Introduction to Computational and Algorithmic Thinking

LECTURE 5 - ITERATION, LISTS, AND ALGORITHM DESIGN

Announcements

This lecture: Iteration, Lists, and Algorithm Design

Reading: Read Chapter 3 of Conery

Acknowledgement: Some of the lecture slides are based on CSE 101 lecture notes by Prof. Kevin McDonald at SBU and the textbook by John Conery.

The Sieve of Eratosthenes

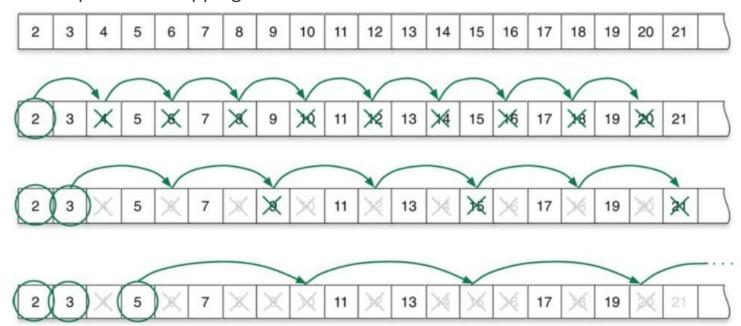
- •As a motivating example of studying (i) **iteration** (code that repeats a list of steps), (ii) **lists**, and (iii) the thought process for **designing algorithms**, we will look at an ancient algorithm for finding prime numbers called **the Sieve of Eratosthenes**
- •A prime is a natural number greater than 1 that has no divisors other than 1 and itself
- •In modern times, prime numbers play an important role in encrypting data, including Internet traffic
- •Non-prime numbers are called **composite** numbers
 - Example primes: 5, 11, 73, 9967, . . .
 - Example composites: 10 (2x5), 99 (3x3x11)

The Sieve of Eratosthenes

- The basic idea of the algorithm is simple. Below, it is briefly described in pseudocode: make a list of numbers, starting with 2 repeat the following steps until done:
 - the first unmarked number in the list is prime cross off multiples of the most recent prime
- •So, first we cross off multiples of 2.
- •Then, we cross off multiples of 3 that were not crossed off in the first round (e.g., 6 is a multiple of 2 and 3, so it was crossed off in the first round).
- •Next, we cross off multiples of 5 that were not crossed off in the first two rounds. Note that because 4 is a multiple of 2, all multiples of 4 were crossed off in the first round.

The Sieve of Eratosthenes

- •The algorithm continues in this fashion until there are no more numbers to cross off
- •We will explore the stopping condition in more detail later



Devising an algorithm

- •The method depicted in the previous slide works well for short lists
- •But what if you want to find prime numbers between 2 and 100? 1000?
 - It's a tedious process to write out a list of 100 numbers
 - It takes a lot of paper to make a list of 1000 numbers
 - Chances are you will make a few arithmetic mistakes (this is a boring job!)
- •Can we turn this method into a computation?
- •Yes, but we need to be more precise about the steps

Devising an algorithm

- •A detailed specification of the starting condition is there in the pseudocode (e.g., "make a list")
- •What about the other steps? "Cross off" and "next number" need to be clearly defined if we're going to use Python
- The stopping condition is not so clear just yet
 - When do we stop the process? Perhaps when all the numbers are crossed off?
- •As you've probably guessed by now, we will write a program to implement the Sieve of Eratosthenes algorithm
- •We will need to explore a few new ideas in Python first, however

Collections

- •In everyday life we often encounter collections of things
 - Course catalog: a collection of course descriptions
 - Parking lot: a collection of vehicles
- Mathematicians also work with collections
 - Matrix (a table of numbers)
 - Sequence (e.g., 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, ...)
- •In computer science we make a collection by defining a **data structure** that includes references to **objects**
- •The term **object** simply means generic piece of data
 - Objects include numbers, strings, dates, and others
- •Using programming terminology, a **container** is an object that contains other objects

Lists

- •The simplest kind of container in Python is called a list
- •One way to make a list is to enclose a set of objects in square brackets:

$$ages = [61, 32, 19, 37, 42, 39]$$

- The above statement is an assignment statement, actually
- •Python allocates space in its object store, which is a fancy term for a particular section in the memory of the computer
- •Python creates an object to represent the list and associates the name ages with the new object
- •The **len** function tells us how many elements are in a list:

len(ages) # returns the value 6

Lists of strings

- •Any kind of object can be stored in a list
- •This statement defines a list with three strings:

breakfast = ['green eggs', 'ham', 'toast']

