# CSCI2202 Lecture 3: While, Dictionaries, Modules, Reproducibility

TAs: Ehsan Baratnezhad (ethan.b@dal.ca); Precious Osadebamwen (precious.osadebamwen@dal.ca)

### Overview

- List functions (range, zip, lazy evaluation)
- While loops
- Dictionaries
- Modules, Packages, and Import
- Namespaces
- Reproducibility/Clean Notebook

## Handy loop/list related functions

#### Generating a list of numbers with "range"

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

- Same syntax as indexing/slices:
   start, stop, increment
- range(4) == range(0, 4, 1)

## Many list-related functions use "lazy evaluation"

```
x = enumerate(['a', 'b', 'c'])
```

#### X

```
<enumerate at 0x738dcf5156c0>
```

list(x)

```
[(0, 'a'), (1, 'b'), (2, 'c')]
```

```
for ix, value in enumerate(['a', 'b', 'c']):
```

```
print(value)
```

if ix == 1:

break

#### 'a'

- Enumerate gives us a list of tuples with the (index, value) pairs
- Imagine x is very very big
- What if we only needed to enumerate the first couple of items in the list?
- Lazy evaluation means only doing calculations when (and therefore IF) they are actually needed

'b'

## Zip efficiently combines equal length lists and/or tuples

- >>> x = [10, 50, 100]
- >>> y = ['a', 'b', 'c']
- >>> zipped = zip(x, y)

>>> zipped

<zip at 0x738dce007ec0>

>>> list(zipped)

[(10, 'a'), (50, 'b'), (100, 'c')]

 Zip takes lists/tuples of equal length and (lazily) returns a list of tuples of each position across input

[(l1\_v1, l2\_v1, l3\_v1), (l2\_v2, l2\_v2, l3\_v2)]

- Works for >2 lists/tuples
- Lazily evaluated

• Will stop when any input ends: list(zip(['a', 'b'], [1]))

[('a', **1**)]

#### Range is often used to generate indices for strings

```
for x in range(5, 15, 3):
    print(x)
```

a = 'abc'b = '123'for i in range(len(a)): print(a[i] + b[i]) a1 b2 c3

#### We can iterate over more than 1 list with zip/enumerate

```
list1 = ['a', 'b', 'c']
list2 = ['1', '2', '3']
for a,b in zip(list1, list2):
   print(a + b)
a1
b2
c3
```

# Doing a loop until something is True

#### Don't always know how many times we need to loop

```
curr_temp, room_temp, minutes = 50, 25, 0
```

for i in range(100000000):

```
temp_diff = curr_temp - room_temp
```

```
if abs(temp_diff) <= 0.5:</pre>
```

break

```
curr_temp = curr_temp - (0.1 * temp_diff)
```

minutes += 1

curr\_temp, room\_temp, minutes = 50, 25, 0

```
while abs(curr_temp - room_temp) > 0.5:
    temp_diff = curr_temp - room_temp
    curr_temp = curr_temp - (0.1 * temp_diff)
    minutes += 1
```

while CONDITION: repeat BODY

#### **Beware - Infinite Loops**

while False:

```
print("Never execute")
```

while True:

```
print("Will never end")
```

x = 50

```
while x < 100:
```

```
x - 5
```

• If condition is **False** at beginning loop body will not run

- If condition can never be made **False** loop body will repeat until python crashes ("infinite loop")
  - Make sure variables in conditional are actually changed during the loop
  - Be careful with direction of inequalities
  - Be careful using "while True:"

# Indexes are great, but what if we don't want to use (only) integers?

#### Dictionaries (aka hashmaps, maps, hash...)



#### Dictionaries store sets of links between keys and values

d

```
d = {} # create an empty dictionary
d["key"] = "value" # map key -> value
d["any number/string"] = 10
d[42] = "any variable"
d["even list"] = [1, 2, 3, (4, 5)]
x = 5
y = \{x: x+1, x-5: x/2\} \# variables
```

```
{'key': 'value',
    'any number/string': 10,
    42: "any variable",
    "even_list": [1, 2, 3, (4, 5)]}
y
{5: 6, 0: 2.5}
```

## Get values in dictionary using keys (or special methods)

```
d = \{ key1': value1', \}
     'key2': ['value2a', 'value2b']}
d['key1'] # 'value1'
d['key2'][1] # 'value2b'
d.get('key2') # ['value2a', 'value2b']
d.keys() # dict keys(['key1', 'key2'])
d.values()
# dict values(['value1',
```

```
# ['value2a', 'value2b'])
```

