

CS 134 Lecture 9: Nested Lists

Announcements & Logistics

- **HW 4** due Monday at 10 pm
- **Lab 4** will be released today
 - Prelab will be posted but is not due at the start of lab
 - We will review the code for the prelab together at the start of lab
- **Lab 2 graded feedback**
 - Let us know if you questions
 - **Comments** and coding style: comments (start with #) are an important part of documenting your code
 - **Comments** vs **docstrings**: docstrings document the function interface (input parameters, expected return), comments document the function body (logic used to implement the interface)

Do You Have Any Questions?

Last Time

- Introduced nested for loops
 - Discussed how to trace the execution of loop
 - Use more examples of the **range** sequence type
- Reviewed the role of return statements in code

Today's Plan

- Introduce and use **nested lists**
- More examples of iteration:
 - Iterate over nested sequences and collect/filter useful statistics
- Module vs scripts
 - How to import and test functions
 - Role of the special if name is main code block

Nested Lists

Nested Lists

- Remember, any object can be an element of a list. This includes other lists!
- That is, we can have **lists of lists** (sometimes called a two-dimensional list)!
- Suppose we have a **list of lists of strings** called **myList**

Nested Lists

- Remember, any object can be an element of a list. This includes other lists!
- That is, we can have **lists of lists** (sometimes called a two-dimensional list)!
- Suppose we have a **list of lists of strings** called `myList`
- `word = myList[row][element]` (# word is a string)
 - `row` is index into “**outer**” list (identifies *which inner list* we want). In other words, defines the “row” you want.
 - `element` is index into “**inner**” list (identifies *which element* within the inner list). In other words, defines the “column” you want.

`element`
↓
`myList = [['cat', 'frog'],
 ['dog', 'toad'],
 ['cow', 'duck']]`

`myList[1][0]?`
`'dog'`
← `row`

Lists and Data Types

- Python is a **loosely typed** programming language
- We don't explicitly declare data types of variables
 - But every value still has a data type!
- It's important to make sure we pay attention to what a function expects, especially with lists and strings! (remember this in Lab 4)
- **Lists of lists of strings** versus **list of strings**:

```
myList = [ ['cat', 'frog'],  
           ['dog', 'toad'],  
           ['cow', 'duck'] ]
```

```
myList = ['cat', 'frog',  
         'dog', 'toad',  
         'cow', 'duck']
```

```
myList[1][0] is 'dog'
```

```
myList[1][0] is 'f'
```


Sequence Operations

```
characters = [['Elizabeth Bennet', 'Fitzwilliam Darcy'],  
             ['Harry Potter', 'Ron Weasley'],  
             ['Frodo Baggins', 'Samwise Gamgee'],  
             ['Julius Ceasar', 'Brutus']]
```

```
>>> len(characters) # what is this?
```

```
4
```

```
>>> len(characters[0]) # what is this?
```

```
2
```

```
>>> characters += ['Rhett Butler', 'Scarlett O Hara']
```

```
>>> characters
```

```
[['Elizabeth Bennet', 'Fitzwilliam Darcy'],  
 ['Harry Potter', 'Ron Weasley'],  
 ['Frodo Baggins', 'Samwise Gamgee'],  
 ['Julius Ceasar', 'Brutus'],  
 'Rhett Butler',  
 'Scarlett O Hara']
```



Be careful when concatenating lists of two different types

Looping Over Nested Lists

```
characters =
```

```
[['Elizabeth Bennet', 'Fitzwilliam Darcy', 'Charles Bingley'],  
 ['Harry Potter', 'Ron Weasley', 'Hermoine Granger'],  
 ['Frodo Baggins', 'Samwise Gamgee', 'Gandalf']]
```

```
for char_list in characters:  
    print(char_list)  
    for name in char_list:  
        print(name)
```

Loops over the "outer lists"

Prints each inner list one by one

Prints each individual name one by one

Loops over the names in each "inner list"

Why Nested Lists?

- Nested Lists are useful to represent tabular data
 - Example: data stored in google sheets
- Each inner list is a row
- List of lists: collection of all rows
- Lets take an example of real data that we can store as list of lists