•Note what happens when we ask Python how many objects are in this list:

len(breakfast) # returns the value 3

- Python did not count the individual letters with a list
 - cf. len('apple') returns 5 # with a string, it counts the individual letters
- •The list contains three string objects, so the return value of the call to len is 3

Empty lists

•We can also make a list with no objects:

cars = []

- •The value on the right side of that expression is a valid list
- •An empty list is still a list, even though it contains no objects
 - A bag with nothing in it is still a bag, even though it contains nothing in it.
- The length of an empty list is 0

len(cars) # returns the value 0

•It may seem strange to create a list with nothing in it, but usually we do so because we need to wait until later to fill in the contents

Iteration

- ·After building a container, we often want to do something with each item in it
- •The idea is to "step through" the container to "visit" each object
- This type of operation is called iteration
 - From the Latin word iter, for "path" or "road"
- •For example, to find the largest item in an (unsorted) list, an algorithm would need to visit every item during its search
- •We'll look at this algorithm a little later

for-loops

- •The simplest way to "visit" every item in a list is to use a for-loop
- •This example prints every item in the list cars :

```
for car in cars: # "for each car in cars"
  print(car)
```

- •Note that the statements inside a for-loop the **body** of the loop must be **indented**
- •Python assigns car to be the first item in the list and then executes the indented statement(s)
- •Then it gets the next item, assigns it to car, and executes the indented statement(s) again
- •It repeats until all the items in list have been processed

for-loops

•Suppose we had this code:

```
cars = ['Kia', 'Honda', 'Toyota', 'Ford']
for car in cars:
    print(car + ' ' + str(len(car)))
•The for-loop would output this:
    Kia 3
    Honda 5
    Toyota 6
```

- •Note that len(car) gives the length of each car string in the list as we "visit" that car
 - len(cars) would give what?

Ford 4

- •Consider a function that computes the sum of the numbers in a list
- •Such a function exists in Python (it's called **sum()**), but let's write our own so we can understand for-loops better
- •First, we'll initialize a variable total to zero
- •Then, a for-loop will add each number in the list to **total**
 - The statement **total += num** means "add **num** to the value of **total**"
 - An alternative way of writing this would be

```
total = total + num
```

•After all items have been added, the loop will terminate, and the function returns the final value of **total**

```
def sum(nums):
    total = 0
    for num in nums:
        total += num
    return total

•Example:
    t = sum([3, 5, 1]) # t will equal 9

Initialize a variable to store the running total

•See sum_tests.py
```

```
def sum(nums):
    total = 0
    for num in nums:
        total += num
    return total

*Example:
    t = sum([3, 5, 1]) # t will equal 9
Visit each number in the list of numbers
```

```
def sum(nums):
    total = 0
    for num in nums:
        total += num
    return total

*Example:
    t = sum([3, 5, 1]) # t will equal 9
Add each number to the running total
```

- •Let's trace the execution of this code to understand it better
- •A red arrow will indicate the current line of code we are executing
- •A table of values will show how the variables change value over time

def sum(nums):

```
for num in nums:

total += num

return total
```

Variable	Value
total	0

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0



for num in nums:

total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	0
num	3

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0

for num in nums:



total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	3
num	3

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0



for num in nums:

total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	3
num	5

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0

for num in nums:



total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	8
num	3

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0



for num in nums:

total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	8
num	1

•Example:

def sum(nums):

total = 0

for num in nums:



total += num

return total

Variable	Value
total	9
num	1

•Example:

```
def sum(nums):
  total = 0
  for num in nums:
    total += num
```



Variable	Value
total	9
num	1

•Example:

- •PyCharm features a powerful tool called a **debugger** which can help you trace the execution of your program
 - Usually we use a debugger to help find bugs
- •First we will set a *breakpoint* by clicking the mouse to the left of the line where we want the computer to pause execution
- •In sum_tests.py let's put a breakpoint on line 11

```
if __name__ == ...

# The function sum() computes and returns the sum of a

def sum(nums):
    total = 0
    for num in nums:
        total += num
    return total

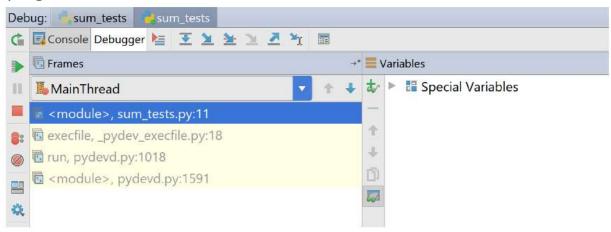
# Main program starts here.

if __name__ == '__main__':
    scores = [3, 5, 1]

print('sum of scores[]: ' + str(sum(scores)))
```

- •When we tell the computer to run the program, it will stop at that line and not execute it until we tell it to
- •When you first try the debugger, PyCharm may ask you to install some updates. Do them.

