



香港中文大學(深圳)
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

Introduction to Computer Science: Programming Methodology

Lecture 4 Function

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Outline

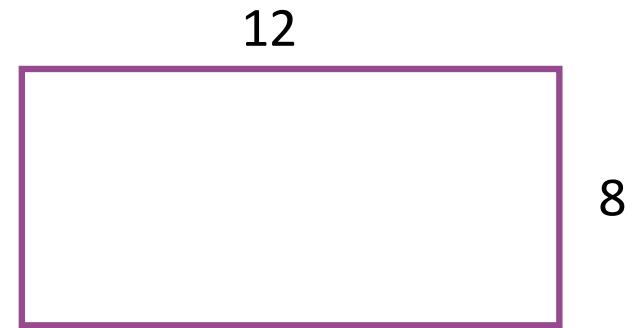
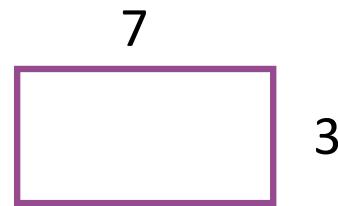
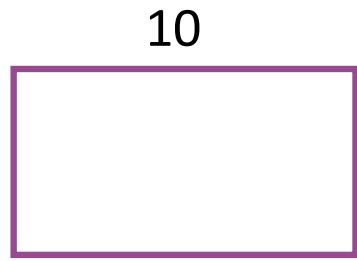
- Function Basics
- String Methods
- File Operations

Outline

- **Function Basics**
- String Methods
- File Operations

Exercise

Imagine you need to calculate the area of multiple rectangles throughout your program. Print the areas of the following rectangles.



A Python script

```
# Calculate area of rectangle 1
length1 = 10
width1 = 5
area1 = length1 * width1
print(f"Area of rectangle 1: {area1}")

# Calculate area of rectangle 2
length2 = 7
width2 = 3
area2 = length2 * width2
print(f"Area of rectangle 2: {area2}")

# Calculate area of rectangle 3
length3 = 12
width3 = 8
area3 = length3 * width3
print(f"Area of rectangle 3: {area3}")
```

Same Pattern Applies!
Can we define a
template and reuse it?

A better solution

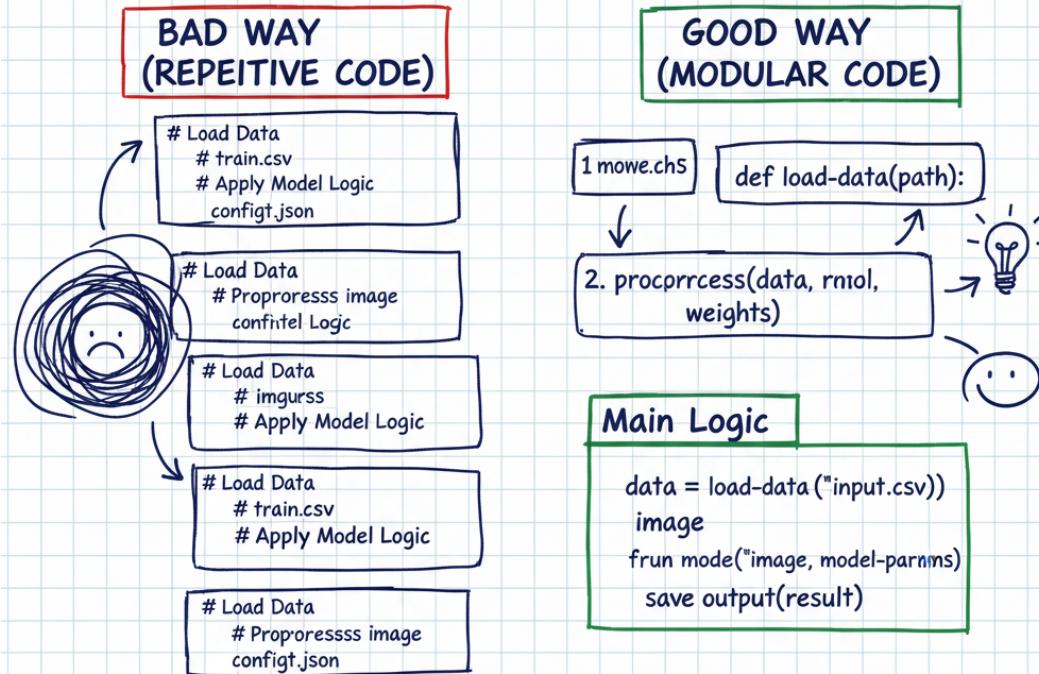
```
def calculate_rectangle_area(length,width):
    return length * width

# Calculate area of rectangle 1
area1 = calculate_rectangle_area(10, 5)
print(f"Area of rectangle 1: {area1}")

# Calculate area of rectangle 2
area2 = calculate_rectangle_area(7, 3)
print(f"Area of rectangle 2: {area2}")

# Calculate area of rectangle 3
area3 = calculate_rectangle_area(12, 8)
print(f"Area of rectangle 3: {area3}")
```

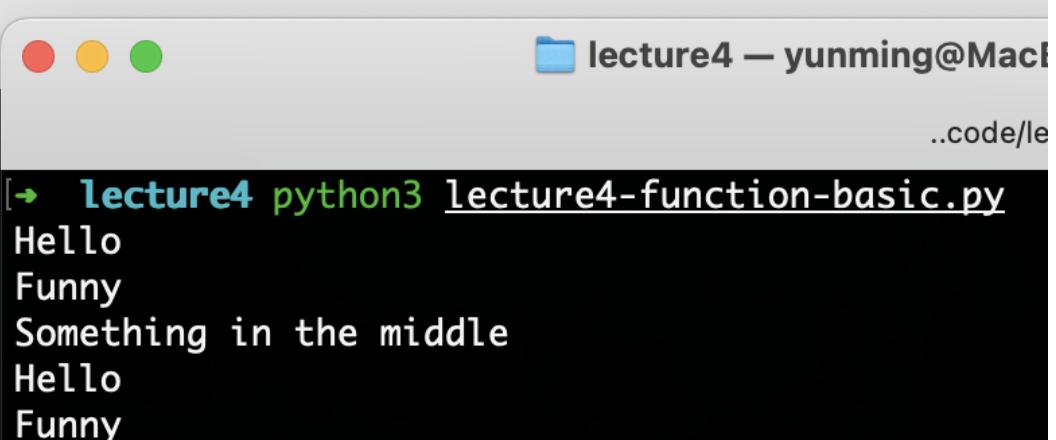
PYTHON FUNCTIONS (CONCEPT)



