

Let's implement useless Python objects

役に立たない Python オブジェクトを作ろう

Hayao Suzuki

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Who am I ?




Who am I ? (お前誰よ)

Name Hayao Suzuki (鈴木 駿)

~~Twitter~~ X @CardinalXaro

Work Software Developer @ BeProud Inc.



- We are hiring <https://www.beproud.jp/careers/en/>
-  The event site for building connections
-  The best way to learn Python online
-  TRACERY A documentation service for system development

Who am I ?

Translated Books

- Python Distilled(O'Reilly Japan) [New!](#)

Supervised Translated Books

- Introducing Python 2nd ed.(O'Reilly Japan)
- Robust Python(O'Reilly Japan)

Who am I ?

Selected My Talks

- Symbolic Mathematics using SymPy(PyCon JP 2018)
- How to Use In-Memory Streams(PyCon JP 2020)
- Unknown Evolution of the Built-in Function pow(PyCon JP 2021)

Listed at <https://xaro.hatenablog.jp/> .

Let's implement `useless` Python
objects

What is it mean useless?

From LDOCE

- ① not useful or effective in any way
- ② (informal) unable or unwilling to do anything properly

Is the useless object really useless?

From Zhuangzi Ren-jian shi (莊子 人間世篇)

人皆知有用之用 而莫知無用之用也

Everyone knows the usefulness of the useful, but no one knows the usefulness of the useless.

Today's Theme

Let's implement useless Python objects

The useless objects are useless, but how to make a useless object is very useful.

What is a useless Python object?

Example: LiarContainer

```
>>> c = LiarContainer(["spam", "egg", "bacon"])
>>> "spam" in c
False
>>> "tomato" in c
True
```

What is a useless Python object?

Example: FibonacciSized

```
>>> s = FibonacciSized(range(50))  
>>> len(s)  
12586269025
```

What is a useless Python object?

Example: ShuffledIterable

```
>>> it = ShuffledIterable([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
>>> for _ in range(3):
...     for v in it:
...         print(v, end=" ")
...     print()
...
5 3 4 2 1
4 1 2 3 5
2 5 3 1 4
```

What is a useless Python object?

Definition of a useless Python object in this talk

A useless Python object behave *Pythonic*, but does not work as expected.

Data Structures and Operations

Basic Data Structures of Python

List [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Tuple ("pen", "pineapple", "apple", "pen")

Dictionary {"Answer": 42}

Set {41, 43, 47, 53, 57, 59}

Common Operations of Data Structure

len() Length of object

in Membership test

for Iteration

Useless Abstract Base Class

Example: Useless ABC

```
class Useless(abc.ABC):  
    def __init__(self, data: Optional[Iterable] = None):  
        if data is not None:  
            self._data = [v for v in data]  
        else:  
            self._data = []
```

Useless abstract base is useful, contrary to its name.

in and Container

`object.__contains__()`

Called to implement membership test operators.

Example: LiarContainer

```
class LiarContainer(Useless, Container):  
    def __contains__(self, item) -> bool:  
        return item not in self._data
```


len() and Sized

`object.__len__()`

Called to implement the built-in function `len()`.

Example: FibonacciSized

```
class FibonacciSized(Useless, collections.abc.Sized):
    PHI: Final[float] = (1 + math.sqrt(5)) / 2
    def __len__(self) -> int:
        return math.floor(
            (1 / math.sqrt(5)) * pow(self.PHI, len(self._data))
            + (1 / 2)
        )
```

for and Iterable

```
object.__iter__()
```

Called when an iterator is required for a container.

Example: ShuffledIterable

```
class ShuffledIterable(Useless, Iterable):  
    def __iter__(self) -> Iterator:  
        return iter(random.sample(self._data, k=len(self._data)))
```

Object Protocols

How to implement Pythonic Python objects

We need to understand [object protocols](#).

Ref: <https://docs.python.org/3/reference/datamodel.html>

collections.abc

This module provides **abstract base classes** that can be used to test whether a class provides **a particular interface**.

From <https://docs.python.org/3/library/collections.abc.html>

collections.abc and Interface

ABC	Interface
Sized	<code>__len__()</code>
Container	<code>__contains__()</code>
Iterable	<code>__iter__()</code>
Collection	Sized, Container, Iterable

Collection

`collections.abc.Collection`

Sized and Container and Iterable

Example: Collection

```
class UselessCollection(  
    FibonacciSized, LiarContainer, ShuffledIterable  
):  
    pass
```

collections.abc and Built-in Objects

ABC	built-in objects
Sequence	tuple
MutableSequence	list
MutableSet	set
MutableMapping	dict

Sequence

Example: ModularSequence

```
class ModularSequence(Useless, collections.abc.Sequence):
    def __getitem__(self, key):
        if isinstance(key, int):
            return self._data[key % len(self._data)]
        elif isinstance(key, slice):
            s = slice(
                key.start % len(self._data),
                key.stop % len(self._data),
                key.step,
            )
            return self._data[s]
        else:
            raise TypeError
```


Sequence

Example: ModularSequence

```
>>> seq = ModularSequence(range(20))
>>> print(seq[21:44])
[1, 2, 3]
>>> print(seq[65543])
3
>>> seq.count(13) # It does not stop.
```

Mapping

Example: MisprintedDictionary

```
class MisprintedDictionary(collections.abc.Mapping):
    def __init__(self, _dict: dict):
        shuffled_keys = random.sample(
            list(_dict.keys()), k=len(_dict.keys())
        )
        shuffled_values = random.sample(
            list(_dict.values()), k=len(_dict.keys())
        )
        self._data = dict(
            zip(shuffled_keys, shuffled_values)
        )
```

Example: MisprintedDictionary

```
>>> d = MisprintedDictionary({"a": 1, "b": 2, "c": 3})
>>> for key in d:
...     print(f"d[{key}]={d[key]}", end=" ")
...
d[c]=3 d[b]=2 d[a]=1
```

Example: CrowdSet

```
@functools.total_ordering
class CrowdSet(collections.abc.Set):
    def __init__(self, data=None):
        if data is not None:
            self._data = set(v for v in data)
        else:
            self._data = set()

    def __lt__(self, other):
        return self._data >= other
```

Example: CrowdSet

```
>>> s = CrowdSet(("egg", "bacon", "spam"))  
>>> t = CrowdSet(("egg", "egg", "spam", "spam"))  
>>> s > t  
True
```

Conclusion

Let's implement useless Python objects

- Useless Python objects are useful
- `collections.abc` module is very useful
- Once you understand object protocol, you can do anything