



Lecture 11 – Exceptions and Shelf

CS2513

Cathal Hoare

**A TRADITION OF
INDEPENDENT
THINKING**



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Lecture Contents

Shelve

Remember to Record!

Class Test

- When: Thursday 9th November 2pm
- Where: Probably the lab G.20 and 24 but we will clarify this.
- Topics – Everything up to November 2nd Lecture but predominantly OOP.
- DSS Supports – contact to arrange eligible supports. Also let me know so we can have arrangements made on CS side.
- Sample paper posted, but we will do revision before the test that will be more focused on this year.

Object Persistence

- There are many ways to persist data from your program
 - You can write to file
 - You can store data in database
 - You can serialise your objects and write them to disk - This final option is called **shelving**

Object Persistence

- Pickles allow us to serialise (convert to a string of bytes and write to a file) any object or collection of objects.
- Shelves allow us to store pickled objects as key/value pairs
 - In effect a persist-able dictionary
 - It provides the usual dictionary functions such as `len()` etc.
 - But in addition to what we are used to, we must open and close them (read and write from disk).
 - Pickling is done 'under the hood' when we shelve an object; we don't have to explicitly do this action.

Shelve Example

- Person Class - see person.py examples.
- It is a standard class with state that includes a social security number, name and salary. The class has methods for getters/setters, givePayrise() and a method to represent the object as a string (`__str__`).

Shelve Example

```
import shelve #1
```

```
from person import Person
```

```
john = Person("SN12345", "John Doe", 32000)  
#2
```

```
db = shelve.open("persondb") #3
```

```
db[john.ssn] = john #4
```

```
db.close() #5
```


Writing an object to a Shelf

#1 - we import the class from its module and also import the shelf functionality.

#2 - we create an instance of the class

#3 - we open a shelf by identifying the file where our objects and their keys will be written to .

#4 - we assign the object to the shelf (this causes it to be written to file. We assign as we would to a dictionary providing a key and the object as a value. The key must be unique. If the key is already in the shelf, then the original pickle will be overwritten

#5 - we close the shelf (causes the shelf to be synchronised)

Reading from a Shelf

- Access through key

```
import shelve #1  
from person import Person  
  
db = shelve.open("persondb") #2  
john = db["SN12345"] #3  
print(john)  
db.close() #4
```

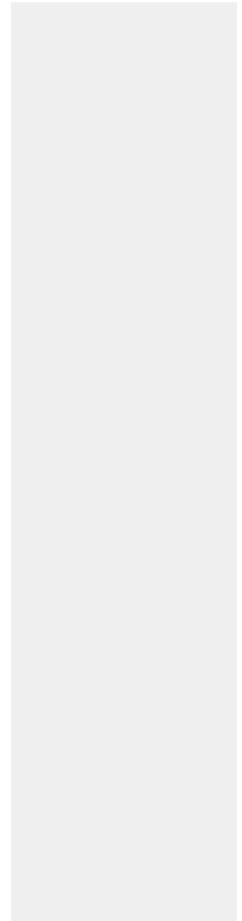
Reading an object from a Shelf

#1 - import the shelf and class to be deserialized

#2 - open the shelf and label it

#3 - access the shelf using a known key. This approach works when you know the shelf keys/ Once deserialised the object can be used as before

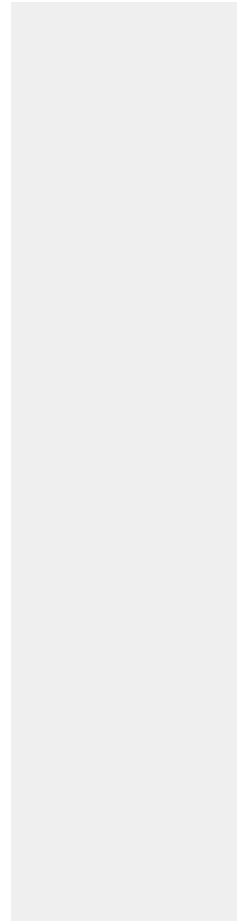
#4 - close the shelf



Updating a Shelve - for an individual object

```
import shelve #1
from person import Person

db = shelve.open("persondb") #2
john = db["SN12345"] #3
print(john)
john.givePayRaise(10) #4
print(john)
db[john.ssn] = john #5
db.close() #6
```



Updating a Shelf - for an individual object

#1 - import required objects

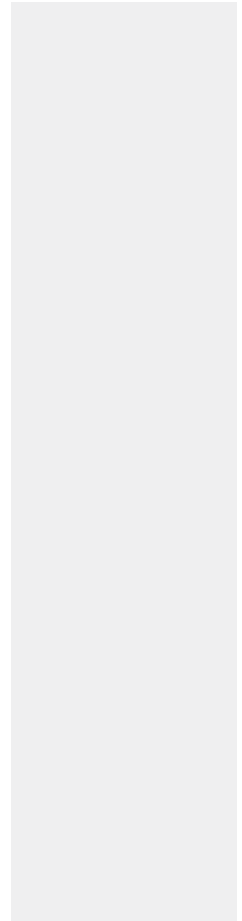
#2 - open the shelf

#3 - read the object from the shelf (and label it)

