CONTENTS

1	Whet	tting Your Appetite 3
2	Using 2.1	g the Python Interpreter5Invoking the Interpreter52.1.1 Argument Passing62.1.2 Interactive Mode6The Interpreter and Its Environment6
		2.2.1 Source Code Encoding
3	An I 1 3.1	Informal Introduction to Python 9 Using Python as a Calculator 9 3.1.1 Numbers 9 3.1.2 Strings 11 3.1.3 Lists 14 First Steps Towards Programming 15
4	More 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7	Control Flow Tools if Statements 17 for Statements 17 The range () Function 18 break and continue Statements, and else Clauses on Loops 19 pass Statements 20 Defining Functions 20 More on Defining Functions 22 4.7.1 Default Argument Values 22 4.7.2 Keyword Arguments 23 4.7.3 Special parameters 24 4.7.4 Arbitrary Argument Lists 27 4.7.5 Unpacking Argument Lists 27 4.7.6 Lambda Expressions 27 4.7.7 Documentation Strings 28 4.7.8 Function Annotations 28 Intermezzo: Coding Style 29
5	Data 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5	Structures 31 More on Lists 31 5.1.1 Using Lists as Stacks 32 5.1.2 Using Lists as Queues 33 5.1.3 List Comprehensions 33 5.1.4 Nested List Comprehensions 34 The del statement 35 Tuples and Sequences 36 Sets 37 Dictionaries 37
	5.6	Looping Techniques