

6.100L Recitation 7 - 28 October, 2022

Reminders:

- MQ7 next Monday 10/31
- PS3 due next Wednesday 11/2

Lecture 13: Exceptions & Assertions

Exception Handling

Exceptions occur when the syntax is correct, but the code performs some operation that isn't allowed. We can handle them in multiple ways. Below are a few options:

1. **try/except:**

- Use this to handle an exception (i.e. prevent the program crashing)
- If you don't specify a specific exception, then it handles ALL exceptions that occur in the try block.
- If you specify a specific exception, the except clause handles only errors of that type.
- This is optional, but can include a message after the error is thrown:
 except ZeroDivisionError("Cannot divide by zero")

```
try:
    a = int(input("Tell me one number: "))
    b = int(input("Tell me another number: "))
    print("a/b = ", a/b)
    print("a+b = ", a+b)
except ValueError:
    print("Could not convert to a number.")
except ZeroDivisionError:
    print("Can't divide by zero")
    print("a/b = infinity")
    print("a+b =", a+b)
except:
    print("Something went very wrong.")
```

only execute if these errors come up

for all other errors

2. raise:

- used when you want an exception to occur
- e.g: `raise ValueError("string contained a character")`

```
def sum_digits(s):  
    """ s is a non-empty string containing digits.  
    Returns sum of all chars that are digits """  
    total = 0  
    for char in s:  
        try:  
            val = int(char)  
            total += val  
        except:  
            raise ValueError("string contained a character")  
    return total
```

Halt execution as soon as you see a non-digit with our own informative message

3. assert:

- good defensive programming technique, execution halted when expected condition not met.
- `assert <Boolean condition>`
- `assert <Boolean condition>, <assertion message>`

Lecture 14: Dictionaries

- Example dictionary: `my_dict = {'key1': 'value1', 'key2': 2}`
- A dictionary is another data structure that maps keys to values
- Keys:
 - must be immutable
 - must be unique
 - Ordering is not guaranteed
 - `my_dict.keys()` # returns the all keys of a dictionary
- Values:
 - Don't need to be immutable or unique
 - `my_dict['key1']` # returns 'value1'
 - `my_dict['key2']` # returns 2
 - `my_dict.values()` # returns the all values of a dictionary

- Iterating over a dictionary iterates over the keys
- Using the keyword `in` tests for membership amongst keys
- always check `in dict`, not `in dict.keys()` for efficiency reasons
- `dict.items()` # returns the key, value pairs of a dictionary

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