

Discussion 7: Object-Oriented Programming, String Representation

[disc07.pdf \(disc07.pdf\)](#)

This is an online worksheet that you can work on during discussions. Your work is not graded and you do not need to submit anything.

OOP

Object-oriented programming (OOP) is a programming paradigm that allows us to treat data as objects, like we do in real life.

For example, consider the **class** `Student`. Each of you as individuals is an **instance** of this class.

Details that all CS 61A students have, such as `name`, are called **instance variables**. Every student has these variables, but their values differ from student to student. A variable that is shared among all instances of `Student` is known as a **class variable**. For example, the `max_slip_days` attribute is a class variable as it is a property of all students.

All students are able to do homework, attend lecture, and go to office hours. When functions belong to a specific object, they are called **methods**. In this case, these actions would be methods of `Student` objects.

Here is a recap of what we discussed above:

- **class**: a template for creating objects
- **instance**: a single object created from a class
- **instance variable**: a data attribute of an object, specific to an instance
- **class variable**: a data attribute of an object, shared by all instances of a class
- **method**: a bound function that may be called on all instances of a class

Instance variables, class variables, and methods are all considered **attributes** of an object.

Q1: WWPD: Student OOP

Below we have defined the classes `Professor` and `Student`, implementing some of what was described above. Remember that Python passes the `self` argument implicitly to methods when calling the method directly on an object.

```
class Student:

    max_slip_days = 3 # this is a class variable

    def __init__(self, name, staff):
        self.name = name # this is an instance variable
        self.understanding = 0
        staff.add_student(self)
        print("Added", self.name)

    def visit_office_hours(self, staff):
        staff.assist(self)
        print("Thanks, " + staff.name)

class Professor:

    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name
        self.students = {}

    def add_student(self, student):
        self.students[student.name] = student

    def assist(self, student):
        student.understanding += 1

    def grant_more_slip_days(self, student, days):
        student.max_slip_days = days
```

What will the following lines output?

```
>>> callahan = Professor("Callahan")
>>> elle = Student("Elle", callahan)
```

Added Elle

```
>>> elle.visit_office_hours(callahan)
```

Thanks, Callahan

```
>>> elle.visit_office_hours(Professor("Paulette"))
```

Thanks, Paulette

```
>>> elle.understanding
```

2

```
>>> [name for name in callahan.students]
```

['Elle']

```
>>> x = Student("Vivian", Professor("Stromwell")).name
```

Added Vivian

```
>>> x
```

```
'Vivian'
```

```
>>> [name for name in callahan.students]
```

```
['Elle']
```

```
>>> elle.max_slip_days
```

```
3
```

```
>>> callahan.grant_more_slip_days(elle, 7)  
>>> elle.max_slip_days
```

```
7
```

```
>>> Student.max_slip_days
```

```
3
```

Q2: Keyboard

We'd like to create a `Keyboard` class that takes in an arbitrary number of `Buttons` and stores these `Buttons` in a dictionary. The keys in the dictionary will be ints that represent the position on the `Keyboard`, and the values will be the respective `Button`. Fill out the methods in the `Keyboard` class according to each description, using the doctests as a reference for the behavior of a `Keyboard`.

Your Answer

```

1  class Button:
2      def __init__(self, pos, key):
3          self.pos = pos
4          self.key = key
5          self.times_pressed = 0
6
7  class Keyboard:
8      """A Keyboard takes in an arbitrary amount of buttons, and has a
9      dictionary of positions as keys, and values as Buttons.
10     """
11     >>> b1 = Button(0, "H")
12     >>> b2 = Button(1, "I")
13     >>> k = Keyboard(b1, b2)
14     >>> k.buttons[0].key
15     'H'
16     >>> k.press(1)
17     'I'
18     >>> k.press(2) # No button at this position
19     ''
20     >>> k.typing([0, 1])
21     'HI'
22     >>> k.typing([1, 0])
23     'IH'
24     >>> b1.times_pressed
25     2
26     >>> b2.times_pressed
27     3
28     """
29     def __init__(self, *args):
30         for _____ in _____:
31             _____
32
33     def press(self, info):
34         """Takes in a position of the button pressed, and
35         returns that button's output."""
36         if _____:
37             _____
38             _____
39             _____
40             _____
41
42     def typing(self, typing_input):
43         """Takes in a list of positions of buttons pressed, and
44         returns the total output."""
45         _____

