# **Object-Oriented Programming**

Aidan Hunt, University of Washington Note: These notes cover both Lecture 13 and Lecture 14

# **Learning Objectives**

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Describe the key features of object oriented programming as a concept.
- Identify key components of objects in Python, such as data attributes and methods.
- Utilize Python syntax for defining and instantiating objects.
- Utilize Python syntax for calling object methods.

## Check-in

- Homework 6 to be assigned this week
- Homework 5 grading in progress

# **Framing**

So far, our programming has been *procedural*: a list of tasks for our computer to execute. Today, we'll explore an alternative framework for writing programs called object-oriented programming, which allows us to create "objects" that can accomplish tasks for us in a more flexible and modular way. Object-oriented programming has actually been with us this entire time --- it's how Python and many other programming languages are implemented!

# What is object-oriented programming?

(See slides on course website)

Object-oriented programming (OOP) is a framework for:

- Designing your own data structures
- Grouping data and corresponding functions/processing methodology together.
- Intuitively representing physical objects in the programming space.

Motivation: Load Cell

- Processing data from load cell occurs in multiple steps. Components may change.
- Usual framework:
  - Define a function that performs this kind of calculation
  - Every time we want to process data, gather the individual pieces (tare, calibration, rotation matrix) and call this function.

- OOP framework: create a LoadCell object that represents the load cell in the programming space.
  - This object knows the tare, calibration, rotation of the physical load cell it represents
  - This object knows how to process data collected by the physical load cell it represents

Advantages of the Object-Oriented Approach

- Can give the LoadCell object additional functions (e.g., checking data validity, taking tares, estimating rotation matrix)
- More interactive
- Streamlines processing for multiple load cells

We've been using objects this whole time!

- NumPy Arrays and DataFrames are objects
- Lists and Strings are objects
- Everything in Python is an object!

## A simple example of object-oriented programming

(See slides on course website)

An object encapsulates **state** and **behavior**. To unpack what this means, consider an object that represents something that many of us have interacted with: a Music Player (e.g., an iPod).

#### **State**

**State** of an object is data that describes the object.

Music Player state could be described by:

- The on/off state
- The volume
- A list of songs
- The color

#### **Behavior**

**Behavior** of an object are actions that the object can perform. Behaviors often, but not always, operate on the object's state.

For our Music Player, its behaviors could be:

- Turning the music player on or off.
- Increasing or decreasing the volume.
- Selecting a song from the list of songs.
- Adding a new song to the list of songs.
- Shuffling the song list.

## **Encapsulation**

An object should **encapsulate** its state and behavior to guide the user experience. The user shouldn't need to know how the object works "under the hood" in order to use it.

- You don't know all the details about how your Music Player is designed or implemented, but you know how to use it!
- Think about the objects that we have used so far (e.g., NumPy arrays).
  - Don't know how they are implemented in Python
  - But we can easily use them via their associated methods

### **Implementing Objects**

A class is a blueprint for how to make an object.

- This blueprint defines what it means to be a member of that class.
- When you create an instance of a class, you are creating an object from the blueprint. Objects are individuals, even though they share the same blueprint.

#### **Inheritance**

A class can build upon existing classes and add new state/behavior to the existing blueprint.

- This is called "inheritance"
- This is a way of factoring out redundancy between similar objects

## Creating a MusicPlayer object in Python

### **Defining classes**

Let's create a MusicPlayer class in Python! The key syntax is:

- Use the keyword class , then the class name.
- The keyword pass can be used as a placeholder for code-to-be (so we don't get errors)
- That's it! We've made a basic class

```
In [17]: # Defining a class
class MusicPlayer:
    pass

In [18]: # Create an instance of that class
    myMusic = MusicPlayer()

In [19]: # Check the type of the object that we created
    type(myMusic)

Out[19]: __main__.MusicPlayer
```

## Adding object state

Okay, we've made a class, but it doesn't do anything. Let's define some state:

- Power (on/off)
- The volume

- A list of songs
- The color

Now, we can define an "initializer" or "constructor" that, when our object is created, initializes the state.

