

(7.6) Access Specifier, Name Mangling

Access Specifiers

By default every attribute is public

Public Scope

we can access and manipulate public variables and methods from outside the class through instance

Protected Scope

Protected attributes can be accessed within the class anywhere but from outside of the class only in child classes. We can specify an attribute as protected by prefixing with `_` symbol

```
_variablename = value
```

But it is just convention and in reality does not exist protected attributes

Private Scope

can not be accessed or manipulated from outside the class, only methods can access and manipulate them

generally used to hide some sensitive information from outside the class

We can declare a variable as private explicitly by prefixing with 2 underscore symbols.

```
__variablename = value
```

In [1]:

```
class Test:
    x=10
    _y=20
    __z=30
    def m1(self):
        print(Test.x)
        print(Test._y)
        print(Test.__z)

t=Test()
t.m1()
print(Test.x)
print(Test._y)
print(Test.__z)
```

```
10
20
30
10
20
```

AttributeError

Traceback (most recent call last)

C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360\2597779358.py in <module>

12 print(Test.x)

```
13 print(Test.__y)
----> 14 print(Test.__z)
```

AttributeError: type object 'Test' has no attribute '__z'

Name Mangling

python automatically change the name of __variables into _cls__variable to make them private

so that we can not directly / accidentally access them from outside the class

data --> _Adata

In [3]:

```
class Test:
    def __init__(self):
        self.__x=10

t=Test()
print(t._Test__x) #10
```

10

Problems On Name Mangling

In [10]:

```
class A:
    __msg = ""
    def __init__(self):
        self.__secret = 'Some Secret That Should not accessed outside the class'
        # Private variable names changed
        # into _cls__variable name, _A__secret
    def get_secret(self):
        return self.__secret
    def update_secret(self, new_value):
        self.__secret = new_value
```

In [11]:

```
A.__msg # private class variable
```

```
-----
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/2097255600.py in <module>
----> 1 A.__msg # private class variable
```

AttributeError: type object 'A' has no attribute '__msg'

In [12]:

```
#but also we can access this as
A._A__msg
```

Out[12]:

```
''
```

In [13]:

```
a = A()
```

In [14]:

```
a.__secret # Data Hiding can not be access directly
```

```
-----
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/2077942877.py in <module>
----> 1 a.__secret # Data Hiding can not be access directly
```

```
AttributeError: 'A' object has no attribute '__secret'
```

```
In [15]: a.get_secret() # can be access through object method
```

```
Out[15]: 'Some Secret That Should not accessed outside the class'
```

```
In [16]: a.update_secret('ha ha ha updated')
```

```
In [17]: a.get_secret()
```

```
Out[17]: 'ha ha ha updated'
```

```
In [18]: a.__secret
```

```
-----  
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)  
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/409297407.py in <module>  
----> 1 a.__secret
```

```
AttributeError: 'A' object has no attribute '__secret'
```

```
In [19]: a.__secret = 'yahooo i have changed it.'  
# this is another object variable
```

```
In [20]: a.__secret
```

```
Out[20]: 'yahooo i have changed it.'
```

```
In [21]: a.get_secret()
```

```
Out[21]: 'ha ha ha updated'
```

```
In [22]: a._A__secret # even we can access this as
```

```
Out[22]: 'ha ha ha updated'
```

```
In [23]: a.get_secret() # self._A__var -> instance, cls._A__var
```

```
Out[23]: 'ha ha ha updated'
```

```
In [24]: print(a.__dict__)
```

```
# _A__secret =
```

```
{'_A__secret': 'ha ha ha updated', '__secret': 'yahooo i have changed it.'}
```

Private Methods

```
In [26]: class A:
```

```

def __some_method(self):
    print("Hey Can you see me outside !!")
@classmethod
def __some_cls(cls):
    print("Secret / Private Class Space")

def a(self):
    self.__some_method()
def b(self):
    self.__some_cls()

```

In [28]:

```

a = A()
a.a()
a.b()

```

```

Hey Can you see me outside !!
Secret / Private Class Space

```

In [29]:

```

a.__some_method()

```

```

-----
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/3029436480.py in <module>
----> 1 a.__some_method()

AttributeError: 'A' object has no attribute '__some_method'

```

In [30]:

```

a.__some_cls()

```

```

-----
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/45259027.py in <module>
----> 1 a.__some_cls()

AttributeError: 'A' object has no attribute '__some_cls'

```

In [31]:

```

A.__some_cls()

```

```

-----
AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
C:\Users\PANKAJ~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_360/3580010948.py in <module>
----> 1 A.__some_cls()

AttributeError: type object 'A' has no attribute '__some_cls'

```

In []: