print(x*x)
    x +=1
```

Reading & Writing to Files

- Python functions supporting I/O are like C
 - `f=open("test.txt", 'c')`, `c=r`, `w`, `a` for read, write and append, resp.
 - `f.read(size)`, `f.readlines()`, `f.readline()`
 - `f.write("this is a test")`.

```
# open a file and read line by line

with open('test.txt', 'r') as f:
    for line in f:
        print(line, end="")
```

```
# open a file and read chunk by chunk

with open('test.txt', 'r') as rf:
    with open('output.txt', 'w') as wf:
        chunk_size=4096
        rf_chunk=rf.read(chunk_size)
        while len(rf_chunk) > 0:
            wf.write(rf_chunk)
            rf_chunk=rf.read(chunk_size)
```

Question: How to read image files?

Advanced topic How to read zipped files?

Summary

We have covered basic language mechanism

- Basic data types
 - int, float, Boolean
 - str
 - list, tuple and set
 - dictionary
- (branching) **if** statements
- (iteration) **for loop** and **while loop**
- Reading and writing to files

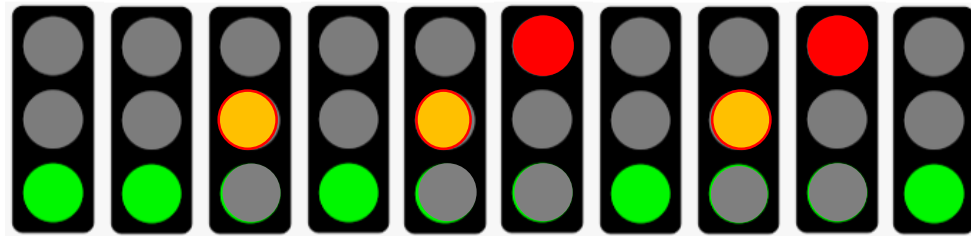
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqtD5dpn9C8>

History: Turing's (图灵) Work

- A good carpenter need only a saw and a ruler
- 好厨子，一把盐
- In 1930's, Turing proved a very elegant theorem that implying that
“Any computation can be done with an array of memory in which
0, 1 can be written and six simply instructions including “read”,
“write”, left move, right move etc.

In other words,

“Using all traffic lights in Singapore, one can compute everything.”



- 3A: Abstraction, Algorithm and Automation