* Crucial for:

- ✓ Reganizality (DRY - Don't Repeat Yourself)
- ✓ Modaullity & Collaboration
- Abstration (Hide Complenty)

Stored (and reused) steps

Program	Outputs
<pre>def Hello(): print("Hello") print("Funny") Hello() print("Something in the middle") Hello()</pre>	 <p>A terminal window titled "lecture4 — yunming@MacBook-Pro: ..code/le". The command run is "python3 lecture4-function-basic.py". The output is:</p> <pre>[→ lecture4 python3 lecture4-function-basic.py Hello Funny Something in the middle Hello Funny</pre>

- This reusable paragraph of code is called a **function**

Python functions

- In Python, a function is some reusable code which can take **arguments** as input, perform some computations, and then output some results
- Functions are defined using reserved word **def**
- We **call/invoke** a function by using the function name, parenthesis and arguments in an expression

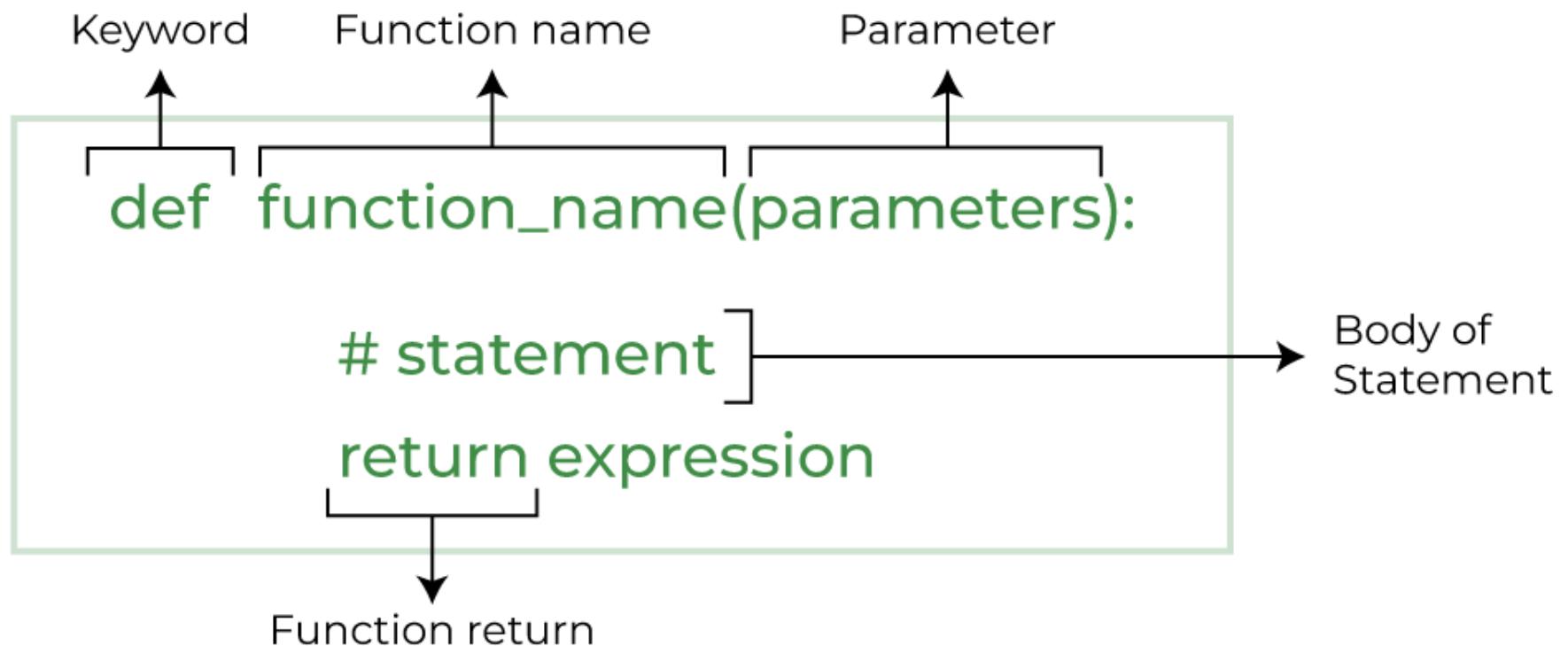
Python functions

- There are (mainly) two types of functions in **Python**
 - **Built-in functions** which are part of Python, such as `print()`, `int()`, `float()`, etc
 - Functions that we define **ourselves** and then use
- The names of built-in functions are usually considered as **new reserved words**, i.e. we **do not** use them as variable names

