# List and String Processing

Thomas Schwarz, SJ

#### Activities 1

- Write a program that checks (returns True/False) whether a string ends with .edu
  - one solution with endswith
  - one solution using a slice and comparing strings
  - one solution using indices and comparing characters

#### Activities 1 Solutions

```
def check1(a_string):
    return a_string.endswith('.edu')
```

```
def check2(a_string):
    return a_string[-4:] == '.edu'
```

#### Activities 2

• A function counter that counts the number of consonants in a string

#### Activities 2 Solutions

```
def cons(a_string):
    count = 0
    for letter in a_string:
        if letter.lower() in 'bcdfghjklmnpqrstvwxyz':
            count += 1
    return count
```

#### Activities

• A function that removes all vowels in a string

#### **Activities 3 Solutions**

```
def rem_vol(a_string):
    result = [ ]
    for letter in a_string:
        if letter not in 'aeiouAEIOU':
            result.append(letter)
        return ''.join(result)
```

# Formatting method

- Python has two type of special strings:
  - r-strings for raw strings: no escapes
  - f-strings for formatting
  - Using f-strings results in more compact and readable code

#### f-strings

 f-strings are defined with a pair of quotation marks preceded immediately by an "f" or "F"

fstring = f'hello world'

- An f-string can contain a variable name surrounded by brackets in its definition
- The bracket is then replaced by the value of the variable

#### f-strings

• Example:

```
number = 6.35
astring = "hello"
fstring = f"{astring}, the number is {number}"
```

• Variable fstring is then

'hello, the number is 6.35'

### f-strings

- The expression in brackets inside an f-string gets evaluated at run time.
- For example, we can say

f"{2+3\*4}"

#### • or

```
astring = "hello"
string = f"{astring.upper()} World"
```

#### which evaluates to

'HELLO World'

#### r-strings

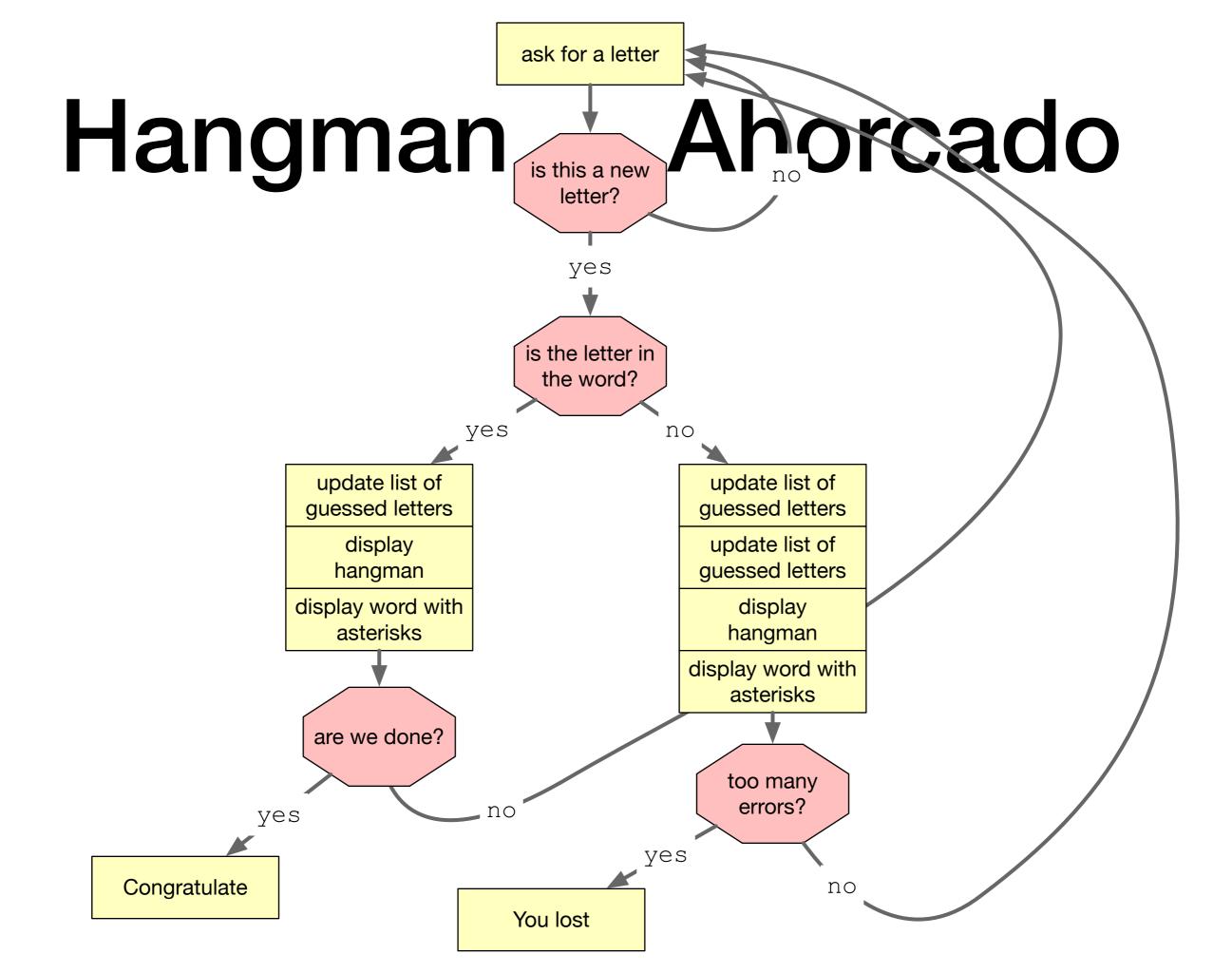
- Because of their similarity with f-strings, we mention rstrings
- An r-string uses the escape character only as an escape character, so there is no escaping at all
  - This is useful for strings containing the backslash such as Windows file names

