intro-to-programming-6

Henri Vandendriessche highly based on Cedric Foucaut for the clean code part

02/11/2021

So far

- Python, its life, its choice
- Data types: (integer / float / string / boolean)
- ► If, For and While loops:
- ▶ Data collections: (list, tuple, set, dictionary)
- Functions
- ► Higher order function (Recursive function)
- Read and write files

Today

- ▶ Object-Oriented Programming in Python:
- Classes
- Objects
- Methods
- Constructors
- ► Clean Code

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)

- Programming paradigm based of the concept of "objects"
- Python has been developed with an "oriented-object" approach
- ▶ It's not a Python thing. Other object-oriented languages includes: Java, C++, C#, R, PHP . . .
- ▶ OOP is defined around two key concepts that are classes and objects

Classes 1/3

- Classes are templates for objects
- Example: You have a power point templates for all your presentations of articles with
 - a graphic chart
 - your font
 - your background image
 - ▶ all your slides with generic titles (Introduction, study 1, results study 1...)
- That templates in python is a class. A kind of general recipe that define a skeleton for every object (in our case a power point presentation for a class)



Classes 2/3

- A class contains state and behavior
- State: is referring to data or or variables. For example: your power point for your class of "introduction to Cognitive psychology" has:
 - a specific name specific graphs
 - a number of pages
- ▶ Behavior: is a set of thing the class can do. For example: your power point can have
 - animations.
 - play sounds or videos.
 - This behavior is define in a method which is like a function but specific to classes.

Classes 3/3

- ▶ The creation of an object is called an instantiation. From your template of power point you'll create a new power point for presenting an article in your class of "introduction to evolutionary anthropology"
- That instantiation will have:
 - specific attributes (a name, a number of slides)
 - common methods (animations, videos, sounds . . .) like the other objects

Objects

- Objects are instances on classes
- Objects can be stored in variable and its type is the class
- In our metaphor, one object is one specific power-point. For example the power point of your class of "introduction to Cognitive psychology"
- ▶ That power-point has the same structure and the same features and characteristics as the power point of your class of "introduction to Linguistics" yet the content differs.
- You can instantiate multiple objects from the same class.
- ► Those objects are independent

Method

- As said before a method is part of the behavior of a class
- ► A method is very similar to a function but is part of a class when a function is independent
- It can:
 - modify an object's internal state of an object
 - call others methods or functions
 - return values
 - ▶ etc . . .
- The only difference between function and method is that method belong to a class/object.

Create your class 1/2

```
class Rectangle:
  width = 3
  length = 2
  color = 'red'
  def calculate_area(self):
      return self.width * self.length
type(Rectangle)
## <class 'type'>
rect=Rectangle
print(rect.width)
## 3
print(Rectangle.calculate_area(rect))
## 6
 We can see the state.
```

width and heightAnd the behavior, in this case the method calculate_area.

Create your class 2/2

```
class Rectangle:
  width = 3
  length = 2
  color = 'red'
  def calculate_area(self):
      return self.width * self.length
rect=Rectangle
print(rect.width)
## 3
print(Rectangle.calculate_area(rect))
```

6

- ▶ We can note the **self** that refers to its own class and its own variables
- self is always the first parameter in order to access all the object's attributes

Constructors

- Constructors are special methods. Every class has one and it's used to create an object
- ► We need to use init

```
class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, length, color):
        self.width = width
        self.length = length
        self.color = color
    def calculate_area(self):
        return self.width * self.length

rect = Rectangle(3,2, "blue")
print(rect.width)
```

```
## 3
```

```
print(rect.calculate_area())
```

Instantiate an object 1/2

You can use the constructor to instantiate an object

```
class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, length, color):
        self.width = width
        self.length = length
        self.color = color
    def calculate_area(self):
        return self.width * self.length
    rect = Rectangle(5,3,'red')

print(rect.width)
```

5

Instantiate an object 2/2

- You can select default variables
- Then you don't have specify the default variable

```
class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, length, color='red'):
        self.width = width
        self.length = length
        self.color = color
    def calculate_area(self):
        return self.width * self.length
    rect = Rectangle(5,3)

print(rect.width)
```

Modify an object

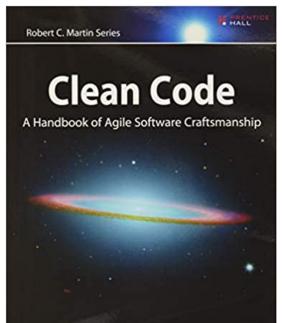
```
class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, length, color='red'):
        self.width = width
        self.length = length
        self.color = color
    def calculate_area(self):
      return self.width * self.length
rect = Rectangle(5,3)
print(rect.color)
## red
rect.color = "purple"
print(rect.color)
## purple
```

And beyond ... but not for now

- A class can have a parent class or superclass.
- The class with a parent is known as a subclass or child.
- That class inherits attributes from its parent.
- ▶ The child class can implement extra attributes on top of that which it inherits.

