

# Introduction To Python

Week 5: Finish up I/O  
On To Functions

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## I/O - Continued

- Revisit the programs ***analyze.py*** and ***analyze-csv.py***.
- Then a more Pythonesque approach.



# analyze.py

```
# Open the input file and ingest all the data.
```

```
f = open('output.dat')
x = f.readlines()
f.close()
```

```
# Grab column labels from first line.
```

```
labels = x[0].split()
```

```
# Define indices for min, max, and summation in the
value lists.
```

```
min = 0
max = 1
sum = 2
```

```
# Define indices for the state variables in the values
list.
```

```
temperature = 0
pressure = 1
energy = 2
```

```
# Define how many indices to skip to get data from
the input lines.
```

```
offset = 2
```

```
# Initialize the values lists.
```

```
values = [[1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0],\
          [1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0],\
          [1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0]]
```

```
# Now read all the data from the remaining lines.
```

```
for i in range(1,len(x)) :
    n = x[i].split()
    steps = float(n[0])
    time = float(n[1])
    values[temperature][sum] += float(n[offset + temperature])
    values[pressure][sum] += float(n[offset + pressure])
    values[energy][sum] += float(n[offset + energy])
    for j in range(3) :
        if values[j][min] > float(n[offset + j]) :
            values[j][min] = float(n[offset + j])
        if values[j][max] < float(n[offset + j]) :
            values[j][max] = float(n[offset + j])
```

```
# Display results on terminal.
```

```
print 'Average Timestep:', time / steps
for j in range(3) :
    print labels[offset + j], ':', values[j][min], \
          values[j][max], values[j][sum] / float(len(x)-1.0)
```

```
# Now generate output file.
```

```
f = open('foo.txt','w')
f.write( 'Average Timestep: %e\n'%(time/steps) )
for j in range(3) :
    f.write( '%s : %e %e %e\n' % (labels[offset + j], \
        values[j][min], values[j][max], \
        values[j][sum] / float(len(x)-1.0) ) )
f.close()
```



# analyze-csv.py

```
import csv

# Define indices for min, max, and summation in the value lists.

min = 0
max = 1
sum = 2

# Define indices for the state variables in the values list.

temperature = 0
pressure = 1
energy = 2

# Define how many indices to skip to get data from the input lines.

offset = 2

# Initialize the values lists.

values = [[1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0],\
          [1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0],\
          [1.e+37,-1.e+37, 0.0]]

# Open the input file and prepare CSV reader.

f = open('output.dat','rb')
x = csv.reader(f,delimiter=' ')
lineno = 0

# Iterate through the lines.
```

```
for l in x :

    lineno += 1
    if lineno == 1 :
        # Grab column labels from first line.
        labels = l
    else :
        # Read data from the remaining lines.
        steps = float(l[0])
        time = float(l[1])
        values[temperature][sum] += float(l[offset + temperature])
        values[pressure][sum] += float(l[offset + pressure])
        values[energy][sum] += float(l[offset + energy])
        for j in range(3) :
            if values[j][min] > float(l[offset + j]) :
                values[j][min] = float(l[offset + j])
            if values[j][max] < float(l[offset + j]) :
                values[j][max] = float(l[offset + j])

f.close()

# Display results on terminal.

print 'Average Timestep:', time / steps
for j in range(3) :
    print labels[offset + j], ':', values[j][min], \
          values[j][max], values[j][sum] / float(lineno-1.0)

# Now generate output file.

f = open('foo.txt','w')
f.write( 'Average Timestep: %e\n'%(time/steps) )
for j in range(3) :
    f.write( '%s : %e %e %e\n' % (labels[offset + j], \
        values[j][min], values[j][max], \
        values[j][sum] / float(lineno-1.0) ) )
f.close()
```



