

Object Oriented Programming Predefined classes

In Python, many predefined classes such as the list, tuple or str classes are regularly used to facilitate the developer's tasks. Like all other classes, they have their own attributes and methods that are available to the user.

One of the great interests of object oriented programming is to be able to create classes and share them with other developers. This is done through packages such as numpy, pandas or scikit—learn. All of these packages are actually classes created by other developers in the Python community to give us tools that will make easier to develop our own algorithms.

We will first discuss one of the most important predefined object classes, the list class, in order to learn how to use it to its full potential. Next, we will briefly introduce the DataFrame class of the pandas package and learn to identify and manipulate its methods.

1. The list class

• (a) Use the dir(list) command to display all attributes and methods of the list class.

```
dir(list)
'__class__',
'__class_getitem__',
'__contains__',
'__delattr__',
'__delitem__',
                            __dir__',
__doc__',
__eq__',
                           ____,
'__eq__',
'__format__',
                         '__ge__',
'__getattribute__',
                              _getitem__',
                           __yettem___,
'__gt__',
'__hash__',
'__iadd__',
'__imul__',
'__init__',
'__init_subclass__',
'__iter__'
                           '__init_subc'
'__iter__',
'__len__',
'__lt__',
'__mul__',
'__new__',
'__reduce_'
                            __reduce__',
__reduce_ex__',
                            __repr__',
__reversed__',
                          '__rmul__',
'__setattr__',
'__setitem__',
'__sizeof__',
'_str_'.
                           '__str__',
'__subclasshook__',
                         'append',
'clear',
'copy',
'count',
                          'extend',
'index',
'insert',
                          'pop',
                         'remove',
'reverse',
'sort']
```

• (b) Use the help(list) command to display the documentation of the list class. This documentation is useful to understand how to use the methods of a class.

```
In [1]:
          help(list)
         Help on class list in module builtins:
         class list(object)
             list(iterable=(), /)
             Built-in mutable sequence.
             If no argument is given, the constructor creates a new empty list. The argument must be an iterable if specified.  \\
             Methods defined here:
             __add__(self, value, /)
Return self+value.
             __contains__(self, key, /)
Return key in self.
             __delitem__(self, key, /)
                   19 The dir and help commands are the first commands to run when you don't understand how to use a method of a class or when you can't remember the name of a
                    method.
             • (c) Using the dir or help commands, find a method that will reverse the order of the elements of the list list 1.
In [2]:
          list_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
           ### Insert your code here
           list_1.reverse()
Out[2]: [9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]
                  Hide solution
In [4]:
           list_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
          Out[4]: [9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]
             • (d) Using the dir and help commands, find a method that will insert the value 10 in the fifth position of the list list_2.
In [5]:
          list_2 = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
           ### Insert your code here
          list_2.insert(4, 10)
Out[5]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
In [6]:
           list_2 = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
           list_2.insert(4, 10) # inserts the value 10 at the index 4 (fifth position in Python) of the list.
          lict 2
Out[6]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
             • (e) Using the dir and help commands, find a method that will sort the list list_3.
In [7]:
    list_3 = [5, 2, 4, 9, 6, 7, 8, 3, 10, 1]
           ### Insert your code here
           list_3.sort()
Out[7]: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
```

2. The DataFrame class

The pandas package contains a class named DataFrame whose usefulness makes it the most used package by data scientists to manipulate data.

To use the pandas package, you must first import it. Then, to instantiate a DataFrame, you must call its constructor defined in the pandas package.

• (a) Import the pandas package under the alias pd .

```
In [8]:
              ### Insert your code here
              import pandas as pd
              df = pd.DataFrame()
 Out[8]:
 In [ ]:
              import pandas as pd
              df = pd.DataFrame()
                      If you run the dir(df) or dir(pd.DataFrame) instructions, you will see that the DataFrame class has a lot of methods and attributes. It is very difficult to remember
                      them all, hence the usefulness of the commands \,\mbox{dir}\, and \,\mbox{help}\, .
                      However, given the length of the documentation, it is not practical to directly use the dir(df) or help (df) commands. To have direct access to the documentation of a
                      specific method, you can instead use the help function with the argument object.method.
                • (c) Using the help(pd.DataFrame) command, build a DataFrame named df1 using the list list_4.
 In [9]: help(nd DataErame)
            Help on class DataFrame in module pandas.core.frame:
            class DataFrame(pandas.core.generic.NDFrame, pandas.core.arraylike.OpsMixin)
   | DataFrame(data=None, index: 'Axes | None' = None, columns: 'Axes | None' = None, dtype: 'Dtype | None' = None, copy: 'bool | None' = None)
                 Two-dimensional, size-mutable, potentially heterogeneous tabular data.
                 Data structure also contains labeled axes (rows and columns).
                 Arithmetic operations align on both row and column labels. Can be thought of as a dict-like container for Series objects. The primary \ensuremath{\mathsf{C}}
                 pandas data structure.
                 Parameters
                 data : ndarray (structured or homogeneous), Iterable, dict, or DataFrame
   Dict can contain Series, arrays, constants, dataclass or list-like objects. If
   data is a dict, column order follows insertion-order.
                       .. versionchanged:: 0.25.0
In [10]:
              list_4 = [1, 5, 45, 42, None, 123, 4213 , None, 213]
              ### Insert your code here
              df1 = pd.DataFrame({"col1" : list_4})
df1 = pd.DataFrame(list_4)
df1 head(2)
Out[10]:
                 0
            0 1.0
            1 5.0
In [11]:
              list_4 = [1, 5, 45, 42, None, 123, 4213, None, 213]
              df1 = pd.DataFrame(data = list_4)
Out[11]:
                    0
            0 10
            1
                 5.0
            2 45.0
            3 42.0
             4 NaN
             5 123.0
            7 NaN
             8 213.0
```

By displaying the DataFrame df1, you can see that some of its values are assigned to NaN, which stands for Not a Number. In practice, this happens very often when we import a database that is unprocessed. The DataFrame class contains a very simple method to get rid of these missing values: the dropna method.

```
In [13]:
           ### Insert your code here
           df2 = df1.dropna()
Out[13]:
           0
               1.0
           2 45.0
           3 42.0
           5 123.0
           6 4213.0
           8 213.0
In [14]:
           df2 = df1.dropna()
           df2
Out[14]:
                 0
           0 1.0
           1
               5.0
           2
               45.0
           3 42.0
           5 123.0
           6 4213.0
           8 213.0
                   Another method of the DataFrame class which is widely used is the apply method. This method allows you to apply a function passed as an argument to all the entries of the
                   DataFrame calling the method.
              • (e) Define a function named divide2 which returns the division by 2 of a number passed as argument.
              • (f) Create a DataFrame named df3 which will contain the values of df2 divided by 2.
In [15]:
           # Insert your code here
           def divide2(x):
    return x / 2
           df3 = df2.apply(divide2)
df3
Out[15]:
                 ٥
           0
               0.5
           1
               2.5
           2
               22.5
           3
               21.0
           5
               61.5
           6 2106.5
In [16]:
           def divide2(x):
            df3 = df2.apply(divide2) # applies the function divide2 to all entries of the DataFrame
           df3
Out[16]:
                 0
           0 0.5
           1
               2.5
```

2 22.53 21.05 61.56 2106.58 106.5

The DataFrame class has many methods like apply or dropna that you will explore in more depth during your learning journey. The list class being too basic for the needs of data scientists, these methods make the DataFrame class the standard to manipulate data.

All the packages that you will be invited to use in your training will be handled as objects, i.e. you will first have to initialize an object of the class (DataFrame, Scikit Model,

