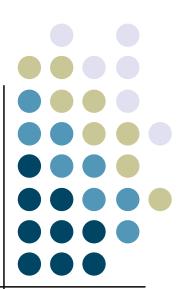
# Manipulating Data Files in Python





# Learning Objectives



- Working with CSV files
  - Reading and writing
  - Moving into and out of data structures
- Accessing files in other folders
- JSON files
  - Reading and writing
- Regular expressions

#### **Data Files**



- Last time we learned how to open, read from, and write to files
- Today we focus on different types of data files

#### with Statement



- Handy command to help with file ops
- Had code like

```
try:
    infile = open('sales_data.txt', 'r')
    for line in infile:
        # do something
    infile.close()

except IOError:
    print('An error occurred trying to read the file.')
```

Can do

```
with open('sales_data.txt', 'r') as f:
    for line in f.readlines():
        # do something
```

Does all useful close(), exception stuff

#### **CSV Files**



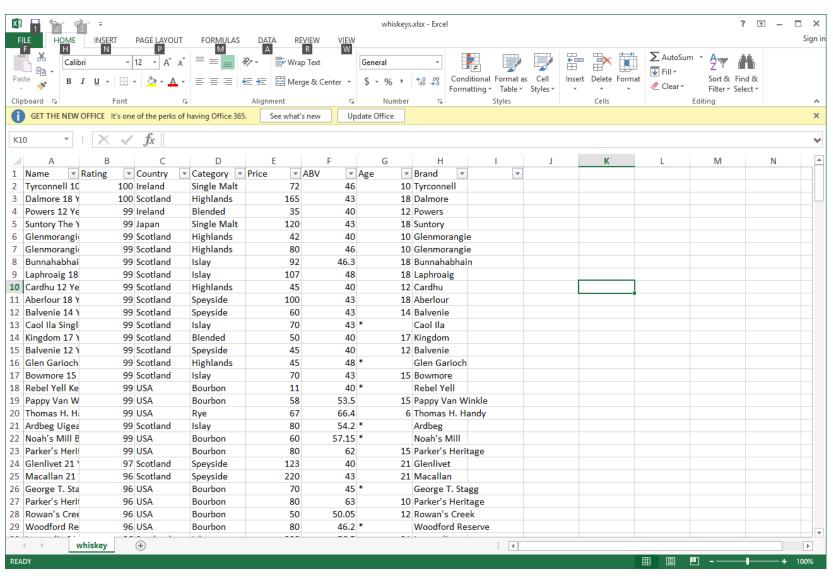
Comma-separated values

```
"Ford", "Ranger", "17.2", "340"
"Hyundai", "Genesis", "23.8", "260"
(quotes optional)
```

- Very common for tabular data
- Can be generated by spreadsheets such as Excel

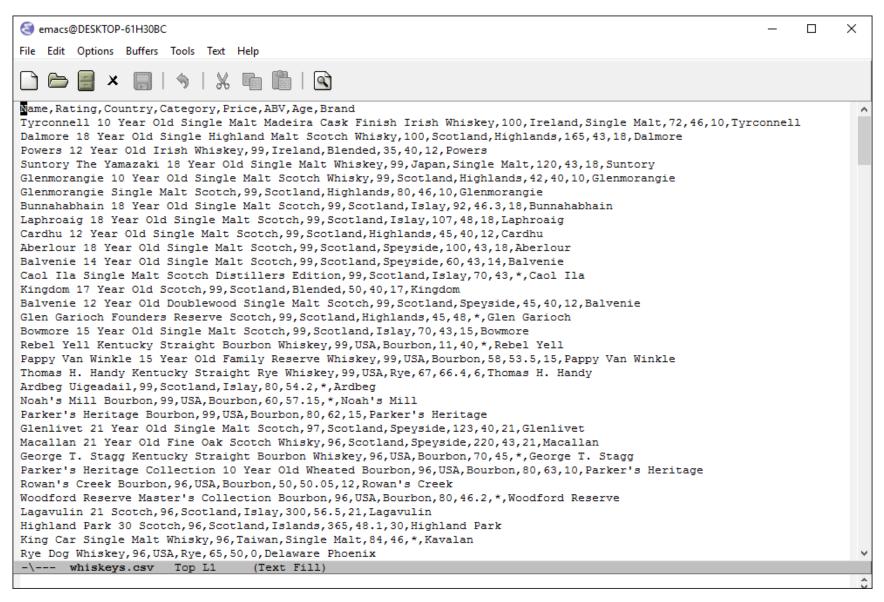












#### Read In?



• How would we read that file in?

#### Simple Access



```
def readCSV(filename):
    file = open(filename, "r")
    lines = file.readlines()
    l = list()
    for line in lines:
        parts = line.split(",")
        l.append(parts)
        print(parts[0], parts[1])
    return l
```

#### Returns a list of lists

# Tricky Stuff



- Potential issues?
  - Does it work with quoted items?
  - What if there are spaces between items?
  - What if an item has a comma inside it?

Let's test

### Getting the Files



- Might want to look into directories/folders on the local machine
- How do we explore them (inside a program) and possibly grab all the csv files in a folder?

