§5.9: Sieve of Eratosthenes (example of arrays)

- *Quiz ch4-5 today*

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CMPT14x
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Announcements

- M lab (Edie) and W lab (Jenna): TAs will be out

Review last time (§5.5-5.10, Py ch8)

- Python lists vs. M2/C arrays
- Lists as function parameters
- Multidimensional arrays/lists
- Python-specific list operations
  - Membership (in)
  - Concatenate (+), repeat (*)
  - Delete (del), slice ([s:e])
  - Aliasing vs. copying lists

Quiz ch4-5

- Name two standard container (aggregate) types in Python.

- Name two operations/functions/properties that Python lists have that M2/C arrays do not.

- Write a Python function
  create_matrix(n_rows, n_cols)
  that returns a new matrix of the specified size.
  - Contents of the matrix don't matter
  - Docstring required!
  - Partial credit for pseudocode

Quiz ch4-5 answers: #1

- Name two standard container (aggregate) types in Python.
  - **Immutable sequences**
    - **Strings (str):**   "Hello"
    - **Tuples (tuple):**   (2, 5.0, "hi")
  - **Mutable sequences**
    - **Lists (list):**   [2, 5.0, "hi"]
  - **Mappings**
    - **Dictionaries (dict):**   {"apple": 5, "orange": 8}

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Quiz ch4-5 answers: #2

- Name two operations/functions/properties that Python lists have that M2/C arrays do not.
  - Can change length dynamically
  - Items need not all be same type
  - Concatenate (+), repeat (*)
  - List membership test (in)
  - Insert, delete (del)
  - List slice ([:])
  - ...

Quiz ch4-5 answers: #3

- Create a matrix:
  - Use range() to create a 1D list, then
  - Use range() to turn each element into a whole row:

```python
def create_matrix(n_rows, n_cols):
    """Create a new 2D list of given size.
    pre: n_rows, n_cols are integers > 0.
    """

    matrix = range(n_rows)
    for row in range(n_rows):
        matrix[row] = range(n_cols)
    return matrix
```

Problem statement: list primes

- **Problem**: list all the prime numbers between 2 and some given big number.
  - You had a homework that was similar: test if a given number is prime, and list its factors
  - How did you solve that?
    - ◆ Procedure is_prime() (pseudocode):

      Iterate for factor in 2 .. sqrt(n):

      If (n % factor == 0), then

      We've found a factor!
- But this is wasteful: really only need to test prime numbers for potential factors

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Listing all primes

- We could tackle this problem by repeatedly calling is_prime() on every number in turn:

  ```
  for num in range(2, max):
      if is_prime(num) ...
  ```

- But this could be really slow if max is big

Sieve of Eratosthenes

- The sieve works by a process of elimination: we eliminate all the non-primes by turn:

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Prime sieve: pseudocode

1) Create an array of booleans and set them all to true at first. (true = prime)

2) Set array element 1 to false. Now 2 is prime.

3) Set the values whose index in the array is a multiple of the last prime found to false.

4) The next index where the array holds the value true is the next prime.

5) Repeat steps 3 and 4 until the last prime found is greater than the square root of the largest number in the array.

Prime sieve: Python code

```python
"""Find all primes up to a given number, using
    Eratosthenes' prime sieve."""

import math                              # sqrt

size = input("Find all primes up to: ")


# Initialize: all numbers except 0, 1 are prime
primeFlags = range(size+1)              # so pF[size] exists
for num in range(size+1):
        primeFlags[num] = True


primeFlags[0] = False
primeFlags[1] = False
```

Prime sieve: Python code (p.2)

```python
# Computation: eliminate all non-primes
for num in range(2, int(math.sqrt(size))+1):
    if primeFlags[num]:           # got a prime
        # Eliminate its multiples
        for multiple in range(num**2, size+1, num):
            primeFlags[multiple] = False


# Output
print "Your primes, sir/madam:",
for num in range(2, size+1):
    if primeFlags[num]:
        print num,
```

http://twu.seanho.com/python/primesieve.py