

Introduction to Python

File and String Handling

(Whil Hentzen)

Introduction Talks

- Audience has diverse backgrounds, experiences
- Speaker has narrow domain-specific focus
- Challenge of Python's versatility
- Challenge of old paradigms

About Me

- Mechanical Engineer turned DB Dev
- 15 2,000+ hr apps since 1990
- Written a dozen books
- MSFT Lifetime Achievement Award, MVP
- Riverwest 24
- Long walks on the beach

Plan for Tonight

- Introduce the problem and define the goal
- Discuss language elements
- Demo examples of each use
- Demo one complete solution
- Discussion on alternatives/optimizations
- Plan for next meeting
- Next month: Demo suggestions made

Tonight's Problem – Part 1

- Collection of text files that contain employee counts
- Columns for various ethnic groups
- Rows for geographic regions

Tonight's Problem – Part 2

- 2000 census had 90 files, one per industry
- 2010 census had 13 files, each text file contains multiple industries (badly non-normalized), side-by-side
- How would you present this to a user to manipulate interactively

Tonight's To Do

- Get size and scope of a file (rows, delimiters)
- Parse Pks
- Parse one chunk
- Parse all chunks
- Write out