



Programming Python – Lecture#3

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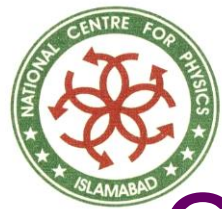
Scheme of Lecture

- ◆ Object-Oriented Framework
- ◆ Python Scopes and Namespaces
- ◆ The self argument
- ◆ The `__init__` method
- ◆ Classes
- ◆ The `__getitem__` and `__setitem__` methods
- ◆ Inheritance and Multiple Inheritance
- ◆ Iterators and Generators
- ◆ Exception Handling
- ◆ Gui Tkinter Programming Basics



Object-Oriented Framework

- ◆ Two basic programming paradigms:
 - Procedural
 - ◆ Organizing programs around functions or blocks of statements which manipulate data.
 - Object-Oriented
 - ◆ combining data and functionality and wrap it inside what is called an object.



Object-Oriented Framework

- ◆ **Classes** and **objects** are the two main aspects of object oriented programming.
- ◆ A **class** creates a new *type*.
- ◆ Where **objects** are *instances* of the class.
- ◆ An analogy is that we can have variables of type `int` which translates to saying that variables that store integers are variables which are instances (objects) of the `int` class.



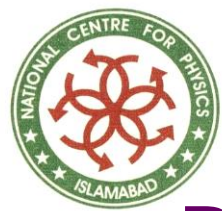
Object-Oriented Framework

- ◆ Objects can store data using ordinary variables that *belong* to the object.
- ◆ Variables that belong to an object or class are called as **fields**.
- ◆ Objects can also have functionality by using functions that *belong* to the class. Such functions are called **methods**.
- ◆ This terminology is important because it helps us to differentiate between a function which is separate by itself and a method which belongs to an object.



Object-Oriented Framework

- ◆ Remember, that fields are of two types
 - they can belong to each instance (object) of the class
 - or they belong to the class itself.
 - They are called instance variables and class variables respectively.
- ◆ A class is created using the class keyword.
- ◆ The fields and methods of the class are listed in an indented block.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ A **namespace** is a mapping from names to objects.
- ◆ Most **namespaces** are currently implemented as Python dictionaries, but that's normally not noticeable in any way.
- ◆ Examples of **namespaces** are:
 - the set of built-in names (functions such as `abs()`, and built-in exception names)
 - the global names in a module;
 - and the local names in a function invocation.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- In a sense the set of attributes of an object also form a **namespace**.
- ◆ The important thing to know about **namespaces** is that there is absolutely no relation between names in different namespaces;
 - for instance, two different modules may both define a function “maximize” without confusion — users of the modules must prefix it with the module name.



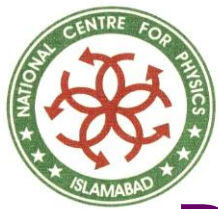
Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ In the expression `modname.funcname`, `modname` is a module object and `funcname` is an attribute of it.
- ◆ In this case there happens to be a straightforward mapping between the module's attributes and the global names defined in the module:
 - they share the same `namespace`!



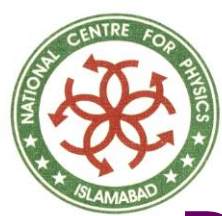
Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ Namespaces are created at different moments and have different lifetimes.
- ◆ The namespace containing the built-in names is created when the Python interpreter starts up, and is never deleted.
- ◆ The global namespace for a module is created when the module definition is read in;
 - normally, module namespaces also last until the interpreter quits.



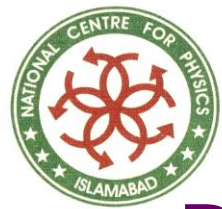
Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ The statements executed by the top-level invocation of the interpreter, either read from a script file or interactively, are considered part of a module called `__main__`,
 - so they have their own global namespace.
- ◆ The built-in names actually also live in a module;
 - this is called `__builtin__`.



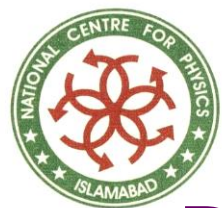
Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ The local namespace for a function is created
 - when the function is called
- ◆ And deleted
 - when the function returns or raises an exception that is not handled within the function.
 - Of course, recursive invocations each have their own local namespace.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ A **scope** is a textual region of a Python program where a **namespace** is directly accessible.
- ◆ “Directly accessible” here means that an unqualified reference to a name attempts to find the name in the **namespace**.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ Although **scopes** are determined statically, they are used dynamically.
- ◆ At any time during execution, there are at least three nested scopes whose namespaces are directly accessible:
 - the innermost scope, which is searched first, contains the local names; the **namespaces** of any enclosing functions,



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- which are searched starting with the nearest enclosing **scope**; the middle scope, searched next, contains the current module's global names;
- and the outermost **scope** (searched last) is the **namespace** containing built-in names.



