

The Python Times

U.S. INTERNATIONAL 中文 ESPAÑOL
 Tuesday, February 2, 2021 Today's Paper Video 71°F Dow +0.39%

Today's whether:
 if, elif, or else!

Three-eyed aliens causing most computer troubles...



Composite sketch of one of the attackers, drawn from three-eyewitness accounts

Alien Attack?! Picobot programmer G. Kuenning was subjected to a bizarre encounter with **three-eyed aliens yesterday**. The trinoctular tourists, it seems, were conducting experiments that would help them understand "**how humans think**."

The aliens apparently used a shrinking ray that let them enter the programmer's head to see what was happening. A witness reports **deeply disappointed voices** emanating from within.

To escape the attack, Kuenning had to turn the ray on himself. As he shrank, the aliens quickly flew off, departing so fast that he was **unable to use the reverse ray** before they left. "I don't mind," Kuenning mused. In fact, this might help me hide from students tomorrow." see three-eyed alien attack, p. 42

Homework #2

- 0) Reading + response
- 1) Lab: *data*
- 2) Lab: *functions*
- 3) The *fun* in *functions*!

Read sections 2.3-2.5

learning a language ~ ***syntax***

unavoidable, but not the point

... but learning CS ~ ***semantics*** →

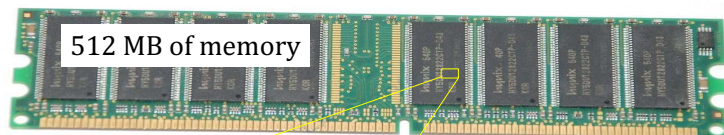
learning how machines *think*!

Memory!

Random Access Memory



← a big list of boxes, each with a name, type, location, and value →



on or off → bit = smallest amt. of info.: 0 or 1
False True

→ byte = 8 bits


word = 64 bits



All languages use *data types*

Type	Example	What is it?
float	3.14 or 3.0	numeric values with a fractional part, <i>even if the fractional part is .0</i>
int	42 or 10**100	integers – Python has <i>infinite-precision ints!</i>
bool	True or False	T/F results from a test or comparison: ==, !=, <, >, <=, >=

Hey! Someone can't spell! "Boolean values" "Boolean operators"

 George Boole

type(x)

Python operators

higher precedence

parens	()
power	**
negate	-
times, mod, divide	* / % //
add, subtract	+ -
compare	> == <
assign	=

It's hard to remember all these %+/* things! At first, prefer parentheses over precedence.

% the *mod* operator

7 % 3	9 % 3
8 % 3	30 % 7

x % y is the *remainder* when **x** is divided by **y**

For what values of **x** are these **True**?

- x % 2 == 0**
- x % 2 == 1**
- x % 4 == 0** ← If x is a year, what happens on these years!?
- x % 4 == 3** ← What happens on these years, football-wise!?

// integer division

7 // 3
8 // 3
9 // 3
30 // 7

x//y is **x/y**, rounded down to an integer

Decomposition of 31 into 7's:

But why? $31 == (4) * 7 + (3)$

Decomposition of x into y's:

x == (x // y) * y + (x % y)
of full y's in x remainder after "taking" all of the full y's in x

the "equals" operators



This is true - but what is it saying!?

Inside the machine...

What's happening in python:

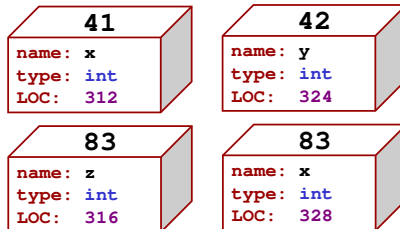
```
x = 41
y = x + 1
z = x + y
x = x + y
```

What's happening behind the scenes (in memory):

Computation



Memory (Data Storage)



id, del

strings: *textual* data

```
strings  s = 'scripps'
         c = 'college'
```

type... **type(s)**

len **len(s)**

add! **s + c**

multiply!! **2*s + 3*c**

What did you say?!



Lists ~ ordered collections
of *any* data

```
L = [3.14, [2, 40], 'third', 42]
```

len(L)

top-level length

only counts top-level elements

L[0]

indexing

could return a different type

L[0:1]

slicing

*always returns the same type, and
always returns a substructure!*

Indexing uses []

```
s = 'harvey mudd college'
```

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

^{index}
s[0] is **'h'**

Read as
"s-of-zero"
or "s-zero"
or "s-sub-zero"

s[17] is

s[6] is

s[] is **'e'**

Negative indices...

In a negative mood?
Python's there for you!



```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
s = 'harvey mudd college'
    -19 -17 -15 -13 -11 -9 -7 -5 -3 -1
    -18 -16 -14 -12 -10 -8 -6 -4 -2
```

Negative indices count *backwards* from the end!

`s[-1]` is `'e'`

`s[-18]` is

`s[-7]` is

`s[-0]` is

Slicing

```
s = 'harvey mudd college'
    0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
```

`s[start:end+1]` slices the string, returning a substring

first index is the
first character

second index is **ONE AFTER**
the last character

a missing index means
that end of the string

`s[0:6]` is `'harvey'`

`s[12:18]` is `'colleg'`

`s[17:]` is `'ge'`

`s[:]` is `'harvey mudd college'`

Slicing

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
s = 'harvey mudd college'
    -19 -18 -17 -16 -15 -14 -13 -12 -11 -10 -9 -8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1
```

What are these slices? `s[15:-1]` is

`s[:2]` is

is `'mud'`

and these?

is `'e'`

Don't worry!
Be happy!



Skip Slicing

`s[start:end+1:stride]`

the third index is
the stride length

default is +1

```
s = 'harvey mudd college'
    0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
```

`s[0:8:2]` is `'hre '`

`s[17:12:-1]` is

`s[::-1]` is

is `'doe'`

`s[1::6]` is

Skip Slicing

`s [start : end+1 : ←]`

the third index is the **stride length**

default is +1

`s = 'harvey mudd college'`
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

`s[0:8:2]` is `'hre'`

`s[17:12:-1]` is

`s[::-1]` is

is `'edoc'`

`s[1::6]` is

Functioning in Python

```
# my own function!  
def dbl( x ):  
    """Returns double its argument, x"""  
    return 2*x
```

comment for
other *coders*

Python's
keywords

documentation string
for all *users*

Some of Python's *baggage*...

Function *Fun* !

```
def undo(s):  
    """This "undoes" its argument, s"""  
    return 'de' + s
```

```
>>> undo('caf')
```

```
'decaf'
```

```
>>> undo(undo('caf'))
```

strings, lists, numbers ...
*all **data** are fair game*

how = works

"Quiz"

_____ name(s)

Run these lines

```
x = 41
y = x + 1
z = x + y
```



What are **x**, **y**, and **z** at this time?

Three rounded rectangular boxes containing the variables **x**, **y**, and **z** respectively.

Then run this line

```
x = x + y
```



What are **x**, **y**, and **z** at this time?

Three rounded rectangular boxes containing the variables **x**, **y**, and **z** respectively.

Extra!

```
a = 11 // 2
b = a % 3
c = b** a + b * a
```

What are the values of **a**, **b**, and **c** after the 3 lines, at left, run?

Three rounded rectangular boxes containing the variables **a**, **b**, and **c** respectively.