Python List Operations

5 Oct 2009 CMPT140 Dr. Sean Ho Trinity Western University



Quiz 2 20 pts, 10 min

- Describe (in words) each of the five program structure/flow abstractions covered in class [10]
 - For each one, name the Python language constructs we learned that implement that abstraction
 - (There is one abstraction for which we haven't learned the Python; write N/A)
- Write a Python function that takes a parameter n and returns n-factorial: n! = 1*2*3*...*(n-1)*n
 - Need docstring and pre/post-conditions
 - May not import anything [10]



Quiz 2: answers #1

- Describe each of the five program structure/flow abstractions covered in class [10]
 - Sequence: one command after another. (newline)
 - Selection: either/or (if/elif/else)
 - Repetition: looping (while, for)
 - Composition: functions, subroutines (def)
 - Parallelism: doing several things at the same time (N/A)



Quiz 2: answers #2

- Write a Python function that takes a parameter n and returns n-factorial: n! = 1*2*3*...*(n-1)*n
 - Iterative solution:
 - def factorial(n):
 - """Computes n-factorial.
 - Pre: n must be an integer ≥ 0.
 - Post: returns n! (integer)."""
 - prod = 1
 - for idx in range(1,n+1):
 - prod *= idx
 - return prod



What's on today

- Python-specific list operations
 - Membership (in)
 - Concatenate (+), repeat (*)
 - Delete (del), slice ([s:e])
 - Aliasing vs. copying lists
- Example: Using lists: Sieve of Eratosthenes



Multidimensional arrays

Multidimensional arrays are simply arrays of arrays:

Accessing:

Row-major convention:

myMatrix[1] 0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 1.0 1.1 (1.2) 1.3 2.0 2.1 2.2 2.3



Iterating in multidim arrays

```
def matrix average(matrix):
  """Return the average value from the 2D
    matrix.
  Pre: matrix must be a non-empty 2D array of
    scalar values."""
  sum = 0
  num entries = 0
  for row in range(len(matrix)):
     for col in range(len(matrix[row])):
        sum += matrix[row][col]
     num entries += len(matrix[row])
  return sum / num entries
```



List operations (Python)

```
myApples = [ "Fuji", "Gala", "Red Delicious" ]
```

Test for list membership:

```
if "Fuji" in myApples:
```

True

Concatenate:

```
[ 'a', 'b', 'c' ] + [ 'd', 'e' ]
```

Repeat:

```
[ 'a', 'b', 'c' ] * 2
```

Modify list entries (mutable):

```
myApples[1] = "Braeburn"
```

Convert a string to a list of characters:



More list operations

Delete an element of the list:

```
del myApples[1] # [ "Fuji", "Golden Delicious" ]
```

List slice (start:end):

```
myApples[0:1] # [ "Fuji" ]
```

Assignment is aliasing:

```
yourApples = myApples # points to same array
```

- Changes to myAp... show up in yourAp...
- Use a whole-list slice to copy a list:

```
yourApples = myApples[:]
# [:] is shorthand for [0:len(myApples)]
```