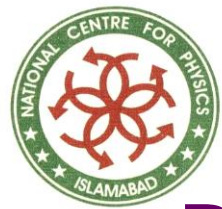
Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ If a name is declared global, then all references and assignments go directly to the middle **scope** containing the module's global names.
- ◆ Otherwise, all variables found outside of the innermost **scope** are read-only.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ Usually, the local **scope** references the local names of the current function.
- ◆ Outside of functions, the local **scope** references the same **namespace** as the global **scope**:
 - the module's **namespace**.
- ◆ Class definitions place yet another **namespace** in the local **scope**.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ A special quirk of Python is that assignments always go into the innermost **scope**.
- ◆ Assignments do not copy data—
 - they just bind names to objects.
- ◆ The same is true for deletions:
 - the statement `'del x'` removes the binding of `x` from the namespace referenced by the local scope.



Python Scopes and Namespaces

- ◆ In fact, all operations that introduce new names use the local **scope**:
 - in particular, import statements and function definitions bind the module or function name in the local **scope**. (The global statement can be used to indicate that particular variables live in the global scope.)



The self

- ◆ Class methods have only one specific difference from ordinary functions
 - they have an extra variable that has to be added to the beginning of the parameter list
 - but we do **not** give a value for this parameter when we call the method.
 - this particular variable refers to the object itself,
 - and by convention, it is given the name `self`.



The self

- ◆ Although, we can give any name for this parameter, it is *strongly recommended* that we use the name **self**.
- ◆ Any other name is definitely frowned upon.
- ◆ There are many advantages to using a standard name
 - any reader of our program will immediately recognize that it is the object variable i.e. the **self** and even specialized IDEs (Integrated Development Environments such as Boa Constructor) can help us if we use this particular name.



The self

- ◆ Python will automatically provide this value in the function parameter list.
- ◆ For example, if we have a class called **MyClass** and an instance (object) of this class called **MyObject**, then when we call a method of this object as **MyObject.method(arg1, arg2)**, this is automatically converted to **MyClass.method(MyObject, arg1, arg2)**.
- ◆ This is what the special **self** is all about.



The `__init__` method

- ◆ `__init__` is called immediately after an instance of the class is created.
- ◆ It would be tempting but incorrect to call this the constructor of the class.
 - Tempting, because it looks like a constructor (by convention, `__init__` is the first method defined for the class), acts like one (it's the first piece of code executed in a newly created instance of the class), and even sounds like one ("init" certainly suggests a constructor-ish nature).



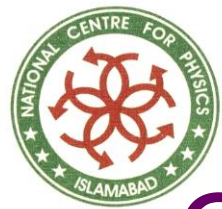
The `__init__` method

- Incorrect, because the object has already been constructed by the time `__init__` is called, and we already have a valid reference to the new instance of the class.
- ◆ But `__init__` is the closest thing we're going to get in Python to a constructor, and it fills much the same role.



Creating a Class

```
class Person:  
    pass # A new block  
p = Person()  
print p  
# <__main__.Person instance at 0x816a6cc>
```



Object Methods

```
class Person:  
    def sayHi(self):  
        print 'Hello, how are you?'  
p = Person()  
p.sayHi()  
# This short example can also be  
# written as Person().sayHi()
```



Class and Object Variables

```
class Person:
```

```
    """Represents a person."""
```

```
    population = 0
```

```
    def __init__(self, name):
```

```
        """Initializes the person."""
```

```
        self.name = name
```

```
        print '(Initializing %s)' % self.name
```

```
        # When this person is created, # he/she adds to the population
```

```
        Person.population += 1
```

```
    def sayHi(self):
```

```
        """Greet the other person. Really, that's all it does."""
```

```
        print 'Hi, my name is %s.' % self.name
```



Class and Object Variables

```
def howMany(self):
```

```
    """Prints the current population."""
```

```
    # There will always be at least one person
```

```
    if Person.population == 1:
```

```
        print 'I am the only person here.'
```

```
    else:
```

```
        print 'We have %s persons here.' % Person.population
```

```
swaroop = Person('Swaroop')
```

```
swaroop.sayHi()
```

```
swaroop.howMany()
```

```
kalam = Person('Abdul Kalam')
```

```
kalam.sayHi()
```

```
kalam.howMany()
```