# analyze-dict.py

```
# Open the input file and ingest all the data.
```

```
f = open('output.dat')
x = f.readlines()
f.close()
```

```
# Grab column labels from first line.
```

```
labels = x[0].split()
```

```
names = ['temperature', 'pressure', 'energy']
values = {
    'temperature':{'idx':2,'min':1.e+37,'max':-1.e+37,'sum':0.0},
    'pressure':{'idx':3,'min':1.e+37,'max':-1.e+37,'sum':0.0},
    'energy':{'idx':4,'min':1.e+37,'max':-1.e+37,'sum':0.0}}
```

```
# Now read all the data from the remaining lines.
```

```
for i in range(1,len(x)) :
    n = x[i].split()
    steps = float(n[0])
    time = float(n[1])
    values['temperature']['sum'] \
        += float(n[values['temperature']['idx']])
    values['pressure']['sum'] \
        += float(n[values['pressure']['idx']])
    values['energy']['sum'] \
        += float(n[values['energy']['idx']])
    for l in names :
        if values[l]['min'] > float(n[values[l]['idx']]) :
            values[l]['min'] = float(n[values[l]['idx']])
        if values[l]['max'] < float(n[values[l]['idx']]) :
            values[l]['max'] = float(n[values[l]['idx']])

# Display results on terminal.

print 'Average Timestep:', time / steps
for j in names :
    print labels[values[j]['idx']], ':', values[j]['min'], \
        values[j]['max'], \
        values[j]['sum'] / float(len(x)-1.0)

# Now generate output file.
f = open('foo.txt','w')
f.write( 'Average Timestep: %e\n'%(time/steps) )
for j in names :
    f.write( '%s : %e %e %e\n' % \
        (labels[values[j]['idx']], \
        values[j]['min'], values[j]['max'], \
        values[j]['sum'] / float(len(x)-1.0) ) )
f.close()
```



# Structured Data I/O

- Only textual data so far: numbers to strings and back again.
- How to deal with complex data?  
Consider:

```
x = {'alpha':[1,'a',2], 'beta':[2,'b',3]}  
print x
```

```
{'alpha': [1, 'a', 2], 'beta': [2, 'b', 3]}
```

- Output looks like just a string. How to write out and read back a dictionary?



# The Problem, Illustrated

**nonpickled.py**

```
x = {'alpha':[1,'a',2], 'beta':[2,'b',3]}  
y = {'delta':[3,'c',4], 'gamma':[4,'d',5]}  
f = open('nonpickled.dat','w')  
f.write('%s\n%s\n'%(x,y))  
f.close()  
f = open('nonpickled.dat')  
z = f.readlines()  
f.close()  
print z
```

```
["{'alpha': [1, 'a', 2], 'beta': [2, 'b', 3]}\n",  
  "{'gamma': [4, 'd', 5], 'delta': [3, 'c', 4]}\n"]
```

???

How do we get x and y back?



# The Hard Way

- Read the lines.
- Play Python interpreter.
- Hope you get it right!





## Use Pickle (A Module)

- Provides methods to encodes objects so they can be written as single entities.
- Provides methods to read and decode single entities, recovering the original object.



# pickled.py

```
import pickle
w = {'alpha':[1,'a',2], 'beta':[2,'b',3]}
x = {'delta':[3,'c',4], 'gamma':[4,'d',5]}
f = open('pickled.dat','wb')
pickle.dump(w,f)
pickle.dump(x,f)
f.close()
f = open('pickled.dat','rb')
y = pickle.load(f)
z = pickle.load(f)
f.close()
print 'w :', w
print 'y :', y
print 'x :', x
print 'z :', z
```

← Write in binary mode.

← Write 1 object at a time.

← Read in binary mode.

← Read back in same order.

