21. Lists of Objects

Topics:

    Example: The class **Disk**
    Boolean-Valued Methods
    A Disk Intersection Problem
    Example: The class **CountyPop**
    Representing census-related data
    Sorting a list of **CountyPop** objects

A List of Objects

We would like to assemble a list whose elements are not numbers or strings, but references to objects.

For example, we have a hundred points in the plane and a length-100 list of points called `ListOfPoints`.

Let's compute the average distance to (0,0).

Working with a
List of **Point** Objects

```
Origin = Point(0,0)
D = 0
for P in ListOfPoints:
    D += P.Dist(Origin)
N = len(ListOfPoints)
AveDist = D/len(ListOfPoints)
```

A lot of familiar stuff: Running sums. A for-loop based on "in". The len function, Etc

A List of Random Points

```python
def RandomCloud(Lx,Rx,Ly,Ry,n):
    """ Returns a length-n list of points,
    each chosen randomly from the rectangle
    Lx<=x<=Rx, Ly<=y<=Ry.
    PreC: Lx and Rx are floats with Lx<Rx,
    Ly and Ry are floats with Ly<Ry, and
    n is a positive int.
    """
    A = []
    for k in range(n):
        P = RandomPoint(Lx,Rx,Ly,Ry)
        A.append(P)
    return A
```
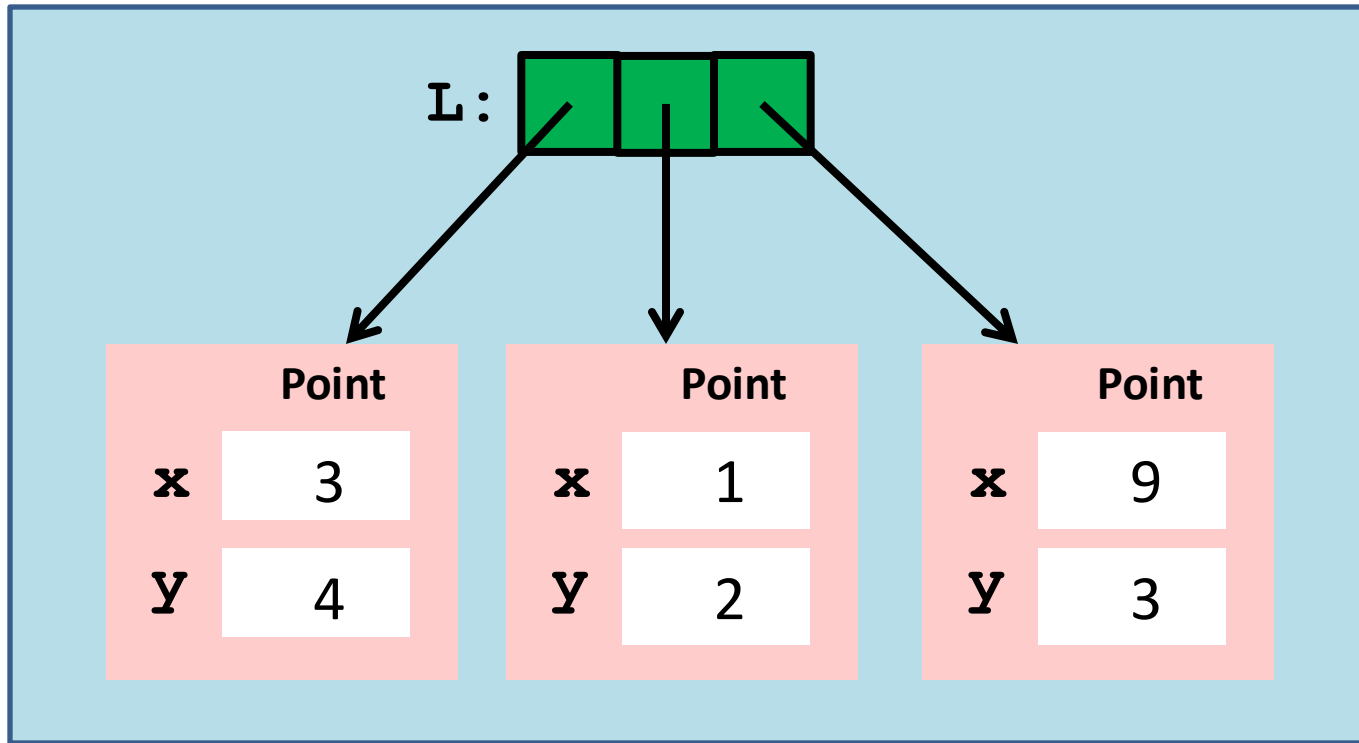
The append method for lists works for lists of objects.

