

# Python

## Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)

Thanks to all contributors:

Alison Pamment, Sam Pepler, Ag Stephens, Stephen Pascoe, Kevin Marsh, Anabelle Guillory, Graham Parton, Esther Conway, Eduardo Damasio Da Costa, Wendy Garland, Alan Iwi, Matt Pritchard and Tommy Godfrey.

# Computer science is the study of algorithms



**Centre for Environmental  
Data Analysis**  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES COUNCIL  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



**National Centre for  
Atmospheric Science**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



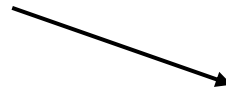
**National Centre for  
Earth Observation**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Computer science is the study of algorithms

Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*

Computer science is the study of algorithms

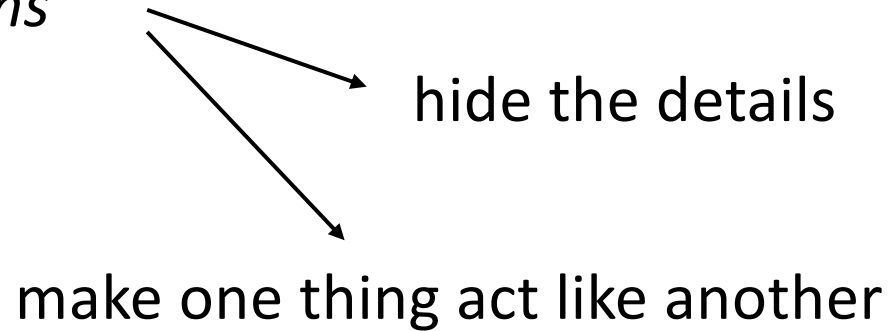
Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*



hide the details

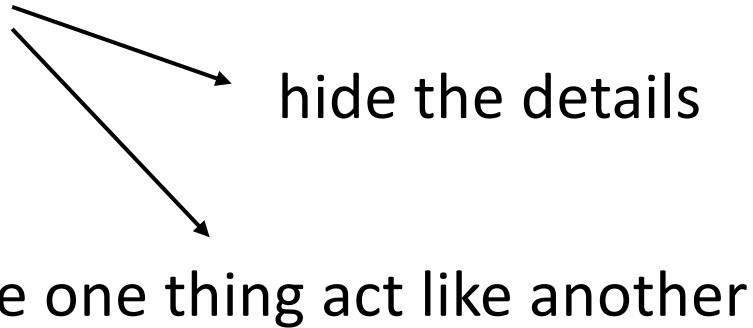
Computer science is the study of algorithms

Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*



Computer science is the study of algorithms

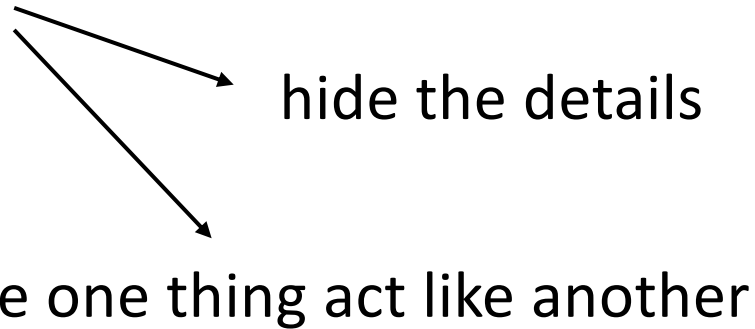
Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*