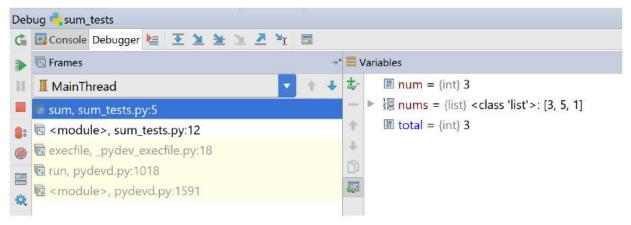
- •To begin execution, right-click on sum_tests.py and pick "Debug 'sum_tests'". The computer stops at line 11.
- A "Debugger" panel opens
 - On the right we see a sub-panel named "Variables" that will show the values of variables as our program runs



- •Every time we hit the green arrow (Resume Program button) PyCharm will execute another line of code
- •PyCharm highlights in blue what line it will execute next

```
sum_tests.py
      sum()
      # The function sum() computes and returns the sum of a 1
      def sum(nums): nums: <class 'list'>:(
          total = 0 total: 3
          for num in nums: num
                                          The debugger shows the
              total += num
                                          value of each variable in
          return total
                                          the source code
      # Main program starts here.
      if name == ' main ':
          scores = [3, 5, 1]
          print('sum of scores[]: ' + str(sum(scores)))
12
13
```

Here's the state of the program after hitting the green arrow several times:



. In lab you will practice using the debugger – getting familiar with this tool will save you hours of headaches later on

List indexes

- •We often need an item in the middle of a list
- •If a list has n item, the locations in the list are numbered from 0 to n-1 (not 1 through n)
- •The notation a[i] stands for "the item at location I in list a"
- •a[i] is said aloud as "a sub I"
- •In programming, we use the word index to refer to the numerical position of an element in a list
- •Example: scores = [89, 78, 92, 63, 92]
- •scores[0] is 89
- •scores[2] is 92
- •scores[5] gives an "index out of range" error (why?)

List indexes

- •The index method will tell us the position of an element in a list
- •If the requested element is not in the list, the Python interpreter will generate an error
- •Example: scores = [89, 78, 92, 63, 92]
 - scores.index(92) is 2, the index of the first occurrence of 92 in the scores list
 - scores.index(99) generates this error: "ValueError: 99 is not in list"

List indexes

•If your program needs the index of a value, and you're not sure if the value is in the list, use an if-statement in conjunction with the **in** operator to first make sure the item is actually in the list

•Example:

```
vowels = ['a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u']
letter = 'e'
if letter in vowels:
    print('That letter is at index ' +
    str(vowels.index(letter)) + '.')
else:
    print('That letter is not in the list.')
```

Output for this example: That letter is at index 1.

•A common programming "idiom" uses a for-loop based on a list index:

for i in range(n):

do something with i

- •range(n) means "the sequence of integers starting from zero and ranging up to, but not including, n"
- •Python executes the body of the loop **n** times
- •i is set to every value between 0 and n-1 (i.e., n is not included)
- •For example, the **partial_total** function on the next slide computes and returns the sum of the first **k** values in a list (see sieve.py)

This function computes and returns the sum of the first **k** values in a list

```
def partial_total(nums, k):
   total = 0
   for i in range(k):
     total += nums[i]
   return total
```

Initialize the variable to store the running total

- •Example:
 - a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]
 - partial_total(a, 3) # returns the value 14
 - partial_total(a, 1) # returns the value 4
 - partial_total(a, 6) # error

This function computes and returns the sum of the first k values in a list

```
def partial_total(nums, k):
  total = 0
                                          Generate
                                          indexes 0
  for i in range(k):
                                          through k-1
    total += nums[i]
  return total
•Example:
```

- - a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]
 - partial_total(a, 3) # returns the value 14
 - partial_total(a, 1) # returns the value 4
 - partial_total(a, 6) # error

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•Example:
        a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]
        partial_total(a, 3) # returns the value 14
        partial_total(a, 1) # returns the value 4
        partial_total(a, 6) # error
```

Let's trace the execution of this function for one example def partial_total(nums, k):

