Data Abstraction
Announcements
Data Abstraction
Data Abstraction

- Compound values combine other values together
  - A date: a year, a month, and a day
  - A geographic position: latitude and longitude
- Data abstraction lets us manipulate compound values as units
- Isolate two parts of any program that uses data:
  - How data are represented (as parts)
  - How data are manipulated (as units)
- Data abstraction: A methodology by which functions enforce an abstraction barrier between representation and use
Rational Numbers

Exact representation of fractions

A pair of integers

As soon as division occurs, the exact representation may be lost! (Demo)

Assume we can compose and decompose rational numbers:

- **rational(n, d)** returns a rational number x
- **numer(x)** returns the numerator of x
- **denom(x)** returns the denominator of x
Rational Number Arithmetic

\[
\frac{3}{2} \times \frac{3}{5} = \frac{9}{10}
\]

\[
\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{5} = \frac{21}{10}
\]

Example

\[
\frac{nx}{dx} \times \frac{ny}{dy} = \frac{nx \times ny}{dx \times dy}
\]

\[
\frac{nx}{dx} + \frac{ny}{dy} = \frac{nx \times dy + ny \times dx}{dx \times dy}
\]

General Form
Rational Number Arithmetic Implementation

```python
def mul_rational(x, y):
    return rational(numer(x) * numer(y), denom(x) * denom(y))

def add_rational(x, y):
    nx, dx = numer(x), denom(x)
    ny, dy = numer(y), denom(y)
    return rational(nx * dy + ny * dx, dx * dy)

def print_rational(x):
    print(numer(x), '/', denom(x))

def rationals_are_equal(x, y):
    return numer(x) * denom(y) == numer(y) * denom(x)
```

- rational(n, d) returns a rational number \( \frac{n}{d} \)
- numer(x) returns the numerator of \( x \)
- denom(x) returns the denominator of \( x \)
Representing Rational Numbers
Representing Pairs Using Lists

```python
>>> pair = [1, 2]
>>> pair
[1, 2]

>>> x, y = pair
>>> x
1
>>> y
2

>>> pair[0]
1
>>> pair[1]
2
```

A list literal:
Comma-separated expressions in brackets

"Unpacking" a list

Element selection using the selection operator
Representing Rational Numbers

```python
def rational(n, d):
    """Construct a rational number that represents N/D."""
    return [n, d]

def numer(x):
    """Return the numerator of rational number X."""
    return x[0]

def denom(x):
    """Return the denominator of rational number X."""
    return x[1]
```

(Demo)
Reducing to Lowest Terms

Example:

\[
\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{5}{3} = \frac{5}{2} \quad \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{10} = \frac{1}{2}
\]

\[
\frac{15}{6} \cdot \frac{1/3}{1/3} = \frac{5}{2} \quad \frac{25}{50} \cdot \frac{1/25}{1/25} = \frac{1}{2}
\]

```
from math import gcd

def rational(n, d):
    """Construct a rational that represents n/d in lowest terms."""
    g = gcd(n, d)
    return [n//g, d//g]
```

(Demo)
Abstraction Barriers
## Abstraction Barriers

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<th>Using...</th>
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<tr>
<td>Use rational numbers to perform computation</td>
<td>whole data values</td>
<td><code>add_rational</code>, <code>mul_rational</code>, <code>rational</code>, <code>numer</code>, <code>denom</code></td>
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<td>Create rationals or implement rational operations</td>
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<td>Implement selectors and constructor for rationals</td>
<td>two-element lists</td>
<td><code>list</code> literals and element selection</td>
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**Implementation of lists**
Violating Abstraction Barriers

```
add_rational( [1, 2], [1, 4] )
```

def divide_rational(x, y):
    return [ x[0] * y[1], x[1] * y[0] ]
```
Data Representations
What are Data?

• We need to guarantee that constructor and selector functions work together to specify the right behavior

• Behavior condition: If we construct rational number \( x \) from numerator \( n \) and denominator \( d \), then \( \text{numer}(x)/\text{denom}(x) \) must equal \( n/d \)

• Data abstraction uses selectors and constructors to define behavior

• If behavior conditions are met, then the representation is valid

You can recognize an abstract data representation by its behavior

(Demo)
Rationals Implemented as Functions

```python
def rational(n, d):
    def select(name):
        if name == 'n':
            return n
        elif name == 'd':
            return d
    return select

def numer(x):
    return x('n')

def denom(x):
    return x('d')
```

This function represents a rational number.

Constructor is a higher-order function.

Selector calls `x`.

```
x = rational(3, 8)
numer(x)
```