Functions turn many steps into one (logical) step

Computer science is the study of algorithms

Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*

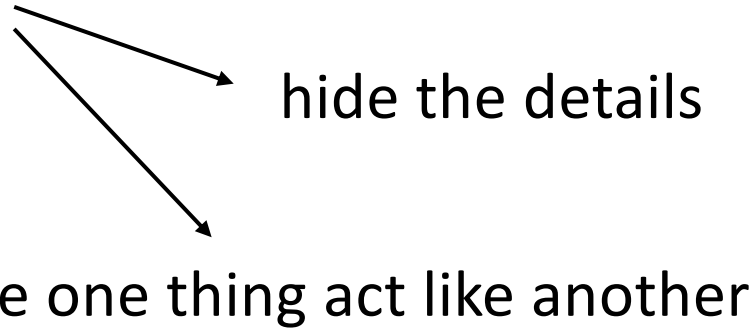


Functions turn many steps into one (logical) step

Libraries group functions to make them manageable

Computer science is the study of algorithms

Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*



Functions turn many steps into one (logical) step

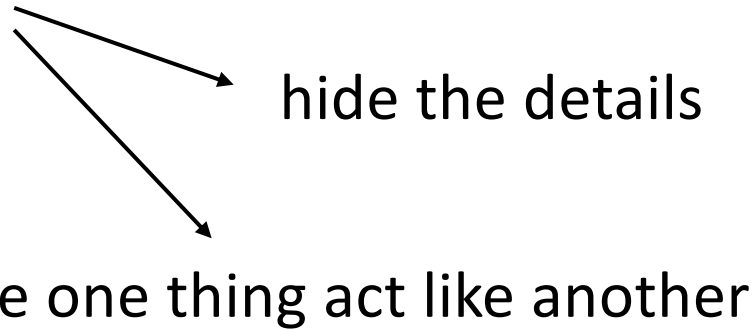
Libraries group functions to make them manageable

Classes and objects combine functions and data



Computer science is the study of algorithms

Computer *programming* is about creating and  
composing *abstractions*



Functions turn many steps into one (logical) step

Libraries group functions to make them manageable

Classes and objects combine functions and data

And, if used properly, do much more as well

Let's see how OOP is useful in everyday Python:

```
>>> s = "some silly string"
>>> s.upper()
'SOME SILLY STRING'
>>> s.find("t")
12
>>> s.replace("silly", "sensible").title()
'Some Sensible String'
```

And you can actually interrogate this **object** s to find out their **methods**:

```
>>> dir(s)
['_add_', '__class__', '__contains__', '__delattr__', '__dir__',
'__doc__', '__eq__', '__format__', '__ge__', '__getattribute__',
'__getitem__', '__getnewargs__', '__gt__', '__hash__', '__init__',
'__init_subclass__', '__iter__', '__le__', '__len__', '__lt__',
'__mod__', '__mul__', '__ne__', '__new__', '__reduce__',
'__reduce_ex__', '__repr__', '__rmod__', '__rmul__', '__setattr__',
'__sizeof__', '__str__', '__subclasshook__', 'capitalize', 'casefold',
'center', 'count', 'encode', 'endswith', 'expandtabs', 'find',
'format', 'format_map', 'index', 'isalnum', 'isalpha', 'isascii',
'isdecimal', 'isdigit', 'isidentifier', 'islower', 'isnumeric',
'isprintable', 'isspace', 'istitle', 'isupper', 'join', 'ljust',
'lower', 'lstrip', 'maketrans', 'partition', 'replace', 'rfind',
'rindex', 'rjust', 'rpartition', 'rsplit', 'rstrip', 'split',
'splitlines', 'startswith', 'strip', 'swapcase', 'title', 'translate',
'upper', 'zfill']
```

And you can find out which **class** *s* is an **instance** of:

```
>>> type(s)  
<class 'str'>
```

# OOP Terminology (1)

## **class**

Tell Python the definition of a new object.

## **object**

Two meanings: the most basic type of thing, and any instance of a class.

## **instance**

What you get when you tell Python to create a variable of given class.

## **def**

How you define a method of a class.

## **self**

Inside the methods in a class, self is a variable for the instance/object being accessed.

You can build your own **class** for your own domain:

```
class FileAnalyser():  
    "A class above the rest"  
  
    def __init__(self, path):  
        items = open(path).read().split()  
        self.data = []  
        for item in items:  
            self.data.append(float(item))  
  
    def max(self):  
        return max(self.data)  
  
    def mean(self):  
        return sum(self.data) / len(self.data)
```

Then create an **instance** of your **class** and use it:

```
$ cat some_data.txt Inside the data file...
```

```
1000 750 500 250 0
```



some\_data.txt

```
$ python
```

```
>>> from myclass import FileAnalyser
```

```
>>> da = FileAnalyser("some_data.txt")
```

```
>>> da.max()
```

```
1000.0
```

```
>>> da.mean()
```

```
500.0
```

You can make use of `help()` on your own class:

```
>>> help(FileAnalyser)
```

```
Help on class FileAnalyser in module myclass:
```

```
class FileAnalyser(builtins.object)
|   FileAnalyser(path)
|
|   A class above the rest
|
|   Methods defined here:
|
|   __init__(self, path)
|       Initialize self.  See help(type(self)) for accurate
signature.
|
|   max(self)
|
|   mean(self)
|
|   -----
|   Data descriptors defined here:
|
|   __dict__
|       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
|
|   __weakref__
|       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
```



Let's look in detail at our class...:

```
class FileAnalyser():  
    "A class above the rest"
```

Class Definition:  
Defines the class name.

