

Object-Oriented Programming in Python



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Introduction to OOP

Classes and Objects

Attributes and Properties

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Advanced Topics

Introduction to OOP



- ▶ A programming paradigm based on the concept of "objects"
- ▶ Objects contain:
 - ▶ **Data** (attributes/properties) - information the object stores
 - ▶ **Behavior** (methods/functions) - actions the object can perform
- ▶ Four fundamental principles:
 - ▶ **Encapsulation:** Bundling data with methods that operate on that data
 - ▶ **Abstraction:** Hiding complex implementation details
 - ▶ **Inheritance:** Creating hierarchical relationships between classes
 - ▶ **Polymorphism:** One interface with multiple implementations

- ▶ **Modularity:** Self-contained objects make code organization easier
- ▶ **Reusability:** Inheritance promotes code reuse (don't repeat yourself)
- ▶ **Maintainability:** Clear structure makes changes easier
- ▶ **Scalability:** Better for large, complex systems
- ▶ **Flexibility:** Polymorphism enables adaptable code
- ▶ **Problem Solving:** Models real-world entities effectively

Real-world Analogy

Think of objects like real-world things. A car has properties (color, model) and behaviors (drive, brake). OOP lets us model programs this way.

Python's Object-Oriented Nature

```
1 # Even primitive types are objects
2 num = 42
3 print(type(num)) # <class 'int'>
4 # Lists are objects with methods
5 my_list = [1, 2, 3]
6 my_list.append(4) # Calling a method
7 # Functions are objects
8 def greet():
9     return "Hello"
10 print(type(greet)) # <class 'function'>
```

- ▶ Unlike some languages, Python treats everything as an object
- ▶ This means everything has attributes and methods
- ▶ Even basic operations like $+$ are method calls behind the scenes

Classes and Objects



Basic Class Structure

```
1 class ClassName:
2     """Class docstring"""
3     class_attribute = value # Shared by all instances
4     def __init__(self, parameters):
5         """Initialize instance attributes"""
6         self.instance_attribute = value
7     def method(self, parameters):
8         """Method docstring"""
9         # Method implementation
```

Key components:

- ▶ `class` keyword - starts the class definition
- ▶ Class name (PascalCase convention) - e.g., `MyClass`
- ▶ Docstring - describes what the class does
- ▶ `__init__` method (constructor) - initializes new objects
- ▶ Instance methods - define object behavior


```
1 from decimal import Decimal
2
3 class Account:
4     """Account class for maintaining bank balances"""
5     def __init__(self, name, balance):
6         """Initialize account with name and balance"""
7         if balance < Decimal('0.00'):
8             raise ValueError('Initial balance must be >=
9             0.00')
10            self.name = name
11            self.balance = balance
12        def deposit(self, amount):
13            """Add money to the account"""
14            if amount < Decimal('0.00'):
15                raise ValueError('Deposit amount must be
16                positive')
17            self.balance += amount
```

Explanation

- ▶ Uses Decimal for precise financial calculations
- ▶ `__init__` validates initial balance
- ▶ `deposit` method validates deposit amount

Constructor Expression

```
1 from account import Account
2 from decimal import Decimal
3
4 # Create an Account object
5 account1 = Account('John Green', Decimal('50.00'))
6
7 # Access attributes
8 print(account1.name)      # 'John Green'
9 print(account1.balance)   # Decimal('50.00')
10
11 # Call methods
12 account1.deposit(Decimal('25.53'))
13 print(account1.balance)   # Decimal('75.53')
```

Key points

- ▶ Objects are created by calling the class name like a function
- ▶ `__init__` is automatically called to initialize the object
- ▶ Methods are called using dot notation (`object.method()`)
- ▶ Attributes are accessed using dot notation (`object.attribute`)

- ▶ **self** is a reference to the current object instance
- ▶ It's automatically passed as the first argument to methods
- ▶ Used to access instance attributes and other methods
- ▶ Example:
 - ▶ When you call `account1.deposit(25.53)`, Python actually calls `deposit(account1, 25.53)`
- ▶ Why self?
 - ▶ Makes it clear you're working with instance data
 - ▶ Allows multiple objects of the same class to maintain their own state

