

Lecture 1

Python & Pseudocode



Announcements

- ❖ Lab 0 on Monday
 - Refresher python exercise
- ❖ Test out attendance link
 - Regular attendance starts next week

Warm-up Exercise

- ❖ What does this function do?

```
1 def mystery_one(numbers):  
2     total = 0  
3     for num in numbers:  
4         if num % 2 != 0:  
5             total += num  
6     return total
```

Warm-up Exercise

- ❖ What does this function do?

```
1 def mystery_two(text):  
2     counts = {}  
3     for char in text:  
4         if char in counts:  
5             counts[char] += 1  
6         else:  
7             counts[char] = 1  
8     return counts
```

Warm-up Exercise

- ❖ What does this function do?

```
1 def mystery_three(words):  
2     return [w.upper() for w in words if len(w) > 3]
```

Warm-up Exercise

- ❖ What does this function do?

```
1 def mystery_four(n):  
2     sequence = []  
3     while n != 0:  
4         sequence.append(n)  
5         n -= 2  
6     return sequence
```

Warm-up Exercise

- ❖ What does this function do?

```
1 def mystery_five(n):  
2     steps = 0  
3     while n > 1:  
4         if n % 2 == 0:  
5             n = n // 2  
6         else:  
7             n = (n * 3) + 1  
8             steps += 1  
9     return steps
```

Data Types

- ❖ Atomic
 - “basic” i.e. not composed of objects of other types

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❖ Collections

- Composed of objects of other types
- **`list`**, `dict`, `set`, `tuple`, `str`
- Lists collect objects in a given order

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❖ Collections

- Composed of objects of other types
- `list`, **`dict`**, `set`, `tuple`, `str`
- Dictionaries hold key-value pairs

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❖ Collections

- Composed of objects of other types
- `list`, `dict`, **`set`**, `tuple`, `str`
- Sets collect objects in no specific order

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❖ Collections

- Composed of objects of other types
- `list`, `dict`, `set`, **`tuple`**, `str`
- Tuples collect objects in a given order and are immutable

Data Types

❖ Atomic

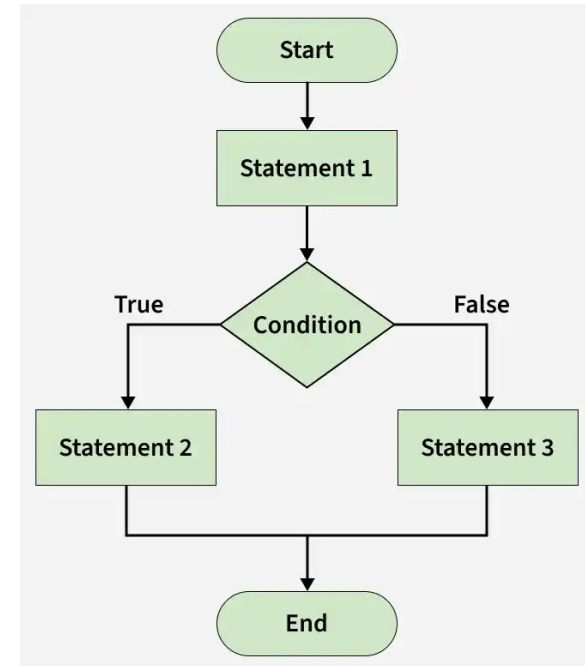
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❖ Collections

- Composed of objects of other types
- `list`, `dict`, `set`, `tuple`, **`str`**
- Strings collect characters in a given order and are immutable

Control Flow

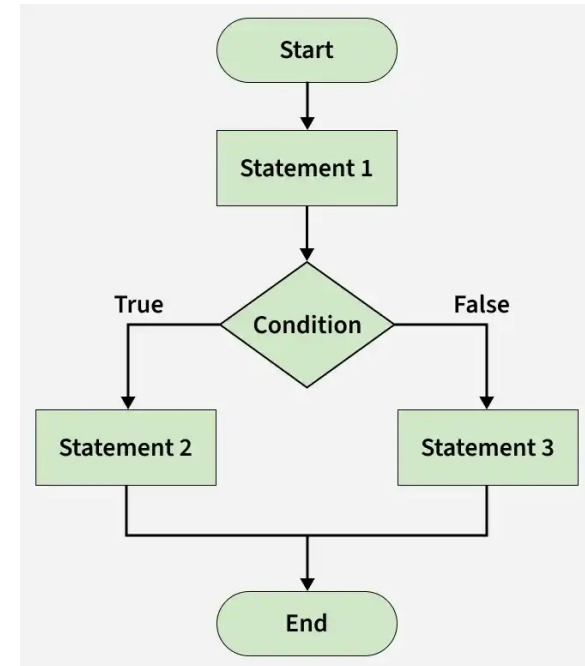
❖ if-then-else



Control Flow

❖ if-then-else

```
1 a = 5
2 b = 1
3 if a > b:
4     print(1)
5 else:
6     print(0)
```