Visualizing a List of Points
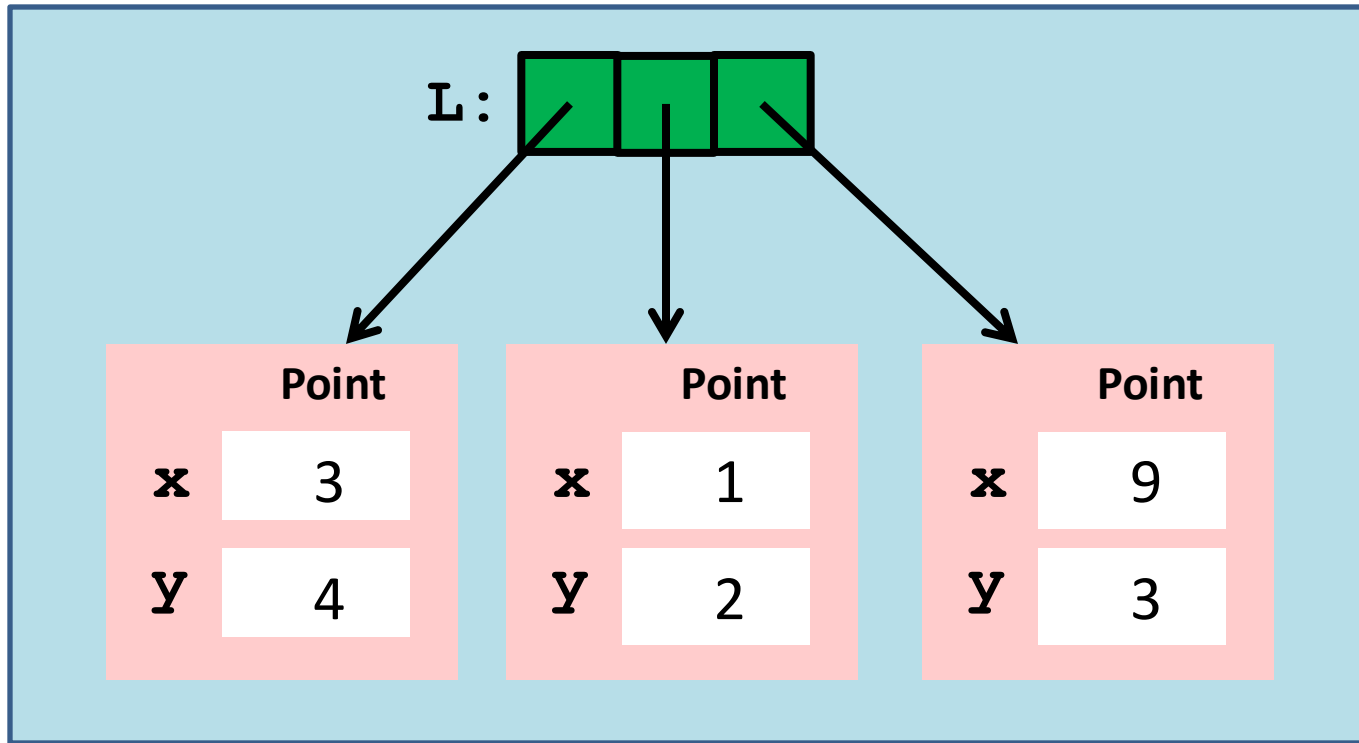

```
>>> P = Point(3,4);Q = Point(1,2);R = Point(9,3)
>>> L = [P,Q,R]
```
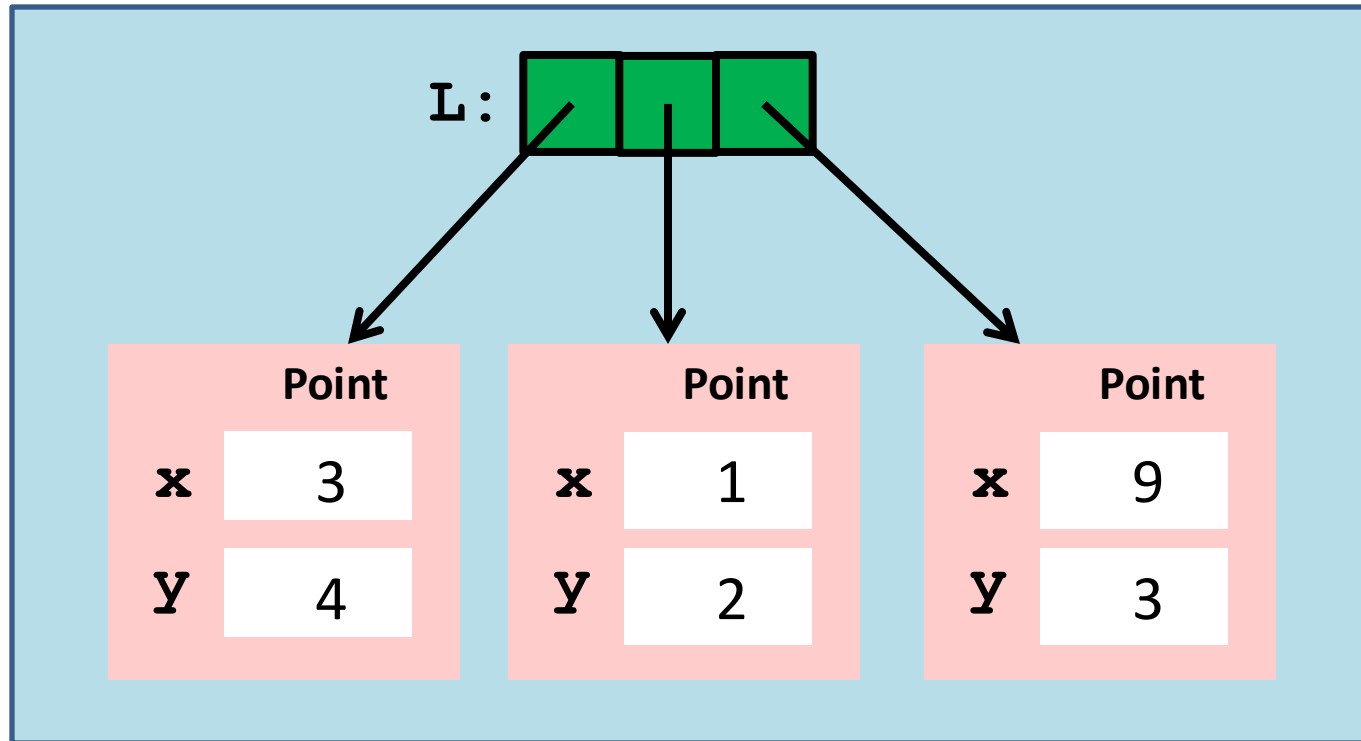
Visualizing a List of Points


```
>>> P = Point(3,4);Q = Point(1,2);R = Point(9,3)
>>> L = [P,Q,R]
```
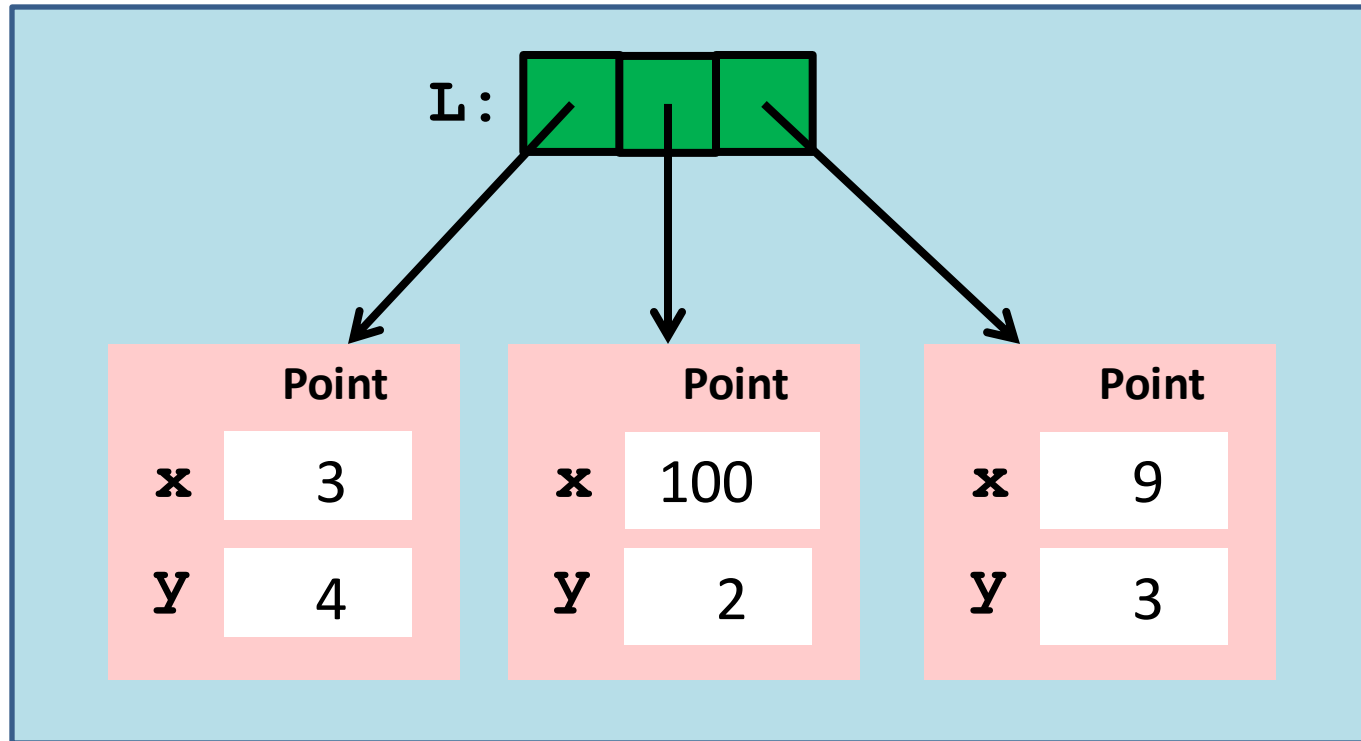
More accurate: A List of references to Point objects