Clean code: Overview 1/4

The goal of clean code is to make your code easy to understand and easy to change !



```
Clean code: Overview 2/4
      Example with a former function in the third class
    def costs(d):
        a = 4.8 + 1.15 * d
        b = 3.2 + 1.20 * d
        return (a, b)
    def cheap(d):
        a, b = costs(d)
        if a < b:
            return 'A'
        else:
             return 'B'
    for d in range(30, 40):
        print(cheap(d))
    ## B
```

A ## A ## A ## A ## A ## A

```
Clean code: Overview 3/4
    def costs(distance):
         # Calculate the price with the fixed charge plus the charge for every km
        price_A = 4.8 + 1.15 * distance
        price B = 3.2 + 1.20 * distance
        return (price_A, price_B)
    def cheapest_company(distance):
         # calculate the cost for every company with a certain distance
        a, b = costs(distance)
        if a < b:
            return 'Company A'
        else:
            return 'Company B'
    # print the distance from 30km to 50km
    for d in range(30, 40):
        print(f"{d} km -> " + cheapest_company(d))
    ## 30 km -> Company B
    ## 31 km -> Company B
    ## 32 km -> Company A
    ## 33 km -> Company A
    ## 34 km -> Company A
    ## 35 km -> Company A
    ## 36 km -> Company A
    ## 37 km -> Company A
```

Clean code: Overview 4/4

Even bad code can function. But if code isn't clean, it can bring a development organization to its knees. Every year, countless hours and significant resources are lost because of poorly written code. But it doesn't have to be that way. (https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/clean-code-a/9780136083238/)

- ► We will cover a set of rules or advices to write cleaner code that can be read and edited by other developers
- ▶ Clean code is unfortunately never a priority but is a healthy practice
- The clean code principle goes way beyond the scope of this course so bear in mind that we'll see only a small subset of the clean code principle.

Clean code: CC1. Use meaningful names 1/3

Example:

w = x2 - x1

Clean code: CC1. Use meaningful names 2/3

Example:

w = x2 - x1

- ▶ What are w, x1 and x2?
 - What do they represent?
 - ▶ What are they used for?
- Does "w" stand for "weight", "window", "word", or is it just a symbol for a generic computation?

Clean code: CC1. Use meaningful names 3/3

Instead one can write

► Use meaningful names

Clean code: CC1. Replace magic numbers 1/3

▶ Other example

width = $x_right - x_left +10$

Clean code: CC1. Replace magic numbers 2/3

Other example

```
width = x_right - x_left +10
```

- ▶ Where does '10' come from?
- ► What does it represent?
- ► Can I change it? Is it a constant, a variable.

Clean code: CC1. Replace magic numbers 3/3

Instead one can write

```
horizontal_margin = 10
width = x_right - x_left + horizontal_margin
```

 Replace magic numbers with named parameters whatever the type of that parameters Clean code: CC1. Function names should say what they do 1/2

Example

```
def check_divisible(n, divisor):
   if (n % divisor == 0):
      print(n, ' is divisible by ', divisor)
```

Clean code: CC1. Function names should say what they do 1/2

Example

```
def check_divisible(n, divisor):
   if (n % divisor == 0):
        print(n, ' is divisible by ', divisor)
```

- Misleading name: I don't expect "something to be checked" but something to be printed or not
 - A more accurate name would be

```
def print_if_divisible(n, divisor):
    if (n % divisor == 0):
        print(n, ' is divisible by ', divisor)
```

Clean code: CC1. Fear the ambiguous name 1/3

Example

remove(1, n)

Clean code: CC1. Fear the ambiguous name 2/3

Example

remove(1, n)

- ▶ What do you think this does? Ambiguous name:
 - Does it remove the element in I whose value is equal to n?
 - Or does it remove the element in I at index n?

Clean code: CC1. Fear the ambiguous name 3/3

Example

```
remove_list_element_at_index(1, i)
```

- ► [CC1] Choose unambiguous names
- Clarity at the point of use is more important than brevity
- Include all the words needed to avoid ambiguity from the perspective of someone calling the function
- A general naming template: verb_keywords (the verb indicates what the function does, the keywords what parameters are expected)

Clean code: CC1. Use different words for different concepts 1/4

Example: two function calls:

```
add_number(a , b)
add_list(c, d)
```

What do you think they do ?

Clean code: CC1. Use different words for different concepts 2/4

► The implementation of the functions:

```
def add_number(a , b):
    return a + b

def add_list(1, e):
    1.append(e)
```

Clean code: CC1. Use different words for different concepts 3/4

The implementation of the functions:

```
def add_number(a , b):
    return a + b

def add_list(1, e):
    1.append(e)
```

-Confusing to use the same word "add" for the two functions: + in the first case, add calculates the addition + in the second case, add inserts an element + in the first case, add has no side effects, in the second, it does!