address = r"c:\Windows\System32\system.ini"

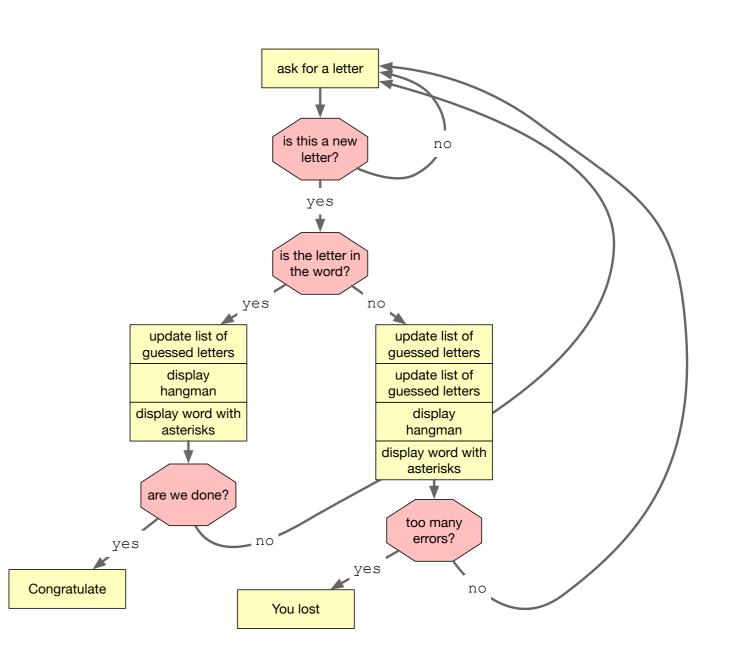
- A slightly morbid childrens' game
  - Guess a word letter by letter
  - For each wrong letter, a part of a hanged man is drawn

```
Enter a letter j
+----+
| |
| o
| /|\
| |
|
|
|
|
you looser you
```

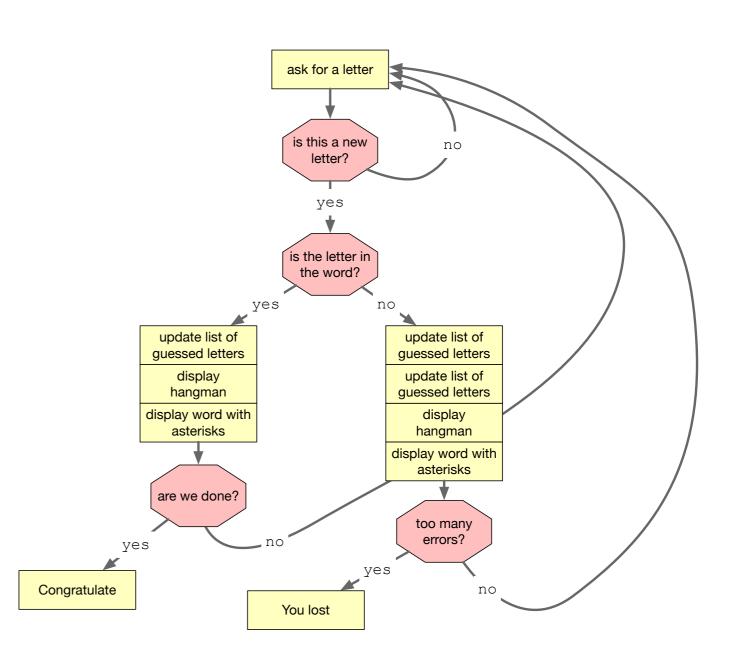
- How to plan a software project?
  - Principal idea: divide tasks into simpler components
  - Make a diagram of program logic:
    - This is apt to change



