CS1010S Tutorial 2

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Year 2 QF

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January 30, 2017

Some incentives before you start

What is programming . . .

- Something that can help us
  - Example 1: Excel VBA button
  - Example 2: Python-tailored replacer/finder
- Something that requires thinking
  - You are going to see more examples throughout the semester
  - One thing: think before you type!
- Something that is simple
  - It can be explained in basic layman terms like climbing steps
  - because they are both done step by step!
- Hopefully you can understand these better by the end of this semester . . .

Today's Agenda

1. Recap
2. Question One
   - Standard solution
3. Question 2
   - Part (a) Discussion
   - Standard solution
4. Question 3
   - Discussion
   - Standard solutions
5. Question 4
   - Discussion and Takeaway
   - Standard solutions
6. Question 5
   - Discussion and Takeaway
   - Standard solutions
7. Extra stuff: one past midterm question and one small game

Functional Abstraction

What have you learnt?
What is functional abstraction? Explain non-abstractly

- How to write def properly (General form)
  - name
  - formal parameters - input
  - body
  - return type - output
- After that, Prof Leong spent a lot of time on runes.py...
  - You may not even understand what is that!
  - Takeaway: You need to be able to read other people's code
  - and write some more on top of his code
- OK so runes.py
  - primitives building blocks
  - primitive operations (simple functions)
  - derived operations (composite functions)
  - stacking, patterns, overlaying, scaling

Functional Abstraction

There are more content to recap...

- Anonymous function! This can be hard
  - lambda input : output
  - E.g. lambda x : x * x
  - Functions are objects!
  - They can be taken in as parameters
- What is a good abstraction?
  - 1. Scalable : tasks and subtasks (Divide and conquer)
  - 2. Maintenable: Comprehensive (Ease your debugging)
  - 3. Reusable : Capture common patterns
  - 4. Black box : Provide only relevant details for user
  - 5. Specification and Implementation
- Approaches to tackle problem
  - Try simple examples
  - Strategize step by step
  - Refine and formulate the problem
  - Top-down approach
  - Bottom-up approach

Recursion & Iteration

Yes this tutorial covers these as well...

- Recursion
  - Divide and conquer
  - Recurrence: Similar but smaller problems
  - Base case: Problem which can be solved easily (O(1))
  - Why is it useful?
  - When is it not useful?
- Iteration
  - For loop
  - Use for loop when there is a iteration variable
  - E.g. the index of elements in array
  - While loop
  - Use while loop when there does not exist a clear iteration variable
  - but instead a terminating/continuing signal
  - E.g. a flag variable

Question 1

Define a function magnitude that takes in the coordinates of two points on a plane, (x1, y1) and (x2, y2), as arguments and returns the magnitude of the vector between them.

```
def magnitude(x1, y1, x2, y2):
    # Returns the magnitude of the vector
    # between the points (x1, y1) and (x2, y2).
```

- No takeaway, think like a human mathematically and simulate

Question 1 Zexin's solution

This is a mathematical problem.
Recall the definition of magnitude of the vector.

```
def magnitude(x1, y1, x2, y2):
    # Returns the magnitude of the vector
    # between the points (x1, y1) and (x2, y2).
    x = x2 - x1
    y = y2 - y1
    return (x**2 + y**2) ** 0.5
```

There is no corner cases. (Why?)

Question 2 Part (a) Discussion

One way of calculating the area of a triangle is using the formula area equals base times height over 2. Define a function area that calculates and returns the area of any given triangle using this formula. Decide what arguments it requires as input and what its return value should be.

- $Area = \frac{base \times height}{2}$
- The input is assumed to be base and height (numerical value).
- Your output should be of float type.

Question 2 Part (b) Discussion

Another way of calculating the area of a triangle with sides A, B, C is using the trigonometric ratio sine to get $area = \frac{1}{2} \times A \times B \times \sin AB$, where AB is the included angle between sides A and B. The sin function is provided by the math package. You can call it by using sin after including the line **from math import *** at the top of your Python file. For information on how to use the math package, refer to http://docs.python.org/3.4/library/math.html Define a function area2 that calculates and returns the area of any given triangle using this formula. Decide what arguments the function requires as input and what its return value should be.

- $Area = \frac{1}{2} \times A \times B \times \sin AB$
- inputs should be A, B and AB(angle), all of float type
- Your output should be of float type as well.