```
total = 0
for i in range(k):
    total += nums[i]
return total
```

Variable	Value
total	0

•Example:

$$\cdot$$
a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]

•Let's trace the execution of this function for one example

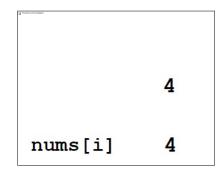
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•Example:

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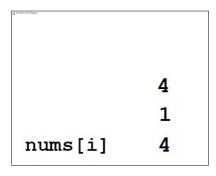


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```

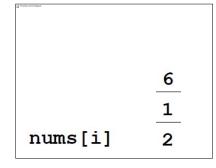


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   return total
```

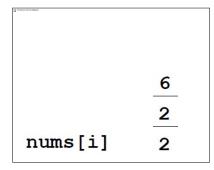


•Example:

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a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]

•Let's trace the execution of this function for one example

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def partial_total(nums, k):
   total = 0
   for i in range(k):
     total += nums[i]
   return total
```

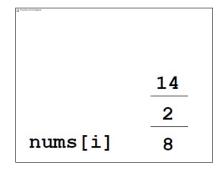


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a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]

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    return total
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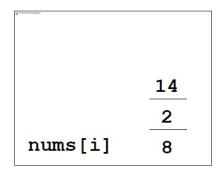


•Example:

$$\cdot$$
a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]

•Let's trace the execution of this function for one example

```
def partial_total(nums, k):
    total = 0
    for i in range(k):
        total += nums[i]
    return total
```



•Example:

$$\cdot$$
a = [4, 2, 8, 3, 1]

String indexes

- •Strings and lists have much in common, including indexing
- •Notation like name[i] would give us the character at index i of the string name, just as nums[i] gives us the element at index i of the list nums
- •Examples:

```
title = 'Lord of the Rings'
print(title[0]) # prints L
print(title[6]) # prints f
j = 10
print(title[j]) # prints e
```

Making lists of numbers

- •The range function can be used to make a list of integers
- •This example makes a list of the numbers from 0 to 9:

```
nums = list(range(10))
```

- Note that list is the name of a class in Python
- •A class describes what kinds of data an object can store
- •In general, if we use a class name as a function, Python will create an object of that class
- •These functions are called **constructors** because they construct new objects
- More on this topic later in the course

Back to the Sieve algorithm

- •We now have all the pieces we need to make a list of prime numbers
- •We will use a Python **list** object to represent a "worksheet" of numbers that we will progressively cross off
- •It will initially have all the integers from 2 to *n* (the upper limit)
- •We will use for-loops to iterate over the list to cross off composite numbers
- •If we pass two values to range, it uses one as the lower limit and the other as the upper limit (minus 1)
- •For example, to make a list of numbers between 2 and 99 we would type list(range(2, 100))

Back to the Sieve algorithm

- •The steps of the algorithm are easier to explain if we add two "placeholder" values at the front of the list to represent 0 and 1 (neither of which is a prime number)
- Python has a special value called None that stands for "no object"
- •Since the expression **a** + **b** means "concatenate **a** and **b**" where **a** and **b** are lists, the statement below creates the initial worksheet:

```
worksheet = [None, None] + list(range(2,100))
```

- •With the two placeholders at the front, we now know any number I will be at worksheet[i]
 - For example, the number 5 will be at worksheet[5] instead of worksheet[3]

PythonLabs

- •PythonLabs is a set of Python modules developed for the course textbook
- •PythonLabs homepage: http://ix.cs.uoregon.edu/~conery/eic/python/index.html
- •Installation instructions: http://ix.cs.uoregon.edu/~conery/eic/python/installation.html

- •The module for the Sieve algorithm is named SieveLab
- •SieveLab has:
 - A complete implementation of a **sieve** function for finding prime numbers
 - Functions that use algorithm animation to generate graphical displays to show how the algorithm works
- •In PyCharm, right-click on the Examples folder and select the menu option "Mark Directory as" and choose "Sources Root"

•Below you can see an example of how to use the SieveLab module

```
import PythonLabs.SieveLab
worksheet = [None, None] + list(range(2, 400))
PythonLabs.SieveLab.view_sieve(worksheet)
```

- •We can call a SieveLab function named **mark_multiples** to see how the algorithm removes multiples of a specified value
- •The two arguments to **mark_multiples** are a number **k** and the **worksheet** list
- •The screen will be updated to show that **k** is prime (indicated by a blue square)
- •Gray boxes will be drawn over all the multiples of k

PythonLabs.SieveLab.mark_multiples(2, worksheet):

