CS134: Range & Nested Loops



Announcements & Logistics

- Lab 3 sessions are today/tomorrow; due Wednesday/Thursday
 - More involved than previous labs, so please use help hours
 - Reminder: do **NOT** use utilities not discussed in class
 - We've carefully designed the labs to require only functions & concepts discussed in class meetings
 - We've intentionally ordered material to emphasize algorithmic thinking and benefit your development as a computer scientist rather than as a Python-specific programmer
 - This means no methods using **dot.notation()**! (Why?)
 - HW 3 due tonight at 10pm on Gradescope

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Do You Have Any Questions?

LastTime

- for..Loops allow us to look at each element in a sequence
 - The **loop variable** defines what the name of that element will be in the loop
 - An optional **accumulator variable** is useful for keeping a running tally of properties of interest
 - Indentation works the same as with if--statements: if it's indented under the loop, it's executed as part of the loop
- Can extract subsequences using [start:end:step] syntax (slicing)

Different problems may require different decisions with respect to loop variables, accumulator variables, and whether you need to index/slice or not!

Today's Plan

- New sequence type: <u>range</u>
- Explore different combinations of loops
 - Loop(s) within a loop (called nesting)



Review: Sequences in Python

- Sequences in Python represent ordered collections of elements: e.g., lists, strings, ranges, etc.
- Strings are immutable sequences of characters
- Ranges are immutable sequences of numbers
- Lists can be **heterogenous** (strings, ints, floats, etc)
 - Example: my_list = ["Hello", 42, 23.5, True]
 - In CS, we use zero-indexing, so we say that 'Hello' is at index 0, 42 is at index 1, and so on
- We can access each character of a list using these **indices**

Summary: Sequence Operations

Operation	Result
seq[i]	The i 'th item of seq , when starting with 0
<pre>seq[si:ee]</pre>	slice of seq from si to ee
<pre>seq[si:ee:s]</pre>	slice of seq from si to ee with step s
<pre>len(seq)</pre>	length of seq
seq1 + seq2	The concatenation of seq1 and seq2
x in seq	True if x is contained within seq
x not in seq	False if x is contained within seq

All of these operators work on both **strings** and **lists**!



Ranges

Ranges (another sequence!)

- Python provides an easy way to iterate over numerical sequences using the **range** data type, which is **another sequence**
- When the range() function is given two integer arguments, it returns a range object of all integers starting at the first and up to, but not including, the second (note: default starting value is 0)
- To see the values included in the range, we can pass our range to the list() function which returns a list of them

>>> range(0, 10) range(0, 10)	<pre>>>> list(range(0, 10)) [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]</pre>
<pre>>>> type(range(0, 10)) range</pre>	<pre>>>> list(range(10)) [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]</pre>

Ranges (another sequence!)

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 list() function which returns a list of them

>>> range(0, 10) >>> list(range(0, 10))
range(0, 10) [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

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>>> type(range(0, 10)) >>> list(range(10))

range

A range is a **type** of sequence in Python (like string and list) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

First argument omitted, **defaults to 0**

Iterating Over Ranges

what does this print?

for i in range(5):
 print('\$' * i)

	i = 0
\$	i = 1
\$\$	i = 2
\$\$\$	i = 3

\$\$\$\$ i = 4

- In addition to iterating over strings and lists, we can use a for loop and a range to simply repeat a task.
- This loop print a pattern to the screen.

Looks a lot like [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]

Using Range For Parallel Iteration

- This also a really convenient way for iterating over two lists in parallel
- Say we wanted to iterate over two lists
- chars = ['a', 'b', 'c'] and nums = [1, 2, 3]
- And form a new list ['a1', 'b2', 'c3']
- Here's how we'd do it

```
chars = ['a', 'b', 'c']
nums = [1, 2, 3]
# initialize accumulation variable
# for each item in chars
        # add current char to matching num
        # accumulate in a list
```

```
>>> char_nums
['a1', 'b2', 'c3']
```

Using Range For Parallel Iteration

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- And form a new list ['a1', 'b2', 'c3']
- Here's how we'd do it

```
chars = ['a', 'b', 'c']
nums = [1, 2, 3]
char_nums = []
for i in range(0, len(chars)):
    cnum = chars[i] + str(nums[i])
    char_nums = char_nums + [cnum]
>>> char_nums
['a1', 'b2', 'c3']
```