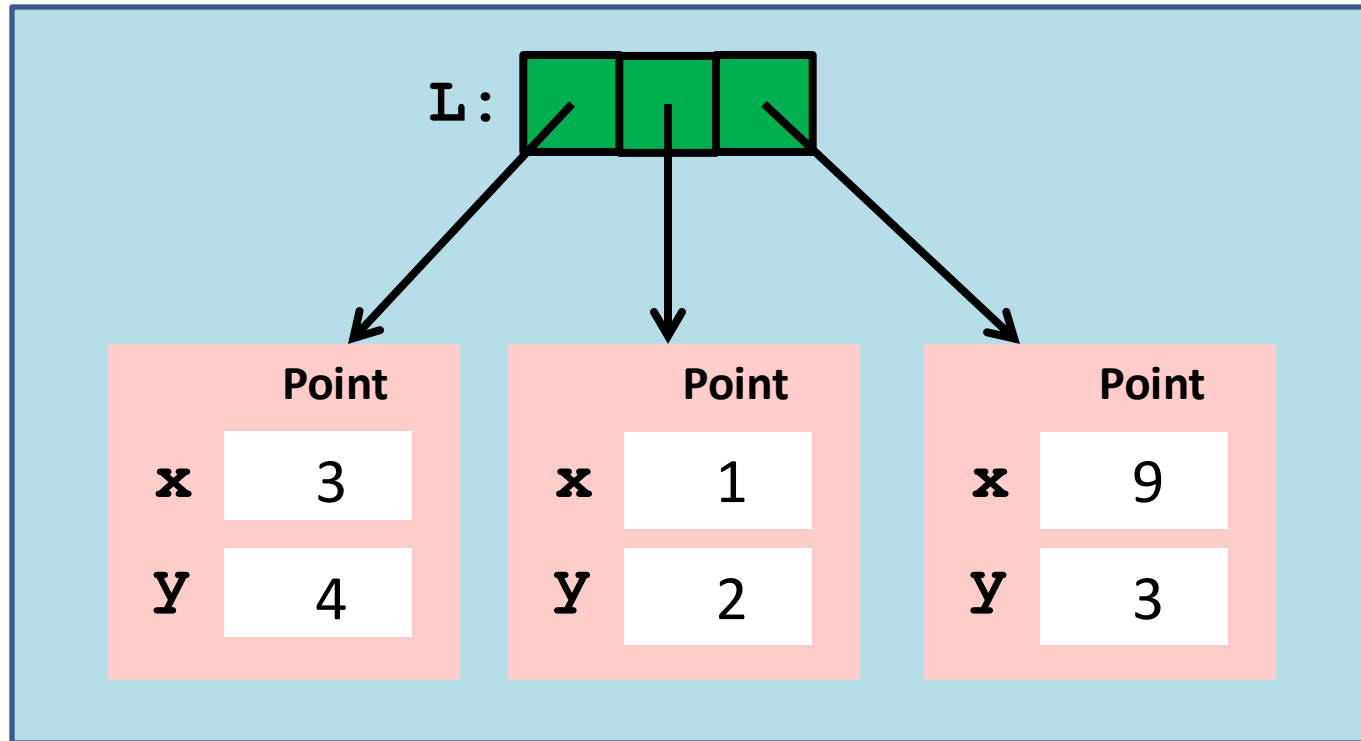# Operations on a List of Points


```
>>> L[1].x = 100
```

