

[301] Error Handling

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Learning Objectives Today

Using assertions

- motivation: why crashing is sometimes good

Basic exceptions

- catching them
- raising them

Advanced exceptions

- catching by type

Example: Pizza Analyzer

```
import math

def pizza_size(radius):
    return (radius ** 2) * math.pi

def slice_size(radius, slice_count):
    total_size = pizza_size(radius)
    return total_size * (1 / slice_count)

def main():
    for i in range(10):
        # grab input
        args = input("Enter pizza diameter(inches), slice count: ")
        args = args.split(',')
        radius = float(args[0].strip()) / 2
        slices = int(args[1].strip())

        # pizza analysis
        size = slice_size(radius, slices)
        print('PIZZA: radius={}, slices={}, slice square inches={}'
              .format(radius, slices, size))

main()
```

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main()
```

Exercise: what are possible bad inputs for

- diameter
- slice count
- other?

Does it cause a runtime error or semantic error?

Assert

Syntax:

```
assert BOOLEAN_EXPRESSION
```

Purpose:

Force program to crash if something is non-sensible, rather than run and produce garbage.

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Purpose:

Force program to crash if something is non-sensible, rather than run and produce garbage.

semantic errors
(hard to debug)



runtime errors
(easier to debug)

Assert

Syntax:

```
assert BOOLEAN_EXPRESSION
```

False



Crash!

```
Enter pizza diameter(inches), slice count): -10, 8
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "pizza.py", line 24, in <module>
    main()
  File "pizza.py", line 20, in main
    size = slice_size(radius, slices)
  File "pizza.py", line 8, in slice_size
    total_size = pizza_size(radius)
  File "pizza.py", line 4, in pizza_size
    assert(radius > 0)
AssertionError
```

Assert

Syntax:

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nothing happens

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Crash!

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Enter pizza diameter(inches), slice count): -10, 8
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Assert

Warning: sometimes people disable assertions when running your code to improve performance

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Crash!

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AssertionError
```

Assert

Syntax:

```
assert BOOLEAN_EXPRESSION
```

Examples:

```
assert x > 0
```

```
assert items != None
```

```
assert "age" in person
```

```
assert len(nums) % 2 == 1
```

Pizza Example: add asserts to crash upon

- diameter <= 0
- slices <= 0

**What if we want to keep running
even if there is an error?**

Try/Except

Syntax:

```
flaky_function()
```

Try/Except

Syntax:

try:

```
    flaky_function()
```

except:

```
    print("error!") # or some other handling
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Description:

try and **except** blocks come in pairs (runtime errors are “exceptions”)

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try:  
    flaky_function()  
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Description:

try and **except** blocks come in pairs (runtime errors are “exceptions”)

Python tries to run the code in the **try** block. If there’s an exception, it just runs the **except** block (instead of crashing). This is called “**catching**” the exception.

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Python tries to run the code in the **try** block. If there’s an exception, it just runs the **except** block (instead of crashing). This is called “**catching**” the exception.

If there is no exception, the **except** block does not run.

Try/Except

Pizza Example: try/except to continue running upon

- parse errors
- analysis errors

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try:

```
    flaky_function()
```

except:

```
    print("error!") # or some other handling
```

Description:

try and **except** blocks come in pairs (runtime errors are “exceptions”)

Python tries to run the code in the **try** block. If there’s an exception, it just runs the **except** block (instead of crashing). This is called “**catching**” the exception.

If there is no exception, the **except** block does not run.

**What if we want to know the
reason for the exception?**

Crash Cause

Version 1:

```
try:  
    flaky_function()  
except:  
    print("error!") # or some other handling
```

Version 2:

```
try:  
    flaky_function()  
except Exception as e:  
    print("error because:", str(e))
```

Crash Cause


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get exception object
describing the problem



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e is of type Exception (most general)
(there are different types of exceptions)

get exception object
describing the problem

Crash Cause

Pizza Example: print failure reasons

- for parse errors
- for analysis errors

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except:  
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```

e is of type Exception (most general)
(there are different types of exceptions)

get exception object
describing the problem

why it failed

**What if we only want to catch
certain exceptions?**

Narrow Catching

Version 2:

```
try:
    flaky_function()
except Exception as e:
    print("error because:", str(e))
```

Version 3:

```
try:
    flaky_function()
except (ValueError, IndexError) as e:
    print("error because:", str(e))
```


Narrow Catching


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try:
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Version 3:

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try:
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```

only catch these two
(not NameError and others)



Narrow Catching

Pizza Example: catch only real parse errors

- strings when want ints
- not enough values
- NOT typos in variable names

Version 2:

```
try:
    flaky_function()
except Exception as e:
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Exception Hierarchy

Documentation: <https://docs.python.org/3/library/exceptions.html#exception-hierarchy>

```
BaseException
+-- SystemExit
+-- KeyboardInterrupt
+-- GeneratorExit
+-- Exception
+-- StopIteration
+-- StopAsyncIteration
+-- ArithmeticError
+-- FloatingPointError
+-- OverflowError
+-- ZeroDivisionError
+-- AssertionError
+-- AttributeError
+-- BufferError
+-- EOFError
+-- ImportError
+-- ModuleNotFoundError
+-- LookupError
+-- IndexError
+-- KeyError
+-- MemoryError
+-- NameError
+-- UnboundLocalError
+-- OSError
+-- BlockingIOError
+-- ChildProcessError
+-- ConnectionError
+-- BrokenPipeError
+-- ConnectionAbortedError
+-- ConnectionRefusedError
+-- ConnectionResetError
+-- FileExistsError
+-- FileNotFoundError
+-- InterruptedError
+-- IsADirectoryError
+-- NotADirectoryError
+-- PermissionError
+-- ProcessLookupError
+-- TimeoutError
+-- ReferenceError
+-- RuntimeError
+-- NotImplementedError
+-- RecursionError
+-- SyntaxError
+-- IndentationError
+-- TabError
+-- SystemError
+-- TypeError
+-- ValueError
+-- UnicodeError
+-- UnicodeDecodeError
+-- UnicodeEncodeError
+-- UnicodeTranslateError
+-- Warning
+-- DeprecationWarning
+-- PendingDeprecationWarning
+-- RuntimeWarning
+-- SyntaxWarning
+-- UserWarning
+-- FutureWarning
+-- ImportWarning
+-- UnicodeWarning
+-- BytesWarning
+-- ResourceWarning
```

**screenshot
of hierarchy**

**What if we want to produce a
specific kind of error?
(not just an assert)**

Custom Errors

```
BaseException
```

```
+-- Exception
```

```
+-- ArithmeticError
```

```
|   +-- FloatingPointError
```

```
|   +-- OverflowError
```

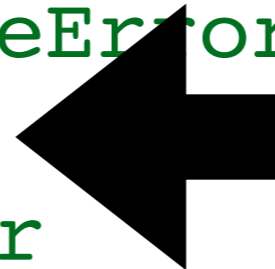
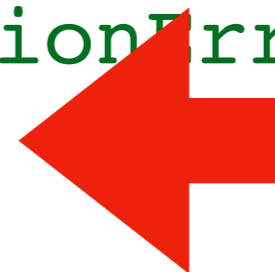
```
|   +-- ZeroDivisionError
```

```
+-- AssertionError
```

```
+-- AttributeError
```

```
+-- TypeError
```

```
+-- ValueError
```



Asserts vs. Raising Exception Objects

Version 1 (quick and dirty):

```
def pizza_size(radius):  
    assert type(radius) in (float, int)  
    return (radius ** 2) * math.pi
```

Version 2 (more robust and informative):

```
def pizza_size(radius):  
    if type(radius) not in (float, int):  
        raise TypeError("need a numeric type")  
    return (radius ** 2) * math.pi
```

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with this message

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tell Python this exception
occurred here

create TypeError object

with this message

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Pizza Example:

- raise TypeError
- test it in interactive mode

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create TypeError object

with this message

Summary

Asserts

- force a crash/exception
- better to crash in an obvious way than use corrupt data

Exceptions

- produce them with **raise**
- catch them with **try/except**
- can choose specific types of exceptions