



BIOE50010 – Programming 2

Computer Lab 3: Modular Programming

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Feedback on Week 2 - Paths

Relative path and absolute path

- Using **absolute path**: starting from the *root directory*

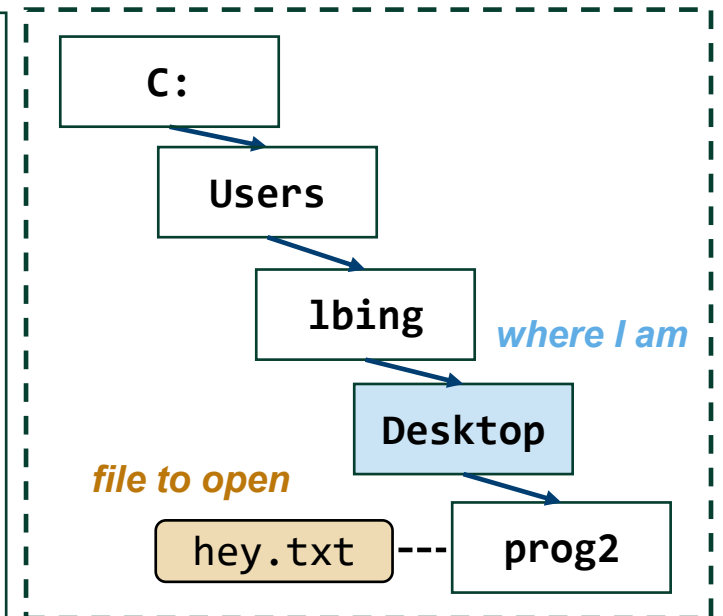
```
f = open('C:/Users/lbing/Desktop/prog2/hey.txt', 'w')
```

full path starting from C: disk

- Using **relative path**: with respect to the *current directory*

```
f = open('./prog2/hey.txt', 'w')
```

the current directory (...\\Desktop)



- In relative path:
 - A single dot (.) refers to the current directory.
 - Double dots (..) refer to the parent directory (w.r.t. the current directory).
- Caveat!** ./ (current directory) is different from / (root directory): the dot matters!

Feedback on Week 2 - Formatting

- f-string formatting starts with an **f** before the opening quotation mark.
- Each individual variable is enclosed within a pair curly brackets {}:

Code snippet from `extract_dna2protein.py`

TTT Phe F Phenylalanine

```
data = [['T', 'T', 'T', 'Phe', 'F', 'Phenylalanine'],  
        ['T', 'T', 'C', 'Phe', 'F', 'Phenylalanine']]  
  
print(f'{data[0][0]}{data[0][1]}{data[0][2]}\t{data[0][3]}\t{data[0][4]}\t{data[0][5]}')
```

- Alternatively, one can use the **format** method:

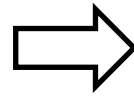
```
print('{}{}{}{}\t{}\t{}\t{}'.format(data[0][0], data[0][1], data[0][2],  
data[0][3], data[0][4], data[0][5]))
```

Feedback on Week 2 - Raw String

- By default, Python treats the backslash (\) as a special character: e.g., \t, \n

Example

```
myStr = 'Hi\nHello'  
print(myStr)
```



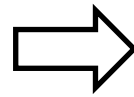
Console

```
>> Hi  
Hello
```

- Python **raw string** (**r**) treats the backslash as a literal character.

Example

```
myStr = r'Hi\nHello'  
print(myStr)
```



Console

```
>> Hi\nHello
```

- ...which can be useful to deal with the path separator (in Windows):



```
f = open('C:\Users\lbing\Desktop\lab2\the_road_not_taken.txt', 'r')
```



```
f = open(r'C:\Users\lbing\Desktop\lab2\the_road_not_taken.txt', 'r')
```