Important

You must include **self** as the first parameter in all instance methods (but don't pass it when calling the method)

Attributes and Properties



Instance Attributes

- ▶ Unique to each object instance
- ▶ Created in `__init__` using `self.attribute_name`
- ▶ Each object has its own copy

```
1 class MyClass:
2     def __init__(self, value):
3         self.instance_attr = value    # Unique to each
4                                         instance
5
6 obj1 = MyClass(1)
7 obj2 = MyClass(2)
8
9 print(obj1.instance_attr)    # 1
10 print(obj2.instance_attr)    # 2
```

Class Attributes

- ▶ Shared by all instances of the class
- ▶ Defined directly in the class (not in methods)
- ▶ Useful for constants or shared data

```
1 class MyClass:
2     class_attr = 0 # Shared by all instances
3 print(MyClass.class_attr) # 0
4 obj1 = MyClass()
5 obj2 = MyClass()
6 print(obj1.class_attr) # 0
7 print(obj2.class_attr) # 0
```

Caution

If you modify a class attribute through an instance, you actually create an instance attribute that shadows the class attribute!

- ▶ Python doesn't have true private attributes like some languages
- ▶ Convention: prefix with `__` for "internal use"

```
1 self._internal_attr = value # Hint: don't access  
    directly
```

- ▶ Name mangling: `__name` becomes `__ClassName__name`
 - ▶ Python changes the name to make it harder to access accidentally
 - ▶ Not truly private, just harder to access

```
1 self.__private_attr = value # Becomes  
    _MyClass__private_attr
```

- ▶ Properties provide controlled access to attributes
 - ▶ Allow validation when getting/setting values
 - ▶ Maintain consistent interface if implementation changes

```
1 class Time:
2     def __init__(self, hour=0, minute=0, second=0):
3         self.hour = hour    # Uses hour property setter
4         self.minute = minute
5         self.second = second
6
7     @property
8     def hour(self):
9         """Get the hour"""
10        return self._hour
11
12    @hour.setter
13    def hour(self, hour):
14        """Set the hour with validation"""
15        if not (0 <= hour < 24):
16            raise ValueError(f'Hour ({hour}) must be
170-23')
18        self._hour = hour
19
20    # Similar properties for minute and second
```

Explanations

- ▶ @property defines a getter method
- ▶ @attribute.setter defines a setter method
- ▶ Allows validation when setting values

Property Access

```
1 t = Time(hour=12, minute=30, second=45)
2 # Getting values (calls @property)
3 print(t.hour) # 12
4 # Setting values (calls @hour.setter)
5 t.hour = 15
6 print(t.hour) # 15
7 # Invalid assignment raises ValueError
8 t.hour = 25 # ValueError: Hour (25) must be 0-23
```

Benefits of Properties

- ▶ Validation when setting values
- ▶ Computed attributes (calculate values on the fly)
- ▶ Maintains consistent interface if implementation changes
- ▶ Allows you to add behavior to attribute access

Inheritance



Syntax

```
1 class BaseClass:
2     # Base class implementation
3 class DerivedClass(BaseClass):
4     # Derived class implementation
```

Key Concepts

- ▶ "is-a" relationship (DerivedClass is a BaseClass)
- ▶ Subclass inherits all attributes and methods
- ▶ Can override or extend base class functionality
- ▶ `super()` accesses base class methods

Real-world Example

A Car is a Vehicle. A Student is a Person. Inheritance models these "is-a" relationships.

```
1 class CommissionEmployee:
2     """Base class for commission employees"""
3     def __init__(self, first_name, last_name, ssn,
4                 gross_sales, commission_rate):
5         self._first_name = first_name
6         self._last_name = last_name
7         self._ssn = ssn
8         self.gross_sales = gross_sales
9         self.commission_rate = commission_rate
10    def earnings(self):
11        return self.gross_sales * self.commission_rate
12    def __repr__(self):
13        return (f'CommissionEmployee: {self.first_name}'
14                f'{self.last_name}\nssn: {self.ssn}\n'
15                f'gross sales: {self.gross_sales:.2f}\n'
16                f'commission rate: {self.commission_rate}
17                :.2f}')