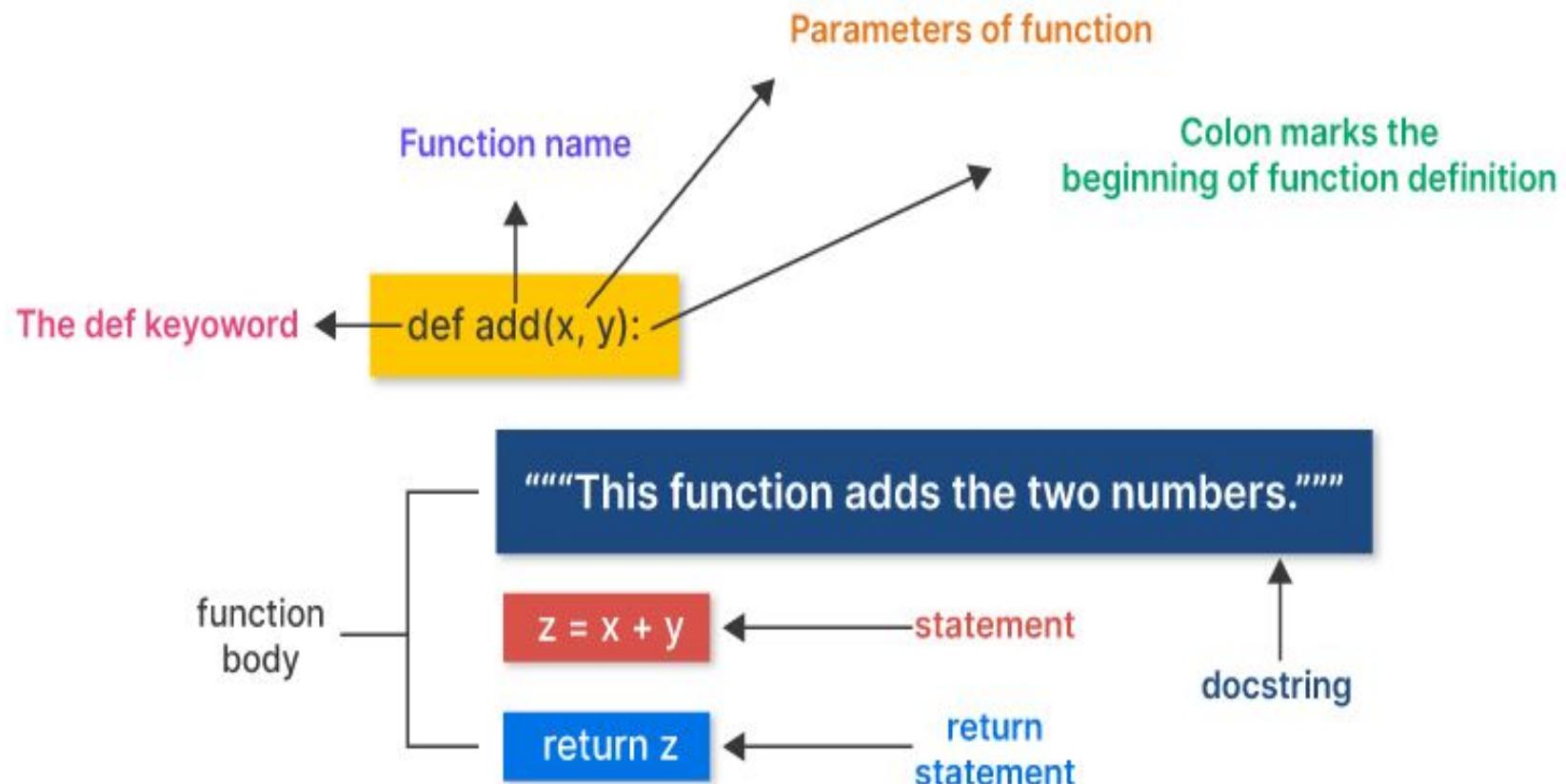
Building our own functions

- We create a new function using the **def** key word, followed by **optional parameters** in parenthesis
- We **indent** the body of the function
- This defines the function, but **does not execute** the body of the function

Building our own functions



A sample code



Argument

- An **argument** is a value we pass into the function as its **input** when we **call** the function
- We use **arguments** so we can **direct** the function to do **different** kinds of work when we call it at **different** times
- We put the **argument** in parenthesis after the **name** of the function

big = max("I am the one")

argument

Parameters

- A **parameter** is a **variable** which we use in the function definition that is a '**handle**' that allows the code in the function to **access the arguments** for a **particular** function invocation

parameter

argument

```
>>> def greet(lang):
...     if lang == "es":
...         print("Hola")
...     elif lang == "fr":
...         print("Bonjour")
...     else:
...         print("Hello")
...
...
[...]
>>>
[>>> greet("en")]
Hello
[>>> greet("es")]
Hola
[>>> greet("fr")]
Bonjour
```

Return values

- Often a function will take its **arguments**, do some computation and **return** a value to be used as the value of the function call in the **calling expression**. The **return** keyword is for this purpose.

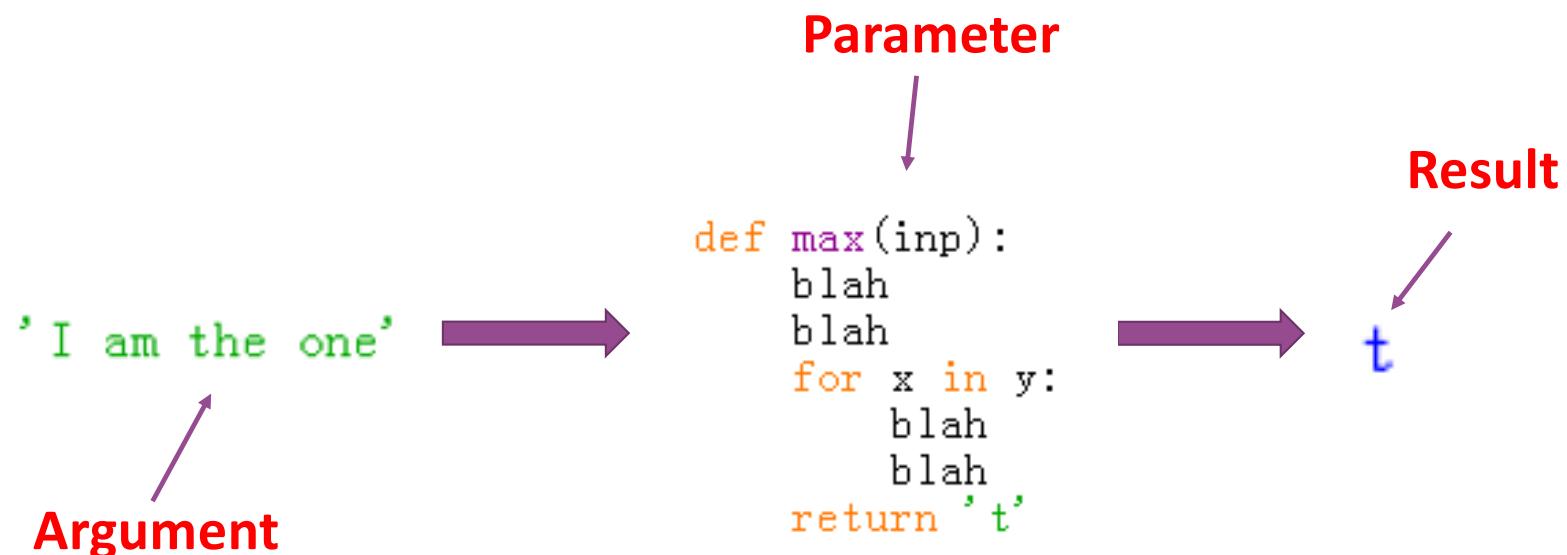
```
[>>> def greet():
[...     return "Hello"
[...
[>>> print(greet(), "Glenn")
Hello Glenn
[>>> print(greet(), "Sally")
Hello Sally
```

