Intro to Python

- Comments: notes of explanation within a program
 - Ignored by Python interpreter
 - Intended for a person reading the program's code
 - Begin with a # character
- End-line comment: appears at the end of a line of code
 - Typically explains the purpose of that line

Variables

- Variable: name that represents a value stored in the computer memory
 - Used to access and manipulate data stored in memory
 - A variable references the value it represents
- Assignment statement: used to create a variable and make it reference data
 - General format is variable = expression
 - **Example**: age = 29
 - Assignment operator: the equal sign (=)

Variable Naming Rules

Rules for naming variables in Python:

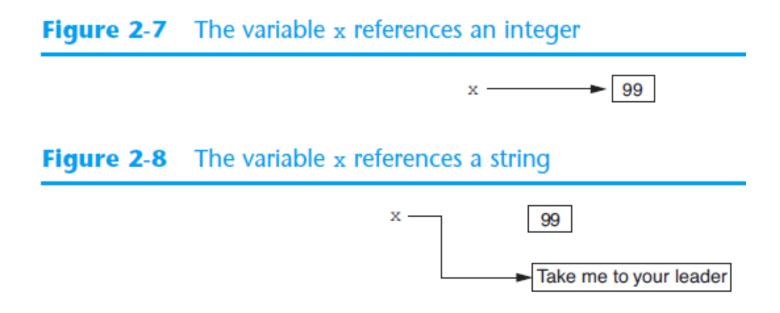
- Variable name cannot be a Python key word
- Variable name cannot contain spaces
- First character must be a letter or an underscore
- After first character may use letters, digits, or underscores
- Variable names are case sensitive
- Variable name should reflect its use

Numeric Data Types, Literals, and the str Data Type

- <u>Data types</u>: categorize value in memory
 - e.g., int for integer, float for real number, str used for storing strings in memory
- Numeric literal: number written in a program
 - No decimal point considered int, otherwise, considered float
- Some operations behave differently depending on data type

Reassigning a Variable to a Different Type

 A variable in Python can refer to items of any type



Reading Input from the Keyboard

- Most programs need to read input from the user
- Built-in input function reads input from keyboard
 - Returns the data as a string
 - Format: variable = input(prompt)
 - prompt is typically a string instructing user to enter a value
 - Does not automatically display a space after the prompt

Reading Numbers with the input Function

- input function always returns a string
- Built-in functions convert between data types
 - int(item) converts item to an int
 - float (item) converts item to a float
 - <u>Nested function call</u>: general format: function1(function2(argument))
 - value returned by function2 is passed to function1
 - Type conversion only works if item is valid numeric value, otherwise, throws exception

Performing Calculations

- Math expression: performs calculation and gives a value
 - Math operator: tool for performing calculation
 - Operands: values surrounding operator
 - Variables can be used as operands
 - Resulting value typically assigned to variable
- Two types of division:
 - / operator performs floating point division
 - // operator performs integer division
 - Positive results truncated, negative rounded away from zero

Operator Precedence and Grouping with Parentheses

Python operator precedence:

- 1. Operations enclosed in parentheses
 - Forces operations to be performed before others
- 2. Exponentiation (**)
- 3. Multiplication (*), division (/ and //), and remainder (%)
- 4. Addition (+) and subtraction (-)
- Higher precedence performed first
 - Same precedence operators execute from left to right

Breaking Long Statements into Multiple Lines

- Long statements cannot be viewed on screen without scrolling and cannot be printed without cutting off
- Multiline continuation character (\): Allows to break a statement into multiple lines

```
result = var1 * 2 + var2 * 3 + \
var3 * 4 + var4 * 5
```

Breaking Long Statements into Multiple Lines

 Any part of a statement that is enclosed in parentheses can be broken without the line continuation character.



More About Data Output

- print function displays line of output
 - Newline character at end of printed data
 - Special argument end='delimiter' causes print to place delimiter at end of data instead of newline character
- print function uses space as item separator
 - Special argument sep='delimiter' causes print to use delimiter as item separator

More About Data Output (cont'd.)

