www.allonlinelearning.com

Binary file

A binary file is a type of file that contains non-textual data, typically in the form of binary code that can be interpreted by a computer. Unlike text files, binary files cannot be read or edited using a text editor.

Binary files can be created by software applications and contain executable code, images, audio or video data, compressed data, and other types of non-textual information. Binary files can also be used to store data structures, such as arrays, tables, and other complex data types.

Binary files are usually not human-readable, because the data is encoded in a format that is designed to be interpreted by a computer, rather than a human. In contrast, text files use a simple encoding that is easy to read and edit with a text editor.

Binary files can be opened and processed by specific software applications that understand the format of the file. For example, an image editor can open and edit a binary file that contains image data, while a media player can open and play a binary file that contains audio or video data.

Common file extensions for binary files include .exe (for executable files), .jpg, .png, .gif (for image files), .mp3, .wav (for audio files), .mp4, .avi (for video files), and .zip, .rar (for compressed files).

Basic operation on binary file

Binary files are opened and manipulated in a similar way to text files in Python, but with some differences due to the binary nature of the data. Here are some basic operations that can be performed on binary files in Python:

1. Opening a binary file: To open a binary file, use the open() function with the appropriate mode flag, such as 'rb' (read binary) or 'wb' (write binary). For example, to open a binary file named 'example.bin' in read mode, use the following code:

```
file = open('example.bin', 'rb')
```

2. Reading binary data: To read binary data from a file, use the read() method of the file object. The read() method reads a specified number of bytes from the file and returns them as a bytes object. For example, to read 10 bytes from the file 'example.bin', use the following code:



www.allonlinelearning.com

```
data = file.read(10)
```

3. Writing binary data: To write binary data to a file, use the write() method of the file object. The write() method takes a bytes object as an argument and writes it to the file. For example, to write a bytes object data to the file 'example.bin', use the following code:

```
file.write(data)
```

4. Moving the file pointer: To move the file pointer to a specific location in the file, use the seek() method of the file object. The seek() method takes two arguments: the offset from the beginning of the file, and the origin (0 for the beginning of the file, 1 for the current position, or 2 for the end of the file). For example, to move the file pointer to the beginning of the file, use the following code:

```
file.seek(0, 0)
```

5. Closing the file: To close the file and release any resources associated with it, use the close() method of the file object. For example, to close the file 'example.bin', use the following code:

```
file.close()
```

These are some of the basic operations that can be performed on binary files in Python. Depending on the type of data in the file, more complex operations may be required to read or write the data in a meaningful way.

File open mode

In Python, the <code>open()</code> function is used to open a file and returns a file object that can be used to perform various operations on the file. The <code>open()</code> function takes two arguments: the file name or path, and the mode in which the file should be opened.

The mode argument specifies the purpose for which the file is being opened, and controls the type of operations that can be performed on the file. Here are the most common modes used when opening a file in Python:

- 1. 'r': Read mode. This is the default mode for opening a file. It allows you to read the contents of the file, but not modify it.
- 2. 'w': Write mode. This mode allows you to write data to the file, overwriting any existing content. If the file does not exist, it will be created.



www.allonlinelearning.com

- 3. 'a': Append mode. This mode allows you to add data to the end of an existing file. If the file does not exist, it will be created.
- 4. 'x': Exclusive creation mode. This mode is used to create a new file, but it raises an error if the file already exists.
- 5. 'b': Binary mode. This mode is used for working with binary files, such as image or audio files.
- 6. 't': Text mode. This is the default mode for working with text files. It allows you to read and write text data, and it is not needed to specify it explicitly.

You can combine these modes by specifying them as a string. For example, to open a text file in write mode, you would use the mode 'w' or 'wt'. To open a binary file in read mode, you would use the mode 'rb'.

