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PSIT2016
Lecture 3

Programming Concepts

- Use module “TurtleWorld”, a module in package “swampy”, to learn several important concepts in programming

- Encapsulation
- Generalization
- Interface Design
- Refactoring



- Others include docstring and debugging
- Download and Install
 - <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkpython/swampy/install.html>

Sample Code

```
from swampy.TurtleWorld import * # Python 2
from TurtleWorld import * # Python 3
world = TurtleWorld()
bob = Turtle()
alice = Turtle() # another turtle
bob.set_color("blue")
world.clear() # clear the world and turtles
bob.x = 0
bob.y = 0
bob.heading = 0 # heading to the east
bob.redraw()
bob.delay = 0.0001 # move faster
wait_for_user() # put this at the end of your code
```

Encapsulation

- Draw a square
- Draw square (using for)

```
for i in range(4):  
    fd(bob, 100)  
    lt(bob)
```

- Bob and Alice need same code, why don't encapsulate to function?
- Wrapping a piece of code up in a function is called **encapsulation**

Generalization

- Adding parameters to a function is called **generalization**
- Square for any size?
- Why only square? We need polygon
- It is legal and sometimes helpful to include the name of parameters in the argument list. These are called “**keyword arguments**”, ex. `polygon(bob, n=7, length=70)`
- More generalization? We need circle!

Interface Design

- The interface of a function is a summary of how it is used: what are the parameters? What does the function do? And what is the return value?
- An interface is “clean” if it is “as simple as possible, but not simpler. (Einstein)”
- Circle is approximation of polygon of size ***n***
- Should ***n*** be one the circle interface?
- More generalization? We need arc!

Refactoring

- Arc is similar to circle but we cannot reuse polygon as we did on circle
- Should we generalize polygon function by adding angle as its interface?
- We should generalize polygon but changing its name to polyline
- The process of rearranging a program to improve function interfaces and facilitate code reuse is “**refactoring**”
- After refactoring, circle is just a call of arc, and polygon is just a call of polyline

A Development Plan

- A process for writing programs
- The process we use is “**encapsulation and generalization**”
- 5 Steps:
 - 1. write program with no function definition,
 - 2. once working, encapsulate to a function and name it
 - 3. generalize function by adding appropriate arguments
 - 4. Repeat 1-3
 - 5. Look for opportunities to improve program by refactoring

Docstring

- A string at the beginning of a function (under header and before its body) that explains the interface, also known as **multiline string**
- It is important part of interface design, and well-designed interface should be simple to explain
- Example:

```
def polyline(t, length, n, angle):  
    """Draw n line segments with the given length and angle (in  
degrees) between them. t is turtle.  
"""  
    for i in range(n):  
        .....
```

Debugging

- Interface is like a **contract** between a function and a caller.
- The caller agrees to provide certain parameters and the function agrees to do certain work.
- **Preconditions:** requirements on the interface (such as number of parameters, the order, types, and semantics of parameters) must be met (true) before the function starts executing.
- **Postconditions:** the intended effect of the function

Debugging

- Preconditions are the responsibility of the caller
- How and why the caller violates preconditions?
- It is a good idea for functions to check their preconditions rather than assume they are true, before starting

po·mo·do·ro

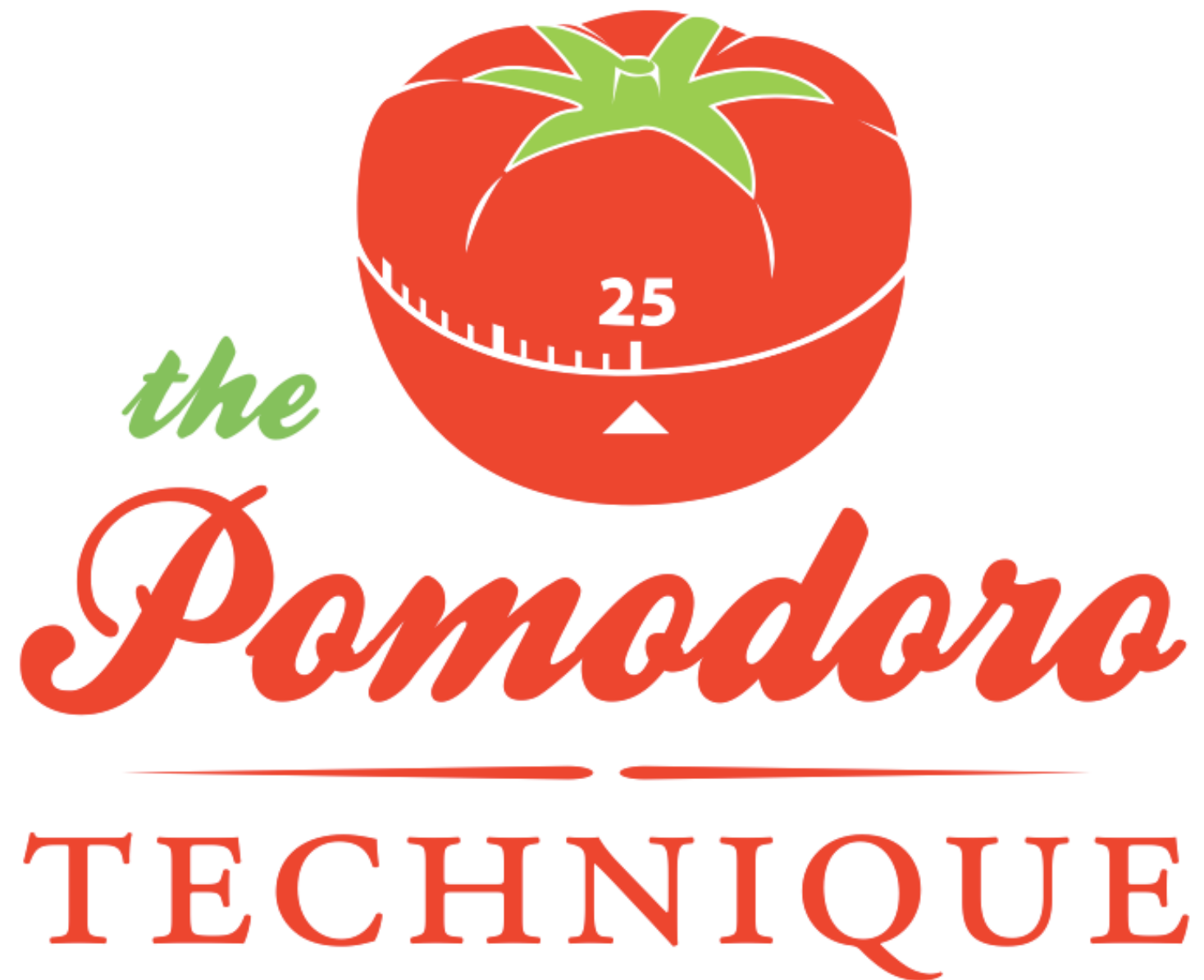
/ˌpäməˈdôrō/

adjective

denoting a sauce made from tomatoes, typically served with pasta.

"a low-calorie pomodoro sauce is the way to go if you're planning on enjoying some pasta"





http://caps.ucsd.edu/Downloads/tx_forms/koch/pomodoro_handouts/ThePomodoroTechnique_v1-3.pdf

The teddy bear principle in programming

It's very simple: Put a **teddy bear** on your desk. When you have a programming problem, explain what you are doing to the teddy bear. **Eureka** is a likely outcome of this method.



<http://compaspascal.blogspot.com/2007/12/teddy-bear-principle-in-programming.html>