- Special characters appearing in string literal
 - Preceded by backslash (\)
 - Examples: newline (\n), horizontal tab (\t)
 - Treated as commands embedded in string
- When + operator used on two strings in performs string concatenation
 - Useful for breaking up a long string literal

Formatting Numbers

- Can format display of numbers on screen using built-in format function
 - Two arguments:
 - · Numeric value to be formatted
 - Format specifier
 - Returns string containing formatted number
 - Format specifier typically includes precision and data type
 - Can be used to indicate scientific notation, comma separators, and the minimum field width used to display the value

Formatting Numbers (cont'd.)

- The % symbol can be used in the format string of format function to format number as percentage
- To format an integer using format function:
 - Use d as the type designator
 - Do not specify precision
 - Can still use format function to set field width or comma separator

Magic Numbers

 A magic number is an unexplained numeric value that appears in a program's code. Example:

```
amount = balance * 0.069
```

 What is the value 0.069? An interest rate? A fee percentage? Only the person who wrote the code knows for sure.

The Problem with Magic Numbers

- It can be difficult to determine the purpose of the number.
- If the magic number is used in multiple places in the program, it can take a lot of effort to change the number in each location, should the need arise.
- You take the risk of making a mistake each time you type the magic number in the program's code.
 - For example, suppose you intend to type 0.069, but you accidentally type .0069. This mistake will cause mathematical errors that can be difficult to find.

Named Constants

- You should use named constants instead of magic numbers.
- A named constant is a name that represents a value that does not change during the program's execution.
- Example:

```
INTEREST_RATE = 0.069
```

 This creates a named constant named INTEREST_RATE, assigned the value 0.069. It can be used instead of the magic number:

```
amount = balance * INTEREST RATE
```

Advantages of Using Named Constants

- Named constants make code self-explanatory (self-documenting)
- Named constants make code easier to maintain (change the value assigned to the constant, and the new value takes effect everywhere the constant is used)
- Named constants help prevent typographical errors that are common when using magic numbers

The if Statement

- Control structure: logical design that controls order in which set of statements execute
- Sequence structure: set of statements that execute in the order they appear
- <u>Decision structure</u>: specific action(s) performed only if a condition exists
 - Also known as selection structure

The if Statement (cont'd.)

Python syntax:

```
if condition:

Statement

Statement
```

First line known as the if clause

- Includes the keyword if followed by condition
 - The condition can be true or false
 - When the if statement executes, the condition is tested, and if it is true the block statements are executed. otherwise, block statements are skipped

Boolean Expressions and Relational Operators (cont'd.)

Table 3-2 Boolean expressions using relational operators

| Expression | Meaning |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| x > y | Is x greater than y? |
| x < y | Is x less than y? |
| x >= y | Is x greater than or equal to y? |
| x <= y | Is x less than or equal to y? |
| x == y | Is x equal to y? |
| x != y | Is x not equal to y? |

The if-else Statement

- <u>Dual alternative decision structure</u>: two possible paths of execution
 - One is taken if the condition is true, and the other if the condition is false
 - Syntax: if condition: statements

else:

other statements

- if clause and else clause must be aligned
- Statements must be consistently indented



Nested Decision Structures and the if-elif-else Statement

- A decision structure can be nested inside another decision structure
 - Commonly needed in programs
 - Example:
 - Determine if someone qualifies for a loan, they must meet two conditions:
 - Must earn at least \$30,000/year
 - Must have been employed for at least two years
 - Check first condition, and if it is true, check second condition

The if-elif-else Statement

- <u>if-elif-else statement</u>: special version of a decision structure
 - Makes logic of nested decision structures simpler to write
 - Can include multiple elif statements

Short-Circuit Evaluation

- Short circuit evaluation: deciding the value of a compound Boolean expression after evaluating only one sub expression
 - Performed by the or and and operators
 - For or operator: If left operand is true, compound expression is true. Otherwise, evaluate right operand
 - For and operator: If left operand is false, compound expression is false. Otherwise, evaluate right operand

