# Dispatching on Type



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```
square = Square(2, 6, 7)
circle = Circle(2, 6, 7)
draw(square)
draw(circle)
```

```
draw_square(square)
draw_circle(circle)
```

square.draw()
circle.draw()

Given objects of different types...

functions can't be overloaded on

■ argument type - draw() would need internal logic to detect the type and act accordingly

Use distinct function names?

The implementation selected depends on the type of the object giving polymorphism

#### Drawing Shapes



# Draw shapes in Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG)

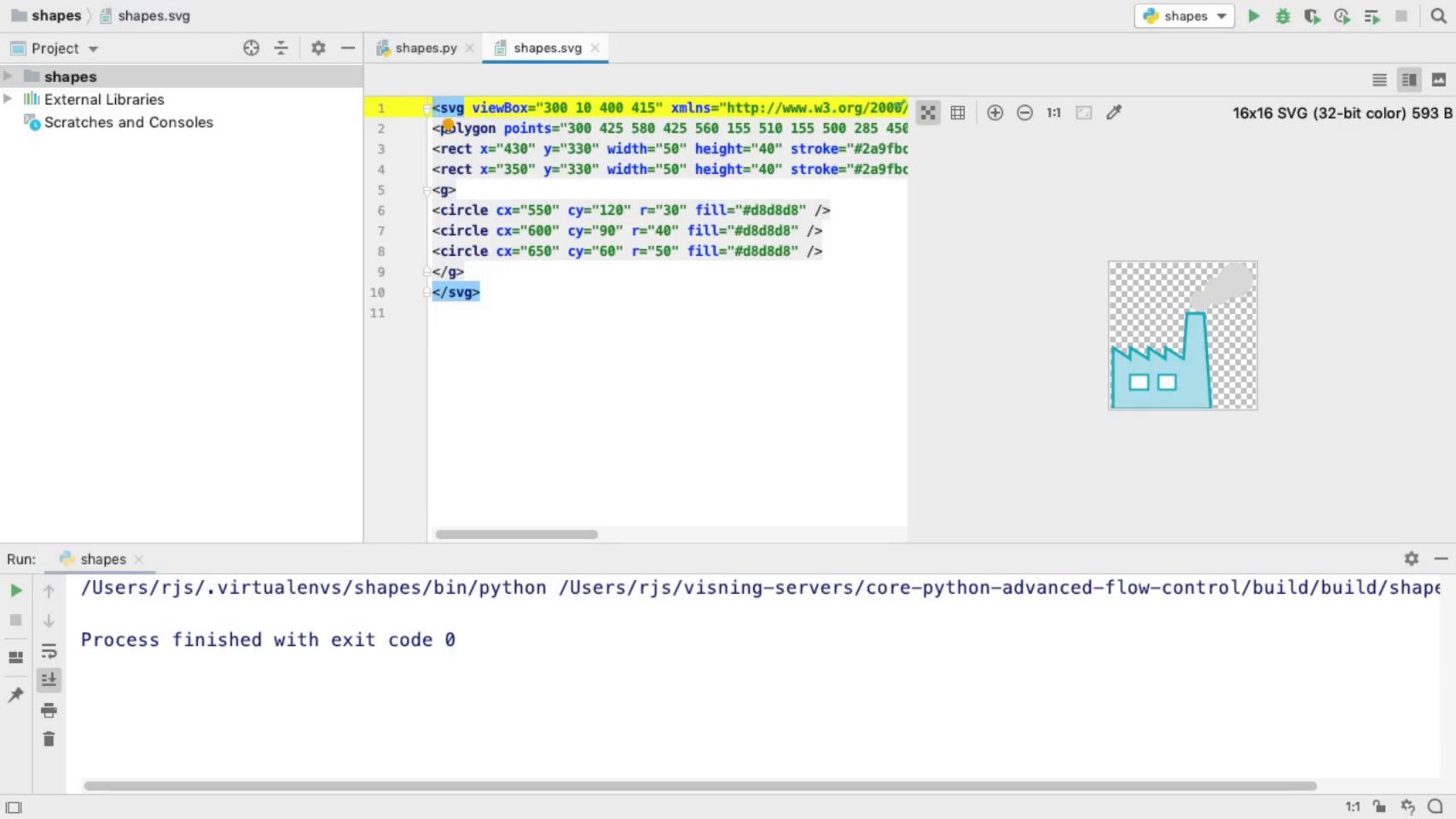
How to organize the drawing code?