```

46 for _____ in _____:
47 _____
48 _____
49
50

Solution

```
class Button:
```

```
    def __init__(self, pos, key):
        self.pos = pos
        self.key = key
        self.times_pressed = 0
```

```
class Keyboard:
```

```
    """A Keyboard takes in an arbitrary amount of buttons, and has a
    dictionary of positions as keys, and values as Buttons.
```

```
    >>> b1 = Button(0, "H")
    >>> b2 = Button(1, "I")
    >>> k = Keyboard(b1, b2)
    >>> k.buttons[0].key
    'H'
    >>> k.press(1)
    'I'
    >>> k.press(2) # No button at this position
    ''

    >>> k.typing([0, 1])
    'HI'
    >>> k.typing([1, 0])
    'IH'
    >>> b1.times_pressed
    2
    >>> b2.times_pressed
    3
    """
```

```
    def __init__(self, *args):
        self.buttons = {}
        for button in args:
            self.buttons[button.pos] = button
```

```
    def press(self, info):
        """Takes in a position of the button pressed, and
        returns that button's output."""
        if info in self.buttons.keys():
            b = self.buttons[info]
```

```
        b.times_pressed += 1
        return b.key
    return ''

def typing(self, typing_input):
    """Takes in a list of positions of buttons pressed, and
    returns the total output."""
    accumulate = ''
    for pos in typing_input:
        accumulate+=self.press(pos)
    return accumulate
```


Inheritance

To avoid redefining attributes and methods for similar classes, we can write a single **base class** from which the similar classes **inherit**. For example, we can write a class called **Pet** and define **Dog** as a **subclass** of **Pet**:

```
class Pet:

    def __init__(self, name, owner):
        self.is_alive = True    # It's alive!!!
        self.name = name
        self.owner = owner

    def eat(self, thing):
        print(self.name + " ate a " + str(thing) + "!")

    def talk(self):
        print(self.name)

class Dog(Pet):

    def talk(self):
        super().talk()
        print('This Dog says woof!')
```

Inheritance represents a hierarchical relationship between two or more classes where one class **is a** more specific version of the other: a dog **is a** pet (We use **is a** to describe this sort of relationship in OOP languages, and not to refer to the Python `is` operator).

Since `Dog` inherits from `Pet`, the `Dog` class will also inherit the `Pet` class's methods, so we don't have to redefine `__init__` or `eat`. We do want each `Dog` to talk in a `Dog`-specific way, so we can **override** the `talk` method.

We can use `super()` to refer to the superclass of `self`, and access any superclass methods as if we were an instance of the superclass. For example, `super().talk()` in the `Dog` class will call the `talk()` method from the `Pet` class, but passing the `Dog` instance as the `self`.

This is a little bit of a simplification, and if you're interested you can read more in the Python documentation (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html#super>) on `super`.

Q3: Cat

Below is a skeleton for the `Cat` class, which inherits from the `Pet` class. To complete the implementation, override the `__init__` and `talk` methods and add a new `lose_life` method.

Hint: You can call the `__init__` method of `Pet` (the superclass of `Cat`) to set a cat's name and owner.

Your Answer

```
1  class Cat(Pet):
2
3      def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
4          """ YOUR CODE HERE """
5
6      def talk(self):
7          """Print out a cat's greeting.
8
9          >>> Cat('Thomas', 'Tammy').talk()
10         Thomas says meow!
11         """
12         """ YOUR CODE HERE """
13
14     def lose_life(self):
15         """Decrements a cat's life by 1. When lives reaches zero,
16         is_alive becomes False. If this is called after lives has
17         reached zero, print 'This cat has no more lives to lose.'
18         """
19         """ YOUR CODE HERE """
20
21
```

Solution

```
class Cat(Pet):
```

```
    def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
        super().__init__(name, owner)
        self.lives = lives
```

```
    def talk(self):
```

```
        """Print out a cat's greeting.
```

```
        >>> Cat('Thomas', 'Tammy').talk()
```

```
        Thomas says meow!
```

```
        """
```

```
        print(self.name + ' says meow!')
```

```
    def lose_life(self):
```

```
        """Decrements a cat's life by 1. When lives reaches zero,
        is_alive becomes False. If this is called after lives has
        reached zero, print 'This cat has no more lives to lose.'
        """
```

```
        if self.lives > 0:
```

```
            self.lives -= 1
```

```
            if self.lives == 0:
```

```
                self.is_alive = False
```

```
        else:
```

```
            print("This cat has no more lives to lose.")
```

Q4: NoisyCat

More cats! Fill in this implementation of a class called `NoisyCat`, which is just like a normal `Cat`. However, `NoisyCat` talks a lot -- twice as much as a regular `Cat`! If you'd like to test your code, feel free to copy over your solution to the `Cat` class above.

