

# 4

# Lecture 4

Abstraction with Functions and Imports



## **Before the new stuff!**

A quick recap of functions, and some more about recursion!

# Function Recap



Function  
definition

Function  
name

Function  
argument(s)

```
def name_and_greet(my_name):  
    print("Hello! What is your name?")  
    your_name = input()  
    print("Hello,", your_name, "! My name is", my_name)  
    return your_name
```

Function  
body

Function  
return

Rest of program  
(the "main" function)

```
student_list = []  
for i in range(5):  
    student_name = name_and_greet("Lloyd")  
    student_list.append(student_name)
```

Function  
call



# Recursion Recap

*Calling a function from within its  
own definition!*



# Recursion: Fibonacci

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n = 0 & 0 \\ n = 1 & 1 \\ n > 1 & f(n-1) + f(n-2) \end{cases}$$



# Recursion: Fibonacci

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n = 0 & 0 \\ n = 1 & 1 \\ n > 1 & f(n-1) + f(n-2) \end{cases}$$

Base cases!

Recursive calls

The diagram shows the Fibonacci function definition. The first two cases,  $n=0$  and  $n=1$ , are labeled as "Base cases!". The third case,  $n > 1$ , is labeled as "Recursive calls". Arrows point from the text labels to the corresponding parts of the function definition.



# Recursion: Fibonacci

```
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    else:  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```



# Recursion: Fibonacci

```
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    else:  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n = 0 & 0 \\ n = 1 & 1 \\ n > 1 & f(n-1) + f(n-2) \end{cases}$$





# Recursion: Fibonacci

```
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    else:  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```

Base cases!

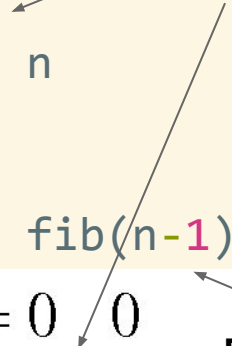
$$f(n) = \begin{cases} \underline{n=0} & 0 \\ \underline{n=1} & 1 \\ n > 1 & f(n-1) + f(n-2) \end{cases}$$



# Recursion: Fibonacci

```
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    else:  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```

Base cases!



Recursive calls

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n = 0 & 0 \\ n = 1 & 1 \\ n > 1 & f(n-1) + f(n-2) \end{cases}$$



# **Recursion**

*As with loops, we have to be  
careful that we terminate*



# Recursion

*As with loops, we have to be  
careful that we terminate*

*This is almost always done by  
being careful with our **base cases***



# Recursion vs Loops

## Recursion

- Nicer to write
- Closer to the mathematical definition of some functions
- Need to be careful with base case(s)
- Often times, slower, less memory/space efficient (not always! Look into “tail recursion” if you’re interested!

## Loops

- Can be difficult to write
- Closer to how your computer actually does things
- Need to be careful with loop conditions
- If written well and optimized, often faster and more space-efficient



# **Recursion/Loop Example: Reversing a List**



## What is abstraction?

A way of *reducing complexity* within a program, to make it easier to reason about.



## **Why do we do it?**

- **Readability**
- **Reusability**
- **Extensibility**





## Where have we seen it?

Functions! Functions are one of the primary ways we *abstract* logic away from sections of our code.



## **What are you talking about?**

So far this concept seems very *abstract*.  
Let's see it in practice (just using  
functions).



# Abstraction for readability/reusability

```
my_list = [1,2,3,4]
print(my_list)
print("How many new elements?")
number_of_elements = int(input())
for i in range(number_of_elements):
    new_element = int(input())
    my_list.append(new_element)
length = len(my_list)
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = my_list[i]
    my_list[i] = my_list[-(1 + i)]
    my_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
for i in range(5):
    new_element = int(input())
    my_list.append(new_element)
```

```
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = my_list[i]
    my_list[i] = my_list[-(1 + i)]
    my_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
new_list = my_list[2:]
length = len(new_list)
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = new_list[i]
    new_list[i] = new_list[-(1 + i)]
    new_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
number_of_elements = int(input())
for i in range(number_of_elements):
    new_element = int(input())
    new_list.append(new_element)
print(new_list)
```



# Abstraction for readability/reusability

```
my_list = [1,2,3,4]
print(my_list)
print("How many new elements?")
number_of_elements = int(input())
for i in range(number_of_elements):
    new_element = int(input())
    my_list.append(new_element)
length = len(my_list)
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = my_list[i]
    my_list[i] = my_list[-(1 + i)]
    my_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
for i in range(5):
    new_element = int(input())
    my_list.append(new_element)
```

```
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = my_list[i]
    my_list[i] = my_list[-(1 + i)]
    my_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
new_list = my_list[2:]
length = len(new_list)
for i in range(length // 2):
    temp_value = new_list[i]
    new_list[i] = new_list[-(1 + i)]
    new_list[-(1 + i)] = temp_value
number_of_elements = int(input())
for i in range(number_of_elements):
    new_element = int(input())
    new_list.append(new_element)
print(new_list)
```

```
my_list = [1,2,3,4]
print(my_list)
append_new_elements(my_list)
reverse(my_list)
append_n_elements(my_list, 5)
reverse(my_list)
new_list = my_list[2:]
reverse(new_list)
append_new_elements(new_list)
print(new_list)
```

# Your turn

- Make a program (with functions and abstraction!) that will:
  - Ask for a number, n
  - Ask for n more numbers and put them in a list
  - Reverse this list
  - Add 5 to every number in this list
  - Ask for a number, m
  - Ask for m more numbers and put them in a list
  - Add 26 to every number in this list
  - Reverse this list
  - Print both lists

# Imports and Libraries

What if someone else has already made the function we want?

Even if they haven't, we might not want to fill up our program with function definitions...



# Import Statements

```
import abstraction_functions

my_list = [1, 2, 3]
abstraction_functions.reverse(my_list)
```



# Import Statements

```
import abstraction_functions  
  
my_list = [1, 2, 3]  
abstraction_functions.reverse(my_list)
```

Module name

Import keyword





# Import Statements

```
import abstraction_functions  
  
my_list = [1, 2, 3]  
abstraction_functions.reverse(my_list)
```

Module name

Import keyword

Module name



# Import Statements

```
import abstraction_functions  
  
my_list = [1, 2, 3]  
abstraction_functions.reverse(my_list)
```

*Module name*

Import keyword

*Module name*

*Function name*



# Import Statements

```
from abstraction_functions import reverse
```

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3]
```

```
reverse(my_list)
```



# Import Statements

*Module name*

```
from abstraction_functions import reverse
```

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3]  
reverse(my_list)
```

from ... import keywords



# Import Statements

*Module name*

```
from abstraction_functions import reverse
```

*Function name*

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3]
reverse(my_list)
```

from ... import keywords



# Import Statements

*Module name*

```
from abstraction_functions import reverse
```

*Function name*

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3] from ... import keywords
```

```
reverse(my_list)
```

*Function name*



# Import Statements

*Module name*

```
from abstraction_functions import reverse
```

*Function name*

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3]  
reverse(my_list)
```

from ... import keywords

*Function name*

Note that we no longer do  
"abstraction\_functions.reverse()"