- This is just a special function.
- The indentation shows that this function belongs to the class
- The constructor takes a special argument, self, which refers to the *instance* of the class being created.
- The constructor returns a MusicPlayer object, but we don't need to explicitly return it.

```
In [20]: # Defining a class
class MusicPlayer:

    # Define a constructor
    def __init__(self):
        self.power = False  # Power is well represented as a boolean
        self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
        self.color = 'black' # Color is well represented as a string
        self.songList = [] # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
```

```
In [21]: # Create an instance of that class
    myMusic = MusicPlayer()

# Look at attributes (returns a dictionary)
    vars(myMusic)
```

```
Out[21]: {'power': False, 'volume': 0, 'color': 'black', 'songList': []}
```

You can **access** the attributes of your object using dot notation.

```
In [22]: myMusic.power

Out[22]: False
```

You can also **set** the attributes of your object using dot notation.

Like any other function, we can add additional inputs to our constructor function.

- For example, perhaps we want to set the color on initialization
- And perhaps we want to allow the user to provide a list of songs, but default to an empty list
- Note that self.color = color is assigning the value in the parameter color to the attribute self.color.

```
In [24]: myMusic = MusicPlayer('green', ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'])
  vars(myMusic)
```

### **Adding Object Behavior**

Okay, our object has behaviors, now let's make it do things for us. One example was turning the music player on-and-off.

- Define within the class block just like the \_\_init\_\_ function
- Since this function is changing the object state, we don't have to return anything.
- Include docstrings as normal!

```
In [25]: | # Defining a class
         class MusicPlayer:
             # Define a constructor
             def init (self, color, songList=[]):
                Constructs and returns a MusicPlayer object with the given and,
                if provided, the given song list. The MusicPlayer's power is
                initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume is initialized
                to 0.
                 1.1.1
                self.power = False  # Power is well represented as a boolean
                self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
                 self.color = color # Color is well represented as a string
                 self.songList = songList # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
             # Define a function for turning the MusicPlayer on and off
             def togglePower(self):
                Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
                new power state.
                 1.1.1
                 # Invert power
                 self.power = not self.power
                 # Print message
                 if self.power:
                     print('Powering music player on.')
                 else:
                    print('Powering music player off.')
In [26]: # Note that we must recreate the instance if we have changed the class (instance does no
         myMusic.togglePower()
                                                   Traceback (most recent call last)
        AttributeError
        ~\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel 2896\3312038632.py in <module>
               1 # Note that we must recreate the instance if we have changed the class (instance
         does not update automatically)
        ---> 2 myMusic.togglePower()
        AttributeError: 'MusicPlayer' object has no attribute 'togglePower'
In [27]: # Create object (power is off by default)
```

myMusic = MusicPlayer('green', ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'])

```
# Toggle power
myMusic.togglePower()

# Toggle power
myMusic.togglePower()

# Toggle power
myMusic.togglePower()

Powering music player on.
```

Powering music player on. Powering music player off. Powering music player on.

Let's add some behavior for changing up the song data:

#### • A function for changing the volume

- Takes in a number (numeric value expected)
- If the number is between 0 and 100, set it as the new volume
- Otherwise, print a message saying invalid volume, and don't change the volume

#### A function for adding a song to the songlist

- Takes an song input (string expected)
- If its a string, adds it to the list
- Adds it to the list

#### A function for playing a song

- Takes an integer representing the index of the song in the que to play
- If the integer is a valid index for a song in the list
  - o pop it from the songList
  - o print the message "Now playing <songName>"
  - o return the popped song
- If the integer is an invalid index for a song in the list
  - o print message "Cannot play song"
  - o return None