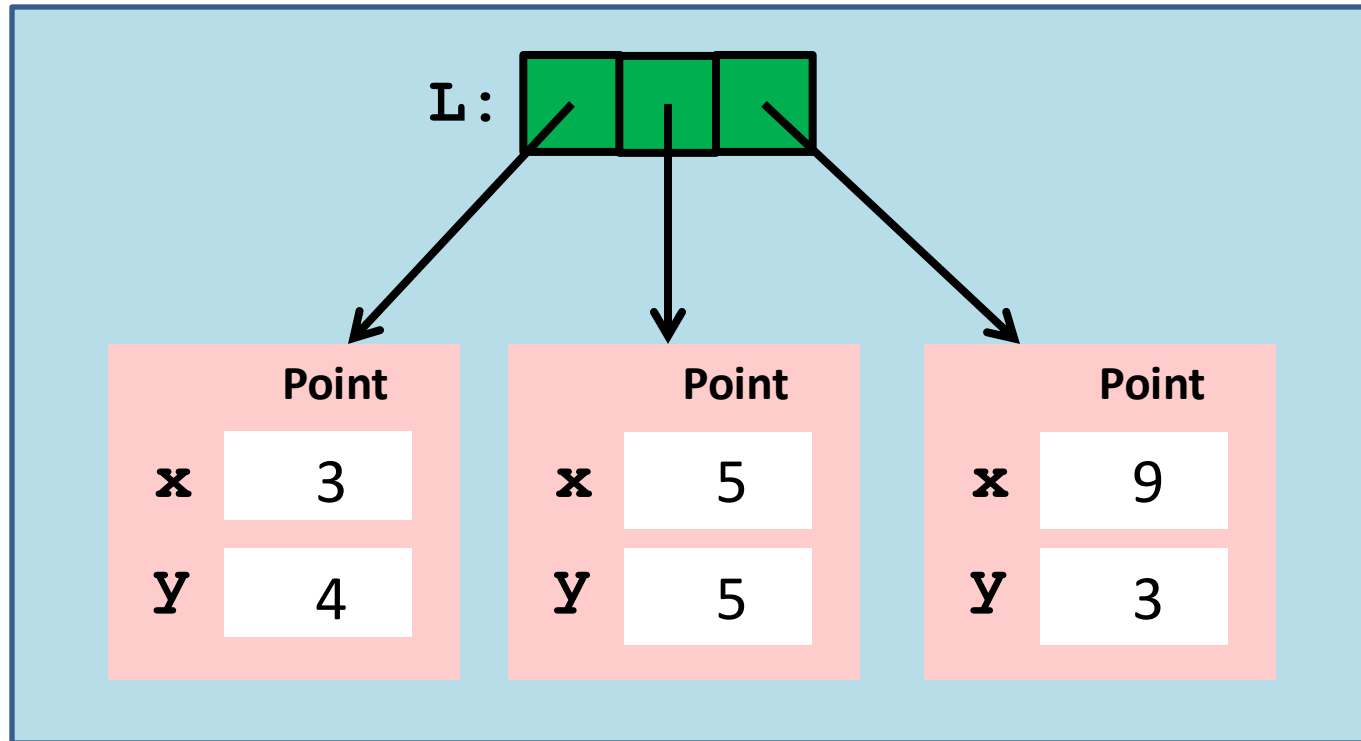# Operations on a List of Points


```
>>> L[1].x = 100
```

Operations on a List of Points


```
>>> L[1] = Point(5,5)
```

Before

Operations on a List of Points

L:

	Point			Point			Point	
x	3		**x**	5		**x**	9	
y	4		**y**	5		**y**	3	

```
>>> L[1] = Point(5,5)
```

After

Printing a List of Points

```python
def printCloud(A):
    """ Prints the points in A

    PreC : A is a list of points.
    """
    for a in A:
        print a
```

Synonym for the loop:

```python
for k in range(len(A)):
    print A[k]
```

We Now Showcase the Use of Lists of Objects

Example 1. A Disk Intersection Problem

Example 2. A Census Data Problem

A Disk Intersection Problem

A Class for Representing Disks

```python
def class Disk(object):
    """

    Attributes:
        center: Point, the center of the disk
        radius: float, the radius of the disk
    """

    def __init__(self,P,r):
        """ Creates a Disk object with
        center P and radius r
        PreC: P is a Point,r is a pos float
        """

        self.center = P
        self.radius = r
```