```
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39
40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59
60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79
80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99
100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119
120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139
140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159
160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179
180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199
200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219
220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239
240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259
260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279
280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299
300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319
320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339
340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359
360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379
380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399
```

We can call SieveLab's **erase_multiples** function to erase the marked numbers Let's erase the multiples of 2 using this function

${\bf PythonLabs. Sieve Lab. erase_multiples (2, worksheet):}$

2	2 3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19
21	23	25	27	29	31	33	35	37	39
41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59
61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79
81	83	85	87	89	91	93	95	97	99
101	103	105	107	109	111	113	115	117	119
121	123	125	127	129	131	133	135	137	139
141	143	145	147	149	151	153	155	157	159
161	163	165	167	169	171	173	175	177	179
181	183	185	187	189	191	193	195	197	199
201	203	205	207	209	211	213	215	217	219
221	223	225	227	229	231	233	235	237	239
241	243	245	247	249	251	253	255	257	259
261	263	265	267	269	271	273	275	277	279
281	283	285	287	289	291	293	295	297	299
301	303	305	307	309	311	313	315	317	319
321	323	325	327	329	331	333	335	337	339
341	343	345	347	349	351	353	355	357	359
361	363	365	367	369	371	373	375	377	379
381	383	385	387	389	391	393	395	397	399

- •After erasing multiples of 2, the lowest unmarked number is 3, so on the next round we will remove multiples of 3
- •We repeat the "marking" and "erasing" steps until only prime numbers are left
- •Let's see what this process looks like for marking and erasing multiples of 3, 5 and 7

${\bf PythonLabs. Sieve Lab. mark_multiples (3, worksheet):}$

	2 3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19
21	23	25	27	29	31	33	35	37	39
41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59
61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79
81	83	85	87	89	91	93	95	97	99
101	103	105	107	109	111	113	115	117	119
121	123	125	127	129	131	133	135	137	139
141	143	145	147	149	151	153	155	157	159
161	163	165	167	169	171	173	175	177	179
181	183	185	187	189	191	193	195	197	199
201	203	205	207	209	211	213	215	217	219
221	223	225	227	229	231	233	235	237	239
241	243	245	247	249	251	253	255	257	259
261	263	265	267	269	271	273	275	277	279
281	283	285	287	289	291	293	295	297	299
301	303	305	307	309	311	313	315	317	319
321	323	325	327	329	331	333	335	337	339
341	343	345	347	349	351	353	355	357	359
361	363	365	367	369	371	373	375	377	379
381	383	385	387	389	391	393	395	397	399

${\bf Python Labs. Sieve Lab. erase_multiples (3, worksheet):}$

	2 3	5	7		11	13		17	19
	23	25		29	31		35	37	
41	43		47	49		53	55		59
61		65	67		71	73		77	79
	83	85		89	91		95	97	
101	103		107	109		113	115		119
121		125	127		131	133		137	139
	143	145		149	151		155	157	
161	163		167	169		173	175		179
181		185	187		191	193		197	199
	203	205		209	211		215	217	
221	223		227	229		233	235		239
241		245	247		251	253		257	259
	263	265		269	271		275	277	
281	283		287	289		293	295		299
301		305	307		311	313		317	319
	323	325		329	331		335	337	
341	343		347	349		353	355		359
361		365	367		371	373		377	379
	383	385		389	391		395	397	

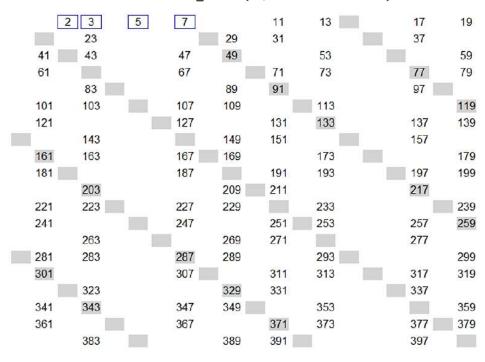
${\bf PythonLabs. Sieve Lab. mark_multiples (5, worksheet):}$

	2	3	5	7		11	13		17	19
		23	25		29	31		35	37	
-	41	43		47	49		53	55		59
(61		65	67		71	73		77	79
		83	85		89	91		95	97	
1	01	103		107	109		113	115		119
1	21		125	127		131	133		137	139
		143	145		149	151		155	157	
1	61	163		167	169		173	175		179
1	81		185	187		191	193		197	199
		203	205		209	211		215	217	
2	21	223		227	229		233	235		239
2	41		245	247		2 51	253		257	259
		263	265		269	271		275	277	
2	281	283		287	289		293	295		299
3	801		305	307		311	313		317	319
		323	325		329	331		335	337	
3	841	343		347	349		353	355		359
3	61		365	367		371	373		377	379
		383	385		389	391		395	397	

${\bf Python Labs. Sieve Lab. erase_multiples (5, worksheet):}$

	2 3	5	7		11	13	17	19
	23	25 63		29	31		37	
41	43		47	49		53		59
61			67		71	73	77	79
	83			89	91		97	
101	103		107	109		113		119
121			127		131	133	137	139
	143			149	151		157	
161	163		167	169		173		179
181			187		191	193	197	199
	203			209	211		217	
221	223		227	229		233		239
241			247		251	253	257	259
	263			269	271		277	
281	283		287	289		293		299
301			307		311	313	317	319
	323			329	331		337	
341	343		347	349		353		359
361			367		371	373	377	379
	383			389	391		397	

PythonLabs.SieveLab.mark_multiples(7, worksheet):



${\bf Python Labs. Sieve Lab. erase_multiples (7, worksheet):}$

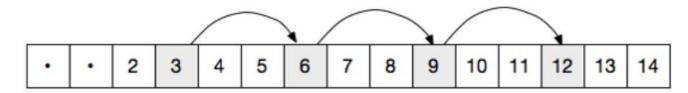
	2 3	5	7		11	13	17	19
	23			29	31		37	
41	43		47			53		59
61			67		71	73		79
	83			89			97	
101	103		107	109		113		
121			127		131		137	139
	143			149	151		157	
	163		167	169		173		179
181			187		191	193	197	199
				209	211			
221	223		227	229		233		239
241			247		251	253	257	
	263			269	271		277	
281	283			289		293		299
			307		311	313	317	319
	323				331		337	
341			347	349		353		359
361			367			373	377	379
	383			389	391		397	

Sieve algorithm: a helper function

- •An important step toward implementing the Sieve algorithm is to write a function that solves a small part of the problem
- •The function **sift** will make a single pass through the worksheet
- •Pass it a number k, and sift will find and remove multiples of k
- •For example, to sift out multiples of 5 from the list called **worksheet** we would type this: **sift(5, worksheet)**
- •sift has a very specific purpose, and it is unlikely to be used except as part of an implementation of the Sieve algorithm
- Programmers call special-purpose functions like this helper Functions

Stepping through the worksheet

- •On each call to sift we want to find multiples of k
- •The first one is 2xk
- •Notice that the remaining multiples (3xk, 4xk, etc) are all k steps apart:



•We can use a for-loop with a **range** expression to walk through the list:

for i in range (2*k, len(a), k):

•Note this **range** expression has three arguments: the starting point, the ending point, and the **step size** (k)

Stepping through the worksheet

- •If we want to remove a number from the worksheet, we could use the Python **del** statement, which deletes an item from a list
- •But this would shorten the list and make it harder to walk through on future iterations
- •Our solution: replace the items with placeholders (None objects)
- •The complete implementation of the **sift** function:

