

1 Permutations

Here's a function that write out all the permutations of a list.

```

1 # Python code for permutations and combinations
2 #
3 # Not the most efficient – but a good way to learn
4 # recursion.
5 #
6 # http://stackoverflow.com/questions/104420/how-to-generate-all-permutations-of-a-list-in-python
7
8 def permute(alist):
9     """ generate a list of permutations recursively """
10    # there are no permutations of an empty list
11    if len(alist) == 0:
12        return([])
13    # there is just one permutation of a one element list
14    if len(alist) == 1:
15        return [alist] # note: NOT return( alist )
16    answer = []
17    # for longer lists, find all permutations of the list
18    # without its first element, and put that element in
19    # each possible place in each permutation
20    for p in permute(alist[1:]):
21        for i in range(len(alist)):
22            answer.append(p[:i] + [alist[0]] + p[i:])
23    return answer
24
25 print("permute([1,2,3])")
26 print(permute([1,2,3]))
27 print("print(permute([]))")
28 print(permute([]))
29 print('permute(["a"])') # single quotes allow embedded ""
30 print(permute(["a"]))
31 print("permute([1,2,2])")
32 print(permute([1,2,2]))

```

with its outputn

```

python combinatorics1.py
permute([1,2,3])
[[1, 2, 3], [2, 1, 3], [2, 3, 1], [1, 3, 2], [3, 1, 2], [3, 2, 1]]
print(permute([]))
[]
permute(["a"])
[['a']]
permute([1,2,2])
[[1, 2, 2], [2, 1, 2], [2, 2, 1], [1, 2, 2], [2, 1, 2], [2, 2, 1]]

```

Lessons here:

- Turning recursive pseudocode into a recursive program
- Slicing a list returns a copy
- Single and double quotes

- This algorithm isn't smart about repetitions
- Should find the built in function in `itertools`
- Should use `yield` instead of `return`

Here is the $\text{\LaTeX}$ source for this document. You can cut it from the pdf and use it to start your answers. I used the `\jobname` macro for the source file name, so you can call your file by any name you like.

```

%%%%%%%%%%
%
% Combinatorics
% Math 480 Spring 2015
%

\documentclass[10pt]{article}
\usepackage[textheight=10in]{geometry}

\usepackage{verbatim}
\usepackage{amsmath}
\usepackage{amsfonts} % to get \mathbb letters

\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}
\DeclareFixedFont{\ttb}{T1}{txtt}{bx}{n}{9} % for bold
\DeclareFixedFont{\ttm}{T1}{txtt}{m}{n}{9} % for normal
% Defining colors
\usepackage{color}
\definecolor{deepblue}{rgb}{0,0,0.5}
\definecolor{deepred}{rgb}{0.6,0,0}
\definecolor{deepgreen}{rgb}{0,0.5,0}

\usepackage{listings}

%Python style from
%http://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/199375/problem-with-listings-package-for-python-syntax-color
\newcommand\pythonstyle{\lstset{
  language=Python,
  backgroundcolor=\color{white}, %%%%%%%%%
  basicstyle=\ttm,
  keywordstyle=\ttb\color{deepblue},
  emph={MyClass,__init__},
  emphstyle=\ttb\color{deepred},
  stringstyle=\color{deepgreen},
  commentstyle=\color{red}, %%%%%%%%%
  frame=tb,
  showstringspaces=false,
  numbers=left,numberstyle=\tiny,numbersep =5pt
}}

\usepackage{hyperref}

\begin{document}

\pythonstyle{}

%%%%%%%%%% start here %%%%%%%%%%
\begin{center}
\Large{
Discrete Mathematics in Python \\\
Ethan Bolker \\\
\today
}
\end{center}

\section{Permutations}

```

Here's a function that write out all the permutations of a list.

```
\lstinputlisting{combinatorics1.py}
```

with its outputn

```
\begin{verbatim}
python combinatorics1.py
permute([1,2,3])
[[1, 2, 3], [2, 1, 3], [2, 3, 1], [1, 3, 2], [3, 1, 2], [3, 2, 1]]
print(permute([]))
[]
permute(["a"])
[['a']]
permute([1,2,2])
[[1, 2, 2], [2, 1, 2], [2, 2, 1], [1, 2, 2], [2, 1, 2], [2, 2, 1]]
\end{verbatim}
```

Lessons here:

```
\begin{itemize}
\item Turning recursive pseudocode into a recursive program
\item Slicing a list returns a copy
\item Single and double quotes
\item This algorithm isn't smart about repetitions
\item Should find the built in function in \lstinline!itertools!
\item Should use \lstinline!yield! instead of \lstinline!return!
\end{itemize}
```

```
\newpage
```

```
\emph{
```

Here is the `\LaTeX{}` source for this document. You can cut it from the pdf and use it to start your answers. I used the `\verb!\jobname!`

```
\emph{macro for the source file name, so you can call your file by any
name you like.}
```

```
\verbatiminput{\jobname}
```

```
\end{document}
```