Try these on your own, and then we'll do them together. Assume for now that the user will enter valid inputs.

```
In [28]: | # Defining a class
         class MusicPlayer:
            # Define a constructor
            def init (self, color, songList=[]):
                Constructs and returns a MusicPlayer object with the given and,
                if provided, the given song list. The MusicPlayer's power is
                initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume is initialized
                to 0.
                1.1.1
                self.power = False  # Power is well represented as a boolean
                self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
                self.color = color # Color is well represented as a string
                self.songList = songList # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
            # MusicPlayer related behaviors
            def togglePower(self):
                Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
```

```
new power state.
                 # Invert power
                 self.power = not self.power
                 # Print message
                 if self.power:
                     print('Powering music player on.')
                 else:
                     print('Powering music player off.')
             def changeVolume(self, newVolume):
                 Given a new volume value between 0 and 100,
                 sets the volume to be that value. If the volume
                 value is invalid, the volume is not change and a
                 message is printed.
                 if 0 <= newVolume <= 100:
                     self.volume = newVolume
                     print('Invalid volume provided.')
             def addSong(self, song):
                 Given a song name (as a string), adds the song
                 to the song list if it a string. Otherwise, a
                 message is printed saying the song cannot be added.
                 if isinstance(song, str):
                     self.songList.append(song)
                     print(song, 'cannot be added to the queue.')
             def playSong(self, songNumber):
                 1.1.1
                 Given the index of a song in the songList, removes
                 the song from the list and "plays" it, and returns
                 the song name as a string. If the songNumber
                 provided is not a valid index, prints a message stating
                 so.
                 if 0 <= songNumber < len(self.songList):</pre>
                     currSong = self.songList.pop(songNumber)
                     print('Now playing:', currSong)
                     return currSong
                 else:
                     print('Cannot play song.')
                     return None
In [29]: # Create object (power is off by default)
         myMusic = MusicPlayer('green', ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'])
         # Change volume
In [30]:
         myMusic.changeVolume(50)
         vars(myMusic)
         {'power': False,
Out[30]:
         'volume': 50,
          'color': 'green',
          'songList': ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water']}
In [31]:
         # Try an invalid volume
        myMusic.changeVolume(-90)
```

Invalid volume provided.

```
In [32]:
         # Add a song
         myMusic.addSong('Transatlantacism')
         vars(myMusic)
         { 'power': False,
Out[32]:
          'volume': 50,
          'color': 'green',
          'songList': ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water', 'Transatlantacism']}
In [33]: # Play a song
         myMusic.playSong(1)
         Now playing: Clint Eastwood
         'Clint Eastwood'
Out[33]:
In [34]: # Play an invalid song
         myMusic.playSong(50)
         Cannot play song.
```

### Special behavior: Type conversion

What happens if we print our music player?

```
In [35]: print(myMusic)

<__main__.MusicPlayer object at 0x0000022640422A60>
```

We just get the usual weird message saying where the MusicPlayer is stored in memory. But we can overwrite this with a special \_\_str\_\_ function (see bottom-most function).

**Note**: Just like \_\_init\_\_\_, these special methods that start and end with two underscores that are meant to be called by Python, but never directly by the user.

```
In [36]:
        # Defining a class
         class MusicPlayer:
             # Define a constructor
             def init (self, color, songList=[]):
                Constructs and returns a MusicPlayer object with the given and,
                if provided, the given song list. The MusicPlayer's power is
                initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume is initialized
                to 0.
                self.power = False  # Power is well represented as a boolean
                self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
                self.color = color # Color is well represented as a string
                self.songList = songList # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
             # MusicPlayer related behaviors
             def togglePower(self):
                Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
                new power state.
                 1.1.1
                 # Invert power
                self.power = not self.power
```

```
# Print message
   if self.power:
       print('Powering music player on.')
   else:
       print('Powering music player off.')
def changeVolume(self, newVolume):
   1.1.1
   Given a new volume value between 0 and 100,
   sets the volume to be that value. If the volume
   value is invalid, the volume is not change and a
   message is printed.
   if 0 <= newVolume <= 100:
       self.volume = newVolume
       print('Invalid volume provided.')
def addSong(self, song):
   Given a song name (as a string), adds the song
   to the song list if it a string. Otherwise, a
   message is printed saying the song cannot be added.
   if isinstance(song, str):
       self.songList.append(song)
   else:
       print(song, 'cannot be added to the queue.')
def playSong(self, songNumber):
   1.1.1
   Given the index of a song in the songList, removes
   the song from the list and "plays" it, and returns
   the song name as a string. If the songNumber
   provided is not a valid index, prints a message stating
   so.
    1.1.1
   if 0 <= songNumber < len(self.songList):</pre>
        currSong = self.songList.pop(songNumber)
       print('Now playing:', currSong)
       return currSong
   else:
       print('Cannot play song.')
       return None
# Methods for type conversion
def str (self):
   Returns the songList of the MusicPlayer
   as its string representation.
   1.1.1
   return str(self.songList)
```

```
In [37]: # Create object (power is off by default)
    myMusic = MusicPlayer('green', ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'])
    print(myMusic)

['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water']
```