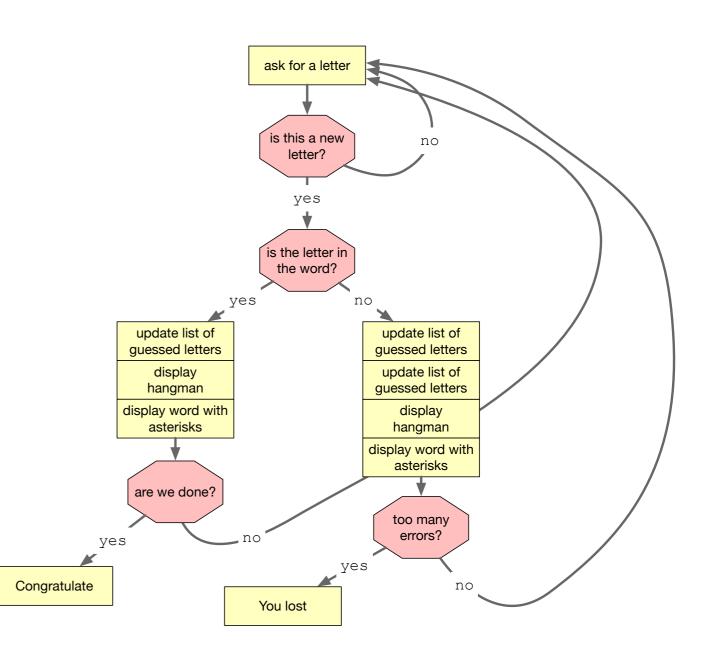
- Observation:
  - We need a list of guessed letters to decide whether this is a letter
  - We need to do more input control
    - User enters digit
    - user enters capital letters



- All of the yellow boxes are candidates for functions
- We can see some common data:
  - The secret word
  - The list of guessed letters
  - The number of bad guesses

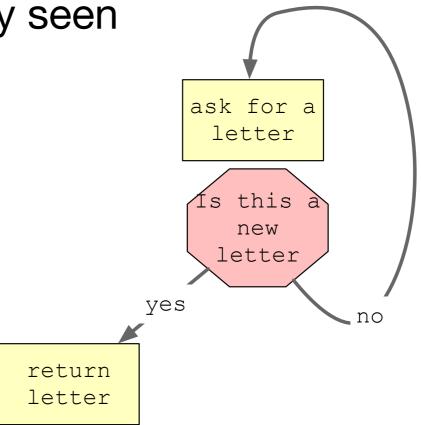


- We can also see that at the heart is a giant loop
- Python-style:
  - Make the loop an infinite loop
  - Break out

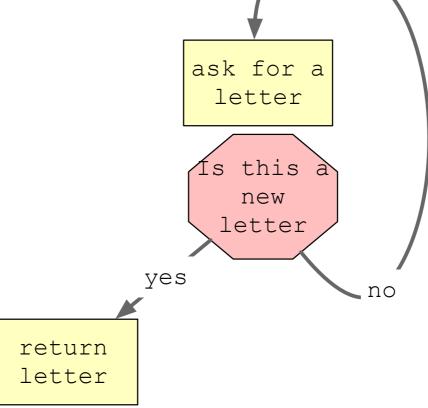


- A word about diagrams:
  - Programming has become a lot easier over the years
    - So we program more difficult things
    - And focus has shifted
  - Some methods are very data-centric
    - Useful for big data implementation or graphics, e.g.
  - Some methods focus on processing
    - As we just did

- "Enter a letter" function:
  - Needs one parameter: list of guessed letters
  - Should do error checking (homework / project)
  - Returns a letter not previously seen



```
def get_letter(lol):
    while True:
        x = input('Enter a letter ')
        x = x[0]
        if x in lol:
            print('This letter is already guessed. Try again.')
        else:
            return x
            ask for a
```