Intro to Repetition Structures

- Often have to write code that performs the same task multiple times
 - Disadvantages to duplicating code
 - Makes program large
 - Time consuming
 - May need to be corrected in many places
- Repetition structure: makes computer repeat included code as necessary
 - Includes condition-controlled loops and countcontrolled loops



The while Loop: a Condition-Controlled Loop

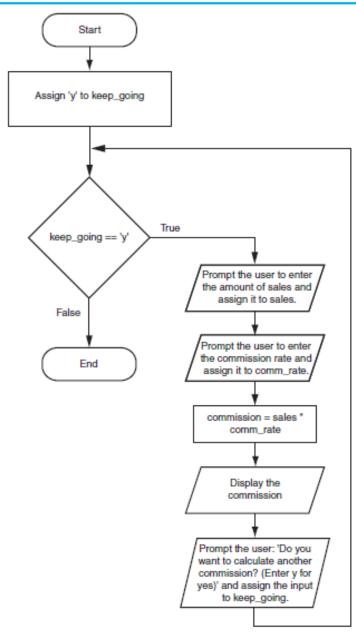
- while loop: while condition is true, do something
 - Two parts:
 - Condition tested for true or false value
 - Statements repeated as long as condition is true
 - In flow chart, line goes back to previous part
 - General format:

```
while condition: statements
```

The while Loop: a Condition-Controlled Loop (cont'd.)

- In order for a loop to stop executing, something has to happen inside the loop to make the condition false
- Iteration: one execution of the body of a loop
- while loop is known as a pretest loop
 - Tests condition before performing an iteration
 - Will never execute if condition is false to start with
 - Requires performing some steps prior to the loop

Figure 4-3 Flowchart for Program 4-1



Infinite Loops

- Loops must contain within themselves a way to terminate
 - Something inside a while loop must eventually make the condition false
- Infinite loop: loop that does not have a way of stopping
 - Repeats until program is interrupted
 - Occurs when programmer forgets to include stopping code in the loop

The for Loop: a Count-Controlled Loop

- Count-Controlled loop: iterates a specific number of times
 - Use a for statement to write count-controlled loop
 - Designed to work with sequence of data items
 - Iterates once for each item in the sequence
 - General format:

```
for variable in [val1, val2, etc]:
statements
```

 Target variable: the variable which is the target of the assignment at the beginning of each iteration

Figure 4-4 The for loop

Using the range Function with the for Loop

- The range function simplifies the process of writing a for loop
 - range returns an iterable object
 - <u>Iterable</u>: contains a sequence of values that can be iterated over
- range characteristics:
 - One argument: used as ending limit
 - Two arguments: starting value and ending limit
 - Three arguments: third argument is step value

Using the Target Variable Inside the Loop

- Purpose of target variable is to reference each item in a sequence as the loop iterates
- Target variable can be used in calculations or tasks in the body of the loop
 - Example: calculate square root of each number in a range

Letting the User Control the Loop Iterations

- Sometimes the programmer does not know exactly how many times the loop will execute
- Can receive range inputs from the user, place them in variables, and call the range function in the for clause using these variables
 - Be sure to consider the end cases: range does not include the ending limit

Generating an Iterable Sequence that Ranges from Highest to Lowest

- The range function can be used to generate a sequence with numbers in descending order
 - Make sure starting number is larger than end limit, and step value is negative
 - Example: range (10, 0, -1)

The Augmented Assignment Operators (cont'd.)