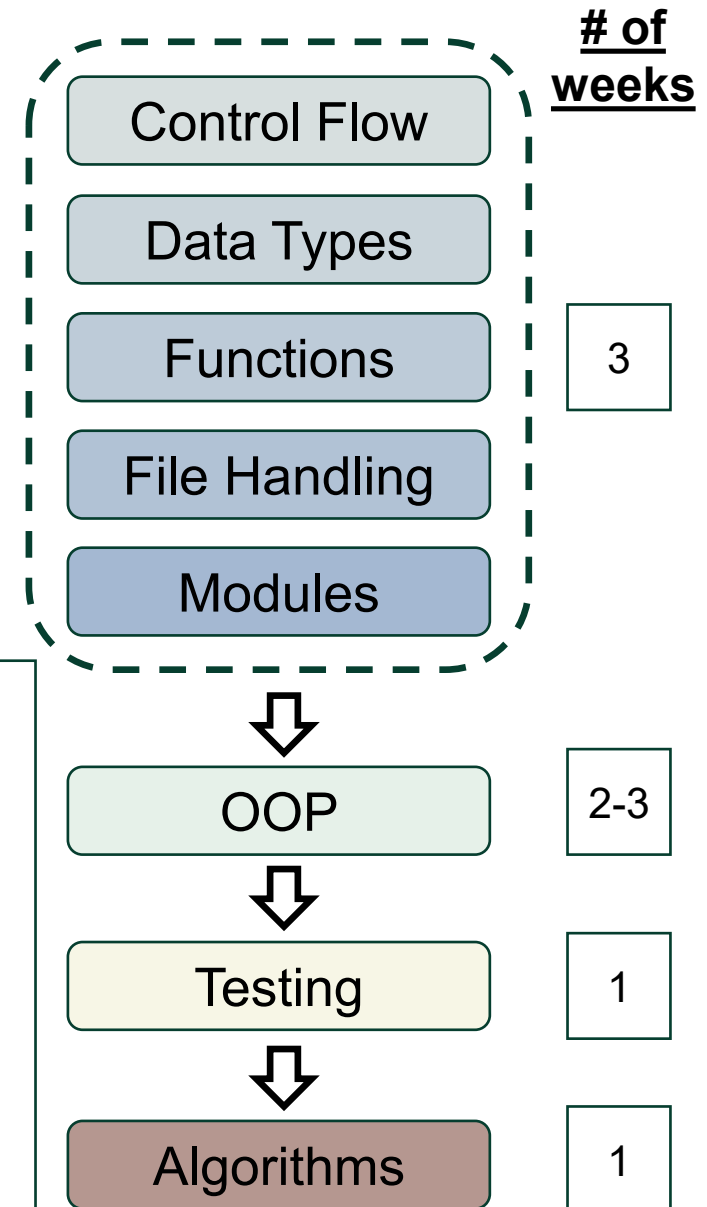
Progress Check

Week 3:
we are here



Revision Points (from week 2)

- **File I/O:** open, read, write, close.
- Using loops to read lines recursively.
- Print formatting with **f-string**
- **String methods:** .count(), .strip(), .split()
- **List methods:** .append()



Your tasks today

- Four mini tasks on **modular programming**:

- Task 1: Calculate radius and angle from a pair of Cartesian coordinates

$$\theta = \left(\text{atan} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) / \pi \right) * 180^\circ$$

- Task 2: Passing an unknown number of arguments into a function
 - Task 3: The Collatz conjecture
 - Task 4: Plotting marks on a user-defined board

To start...

- Read all information and the **sample output** provided in the lab carefully
- Consult the help pages for the string / list methods provided in *Lab 2 slides*
- Study the [non-keyword and keyword arguments](#) attached to the slides.



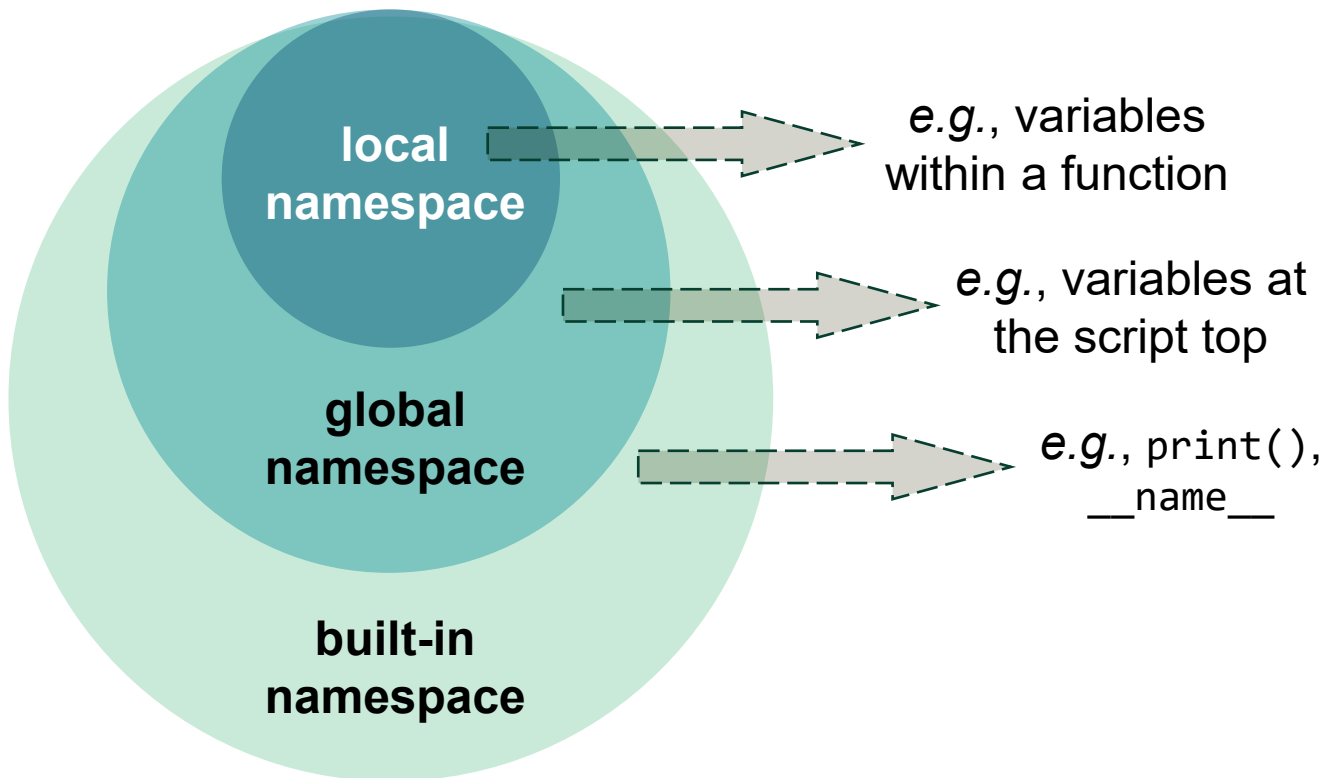
Questions?

