

# W18 Reading Unit 7

June 26, 2016

## 1 Classes

### 1.1 Classes Introduction

To solve hard problems effectively, we need powerful and specialized data structures

For ints and strs, to lists, sets and dicts.

we've seen how these different types can help us solve problems effectively

Now we'll see how you can create your own classes/types in Python  
Why create your own types?

Can be more complicated than built in types

Can be tailored to specific tasks

Don't just store data-classes can interact with each other and perform extensive computations

In fact, most large scale software development is object oriented, meaning most of what developers actually

what exactly is a type, and how it relate to objects?

a class/type is a template for making objects. It defines methods and other attributes shared by all objects

an object is an instance of class. Each instance shares (many of) the same behaviors, but is filled with its own

Attributes

when we create a class, we have to decide what outward behaviors we want its instances to share

these outward behaviors are what we call attributes

they include methods as well as other data

e.g. a student object might contain:

Methods: `s.add_class()`, `s.get_gpa()`,...

Data: `s.first_name`, `s.last_name`, ...

## 1.2 Classes

```
In [1]: class Drone:
        """A representation of a drone aircraft"""
```

```
In [4]: ?Drone
        # to check what this is
```

```
In [8]: d1 = Drone()
        d2 = Drone()
        print("d1 has type", type(d1), "d2 has type", type(d2))
```

d1 has type <class '\_\_main\_\_.Drone'> d2 has type <class '\_\_main\_\_.Drone'>

### 1.2.1 Data Attributes

```
In [22]: # first way is to do it manually
        Drone.power_system = "Battery"
        # this is a class attribute, we give the whole class Drone an attribute
        # called "Battery"
```

```
In [23]: # Therefore, all the instances of the class will have the attribute Battery
        # under power_system
        print(d1.power_system)
        print(d2.power_system)
        print(Drone.power_system)
```

Battery  
Battery  
Battery

```
In [24]: d1.power_system = "Gasoline"
        # now we give d1 an attribute called power_system
```

```
In [56]: print(d1.power_system)
        print(d2.power_system)
        print(Drone.power_system)
```

dream  
battery  
battery

```
In [27]: # now let's give the objects some more attributes called altitude
        d1.altitude = 100
        d2.altitude = 150
```

```
In [29]: print(d1.altitude)
        print(d2.altitude)
```

100  
150

```
In [30]: dir(d1)
        # this will check what are the attributes the this object have
```

```
Out[30]: ['__class__',
          '__delattr__',
          '__dict__',
```

```

'__dir__',
'__doc__',
'__eq__',
'__format__',
'__ge__',
'__getattr__',
'__gt__',
'__hash__',
'__init__',
'__le__',
'__lt__',
'__module__',
'__ne__',
'__new__',
'__reduce__',
'__reduce_ex__',
'__repr__',
'__setattr__',
'__sizeof__',
'__str__',
'__subclasshook__',
'__weakref__',
'altitude',
'power_system']

```

In [32]: *# let's check some of the built in attributs*  
 *#(notice these built in attributrs start and end with \_\_ )*  
d1.\_\_class\_\_

Out[32]: `__main__.Drone`

In [34]: *# let's check another built in attributs, the dictionary*  
d1.\_\_dict\_\_

Out[34]: `{'altitude': 100, 'power_system': 'Gasoline'}`

### 1.2.2 Using the Class Definition

In [36]: `class Drone:` *#defines a class*

```

    power_ststem = "battery"    # this is a class attribute because it is
                                # insied the class definition

    def fly(self):
        return "The frone is flying"

```

In [37]: `d = Drone()` *# create a drone instance*  
`print(d.fly())`

The frone is flying

In [44]: `class Drone:` *#defines a class*

```

    power_system = "battery"    # this is a class attribute because it is
                                # insied the class definition

    def fly(self):
                                # this self means the instance specifcly
                                # we can therefore, use it to call the class
                                # attributes
        return "The " + self.power_system + "-power drone is flying"

```

```
In [47]: d = Drone()    # create a drone instance
         print(d.fly())
```

The battery-power drone is flying

```
In [50]: d1 = Drone()
         d2 = Drone()
         d1.power_system = "dream"
         # notice we never create a d2.power_system
         print(d1.fly())    # we have the def function
         print(d2.fly())    # python will check to see if there is a class attribute if
                             # does not have a instance attribute
```

The dream-power drone is flying

The battery-power drone is flying

```
In [55]: class Drone:    #defines a class

         power_system = "battery"    # this is a class attribute because it is
                                       # insied the class definition

         def fly(self):    # this self means the instance specifcily
                           # we can therefore, use it to call the class
                           # attributes

         print( "The " + self.power_system +
               "-power drone is flying at an altitude of " + str(self.altitude))

         def ascend(self,change):    # whatever the argument is we need to shif
                                     # it after the self!
                                     # also, notice, you dont need to use self,
                                     # you can use whatever you want, just change
                                     # everything from self to what you want.

         self.altitude += change

         d = Drone()
         d.altitude = 0
         d.fly()
         d.ascend(100)
         d.fly()
```