Table 4-2 Augmented assignment operators

| Operator | Example Usage | Equivalent To |
|----------|---------------|---------------|
| += | x += 5 | x = x + 5 |
| -= | y -= 2 | y = y - 2 |
| *= | z *= 10 | z = z * 10 |
| /= | a /= b | a = a / b |
| %= | c %= 3 | c = c % 3 |

Sentinels

- Sentinel: special value that marks the end of a sequence of items
 - When program reaches a sentinel, it knows that the end of the sequence of items was reached, and the loop terminates
 - Must be distinctive enough so as not to be mistaken for a regular value in the sequence
 - Example: when reading an input file, empty line can be used as a sentinel

Introduction to Functions

- Function: group of statements within a program that perform as specific task
 - Usually one task of a large program
 - Functions can be executed in order to perform overall program task
 - Known as divide and conquer approach
- Modularized program: program wherein each task within the program is in its own function

This program is one long, complex sequence of statements.

statement In this program the task has been divided into smaller tasks, each of which is performed by a separate function.

```
def function2():
    statement
    statement
    statement
    statement
```

```
def function3():
    statement
    statement
    statement
```

```
def function4():
    statement
    statement
    statement
    statement
```

Benefits of Modularizing a Program with Functions

- The benefits of using functions include:
 - Simpler code
 - Code reuse
 - write the code once and call it multiple times
 - Better testing and debugging
 - Can test and debug each function individually
 - Faster development
 - Easier facilitation of teamwork
 - Different team members can write different functions

Void Functions and Value-Returning Functions

A void function:

 Simply executes the statements it contains and then terminates.

A <u>value-returning function</u>:

- Executes the statements it contains, and then it returns a value back to the statement that called it.
 - The input, int, and float functions are examples of value-returning functions.

Defining and Calling a Function

- Functions are given names
 - Function naming rules:
 - Cannot use key words as a function name
 - Cannot contain spaces
 - First character must be a letter or underscore
 - All other characters must be a letter, number or underscore
 - Uppercase and lowercase characters are distinct

- Function name should be descriptive of the task carried out by the function
 - Often includes a verb
- Function definition: specifies what function does

```
def function_name():
    statement
    statement
```

- Function header: first line of function
 - Includes keyword def and function name,
 followed by parentheses and colon
- Block: set of statements that belong together as a group
 - Example: the statements included in a function

- Call a function to execute it
 - When a function is called:
 - Interpreter jumps to the function and executes statements in the block
 - Interpreter jumps back to part of program that called the function
 - Known as function return

- main function: called when the program starts
 - Calls other functions when they are needed
 - Defines the mainline logic of the program

Indentation in Python

- Each block must be indented
 - Lines in block must begin with the same number of spaces
 - Use tabs or spaces to indent lines in a block, but not both as this can confuse the Python interpreter
 - IDLE automatically indents the lines in a block
 - Blank lines that appear in a block are ignored

Designing a Program to Use Functions

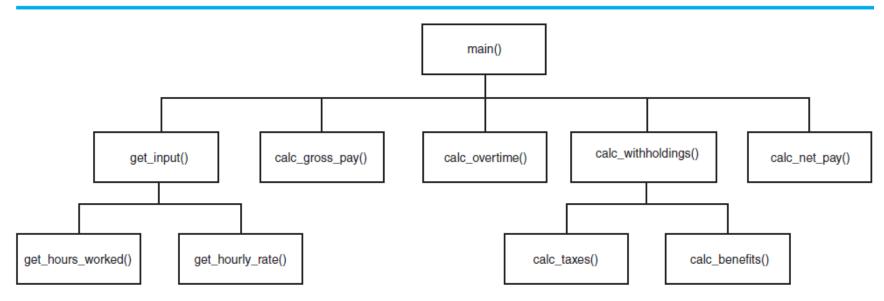
- In a flowchart, function call shown as rectangle with vertical bars at each side
 - Function name written in the symbol
 - Typically draw separate flow chart for each function in the program
 - End terminal symbol usually reads Return
- Top-down design: technique for breaking algorithm into functions

Designing a Program to Use Functions (cont'd.)

- Hierarchy chart: depicts relationship between functions
 - AKA structure chart
 - Box for each function in the program, Lines connecting boxes illustrate the functions called by each function
 - Does not show steps taken inside a function
- Use input function to have program wait for user to press enter

Designing a Program to Use Functions (cont'd.)

Figure 5-10 A hierarchy chart



Local Variables

- Local variable: variable that is assigned a value inside a function
 - Belongs to the function in which it was created
 - Only statements inside that function can access it, error will occur if another function tries to access the variable
- Scope: the part of a program in which a variable may be accessed
 - For local variable: function in which created

Local Variables (cont'd.)