Methods - dispatch on type

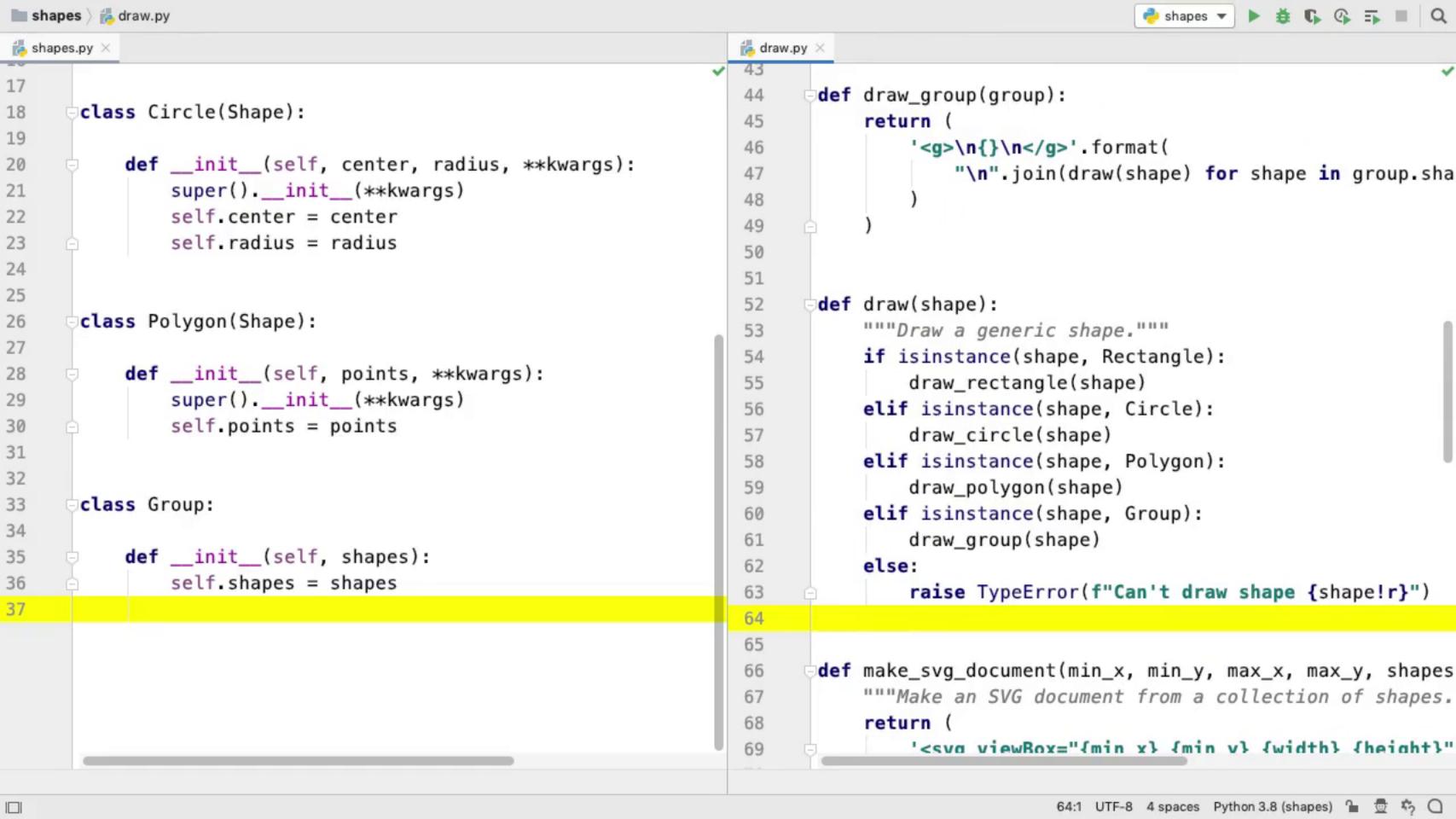
Poor separation of concerns, so refactor!