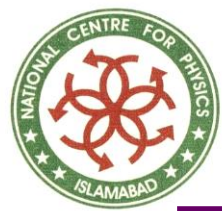
```
swaroop.sayHi()
```

```
swaroop.howMany()
```



Special Class Methods

- ◆ In addition to normal class methods, there are a number of special methods which Python classes can define.
- ◆ Instead of being called directly by our code (like normal methods), **special methods** are called for you by Python in particular circumstances or when specific syntax is used.
- ◆ We can **get** and **set** items with a syntax that doesn't include explicitly invoking methods.



The `__getitem__` Special Method

```
def __getitem__(self, key): return self.data[key]
```

```
>>> f
```

```
{'name': '/music/_singles/kairo.mp3'}
```

```
>>> f.__getitem__("name")
```

```
'/music/_singles/kairo.mp3'
```

```
>>> f["name"] (2)
```

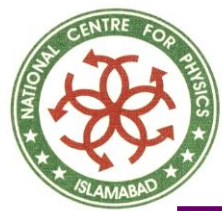
```
'/music/_singles/kairo.mp3'
```

◆ The `__getitem__` special method looks simple enough. Like the normal methods `clear`, `keys`, and `values`, it just redirects to the dictionary to return its value. But how does it get called?



The `__getitem__` Special Method

- ◆ Well, we can call `__getitem__` directly, but in practice we wouldn't actually do that;
- ◆ The right way to use `__getitem__` is to get Python to call it for us.
- ◆ This looks just like the syntax we would use to get a dictionary value, and in fact it returns the value we would expect.
- ◆ But here's the missing link: under the covers, Python has converted this syntax to the method call:
 - `f.__getitem__("name")`.
- ◆ That's why `__getitem__` is a special class method; not only can we call it ourselves, we can get Python to call it for us by using the right syntax.



The `__setitem__` Special Method

```
def __setitem__(self, key, item):self.data[key] = item
```

```
>>> f
```

```
{'name':'/music/_singles/kairo.mp3'}
```

```
>>> f.__setitem__("genre", 31)
```

```
>>> f
```

```
{'name':'/music/_singles/kairo.mp3', 'genre':31}
```

```
>>> f["genre"] = 32
```

```
>>> f
```

```
{'name':'/music/_singles/kairo.mp3', 'genre':32}
```



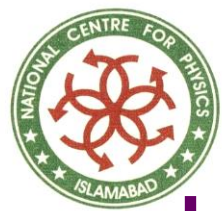

The `__setitem__` Special Method

- ◆ Like the `__getitem__` method, `__setitem__` simply redirects to the real dictionary `self.data` to do its work.
- ◆ And like `__getitem__`, we wouldn't ordinarily call it directly like this.
- ◆ Python calls `__setitem__` for us when we use the right syntax.
- ◆ This looks like regular dictionary syntax, except of course that `f` is really a class that's trying very hard to masquerade as a dictionary, and `__setitem__` is an essential part of that masquerade.
- ◆ This second last line of code actually calls `f.__setitem__("genre", 32)` under the covers.



Inheritance

- ◆ One of the major benefits of object oriented programming is **reuse** of code
- ◆ One of the ways this is achieved is through the **inheritance** mechanism.
- ◆ **Inheritance** can be best imagined as implementing a *type and subtype* relationship between classes.
- ◆ Consider this example:



Using Inheritance

```
class SchoolMember:
```

```
    """Represents any school member."""
```

```
    def __init__(self, name, age):
```

```
        self.name = name
```

```
        self.age = age
```

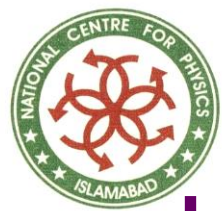
```
        print '(Initialized SchoolMember: %s)' %
```

```
            self.name
```

```
    def tell(self):
```

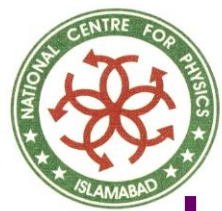
```
        print 'Name:"%s" Age:"%s" ' % (self.name,
```

```
            self.age),
```