```
def sift(k, a):
   for i in range(2*k, len(a), k):
      a[i] = None
```

Stepping through the worksheet

```
def sift(k, a):
    for i in range(2*k, len(a), k):
        a[i] = None
•An example of sift in action:
    worksheet = [None, None] + list(range(2, 16))
•worksheet is now:
    [None, None, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]
•Now call sift(2, worksheet)
•worksheet becomes this:
    [None, None, 2, 3, None, 5, None, 7, None, 9, None, 11, None, 13, None, 15]
```

The sieve() function

- •Now that we have a helper function to do the hard work, writing the **sieve** function is straightforward
- •When a program has helpers, a function like **sieve** (which is called to solve the complete problem) is known as a **top-level function**
- •We have to write a loop that starts by sifting multiples of 2 and keep calling **sift** until all composite numbers are removed
- •This loop can stop when the next number to send to **sift** is greater than the square root of **n**
- •The for-loop that controls the loop should set **k** to every value from 2 up to the square root (why?) of **n**:

for k in range(2, sqrt(n))

The sieve() function

for k in range(2, sqrt(n))

- •There is a problem with this code: we cannot pass a floating-point value to range
- •If we "round up" the square root, we'll have what we want: an integer that is greater than the highest possible prime factor of **n**
- •A function named **ceil** in Python's math library does this operation
- •ceil is short for "ceiling"
- •A corresponding function named **floor** rounds a floating-point value down to the nearest integer

sieve()'s main loop

- •One important detail: before sifting out multiples of a number, we make sure we haven't already removed it
- •For example, we don't sift multiples of 4 because 4 was already removed when sifting multiples of 2
 - sift would still work, but our program would be less efficient
- •The main loop looks like this:

