

Mutability

Announcements

Midterm Exam Next Week
(Sorry!)

But you'll gonna do well!


Mutating Lists: Example functions of the list class

- `append()` adds a single element to a list:

```
s = [2, 3]
t = [5, 6]
s.append(4)
s.append(t)
t = 0
```

[Try in PythonTutor.](#)

- `extend()` adds all the elements in one list to another list:

```
s = [2, 3]
t = [5, 6]
s.extend(4) #  Error: 4 is not an iterable!
s.extend(t)
t = 0
```

[Try in PythonTutor.](#) (After deleting the bad line)

Mutating Lists -- More Functions!

- `list += [x, y, z]` # just like `extend`.
- [You need to be careful with this one!](#) It modifies the list.
- `pop()` removes and returns the last element:

```
s = [2, 3]
t = [5, 6]
t = s.pop()
```

[Try in PythonTutor.](#)

- `remove()` removes the first element equal to the argument:

```
s = [6, 2, 4, 8, 4]
s.remove(4)
```

[Try in PythonTutor.](#)

Mutation and Identity

Sameness and Change

- As long as we never modify objects, a compound object is just the totality of its pieces
- This view is no longer valid in the presence of change
- A compound data object has an "identity" in addition to the pieces of which it is composed
- A list is still "the same" list even if we change its contents
- Conversely, we could have two lists that happen to have the same contents, but are different

```
>>> a = [10]
>>> b = a
>>> a == b
True
>>> a.append(20)
>>> a
[10, 20]
>>> b
[10, 20]
>>> a == b
True
```

```
>>> a = [10]
>>> b = [10]
>>> a == b
True
>>> b.append(20)
>>> a
[10]
>>> b
[10, 20]
>>> a == b
False
```

Identity Operators

Identity

`<exp0> is <exp1>`

evaluates to `True` if both `<exp0>` and `<exp1>` evaluate to the same object

Equality

`<exp0> == <exp1>`

evaluates to `True` if both `<exp0>` and `<exp1>` evaluate to equal values

Identical objects are always equal values

(Demo)

What is the meaning of `is`?

- `is` in Python means two items have the exact same identity
- Thus, `a is b` implies `a == b`
- Why? Each object has a function `id()` which returns its "address"
- The `id` is essentially an internal "locator" for that data in memory.
- Think of two houses which have the exact same floor plan, look the same, etc. They are "the same house" but each has a unique address. (And thus are different houses)
- Think this is tricky? cool? amazing?
 - • Take CS61C (Architecture) and CS164 (Programming Languages)

Arrays vs Lists

Numpy Arrays Represent Fixed-Length Sequences of Numbers

```
import numpy as np
a = np.array([3, 4, 5, 6])
b = a + 1
```

vs

```
s = [3, 4, 5, 6]
t = [x + 1 for x in s]
```

Numpy array advantages:

- Much faster repeated arithmetic
- More concise expressions
- Handles 2+ dimensions (matrix, etc.)

Numpy disadvantages:

- Fixed size: appending makes a new array
- Fixed type: [3, 4] and [[3, 4], [5, 6]] but not [3, [4, 5]]

(Speed Test Demo)

Guidance:

- Repeated calculations over long lists of numbers should use array operations
- Collecting results as they are generated should use a list
- **We don't use numpy in C88C**