- You can access specific values in dictionary with key in [] or with the .get() method
- d.keys() will provide list of all keys in a dictionary
- d.values() will provide list of all values in a dictionary
- d.items() will provide:
  - o zip(d.keys(), d.values())

[('key1', 'value1'), ('key2, ['value2a', 'value2b'])]

#### Testing for keys in dictionary

d = {'foo': 'bar'} 'foo' in d # True 'bar' in d # False (only checks keys) 'key1' in d # False D['key1'] KeyError: 'key1'

#### Get can be used to return default value if key missing

```
d = dict([[1, 'a'], [10, 'c']])
d.get(50, 'Nope')
'Nope'
d.get(1, 'Nope')
'a'
```

Note: .setdefault lets you do something similar when adding keys

#### setdefault can be create default value if key missing

```
d = {1: ['a','b'], 2: ['c']}
```

d[1].append('d')

{1: ['a', 'b', 'd'], 10: ['c']} {1: ['a', 'b', 'd'], 10: ['c']

if 5 in d:

5: ['e']}

```
d[5].append('e')
```

else:

d[5] = ['e']

{1: ['a', 'b', 'd'], 10: ['c'], 5: ['e']}

d = {1: ['a', 'b'], 10: ['c']} d.setdefault(5, []).append('e') {1: ['a', 'b', 'd'], 10: ['c'] 5: ['e']}

d.setdefault(10, []).append('f')
{1: ['a', 'b', 'd'],
10: ['c', 'f']
5: ['e']}

Dictionary of lists - very common data structure

## Modules

#### Folder containing multiple python scripts

#### CSCI\_2202/

- script.py
- code.py
- my\_module/
  - stats.py
  - micro.py
  - physics/
    - code.py
    - answers.py



Import to .ipynb is easy but importing FROM a .ipynb is more complicated



# code.py

x = 10
def fun\_func(y):
 z = y + 10
 return z
dict a = {x: x + 1}



# script.py (or notebook) from code import x import code print(x) print(code.x) print(code.fun func(30)) print(code.dict a[code.x]) 10 10 40

11

# code.py
x = 10
def fun\_func(y):
 z = y + 10
 return z
dict\_a = {x: x + 1}







#### dir function can be used to see what is in a module

# code.py
x = 10
def fun\_func(y):
 z = y + 10
return z
dict\_a = {x: x + 1}

```
# script.py (or notebook)
import code
dir(code)
['__builtins__',
'__cached__', '__doc__',
'__file__', '__loader__',
'__name__', '__package__',
 __spec__', 'dict_a',
'fun_func', 'x']
```

#### PYTHONPATH - where python looks for modules/packages

import sys

print(sys.path)

```
[current_folder, python_library,
python_libdynload,
python_sitepackages...]
```

- System variable that controls where python checks for packages
- Order matters it will check list in order and stop if it finds the import
  - Our code . py will be imported instead of "code" in the standard library because it comes first
- Anaconda is managing this for you (via conda)
- You can edit this in script using sys.path but usually a BAD IDEA!

## What if you have lots of modules?

#### Packages are made of modules - dotted import



#### Packages - aliases keep code simpler!

- script.py
- -my\_package
  - -\_\_init\_\_.py
  - micro.py
  - stats.py
  - physics/
    - \_\_init\_\_.py
    - astro.py

# script.py (or notebook)
import my\_package.physics.astro
print(my\_package.physics.astro.cosmo\_const)

import my\_package.physics.astro as astro
print(astro.cosmo\_const)

from my\_package.physics.astro import \*
print(cosmo\_const)

## How does python keep track of things? Namespaces

#### Namespaces map names to objects



Namespaces let us use the same variable name to mean different things.

#### functions (among others) create new namespaces

i = 50def func(i): i = 10return i i = func(i)print(i, j)

Namespaces form a hierarchy.