Return values

- A fruitful function is one that produces a **result** (or **return value**)
- The **return** statement **ends** the function execution and ‘sends back’ the **result** of the function

Argument, parameter, and result

```
[>>> big = max("I am the one")
[>>> print(big)
t
```



Multiple arguments/parameters

- We can define **more than one** parameter in a function definition
- We simply add **more arguments** when we **call** the function
- We **match** the **number** and **order** of arguments and parameters

```
def add_two(a, b):  
    total = a + b  
    return total  
  
x = add_two(3, 5)  
print(x)
```

Default argument

- Python allows to define functions with **default argument values**
- The default argument values will be passed to the function, when it is invoked **without arguments**

```
def print_area(width=1, height=2):  
    area = width * height  
    print("width:", width, "\theight:", height, "\tarea:", area)  
  
print_area() # Default arguments, width = 1 and height = 2  
print_area(4, 2.5) # Positional arguments, width = 4 and height = 2.5  
print_area(height=5, width=3) # Keyword arguments  
print_area(width=1.2) # Default height = 2  
print_area(height=6.2) # Default width = 1
```

Return multiple values

- Python allows a function to return **multiple values**
- The sort function returns two values; when it is invoked, you need to pass the returned values in a **simultaneous assignment**

```
def sort(num1, num2):  
    if num1 < num2:  
        return num1, num2  
    else:  
        return num2, num1  
  
n1, n2 = sort(3, 2)  
print("n1 is", n1)  
print("n2 is", n2)
```

Void functions

- When a function **does not return** a value, it is called a “**void**” function
- Functions that return values are “fruitful” functions
- Void functions are “not fruitful”
- “fruitful” != useful

Scope of variables

- The **scope** of a variable is the part of program where this variable can be accessed
- A variable created inside a function is referred to as a **local variable**
- **Global variables** are created outside all functions and are accessible to all functions in their scope

```
global_var = 1

def foo():
    local_var = 2
    print(global_var)
    print(local_var)
```

```
foo()
print(global_var)
print(local_var)
```

Error!

Scope of variables

- Different variables may **share a name** if they have **different scopes**

```
x = 1

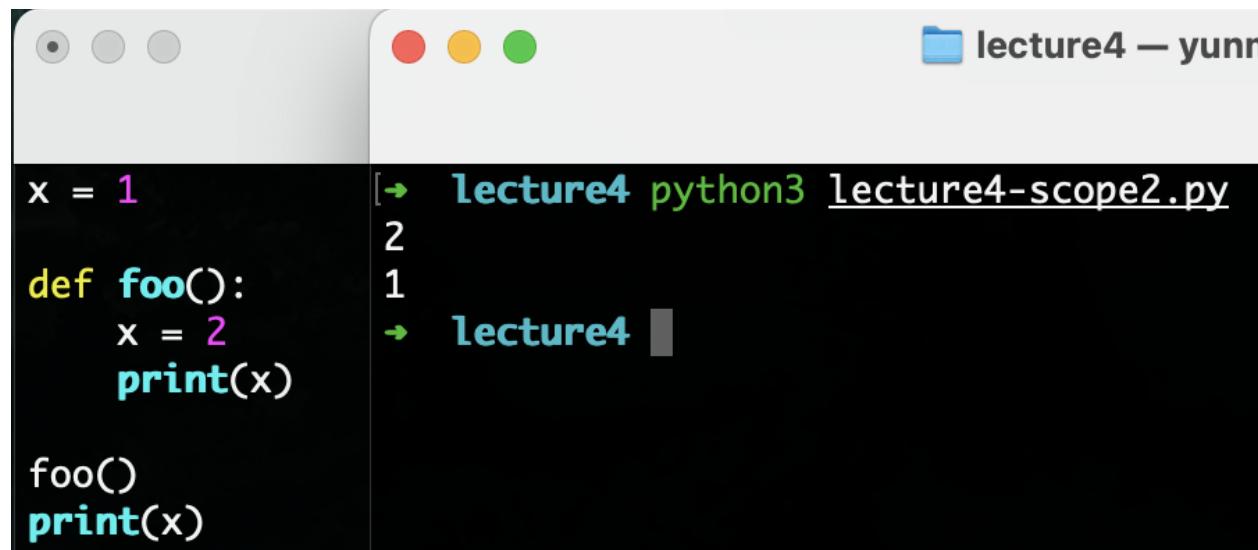
def foo():
    x = 2
    print(x)

foo()
print(x)
```

```
[→ lecture4 python3 lecture4-scope2.py
2
1
→ lecture4 ]
```