That's it for now.

You can now proceed to the Lab 3 exercises.

Appendix 1: Namespace

- A **namespace** holds a set of names that belongs to a specific context (**scope**) within the program.
- If you create a variable within a function, that variable *only* exists in that function.



Example

```
x = 'global!'

def print_x():
    x = 'local!'
    print(x)

def main():
    print_x()
    print(x)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

same variable name but hold different values



Console

```
>> global!
Local!
```

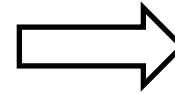

Appendix 2: Non-Keyword Argument Functions

Suppose you are defining a function with arbitrary number of arguments...

- You can use non-keyword argument functions `(*arg)`

Example

```
def good_fruits(*fruits):  
    for item in fruits:  
        print('let us take a', item)  
  
good_fruits('kiwi', 'watermelon', 'durian')
```



Console

```
let us take a kiwi  
let us take a watermelon  
let us take a durian
```

Comments

- The asterisk `*` is known as the unpacking operator.
- All `*args` are collected and packed into a **tuple** (hence, use loops)
- Positional arguments must come before `*args`: `def call_greeting(greeting, *names)`

positional
argument

`*args`

Appendix 3: Keyword Argument Functions

- Alternatively, you can use keyword argument functions (`**kwargs`)

Example

```
def good_fruits(**fruits):  
    for fruit, attribute in fruits.items():  
        print(f"Let us take a {fruit}, which is {attribute}.")  
  
good_fruits(kiwi="green", watermelon="large", durian="spiky")
```

"keywords"

Console

```
Let us take a kiwi, which is green.  
Let us take a watermelon, which is large.  
Let us take a durian, which is spiky.
```

Comments

- All `*kwargs` are collected and packed into a **dictionary** (`{key}:{value}`)
- Positional arguments and `*args` must come before `**kwargs`.

Appendix 4: enumerate() and range()

These are two useful functions to iterate over sequences in loops.

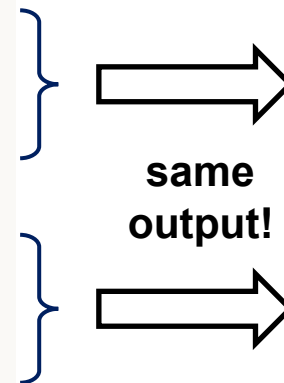
- `range(start=0, stop, step=1)` - iterate through a sequence of numbers
- `enumerate(iterable, start=0)` - iterate through an *iterable object* (list, tuple, dictionary) and keep track of the index.

Example

```
good_fruits = ['kiwi', 'watermelon', 'durian']
```

```
# using range()
for idx in range(0, len(good_fruits)):
    print(f'{idx} {good_fruits[idx]}')
```

```
# using enumerate()
for idx, fruit in enumerate(good_fruits):
    print(f'{idx} {fruit}')
```



Console

```
0 kiwi
1 watermelon
2 durian
```