Here are some examples of how to use the open () function with different modes:

```
# Open a text file for reading
file = open('example.txt', 'r')

# Open a text file for writing
file = open('example.txt', 'w')

# Open a binary file for reading
file = open('example.bin', 'rb')

# Open a binary file for writing
file = open('example.bin', 'wb')
```

Remember to always close the file after you are done with it, by calling the close() method on the file object.

rb,rb+,wb,wb+,ab,ab+

In Python, you can open a file in different modes depending on the type of operation you want to perform on the file. Here are some of the most commonly used modes for opening binary files:

- 1. 'rb': Read binary mode. This mode opens the file for reading in binary mode. The file pointer is placed at the beginning of the file.
- 2. 'rb+': Read/write binary mode. This mode opens the file for reading and writing in binary mode. The file pointer is placed at the beginning of the file.
- 3. 'wb': Write binary mode. This mode opens the file for writing in binary mode. If the file already exists, its contents are truncated. If the file does not exist, a new file is created.



www.allonlinelearning.com

- 4. 'wb+': Read/write binary mode. This mode opens the file for reading and writing in binary mode. If the file already exists, its contents are truncated. If the file does not exist, a new file is created.
- 5. 'ab': Append binary mode. This mode opens the file for writing in binary mode. The file pointer is placed at the end of the file. If the file already exists, new data is appended to the end of the file. If the file does not exist, a new file is created.
- 6. 'ab+': Read/append binary mode. This mode opens the file for reading and writing in binary mode. The file pointer is placed at the end of the file. If the file already exists, new data is appended to the end of the file. If the file does not exist, a new file is created.

Here are some examples of how to use these modes to open a binary file:

```
# Open a binary file for reading
file = open('example.bin', 'rb')

# Open a binary file for reading and writing
file = open('example.bin', 'rb+')

# Open a binary file for writing
file = open('example.bin', 'wb')

# Open a binary file for reading and writing, creating it if it doesn't exist
file = open('example.bin', 'wb+')

# Open a binary file for appending
file = open('example.bin', 'ab')

# Open a binary file for reading and appending
file = open('example.bin', 'ab+')
```

Remember to always close the file after you are done with it, by calling the close() method on the file object.

close a binary file

To close a binary file in Python, you need to call the close() method on the file object. The close() method is used to close the file and release any system resources used by it.

Here is an example of how to close a binary file in Python:

```
python
# Open a binary file for reading
file = open('example.bin', 'rb')
```



www.allonlinelearning.com

```
# Read data from the file
data = file.read()
# Close the file
file.close()
```

In the above example, we first opened the binary file 'example.bin' in read mode using the open() function. We then read data from the file using the read() method on the file object. Finally, we called the close() method on the file object to close the file.

It's important to always close the file when you're done with it, to avoid running out of system resources and to ensure that all data has been written to the file. If you forget to close the file, the data you have written to it may not be saved, and other programs may not be able to access the file.

import a pickle module

To import the pickle module in Python, you can simply use the import statement:

```
import pickle
```

This will make all the functions and classes in the pickle module available for use in your code.

The pickle module is used for serializing and de-serializing Python objects. Serialization is the process of converting a Python object into a stream of bytes that can be written to a file or sent over a network. De-serialization is the process of reconstructing the original Python object from the serialized data.

The pickle module can be used to store and retrieve complex data structures in a way that is easy to read and write, and that preserves the original structure of the data. This can be useful for storing data that is too complex to be stored in a simple text file.

methods in binary file

In Python, binary files can be manipulated using the following methods:

- 1. read(size): Reads and returns up to size bytes from the file. If size is not specified or is negative, reads the entire file.
- 2. readline(): Reads and returns the next line from the file. If the end of the file has been reached, returns an empty bytes object.
- 3. readlines (): Reads and returns a list of all the lines in the file.



www.allonlinelearning.com

- 4. write (bytes): Writes the bytes object to the file.
- 5. writelines (seq): Writes a sequence of bytes objects to the file.
- 6. seek(offset[, whence]): Changes the position of the file pointer. offset specifies the number of bytes to move the pointer, and whence specifies the reference position. If whence is not specified, it defaults to 0, which means the beginning of the file.
- 7. tell(): Returns the current position of the file pointer.
- 8. close(): Closes the file.

Here is an example of how to use some of these methods to read and write a binary file:

```
# Open a binary file for writing
file = open('example.bin', 'wb')
# Write some data to the file
file.write(b'Hello, world!')
# Close the file
file.close()
# Open the binary file for reading
file = open('example.bin', 'rb')
# Read the first 5 bytes from the file
data = file.read(5)
print(data) # Output: b'Hello'
# Move the file pointer to the beginning of the file
file.seek(0)
# Read the entire file
data = file.read()
print(data) # Output: b'Hello, world!'
# Close the file
file.close()
```

In the above example, we first open the binary file 'example.bin' for writing using the <code>open()</code> function. We then write the bytes object <code>b'Hello</code>, <code>world!'</code> to the file using the <code>write()</code> method on the file object. We then close the file using the <code>close()</code> method.