- Local variable cannot be accessed by statements inside its function which precede its creation
- Different functions may have local variables with the same name
 - Each function does not see the other function's local variables, so no confusion

Passing Arguments to Functions

- Argument: piece of data that is sent into a function
 - Function can use argument in calculations
 - When calling the function, the argument is placed in parentheses following the function name

Passing Arguments to Functions (cont'd.)

Figure 5-13 The value variable is passed as an argument

```
def main():
    value = 5
    show_double(value)

    def show_double(number):
        result = number * 2
        print(result)
```

Passing Arguments to Functions (cont'd.)

- Parameter variable: variable that is assigned the value of an argument when the function is called
 - The parameter and the argument reference the same value
 - General format:
 - def function_name(parameter):
 - Scope of a parameter: the function in which the parameter is used

Passing Arguments to Functions (cont'd.)

Figure 5-14 The value variable and the number parameter reference the same value

```
def main():
    value = 5
    show_double(value)

def show_double(number):
    result = number * 2
    print(result)
number
```

Passing Multiple Arguments

- Python allows writing a function that accepts multiple arguments
 - Parameter list replaces single parameter
 - Parameter list items separated by comma
- Arguments are passed by position to corresponding parameters
 - First parameter receives value of first argument, second parameter receives value of second argument, etc.

Passing Multiple Arguments (cont'd.)

Figure 5-16 Two arguments passed to two parameters

Making Changes to Parameters

- Changes made to a parameter value within the function do not affect the argument
 - Known as pass by value
 - Provides a way for unidirectional communication between one function and another function
 - Calling function can communicate with called function

Making Changes to Parameters (cont'd.)

Figure 5-17 The value variable is passed to the change_me function

```
def main():
    value = 99
    print('The value is', value)
    change_me(value)
    print('Back in main the value is', value)

def change_me(arg):
    print('I am changing the value.')
    arg = 0
    print('Now the value is', arg)
```

Making Changes to Parameters (cont'd.)

- Figure 5-18
 - The value variable passed to the change_me function cannot be changed by it

Figure 5-18 The value variable is passed to the change_me function

```
def main():
    value = 99
    print('The value is', value)
    change_me(value)
    print('Back in main the value is', value)

def change_me(arg):
    print('I am changing the value.')
    arg = 0
    print('Now the value is', arg)
```

Keyword Arguments

- Keyword argument: argument that specifies which parameter the value should be passed to
 - Position when calling function is irrelevant
 - General Format:
 - function_name(parameter=value)
- Possible to mix keyword and positional arguments when calling a function
- Pearson Positional arguments must appear first

Global Variables and Global Constants

- Global variable: created by assignment statement written outside all the functions
 - Can be accessed by any statement in the program file, including from within a function
 - If a function needs to assign a value to the global variable, the global variable must be redeclared within the function
 - General format: global variable name

Global Variables and Global Constants (cont'd.)

- Reasons to avoid using global variables:
 - Global variables making debugging difficult
 - Many locations in the code could be causing a wrong variable value
 - Functions that use global variables are usually dependent on those variables
 - Makes function hard to transfer to another program
 - Global variables make a program hard to understand

Global Constants

- Global constant: global name that references a value that cannot be changed
 - Permissible to use global constants in a program
 - To simulate global constant in Python, create global variable and do not re-declare it within functions

Introduction to Value-Returning Functions: Generating Random Numbers

- void function: group of statements within a program for performing a specific task
 - Call function when you need to perform the task
- Value-returning function: similar to void function, returns a value
 - Value returned to part of program that called the function when function finishes executing

Standard Library Functions and the import Statement

- Standard library: library of pre-written functions that comes with Python
 - Library functions perform tasks that programmers commonly need
 - Example: print, input, range
 - Viewed by programmers as a "black box"
- Some library functions built into Python interpreter
 - To use, just call the function

Standard Library Functions and the import Statement (cont'd.)