- Switch emulation
- Reflection/introspection
- The @singledispatch decorator

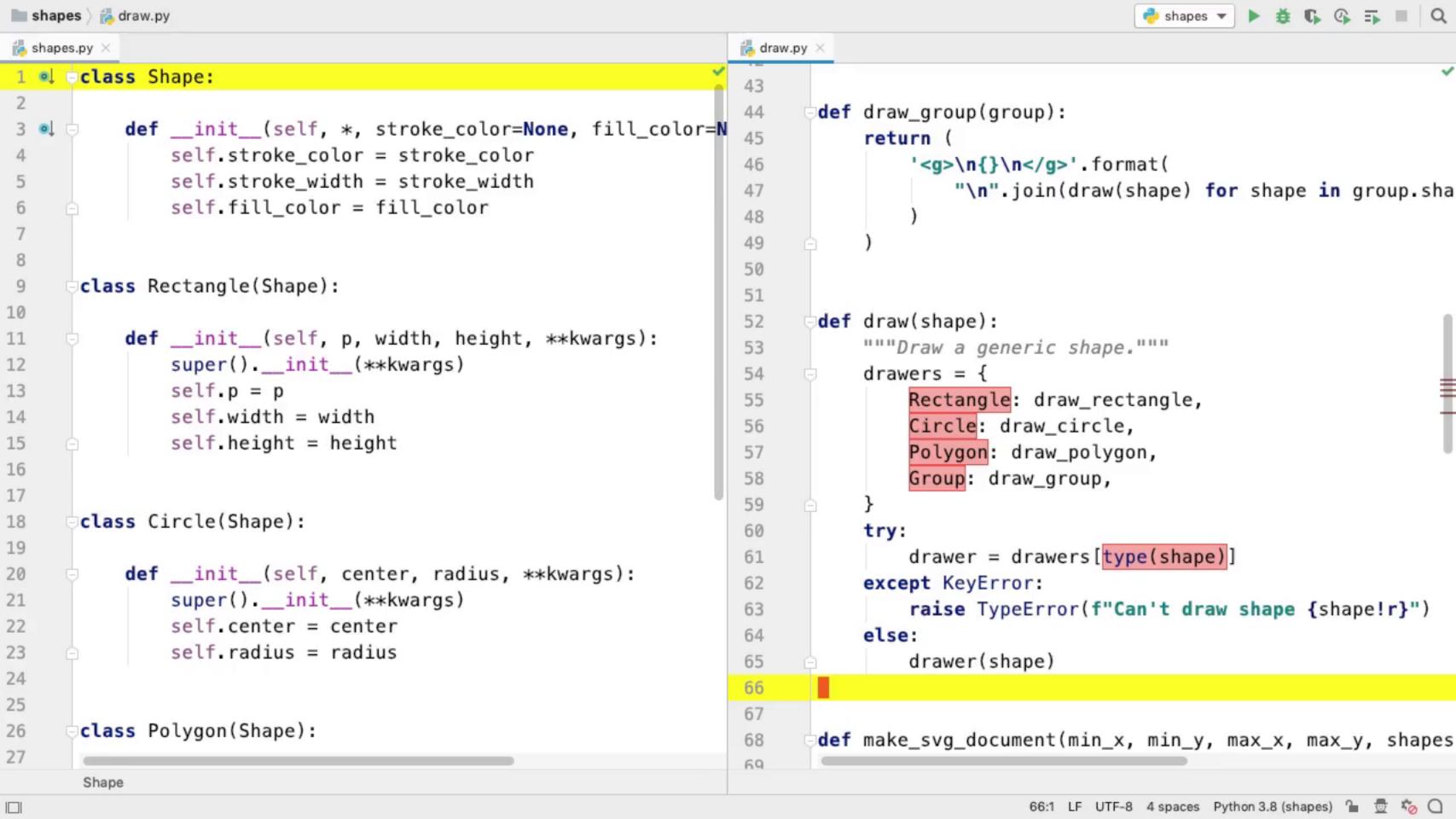
Implementing multiple dispatch



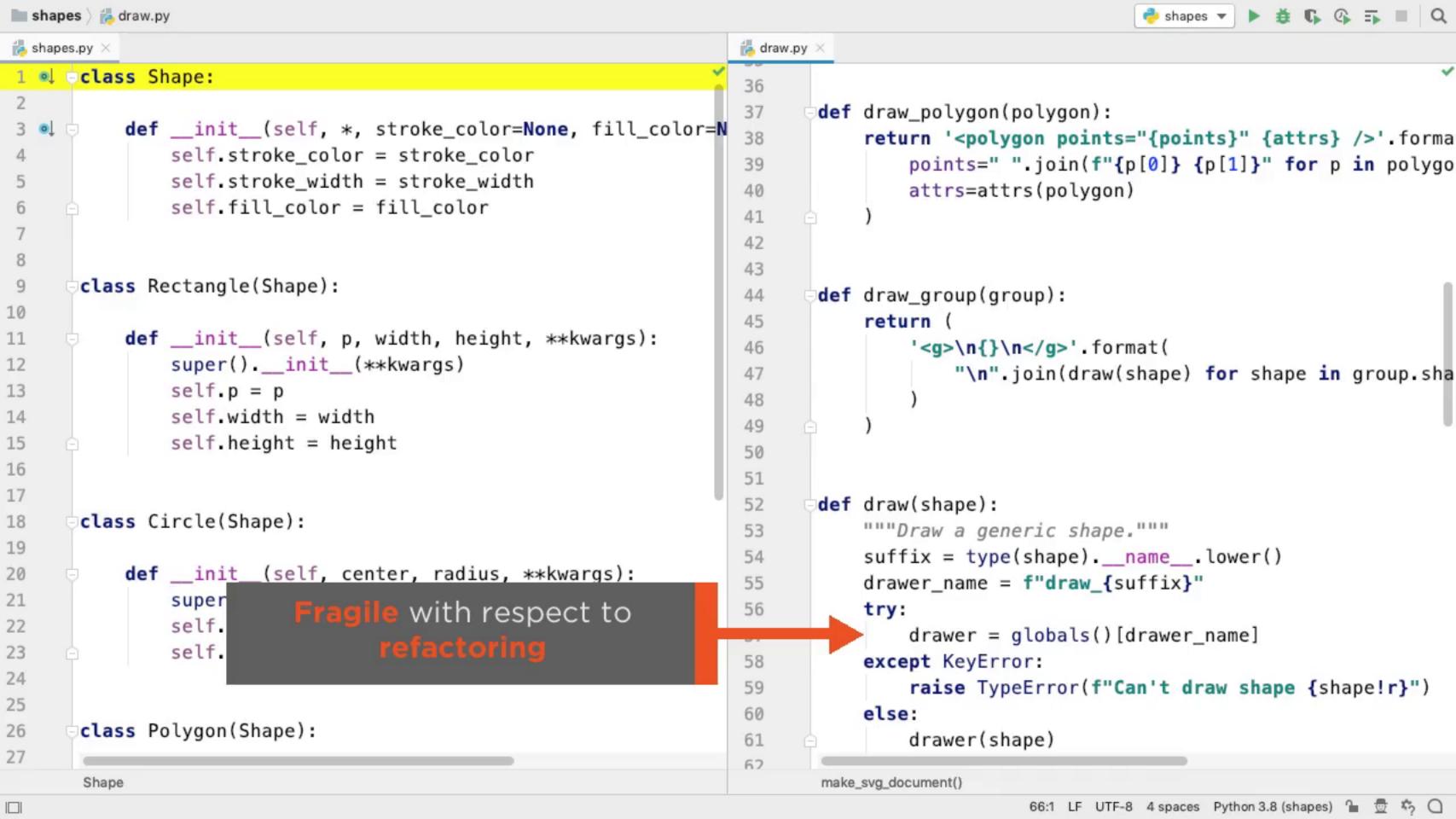
### Refactoring to Separate Concerns



### Dictionary Dispatch



### Introspective Lookup



### The @singledispatch Decorator

The functools Standard Library Module

from functools import singledispatch

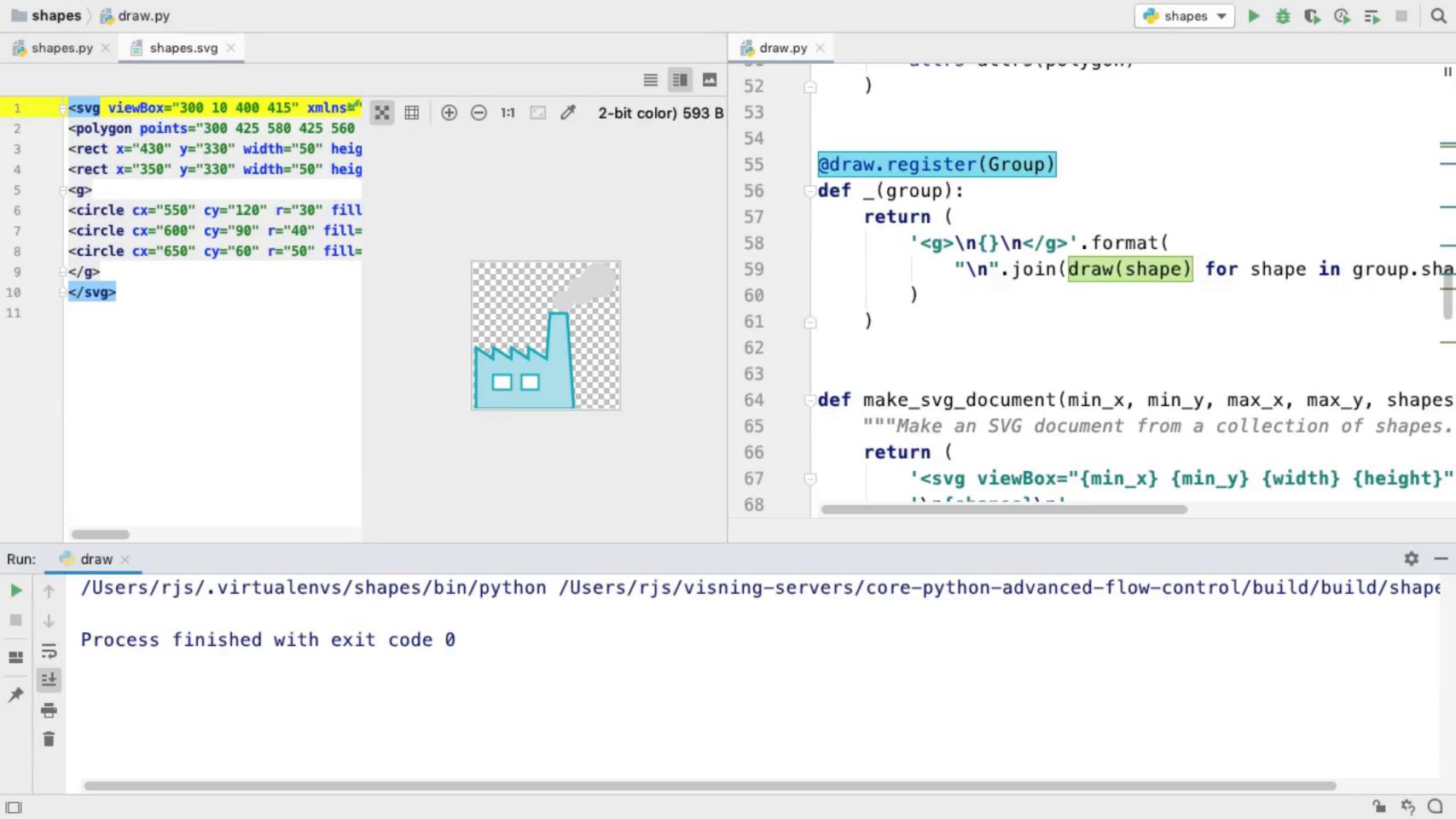
# Core Python: Functions and Functional Programming



Generic Functions

Multiple functions with the same name
Distinguished by the type of argument
Each version is an overload
We talk of overloading a function

Common terms in statically typed languages



# Do one thing and do it well.

### Overloading Methods

### Shape to Shape Intersections



Select an Algorithm Based on Argument Types

