

CompSci 101

Introduction to Computer Science

Key	Value
"O _ O _"	["OBOE", "ODOR"]
"_ O O _"	["NOON", "ROOM", "HOOP"]
"_ O _ O"	["SOLO" "GOTO"]
"_ _ _ O"	["TRIO"]
"O _ _ _"	["OATH", "OXEN"]
"_ _ _ _"	["PICK", "FRAT"]



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Nov 2, 2017

Prof. Rodger

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Announcements

- No Reading/RQ until after Exam 2
- Assignment 5 due, Assignment 6 due Nov 8
- APT 6 due Tuesday
- APT Quiz 2 - Sunday-Wednesday
- Today:
 - Debugging
 - Which code is better?

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Assignment 7 – Demo

Smarty, Evil, Frustrating Hangman

- Computer changes secret word every time player guesses to make it "hard" to guess
 - Must be consistent with all previous guesses
 - Idea: the more words there are, harder it is
 - Not always true!
- Example of greedy algorithm
 - Locally optimal decision leads to best solution
 - More words to choose from means more likely to be hung

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Canonical Greedy Algorithm

- How do you give change with fewest number of coins?
 - Pay \$1.00 for something that costs \$0.43
 - Pick the largest coin you need, repeat



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Greedy not always optimal

- What if you have no nickels?
 - Give \$0.31 in change
 - Algorithms exist for this problem too, not greedy!



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Smarty Hangman

- When you guess a letter, you're really guessing a category (secret word "salty")
 - and user guesses 'a'
 - "gates", "cakes", "false" are all *a the same, in 2cd position*
 - "flats", "aorta", "straw", "spoon" are all *a in different places*
- How can we help ensure player always has many words to distinguish between?

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Debugging Output

number of misses left: 8
secret so far: _ _ _ _ _

(word is catalyst)

possible words: 7070

guess a letter: a

a _ a _ a 1

...

_ a _ _ _ 587

_ aa _ _ 1

...

_ a _ _ _ 498

_ _ _ _ _ 3475

_ _ a _ _ 406

...

_ _ _ a _ 396

keys = 48

number of misses left: 7
letters guessed: a

...

(word is designed)

possible words: 3475

guess a letter:

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Debugging Output and Game Play

- Sometimes we want to see debugging output, and sometimes we don't
 - While using microsoft word, don't want to see the programmer's debugging statements
 - Release code and development code
- You'll approximate release/development using a global variable DEBUG
 - Initialize to False, set to True when debugging
 - Ship with DEBUG = False

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Look at howto and categorizing words

- Play a game with a list of possible words
 - Initially this is all words
 - List of possible words changes after each guess
- Given template " _ _ _ _ ", list of all words, and a letter, choose a secret word
 - Choose all equivalent secret words, not just one
 - Greedy algorithm, choose largest category

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Computing the Categories

- Loop over every string in words, each of which is consistent with guess (template)
 - This is important, also letter *cannot* be in guess
 - Put letter in template according to word
 - _ _ _ a _ t might become _ _ _ a n t
- Build a dictionary of templates with that letter to all words that fit in that template.
- How to create key in dictionary?

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Everytime guess a letter, build a dictionary based on that letter

- Example: Four letter word, guess o

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- Key is string, value is list of strings that fit

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Keys can't be lists

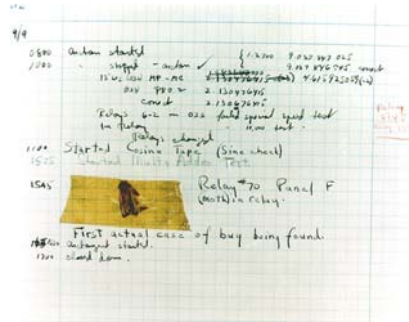
- [“O”,” _”,”O”,” _”] need to convert to a string to be the key representing this list:
“O _ O _”

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Bug and Debug

- software 'bug'
- Start small
 - Easier to cope
 - Simplest input?
- Judicious 'print'
 - Debugger too
- Python tutor
 - Visualizes data
 - step through
- Verify the approach being taken, test small, test frequently
 - How do you 'prove' your code works?