Note that an attribute can be an object. The `center` attribute is a `Point`

# When Does a Pair of Disks Intersect?
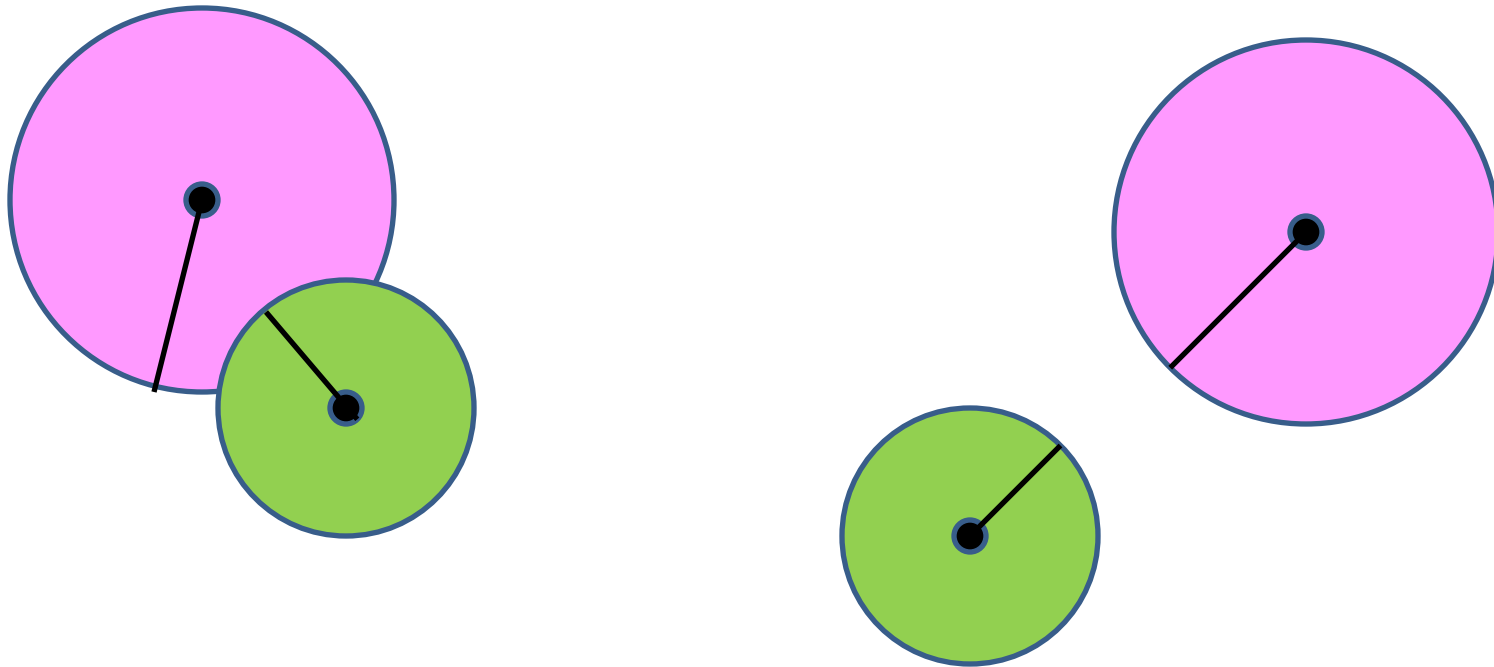
The Method Intersects

```python
def Intersects(self,other):
    """ Returns True if self and other
    intersect and False otherwise.
    PreC: self and other are Disk objects
    """

    # The center-to-center distance:
    c1 = self.center
    c2 = other.center
    d = c1.Dist(c2)
    # The sum of the two radii
    radiusSum = self.radius + other.radius
    TheyIntersect = (radiusSum >= d )
    return TheyIntersect
```

An Intersection Problem

m = 100 nDisplayed = 35 ratio = 0.35
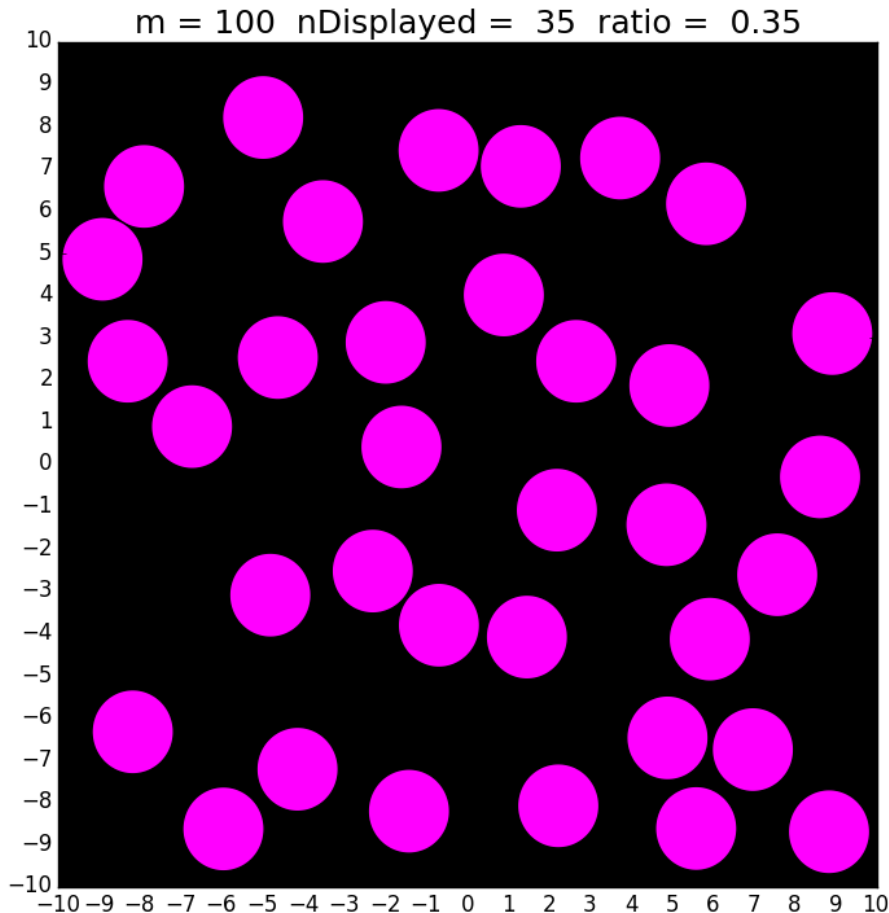
We have a 10-by-10 target

for k in range(100):

Generate a random disk D

Display D if it does not touch any of the previously displayed disks

Assume all the disks have radius 1 and all inside the target.

A Critical Function

```python
def outsideAll(D0,L):
    """ Returns True if D0 doesn't
    intersect any of the disks in L

    PreC: D0 is a Disk and L is a
    list of Disks
    """
    for D in L:
        if D.Intersects(D0):
            return False
    return True
```

Using outsideAll

```python
# The list of displayed disks…
DiskList = []
for k in range(100):
    D = A random disk
    if outsideAll(D,DiskList):
        # D does not intersect any
        # of the displayed disks
        ShowDisk(D,MAGENTA)
        DiskList.append(D)
nDisplayed = len(DiskList)
```

Starts out as the empty list

Display D and append it to the list of displayed disks

A Census Data Sorting Problem

What Can We Sort?

We can sort a list of numbers from small to big (or big to small).

We can sort a list of strings from "A-to-Z" (or "Z-to-A").

We can sort a list of objects based on an attribute if that attribute is either a number or a string.