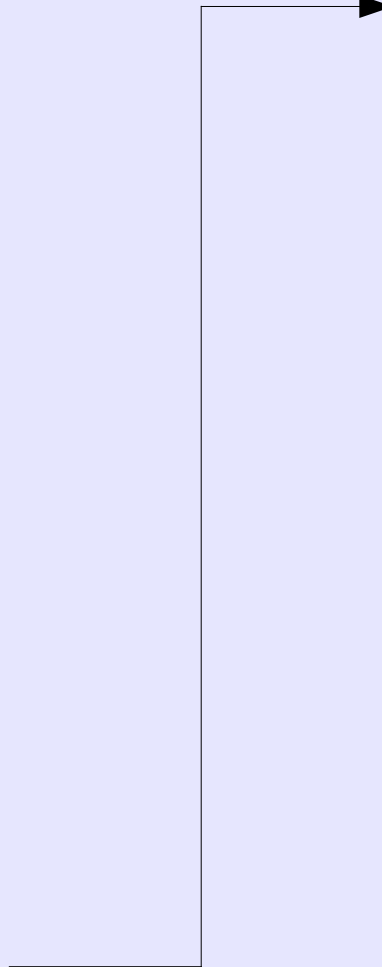
← Sanity check.



# pickled.dat Contents

```
(dp0
S'alpha'
p1
(lp2
I1
aS'a'
p3
aF2.133
asS'beta'
p4
(lp5
I2
aS'b'
p6
aF3.244
as.(dp0
```

```
S'gamma'
p1
(lp2
I4
aS'd'
p3
aF5.466
asS'delta'
p4
(lp5
I3
aS'c'
p6
aF4.355
as.
```



## Aside on Use of *import*

- Style: `import pickle`
  - Use method load: `pickle.load()`
- Style: `import pickle as foofoo`
  - Use method load: `foofoo.load()`
- Style: `from pickle import load`
  - Use method load: `load()`
- Style: `from pickle import load as foo`
  - Use method load: `foo()`
- Style: `from pickle import *`
  - Use any method by name.



# Math Functions

```
>>> from math import *
>>> print 'There are', degrees(1.0), 'degrees in 1 radian.'
There are 57.2957795131 degrees in 1 radian.
>>> print 'There are', radians(45.0), 'radians in 45.0 degrees.'
There are 0.785398163397 radians in 45 degrees
>>> print pi, e
3.14159265359 2.71828182846
>>> print log(pi), log(pi,e), log(pi,10)
1.14472988585 1.14472988585 0.497149872694
```



# Function Lingo

$$x = \log(\text{pi}, e)$$

- The function, **log**, is called with 2 arguments, **pi** and **e** (the argument list).
- The function **result** is returned as the value of the expression and assigned to the variable **x**.
- Here, the arguments are called the **positional** arguments - they are order dependent.



# Write A Celsius to Fahrenheit Function?

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = ^{\circ}\text{C} * 9 / 5 + 32.$$



# Define a Function

- The syntax to create a function is:

```
def fname( arglist ) :  
    statement block
```

- A 'Hello' function example:

```
def hello( a ) :  
    return 'Hello, %s!'%(a)
```

```
>>> x = hello('Bob')  
>>> print x  
Hello, Bob!
```





# Function Deconstruction

```
def hello( a ) :  
    return 'Hello, %s!'%(a)
```

- **hello** - the function name.
- **a** - one argument in the argument list (dummy argument). Gets treated like a variable inside the function.
  - Need one actual argument for each dummy argument
- **return** - sets value returned by function.
- Statement block here is only 1 line long. Can be as long as needed.



## Define C2F Function

```
def c2f( C ):
    F = C * 9. / 5. + 32.0
    return F
```

Could return the temperature in Rankin and Kelvin as well:

```
def c2fr( C ):
    F = C * 9. / 5. + 32.0
    return F, F+459.67, C+273.15
```



# More Complex Functions

- Basic statistics of a list of numbers might include:
  - mean - the numerical average value.
  - median - mid-point value of the list.
  - range - minimum and maximum values.
- Put several functions in one file.