Using Inheritance

```
class Teacher(SchoolMember):  
    """Represents a teacher."""  
    def __init__(self, name, age, salary):  
        SchoolMember.__init__(self, name, age)  
        self.salary = salary  
        print '(Initialized Teacher: %s)' % self.name  
    def tell(self):  
        SchoolMember.tell(self)  
        print 'Salary: "%d"' % self.salary
```



Using Inheritance

```
class Student(SchoolMember):  
    """Represents a student."""  
    def __init__(self, name, age, marks):  
        SchoolMember.__init__(self, name, age)  
        self.marks = marks  
        print '(Initialized Student: %s)' % self.name  
    def tell(self):  
        SchoolMember.tell(self)  
        print 'Marks:"%d"' % self.marks
```



Using Inheritance

```
t = Teacher('Mrs. Abraham', 40, 30000)
```

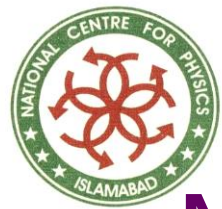
```
s = Student('Swaroop', 21, 75)
```

```
print # prints a blank line
```

```
members = [t, s]
```

```
for member in members:
```

```
    member.tell() # Works for instances of  
                  Student as well as Teacher
```



Multiple Inheritance

- ◆ Python supports a limited form of **multiple inheritance** as well.
- ◆ A class definition with multiple base classes looks as follows:

```
class DerivedClassName(Base1, Base2, Base3):
```

```
<statement-1>
```

.

```
<statement-N>
```

- ◆ The only rule necessary to explain the semantics is the resolution rule used for class attribute references.



Multiple Inheritance

- ◆ This is depth-first, left-to-right. Thus, if an attribute is not found in `DerivedClassName`, it is searched in `Base1`, then (recursively) in the base classes of `Base1`, and only if it is not found there, it is searched in `Base2`, and so on.
- ◆ A well-known problem with multiple inheritance is a class derived from two classes that happen to have a common base class. While it is easy enough to figure out what happens in this case (the instance will have a single copy of “instance variables” or data attributes used by the common base class).



Iterators

- ◆ By now, you've probably noticed that most container objects can be looped over using a for statement:

```
for element in [1, 2, 3]:  
    print element
```

```
for element in (1, 2, 3):  
    print element
```

```
for key in {'one':1, 'two':2}:  
    print key
```



Iterators

```
for char in "123":  
    print char  
for line in open("myfile.txt"):  
    print line
```

- ◆ This style of access is clear, concise, and convenient.
- ◆ The use of **iterators** pervades and unifies Python.
- ◆ Behind the scenes, the for statement calls **iter()** on the container object.
- ◆ The function returns an **iterator** object that defines the method **next()** which accesses elements in the container one at a time.
- ◆ When there are no more elements, **next()** raises a **StopIteration** exception which tells the for loop to terminate.
- ◆ This example shows how it all works:



Iterators

```
>>> s = 'abc'
```

```
>>> it = iter(s)
```

```
>>> it
```

```
<iterator object at 0x00A1DB50>
```

```
>>> it.next()
```

```
'a'
```

```
>>> it.next()
```

```
'b'
```



Iterators

```
>>> it.next()
```

```
'c'
```

```
>>> it.next()
```

◆ Traceback (most recent call last):

```
File "<pyshell#6>", line 1, in -toplevel
```

```
it.next()
```

```
StopIteration
```



Iterators

- ◆ Having seen the mechanics behind the `iterator` protocol, it is easy to add `iterator` behavior to our classes.
- ◆ Define a `__iter__()` method which returns an object with a `next()` method.
- ◆ If the class defines `next()`, then `__iter__()` can just return `self`:



Iterators

```
>>> class Reverse:
    "Iterator for looping over a sequence
    backwards"
    def __init__(self, data):
        self.data = data
        self.index = len(data)
    def __iter__(self):
        return self
```



Iterators

```
def next(self):  
    if self.index == 0:  
        raise StopIteration  
    self.index = self.index - 1  
    return self.data[self.index]
```



Iterators

```
>>> for char in Reverse('spam'):
```

```
print char
```

```
m
```

```
a
```

```
p
```

```
s
```




Generators

- ◆ Generators are a simple and powerful tool for creating iterators.
- ◆ They are written like regular functions but use the **yield** statement whenever they want to return data.
- ◆ Each time the **next()** is called, the generator resumes where it left-off (it remembers all the data values and which statement was last executed).
- ◆ An example shows that generators can be trivially easy to create:



Generators

```
>>> def reverse(data):  
for index in range(len(data)-1, -1, -1):  
yield data[index]  
>>> for char in reverse('golf'):  
print char  
f  
l  
o  
g
```



Generators

- ◆ Anything that can be done with **generators** can also be done with class based **iterators** as described in the previous section.
- ◆ What makes **generators** so compact is that the **`__iter__()`** and **`next()`** methods are created automatically.
- ◆ Another key feature is that the local variables and execution state are automatically saved between calls.
- ◆ This made the function easier to write and much more clear than an approach using class variables like **`self.index`** and **`self.data`**.