A Sorting Problem
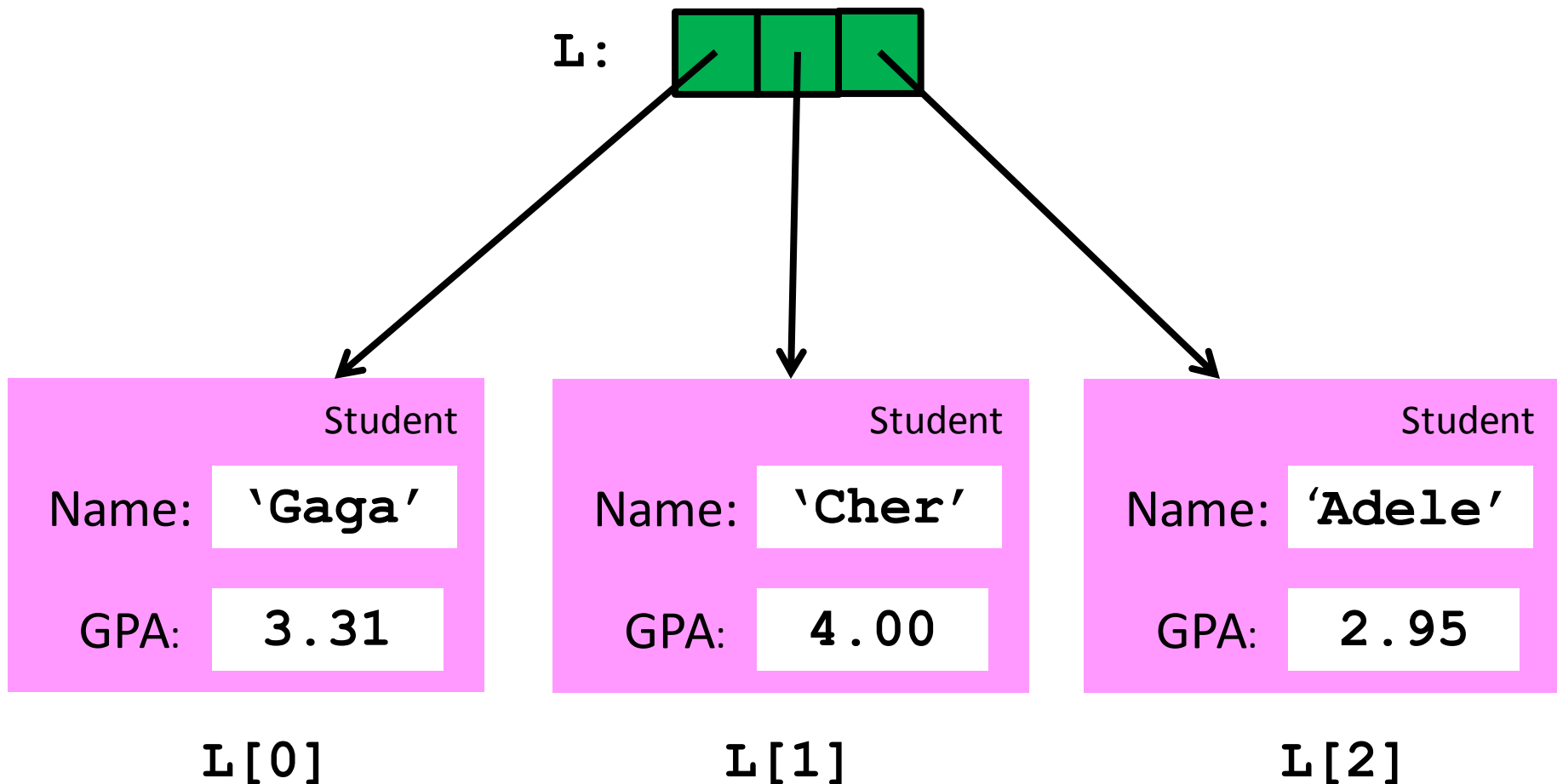
Suppose we have

```
class Student(object):
    Attributes:
        Name: string, student's name
        GPA : float, student's gpa
```
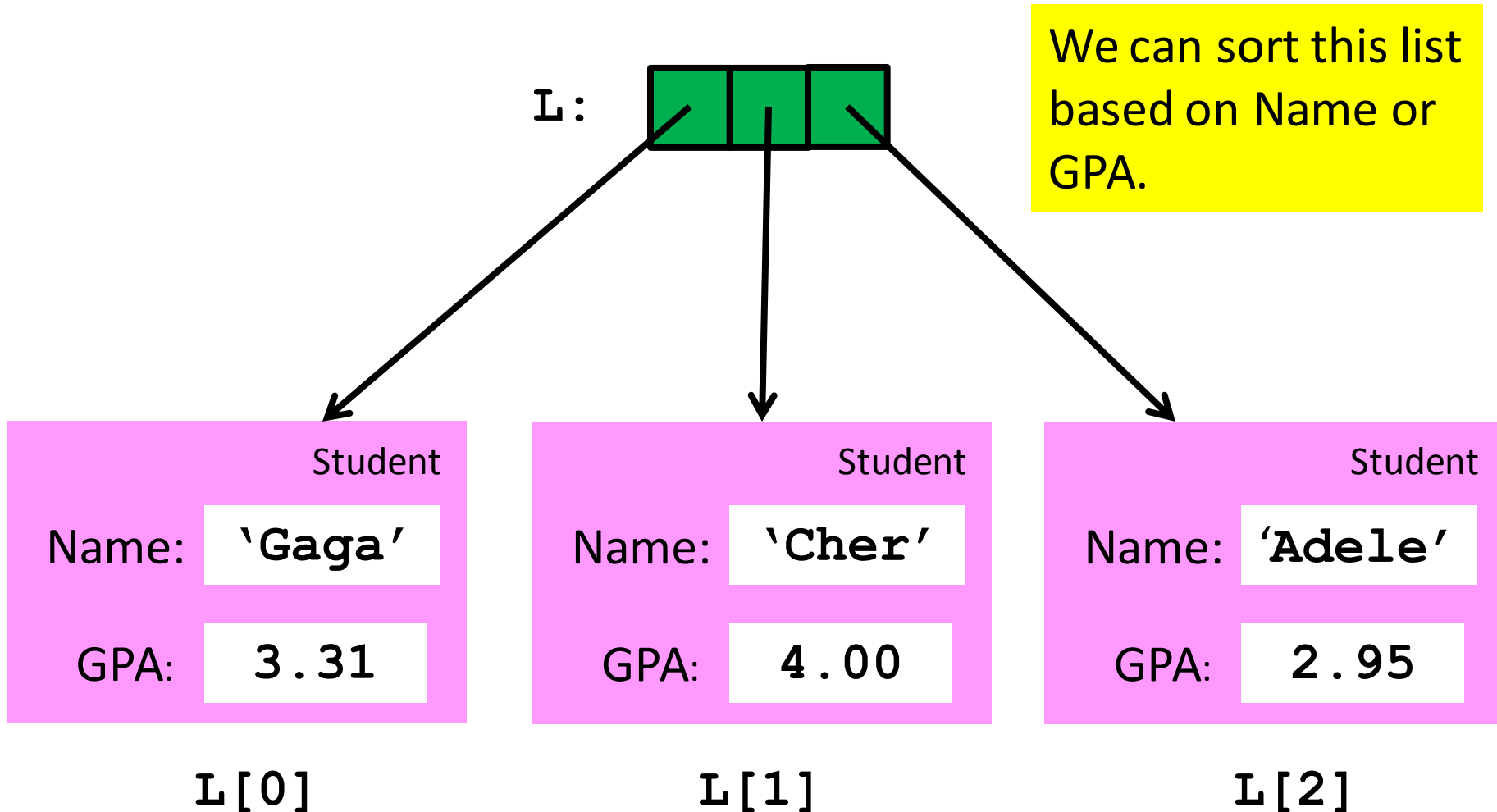
and that **L** is a list of **Student** objects…

