6) Generators And Iterators

• Understanding how generators work in Python...

What is Generator?

Generators in Python are a way to create **iterators** without storing the entire sequence in memory. They generate values **on-the-fly** using the yield keyword, making them **memory-efficient** for large datasets or infinite sequences.

Advantages of Generators

- **Memory efficiency**: They don't store the whole sequence.
- **Convenience**: Easy to write and read for custom iterators.
- Lazy evaluation: Values are generated on the fly.

• Difference between yield and return.

yield and return are used to send values back from a function, but they behave very differently in terms of execution flow and memory usage.

• Yield

Pauses the function and returns a value.

Resumes execution when next() is called again.

Used in **generator functions** to produce sequences.

Generates values lazily (memory-efficient)

• Return

Exits the function immediately and returns a value.

Cannot resume execution after return.

Used in normal function (not generators).

No memory of previous calls.

| • | Understanding | iterators and | creating cus | tom iterators. |
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What is an **Iterator** in Python?

An **iterator** is an object that allows you to **iterate over** (i.e., loop through) a sequence of values, one at a time.

- Implements the iterator protocol (__iter__() and __next__())
- Maintains internal state to track position
- Raises StopIteration when exhausted