Tabular Data: Oscars 2024

MOVIE	20 Days in Mariupol	American Fiction	American Symphony	Ana
BEST PICTURE	American Fiction	Anatomy of a Fall	Barbie	The
BEST ACTOR	Maestro - Bradley Cooper	Rustin - Colman Domingo	The Holdovers - Paul Giamatti	Opp
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR	American Fiction - Sterling K. Brown	Killers of the Flower Moon - Robert De Niro	Oppenheimer - Robert Downey Jr.	Barb
BEST ACTRESS	Nyad - Annette Bening	Killers of the Flower Moon - Lily Gladstone	Anatomy of a Fall - Sandra Huller	Maes
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS	Oppenheimer - Emily Blunt	The Color Purple - Danielle Brooks	Barbie - America Ferrera	Nya
BEST DIRECTOR	Anatomy of a Fall - Justin Triet	Killers of the Flower Moon - Martin Scorsese	Oppenheimer - Christopher Nolan	Poo
BEST INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM	Io Capitano (Italy)	Perfect Days (Japan)	Society of the Snow (Spain)	The
BEST ANIMATED FEATURE FILM	The Boy and the Heron	Elemental	Nimona	Rob
BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN	Barbie	Killers of the Flower Moon	Napoleon	Opp
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY	El Conde	Killers of the Flower Moon	Maestro	Opp
BEST COSTUME DESIGN	Barbie	Killers of the Flower Moon	Napoleon	Opp
BEST DOCUMENTARY	Bobi Wine: The People's President	The Eternal Memory	Four Daughters	To K
BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT	The ABCs of Book Banning	The Barber of Little Rock	Island in Between	The
BEST FILM EDITING	Anatomy of a Fall	The Holdovers	Killers of the Flower Moon	Opp
BEST MAKEUP & HAIR STYLING	Golda	Maestro	Oppenheimer	Poo
BEST ORIGINAL SCORE	American Fiction	Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny	Killers of the Flower Moon	Opp
BEST ORIGINAL SONG	Flamin' Hot - "The Fire Inside"	Barbie - "I'm Just Ken"	American Symphony - "It Never Went Away"	Kille
BEST ANIMATED SHORT	Letter to a Pig	Ninety-Five Senses	Our Uniform	Pac
BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT	The After	Invincible	Knight of Fortune	Red
BEST SOUND	The Creator	Maestro	Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One	Opp
BEST VISUAL EFFECTS	The Creator	Godzilla Minus One	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3	Miss
BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY	American Fiction	Barbie	Oppenheimer	Poo
BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY	Anatomy of a Fall	The Holdovers	Maestro	May

Storing this Data

- We will defer some of the initial components:
 - How to write python code to read in the file
 - You will do this soon: in Lab 6
- For now, lets imagine we are able to store the data as follows:
 - Entire table: **list of lists** `oscar_data`
 - **0**th row of the table: list at index **0**
 - **1**st row of the table: list at index **1**
 -
 - **i**th row of the table: list at index **i**

Extracting Movie Data

- **Question.** How do we access the list of all movies?
 - Its the 0th line in the file → 0th list of our list of lists

```
>>> movies = oscar_data[0]
```

- **Question.** How do we access the list of lists of all nominations?
 - Its the 0th line in the file → 0th list of our list of lists

```
>>> nominations = oscar_data[1:]
```

Give me the 0th element
(single list)

Give the entire list of lists
excluding the 0th list

Oscar 2024 Trivia

- Now that we have the data stored, we can find out use it to extract some useful information, e.g.
 - Finding out which movie(s) got the most nominations
 - `most_nominations(movie_list, nomination_list)`
- Before we code, lets figure out an algorithm for solving this problem
- How do we solve this problem?
 - **Helper function:** count how many nominations a movie got
 - `count_nominations(movie, nomination_list)`

Helper Function: count_nominations

```
def count_nominations(movie, nomination_list):  
    '''Function that takes two arguments: movie (str) and  
    nomination_list (list of lists) and returns the count  
    (int) of the number of times movie is nominated.'''  
  
    # initialize accumulation variable  
    count = 0  
  
    # iterate over list of nominations  
    for category in nomination_list:  
        for nominee in category:  
            # is the movie name a prefix of nomination?  
            if is_prefix(movie, nominee):  
                count += 1  
    return count
```


Exercise: most_nominations

```
def most_nominations(movie_list, nomination_list):
    '''Returns list of movies with most nominations'''
    most_so_far = 0 # keeps track of most # nominations
    most_list = [] # remember the movie names
    for movie in movie_list:
        num = count_nominations(movie, nomination_list)
        # found a movie with more nominations
        if num > most_so_far:
            most_so_far = num
            # remember the movie
            most_list = [movie]

        # what to do if there is a tie?
        elif num == most_so_far:

            # remember this movie as well
            most_list += [movie]
    return most_so_far
```

Modules vs Scripts

Importing Functions vs Running as a Script

- **Question.** If you only have function definitions in a file **funcs.py**, and run it as a script, what happens?

```
% python3 funcs.py
```

- For testing functions, we want to call /invoke them on various test cases, in Labs, we do this in a separate file called **runtests.py**
 - To add function calls in **runtests.py**, we put them inside the guarded block **if __name__ == "__main__":**
- The statements within this special guarded are only run when the file is run as a **script** but not when it is imported as a **module**
- Let's see an example

```
# foo.py
# test the role of __name__ variable
print("__name__ is set to", __name__)
```

Running foo.py as a **script**

```
shikhasingh@Shikhas-iMac cs134 % python3 foo.py
__name__ is set to __main__
```

```
shikhasingh@Shikhas-iMac cs134 % python3
Python 3.10.0 (v3.10.0:b494f5935c, Oct 4 2021,
14:59:20) [Clang 12.0.5 (clang-1205.0.22.11)] on
darwin
```

```
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license"
for more information.
```

```
>>> import foo
__name__ is set to foo
```

Importing it as a **module**

Takeaway: `if __name__ == "__main__"`

- If you want some statements (like test calls) to be run **ONLY when the file is run as a script**
 - Put them inside the guarded `if __name__ == "__main__"` block
- When we run our automatic tests on your functions we **import them** and this means name is NOT set to main
 - So nothing inside the guarded `if __name__ == "__main__"` block is executed
- This way your testing /debugging statements do not get in the way