A List of Student Objects

L:

Student	Student	Student
Name: `'Gaga'`	Name: `'Cher'`	Name: `'Adele'`
GPA: `3.31`	GPA: `4.00`	GPA: `2.95`

L[0]   L[1]   L[2]

A List of Student Objects

A List of Student Objects

L:

| | | |

Student
Name: `'Adele'`
GPA: `2.95`

Student
Name: `'Cher'`
GPA: `4.00`

Student
Name: `'Gaga'`
GPA: `3.31`

`L[0]`   `L[1]`   `L[2]`
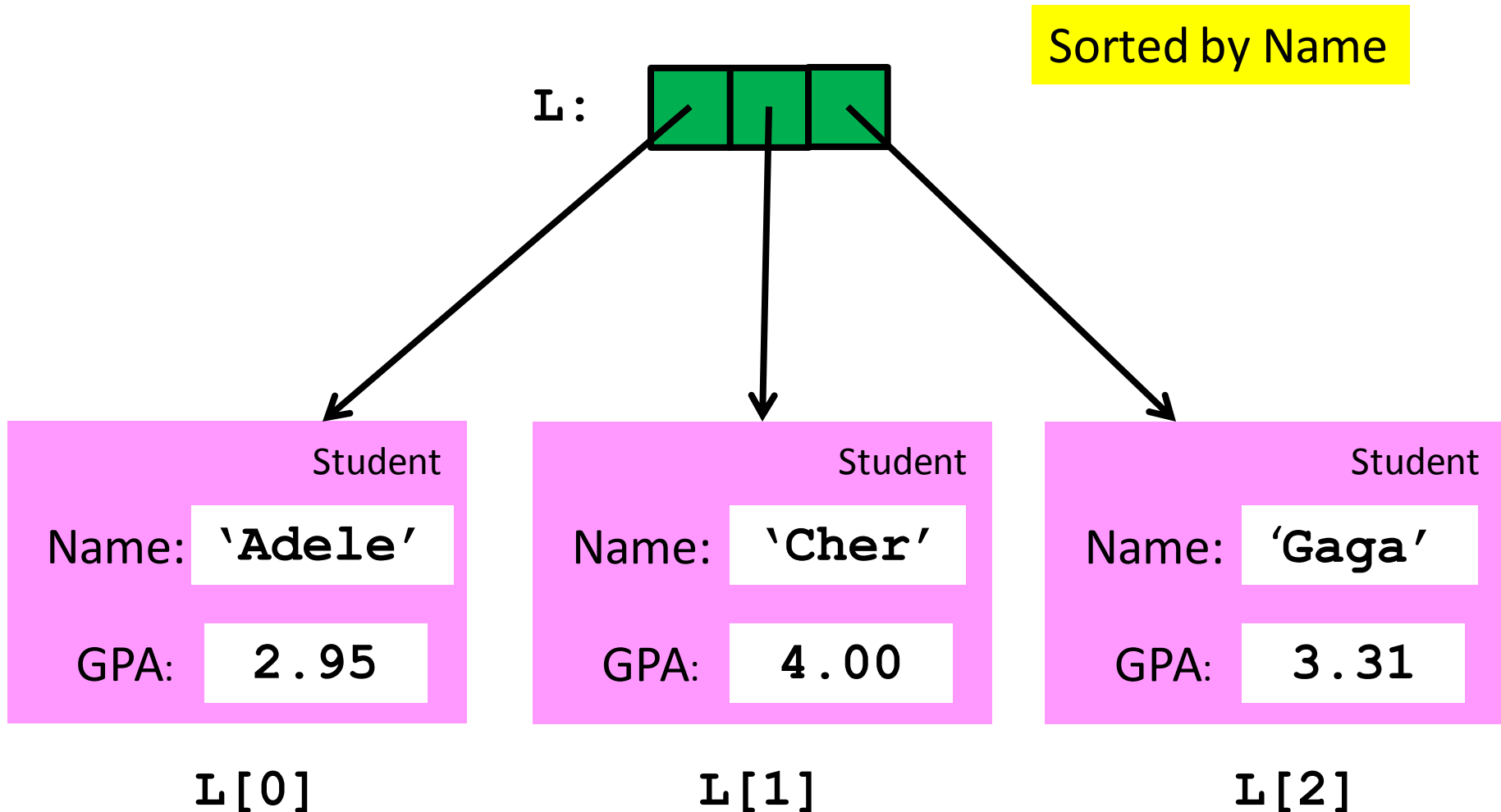
A List of Student Objects
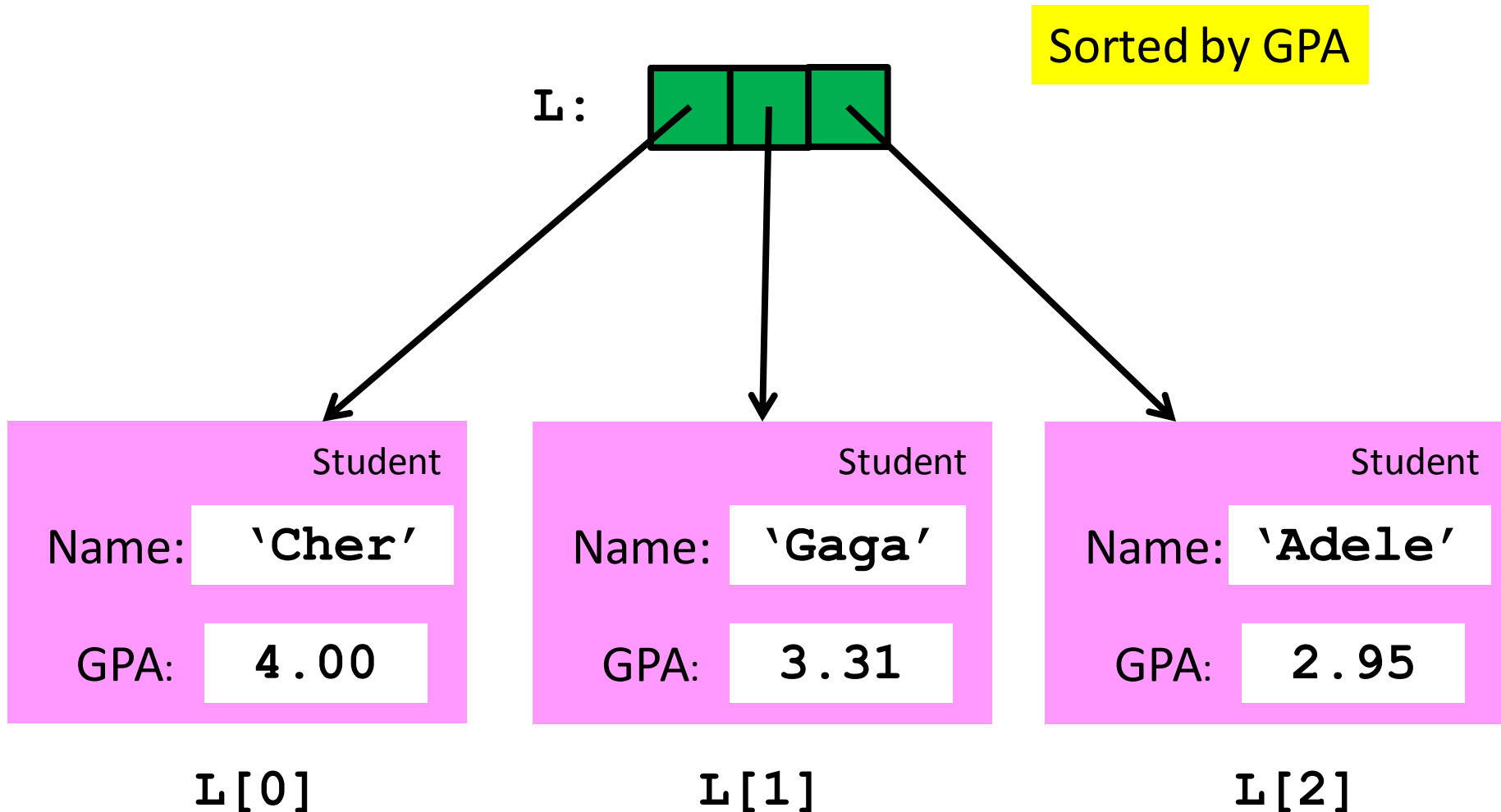
How to Do We Do This?

You have to write a "getter" function that extracts the value of the "key" attribute.

The name of this getter function is then passed as an argument to the sort method.

We illustrate the technique on a problem that involves census data.

The Class County

```
class CountyPop(object):

    Attributes:

        Name: the name of the county (string)

        State: the name of the state (string)

        Pop2010: the 2010 population (int)

        Pop2011: the 2011 population (int)

        Pop2012: the 2012 population (int)

        Pop2013: the 2013 population (int)

        Pop2014: the 2014 population (int)
```

Setting Up the List of CountyPop Objects

The file **CensusData.csv** has these columns:

5	State Name
6	County Name