Scope of variables

- Different variables may **share a name** if they have **different scopes**



```
x = 1

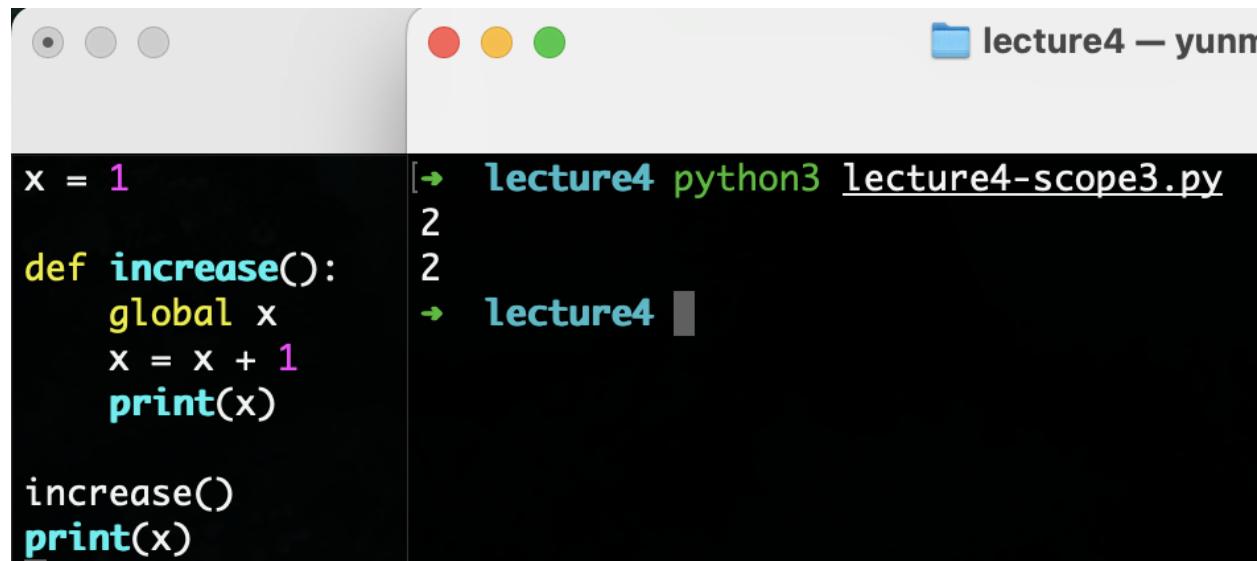
def foo():
    x = 2
    print(x)

foo()
print(x)
```

```
[→ lecture4 python3 lecture4-scope2.py
2
1
→ lecture4 ]
```

Scope of variables

- In a function, you can use keyword `global` to specify that a variable is a **global variable**
- Be very careful when define and use global variable



```
x = 1

def increase():
    global x
    x = x + 1
    print(x)

increase()
print(x)
```

```
[→ lecture4 python3 lecture4-scope3.py
2
2
→ lecture4 ]
```

To function or not function...

- Organize your code into paragraphs - capture a complete thought and name it
- Don't repeat yourself – name it to work once and reuse it
- If something goes too complex, break up them into several blocks, and put each of them into a function
- Make a library of common stuffs that you do over and over again – perhaps share with other people

Practice

- Write a **function** to instruct the user to input the working hours and hourly rate, and then **return** the salary. If the working hours exceed 40 hours, then the extra hours received 1.5 times pay.

Practice

- Write a **function** to get the tax for a given salary (excluded tax-free parts) in a year.
 - If the salary is less than 36000. It takes 3%
 - If the salary is between 36000 and 144000, it takes **3%** for the part less than 36000; **10%** for the part between 36000 and 144000.
 -

1	0 - 36000	3
2	36000. 01 - 144000	10
3	144000. 01 - 300000	20
4	300000. 01 - 420000	25
5	420000. 01 - 660000	30
6	660000. 01 - 960000	35
7	960000. 01 - ∞	45

Break

Outline

- Function Basics
- **String Methods**
- File Operations

String type

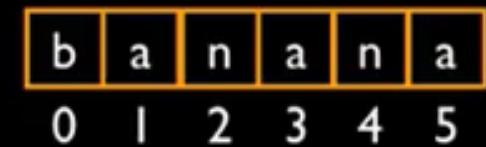
- A **string** is a sequence of **characters**
- A string literal uses quotes “ ” or “ ””
- For strings, + means “**concatenate**”
- When a string contains numbers, it is still a string
- We can convert numbers in a string into a number using `int()` or `float()`

Reading and converting

- We prefer to read data in using strings and then parse and convert the data as we need
- This gives us more control over error situations and/or bad user inputs
- Raw input numbers must be converted from strings

Looking inside the strings

- We can get **any character** in a string using an **index** specified in **square brackets**
- The index value must be an **integer** which starts from **zero**
- The index value can be an **expression**



```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> letter = fruit[1]  
>>> print letter  
a  
>>> n = 3  
>>> w = fruit[n - 1]  
>>> print w  
n
```

Index out of range

- You will get a **Python error** if you attempt to index beyond the end of a string
- Be careful when specifying an index value

```
[>>> name = "Alice"
[>>> name[6]
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<python-input-1>", line 1, in <module>
    name[6]
    ~~~~^~~
IndexError: string index out of range
>>> ]
```

Strings have length

- There is a built-in function `len()` which gives us the **length** of a string



The diagram shows the word "banana" in a 6x2 grid. The first column contains "b", the second "a", the third "n", the fourth "a", the fifth "n", and the sixth "a". Below the grid, the indices 0 through 5 are listed horizontally, with a yellow dot positioned above index 2.

```
>>> fruit = 'banana'  
>>> print len(fruit)  
6
```

len()

len(object)

- Returns the **length** of the given string, array, list, tuple, dictionary, or any other iterable or container object.
- The type of the return value is an integer that represents the number of elements in this iterable.

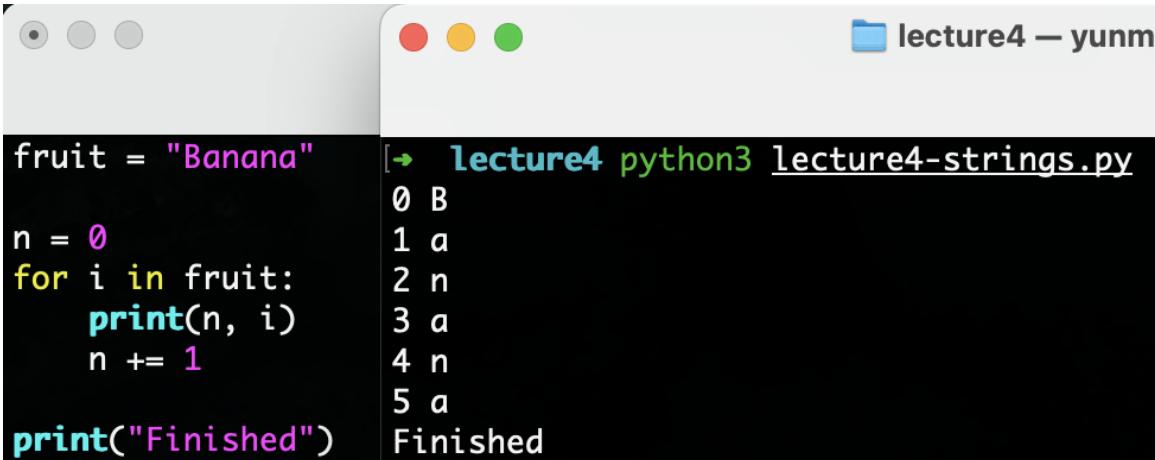
→ Calls `object.__len__()`

```
>>> friends = ['Alice', 'Bob', 'Carl', 'Ann']
>>> len(friends)
4
>>> friends.extend([1, 2, 3])
>>> len(friends)
7
```



