

CSE 160 Wrap-Up

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UW CSE 160

Winter 2021

Progress in 10 weeks

10 weeks ago: you knew no programming

Goals:

- **Computational problem-solving**
- **Python** programming language
- Experience with **real datasets**
- **Fun** of extracting understanding and insight from data, and of mastery over the computer
- Ability to go on to more advanced **computing** classes

Today: you can write a useful program (from nothing!) to solve a real problem

Join me in thanking your TAs!



Amanda Ong

She/Her

AF



Austin Jenchi

He/Him

AC



Kushagra Kumar

He/Him

AB



Wilson Tang

AC



Joely Nelson

She/Her

AA, AE



Zoe Kaputa

She/Her

AA



Jack Venberg

He/Him

AB



Niamh Froelich

She/Her

AE



Brian Zhu

He/Him

AD



David Chang

He/Him

AD

Why do you care about processing data?

- The world is awash in data
- Processing and analyzing it is the difference between **success** and **failure**
 - for a team or for an individual
- Manipulating and understanding data is essential to:
 - Astronomers
 - Biologists
 - Chemists
 - Economists
 - Engineers
 - Entrepreneurs
 - Linguists
 - Political scientists
 - Zoologists
 - ... and many more!

Programming Concepts

- Variables
- Assignments
- Types
- Programs & algorithms
- Control flow: loops (for), conditionals (if)
- Functions
- File I/O
- Python execution model
 - How Python evaluates expressions, statements, and programs

Data structures: managing data

- List
- Set
- Dictionary
- Tuple
- Graph

- List slicing (sublist)
- List comprehension: shorthand for a loop

$$f(x) = x^2$$

Functions

- **Procedural abstraction**
 - avoid duplicated code
 - the implementation does not matter to the client
- Using functions
- Defining functions
- Anonymous functions
 - Lambda

Data abstraction

- Dual to procedural abstraction (functions)
- A **module** is: operations
- An **object** is: data + operations
 - Operations: create, query, modify
 - Clients use the operations, never directly access data
 - The representation of the data does not matter to the client
 - Programmer defines a **class**.
Each instance of a class is an **object**.

Testing and debugging

- Use small data sets to test your program
- Write enough tests:
 - Cover every branch of each boolean expression
 - especially when used in a conditional expression (if statement)
 - Cover special cases:
 - numbers: zero, positive, negative, int vs. float
 - data structures: empty, size 1, larger
- Assertions are useful beyond tests
- Debugging: after you observe a failure
 - Divide and conquer
 - In time, in data, in program text, in development history
 - this is also a key program design concept
 - The scientific method
 - state a hypothesis; design an experiment; understand results
- Think first (“lost in the woods” analogy)
 - Be systematic: record everything; have a reason for each action

Data analysis

- Statistics
 - Run many simulations
 - How uncommon is what you actually saw?
- Graphing/plotting results

Program design

How to write a **function**:

1. Choose name, arguments, and documentation string
2. Write tests
3. Write body/implementation

How to write a **program**:

1. Decompose into parts (functions, modules)
 - Each part should be a logical unit, not too large or small
2. Write each part
 - Define the problem
 - Choose an algorithm
 - In English first; test it via manual simulation
 - Translate into code

When necessary, use *wishful thinking*

- Assume a function exists, then write it later
- Can test even before you write it, via a stub

Speed of algorithms

- Affected primarily by the number of times you iterate over data
- Nested looping matters a lot

Data!

- DNA
- Images
- Social Networks
- Election Results
- 2D points and Handwriting Samples

What you have learned in CSE 160

Compare your skills today to 10 weeks ago

Bottom line: The assignments would be **easy** for you today

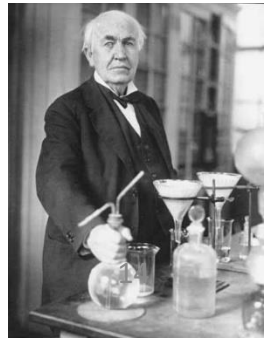
This is a measure of how much you have learned

There is no such thing as a “born” programmer!

Your next project can be more ambitious

Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.

Thomas A. Edison



Python program to assess treatment efficacy

```
# This program reads an Excel spreadsheet whose penultimate
# and antepenultimate columns are zip codes.
# It adds a new last column for the distance between those zip
# codes, and outputs in CSV (comma-separated values) format.
# Call the program with two numeric values: the first and last
# row to include.
# The output contains the column headers and those rows.
```

```
# Libraries to use
```

```
import random
import sys
import xlrd      # library for working with Excel spreadsheets
import time
from gdapi import GoogleDirections
```

```
# No key needed if few queries
```

```
gd = GoogleDirections('dummy-Google-key')
```

```
wb = xlrd.open_workbook('mhip_zip_eScience_121611a.xls')
sheet = wb.sheet_by_index(0)
```

```
# User input: first row to process, first row not to process
```

```
first_row = max(int(sys.argv[1]), 2)
row_limit = min(int(sys.argv[2])+1, sheet.nrows)
```

```
def comma_separated(lst):
    return ",".join([str(s) for s in lst])
```

```
headers = sheet.row_values(0) + ["distance"]
print comma_separated(headers)
```

```
for rownum in range(first_row,row_limit):
```

```
    row = sheet.row_values(rownum)
```

```
    (zip1, zip2) = row[-3:-1]
```

```
    if zip1 and zip2:
```

```
        # Clean the data
```

```
        zip1 = str(int(zip1))
```

```
        zip2 = str(int(zip2))
```

```
        row[-3:-1] = [zip1, zip2]
```

```
        # Compute the distance via Google Maps
```

```
        try:
```

```
            distance = gd.query(zip1,zip2).distance
```

```
        except:
```

```
            print >> sys.stderr, "Error computing distance:", zip1, zip2
```

```
            distance = ""
```

```
        # Print the row with the distance
```

```
        print comma_separated(row + [distance])
```

```
        # Avoid too many Google queries in rapid succession
```

```
        time.sleep(random.random()+0.5)
```

23 lines of executable code!

Go forth and conquer

System building and scientific discovery are fun!

It's even more fun when your system works

Pay attention to what matters

Use the techniques and tools of CSE 160 effectively

Final Exam

- Topics: Everything in the course up to and including List Comprehensions is fair game.
 - Part 1 - similar to the midterm: writing small functions, although now dictionaries, sets, and tuples could be involved.
 - Part 2 - short answer questions and code writing that involves writing less than an entire function.
- Released by end of day Mon 3/15, due by 11pm Thurs 3/18
- Similar Policies to Midterm – Groups of up to 4