Your Answer

```

1  class _____ # Fill me in!
2      """A Cat that repeats things twice."""
3      def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
4          # Is this method necessary? Why or why not?
5          "*** YOUR CODE HERE ***"
6
7      def talk(self):
8          """Talks twice as much as a regular cat.
9          >>> NoisyCat('Magic', 'James').talk()
10         Magic says meow!
11         Magic says meow!
12         """
13         "*** YOUR CODE HERE ***"
14
15

```

Solution

```

class NoisyCat(Cat): # Fill me in!
    """A Cat that repeats things twice."""
    def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
        # Is this method necessary? Why or why not?
        super().__init__(name, owner, lives)
        # No, this method is not necessary because NoisyCat already inherits Cat's __init__

    def talk(self):
        """Talks twice as much as a regular cat.
        >>> NoisyCat('Magic', 'James').talk()
        Magic says meow!
        Magic says meow!
        """
        super().talk()
        super().talk()

```

Class Methods

Now we'll try out another feature of Python classes: class methods. A method can be turned into a class method by adding the `classmethod` (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html#classmethod>) decorator. Then, instead of receiving the instance as the first argument (`self`), the method will receive the class itself (`cls`).

Class methods are commonly used to create "factory methods": methods whose job is to construct and return a new instance of the class.

For example, we can add a `robo_factory` class method to our `Dog` class that makes robo-dogs:

```
class Dog(Pet):
    # With the previously defined methods not written out
    @classmethod
    def robo_factory(cls, owner):
        return cls("RoboDog", owner)
```

Then a call to `Dog.robo_factory('Sally')` would return a new `Dog` instance with the name "RoboDog" and owner "Sally".

Q5: Cat Adoption

Now you can implement the `adopt_random_cat` method below, which should construct a cat with a random name and lives. To generate random values, you can use functions like `random.choice` (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/random.html#random.choice>) and `random.randint` (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/random.html#random.randint>) from the `random` module (<https://docs.python.org/3/library/random.html>).

Your Answer

```

1  import random as random
2
3  class Cat(Pet):
4      def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
5          """ YOUR CODE HERE """
6
7          # Insert other previously defined methods here
8
9      @classmethod
10     def adopt_random_cat(cls, owner):
11         """
12         Returns a new instance of a Cat with the given owner,
13         a randomly chosen name and a random number of lives.
14         >>> randcat = Cat.adopt_random_cat("Ifeoma")
15         >>> isinstance(randcat, Cat)
16         True
17         >>> randcat.owner
18         'Ifeoma'
19         """
20         _____
21         _____
22         return cls(____, ____, ____)
```

Solution

```
import random as random

class Cat(Pet):
    def __init__(self, name, owner, lives=9):
        super().__init__(name, owner)
        self.lives = lives

    # Insert other previously defined methods here

    @classmethod
    def adopt_random_cat(cls, owner):
        """
        Returns a new instance of a Cat with the given owner,
        a randomly chosen name and a random number of lives.
        >>> randcat = Cat.adopt_random_cat("Ifeoma")
        >>> isinstance(randcat, Cat)
        True
        >>> randcat.owner
        'Ifeoma'
        """
        cat_name = random.choice(["felix", "bugs", "grumpy"])
        num_lives = random.randint(1, 20)
        return cls(cat_name, owner, num_lives)
```

Representation: Repr, Str

There are two main ways to produce the "string" of an object in Python: `str()` and `repr()`. While the two are similar, they are used for different purposes.

`str()` is used to describe the object to the end user in a "Human-readable" form, while `repr()` can be thought of as a "Computer-readable" form mainly used for debugging and development.

When we define a class in Python, `__str__` and `__repr__` are both built-in methods for the class.

We can call those methods using the global built-in functions `str(obj)` or `repr(obj)` instead of dot notation, `obj.__repr__()` or `obj.__str__()`.

In addition, the `print()` function calls the `__str__` method of the object, while simply calling the object in interactive mode calls the `__repr__` method.

Here's an example:

```
class Rational:

    def __init__(self, numerator, denominator):
        self.numerator = numerator
        self.denominator = denominator

    def __str__(self):
        return f'{self.numerator}/{self.denominator}'

    def __repr__(self):
        return f'Rational({self.numerator},{self.denominator})'

>>> a = Rational(1, 2)
>>> str(a)
'1/2'
>>> repr(a)
'Rational(1,2)'
>>> print(a)
1/2
>>> a
Rational(1,2)
```


Q6: WWPDP: Repr-resentation

```
class A:
    def __init__(self, x):
        self.x = x

    def __repr__(self):
        return self.x

    def __str__(self):
        return self.x * 2

class B:
    def __init__(self):
        print('boo!')
        self.a = []

    def add_a(self, a):
        self.a.append(a)

    def __repr__(self):
        print(len(self.a))
        ret = ''
        for a in self.a:
            ret += str(a)
        return ret
```

Given the above class definitions, what will the following lines output?

```
>>> A('one')
```

```
one
```

```
>>> print(A('one'))
```

oneone

```
>>> repr(A('two'))
```

'two'

```
>>> b = B()
```

boo!

```
>>> b.add_a(A('a'))  
>>> b.add_a(A('b'))  
>>> b
```

2

aabb