- Modules: files that stores functions of the standard library
 - Help organize library functions not built into the interpreter
 - Copied to computer when you install Python
- To call a function stored in a module, need to write an import statement
 - Written at the top of the program
 - Format: import module name

Standard Library Functions and the import Statement (cont'd.)

Figure 5-19 A library function viewed as a black box



Generating Random Numbers

- Random number are useful in a lot of programming tasks
- random module: includes library functions for working with random numbers
- <u>Dot notation</u>: notation for calling a function belonging to a module
 - Format: module_name.function_name()

- randint function: generates a random number in the range provided by the arguments
 - Returns the random number to part of program that called the function
 - Returned integer can be used anywhere that an integer would be used
 - You can experiment with the function in interactive mode

Figure 5-20 A statement that calls the random function

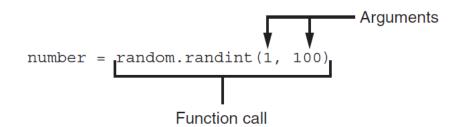
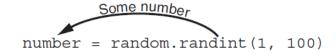


Figure 5-21 The random function returns a value



A random number in the range of 1 through 100 will be assigned to the number variable.

Figure 5-22 Displaying a random number

```
print(random.randint(1, 10))
```

A random number in the range of 1 through 10 will be displayed.

- randrange function: similar to range function, but returns randomly selected integer from the resulting sequence
 - Same arguments as for the range function
- random function: returns a random float in the range of 0.0 and 1.0
 - Does not receive arguments
- uniform function: returns a random float but allows user to specify range

Random Number Seeds

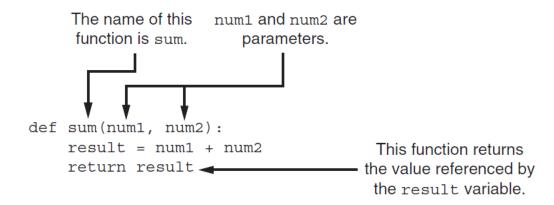
- Random number created by functions in random module are actually pseudorandom numbers
- Seed value: initializes the formula that generates random numbers
 - Need to use different seeds in order to get different series of random numbers
 - By default uses system time for seed
 - Can use random.seed() function to specify desired seed value

Writing Your Own Value-Returning Functions

- To write a value-returning function, you write a simple function and add one or more return statements
 - Format: return expression
 - The value for expression will be returned to the part of the program that called the function
 - The expression in the return statement can be a complex expression, such as a sum of two variables or the result of another valuereturning function

Writing Your Own Value-Returning Functions (cont'd.)

Figure 5-23 Parts of the function



How to Use Value-Returning Functions

- Value-returning function can be useful in specific situations
 - Example: have function prompt user for input and return the user's input
 - Simplify mathematical expressions
 - Complex calculations that need to be repeated throughout the program
- Use the returned value
 - Assign it to a variable or use as an argument in another function



Using IPO Charts

- IPO chart: describes the input, processing, and output of a function
 - Tool for designing and documenting functions
 - Typically laid out in columns
 - Usually provide brief descriptions of input, processing, and output, without going into details
 - Often includes enough information to be used instead of a flowchart

Using IPO Charts (cont'd.)

Figure 5-25 IPO charts for the getRegularPrice and discount functions

| IPO Chart for the get_regular_price Function | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|
| Input | Processing | Output | |
| None | Prompts the user to enter an item's regular price | The item's regular price | |

| IPO Chart for tr | Processing | Output |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| An item's regular price | Calculates an item's discount by multiplying the regular price by the global constant DISCOUNT_PERCENTAGE | The item's discount |

Returning Strings

- You can write functions that return strings
- For example:

```
def get_name():
    # Get the user's name.
    name = input('Enter your name: ')
    # Return the name.
    return name
```

Returning Boolean Values

- Boolean function: returns either True or False
 - Use to test a condition such as for decision and repetition structures
 - Common calculations, such as whether a number is even, can be easily repeated by calling a function
 - Use to simplify complex input validation code

Returning Multiple Values

- In Python, a function can return multiple values
 - Specified after the return statement separated by commas
 - Format: return expression1, expression2, etc.
 - When you call such a function in an assignment statement, you need a separate variable on the left side of the = operator to receive each returned value

The math Module

- math module: part of standard library that contains functions that are useful for performing mathematical calculations
 - Typically accept one or more values as arguments, perform mathematical operation, and return the result
 - Use of module requires an import math statement

The math Module (cont'd.)

