

Objectives

- Lab 5 artwork, animation
- **str** methods
- Broader Issue: Challenges of Electronic Voting

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str Methods

- **str** is a class or a type
- **Methods**: available operations to perform on **str** objects
 - Used slightly differently than functions
 - Provide common functionality
- To see all the methods available for the **str** class
 - `help(str)`

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str Methods

- Example method: `find(substring)`
 - Finds the index where substring is in string
 - Returns -1 if substring isn't found
- To call a method:
 - `<string>.methodname([arguments])`
 - Example: `filename.find(".py")`

Executed on this string

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Common str Methods

Method	Operation
<code>center(width)</code>	Returns a copy of string centered within the given number of columns
<code>count(sub[, start [, end]])</code>	Return # of non-overlapping occurrences of substring <code>sub</code> in the string.
<code>endswith(sub), startswith(sub)</code>	Return <code>True</code> iff string ends with/begins with <code>sub</code>
<code>find(sub[, start [, end]])</code>	Return first index where substring <code>sub</code> is found
<code>isalpha(), isdigit(), isspace()</code>	Returns <code>True</code> iff string contains letters/digits/whitespace only
<code>lower(), upper()</code>	Return a copy of string converted to lowercase/uppercase

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`string_methods.py`

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Common str Methods

Method	Operation
<code>replace(old, new[, count])</code>	Returns a copy of string with all occurrences of substring <code>old</code> replaced by substring <code>new</code> . If <code>count</code> given, only replaces first <code>count</code> instances.
<code>split([sep])</code>	Return a list of the words in the string, using <code>sep</code> as the delimiter string. If <code>sep</code> is not specified or is <code>None</code> , any whitespace string is a separator.
<code>strip()</code>	Return a copy of the string with the leading and trailing whitespace removed
<code>join(<sequence>)</code>	Return a string which is the concatenation of the strings in the sequence with the string this is called on as the separator
<code>swapcase()</code>	Return a copy of the string with uppercase characters converted to lowercase and vice versa.

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String Methods vs. Functions

- Functions: all "input" as arguments/parameters
 - Example: `len` is a built-in function
 - Called as `len(string)`
- Methods: "input" are argument/parameters **and** the string the method was called on
 - Example: `string.upper()`

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Using `str` Methods

- Modify our search program to find out if the entered string has the `.py` extension

```
PYTHON_EXT = ".py"

filename = raw_input("Enter a filename: ")

if filename[-(len(PYTHON_EXT)):] == PYTHON_EXT:
    # Appropriate output
if PYTHON_EXT in filename:
    # Appropriate output
```

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Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?

- Problem in spelling from the show: How many a's are in `abracadabra`?
 - Solve using `str` methods

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Using `str` Methods

- Modify `binaryToDecimal.py` to verify that the entered string contains only numbers
- 2nd modification: How could we make sure that it contains only 0s and 1s?

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Implementing Wheel of Fortune

- Simplifications: no money, no buying vowels, no keeping track of previous guesses, one player
- Functionality
 - Displaying puzzle appropriately
 - Gets guesses from user
 - Either letters or solve the puzzle
 - Reports number of the guess in the puzzle
 - Displays puzzle with guesses filled in
- Think about ...
 - User input robustness?
 - Any special cases?

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Extra Credit Opportunity

- Modify Wheel of Fortune to ...
 - Include prize money
 - Spinning wheel
 - Handles buying vowels vs consonants
 - Multiple players, losing turns
- Due Friday, February 29

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Broader Issue: Electronic Voting

- Select from one of three articles
 - The Risks of Electronic Voting
 - Princeton Scientists Create Vote-Stealing Program
 - Voting with (Little) Confidence

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Risks of Electronic Voting

- What are the risks and challenges in electronic voting?
 - Which are different from traditional voting?
- For which of these risks would you (from just CS111) have been able to suggest a better solution?
- What do you think of University professors hacking a voting system?
 - Ethical or unethical?
 - What factors would change your mind?

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Risks/Challenges

- Encryption
- Checking boundaries
- Hardcoding passwords
- Not designing with security in mind
- Proprietary code (transparency of system)
- Intuitive User Interface
 - Why especially critical in voting?
- Detecting problems in votes
- Testing! Testing! Testing!

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Risks of Electronic Voting

- Why assigned?
 - Awareness of some of the issues
 - Assumed electronic voting is better than paper ballots
 - CS effect on society, policy
- Hope you'll be knowledgeable when you read about these issues:
 - "Even I know that you should/shouldn't do X"
 - Help you shape future policies

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