Week 4—Tuesday

Loops

What is a Loop?

- A way to repeat a block of code for a specific number of times.
- i.e., A way to iterate over a collection of items.
- bad: infinite loop

When to use loops?

- When you want to add 2 to every number in a list.
- When you want to print every item in a list.
- When you want to sum all the numbers in a list.

Types of Loops

- for loop
 - for each item, do something.
- while loop
 - While some condition is true, do something.

Syntax

```
for item in collection:
    # do something

while condition:
    # do something
```

Example: For Loop

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "fig"]

for item in items:
    print(f"item: {item}!")

item: apple!
item: banana!
item: cherry!
item: date!
item: elderberry!
item: fig!
```

Example: For Loop, II

• Sometimes we want the index of the item we are looping over. Use enumerate for this.

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "fig"]

for index, item in enumerate(items):
    print(f"index: {index}, item: {item}!")

index: 0, item: apple!
index: 1, item: banana!
index: 2, item: cherry!
index: 3, item: date!
index: 4, item: elderberry!
index: 5, item: fig!
```

Example: While Loop

```
import random

counter = 0
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "fig"]
results = []

while counter < 5:
    results.append(random.choice(items))
    counter += 1
print(results)</pre>
```

```
['banana', 'banana', 'apple', 'date', 'cherry']
```

Example: While Loop, II

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "fig"]
counter = 0
while counter < 3:
    print(f"Item is {items[counter]}")
    counter += 1</pre>
```

```
Item is apple
Item is banana
Item is cherry
```

1-line loops

- Sometimes you can write a loop in one line.
- But only for loops, not while loops.

```
['John', 'Jane', 'Jack']
dates ['2024-09-16', '2024-09-17', '2024-09-18', '2024-09-19', '2024-09-20', '2024-09-21', '
```

Nested Loops

- We can have loops inside loops.
- This can be particularly useful when working with 2D data.
- Be careful, though, as it can be hard to read.
- Make your naming conventions clear.

Nested Loops, 2d items

• 2-dimensional items:

Nested Loops, 2d items

```
Row 0
Item 0: 1
Item 1: 2
Item 2: 3
Row 1
Item 0: 4
Item 1: 5
Item 2: 6
Row 2
Item 0: 7
Item 1: 8
Item 2: 9
```

Break, Continue, Else

- break: stop the loop.
- continue: skip the rest of the loop and go to the next iteration.
- else: run when the loop is done without break.

Example: Break

• Stop the loop when we find the item "date".

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "fig"]
new = []

for item in items:
    if item == "date":
        break
```

```
new.insert(0, item)
print(new)
```

```
['cherry', 'banana', 'apple']
```

Example: Continue

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "date", "fig"]
new = []

for item in items:
    if item == "date":
        continue
    new.insert(0, item)
```

Example: Else

• Run the else block if the loop completes without breaking.

```
items = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date", "elderberry", "date", "fig"]
new = []

for item in items:
    if item == "date":
        new.insert(0, item)
    new.append(item)
else:
    print("Done", new)
```

```
Done ['date', 'date', 'apple', 'banana', 'cherry', 'date', 'elderberry', 'date', 'fig']
```