Table 5-2 Many of the functions in the math module

| ption |
|--|
| |
| ns the arc cosine of x, in radians. |
| ns the arc sine of x, in radians. |
| ns the arc tangent of x, in radians. |
| ns the smallest integer that is greater than or equal to x. |
| ns the cosine of x in radians. |
| ning x is an angle in radians, the function returns the angle rted to degrees. |
| ns e ^x |
| ns the largest integer that is less than or equal to x. |
| as the length of a hypotenuse that extends from $(0, 0)$ to (x, y) . |
| ns the natural logarithm of x. |
| ns the base-10 logarithm of x. |
| ning x is an angle in degrees, the function returns the angle rted to radians. |
| ns the sine of x in radians. |
| ns the square root of x. |
| ns the tangent of x in radians. |
| |

The math Module (cont'd.)

- The math module defines variables pi and e, which are assigned the mathematical values for pi and e
 - Can be used in equations that require these values, to get more accurate results
- Variables must also be called using the dot notation
 - Example:

```
circle area = math.pi * radius**2
```

Storing Functions in Modules

- In large, complex programs, it is important to keep code organized
- Modularization: grouping related functions in modules
 - Makes program easier to understand, test, and maintain
 - Make it easier to reuse code for multiple different programs
 - Import the module containing the required function to each program that needs it

Storing Functions in Modules (cont'd.)

- Module is a file that contains Python code
 - Contains function definition but does not contain calls to the functions
 - Importing programs will call the functions
- Rules for module names:
 - File name should end in .py
 - Cannot be the same as a Python keyword
- Import module using import statement

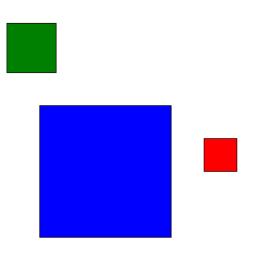
Menu Driven Programs

- Menu-driven program: displays a list of operations on the screen, allowing user to select the desired operation
 - List of operations displayed on the screen is called a menu
- Program uses a decision structure to determine the selected menu option and required operation
 - Typically repeats until the user quits

- Commonly needed turtle graphics operations can be stored in functions and then called whenever needed.
- For example, the following function draws a square.
 The parameters specify the location, width, and color.

 The following code calls the previously shown square function to draw three squares:

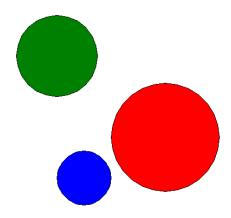
```
square(100, 0, 50, 'red')
square(-150, -100, 200, 'blue')
square(-200, 150, 75, 'green')
```



 The following function draws a circle. The parameters specify the location, radius, and color.

 The following code calls the previously shown circle function to draw three circles:

```
circle(0, 0, 100, 'red')
circle(-150, -75, 50, 'blue')
circle(-200, 150, 75, 'green')
```



 The following function draws a line. The parameters specify the starting and ending locations, and color.

 The following code calls the previously shown line function to draw a triangle:

```
TOP_X = 0

TOP_Y = 100

BASE_LEFT_X = -100

BASE_LEFT_Y = -100

BASE_RIGHT_X = 100

BASE_RIGHT_Y = -100

line(TOP_X, TOP_Y, BASE_LEFT_X, BASE_LEFT_Y, 'red')

line(TOP_X, TOP_Y, BASE_RIGHT_X, BASE_RIGHT_Y, 'blue')

line(BASE_LEFT_X, BASE_LEFT_Y, BASE_RIGHT_X, BASE_RIGHT_Y, 'green')
```