

Announcements

- ▶ Homework
 - ▶ Remember that HW8 was postponed to be due next week!
- ▶ Be working on your Midterm projects/scripts
 - ▶ Due Friday night at midnight
- ▶ I'm trying desperately to get caught up on grading, but it has been an uphill battle
- ▶ I'm aiming to get updated grade reports pushed to WISE as soon as I can, but if you need to know where you are at before Friday so you can make an educated decision about C/NC, just let me know and I'll make you a priority.
- ▶ Polling: `rembold-class.ddns.net`

Review Question

Suppose you run the bit of code to the right. What would the printed output be?

- A) Spot is 8!
- B) Dog(Spot,8)
- C) Waffles is 6!
- D) This code would give an error.

```
class Dog:
    def __init__(self, name, age):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
    def __repr__(self):
        return f'Dog({self.name},{self.age})'
    def __str__(self):
        return f'{self.name} is {self.age}!'

A = Dog('Waffles', 6)
B = Dog('Spot', 8)
if str(A) == str(B):
    print(A)
else:
    print(B)
```

Defining vs Using

Defining the Class

- ▶ **Implement** a new object type with a class
 - ▶ define the class
 - ▶ define **data attributes**
 - ▶ **What is** the object?
 - ▶ Define **methods**
 - ▶ **How to** use the object?

Using the Class

- ▶ **Using** the new object type in the code
 - ▶ Create **instances** of the object type
 - ▶ Do **operations** with them

Type vs Instance

The Type

- ▶ Class name is the **type**
- ▶ Class is defined generically
 - ▶ Use `self` to refer to some instance
 - ▶ `self` is a parameter to our methods
- ▶ The class defines data and method common across **all** instances

The Instance

- ▶ Instance is one **specific** object
- ▶ Data attributes vary between instances
- ▶ Instance has the same structure as the class

Internal Representation

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- ▶ We interact with the object through methods, the class takes care of manipulating the internal representation.
- ▶ Python is not great at enforcing this:
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 - ▶ We can **create new** data attributes from outside the class definition
 - ▶ `a1.is_awesome = True`

Just because you CAN...

- ▶ In practice, it is generally a poor idea to do any of these things
- ▶ A programmer may need to change the internal representation to implement a new feature or fix a bug
 - ▶ If your program directly accessed that representation, it is probably now broken.
- ▶ Methods are our way of interacting with an object, so if you want to get or set a data attribute, write a method for it!
 - ▶ Commonly called getters and setters

Private and Protected

- ▶ It *is* possible to declare certain data attributes to be either private or protected
 - ▶ Really more a warning or recommendation than enforcement
 - ▶ Still possible to access and change those attributes, just a bit harder
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 - ▶ `self.__myval = 5`
 - ▶ Only accessible (easily) within that specific class
- ▶ Protected data attribute names prefixed with a single underscore
 - ▶ `self._myval = 5`
 - ▶ Accessible within that class and future sub-classes

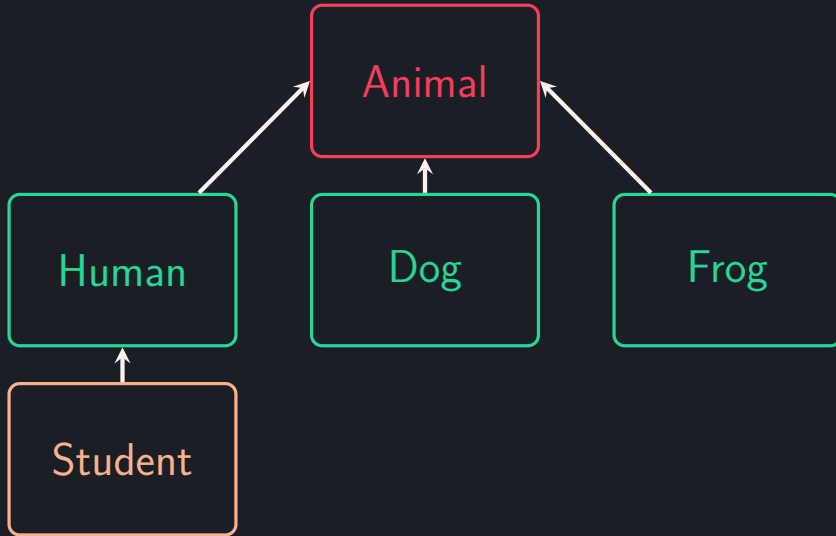
More a set of guidelines really...

- ▶ Setting attributes to be private or protected isn't a guarantee that they can't be viewed, accessed, or modified!
- ▶ Think of it more as a reminder to future you (or other coders) if certain values should be allowed to be accessed outside the class definition.

Inheritance

- ▶ Classes are already about grouping similar types of objects together
- ▶ Groups of objects are frequently related to other groups of objects
 - ▶ Either as a subset or a superset
- ▶ We can mimic and take advantage of these relationships in our classes!

Hierarchy Example



Hierarchy Terms

- ▶ Arrows point toward the **parent class** or superclass
- ▶ Arrows point from a **child class** or subclass
 - ▶ **Inherit** all data attributes and methods from parent class
 - ▶ Can have new attributes added
 - ▶ Can have new methods added
 - ▶ Can have parents methods overridden
- ▶ Children specify who their parents are (not vice versa)

Name your parent (in code)

- ▶ We specify what a class's parent is immediately following the class's name
 - ▶ Surround parent's name in parentheses
 - ▶ `class Human(Animal):`
 - ▶ The default parent is type `object`