#4 - apply a pay raise to the object

#5 - rewrite object to shelf

#6 - close shelf



Writing a Collection one by one

```
import shelve #1
from person import Person

john = Person("SN12345", "John Doe", 32000) #2
mary = Person("SN12346", "Mary Doe", 36000)
joe = Person("SN12347", "Joe Doe", 24000)

personList = [john, mary, joe] #3
db = shelve.open("persondb") #4
for person in personList: #5
    db[person.ssn] = person
db.close() #6
```

Writing a collection - write entire list

#1 - import required classes

#2 - create a series of objects

#3 - create a list of employee objects

#4 - open the shelve

#5 - write each individual object to the shelve. Each is indexed in the shelve

#6 - save the shelve

Writing a collection - write entire list

```
import shelve #1
from person import Person

john = Person("SN12345", "John Doe", 32000) #2
mary = Person("SN12346", "Mary Doe", 36000)
joe = Person("SN12347", "Joe Doe", 24000)

personList = [john, mary, joe] #3
db = shelve.open("personwholelist") #4
db["store"] = personList #5
db.close() #6
```


Updating a Shelf - for an individual object

#1 - import the required libraries

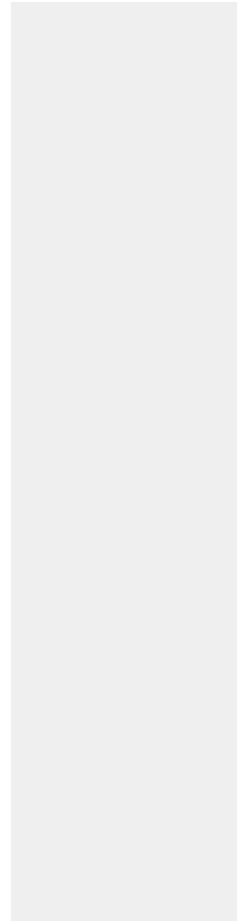
#2 - create a series of objects

#3 - add the new objects to a list

#4 - open the shelf

#5 - write a single object (the list containing objects)

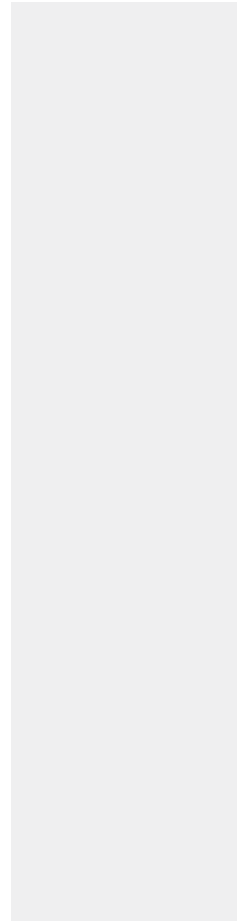
#6 - close the shelf



Reading and updating Collection where objects are individually indexed

```
import shelve #1
from person import Person

db = shelve.open("persondb") #2
for key in db.keys(): #3
    person = db[key] #4
    person.givePayRaise(10) #5
    db[key] = person #6
db.close() #7
```

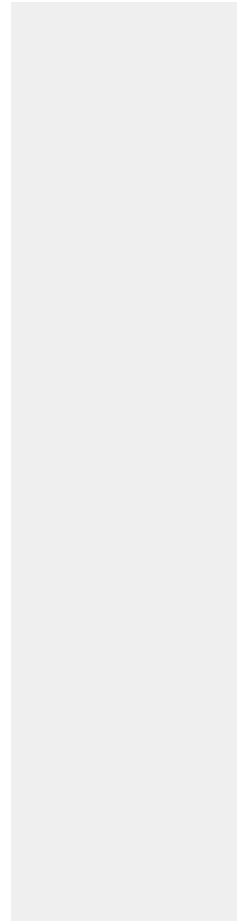


Reading and updating Collection where objects are individually indexed

- #1 - import required classes
- #2 - open the shelf
- #3 - access each individual key in the shelf
- #4 - access the individual element
- #5 - access the object and update it
- #6 - rewrite the object into the shelf
- #7 - close the shelf

Reading a Collection when the entire collection was written

```
import shelve #1
from person import Person
db = shelve.open("employeedbwholelist") #2
theList = db["store"] #3
db.close() #4
for personobj in theList: #5
    print(personobj)
```



Reading and updating Collection where objects are individually indexed

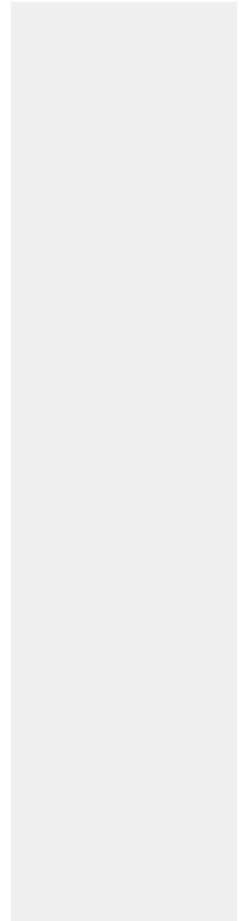
#1 - import the required files

#2 - open the shelve

#3 - read the data stored in the shelve

#4 - close the shelve

#5 - use the persisted data





Next Time:
When Python executes...