Recursive Functions

CS 8: Introduction to Computer Science Lecture #15

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Administrative

• 3 MORE CLASSES TO GO! ③

Μ	Т	W	Th	F
5/29	5/30 LECTURE 14	5/31 LAB 7 issued	6/1 LECTURE 15 HW8 issued	6/2 <i>Review session</i> LAB 7 due
6/5	6/6 LECTURE 16 HW7 due	6/7 Work on your Project2 in lab	6/8 REVIEW HW8 due Project2 due	6/9 <i>Review session</i> <i>Last day of</i> <i>Spring classes</i> <i>at UCSB</i>
6/12	6/13	6/14	6/15 FINAL EXAM at 4PM	6/16

IMPORTANT NOTE!

NO assignment (hwk, lab, project) will be accepted to be turned in AFTER the LAST lecture/class on THURSDAY 6/8!

("late" assignments policy will not apply – we simply will not accept them)

Review Sessions

- Review sessions next week with T.A. Sourav
 See announcements on Piazza
- In-class review for the final exam next Thursday, 6/8.

Lecture Overview

- Recursion
- Classes and Objects

Starting chapter 9 (just covering through p. 315 though)

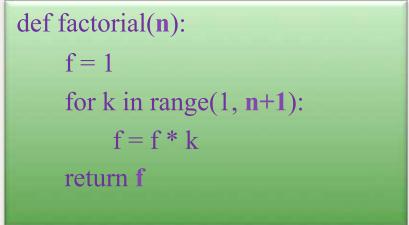
Recursive Functions

- Recursive: (adj.) Repeating unto itself
- A recursive function contains a call to itself
- When breaking a task into subtasks, it may be that the subtask is a smaller example of the same task
- For example: Searching a large list for all occurrences
 - Task can be divided into searching the 1st, then 2nd halves of array
 - Searching each half is a smaller version
 - of searching the whole array
 - So, each half is then divided into 1st and 2nd halves, etc...

Simple Example: The Factorial Function

Recall factorials: 2! = 1 * 2, 3! = 1 * 2 * 3, 4! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4, ... N! = 1 * 2 * ... * (N-1) * N

There's some repetition here... We could think of it as a loop *(how would you write that?)*



6/1/17

Recursive Functions

<pre>def factorial(n):</pre>	# return $n! = n(n-1)(n-2)1$
if $n > 1$:	<pre># recursive step: call self for n-1</pre>
return n *	factorial(n-1)
else:	<pre># note: is the else really necessary??</pre>
return 1	<pre># base case: stop recursion if n < 2</pre>

- Recursive functions should know when to stop
- There must be (at least) one *base case*, and the recursive step must converge on a base case
 - Otherwise you get "infinite recursion"

Another Example: Mathematical Series

- Popular example: Fibonacci Series
 F(n) = 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ..., F(n-1) + F(n-2)
- Again, there's some repetition here... We could think of it as a loop also *(we did this for Project 1!!!)*
- Or we could think of it as a recursive function!

Fibonacci Recursion

- What is/are the BASE CASE(S)?
- What is the recursive formula?

def fibo(n): if n == 0: return 1 if n == 1: return 1 return fibo(n-1) + fibo(n-2)

Other Examples

• Leibniz formula for π

$$1 - rac{1}{3} + rac{1}{5} - rac{1}{7} + rac{1}{9} - \cdots = rac{\pi}{4}.$$

DEMO TIME!

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def series(n):
 if n == 0:
 return 4

return 4* (((-1)**n)/(2*n + 1)) + series(n-1)

Recursive Drawing Examples

 Listing 9.2

 (also in recursive.py) –
 uses drawSquare function from chapter 2

def drawSquare(aTurtle,side):
 for i in range(4):
 aTurtle.forward(side)
 aTurtle.right(90)



Other Recursive Drawing Examples

- Other examples in the recursive.py file
 - Draw tick marks on a ruler
- Examples from the textbook and in other files
 - Listing 9.4 draw nested triangles
 - In file triangles.py
 - Note demo introduces command line argument too
 - Listing 9.3 (and exercises 9.11-9.13) draw tree
 - In file trees.py