We then open the binary file for reading using the <code>open()</code> function with the 'rb' mode. We read the first 5 bytes of the file using the <code>read()</code> method on the file object, and then we move the file pointer to the beginning of the file using the <code>seek()</code> method. Finally, we read the entire file using the <code>read()</code> method, and then close the file using the <code>close()</code> method.



www.allonlinelearning.com

Dump() and load() method

The dump() and load() methods are used for serializing and de-serializing Python objects using the pickle module. These methods allow you to write a Python object to a binary file and read it back later. Here's an overview of these methods:

- 1. pickle.dump(obj, file[, protocol]): Serializes the obj Python object and writes it to the binary file. The protocol argument specifies the pickle protocol version to use, and should be an integer. If protocol is not specified, it defaults to the highest protocol version supported by the pickle module.
- 2. pickle.load(file): Reads a serialized Python object from the binary file and returns the de-serialized object.

Here's an example of how to use these methods:

```
import pickle

# Define a Python object to serialize
data = {'name': 'John', 'age': 25, 'email': 'john@example.com'}

# Open a binary file for writing
with open('example.bin', 'wb') as file:
    # Serialize the Python object to the file
    pickle.dump(data, file)

# Open the binary file for reading
with open('example.bin', 'rb') as file:
    # De-serialize the Python object from the file
    data = pickle.load(file)

# Print the de-serialized object
print(data)  # Output: {'name': 'John', 'age': 25, 'email':
'john@example.com'}
```

In the above example, we first define a Python object called data. We then open a binary file called 'example.bin' for writing in binary mode, and use the pickle.dump() method to serialize the data object and write it to the file.

We then open the same file for reading, and use the pickle.load() method to read the serialized data from the file and de-serialize it back into a Python object, which we store in the data variable.



www.allonlinelearning.com

Finally, we print the data object to verify that it was correctly de-serialized from the binary file.

Note that we used the with statement in the example to ensure that the file is closed automatically after we're done with it. This is considered a best practice for working with files in Python.

read, write, search, update, append method

The methods for reading, writing, searching, updating, and appending to a file depend on the type of file being worked with, but here are some examples for both text and binary files:

1. Reading from a text file: To read from a text file, you can use the read() method, which reads the entire contents of the file, or the readline() method, which reads one line of the file at a time. For example:

```
# Open a text file for reading
  with open('example.txt', 'r') as file:
# Read the entire contents of the file
  contents = file.read()
  print(contents)
# Read one line of the file at a time
  line = file.readline()
  while line:
    print(line)
  line = file.readline()
```

2. Writing to a text file: To write to a text file, you can use the write() method, which writes a string to the file. For example:

```
# Open a text file for writing
  with open('example.txt', 'w') as file:
# Write a string to the file
  file.write('Hello, world!')
```

3. Searching a text file: To search a text file, you can read each line of the file using the readline () method, and check if the desired text is present in the line. For example:

```
# Open a text file for reading
  with open('example.txt', 'r') as file:
# Read one line of the file at a time and search for the text
  line = file.readline()
  while line:
  if 'world' in line:
```



www.allonlinelearning.com

```
print(line)
line = file.readline()
```

4. Updating a text file: To update a text file, you can first read the entire contents of the file, modify the relevant text, and then write the modified contents back to the file. For example:

```
# Open a text file for reading
with open('example.txt', 'r') as file:
    # Read the entire contents of the file
    contents = file.read()

# Modify the contents
new_contents = contents.replace('world', 'Python')

# Open the text file for writing
with open('example.txt', 'w') as file:
    # Write the modified contents to the file
    file.write(new contents)
```

5. Appending to a text file: To append to a text file, you can use the a mode when opening the file, and then use the write() method to write new content at the end of the file. For example:

```
# Open a text file for appending
with open('example.txt', 'a') as file:
    # Write new content to the end of the file
    file.write('\nHello again, world!')
```

6. Reading from a binary file: To read from a binary file, you can use the read() method, which reads a specified number of bytes from the file, or the readline() method, which is not available for binary files. For example:

```
# Open a binary file for reading
with open('example.bin', 'rb') as file:
    # Read a specified number of bytes from the file
    data = file.read(4)
    print(data)

# Read the entire contents of the file
    data = file.read()
    print(data)
```

7. Writing to a binary file: To write to a binary file, you can use the write() method, which writes a bytes object to the file. For example:

