



CS61A Lecture 32

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Announcements



- Hog revisions due Monday
- HW10 due Wednesday
- Make sure to fill out survey on Piazza
 - We need to schedule alternate final exam times for those who have a conflict, so if you do, let us know on the survey when you are available

The Begin Special Form



Begin expressions allow sequencing

```
(begin <exp1> <exp2> ... <expn>)  
  
(define (repeat k fn)  
  (if (> k 0)  
      (begin (fn) (repeat (- k 1) fn))  
      'done))  
  
(define (tri fn)  
  (repeat 3 (lambda () (fn) (lt 120))))  
  
(define (sier d k)  
  (tri (lambda () (if (= k 1) (fd d) (leg d k)))))  
  
(define (leg d k)  
  (sier (/ d 2) (- k 1) (penup) (fd d) (pendown)))
```

Handling Errors (Back to Python)



Sometimes, computers don't do exactly what we expect

- A function receives unexpected argument types
- Some resource (such as a file) is not available
- A network connection is lost



September 9 1947: Moth found in a Mark II Computer

Exceptions



A built-in mechanism in a programming language to declare and respond to exceptional conditions

Python *raises* an exception whenever an error occurs

Exceptions can be *handled* by the program, preventing a crash

Unhandled exceptions will cause Python to halt execution

Mastering exceptions:

Exceptions are objects! They have classes with constructors

They enable non-local continuations of control:

If f calls g and g calls h , exceptions can shift control from h to f without waiting for g to return

However, exception handling tends to be slow

Assert Statements



Assert statements raise an exception of type `AssertionError`

```
assert <expression>, <string>
```

Assertions are designed to be used liberally and then disabled in production systems

```
python3 -O
```

"O" stands for optimized. Among other things, it disables assertions

Whether assertions are enabled is governed by the built-in bool `__debug__`

Raise Statements



Exceptions are raised with a *raise statement*

```
raise <expression>
```

<expression> must evaluate to an exception instance or class.

Exceptions are constructed like any other object; they are just instances of classes that inherit from **BaseException**

TypeError -- A function was passed the wrong number/type of argument

NameError -- A name wasn't found

KeyError -- A key wasn't found in a dictionary

RuntimeError -- Catch-all for troubles during interpretation

Try Statements



Try statements handle exceptions

```
try:
    <try suite>
except <exception class> as <name>:
    <except suite>
...
```

Execution rule:

- The <try suite> is executed first;
- If, during the course of executing the <try suite>, an exception is raised that is not handled otherwise, and
- If the class of the exception inherits from <exception class>, then
- The <except suite> is executed, with <name> bound to the exception

Handling Exceptions



Exception handling can prevent a program from terminating

```
>>> try:
    x = 1/0
except ZeroDivisionError as e:
    print('handling a', type(e))
    x = 0

handling a <class 'ZeroDivisionError'>
>>> x
0
```

Multiple try statements: Control jumps to the except suite of the most recent try statement that handles that type of exception.

WWPD: What Would Python Do?



How will the Python interpreter respond?

```
def invert(x):
    result = 1/x # Raises a ZeroDivisionError if x is 0
    print('Never printed if x is 0')
    return result

def invert_safe(x):
    try:
        return invert(x)
    except ZeroDivisionError as e:
        return str(e)

>>> invert_safe(1/0)
>>> try:
    invert_safe(0)
except BaseException:
    print('Handled!')

>>> invert_safe(1/0)
```