Using range to check palindromes

- Write a function that iterates over a given list of strings word_list, returns a (new) list containing all the strings in word_list that start and end with the same character (ignoring case).
- Last class we saw the word == word[::-1] solution
- Another solution: Compare the first and last character, the second and second-to-last character, etc.

```
def is_palindrome_range(word) :
    # Test by comparing pairs of characters one at a time.
    # Since we need to compare each char in the "first half"
    # to corresponding char in the "second half",
    # we need to execute len(string) // 2 comparisons
    for i in range(len(word) // 2) :
        if word[i] != word[-(i+1)] :
            return False
    return True
```

Using range to check palindromes

- Last class we saw the word == word[::-1] solution
- Another solution: Compare the first and last character, the second and second-to-last character, etc.
- Why do this solution?

```
def is_palindrome_range(word) :
    # Test by comparing pairs of characters one at a time.
    # Since we need to compare each char in the "first half"
    # to corresponding char in the "second half",
    # we need to execute len(string) // 2 comparisons
    for i in range(len(word) // 2) :
        if word[i] != word[-(i+1)] :
            return False
    return True
```

Nested Loops



Nested Loops

- A for loop body can contain one (or more!) additional for loops:
 - Called nested for loops
 - Conceptually similar to nested conditionals
- Example: What do you think is printed by the following Python code?

```
# What does this do?
def mystery_print(word1, word2):
    '''Prints something'''
    for char1 in word1:
        for char2 in word2:
            print(char1 + char2)
```

```
mystery_print('123', 'abc')
```

What does this do? def mystery_print(word1, word2): '''Prints something''' for char1 in word1: for char2 in word2: print(char1 + char2)

mystery_print('123', 'abc')

1a

3c

char1 = 1 char2 = a1b char2 = b1c Inner loop (w/ char2 char2 = cand word2) runs to 2a char1 = 2 char2 = a2b char2 = bcompletion on **each** char2 = citeration of the outer 2c char1 = 3 char2 = a**3a** loop char2 = b3b char2 = c

Nested Loops

• What is printed by the nested loop below?

What does this print?
for letter in ['b', 'd', 'r', 's']:
 for suffix in ['ad', 'ib', 'ump']:
 print(letter + suffix)

What does this print?
for letter in ['b', 'd', 'r', 's']:
 for suffix in ['ad', 'ib', 'ump']:
 print(letter + suffix)

letter = '	suffix ='ad' 'ib' 'ump' suffix ='ad' 'ib'	bad bib bump dad dib	Inner loop (w/ suffixes) runs to completion on each iteration of the
lottor - Ir	'ump'	dump	outer loop (w/ prefixes)
letter – T	'ib' 'ump'	rib rump	
letter = 's	suffix ='ad' 'ib' 'ump'	sad sib sump	

Nested Loops and Ranges



Loops and Ranges to Print Patterns

We previously used a single **for loop** and a single range to **repeat** a task.

• What if we had multiple for loops and multiple ranges? The following loops print a pattern to the screen. (Look closely at the indentation!)

```
• # what does this print?
for i in range(5):
    print('$' * i)
for j in range(5):
    print('*' * j)
for j in range(1):
    print('*' * j)
# what does this print?
for i in range(5):
    print('$' * i)
    for j in range(i):
        print('*' * j)
```

What are the values of i and j???



These for loops are **sequential**. One follows **after** the other.

i = 4

Iterating Over Ranges

what does this print?

```
for i in range(5):
    print('$' * i)
for j in range(5):
    print('*' * j)
```

	i = 0
\$	i = 1
\$\$	i = 2
\$\$\$	i = 3
\$\$\$\$	i = 4
	j = 0
*	j = 1
**	j = 2
***	j = 3
****	j = 4

On right, for loops are **nested**. One loop is **inside** the other. # what does this print?

```
for i in range(5):
    print('$' * i)
    for j in range(i):
        print('*' * j)
```

	i = 0
\$	i = 1
	j = 0
\$\$	i = 2
	j = 0
*	j = 1
\$\$\$	i = 3
	j = 0
*	j = 1
**	i = 2
\$\$\$\$	i = 4
	j = 0
*	i = 1
**	i = 2
***	j = 2 j = 3