intersects(circle, polygon)

intersects(rectangle, polygon)

intersects(shape\_a, shape\_b)

```
🤚 shapes 🔻 🕨 🇯 👣 🕒 🔍
m shapes > % shapes.py
shapes.py >
           def __init__(self, shapes):
50
               self.shapes = shapes
51
52
53
      @singledispatch
54
      def intersects_with_rectangle(shape, rectangle):
55
           raise TypeError(
56
               f"Can't intersect {type(shape).__name__}} "
57
               f"with {type(rectangle).__name__}"
58
59
60
61
      @intersects_with_rectangle.register(Rectangle)
62
      def _(shape, rectangle):
63
           return rectangle_intersects_rectangle(rectangle, shape)
64
65
66
      @intersects_with_rectangle.register(Circle)
67
      def _(shape, rectangle):
68
           return rectangle_intersects_circle(rectangle, shape)
69
70
71
      @intersects_with_rectangle.register(Polygon)
      def _(shape, rectangle):
73
           return rectangle_intersects_polygon(rectangle, shape)
74
75
```

#### Equivalent Method Invocations

```
d = my_rect.intersects(my_circle)

d = type(my_rect).intersects(my_rect, my_circle)

d = Rectangle.intersects(self=my_rect, shape=my_circle)
```

#### Overloading Methods

- The singledispatch decorator does not work with methods
- Relocate the generic function to global scope
- Delegate from a regular method to the generic function, reversing the arguments

### Multiple Dispatch

```
shapes ) 👗 shapes.py
                                                                                                    🐁 shapes.py ×
       @singledispatch
106
       def intersects_with_polygon(shape, polygon):
107
           raise TypeError(
108
               f"Can't intersect {type(shape).__name__}} "
109
               f"with {type(polygon).__name__}"
110
111
112
113
       @intersects_with_polygon.register(Rectangle)
114
       def _(shape, polygon):
115
           return rectangle_intersects_polygon(shape, polygon)
116
117
118
       @intersects_with_polygon.register(Circle)
119
       def _(shape, polygon):
120
           return circle_intersects_polygon(shape, polygon)
121
122
123
       @intersects_with_polygon.register(Polygon)
124
       def _(shape, polygon):
125
           return polygon_intersects_polygon(polygon, shape)
126
127
128
       def intersects(shape_a, shape_b):
129
           return shape_a.intersects(shape_b)
130
131
```