7	2010 county population
10	2011 county population
11	2012 county population
12	2013 county population
13	2014 county population

Setting Up the List of CountyPop Objects

```
TheCounties = fileToStringList('CensusData.csv')
L = []
for c in TheCounties:
    v = c.split(',')
    c = CountyPop(v[6],v[5],int(v[7]),int(v[10]),
                int(v[11]),int(v[12]),int(v[13]))
    L.append(C)
```

The constructor sets up the Name, State, Pop2010, Pop2011, Pop2012, Pop2013, and Pop2014 attributes

Let's Sort!

```python
def getPop2014(C):
    # C is a County Object
    return C.Pop2014
            :
if __name__ == '__main__':
    :
  L.sort(key=getPop2014,reverse=True)

  for k in range(10):
      print L[k],L[k].Pop2014
```

This getter function grabs the 2014 population.

And here is how we tell **sort** to use it

Printing the top ten counties in the USA in terms of population.

Top Ten in 2014

Los Angeles County, California	10116705
Cook County, Illinois	5246456
Harris County, Texas	4441370
Maricopa County, Arizona	4087191
San Diego County, California	3263431
Orange County, California	3145515
Miami-Dade County, Florida	2662874
Kings County, New York	2621793
Dallas County, Texas	2518638
Riverside County, California	2329271