Question 2 (a) and (b) Zexin's solution

```
def area(base, height):
    return base * height / 2

from math import *

def area2(A, B, AB):
    return A * B * sin(AB) / 2
```

Two things to discuss:

- Is the included angle measured in radian, or degree?
- What is the difference between from math import * and import math?

Question 2 Part (c) Discussion

Both functions calculate the same result. Can they be directly substituted for each other? Why?
How to tackle this kind of question?

- $Area = \frac{base \times height}{2}$
- $Area = \frac{1}{2} \times A \times B \times \sin AB$
- How do you decide whether two functions can substitute each other?
- Same storage address? area == area2
- Same functionality? How to compare functionality?

Question 2 Part (c) Solutions

Let's define: if two functions possess the same functionality, for any inputs, they should generate the same outputs. More specifically, if we consider for the functions $f1$ and $f2$, the domain is D and the input arguments are vectors, e.g. $\underset{\sim}{x}$

$\forall \underset{\sim}{x} \in D, f1(\underset{\sim}{x})$ and $f2(\underset{\sim}{x})$ both exits, and $f1(\underset{\sim}{x}) = f2(\underset{\sim}{x})$

- $Area = \frac{base \times height}{2}$
- $Area = \frac{1}{2} \times A \times B \times \sin AB$
- These two functions take in different **number** of arguments.
- These two functions take in different arguments.
- So, no. They cannot substitute each other.

Question 2 Part (d) Discussion

We can also calculate the area of triangle using Heron's Formula, $area = \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}$ where $s = \frac{a+b+c}{2}$. Assume you are given a function herons_formula that takes 3 arguments a, b, c and returns the area of a triangle with sides of length a, b, c.
Define a function area3 that uses Heron's formula to calculate and return the area of a given triangle given the x,y coordinates of the 3 points of the triangle.
You may use the magnitude function defined in Question 1

- Use the magnitude function to calculate the length of three sides
- Then use the Heron's formula to calculate
- Prepare to receive six float inputs for the coordinates of three points
- Your output value should be of float type.

Question 2 (d) Zexin's solution

```
def herons_formula(a, b, c):
    s = (a + b + c) / 2
    return sqrt(s * (s - a) * (s - b) * (s - c))

def area3(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3):
    oneToTwo = magnitude(x1, y1, x2, y2)
    twoToThree = magnitude(x2, y2, x3, y3)
    threeToOne = magnitude(x3, y3, x1, y1)
    return herons formula(oneToTwo, twoToThree, threeToOne)
```

- herons_formula is just for your viewing and testing purpose. (optional)
- Camel casing is just for improving readability of code. (optional)
- Of course, this function area3 cannot substitute for the others as well.

Question 3 Discussion

For each of the questions below, what is printed when the expressions are evaluated?
This type of question mostly likely to come out during your test/exam.
What is your strategy to tackle these problems?

- Use your brain and paper just like a Python compiler.
  - Memorise and note down the data types and values of each variable.
  - Execute each command accordingly following the control structure.
  - This method is slow when you encounter multiple function calls or iteration.
- Of course, there is a more advanced way of running programs in your head.
  - You can **objectise** each iteration or function call.
  - Ignore their content, think of what it does to the parameters.
  - Summarise what they can do as brief as possible.
  - Track the variables accordingly.

Question 3 Part (a) Discussion

What is printed when the expressions are evaluated?

```
def fool():
    i = 0
    result = 0
    while i < 10:
        result += i
        i += 1
    return result
```

You can use either primitive or more advanced method.

Question 3 Part (b) Discussion

What is printed when the expressions are evaluated?

```
def foo2():
    i = 0
    result = 0
    while i < 10:
        if i == 3:
            break
        result += i
        i += 1
    return result
```

What is the effect of break in this while loop?

Question 3 Part (c) Discussion

What is printed when the expressions are evaluated?

```
def bar1():
    result = 0
    for i in range(10):
        result += i
    return result
```

From which number does this for loop start from?

Question 3 Part (d) Discussion

What is printed when the expressions are evaluated?

```
def bar2():
    result = 0
    for i in range(10):
        if i % 3 == 1:
            continue
        result += i
    return result
```

What is the effect of continue in this case?