Generators

- ◆ In addition to automatic method creation and saving program state, when **generators** terminate, they automatically raise **StopIteration**.
- ◆ In combination, these features make it easy to create **iterators** with no more effort than writing a regular function.



Exception Handling

- ◆ Exceptions occur when certain *exceptional* situations occur in our program.
- ◆ For example, what if we are reading a file and we accidentally deleted it in another window or some other error occurred? Such situations are handled using **exceptions**.
- ◆ What if our program had some invalid statements?
- ◆ This is handled by Python which **raises** its hands and tells you there is an **error**.



Exception Handling

- ◆ Consider a simple print statement.
- ◆ What if we misspelt print as Print?
- ◆ Note the capitalization.
- ◆
- ◆ In this case, Python *raises* a syntax error.

```
>>> Print 'Hello, World' File "<stdin>", line 1 Print  
'Hello, World' ^ SyntaxError: invalid syntax  
>>> print 'Hello, World'  
Hello, World  
>>>
```
- ◆ Observe that a `SyntaxError` is raised and also the location where the error was detected, is printed. This is what a *handler* for the error does.



Exception Handling

- ◆ To show the usage of exceptions, we will **try** to read input from the user and see what happens.
- ◆

```
>>> s = raw_input('Enter something --> ')
```
- ◆ Enter something --> Traceback (most recent call last): File "<stdin>", line 1, in ? EOFError
- ◆

```
>>>
```
- ◆ Here, we ask the user for input and if he/she presses **Ctrl-d** i.e. the EOF (end of file) character, then Python raises an error called EOFError.
- ◆ Next, we will see how to handle such errors.



Exception Handling

- ◆ We can handle exceptions using the **try..except** statement.
- ◆ We basically put our usual statements within the **try-block**.
- ◆ And we put all the error handlers in the **except-block**.



Exception Handling

```
import sys
```

```
try:
```

```
    s = raw_input('Enter something --> ')
```

```
except EOFError:
```

```
    print '\nWhy did you do an EOF on me?' sys.exit() #  
    Exit the program
```

```
except:
```

```
    print '\nSome error/exception occurred.'  
    # Here, we are not exiting the program
```

```
print 'Done'
```



Exception Handling

- ◆ We put all the statements that might raise an error in the try block
- ◆ And then handle all errors and exceptions in the except clause/block.
- ◆ The **except** clause can handle a single specified error or exception or a parenthesized list of errors/exceptions.
- ◆ If no names of errors or exceptions are supplied, it will handle *all* errors and exceptions. There has to be at least one **except** clause associated with every **try** clause.



Exception Handling

- ◆ If any error or **exception** is not handled, then the default Python handler is called which stops the execution of the program and prints a message.
- ◆ We can also have an **else** clause with the **try..catch** block.
- ◆ The **else** clause is executed if no **exception** occurs.



Exception Handling

- ◆ We can also get the **exception object** so that we can retrieve additional information about the **exception** which has occurred.
- ◆ This is demonstrated in the next example.



Exception Handling

- ◆ We can raise **exceptions** using the **raise** statement
 - - we specify the name of the error/**exception** and the **exception** object.
 - The error or **exception** that we can **raise** should be a class which directly or indirectly is a derived class of the **Error** or **Exception** class respectively.



Exception Handling

◆ `class ShortInputException(Exception):`

- `"""A user-defined exception class."""`
- `def __init__(self, length, atleast):`
 - ◆ `self.length = length`
 - ◆ `self.atleast = atleast`

◆ `try:`

- `s = raw_input('Enter something --> ')`
- `if len(s) < 3:`
 - ◆ `raise ShortInputException(len(s), 3)`



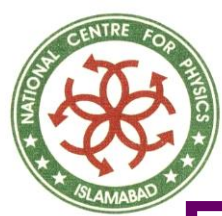
Exception Handling

- ◆ Other work can go as usual here.
except EOFError:
 - print '\nWhy did you do an EOF on me?'
- ◆ except ShortInputException, x:
 - print '\nThe input was of length %d, it should be at least %d'\ % (x.length, x.atleast)
- ◆ else:
 - print 'No exception was raised.'



