Input – Output

# Assignment level Basic

**B1. What is File function in python? What are the keywords to create and write into a file?**

File is a named location on disk to store related information. It is used to permanently store data in a non-volatile memory (e.g. hard disk). In Python, a file operation takes place in the following order.

Open a file

Read or write (perform operation)

Close the file

Python has a built-in function open() to open a file. This function returns a file object, also called a handle, as it is used to read or modify the file accordingly.

>>> f = open("test.txt") # open file in current directory

>>> f = open("C:/Python33/README.txt") # specifying full path

We can specify the mode while opening a file. In mode, we specify whether we want to read 'r', write 'w' or append 'a' to the file. We also specify if we want to open the file in text mode or binary mode. The default is reading in text mode. In this mode, we get strings when reading from the file.Closing a file will free up the resources that were tied with the file and is done using Python close() method.

In order to write into a file in Python, we need to open it in write 'w', append 'a' or exclusive creation 'x' mode. We need to be careful with the 'w' mode as it will overwrite into the file if it already exists. All previous data are erased. Writing a string or sequence of bytes (for binary files) is done using write() method. This method returns the number of characters written to the file.

with open("test.txt",'w',encoding = 'utf-8') as f:

f.write("my first file\n")

f.write("This file\n\n")

f.write("contains three lines\n")

This program will create a new file named 'test.txt' if it does not exist. If it does exist, it is overwritten. We must include the newline characters ourselves to distinguish different lines.