We can define this type of method for converting our music player to other types. For example, say that we want int(myMusic) and float(myMusic) to represent the MusicPlayer as the length of the song list.

Then (see final methods):

```
In [38]: # Defining a class
         class MusicPlayer:
             # Define a constructor
             def init (self, color, songList=[]):
                 Constructs and returns a MusicPlayer object with the given and,
                 if provided, the given song list. The MusicPlayer's power is
                 initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume is initialized
                 self.power = False  # Power is well represented as a boolean
                 self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
                 self.color = color # Color is well represented as a string
                 self.songList = songList # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
             # MusicPlayer related behaviors
             def togglePower(self):
                Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
                 new power state.
                 1.1.1
                 # Invert power
                 self.power = not self.power
                 # Print message
                 if self.power:
                     print('Powering music player on.')
                 else:
                     print('Powering music player off.')
             def changeVolume(self, newVolume):
                 Given a new volume value between 0 and 100,
                 sets the volume to be that value. If the volume
                value is invalid, the volume is not change and a
                message is printed.
                 1.1.1
                 if 0 <= newVolume <= 100:
                     self.volume = newVolume
                 else:
                     print('Invalid volume provided.')
             def addSong(self, song):
                1.1.1
                 Given a song name (as a string), adds the song
                 to the song list if it a string. Otherwise, a
                message is printed saying the song cannot be added.
                 if isinstance(song, str):
                     self.songList.append(song)
                     print(song, 'cannot be added to the queue.')
             def playSong(self, songNumber):
                 Given the index of a song in the songList, removes
                 the song from the list and "plays" it, and returns
                 the song name as a string. If the songNumber
                provided is not a valid index, prints a message stating
                 if 0 <= songNumber < len(self.songList):</pre>
                     currSong = self.songList.pop(songNumber)
```

```
print('Now playing:', currSong)
                     return currSong
                 else:
                     print('Cannot play song.')
                     return None
             # Methods for type conversion
             def str (self):
                Returns the songList of the MusicPlayer
                as its string representation.
                return str(self.songList)
             def __int__(self):
                Returns the length of the songList of the MusicPlayer
                as its int representation.
                return len(self.songList)
             def float (self):
                Returns the length of the songList of the MusicPlayer
                 as its float representation.
                 return float(self. int ())
         # Create object (power is off by default)
In [39]:
         myMusic = MusicPlayer('green', ['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'])
        int(myMusic)
In [40]:
Out[40]:
        float (myMusic)
In [41]:
Out[41]:
```

## Inheritance: Superclasses and subclasses

Now let's consider a SmartPhone object, which we want to share several aspects of the MusicPlayer object, but with some specialized behavior. The SmartPhone class can "inherit" from the MusicPlayer class.

```
In [42]: # Define smartphone class
class SmartPhone(MusicPlayer):
    pass
In [43]: # Create a smartphone using the same syntax as a MusicPlayer
# The SmartPhone looks exactly like a MusicPlayer!
sp = SmartPhone('black')
vars(sp)
Out[43]: {'power': False, 'volume': 0, 'color': 'black', 'songList': []}
```