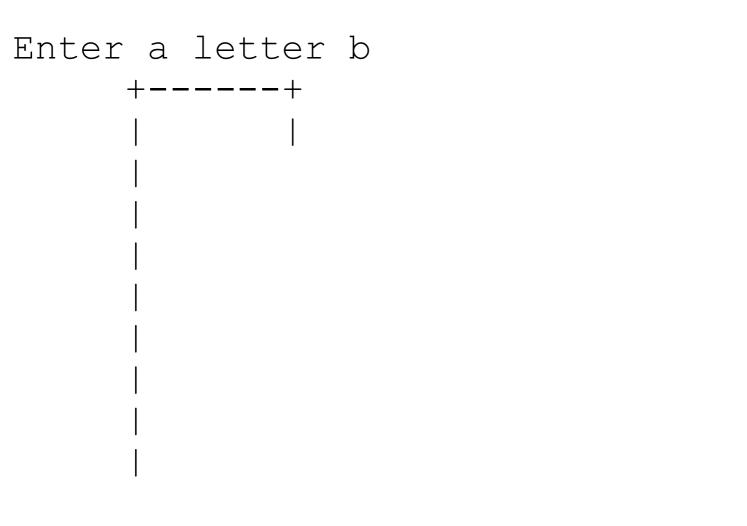


- Check whether we are done
  - All the letters in the secret are in the list of letters already guessed (lol)

```
def done(lol, secret):
   for letter in secret:
        if letter not in lol:
            return False
   return True
```

• Print out the hangman: An exercise in ASCII art

Enter a letter a +---+ Good job. The word is \*\*\*\*\*\*a



Good job. The word is \*\*\*\*b\*a

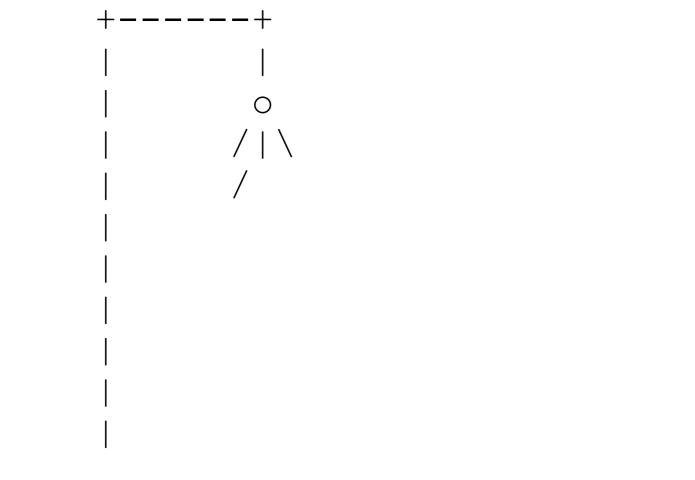
Enter a letter d +----+ | | | | 0 | | | |

Enter a letter e +----+ | | | | 0 | | | | |

Enter a letter f +----+ | | | | | | | | | | | |

Enter a letter g +----+ | | | | o | /|\ | |

Enter a letter h



Enter a letter i +----+ | | | 0 | /|\ | | | | | |

Good job. The word is c\*\*\*bia

Enter a letter j +----+ | | | o | /|\ | | | | |

you looser you

- "printing the hangman"
  - Two possibilities:
    - Draw the same string with slight changes for different number of false guesses
    - Draw different strings (using copy and paste)
  - Can use multi-dimensional strings
    - or use string arithmetic (which becomes unreadable)

- Now we are ready for the game:
  - First, define the data structures

```
def game():
    secret = 'colombia'
    lol = []
    false_guesses = 0
```

...

• Then start the while loop:

```
def game():
    secret = 'colombia'
    lol = []
    false_guesses = 0
    while True:
```

...

- First, get the letter and do not forget to update your list of guessed letters (lol)
- We have hidden some logic in get\_letter

- If the letter is a good guess:
  - Print hangman and word, then check whether we are done

```
if x in secret:
    print_it(false_guesses)
    if done(lol, secret):
        print('You won')
        break
    else:
        print('Good job. The word is', display(secret, lol))
```

- If the letter is bad:
  - update false guesses
  - print hangman
  - decide on whether we lost

```
if x not in secret:
    false_guesses += 1
    print_it(false_guesses)
    if false_guesses >= 6:
        print("you looser you")
        break
    else:
        print('Not quite. The word is', display(secret, lol))
```

 Notice: We could have used return in order to get out of the loop

```
def game():
   secret = 'colombia'
   lol = []
   false guesses = 0
   while True:
      x = get letter(lol)
      lol.append(x)
      if x in secret:
         print it(false guesses)
          if done(lol, secret):
             print('You won')
             break
         else:
             print('Good job. The word is', display(secret, lol))
         if x not in secret:
             false guesses += 1
             print it(false guesses)
             if false guesses >= 6:
                 print("you looser you")
                 break
             else:
                 print('Not quite. The word is', display(secret, lol))
```