```

- ▶ Base class for employees paid by commission
- ▶ Contains common attributes and methods

```
1 class SalariedCommissionEmployee(CommissionEmployee):
2     """Employee with salary plus commission"""
3     def __init__(self, first_name, last_name, ssn,
4                 gross_sales, commission_rate,
5                 base_salary):
6         super().__init__(first_name, last_name, ssn,
7                         gross_sales, commission_rate)
8         self.base_salary = base_salary
9     def earnings(self):
10        return super().earnings() + self.base_salary
11    def __repr__(self):
12        return ('Salaried' + super().__repr__() +
13                f'\nbase salary:{self.base_salary:.2f}')
```

- ▶ Inherits from CommissionEmployee
- ▶ Adds base_salary attribute
- ▶ Overrides earnings() to include base salary
- ▶ Uses super() to call parent class methods

Creating and Using Objects

```
1 from decimal import Decimal
2 # Base class object
3 ce = CommissionEmployee('Sue', 'Jones', '333-33-3333',
4     Decimal('10000.00'), Decimal('0.06'))
5 print(ce.earnings()) # 600.00
6 # Subclass object
7 sce = SalariedCommissionEmployee('Bob', 'Lewis', '
8     444-44-4444', Decimal('5000.00'), Decimal('0.04'),
9     Decimal('300.00'))
10 print(sce.earnings()) # 500.00
```

Key points:

- ▶ Subclass inherits all base class attributes/methods
- ▶ Can override methods (earnings, __repr__)
- ▶ `super()` calls base class implementation

Common Relationships

- ▶ **CommunityMember** hierarchy (single inheritance)
- ▶ **Shape** hierarchy (multiple levels)
- ▶ "is-a" vs "has-a" (inheritance vs composition)

- ▶ Single inheritance: class inherits from one base class
- ▶ Multiple inheritance: class inherits from multiple base classes (advanced)
- ▶ Composition: class contains objects of other classes ("has-a" relationship)

Polymorphism



- ▶ **Definition:** Ability to present the same interface for different underlying forms
- ▶ Two forms in Python:
 - ▶ **Inheritance-based:** Method overriding in subclasses
 - ▶ **Duck typing:** Objects with compatible interfaces
- ▶ Enables "programming in the general"
- ▶ Makes systems extensible

Real-world Analogy

The "drive" operation works differently for cars, trucks, and motorcycles, but they all can be "driven". Polymorphism lets us treat them all as "drivable" objects.

```
1 employees = [  
2     CommissionEmployee('Sue', 'Jones', '333-33-3333',  
3         Decimal('10000.00'), Decimal('0.06'  
4         ')),  
5     SalariedCommissionEmployee('Bob', 'Lewis', '  
6     444-44-4444', Decimal('5000.00'), Decimal('0.04'),  
7     Decimal('300.00'))]  
8  
9 for employee in employees:  
10     print(employee)  
11     print(f'Earnings: {employee.earnings():.2f}\n')
```

Output:

- ▶ Different string representations
- ▶ Different earnings calculations
- ▶ Same interface (earnings() method)
- ▶ We can process different types uniformly
- ▶ Each object responds appropriately to the same method

call



Definition

”If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it must be a duck”

```
1 class WellPaidDuck:
2     def __repr__(self):
3         return 'I am a well-paid duck'
4     def earnings(self):
5         return Decimal('1_000_000.00')
6 # Works with same interface
7 employees.append(WellPaidDuck())
8 for employee in employees:
9     print(employee)
10    print(f'{employee.earnings():.2f}\n')
```

- ▶ Python doesn't care about inheritance if the interface matches
- ▶ Any object with earnings() can be used polymorphically
- ▶ More flexible than inheritance-based polymorphism

- ▶ **Flexibility:** New types can be added without changing existing code
- ▶ **Maintainability:** Changes are localized
- ▶ **Extensibility:** Easy to add new functionality
- ▶ **Readability:** Code expresses intent clearly
- ▶ **Reusability:** Generic algorithms work with many types

Key Point

Polymorphism lets you write code that works with objects at a higher level of abstraction, making your code more general and reusable.