Iterating Over Ranges

# what	does this print?	<pre># what does this print?</pre>
for i i pri for	<pre>n range(5): nt('\$' * i) j in range(i): print('*' * i)</pre>	<pre>for i in range(5): print('\$' * i) for j in range(i): print('*' * j)</pre>
	i = 0	i = 0
\$ *	i = 1 j = 0	\$ i = 1 j = 0
\$\$ **	i = 2 j = 0	\$\$ i = 2 j = 0
**	j = 1	* j = 1
\$\$\$ ***	i = 3 j = 0	\$\$\$ i = 3 j = 0
***	j = 1	* j = 1
***	j = 2	** j = 2
\$\$\$\$ ****	i = 4	\$ i = 4
****	j = 0	j = 0 *
****	j = 1	y = 1 **
****	j = 2 j = 3	*** j = 2 j = 3

Range: Take-Aways

- range objects are a new type of sequence that are essentially a range of integers
 - range(0, 10) will generate a sequence of integers from 0 to 10 (exclusive of 10)
- Using **range** objects with **for** loops allows us to:
 - produce behaviors based on counts of times through a loop
 - iterate over sequences using their indices
 - iterate over the objects in two sequences simultaneously

Different problems will require different decisions with respect to sequences and whether you need a **range** or to iterate directly over a sequence!

Flag Variables



Starting/Stopping Accumulating

- We've seen many different examples using **accumulator variables** to track values of interest:
 - Counting the number of vowels
 - Maintaining a list of all palindromes, etc.
- However, so far, we've only seen accumulating over an entire sequence
- What if we wanted to only count/track *part* of a sequence's values?

Flag Variables!

"location" often implies **index**, which often means using **range()**

Flag Variables

- Identifying the first locations of a character in each string from a list:
 - Let's decompose the problem first!

```
>>> first_locations_of('e', ["eat", "more", "vegetables"])
[0, 3, 1]
```

Flag Variables

• Identifying the first locations of a character in each string from a list:

```
def first_locations_of(char, list_of_str):
    """ Returns a list containing the index
    where char first appears within each list_of_str
    """
    locations = []
    for word in list_of_str:
        found = False # starting new word, haven't found it!
        for i in range(len(word)):
            if not found and word[i] == char: # we found it
                locations = locations + [i]
                found = True
    return locations
```

```
>>> first_locations_of('e', ["eat", "more", "vegetables"])
[0, 3, 1]
```

Flag Variables

- Can often be used as a way to record the "state" that the program is in
 - is_found and not is_found is a simple on/off state...
 - But other problems could require other (or more!) states!
 - Other (or more!) flag variables!
- Like accumulator variables, flag variables are optional
- We only use them when the problem calls for them
 - Appropriate use of accumulator and flag variables requires computational thinking

Summary

- Range is a flexible sequence type often used for indexing or for executing a loop a certain number of times
- Loops can be nested inside other loops
 - Inner loops execute once *per iteration* of their containing loop
- Accumulator variables can be used to track and/or store values of interest
- Flag variables are used to determine when to begin or stop tracking something
 - Helps record the "state" of the program

The end!







Lab 3: Goals

- In this lab, you will accomplish three tasks:
 - Construct a module of tools for examining strings (in madlibs.py)
 - Test your toolbox using simple test cases in runtests.py
 - Reuse parts of our toolbox to solve various Madlibs.
- You will gain experience with the following:
 - Sequences (strings, lists, and ranges), and associated operators
 - Writing simple and nested **for loops**

Testing Functions: runtests.py

- We have already seen two ways to test a function
 - You can run your code 1) interactively or 2) as a script
- Last week, we started using a separate file, runtests.py, to test our code as a script
 - To do this, runtests.py has to import our functions that we implemented in our main lab file
 - Then, we define functions in runtests.py to call the functions we implemented in the lab, such as is_prefix()
 - Remember: We must *call* functions for them to be executed!
- To ensure that the tests are not run in interactive Python, we place this command within a "guarded" if block:
 - if __name__ == '__main__':

Testing Functions: runtests.py

from text_utils import read_stringlist_from_file, format_madlib
from madlibs import is_prefix, is_suffix, all_text_after, \
 get_madlibs_replacement, solved_madlibs

