

Discrete structure using Python

Credits to:

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Why python is used?

- intuitive syntax
- easy to learn
- close similarity with mathematics notation
- close similarity with algorithmic pseudocode
- has interactive window for code testing and simple calculations
- has rich standard library and many other modules
- used widely by both novice and expert developers

Set operations

Example 1

- For example, the set of the first twenty even numbers

- set builder notation is denoted by

$$S = \{x \mid x = 2n; 0 \leq n \leq 19\}$$

- In python:

$$S = [2*x \text{ for } x \text{ in range}(19)]$$

Set operations

Example 2

- Make a function in python to check whether N (input from user) is a prime number
- Simply applies the definition of a prime number to N by looping through a set of integers less than N to see if N has a factor there.

def func():

N = int(input("Input a number you want to check whether it is prime or not."))

for i in [x+1 for x in range(N)]:

if N % i == 0 and (i != 1 and i != N):

return False

return True

print (func())

Set operations

Example 3

- In Python set membership can be examined by the command “in”.
- Here is an example of set equality; suppose we want to verify that the sets A and B given below are equal

$$A = \{x \mid x^2 + x - 6 = 0\} \text{ and } B = \{2, -3\} \text{ then } A = B$$

- In python:

$$A = \text{set}([x \text{ for } x \text{ in range}(-50, 50) \text{ if } x**2 + x - 6 == 0])$$

where the *set* command is applied to convert the *list* to a *set* object. The set is constructed by searching for integer solutions of the quadratic equation in a specified range.

Set B is simple to construct in Python, $B = \text{set}([2, -3])$. Now we use the command $A == B$ to verify the equality. The system returns “True”.

product of sets

A set product, or a set of ordered pair is easily built by a single line of code assuming that sets A and B have been defined then *$[(a,b) \text{ for } a \text{ in } A \text{ for } b \text{ in } B]$* produces the product of the two sets.

The *set* union, intersection and difference operations are all available in Python thus enabling one to verify Demorgan's law for sets.

Logic

Example 1

- Python supports conjunction and disjunction by *and* and *or*, the negation is done using *not*.
- A nested loop can be constructed to generate the truth table for standard logic operators such as the *and*

```
for p in (True, False):
```

```
    for q in (True, False):
```

```
        print "%10s %10s %10s" % ( p, q, p and q)
```

Logic

Example 2

- expression – $p \wedge (q \vee r)$

for p in (True, False):

for q in (True, False):

for r in (True, False):

print "%10s %10s %10s %10s" % (p, q, r, not p and (q or r))

Logic

Example 3

- The implication statement $p \rightarrow q$ can either be looked at as equivalent to $\neg p \vee q$ or encoded as a function

```
def implies(p,q):  
    if a:  
        return b  
    else:  
        return True
```

- To express the logical statement $x \geq 0$ and $y \geq 0 \rightarrow x * y \geq 0$, we can write

```
implies ( x >= 0 and y >= 0 , x * y >= 0 )
```

Quantifiers

Example 1

- A propositional or a predicate function $f(d)$ is a Boolean function whose truth value depends on the value of d which is restricted to a properly defined domain.
- Most of the statements in mathematics and computer science use terms such as “for every (\forall)” or “there exists(\exists)”
- Universal: $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} (x^2 \geq 0)$ in python

```
for x in range(-100,100):  
    if not (x**2 >=0):  
        return False  
return True
```

The code only test integer numbers between -100 and 100; if any of the values assigned to the loop variable fails the stated proposition i.e. $x^2 \geq 0$, then the for loop is terminated with a “False” output, otherwise the for loop will iterated exhaustively and outputs True

Quantifiers

Example 2

- Existential: $\exists x(x-2 = 0)$

- In python:

```
for x in range(-100,100):
```

```
    if x - 2 == 0:
```

```
        return True
```

```
    return False
```

Quantifiers

Example 3

- nested quantifiers
- $\forall x \exists y (x - y = 0)$ in python

```
for x in range(-100,100):  
    for y in range(-100,100):  
        if i - j == 0:  
            return True  
return False
```

Combinatorial selection

Example 1:

- The combinatorial problems can easily be formulated in terms of loops
- An example to print all possible ways to select 3 out of the N first non-negative integers if order is relevant and repetition is allowed.

for i1 in range(0,3):

for i2 in range(0,3):

for i3 in range (0, 3):

print i1,i2,i3

- By simple adjustments of the range in the inner loops one can generate a selection without repetition or a larger selection can be obtained with an appropriate number of nested loops.