# Example - functions.py

```
def average( list ) :
    """ Find average value of a list of numbers. """
    sum = 0.0
    for x in list :
        sum += x
    return sum / len(list)

def minmax( list ) :
    """ Find the min and max. """
    min = 1.e+37
    max = -1.e+37
    for x in list :
        if x < min :
            min = x
        if x > max :
            max = x
    return min, max

def median( list ) :
    list.sort()
    if len(list) % 2 :
        m = list[len(list)/2]
    else :
        m = (list[len(list)/2 - 1] + list[len(list)/2] ) / 2.0
    return m
```

```
if __name__ == '__main__' :
    foo = [14,8,7,4,9,5,6,1,3,2]
    print foo
    print 'Average', average( foo )
    print 'Min & Max', minmax( foo )
    print 'Median', median( foo )
    print foo
```



## Made Reusable

- Note what was added below the last function:

```
if __name__ == '__main__' :  
    foo = [14,8,7,4,9,5,6,1,3,2]  
    print foo  
    print 'Average', average( foo )  
    print 'Min & Max', minmax( foo )  
    print 'Median', median( foo )  
    print foo
```



## Put In Python Load Path

- From IDLE, look at:

File -> Path Browser

Should show the directory IDLE was started in, or where last script was run.

- On Linux / MacOS, look at:

`$PYTHONPATH`

This is a variable you can modify to add locations to search.



# Load Custom Files

- Use the **import** command:  
import functions
- Will look first for **functions.pyc**
- If it finds functions.py, it will generate **functions.pyc**

**pyc** files are pre-interpreted, or byte code compiled, files. Make it much more efficient to execute. Basically happens to every script as it's executed.



# Treat As Any Other Module

- Methods:
  - functions.average()
  - functions.median()
  - functions.minmax()
- We're almost at the point of creating a class of our own - but as we'll see, it's a bit more complex than just adding some data.





# Default Argument Values

- Functions can be defined with default values some or all arguments.
- Revisit 'Hello' function example:

```
def hello( a='Bill' ) :  
    return 'Hello, %s!'%(a)
```

```
>>> x = hello('Bob')  
>>> print x  
Hello, Bob!  
>>> x = hello()  
>>> print x  
Hello, Bill!
```



## Using Named Arguments

```
def example( a=1, b=2, c=3 ) :  
    statement block
```

```
x = example( b=42, a = 97 )
```

- Names must match, but not the order of appearance.
- Unused argument names should have defaults



# Unpacking Returns

```
>>> def x() :
    return 1, 2, 3

>>> print x()
(1, 2, 3)
>>> a, b, c = x()
>>> print a, b, c
1 2 3
>>> def y() :
    return [1, 2, 3]

>>> print y()
[1, 2, 3]
>>> a, b, c = y()
>>> print a, b, c
1 2 3
>>>
```

tuple →

values →

list →

values →

```
>>> def z() :
    return {'x':1,'y':2,'z':3}

>>> print z()
{'y': 2, 'x': 1, 'z': 3}
>>> a, b, c = z()
>>> print a, b, c
y x z
>>> print z()[a]
2
>>>
```

← dictionary

← keys

← value



## Exercise

- A statistic left out of the example functions (average, minmax, median) is the ***mode***.
- The mode is the count of the value that occurs most frequently, or ***none*** (technically not 0, since 0 is a value) if no value is repeated.
- Create a function that, given a list of numbers, reports the mode.
- **Do not modify the original list.**



# Functions and Recursion

- Python functions may be recursive - that is, a function may call itself.
- The hard part about recursion is to decide when to stop!
- Classic case is computing factorials:

$$n! = n * n-1 * \dots * 2 * 1$$

$$0! = 1! = 1$$



# Factorials

```
def factorial(n) :  
    if n < 0 :  
        return None  
    if n <= 1 :  
        return 1  
    else :  
        return n * factorial( n - 1 )  
  
if __name__ == '__main__' :  
    print factorial( 6 )
```



Error check



Stops recursion



Recursive call



# Challenge Function

- $\sin(x)$  can be estimated with a series:

$$\sin(x) = \sum_0^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{1+2k}}{(1+2k)!}$$

$$\sin(x) \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \frac{x^9}{9!} - \dots$$

- For  $x$  on the order of 1, the first 4 terms are usually good enough.
- Compare results with the math module  $\sin()$ .
- Use our factorial function, or the one in math.

