



June 5, 2017

Tricky thing about 2d lists

Id list: references to **immutable** objects. Aliases of elements not a problem.

2d list: references to **mutable** objects. We must be careful about aliases of elements !!

print(a)	[[0, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]]
print(b)	[[0, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]]

b = copy.copy(a)

b[0][0] = 0

a = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]]

b[0] = 0print(a)[1, 2, 3]print(b)[0, 2, 3]

b[0] = 0

b = copy.copy(a)

a = [1, 2, 3]

"Weird" Example I

"Weird" Example 2

a = [[0]*2]*3 print(a) [[0, 0], [0, 0], [0, 0]]

a[0][0] = 9

print(a) [[9, 0], [9, 0], [9, 0]]

a = [1, 2, 3] b = copy.copy(a) b[0] = 0 print(a[0])print(b[0])



Making a copy of the references.

Making a copy of the references.

print(a[0])
print(b[0])

print(a[0])

b[0] = 0

b = copy.copy(a)

a = [1, 2, 3]



a = [[1, 2, 3], [4], [5, 6]] b = copy.copy(a) b[0][0] = 0 print(a[0][0]) print(b[0][0])















a = [0]*4

a[0] = 1



Create a 3 by 2 list
a = [[0]*2]*3





a[0], a[1], and a[2] are aliases !
* makes a shallow copy !

Creating a rows by cols 2d list

- rows = 2
- cols = 3
- a = []
- for row in range(rows):
 a += [[0]*cols]



a += [[0, 0, 0]]a += [[0, 0, 0]]

Creating a rows by cols 2d list

Define a function for this task.

```
def make2dList(rows, cols):
    a = []
    for row in range(rows):
        a += [[0]*cols]
    return a
```

One more important thing

Create a 3 by 2 list a = [[0]*2]*3

Trying to break aliasing with deepcopy:

a = copy.deepcopy(a)

deepcopy preserves alias structure !!

see myDeepCopy in the notes.



Rules

Use * only on the first level (with immutable elements)

- creates aliases

Never use **copy** with 2d lists.

- creates aliases
- ok to use with 1d lists since elements are immutable.

Remember: deepcopy does not break alias structure within the list.

3d Lists

$$a1 = [[1, 2], [3, 4]]$$

$$a2 = [[5, 6, 7], [8, 9]]$$

$$a3 = [[10]]$$

$$3d \text{ list:}$$

$$a = [a1, a2, a3]$$

$$4d \text{ list:}$$

$$a = [a, a]$$

3d Lists

Printing elements of 3d lists:

for i in range(len(a)):
 for j in range(len(a[i])):
 for k in range(len(a[i][j])):
 print("a[%d][%d][%d] = %d" % (i, j, k, a[i][j][k]))