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Debugging Problems

- Today the main focus is on debugging.
- There are several problems. Trace by hand to see if you can figure out if they are correct or not, or what to do to correct them.



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Debug 1 – Does it work?

bit.ly/101f17-1102-1

- The function *sizes* has a parameter named *words* that is a list of strings. This function returns a list of the sizes of each string. For example, `sizes(['This', 'is', 'a', 'test'])` should return the list `[4, 2, 1, 4]`

```
def sizes(words):
    nums = [ ]
    for w in words:
        nums = len(w)
    return nums
```

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Debug 2 – Does it work?

bit.ly/101f17-1102-2

- The function *buildword* has a parameter *words* that is a list of strings. This function returns a string that is made up of the first character from each word in the list. For example, `buildword(['This', 'is', 'a', 'test'])` returns 'Tiat'

```
def buildword(words):
    answer = ''
    for w in words:
        answer += w[:1]
    return answer
```

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Debug 3 – Does it work?

- The function *middle* has a parameter *names* that is a list of strings, which each string is in the format "firstname:middlename:lastname". This function returns a list of strings of the middlenames.

For example, the call `middle("Jo:Mo:Tree",
"Mary:Sue:Perez", "Stephen:Lucas:Zhang")`
returns
`['Mo', 'Sue', 'Lucas']`

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Debug 3 – Does it work?

bit.ly/101f17-1102-3

- The function *middle* has a parameter *names* that is a list of strings, which each string is in the format "firstname:middlename:lastname". This function returns a list of strings of the middlenames.

```
def middle(names):  
    middlelist = []  
    for name in names:  
        name.split(":")  
        middlelist.append(name[1])  
    return middlelist
```

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Debug 4 – Does it work?

bit.ly/101f17-1102-4

- The function *removeOs* has one string parameter named *names*. This function returns a string equal to *names* but with all the lowercase o's removed. For example, `removeOs('Mo Moo Move Over')` returns `'M M Mve Over'`

```
def removeOs(word):  
    position = word.find("o")  
    while position != -1:  
        word = word[:position] +  
            word[position+1:]  
    return word
```

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Problem 5 – Does it work?

bit.ly/101f17-1102-5

- The function *uniqueDigits* has one int parameter *number*. This function returns the number of unique digits in *number*. For example, the call `uniqueDigits(456655)` should return 3.

```
def uniqueDigits(number):  
    digits = []  
    while number > 0:  
        digits.append(number % 10)  
        number = number / 10  
    return len(digits)
```

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Which code is better?

- For the next two problems, we will look at two examples of code that both work in solving the problem, and think about which code is better.

Problem 6: Which code is better?

- Problem: Given a string parameter named `phrase` and string named `letter`, the function `findWords` returns a list of all the words from `phrase` that have `letter` in them.
- **Example:**
- `findWords("the circus is coming to town with elephants and clowns", "o")` would return `['coming', 'to', 'town', 'clowns']`

Consider two solutions, which is better? bit.ly/101f17-1102-6

```
def findWords(phrase, letter):  
    return [phrase.split()[i] for i in range(len(phrase.split()))  
            if letter in phrase.split()[i] ]
```

```
def findWords2(phrase, letter):  
    wordlist = phrase.split()  
    answer = []  
    for i in range(len(wordlist)):  
        if letter in wordlist[i]:  
            answer.append(wordlist[i])  
    return answer
```

Problem 7 – Which number appears the most times?

- The function `most` has one parameter `nums`, a list of integers. This function returns the number that appears the most in the list.
- For example, the call `most([3,4,2,2,3,2])` returns 2, as 2 appears more than any other number.

Solution 1

```
def most(nums):  
    maxcnt = 0  
    maxnum = -1  
    cnts = [0 for n in range(max(nums)+1)]  
    for num in nums:  
        cnts[num] += 1  
        if cnts[num] > maxcnt:  
            maxcnt = cnts[num]  
            maxnum = num  
    return maxnum
```

Compare with Solution 2 bit.ly/101f17-1102-7

```
def most2(nums):  
    maxcnt = 0  
    maxnum = -1  
    for num in set(nums):  
        cnt = nums.count(num)  
        if cnt > maxcnt:  
            maxcnt = cnt  
            maxnum = num  
    return maxnum
```