

UNIT 3B

Algorithmic Thinking

15110 Principles of Computing,
Carnegie Mellon University - CORTINA

1

Finding the maximum

How do we find the maximum in a sequence of integers shown to us one at a time?

183

What's the maximum?

15110 Principles of Computing,
Carnegie Mellon University - CORTINA

2

Finding the maximum

Required: a non-empty *list* of integers.

1. Set *max_so_far* equal to the first number in the *list*.
2. For each number *n* in the *list*:
 - a. If *n* is greater than *max_so_far*, then set *max_so_far* equal to *n*.

Return: *max_so_far* as the maximum of the *list*.

Representing Lists in Python

We will use a list to represent a collection of data values.

```
scores = [78, 93, 80, 68, 100, 94, 85]
```

```
colors = ['red', 'green', 'blue']
```

A list is an *ordered* sequence of values.

Some List Operations

```
>>> scores = [78, 93, 80, 68, 100, 94, 85]
>>> type(scores)
<class 'list'>
>>> len(scores)
7
>>> 80 in scores
True
>>> scores + scores
[78, 93, 80, 68, 100, 94, 85, 78, 93, 80, 68,
 100, 94, 85, 94]
```

15110 Principles of Computing,
Carnegie Mellon University - CORTINA

5

List Indices

78	93	80	68	100	94	85
0	1	2	3	4	5	6

```
>>> scores[0]
78
>>> scores[6]
85
>>> scores[7]
IndexError: list index out of range
>>> scores[1:3]
[93, 80]
>>> scores[1:7:2]
[93, 68, 94]
>>> scores.index(100)
4
>>> scores[-1]
85
```

indices

6

Operation	Result
<code>x in s</code>	True if an item of <code>s</code> is equal to <code>x</code> , else False
<code>x not in s</code>	False if an item of <code>s</code> is equal to <code>x</code> , else True
<code>s + t</code>	the concatenation of <code>s</code> and <code>t</code>
<code>s * n, n * s</code>	<code>n</code> shallow copies of <code>s</code> concatenated
<code>s[i]</code>	<code>i</code> th item of <code>s</code> , origin 0
<code>s[i:j]</code>	slice of <code>s</code> from <code>i</code> to <code>j</code>
<code>s[i:j:k]</code>	slice of <code>s</code> from <code>i</code> to <code>j</code> with step <code>k</code>
<code>len(s)</code>	length of <code>s</code>
<code>min(s)</code>	smallest item of <code>s</code>
<code>max(s)</code>	largest item of <code>s</code>
<code>s.index(i)</code>	index of the first occurrence of <code>i</code> in <code>s</code>
<code>s.count(i)</code>	total number of occurrences of <code>i</code> in <code>s</code>

source: docs.python.org

7

Lists Are Mutable

```
>>> scores.append(95)
>>> scores
[78, 93, 80, 68, 100, 94, 85, 95]
```

78	93	80	68	100	94	85	95
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

8

Operation	Result
<code>s[i] = x</code>	item <i>i</i> of <i>s</i> is replaced by <i>x</i>
<code>s[i:j] = t</code>	slice of <i>s</i> from <i>i</i> to <i>j</i> is replaced by the contents of the iterable <i>t</i>
<code>del s[i:j]</code>	same as <code>s[i:j] = []</code>
<code>s[i:j:k] = t</code>	the elements of <code>s[i:j:k]</code> are replaced by those of <i>t</i>
<code>del s[i:j:k]</code>	removes the elements of <code>s[i:j:k]</code> from the list
<code>s.append(x)</code>	same as <code>s[len(s):len(s)] = [x]</code>
<code>s.extend(x)</code>	same as <code>s[len(s):len(s)] = x</code>
<code>s.count(x)</code>	return number of <i>t</i> 's for which <code>s[i] == x</code>
<code>s.index(x, i, j]</code>	return smallest <i>k</i> such that <code>s[k] == x</code> and <code>i <= k < j</code>
<code>s.insert(i, x)</code>	same as <code>s[i:i] = [x]</code>
<code>s.pop([i])</code>	same as <code>x = s[i]; del s[i]; return x</code>
<code>s.remove(x)</code>	same as <code>del s[s.index(x)]</code>
<code>s.reverse()</code>	reverses the items of <i>s</i> in place
<code>s.sort([key, reverse])</code>	sort the items of <i>s</i> in place

source: docs.python.org

9

Iterating over Lists

```
def print_colors(colors):
    for c in colors:
        print(c)

def print_colors2(colors):
    for i in range(0, len(colors)):
        print(colors[i])

def print_skip(colors):
    for i in range(0, len(colors), 2):
        print(colors[i])
```

Python binds *c* to the first item in *colors*, then execute the statement in the loop body, binds *c* to the next item in the list *colors* etc.