Exception Handling

- ◆ Other work can go as usual here.
except EOFError:
 - print '\nWhy did you do an EOF on me?'
- ◆ except ShortInputException, x:
 - print '\nThe input was of length %d, it should be at least %d'\ % (x.length, x.atleast)
- ◆ else:
 - print 'No exception was raised.'



Exception Handling

- ◆ What if we wanted some statements to execute after the **try block** whether or not an **exception** was raised?
- ◆ This is done using the **finally block**.
- ◆ Note that if we are using a **finally block**, we cannot have any **except** clauses for the same **try** block.



Exception Handling

try:

```
f = file('poem.txt')
```

```
while True: # Our usual file-reading block
```

```
    l = f.readline()
```

```
    if len(l) == 0:
```

```
        break
```

```
    print l,
```

finally:

```
    print 'Cleaning up...'
```

```
    f.close()
```



GUI – Tkinter Overview

- ◆ Of various GUI options, **Tkinter** is the de facto standard way to implement portable user interfaces in Python today.
- ◆ **Tkinter's** availability, accessibility, documentation and extensions have made it the most widely used Python GUI solution for many years running.



Tkinter Structure

- ◆ **Tkinter** is simply the name of Python's interface to **Tk**
 - -- a GUI library originally written for use with the Tcl programming language.
- ◆ Python's **Tkinter** module talks to **Tk**, and the Tk API in turn interfaces with the underlying window system:
 - Microsoft Windows
 - X Windows on Unix
 - or Macintosh



Tkinter Structure

- ◆ Python's **Tkinter** adds a software layer on top of **Tk** that allows Python scripts to call out to **Tk** to build and configure interfaces, and routes control back to Python scripts that handle user-generated events (e.g., mouse-clicks).
- ◆ i.e., GUI calls are internally routed from Python script, to **Tkinter**, to **Tk**; GUI events are routed from **Tk**, to **Tkinter**, and back to a Python script.



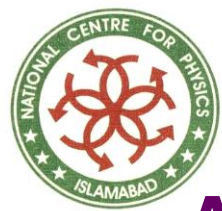
Tkinter Structure

- ◆ Luckily, Python programmers don't normally need to care about all this call routing going on internally;
 - They simply make widgets and register Python functions to handle widget events.
- ◆ Because of the overall structure, event handlers are usually known as **callback handlers** as the GUI library "calls back" to Python code when events occur.



Tkinter Structure

- ◆ Python/**Tkinter** programs are entirely event-driven:
 - They build displays and register handlers for events, and then do nothing but wait for events to occur.
 - During the wait, the **Tk** GUI library runs an event loop that watches for mouseclicks, keyboard presses, and so on.
 - All application program processing happens in the registered callback handlers in response to events.



A Tiny GUI example

```
# Get a widget object
from Tkinter import Label
# Make one
widget = Label(None, text='Hello GUI World!')
# Arrange it
widget.pack()
# Start event loop
widget.mainloop()
```




A Tiny GUI Example

- ◆ The above written code is a complete Python `Tkinter` GUI program.
- ◆ When this script is run, we get a simple window with a label in the middle.



Tkinter Coding Basics

- ◆ Although the last example was a trivial one but it illustrates steps common to most **Tkinter** programs:
 - Loads a widget class from the **Tkinter** module
 - Makes an instance of the imported Label class
 - Packs(arrange) the new Label in its parent widget
 - Calls mainloop to bring up the window and start the Tkinter event loop



Tkinter Coding Basics

- ◆ The mainloop method called last puts the label on the screen and enters a **Tkinter** wait state, which watches for user-generated GUI events.
- ◆ Within the mainloop function, **Tkinter** internally monitors things like the keyboard and mouse, to detect user-generated events.
- ◆ Because of this model, the mainloop call here never returns to our script while the GUI is displayed on screen.



Tkinter Coding Basics

- ◆ To display a GUI's window, we need to call `mainloop`.
- ◆ To display widgets within the window, they must be packed so that the `Tkinter` geometry manager knows about them.
- ◆ A `mainloop` without a pack shows an empty window.
- ◆ And a pack without a `mainloop` in a script shows nothing since the script never enters an event wait-state.