Question 3 Zexin's solutions

- Part (a)
  - Both i and result starts from 0 (same for all parts)
  - During each iteration, add i to result and add one to i
  - Stop when i reaches or bigger than 10
  - Result will be the sum of all integers from 0 to 9 inclusive. (45)
- Part (b)
  - During each iteration, if i equals 3, stop the loop
  - otherwise add i to result and add one to i
  - Stop when i reaches or bigger than 10 ¡- this is never executed
  - Result will be the sum of all integers from 0 to 2 inclusive. (3)
- Part (c)
  - During each iteration, add i to result and add one to i
  - Stop when i reaches 10
  - Result will be the sum of all integers from 0 to 9 inclusive. (45)
- Part (d)
  - During each iteration, add i to result and add one to i if i % 3 != 1
  - Stop when i reaches or bigger than 10
  - Result will be the sum of all integers from 0 to 9 excluding those with remainder 1 when divided by 3. (33)

Question 4 Discussion

Write a function sum_even_factorials that finds the sum of the factorials of the even numbers that are less than or equal to n, where n $\geq$ 1.
What you need to do is obviously:

- **Loop** from 0 to n (why 0?)
- During each iteration, check if the current number is even
- If yes, add its factorial to the result.

Question 4 Zexin's solution

```
def sum_even_factorials(n):
    result = 0
    factorial = 1
    for i in range(0,n+1):
        factorial *= i
        if i % 2 == 0:
            result += factorial
    return result
```

One advantage of this solution is that it has the smallest possible time complexity.

Question 5 Discussion

```
def f(g):
    return g(2)
```

Then we have

```
def square(x):
    return x ** 2

>>> f(square)
4

>>> f(lambda z: z * (z + 1))
6
```

What happens if we (perversely) ask the interpreter to evaluate f(f)?

- This is an application of high-order functions in Python.
- Let's objectise f first:
- Basically it takes in a function g as parameter
- and return the value evaluated wheng takes 2 as parameter.
- Try out this on square and lambda $z : z \times (z + 1)$

Question 5 Zexin's solution

- f(f) will return f(2)
- f(2) takes in 2 as g and will return g(2) which is 2(2)
- Note that 2 is treated as a **function** here to make a call.
- This will give a TypeError: 'int' object is not **callable**
- One takeaway: you should be able to read error messages with the word 'callable' now.

Extra stuff: one past midterm question

If time permits, we will go through this.

```
def boo(x):
    return lambda y: x(x(y))
print(boo(boo)(lambda x:x+1)(5))
```

- What is the output of the print statement?
- Don't be intimidated by the complexity of problem first.
- Let's tackle this problem part by part.

Extra stuff: one past midterm question

This question is of the same type as the previous Question 3.

```
def boo(x):
    return lambda y: x(x(y))
print(boo(boo)(lambda x:x+1)(5))
```

Let's tackle the $boo(boo)$ part first.

- $boo(boo)$ takes in boo as parameter.
- It will return lambda $y : x(x(y))$ with x replaced by boo.
- So $boo(boo)$ is equivalent to lambda $y : boo(boo(y))$,
- which is just repeating boo twice for one single argument.

Extra stuff: one past midterm question

```
def boo(x):
    return lambda y: x(x(y))
print(boo(boo)(lambda x:x+1)(5))
```

Let's tackle the $boo(boo)$(lambda $x : x + 1$) part then.

- $boo(boo)$ basically repeats boo twice for one single argument.
- Let's define a function to simplify lambda $x : x + 1$, addOne.
- Now we need to evaluate $boo(boo(addOne))$ layer by layer.
- $boo(addOne)$ will return lambda $y : addOne(addOne(y))$,
- which is just lambda $y : y + 2$, and let's define it to be addTwo
- Similarly, $boo(addTwo)$ will be addFour (lambda $y : y + 4$)

Extra stuff: one past midterm question

```
def boo(x):
    return lambda y: x(x(y))
print(boo(boo)(lambda x:x+1)(5))
```

Let's tackle the $boo(boo)(\text{lambda } x : x + 1)(5)$ part then.

- $boo(boo)(\text{lambda } x : x + 1)$ basically add four to the input.
- $addFour(5)$ will return 9.
- Is this answer correct? Let's test it out!

Feedback & more

- Slides + relevant material available at:

  `https://blablablabla.com`

- After the tutorial, if you have further questions:

  `wang.zexin@u.nus.edu`

Thank You

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