Special Methods



Method	Purpose
<code>__init__</code>	Object initialization
<code>__repr__</code>	Official string representation
<code>__str__</code>	Informal string representation
<code>__format__</code>	Custom string formatting
<code>__eq__</code>	<code>==</code> operator
<code>__lt__</code> , <code>__le__</code>	<code><</code> , <code><=</code> operators
<code>__gt__</code> , <code>__ge__</code>	<code>></code> , <code>>=</code> operators
<code>__add__</code>	<code>+</code> operator
<code>__sub__</code>	<code>-</code> operator
<code>__iadd__</code>	<code>+=</code> operator
<code>__isub__</code>	<code>-=</code> operator

- ▶ Special methods start and end with double underscores
- ▶ They enable operator overloading and other Python features
- ▶ Called automatically by Python in specific situations

```
1 class Complex:
2     """Complex number with overloaded operators"""
3     def __init__(self, real, imaginary):
4         self.real = real
5         self.imaginary = imaginary
6     def __add__(self, right):
7         """Overload + operator"""
8         return Complex(self.real + right.real,
9                         self.imaginary + right.imaginary)
10    def __iadd__(self, right):
11        """Overload += operator"""
12        self.real += right.real
13        self.imaginary += right.imaginary
14        return self
15    def __repr__(self):
16        """Return string representation"""
17        return (f'({self.real} ' +
18                ('+' if self.imaginary >= 0 else '-') +
19                f' {abs(self.imaginary)}i)')
```

Complex Number Operations

```
1 x = Complex(2, 4)
2 y = Complex(5, -1)
3 print(x)           # (2 + 4i)
4 print(y)           # (5 - 1i)
5 z = x + y           # Calls __add__
6 print(z)           # (7 + 3i)
7
8 x += y              # Calls __iadd__
9 print(x)           # (7 + 3i)
```

Benefits:

- ▶ Natural syntax for mathematical operations
- ▶ Consistent with built-in types
- ▶ Makes classes more intuitive to use

__repr__ vs __str__

- ▶ `__repr__`: Official, unambiguous representation
 - ▶ Used by `repr()` function
 - ▶ Should look like constructor call
 - ▶ Fallback for `__str__` if not defined
- ▶ `__str__`: Informal, readable representation
 - ▶ Used by `str()` and `print()`
 - ▶ More user-friendly

```
1 class Card:
2     def __repr__(self):
3         return f"Card(face='{self.face}', suit='{self.suit}')"
4     def __str__(self):
5         return f'{self.face} of {self.suit}'
6     def __format__(self, format_spec):
7         return f'{str(self):{format_spec}}'
```

Advanced Topics



Key Features

- ▶ Autogenerate `__init__`, `__repr__`, `__eq__`
- ▶ Concise syntax with type hints
- ▶ Default values & type annotations
- ▶ Frozen (immutable) instances

```
1 from dataclasses import dataclass
2 from typing import ClassVar, List
3 @dataclass
4 class Card:
5     FACES: ClassVar[List[str]] = ['Ace', '2', '3', ...,
6     'King']
7     SUITS: ClassVar[List[str]] = ['Hearts', 'Diamonds',
8     ...]
9     face: str
10    suit: str
11
12    @property
13    def image_name(self):
14        return f'{self.face_of_{self.suit}.png'
```

- ▶ @dataclass decorator does the magic
- ▶ Class attributes use ClassVar
- ▶ Data attributes use type hints