Strings have length

- Using a **for** statement, we can easily loop through **each character** in a string
- String is essentially a **list** in Python



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "lecture4 — yunmi". The window is split into two panes. The left pane shows Python code:fruit = "Banana"
n = 0
for i in fruit:
 print(n, i)
 n += 1

print("Finished")

```
The right pane shows the output of the code:
```

[+] lecture4 python3 lecture4-strings.py
0 B
1 a
2 n
3 a
4 n
5 a
Finished

Practice

- Write a program to use a **while** statement together with **len()** function to loop through a given string.

Slicing strings

- We can also look at any **continuous section** of a string using **colon operator**

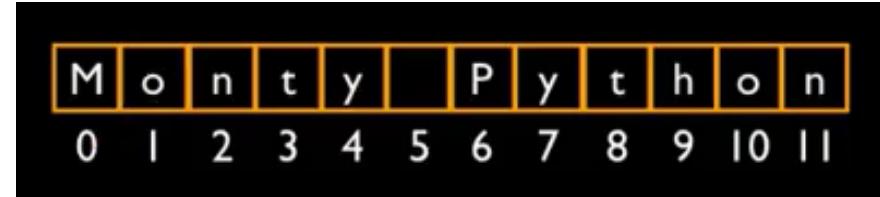


- The second number is one beyond the end of the slice – i.e. “**up to but not including**”
- If the second number is beyond the length of the string, it **stops at the end**

```
[>>> s = "Monty Python"
[>>> print(s[0:4])
Mont
[>>> print(s[6:7])
P
[>>> print(s[6:20])
Python
```

Slicing strings

- If we leave off the first or second number of the slice, it is assumed to be the **beginning** or **end** of the string respectively



```
[>>> print(s[:6])
Monty
[>>> print(s[3:])
ty Python
[>>> print(s[:])
Monty Python
>>> ]
```

Keyword “in”

- The **in** keyword can be used to check whether one string is in another string
- The **in** expression is a **logical expression** and returns **True** or **False**
- It can be used in **if** or **while** statement

```
[>>> fruit = "Banana"
[>>> "n" in fruit
True
[>>> "m" in fruit
False
[>>> "nan" in fruit
True]
```

Search a string

- We can use the `find()` function to search for a substring in a string
- `find()` finds the first occurrence of the target sub-string
- If the sub-string is not found, it returns -1
- Important: the string position starts from 0



```
[>>> fruit = "Banana"
[>>> pos = fruit.find("na")
[>>> print(pos)
2
[>>> pos = fruit.find("z")
[>>> print(pos)
-1]
```

Search and replace

- The `replace()` function is like a “search and replace” operation in a word processor
- It **replaces all occurrences** of the search string with the replacement string

```
[>>> greet = "Hello, Bob"
[>>> new_str = greet.replace("Bob", "Jane")
[>>> print(new_str)
Hello, Jane
[>>> new_str = greet.replace("o", "X")
[>>> print(new_str)
HellX, BXb
[>>> new_str = greet.replace("z", "X")
[>>> print(new_str)
Hello, Bob
```

Stripping whitespace

- Sometimes we want to take a string and remove **whitespaces** at the beginning and/or end
- **lstrip()** and **rstrip()** to the left and right only
- **strip()** removes **both** beginning and ending whitespaces

```
>>> greet = " Hello Bob\n"
>>> greet.lstrip()
'Hello Bob\n'
>>> greet.rstrip()
' Hello Bob'
>>> greet.strip()
'Hello Bob'
```

Prefixes

- `startswith()` function checks whether a string is starting with a given string

```
[>>> line = "Please submit your application"
[>>> line.startswith("Please")
True
[>>> line.startswith("p")
False
```

String library

```
[>>> dir(fruit)
['__add__', '__class__', '__contains__', '__delattr__', '__dir__', '__doc__', '__eq__', '__format__', '__ge__':
 '__getattribute__', '__getitem__', '__getnewargs__', '__getstate__', '__gt__', '__hash__', '__init__', '__in
it_subclass__', '__iter__', '__le__', '__len__', '__lt__', '__mod__', '__mul__', '__ne__', '__new__', '__reduc
e__', '__reduce_ex__', '__repr__', '__rmod__', '__rmul__', '__setattr__', '__sizeof__', '__str__', '__subklass
hook__', 'capitalize', 'casefold', 'center', 'count', 'encode', 'endswith', 'expandtabs', 'find', 'format', 'f
ormat_map', 'index', 'isalnum', 'isalpha', 'isascii', 'isdecimal', 'isdigit', 'isidentifier', 'islower', 'isnu
meric', 'isprintable', 'isspace', 'istitle', 'isupper', 'join', 'ljust', 'lower', 'lstrip', 'maketrans', 'part
ition', 'removeprefix', 'removesuffix', 'replace', 'rfind', 'rindex', 'rjust', 'rpartition', 'rsplit', 'rstrip
', 'split', 'splitlines', 'startswith', 'strip', 'swapcase', 'title', 'translate', 'upper', 'zfill']
```

<https://docs.python.org/3/library/stdtypes.html#string-methods>

PYTHON STRINGS (CONCEPT)

Essential Methods & Operations

Creation & Length

```
my_string = "Hello, Python!"  
length = len(len)
```

→ length
14

Whitsspaice & More

```
text = "hello world!"  
lstrip = text.lstrip()
```

Case Conversion

```
upper_str = my_string.upper()  
lower_str = world.lower()
```

hello world!