```
for k in range(2, ceil(sqrt(n))):
   if worksheet[k] is not None:
      sift(k, worksheet)
```

•Note that the expression **x** is **not None** is the preferred way of testing to see if **x** is a reference to the **None** object

- •There is just one last step: to make the final list we have to remove the **None** objects from the worksheet
- A new helper function called non_nulls returns a copy of the worksheet, but without any None objects
- •It makes an initial empty list named res (for "result")
- •Then it uses a for loop to look at every item in the input list
- •If an item is not **None**, the item is appended to **res** using the **append** method for lists
- •When the iteration is complete, res is returned as the result of the
- function call

Aside: appending to a List

- •+= can be used to concatenate one string to the end of another
- •This syntax can also be used to append one list to another

```
•Example:
```

The Sieve algorithm: completed!

- •We can now put all the pieces together
- •Import the math library to get access to sqrt and ceil
- •In the body of the **sieve** function we need to:
 - Create the worksheet with two initial None objects and all integers from 2 to n
 - Add the for-loop that calls sift
 - Call **non_nulls** to remove the **None** objects from the **worksheet**
- •See sieve.py and the next slide for the code
- •See PythonLabs/SieveLab.py: lines 12–28 for the textbook's implementation of the **sieve** function
- •Run sieve visualization.py to see it in action

Completed sieve() function

```
from math import

*

def sift(k, a):
    ... # see earlier slides

def non_nulls(a):
    ... # see earlier slides

def sieve(n):
    worksheet = [None, None] + list(range(2, n))
    for k in range(2, ceil(sqrt(n))):
        if worksheet[k] is not None:
            sift(k, worksheet)
    return non_nulls(worksheet)

primes = sieve(100)
print(primes)
```

Abstraction

- •Now that we have a function for making lists of prime numbers we can save it for later use
- •We can use it to answer questions about primes
 - How many primes are less than *n*?
 - What is the largest gap between successive primes?
 - What are some twin primes (two prime numbers that differ only by 2, like 17 and 19)?
 - Many other questions are possible.
- •This is a good example of abstraction: we have a nice, neat package that we can save and reuse
- •In the future, we don't have to worry about the implementation details of **sieve**: we can just use it!
- •We (and people who use it) just need to know that **sieve(n)** makes a list of prime numbers from 2 to **n**

Additional examples

•We'll now take a look at some additional examples of how to use for-loops and lists to solve problems in Python

Example: find the maximum

- •Even though there already exists a function in Python that finds the maximum value in a list (it's called **max**), we will write our own algorithm for performing this task
- •The basic idea is to *iterate* over the list and keep track of the largest value we have seen up to that point
- •We begin by taking the value at index 0 as the maximum
- •We continue with the remainder of the list, comparing the next value with the current maximum and updating the maximum if and when we find a value larger than the current maximum

Example: find_max.py

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum

ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]

for i in range(1, len(nums)):
    if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	1

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	1
nums[i]	16

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum: # False
            maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	1
nums[i]	16

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]

for i in range(1, len(nums)):
    if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	2
nums[i]	22

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	2
nums[i]	22

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum: #True
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	20
i	2
nums[i]	22

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	22
i	2
nums[i]	22

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]

for i in range(1, len(nums)):
    if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	22
i	3
nums[i]	30

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	22
i	3
nums[i]	30

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum: # True
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	22
i	3
nums[i]	30

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	3
nums[i]	30

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]

for i in range(1, len(nums)):
    if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	4
nums[i]	17

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	4
nums[i]	17

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum: # False
            maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	4
nums[i]	17

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]

for i in range(1, len(nums)):
    if nums[i] > maximum:
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	5
nums[i]	24

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum:
            maximum = nums[i]
        return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	5
nums[i]	24

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
    maximum = nums[0]
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):
        if nums[i] > maximum: # False
        maximum = nums[i]
    return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	5
nums[i]	24

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

```
def find_max(nums):
 maximum = nums[0]
 for i in range(1, len(nums)):
   if nums[i] > maximum:
     maximum = nums[i]
 return maximum
```

Variable	Value
maximum	30
i	5
nums[i]	24

