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# Dot Notation and Methods

# Object dot notation



- Dot notation allows us to access elements that are part of an object.
- Librarys
  - `from numpy import sum`
  - `vs`
  - `import numpy; numpy.sum()`
- Objects
  - `“.join()`
  - `.join()` is part of the string object

# Object dot notation



- There are two things that can be attached to an object
  - An attribute, this stores data
  - A bound method, this is a function that does things to the object

An **attribute** is connoted with dot notation and no parenthesis

For example this object stores its color as an **attribute**

**cat\_object.color**

A **method** is connoted with dot notation and has parenthesis

For example this object has the **method** meow

Calling a bound method makes the object DO SOMETHING

**cat\_object.meow()**

# Bound Methods



We use the term method to refer to a function that is defined for a specific object type

The syntax is different than a regular generic function

Consider sorting a list

A regular function:

**sorted(list)** is a function applied to a list

A bound method:

**list.sort()** leverages the list type's bound method

# Questions?

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