Dot Notation and Methods

Object dot notation

- Dot notation allows us to access elements that are part of an object.
- Librarys
  - from numpy import sum
  - vs
  - import numpy; numpy.sum()
- Objects
  - ‘’.join()
  - .join() is part of the string object

Object dot notation

- There are two things that can be attached to an object
  - An attribute, this stores data
  - A bound method, this is a function that does things to the object

An **attribute** is connoted with dot notation and no parenthesis

For example this object stores its color as an **attribute**

cat_object.color

A **method** is connoted with dot notation and has parenthesis

For example this object has the **method** meow

Calling a bound method makes the object DO SOMETHING

cat_object.meow()

Bound Methods

We use the term method to refer to a function that is defined for a specific object type

The syntax is different than a regular generic function

Consider sorting a list

A regular function:

sorted(list) is a function applied to a list

A bound method:

list.sort() leverages the list type's bound method