Data Class Example

```
1 from carddataclass import Card
2 # Autogenerated __init__
3 c1 = Card(Card.FACES[0], Card.SUITS[3]) # Ace of Spades
4
5 # Autogenerated __repr__
6 print(c1) # Card(face='Ace', suit='Spades')
7 # Autogenerated __eq__
8 c2 = Card(Card.FACES[0], Card.SUITS[3])
9 print(c1 == c2) # True
10 # Custom property
11 print(c1.image_name) # 'Ace_of_Spades.png'
```

- ▶ Less boilerplate code
- ▶ Clear, concise syntax
- ▶ Still full Python classes with all capabilities

- ▶ **Less Boilerplate:** Autogenerated methods
- ▶ **Type Hints:** Better documentation and IDE support
- ▶ **Immutability:** Frozen instances
- ▶ **Flexibility:** Can add methods and properties
- ▶ **Interoperability:** Works with existing code
- ▶ **Performance:** Optimized attribute access

When to Use Data Classes

- ▶ When you need a class mainly to store data
- ▶ When you want automatic string representations
- ▶ When you want to reduce repetitive code

```
1 def maximum(value1, value2, value3):
2     """Return the maximum of three values.
3     >>> maximum(3, 1, 2)
4     3
5     >>> maximum(1.5, 2.5, 1.0)
6     2.5
7     >>> maximum('a', 'c', 'b')
8     'c'
9     """
10    max_value = value1
11    if value2 > max_value:
12        max_value = value2
13    if value3 > max_value:
14        max_value = value3
15    return max_value
16
17 if __name__ == '__main__':
18     import doctest
19     doctest.testmod(verbose=True)
```

- ▶ Tests in docstrings
- ▶ `»>` followed by expected output
- ▶ `doctest.testmod()` runs the tests
- ▶ Great for simple unit tests

- ▶ **LEGB Rule:**
 - ▶ Local - inside current function
 - ▶ Enclosing - for nested functions
 - ▶ Global - module level
 - ▶ Built-in - Python built-ins
- ▶ **Class Namespace:** Contains class attributes
- ▶ **Object Namespace:** Contains instance attributes
- ▶ **Module Namespace:** Global to the module
- ▶ **Built-in Namespace:** Python's built-in names

Key Point

Python searches namespaces in LEGB order when looking up names

Key Steps

```
1 import pandas as pd
2 from scipy import stats
3 import seaborn as sns
4 # Load data
5 nyc = pd.read_csv('ave_hi_nyc_jan_1895-2018.csv')
6 nyc.columns = ['Date', 'Temperature', 'Anomaly']
7 # Clean data
8 nyc.Date = nyc.Date.floordiv(100)
9 # Calculate regression
10 slope, intercept = stats.linregress(
11     x=nyc.Date, y=nyc.Temperature)[:2]
12 # Predict future temperature
13 predicted = slope * 2019 + intercept
```

- ▶ Uses pandas for data handling
- ▶ Uses scipy.stats for regression
- ▶ Uses seaborn for visualization

- ▶ Uses pandas for data handling
- ▶ Uses scipy.stats for regression
- ▶ Uses seaborn for visualization

- ▶ OOP is a powerful paradigm for organizing complex programs
- ▶ Python provides flexible and expressive OOP capabilities
- ▶ Key concepts: encapsulation, inheritance, polymorphism
- ▶ Special methods enable operator overloading
- ▶ Advanced features like data classes reduce boilerplate
- ▶ Proper design leads to maintainable, extensible code

Next Steps

- ▶ Practice creating your own classes
- ▶ Experiment with inheritance hierarchies
- ▶ Try implementing operator overloading
- ▶ Explore data classes for simple data containers

- ▶ Python Documentation: Classes
- ▶ "Fluent Python" by Luciano Ramalho
- ▶ "Python Cookbook" by David Beazley and Brian K. Jones
- ▶ "Design Patterns in Python" by Peter Ullrich
- ▶ Python Standard Library: dataclasses, abc, enum

Online Resources

- ▶ Real Python OOP Tutorials
- ▶ Python Official Documentation
- ▶ Stack Overflow for specific questions

Thank You!
Questions?