Looping

- ❖ Fundamentally important to succinctly describing a process
- ❖ In Python, we have `for` loops and `while` loops

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- ❖ In Python, we have for loops and while loops
 - for loops iterate over a collection and run a code block for each object

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1 def mystery_one(numbers):  
2     total = 0  
3     for num in numbers:  
4         if num % 2 != 0:  
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```

Looping

- ❖ Fundamentally important to succinctly describing a process
- ❖ In Python, we have for loops and while loops
 - while loops run a code block iteratively until a condition is satisfied

```
1 def mystery_five(n):  
2     steps = 0  
3     while n > 1:  
4         if n % 2 == 0:  
5             n = n // 2  
6         else:  
7             n = (n * 3) + 1  
8             steps += 1  
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```

Pseudocode

- ❖ A language-agnostic, human-readable way of describing a program
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- ❖ Can look just like Python (makes Python a nice a language to use!)

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4         if num % 2 != 0:  
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6     return total
```

Python

```
1 def mystery_one(numbers):  
2     total = 0  
3     for num in numbers:  
4         if num is odd:  
5             total += num  
6     return total
```

Pseudocode

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Algorithm 3 Initialize p_t (subroutine of Algorithm 2)

```
1: for  $r \in \{r \in W_+ \mid |r| = 1\}$  do  
2:    $t = t + 1$     $\sigma_t \leftarrow \sigma_0$     $r_t \leftarrow r$   
3:    $\tilde{y}_t = M_r(D) + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_t^2 \mathbb{I})$   
4:    $\rho_{used} \leftarrow \rho_{used} + \frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2}$   
5: end for  
6:  $\hat{p}_t = \operatorname{argmin}_{p \in S} \sum_{i=1}^t \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \|M_{r_i}(p) - \tilde{y}_i\|_2^2$ 
```

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Algorithm 2 Residuals-to-Marginals (ReM)

Input: Marginal workload $\mathcal{W}$, arbitrary $\mathcal{S}$, measurements $z_{\tau,i} = R_{\tau}p + \xi_{\tau,i}$ for $\tau \in \mathcal{S}, i = 1, \dots, k_{\tau}$, where $\xi_{\tau,i}$ comes from any noise distribution

- 1: Estimate $\hat{\alpha}_{\tau} \approx R_{\tau}p$ for $\tau \in \mathcal{S}$ by minimizing loss function $L_{\tau}(\alpha_{\tau})$
 - 2: Reconstruct $\hat{\mu}_{\gamma} = \sum_{\tau \in \mathcal{S}: \tau \subseteq \gamma} A_{\gamma,\tau} \hat{\alpha}_{\tau}$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{W}$
-

Why do we need pseudocode?

- ❖ Not a trivial question!

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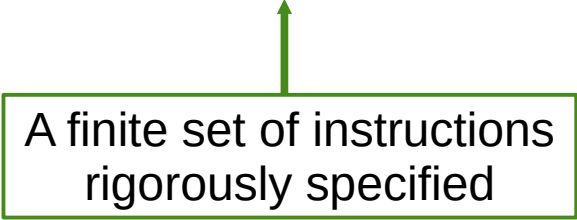
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- ❖ Pseudocode describes an **algorithm**

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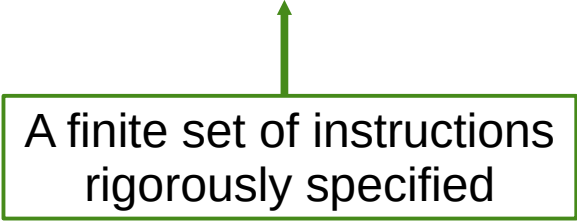
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A finite set of instructions
rigorously specified

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- ❖ Pseudocode describes an **algorithm**



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- ❖ An algorithm is an abstract mathematical object
- ❖ Pseudocode is an interface between an algorithm and its implementation

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Implementation  **Pseudocode**  **Algorithm**

- ❖ An algorithm is an abstract mathematical object
- ❖ Pseudocode is an interface between an algorithm and its implementation

Closing Questions

- ❖ Why study algorithms and not just their implementations?

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- ❖ Why study algorithms and not just their implementations?
- ❖ When we say our code is efficient, are we referring to the algorithm or the implementation? Or both?