Optionally include a doc  
string below.

Let's look in detail at our class...:

```
class FileAnalyser():  
    "A class above the rest"  
  
    def __init__(self, path):  
        items = open(path).read().split()  
        self.data = []  
        for item in items:  
            self.data.append(float(item))
```

`__init__` is the  
"constructor" method:

- Not necessary
- Very useful
- Always called when class is first created.

"self" means "belonging to  
this instance/object":

- Needed for all attributes that you want to be visible to every part of the object (shared).

Let's look in detail at our class...:

```
class FileAnalyser():  
    "A class above the rest"  
  
    def __init__(self, path):  
        items = open(path).read().split()  
        self.data = []  
        for item in items:  
            self.data.append(float(item))  
  
    def max(self):  
        return max(self.data)
```

Now we add more methods:

- "self" is always required as first argument.

Let's look in detail at our class...:

```
class FileAnalyser():  
    "A class above the rest"  
  
    def __init__(self, path):  
        items = open(path).read().split()  
        self.data = []  
        for item in items:  
            self.data.append(float(item))  
  
    def max(self):  
        return max(self.data)  
  
    def mean(self):  
        return sum(self.data) / len(self.data)
```

# Examples of OOP

Most python packages use OOP extensively.

We'll come across many examples in the next sessions.

E.g.:

```
from netCDF4 import Dataset
# Create HDF5 *format*, classic *model*
dataset = Dataset('data/test.nc', 'w', format='NETCDF4_CLASSIC')
print(dataset.file_format)
```

# A worked example

```
times = []
measurements = []

for i in range(1,32):
    date = f'2021-05-{i}'
    times, measurements = add_measurement(date, i, times, measurements)

# Print the data
print_measurements(times, measurements)
```

# A worked example

```
times = []  
measurements = []
```

Set up shared  
data containers

# A worked example

```
times = []  
measurements = []  
  
for i in range(1,32):  
    date = f'2021-05-{i}'  
    times, measurements = add_measurement(date, i, times, measurements)
```

Re-assign shared state to  
take into account  
changes

But also shared  
state

Pass in data to  
add



# A worked example

```
times = []
measurements = [

for i in range(0,31):
    date = f'2021-05-{i}'
    times, measurements = add_measurement(date, i, times, measurements)

# Print the data
print_measurements(times, measurements)
```

Pass in shared  
data

# A worked example: Using classes

```
temp_store = DataStore()

for i in range(1,32):
    date = f'2021-05-{i}'
    temp_store.add_measurement(date,i)

# Print the temps
temp_store.print_measurements()
```

# A worked example: Using classes

```
temp_store = DataStore()
```

Create instance of DataStore  
Shared data contained in class  
definition

```
for i in range(1,32):  
    date = f'2021-05-{i}'  
    temp_store.add_measurement(date,i)  
  
# Print the temps  
temp_store.print_measurements()
```

# A worked example: Using classes

```
temp_store = DataStore()
```

Create instance of DataStore  
Shared data contained in class  
definition

```
for i in range(10):  
    date = '2005-01-01-{:02d}'.format(i)
```

No variable  
re-assignment

```
    temp_store.add_measurement(date, i)
```

```
# Print the temps
```

```
temp_store.print_measurements()
```

# A worked example: Using classes

```
temp_store = DataStore()
```

Create instance of DataStore  
Shared data contained in class  
definition

```
for i in range(10):  
    date = '2005-01-01-05-{:02d}'.format(i)
```

No variable  
re-assignment

```
    temp_store.add_measurement(date, i)
```

Only need to pass in things  
to add

```
# Print the temps
```

```
temp_store.print_measurements()
```

# A worked example: Using classes

```
temp_store = DataStore()
```

Create instance of DataStore  
Shared data contained in class  
definition

```
for i in range(10):  
    temp_store.add_measurement('2005-05-01', i)
```

No variable  
re-assignment

```
temp_store.add_measurement(date, i)
```

Only need to pass in things  
to add

```
# Print the temps
```

```
temp_store.print_measurements()
```

Don't need shared  
state

Number of things you need to remember are reduced