

Lecture 13: November 12, 2019

Reading: §11

Assignments: Homework 3, due on November 8 at 11:59pm

1. Online Python documentation
2. Modifying parameter lists
 - (a) Not directly [*modpar1.py*]
 - (b) Using lists [*modpar2.py*]
 - (c) Why it works
 - (d) Using return [*modpar3.py*]
3. Pattern matching
 - (a) Regular expressions
 - (b) Atoms: letters, digits
 - (c) Match any character except newline: `.`
 - (d) Match any of a set of characters: `[0123456789]`, `^[0123456789]`, `[0-9]`
 - (e) Repetition: `*`, `+`, `{m,n}`; greedy matching; put `?` after and they match as few characters as possible
 - (f) Match start, end of string: `^`, `$`; `$` matches end of line, also
 - (g) Grouping: `(,)`
 - (h) Escape metacharacters: `\`
4. “Raw” string notation: backslash not handled specially; put “r” before string
5. Useful functions/methods [*recomp.py*, *renocomp.py*, *regroup.py*]
 - (a) `re.compile(str)` compiles the pattern into *pc* (that is, `pc = re.compile(str)`)
 - (b) `pc.match(str)` returns None if compiled pattern *pc* does not match beginning of string *str*
 - (c) `pc.search(str)` returns None if pattern *pc* does not match any part of string *str*
 - (d) `pc.findall(str)` returns a list of substrings of the string *str* that match the pattern *pc*
 - (e) `pc.group(str)` returns the substring of the string *str* that the pattern *pc* matches
 - (f) `pc.start(str)` returns the starting position of the match
 - (g) `pc.end(str)` returns the ending position of the match
 - (h) `pc.span(str)` returns tuple (start, end) positions of match
6. Useful abbreviations
 - (a) `\d` matches any digit; same as `[0-9]`
 - (b) `\s` matches any space character; same as `[\t\n\r\f\v]`
 - (c) `\w` matches any alphanumeric character and underscore; same as `[a-zA-Z0-9_]`
 - (d) `\D` matches any character *except* a digit; inverse of `\d`
 - (e) `\S` matches any character *except* a space character; inverse of `\s`
 - (f) `\W` matches any character *except* an alphanumeric character or underscore; inverse of `\w`
 - (g) `\b` matches a word boundary — a word is a sequence of alphanumeric characters