The "Scope" of a bit of code determines which level of this hierarchy it searches for namespace mapping

50, 10

#### Scopes: search hierarchy of namespace: local first

Local



50, 10

#### Error if you try to change a variable in different namespace

x = 1
def func():
 x = x - 5
 print(x, '[ x inside func() ]')
func()

UnboundLocalError: local variable x referenced before assignment



**Note**: there are ways to force python to do this but it is usually a bad idea: global, local, nonlocal

#### Nesting can add additional enclosed scopes

```
a_var = 'global value'
def outer():
    a_var = 'enclosed value'
    def inner():
        a var = 'local value'
        print(a var)
    inner()
outer()
'local value'
```



```
global = {'a_var': 'global value',
'outer': outer}
enclosed = {'a_var': 'enclosed value',
'inner': inner}
local = {'a_var': 'local value'}
```

#### Priority list means built-ins can be overwritten

```
def len(in_var):
    print('my len() function')
   1 = 0
    for i in in_var:
        1 += 1
    print(1)
def a_func(in_var):
    len_in_var = len(in_var)
    print(len_in_var)
a_func('Hello, World!')
"my len() function"
```



# How do we do good scientific analyses?

# Necessary (but not sufficient) for scientific analyses to be reproducible

REPRODUCIBLE



REPRODUCIBLE



REPLICABLE

DIFFERENT DATA

SAME ANALYSIS

REPRODUCIBLE



REPRODUCIBLE



### Makes your own life easier



#### Research project using reproducible practices



# What do we need to do to have reproducible research?

## Reproducibility checklist

- Don't do anything by hand (even "one-off" tasks)
- Script every interaction with data:
  - Data collection
  - Moving data on your computer
  - Formatting datasets
  - Cleaning data
  - Exploratory data analysis
  - Main analyses
  - Report generation
- Minimise interactivity/point and click interactions
- Keep track of the exact version of every library/program you use
- Version control all data, code, and documentation
- Use a random seed

## Notebooks are a key tool for doing this

### Jupyter supports markdown OR code cells

File	e Edit	View F	Run	Ker	nel	Sett	ings	Help		Truste
8	+ X	6	۲		C	**	Mar	kdown 🗸	JupyterLab 🖸	Python 3 (ipykernel) 🔘
1.					- Coc	le				
	# Lab 3 Solutions						Mar	rkdown		
	- Author: Finlay Maguire - Date: 2025-01-21						Raw			

Markdown is a quick way to indicate how to format plaintext

Converts to HTML in background

Supported by many developer tools

# Heading level 1

<h1>Heading level 1</h1>

Heading level 1

Heading	# H1 ## H2 ### H3
Bold	**bold text**
Italic	*italicized text*
Blockquote	> blockquote
Ordered List	<ol> <li>First item</li> <li>Second item</li> <li>Third item</li> </ol>
Unordered List	- First item - Second item - Third item
Code	`code`
Horizontal Rule	85.780 ·
Link	[title](https://www.example.com)
Image	<pre>![alt text](image.jpg)</pre>

#### Out of order cell-execution can lead to bugs and errors

[3] y = x(5)

[1] def x(x):
 return x \* 2

[2] y = x(100)

File Edit View Run	Kernel Settings He	elp		
• + % 🖻 🗂 🕨	Interrupt Kernel		l, I	JupyterLab 🖸
Lab 3 S	Restart Kernel Restart Kernel and C Restart Kernel and F Restart Kernel and F	Clear Outputs of All Cells Run up to Selected Cell Run All Cells	0, 0	
<ul><li>Author: F</li><li>Date: 202</li></ul>	Restart Kernel and I	Debug		
Q1	Shut Down Kernel Shut Down All Kerne	els		

Always run this at the end of a notebook - the notebook on the left will error now!

10

[4] y

#### Making a good notebook

#### **Structure your Notebook**

- Give your notebook a title (H1 header) and a meaningful preamble to describe its purpose and contents.
- Use headings and documentation in Markdown cells to structure your analysis and explain your steps.

#### **Refactor & outsource code into modules**

• After you've written plain code in cells to get ahead quickly, acquire the habit of **turning stable code into functions** and **move them to a dedicated module**. This makes your notebook more readable and is incredibly helpful when productionizing your workflow. Following is clearer and easier to test than repeating the same code many times in your notebook.

import dataprep

df = dataprep.load\_and\_preprocess\_data(filename)

• Stick to the standards of good coding — Standardise your formatting, use meaningful variable and function names, comment sensibly, modularize your code and don't be too lazy to refactor.

#### Restart kernel and run-all cells (and check for errors!)

#### Overview

- Several handy list functions (range, zip) use lazy evaluation
- While loops enable easy conditional loops
- Dictionaries store key -> value pairs
- Reusing/organising code can be done using modules & packages
- Namespaces are how python keeps track of variables
- Reproducibility makes for better science
- Creating clean, well-documented, notebooks that run the cells in order is useful for this.