Based on the code above, a SmartPhone is the same as a MusicPlayer. But we can add new state and behavior entirely, or modify existing state/behavior. For example:

Let's modify the constructor to add a new attribute, .contacts , a list of names

• Let's add a new function: given a name input, "call" the name if it is in the contacts list

```
# Define smartphone class
In [44]:
         class SmartPhone(MusicPlayer):
             # Constructor: updated with new attribute
             def init (self, color, songList=[], contacts=[]):
                 Constructs and returns a SmartPhone object with the given color, and,
                 if provided, the given song list and contact list. The MusicPlayer's
                 power is initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume
                 is initialized to 0.
                 1.1.1
                 # Add the new state
                 self.contacts = contacts
                 # Call the superclass constructor to do the rest
                 super(). init (color, songList)
             # Add a new function for calling a contact
             def call(self, name):
                 1.1.1
                 Given the name of a contact to call, "calls" the contact
                 if the name is in the contacts list. Otherwise, a message
                 is printed saying that the contact was not found.
                 if name in self.contacts:
                    print('Calling', name)
                     print(name, 'not found in contact list.')
             # Overwrite an old function: toggling the power
             def togglePower(self):
                 1.1.1
                 Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                 it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
                 new power state.
                 1.1.1
                 # Invert power
                 self.power = not self.power
                 # Print message
                 if self.power:
                     print('Powering smart phone on.')
                     print('Powering smart phone off.')
In [45]: # Create a SmartPhone object
         sp = SmartPhone('pink', songList=['Let it be', 'Clint Eastwood', 'The Water'],
                         contacts=['Aidan', 'Stacey', 'Conor', 'Brittany'])
In [46]: # Use overwritten superclass method, like toggling power
         sp.togglePower()
         sp.togglePower()
         Powering smart phone on.
         Powering smart phone off.
In [47]: # Use unaltered superclass method, like playing a song
         sp.playSong(1)
         Now playing: Clint Eastwood
         'Clint Eastwood'
Out[47]:
```

```
In [48]: # Use new method defined by the smartphone subclass sp.call('Aidan')
```

Calling Aidan

### Type meaning for subclasses

What type is a SmartPhone object?

```
In [49]: type(sp)
Out[49]: __main__.SmartPhone
In [50]: # Check to see if sp is a SmartPhone object
    isinstance(sp, SmartPhone)
Out[50]: True
In [51]: # Check to see if sp is a MusicPlayer object
    isinstance(sp, MusicPlayer)
Out[51]: True
```

The SmartPhone object represented by sp is an instance of both the SmartPhone subclass and the MusicPlayer superclass! It is a member of both categories because of the superclass-subclass relationship between MusicPlayer and SmartPhone.

## **Privacy**

How do we prevent someone from doing this and breaking our object (on accident or on purpose)?

```
In [52]: # Changing the songList property to something that is not valid.
         sp.songList = 12345
         vars(sp)
Out[52]: {'contacts': ['Aidan', 'Stacey', 'Conor', 'Brittany'],
          'power': False,
          'volume': 0,
          'color': 'pink',
          'songList': 12345}
In [53]: # Adding a brand new attribute that doesn't mean anything
         sp.newAttribute = 'Hello'
         vars(sp)
         {'contacts': ['Aidan', 'Stacey', 'Conor', 'Brittany'],
Out[53]:
          'power': False,
          'volume': 0,
          'color': 'pink',
          'songList': 12345,
          'newAttribute': 'Hello'}
```

There are ways to enforce certain conditions on object attributes, but they get very complicated very quickly.

- Python is a very "open" language, so enforcing types/shapes/formats for objects can be challenging.
- Culture is to document your functions it is clear what inputs/data types, etc are expected. Then it is the user's fault if something breaks.

 But if there are SAFETY concerns with your object breaking (e.g., motor control), then adding stricter privacy may be useful.

There are many ways to do it, and each have their own tradeoffs.

