## Print vs. Return Data Mutation

Understanding the behavior of functions

# Understanding the behavior of functions 

Function


What are the different ways to "output" the result of the function?

## Print vs. Return

```
def return_dbl( x ):
    return x*2
```

def print_dbl( x ):
print(x*2)
$\ggg$ a $=32$
>>> return_dbl(a)
? (1)
>>> print_dbl(a)
? (2)

Will the output of (1) and (2) be the same?
A. Yes
B. No

## Print vs. Return

```
def return_dbl( x ):
    return x*2
```

def print_dbl( x ):
print(x*2)
>>> a = 32
>>> return_dbl(a)
? (1)
>>> print_dbl(a)
? (2)
def print_dbl( x ): print(x*2)

Will the output of (1) and (2) be the same?
A. Yes
B. No

## Print vs. Return

```
def return_dbl( x ):
    return x*2
```

def print_dbl( x ):
print(x*2)
>>> a = 32
>>> print(return_dbl(a))
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>>> print(print_dbl(a))
? (2)

Will the output of (1) and (2) be the same?
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## Print vs. Return

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def return_dbl( x ):
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def print_dbl( x ):
print(x*2)
>>> a = 32
>>> print(return_dbl(a))
? (1)
>>> print(print_dbl(a))
? (2)
Will the output of (1) and
(2) be the same?
A. Yes
B. No

# Understanding the behavior of functions 

Output:

## Function

Input: x


Printing vs. returning the output can lead to very different behaviors!!!!!

## What is printed? (Draw boxes!)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { def silly }(a, b): \\
& \quad a=b+1 \\
& \quad b=a / 2 \\
& \quad \operatorname{print}(a, ", ", b) \\
& \\
& \text { >> } x=67 \\
& \text { >>> } y=13 \\
& \text { >>> silly }(y, x)
\end{aligned}
$$

A. 67,13
B. 68,34
C. 14,7
D. 8,7
E. Something else

Can the silly function change the value of parameters $x$ and $y$ ?

## What is printed? (Draw boxes!)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { def silly }(a, b): \\
& a=b+1 \\
& b=a / 2
\end{aligned}
$$

>>> $\mathrm{a}=67$
$\ggg \mathrm{b}=13$
>>> silly( b, a )
>>> print(a, ",", b)
A. 67,13
B. 68,34
C. 14,7
D. 8,7
E. Something else

Can the silly function change the value of the shell variables $a, b$ ?

## What is printed? (Draw boxes!)

```
def silly( a, b ):
    a = b + 1
    b = a/2
    >>> a = 67
    >>> b = 13
>>> silly( b, a )
>>> print(a, ",", b)
```

A. 67,13
B. 68,34
C. 14, 7
D.8, 7
E. Something else

## Can a function change the value of the parameter $y$ ?

## Function


>> F (y) \# Calling function F

## What is printed? (Draw boxes!)

```
def mutate(a):
    a[0] = a[1] + 1
    a[1] = a[0]/2
```

>>> $x=[67,13]$
>>> mutate ( x )
>>> print(x)

Can the mutate function change the value of $x$ ?
A. $[67,13]$
B. $[68,34]$
C. $[14,7]$
D. $[8,7]$
E. Something else

## Mutable vs. Immutable data

Changeable types:
Unchangeable types:

```
            list
                float
            Pixel
                Picture
                                string
                                bool
                                int
(actually any user-
    defined object)
```


## Lists are Mutable Data

This list "lives" in your computer's memory

>>> myL $=[1,2,3,4] \#$ same as myL $=$ list (range $(1,5)$ ) >>> myL[3] = 42 \# Indexing MUTATES the list!

## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation

DANGER! This is likely the MOST
DIFFICULT topic you will learn in But mastering this topic is the key to acing this class!

## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation

$$
\left.\begin{array}{rl}
\operatorname{myl} & \square
\end{array}\right]
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \ggg \text { myL }=\text { list }(\text { range }(1,5)) \\
& \gg \text { myL }=\text { list }(\text { range }(10,13))
\end{aligned}
$$

Just like any assignment, myL is REASSIGNED to a new value (i.e., a new location in memory)

## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation


$\ggg$ myL $=$ list (range $(1,5)$ )
$\ggg$ myL[1] $=10$
>>> myL[2] = 11
But these statements CHANGE the object that myL references

## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation


myL2 $\square$
>>> myL = list (range (1, 5) )
$\ggg$ myL2 = myL
>>> print( myL2[1] )
What does the above print?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
E. Error

## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation

```
myL}\longrightarrow[1,2,3,4
myL2
    \square
>>> myL = list(range (1, 5))
>>> myL2 = myL
>>> myL[1] = 42
>>> print( myL2[1] )
What does the above print?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 42
D. Error
```


## Reassignment vs. Data Mutation

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\operatorname{myL} \square & {[1,2,3,4]} \\
m y L 2 \square & \square \gg \text { myL }=\text { list(range }(1,5)) \\
& \\
& \\
& \ggg \text { myL2 }=\text { myL } \\
& \ggg \text { myL }=\text { list(range }(10,13)) \\
& \ggg \text { myL[1] }=42 \\
& \ggg \operatorname{print}(\operatorname{myL}[1])
\end{array}
$$

What does the above print?
A. 2
B. 42
C. 11
D. Error
E. Something else

## Functions and (immutable) Variables

```
def swap (a, b):
    temp = a
    a = b
    b = temp
>>> x = 5
>>> y = 10
>>> swap(x, y)
>>> print(x, y)
??
```

What is printed?
A. 5,10
B. 10,5
C. Something else


## Swap stack frame


b

temp


## Functions and Mutable Types

```
def swap(L, i1, i2):
    temp = L[i1]
    L[i1] = L[i2]
    L[i2] = temp
```

>>> MyL = [2, 3, 4, 1]
>>> swap (myL, 0, 3)
>>> print(myL)
??

What gets printed?
A. $[2,3,4,1]$
B. $[1,2,3,4]$
C. $[1,3,4,2]$
D. Something else
>>> MyL = [2, 3, 4, 1]
>>> swap (myL, 0, 3)
>>> print(myL)
??


## Reference vs. Value

## Mutable types:

dictionary
list
$L=[5,42, ' h i ']$


Unmutable types:
tuple
float
string bool
int

$$
\mathrm{L}=42
$$



## What is printed? (Draw boxes!)

```
def mutate(a):
    a[0] = a[1] + 1
    a[1] = a[0]/2
```

>>> $x=[67,13]$
>>> mutate ( x )
>>> print(x)

Can the mutate function change the value of $x$ ?
A. $[67,13]$
B. $[68,34]$
C. $[14,7]$
D. $[8,7]$
E. Something else

## What is printed?

```
def mutate(a):
    a = "Diba"
>>> x = "Adib"
>>> mutate( x )
>>> print(x)
```

Can the mutate function change the value of $x$ ?
A. Diba
B. Adib
C. Something else

## "Pass By Value"

## def main()

""" calls conform """
print " Welcome to Conformity, Inc. "
fav $=7$
conform (fav)

print " My favorite number is", fav
def conform (fav)
""" sets input to 42
fav $=42$


## "Pass By Value"

## def main()

""" calls conform """
print " Welcome to Conformity, Inc. "
fav $=7$
conform (fav)

print " My favorite number is", fav
def conform(fav)
""" sets input to 42
fav $=42$

"Pass by value" means that data is copied when sent to a method

## Passing lists by value...

## def main()

""" calls conform2 """
print " Welcome to Conformity, Inc. "
fav = [7, 11 ]
conform2 (fav)
print " My favorite numbers are", fav

def conform2 (fav)
""" sets all of fav to 42 """
fav[0] $=42$
fav[1] $=42$


What gets passed by value here?

## Passing lists by value...

def main():
""" calls conform2 """
print " Welcome to Conformity, Inc. "
fav $=$ [ 7, 11 ]
conform2 (fav)
print " My favorite numbers are", fav
def conform2 (fav) :
""" sets all of fav to 42 """
fav[0] $=42$
fav[1] $=42$


The reference is copied!
can change data elsewhere!

## The conclusion

# You can change the contents of lists in functions that take those lists as input. 

(actually, lists or any mutable objects)

## Those changes will be visible everywhere.