```
ages = [20, 16, 22, 30, 17, 24]
max_age = find_max(ages) # max_age will be 30
print('Maximum age: ' + str(max_age))
```

Example: count the vowels

- •A for-loop can be used to iterate over the characters of a string
- •To see how this works, let's look a function called **count_vowels** that counts the number of vowels (lowercase or uppercase) in a word
- •To make this problem a little easier to solve, we will call the **lower()** method for strings, which makes a copy of a given string and changes all the uppercase letters to lowercase (**upper()** makes all letters uppercase)
- Strings are immutable (unchangeable) quantities
- •If we want to convert a string into lowercase, all we can really do is make a lowercase copy of it and then replace the original string with the new one

Example: vowels.py

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower(): # search through a
        if letter in vowels: # lowercase copy of
            num_vowels += 1 # the original word
    return num_vowels

word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

Example: vowels.py

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Value

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

Example: vowels.py

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0

for letter in word.lower():
    if letter in vowels:
        num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	С

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	С

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels: # False
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	С

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0

for letter in word.lower():
    if letter in vowels:
        num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	i

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	i

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels: # True
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	0
letter	i

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	i

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	d

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	d

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels: # False
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	d

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	е

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	е

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels: #True
            num_vowels += 1
        return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	1
letter	е

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	2
letter	е

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0

for letter in word.lower():
    if letter in vowels:
        num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	2
letter	r

```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:
            num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	2
letter	r

```
def count_vowels(word):
    vowels = 'aeiou'
    num_vowels = 0
    for letter in word.lower():
        if letter in vowels:  # False
        num_vowels += 1
    return num_vowels

word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
```

str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2

Variable	Value
num_vowels	2
letter	r

```
def count_vowels(word):
 vowels = 'aeiou'
 num_vowels = 0
 for letter in word.lower():
   if letter in vowels:
      num vowels += 1
 return num vowels
```

Variable	Value
num_vowels	2
letter	r



```
word = 'Cider'
print('The number of vowels in ' + word + ' is ' +
str(count_vowels(word))) # will print 2
```

A list of lists

- •In Python, a list can contain objects of any type
- •A list is an object. Therefore, a list can contain other lists!
- •Imagine that we have a group of 4 students, and for each student we have 3 exam scores:
- •scores = [[89, 85, 90], [78, 85, 72], [99, 86, 92], [82, 84, 79]]
- •To access a particular score, we need to give two indexes: first, which student we are interested in (0 through 3)
- •Second, which score of that student we are interested in (0 through 2)
- •Example: scores[3][1] is student 3's score on exam 1 (which is 84)

Example: compute averages (v1)

- •Let's write some code that will compute the average score the students earned on each exam
- •We will write more than one version of the program, but let's start things off simply
- •In the first version we will "hard-code" several values (the number of students and the number of scores) in the program
- •Then we will generalize things a bit and use variables for these values

When this loop ends, averages[0] will contain the sum 89+78+99+82

```
When this loop
ends,
averages[1] will
contain the sum
85+85+86+84
```

When this loop ends, averages[2] will contain the sum 90+72+92+79

Example: compute averages (v2)

- •The first version of our code has a major negative: the algorithm will work only for a class of four students who took three exams
- •Suppose we had a larger or smaller class? Or suppose the students took more or fewer exams?
- •We'll develop a better (but more complicated) version of the algorithm that can adapt to larger/smaller class sizes and more/fewer exams
- •Our approach will rely on **nested loops**, which means we will have one loop inside of another
- Nested loops will become increasingly important as we progress through the course

- •One other thing before we look at the program
- •Recall that syntax like 'Hi'*3 will create a new string by repeating a given string a desired number of times
 - For instance, 'Hi'*3 equals 'HiHiHi'
- •In a similar manner, [0]*3 would create a list containing 3 zeroes, namely, [0, 0, 0]
- •As we can see, the * notation with strings and lists is essentially a form of concatenation

Example: compute averages (v3)

- •In a third and final version of our exam average calculator, we will *encapsulate* (enclose or wrap) the computations inside of a function **compute_averages(students)**
- •The function will take the list of scores as its argument
- •After computing the exam averages, the function will return a list of the average scores
- •So we'll now see that Python functions can return many values at once (via a list), not just a single number or string

Example: bottles of beer/milk

- •We'll conclude the examples on a lighter note by looking at a program that prints the lyrics of the song "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall"
- •In this song, the singer needs to count from 99 down to 0
- •The **range** command lets us count up, but it also can count down if we give a negative number for the step size
- •For example, range(10,-1,-1) will count down from 10 to 0 by 1s
- •So list(range(10,-1,-1)) would generate the list [10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0]
- •The code on the next slide asks the user for the starting number so that we can start from a value other than 99

Example: bottles.py

Questions?