10

Finding the max using Python


1. Set *max_so_far* equal to the first number in the *list*.
2. For each number *n* in the *list*:
 - a. If *n* is greater than *max_so_far*, then set *max_so_far* equal to *n*.

Return: *max_so_far* as the maximum of the *list*.

```
def findmax(list):  
    max_so_far = list[0]  
    for i in range(1, len(list)):  
        n = list[i]  
        if n > max_so_far:  
            max_so_far = n  
    return max_so_far
```

11

Alternate Version

```
def findmax2(list):  
    max_so_far = list[0]  
    for item in list:  “For each item  
in the list...”  
        if item > max_so_far:  
            max_so_far = item  
    return max_so_far
```

12



A 2000 year old algorithm (procedure) for generating a table of prime numbers.

2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 23, 29, 31, ...

A positive integer is “prime” if it is not divisible by any smaller positive integers except 1.

13

Sieve of Eratosthenes

To make a list of every prime number less than n :

1. Create a list *numlist* with every integer from 2 to n , in order. (Assume $n > 1$.)
2. Create an empty list *primes*.
3. Copy the first number in *numlist* to the end of *primes*. (It must be prime. Why?)
4. Iterate over *numlist* to remove every number that is a multiple of the most recently discovered prime number.
5. Halt if *numlist* is empty. Otherwise, go back to step 3.

Sieve of Eratosthenes - Example

```
primes = []
numlist = [2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,
           14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25]

primes = [2]
numlist = [3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19,21,23,25]

primes = [2,3]
numlist = [5,7,11,13,17,19,23,25]

primes = [2,3,5]
numlist = [7,11,13,17,19,23]      etc.
```

Lists: Two Special Cases

```
values = []
```

This is the empty list (a list with length 0).

```
values = []
for i in range(1,10):
    values.append(i)
```

This is the list with the first 9 positive integers in order.

Starting the algorithm in Python

To make a list of every prime number less than n :

1. Create a list *numlist* with every integer from 2 to n , in order. (Assume $n > 1$.)
2. Create an empty list *primes*.

```
def sieve(n):  
    numlist = []  
    for i in range(2, n+1):  
        numlist.append(i)  
    primes = []
```

15110 Principles of Computing,
Carnegie Mellon University - CORTINA

17

Continuing...

3. Copy the first number in *numlist* to the end of *primes*.
(It must be prime. Why?)

```
...  
primes.append(numlist[0])  
...
```

Does this operation remove the first element
from *numlist*?

15110 Principles of Computing,
Carnegie Mellon University - CORTINA

18

Removing multiples of a prime

4. Iterate over *numlist* to remove every number that is a multiple of the most recently discovered prime number.

Where is the most recently discovered prime added to the **primes** list?

```
primes[ len(primes) - 1 ]    (i.e. last element)
```

Removing multiples of a prime

4. Iterate over *numlist* to remove every number that is a multiple of the most recently discovered prime number.

How do we determine whether a number **x** is a multiple of the most recent prime?

Use the modulo operator!

```
x % primes[ len(primes) - 1 ] == 0
```

Sifting: Removing Multiples of a Number - UPDATED

```
def sift(list,k):
# remove all multiples of k from list
    index = 0
    while index < len(list):
        if list[index] % k == 0:
            list.remove(list[index])
        else:
            index = index + 1
    return list
```

21

Removing multiples of a prime

4. Iterate over *numlist* to remove every number that is a multiple of the most recently discovered prime number.

```
lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]
numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
```

Removing multiples of a prime

5. Halt if *numlist* is empty. Otherwise, go back to step 3.

We need to repeat steps 3 and 4:

```
primes.append(numlist[0])
lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]
numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
```

until *numlist* is empty. How do we do this?

Repeating a task

Since we want to repeat a task, use a loop!

Since we don't know how many iterations are necessary, we will use a while loop.

```
while len(numlist) > 0 :
    primes.append(numlist[0])
    lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]
    numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
```

Repeating a task

Since we want to repeat a task, use a loop!
Since we don't know how many iterations are necessary, we will use a while loop.

```
while len(numlist) >= 1 :  
    primes.append(numlist[0])  
    lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]  
    numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
```

Repeating a task

Since we want to repeat a task, use a loop!
Since we don't know how many iterations are necessary, we will use a while loop.

```
while len(numlist) != 0 :  
    primes.append(numlist[0])  
    lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]  
    numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
```

Final Algorithm in Python

```
def sift(list,k):
# remove all multiples of k from list
    index = 0
    while index < len(list):
        if list[index] % k == 0:
            list.remove(list[index])
        else:
            index = index + 1
    return list
```

Final Algorithm in Python (cont'd)

```
def sieve(n):
    numlist = []
    for i in range(2,n+1):
        numlist.append(i)
    primes = []
    while len(numlist) > 0:
        primes.append(numlist[0])
        lastprime = primes[len(primes)-1]
        numlist = sift(numlist, lastprime)
    return primes
```