Clean code: CC1. Use different words for different concepts 4/4

One way to remove the confusion:

```
def add_numbers(a , b):
    return a + b

def append_element_to_list(e, 1):
    l.append(e)
```

Use different words for different concepts

Clean code: CC2. Functions should do one thing 1/3

Let's revisit an earlier example:

```
def print_if_divisible(n, divisor):
    if (n % divisor == 0):
        print(n, ' is divisible by ', divisor)
```

- ► This function does two things:
 - Calculating whether an integer is divisible by another
 - Printing conditionally on the result

These are two conceptually distinct operations. There is no good reason for them to be done in the same function.

Clean code: CC2. Functions should do one thing 2/3

A solution:

```
def is_divisible(n, divisor):
    return (n % divisor == 0)
```

► [CC2] Functions should do one thing

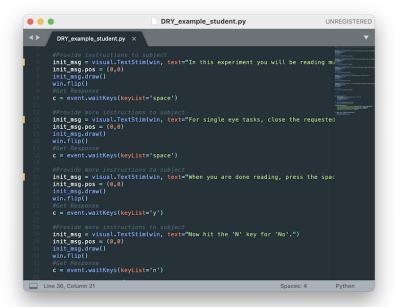
This solution has the added benefit to remove side-effects from the function.

Clean code: CC2. Functions should do one thing 3/3

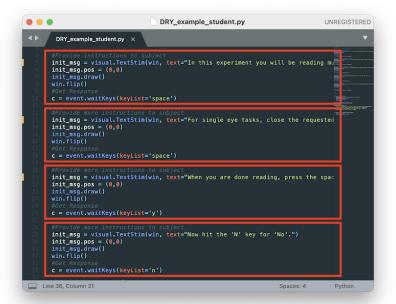
- CC2. Create functions that do one thing
 - ► A lot of programming is about chunking
 - Chunking means grouping elements together in a meaningful named chunk (e.g. with a function) that you can manipulate as one conceptual unit
 - ▶ These chunks help you reason about your program and control its intellectual complexity

Clean code: CC3. DRY: Don't Repeat Yourself 1/3

Example

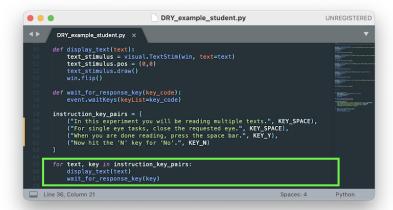


Clean code: CC3. DRY: Don't Repeat Yourself 2/3



Clean code: CC3. DRY: Don't Repeat Yourself 3/3

- It makes code hard to change.
- One solution



Clean code: CC4. Explain yourself in code, not comments 1/4

Example

```
def distance_points(couple1,couple2):
    """Fonction controllant la distance entre nos points
    pour notre ensemble de points aléatoires"""
    return math.sqrt((couple1[0]-couple2[0])**2+(couple1[1]-couple2[1])**2
```

Clean code: CC4. Explain yourself in code, not comments 2/4

▶ Misleading comment. It does not accurately describe what the function does.

```
def distance_points(couple1,couple2):
    """Fonction controllant la distance entre nos points
    pour notre ensemble de points aléatoires"""
    return math.sqrt((couple1[0]-couple2[0])**2+(couple1[1]-couple2[1])**2
```

An alternative:

```
def distance_between_points(point_1, point_2):
    return math.sqrt((couple1[0]-couple2[0])**2+(couple1[1]-couple2[1])**2
```

Does this need any comments?

Clean code: CC4. Comments do not make up for bad code 1/3

Example

```
if shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 1: ### IF TARGET ###
    # [some code ...]
elif shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 0: ### IF DISTRACTOR ###
    # [some other code ...]
```

▶ Why do we need such comments next to if and elif?

Clean code: CC4. Explain yourself in code, not comments 2/3

Good intentions, but bad approach

```
if shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 1: ### IF TARGET ###
    # [some code ...]
elif shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 0: ### IF DISTRACTOR ###
    # [some other code ...]
```

Comments do not make up for bad code

```
if stimulus_type == STIMULUS_TYPE_TARGET:
    # [some code ...]
elif stimulus_type == STIMULUS_TYPE_DISTRACTOR:
    # [some other code ...]
```

 Clear and expressive code with few comments is superior to obscure code with lots of comments

Clean code: CC4. Explain yourself in code, not comments 3/3

```
if shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 1: ### IF TARGET ###
    # [some code ...]
elif shuffledtarg_dist[i][1] == 0: ### IF DISTRACTOR ###
    # [some other code ...]
```

An even better solution

```
if is_target(stimulus):
    # [some code ...]
elif is_distractor(stimulus):
    # [some other code ...]
```

- [CC4] Clear and expressive code with few comments is superior to obscure code with lots of comments
- Does this need any comments?

Clean code: Summary

The goal is to make code easy to understand and easy to change.

- CC1 Use meaningful names:
 - Reveal purpose. Replace magic numbers. Say what functions do. Reveal/Avoid side-effects. Remove ambiguity. Use different words for different concepts. Use the appropriate level of description.
- ▶ CC2 Create functions that do one thing.
- CC3 DRY: Don't Repeat Yourself.
- CC4 Explain yourself in code, not comments.