- Implementing "properties" (e.g., attributes with special associated getter/setter functions)
- \_\_slots\_\_ properties for preventing new attributes
- I encourage you to look into this further if you are interested.

```
# Example of setter and getter methods for a color property (see last methods)
In [54]:
         class MusicPlayer:
             # Define a constructor
             def init (self, color, songList=[]):
                Constructs and returns a MusicPlayer object with the given and,
                if provided, the given song list. The MusicPlayer's power is
                initialized to False and the MusicPlayer's volume is initialized
                to 0.
                self.power = False # Power is well represented as a boolean
                 self.volume = 0  # Volume is well represented as a numeric value
                 self.color = color # Color is well represented as a string
                 self.songList = songList # Song list is well represented as a list of strings!
             # MusicPlayer related behaviors
             def togglePower(self):
                1.1.1
                Toggles the MusicPlayer power. If the MusicPlayer is off, turns
                it on. If on, turns it off. A message is printed displaying the
                new power state.
                 1.1.1
                 # Invert power
                self.power = not self.power
                 # Print message
                 if self.power:
                    print('Powering music player on.')
                     print('Powering music player off.')
             def changeVolume(self, newVolume):
                 Given a new volume value between 0 and 100,
                 sets the volume to be that value. If the volume
                value is invalid, the volume is not change and a
                message is printed.
                 1.1.1
                 if 0 <= newVolume <= 100:
                    self.volume = newVolume
                 else:
                    print('Invalid volume provided.')
             def addSong(self, song):
                Given a song name (as a string), adds the song
                to the song list if it a string. Otherwise, a
                message is printed saying the song cannot be added.
                 1.1.1
                 if isinstance(song, str):
                    self.songList.append(song)
```

```
else:
        print(song, 'cannot be added to the queue.')
def playSong(self, songNumber):
    Given the index of a song in the songList, removes
    the song from the list and "plays" it, and returns
    the song name as a string. If the songNumber
   provided is not a valid index, prints a message stating
    1.1.1
    if 0 <= songNumber < len(self.songList):</pre>
        currSong = self.songList.pop(songNumber)
       print('Now playing:', currSong)
       return currSong
    else:
       print('Cannot play song.')
       return None
# Type conversion methods
def str (self):
    111
    Returns the songList of the MusicPlayer
   as its string representation.
    return str(self.songList)
def int (self):
   Returns the length of the songList of the MusicPlayer
   as its int representation.
    return len(self.songList)
def float (self):
   Returns the length of the songList of the MusicPlayer
   as its float representation.
    1.1.1
    return float(self. int ())
# Setting/getting methods for the color property
@property
def color(self):
   1.1.1
   This function defines what is returned to the user when they use
   dot notation to get the color attribute of a MusicPlayer. Here,
   we are just returning value of the color attribute directly.
   Note that we are using a "private" attribute . color, whereas
    .color is now a "property".
   return self. color
@color.setter
def color(self, newColor):
   This function defines what is returned to the user when they use
   dot notation to try to set the color attribute of a MusicPlayer.
   If the newColor provided is a string, we set the color attribute to
   be newColor. Otherwise, we raise a TypeError.
    if type(newColor) == str:
       self. color = newColor
    else:
```

```
In [55]: myMusic = MusicPlayer('green')
In [56]: # Get the color (like before)
        myMusic.color
         'green'
Out[56]:
In [57]:
        # Change the color (like before)
        myMusic.color = 'Pink'
        myMusic.color
         'Pink'
Out[57]:
In [58]: # Try to change the color to something invalid
        myMusic.color = 5555555
                                                  Traceback (most recent call last)
        TypeError
        ~\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_2896\1019815319.py in <module>
             1 # Try to change the color to something invalid
        ---> 2 myMusic.color = 5555555
        ~\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_2896\1030640280.py in color(self, newColor)
                            self. color = newColor
            119
            120
                       else:
        --> 121
                            raise TypeError('Provided color must be of type str.')
            122
        TypeError: Provided color must be of type str.
```

raise TypeError('Provided color must be of type str.')