

""""IS597PR (Instructor Weible) - Assignment 1

CORRECT all syntax & formatting mistakes in this program so it works properly.

Brute-force (inefficient) solver of the "Monkey and the Coconuts" puzzle.

This is an example of a "Diophantine problem" -- one which implies a system of algebraic equations where only integer solution(s) are valid.

I learned of it from the opening chapter of "The Colossal Book of Mathematics" by Martin Gardner. Ben Williams' popularized the problem with these parameters in a Saturday Evening Post story:

Five men and a monkey were shipwrecked on an island. They spent the first day gathering coconuts. During the night, one man woke up and decided to take his share of the coconuts. He divided them into five equal piles. One coconut was left over so he gave it to the monkey, then hid his share, put the rest back together, and went back to sleep.

Soon a second man woke up and did the same thing. After dividing the coconuts into five equal piles, one coconut was left over which he gave to the monkey. He then hid his share, put the rest back together, and went to bed. The third, fourth, and fifth man followed exactly the same procedure.

The next morning, after they all woke up, they divided the remaining coconuts into five equal shares. This time no coconuts were left over.

How many coconuts were there in the original pile?

See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_monkey_and_the_coconuts for a detailed history, analysis, and multiple ways this problem can be solved.

""""
import sys

def solve_coconut_problem(number_of_men, monkey_gets_coconut_at_end,
 maximum_number_to_try, verbose=False):

""""This algorithm starts at the beginning of the problem by trying numbers of coconuts before nightfall, and going through the divisions and thefts to see if it results in integers all the way to an equal portion in the morning. If so, a solution was found and will be printed and returned.

:param number_of_men: how many men successively sneak "their share" during the night
:param monkey_gets_coconut_at_end: False or True, whether 1 coconut gets left for the monkey
:param maximum_number_to_try: the highest number of starting coconuts to test.
:param verbose: whether to print details while searching.
:return: a list of solution(s) found [the starting number(s) of coconuts]
""""

solutions_found = [];

guess represents how many coconuts we might have started with
for guess in range(0, maximum_number_to_try):
if verbose:

print('Testing a start of {} coconut(s). '.format(guess))

This is a
comment.

← This starts
defining a new
function.

This big
comment
is a
"docstring".

```
coconuts = guess
```

```
ok_so_far = True
for man in range(1, number_of_men + 1):
    if coconuts % number_of_men != 1:
        # quantity was not evenly divisible with a single remainder.
        if verbose print('Wrong because man #{} would have found {} coconuts\n'.format(man, coconuts))
    ok_so_far = False
    break
```

```
equal_share = coconuts // number_of_men
coconuts -= equal_share
coconuts -= 1 # The monkey's coconut
```

```
if verbose:
    print('man {} took {}, gave monkey 1, and {} remain.'.format(
        man, equal_share, coconuts
    ))
```

```
if ok_so_far:
    # check final conditions match for "the next morning":
    if (coconuts % number_of_men == 1 and monkey_gets_coconut_at_end) or \
        (coconuts % number_of_men == 0 and not monkey_gets_coconut_at_end):
        print('Solution found. They could have started with {:.10,} coconuts.'.format(guess))
        solutions_found.append(guess)
        continue
```

```
if not solutions_found:
    print("No solutions found with fewer than {} starting coconuts.".format(maximum_number_to_try))
    return solutions_found
```

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    print("Running Python:", sys.version_info, "\n")
    print("Searching for solutions using William's variation:")
    solve_coconut_problem(number_of_men=5, monkey_gets_coconut_at_end=False,
                           maximum_number_to_try=20000)
```

```
try {
    print("\nNow try a custom variation:")
    sailors = int(input("How many sailors are on your island? "))
    leftover = input("Is there one coconut left for the monkey at the end? ")
    if leftover.upper().strip() in ['T', 'Y', 'TRUE', 'YES']:
        leftover = True
    else:
        leftover = False
    solve_coconut_problem(number_of_men=sailors,
                           monkey_gets_coconut_at_end=leftover,
                           maximum_number_to_try=10000)
```

```
}
except ValueError {
    print("Invalid input, try again.\n")
}
```

~~~~~ The function definition ends here. ~~~~~