Need help from Python libraries

#### Useful Module



import os

os.listdir(dir) - returns list of files in directory dir os.chdir(dir) - change "active" directory to dir os.walk(dir) - walk file system starting at dir

#### Get all the CSV's



```
import os

files = os.listdir()
for item in files:
    if item.endswith(".csv"):
        csvFile = open(item, "r")
        # work on the file
        csvFile.close()
```

### Walking through Folders



```
import os

for root, dirs, files in os.walk("data"):
    print(root, dirs, files)
    for filename in files:
        # create full name with path
        curr_file = os.path.join(root, filename)
        if curr_file.endswith("csv"):
            # work on the file
        else:
        continue
```

### Reading CSV Files



- Don't need to do it ourself
- Python has module for that called...

**CSV** 

#### Using the Module



```
def readacsv(name):
    file = open(name, "r")
    csvfile = csv.reader(file)
    for row in csvfile:
        # do something
    file.close()
```

#### OR

```
def readacsv(name):
    with open(name) as f:
        csvfile = csv.reader(f)
        for row in csvfile:
        # do something
```





- Remember those earlier formatting problems
- The module handles them

### Simple Access - Module



```
import csv

def readCSVbuiltin(filename):
    file = open(filename, "r")
    csvfile = csv.reader(file)
    l = list()
    for row in csvfile:
        l.append(row)
        print(row[0], row[1])
    return l
```

#### Returns a list of lists

# Access as Dictionary



- Module has converter to dictionary
- If your file has a header row, that can be used
- Each row then will be a dictionary with key as the header field



```
import csv
reader = csv.DictReader(open("students.csv"))
# check out the headers
print(reader.fieldnames)
# put them all in a list
myList = list(reader)
# OR (but cant do both of these) Why?
# process them individually
for row in reader:
    print(row)
    print(row['age'])
```

# Writing



- What if you have a set (list) of dictionaries and you want to create a csv file?
- Handy DictWriter function for helping to do that
- Need to get the keys from the dictionary to use as the first row of the csv file

### Write Example



#### Arguments



- csv reader has useful arguments
  - dialect: What type of csv file it is (default is 'excel'
  - delimiter: Items in file are usually comma separated but that can be changed
  - quotechar: The default is double quotes but that can be changed

### JSON Files



- JavaScript Object Notation
- Data exchange format
- Easy for people to read & write
- Easy for computers to parse & generate
- List of data objects (attribute, value) pairs

# JSON Example



```
"firstName": "John",
"lastName": "Smith",
"isAlive": true,
"age": 25,
"address": {
   "streetAddress": "21 2nd Street",
   "city": "New York",
   "state": "NY",
   "postalCode": "10021-3100"
 },
 "phoneNumbers": [
     "type": "home",
     "number": "212 555-1234"
   },
     "type": "office",
     "number": "646 555-4567"
 "children": [],
 "spouse": null
```

# Writing JSON



#### Writing out to a JSON file from a list of dictionaries

### Reading JSON



#### Reading in a JSON file

```
import json
with open("people.json", "r") as f:
    myPeople = json.load(f)
```

# Regular Expressions



#### Pattern matching on strings

import re

Bring in that module

```
re.split(pattern, string) Useful functions re.findall(pattern, string) re.sub(pattern, replacement, string)
```

pattern should be r'stuff'

# Symbols



- a the actual character a
- . match any single character except for newline
- + one or more occurrences of the pattern
- ? zero or one occurrence of the pattern
- \* zero or more repetitions of the pattern

+?\* - operate on the character before then in the pattern

- a the actual character a
- . match any single character except for newline
- + one or more occurrences of the pattern
- ? zero or one occurrence of the pattern
- \* zero or more repetitions of the pattern

```
import re
re.split(r'a', 'Flatland')
['Fl', 'tl', 'nd']
re.split(r'txt', 'abc.txt')
['abc', '']
re.findall(r'a.', 'Flatland')
['at', 'an']
re.findall(r'.?a', 'Flatland')
['la', 'la']
re.findall(r'a.*', 'Flatland')
['atland']
```



#### For these two

```
re.findall(r'.?a', 'Flatland')
['la', 'la']
re.findall(r'a.*', 'Flatland')
['atland']
```



#### Would the following technically be right?

```
re.findall(r'.?a', 'Flatland')
['a', 'a']
re.findall(r'a.*', 'Flatland')
['and']
```

Python regular expressions are greedy by default They try to match as many characters as possible

### Special Patterns



```
\d - decimal digit
```

\s - a whitespace

√w – an alphanumeric character

#### Capitals are opposites

\□ - anything but a digit

\s - anything but a whitespace

√w – anything but alphanumeric chars

a|b - either a or b

[ab] - match both character a and b

[1-5] - any numbers in range 1 to 5

^ - negation

### Special Patterns



#### Assume

#### Review



- Did you get the programming challenge?
- Print a sorted, counted list of all words in a document

# Learning Objectives



- Working with CSV files
  - Reading and writing
  - Moving into and out of data structures
- Accessing files in other folders
- JSON files
  - Reading and writing
- Regular expressions

#### **Next Time**



- Accessing web data
  - Let's now go get datafiles from the web and work with them