Find & Check

```
index = my_world.find("Py")  
starts with = stacbstesh)  
weights)
```

"hellothon in

Replacing

```
"drist in rstrip")
```

Indexing & Slicing

0 1 2 3 5 4

S = "ABCDE"

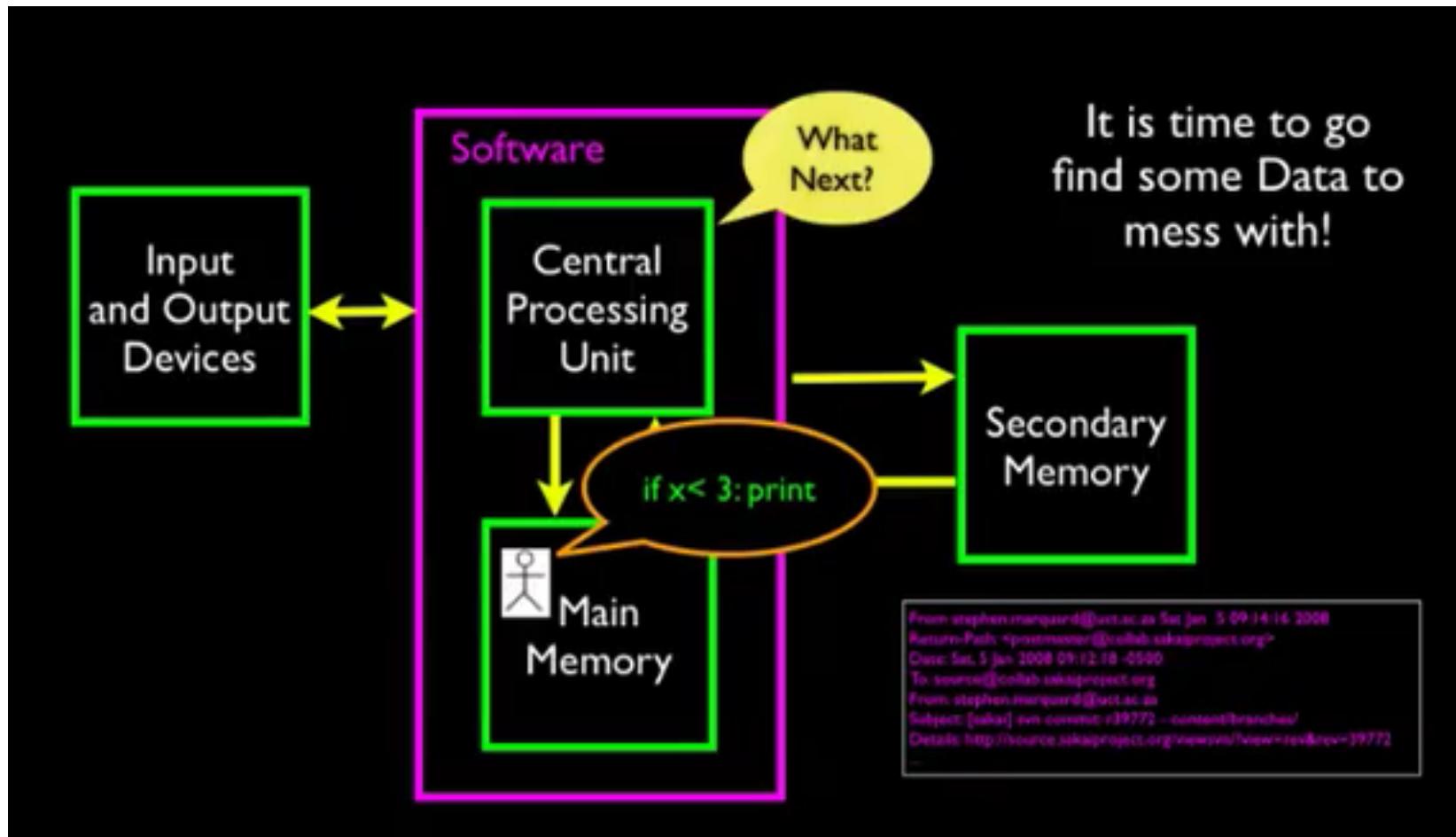
-5	4	4	2	-3	5	4
first	"A"	slice1	slice2			
last	"BCD"	BCD3	revers			
rave	-21"	"PDE"	"ED/BCA"			

* Crucial for:

- len(s): Get length": Use methods
- []in: Check Check for Slicing
- Abstraction (Hide Complexity !

Outline

- Function Basics
- String Methods
- **File Operations**



File processing

- A text file can be thought of as a sequence of lines

```
# Gmail web Start
216.239.38.125 chatenabled.mail.google.com
216.239.38.125 filetransferenabled.mail.google.com
216.239.38.125 gmail.com
216.239.38.125 gmail.google.com
216.239.38.125 googlemail1.google.com
216.239.38.125 inbox.google.com
216.239.38.125 isolated.mail.google.com
216.239.38.125 m.gmail.com
216.239.38.125 m.googlemail.com
216.239.38.125 mail.google.com
216.239.38.125 www.gmail.com
# Gmail web End
```

Opening files

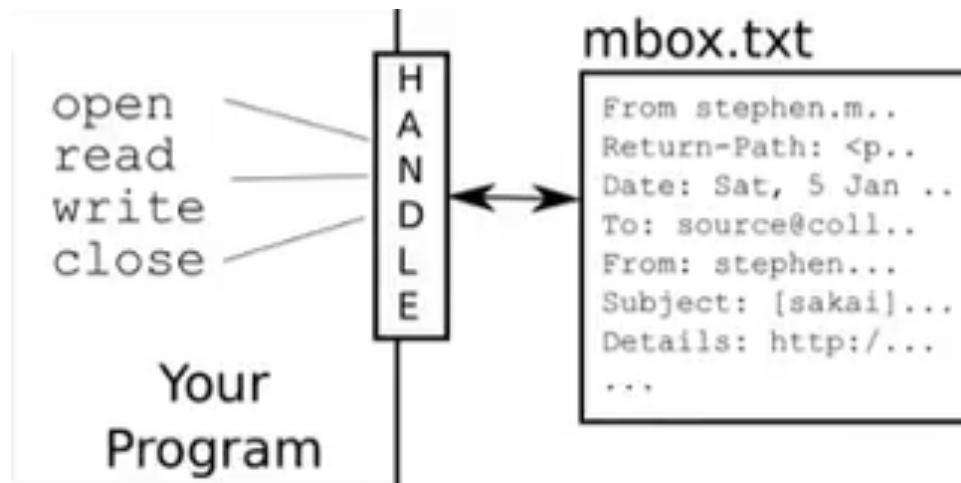
- Before we can read the contents of a file, we must tell Python **which file** we are going to work with and **what we will do** with that file
- This is done with the **open()** function
- Open() returns a “**file handle**” - a variable used to perform operations on files
- Kind of like “File -> Open” in a word processor

open()

- `handle = open(filename, mode)`
- Returns a **handle** used to manipulate the file
- **Filename** is a string
- **Mode** is optional, use ‘r’ if we want to read the file, and ‘w’ if we want to write to the file (‘r’, ‘w’, ‘a’, ‘r+’, ‘w+’, ‘a+’, more for binary files ...)

File handle

```
[>>> file_handle = open("lecture4-strings.py", "r")
[>>> print(file_handle)
<_io.TextIOWrapper name='lecture4-strings.py' mode='r' encoding='UTF-8'>
>>> ]
```



When files are missing

```
[>>> file_handle = open("non-exist.py", "r")
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<python-input-74>", line 1, in <module>
    file_handle = open("non-exist.py", "r")
FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] No such file or directory: 'non-exist.py'
>>> ]
```

The newline character

- We use a new character to indicate when a line ends called “newline”
- We represent it as ‘\n’ in strings
- Newline is still one character, not two

```
[>>> s = "Hello\nWorld"
[>>> s
'Hello\nWorld'
[>>> print(s)
Hello
World
```

File processing

- A text file can be thought of as a sequence of lines
- A text file has **newline** at the end of each line

```
# Gmail web Start\n216.239.38.125 chatenabled.mail.google.com\n216.239.38.125 filetransferenabled.mail.google.com\n216.239.38.125 gmail.com\n216.239.38.125 gmail.google.com\n216.239.38.125 googlemail.l.google.com\n216.239.38.125 inbox.google.com\n216.239.38.125 isolated.mail.google.com\n216.239.38.125 m.gmail.com\n216.239.38.125 m.googlemail.com\n216.239.38.125 mail.google.com\n216.239.38.125 www.gmail.com\n# Gmail web End\n
```

File handle as a sequence

- A file **handle** open for read can be treated as a **sequence of strings** where each line in the file is a string in the sequence
- We can use the **for** statement to loop through a sequence

```
file_hand = open("lecture4-strings.py", "r")  
  
for line in file_hand:  
    print(line)  
  
file_hand.close()
```

Practice

- Write a program to open a file and count how many lines are included in this file

Reading the whole file

- We can also read the whole file into a single string

```
file_hand = open("lecture4-strings.py", "r")
all_text = file_hand.read()
print("The length of the file:", len(all_text))
print("The first 20 characters of the file:", all_text[:20])
```

Practice

- Write a program to open a file **and read all texts with read()** and count how many lines are included in this file

Writing to a file

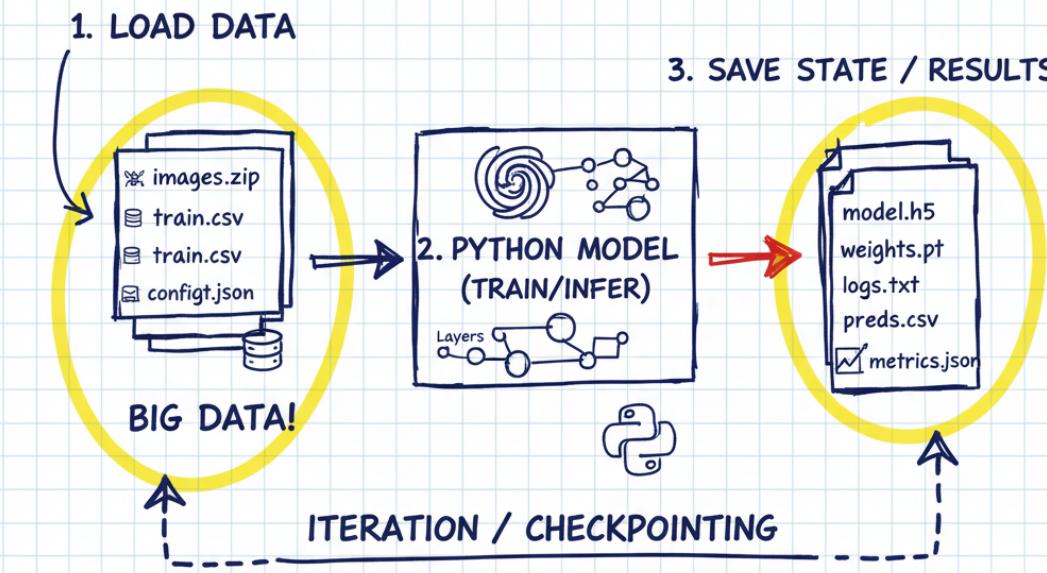
- To write a file, use the `open()` function with ‘`w`’ argument
- Use the `write()` method to write to the file

```
file_hand = open("test.txt", "w")
file_hand.write("The first line\n")
file_hand.write("The second line\n")
file_hand.write("The third line\n")
file_hand.close()
```

Practice

Read a file and make all letters be lower-cased (to a new file)

FILE OPS IN ML/DL (CONCEPT)



- * Crucial for:
- Disk ↔ RAM
- Persistence (Save/Load)
- Logging & Monitoring (Batching)
- Sharing & Deployment!

Thanks