The battery-power drone is flying at an altitude of 0

The battery-power drone is flying at an altitude of 100

### 1.2.3 Initializing a class

```
In [60]: class Drone:    #defines a class

         def fly(self):
         print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

         def ascend(self,change):
         self.altitude += change

         d1 = Drone()
         #d1.altitude = 0
         d1.fly()
         d1.ascend(100)
         d1.fly()
```

```

-----

AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-60-45665b218e11> in <module>()
      9 d1 = Drone()
     10 #d1.altitude = 0
----> 11 d1.fly()
     12 d1.ascend(100)
     13 d1.fly()

<ipython-input-60-45665b218e11> in fly(self)
      2
      3     def fly(self):
----> 4         print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")
      5
      6     def ascend(self,change):

```

AttributeError: 'Drone' object has no attribute 'altitude'

```

In [67]: class Drone:      #defines a class

        def __init__(self,altitude = 0):  #initializing the instance
                                           # set = 0 gives it a default value
            self.altitude = altitude

        def fly(self):
            print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

        def ascend(self,change):
            self.altitude += change

d1 = Drone(100)
#d1.altitude = 0
d1.fly()
d1.ascend(100)
d1.fly()
d2 = Drone()
#d2.altitude = 0
d2.fly()

```

The drone is flying at 100 feet.  
The drone is flying at 200 feet.  
The drone is flying at 0 feet.

#### 1.2.4 Counting with Data Attributes

```

In [2]: class Drone:      #defines a class

        num_drones = 0

```

```

def __init__(self,altitude = 0):    #initializing the instance
                                    # set = 0 gives it a default value
    self.altitude = altitude
    self.ascend_count = 0
    Drone.num_drones += 1
def fly(self):
    print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

def ascend(self,change):
    self.altitude += change
    self.ascend_count += 1

d1 = Drone(100)
print("Number of drones: ",Drone.num_drones)
print("d1 ascend count", d1.ascend_count)
d1.fly()
d1.ascend(100)
d1.ascend(100)
print("d1 ascend count", d1.ascend_count)
d1.fly()
d2 = Drone()
d2.fly()
print("Number of drones: ",d1.num_drones)
d2.fly()
print("Number of drones: ",d1.num_drones)

```

```

Number of drones:  1
d1 ascend count 0
The drone is flying at 100 feet.
d1 ascend count 2
The drone is flying at 300 feet.
The drone is flying at 0 feet.
Number of drones:  2
The drone is flying at 0 feet.
Number of drones:  2

```

### 1.2.5 Direct Access versus Getters and Setters

In [3]: `class Drone:`

```

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

d1 = Drone(100)

```

```

print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.altitude)
d1.altitude = 300
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.altitude)

```

The Drone's altitude is 100

The Drone's altitude is 300

In [7]: *# Getters and Setters method*

```

class Drone:

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

    def get_altitude(self):
        return self.altitude

    def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
        self.altitude = new_altitude

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
d1.set_altitude(300)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

```

The Drone's altitude is 100

The Drone's altitude is 300

In [9]: *# Getters and Setters method*

```

class Drone:

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

```

```

def get_altitude(self):
    return self.altitude

def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
    if new_altitude < 0:
        raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude")
    self.altitude = new_altitude

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
d1.set_altitude(-1)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

```

The Drone's altitude is 100

```

-----

Exception                                Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-9-9a373ec4926a> in <module>()
    28 d1 = Drone(100)
    29 print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
--> 30 d1.set_altitude(-1)
    31 print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

<ipython-input-9-9a373ec4926a> in set_altitude(self, new_altitude)
    22     def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
    23         if new_altitude < 0:
--> 24             raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude")
    25         self.altitude = new_altitude
    26

```

Exception: Drone cannot have a negative altitude

In [11]: # Getters and Setters method

```

class Drone:

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):

```



```

        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

    def get_altitude(self):
        return self.altitude

    def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
        if new_altitude < 0:
            raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude")
        self.altitude = new_altitude

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
d1.set_altitude(300)
d1.altitude = -10      ##### How can we prevent this ?
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

```

The Drone's altitude is 100  
The Drone's altitude is -10

### 1.2.6 Hidden attributes

In [16]: *# we solve the problem by using hidden attributes*  
*# if I want to make an attribute into a hidden one, add to \_\_*

```

class Drone:

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.__altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.__altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.__altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

    def get_altitude(self):
        return self.__altitude

    def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
        if new_altitude < 0:
            raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude")
        self.__altitude = new_altitude

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
d1.set_altitude(300)
print("The drone's altitude is ", d1.altitude) # this will however gives an

```

```

# error
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

```

The Drone's altitude is 100

```

-----

AttributeError                                Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-16-4f4ba7cd2320> in <module>()
    30 print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
    31 d1.set_altitude(300)
--> 32 print("The drone's altitude is ", d1.altitude) # this will however gives an
    33                                             # error
    34 print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

AttributeError: 'Drone' object has no attribute 'altitude'

```

### 1.2.7 Overriding Hidden Attributes

```

In [20]: # we solve the problem by using hidden attributes
         # if I want to make an attribute into a hidden one, add to __

class Drone:

    num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.__altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print( "The drone is flying at", self.__altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.__altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

    def get_altitude(self):
        return self.__altitude

    def set_altitude(self,new_altitude):
        if new_altitude < 0:
            raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude")
        self.__altitude = new_altitude

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())
d1._Drone__altitude = 300    #_classname__attribute OVERRIDING!!

```

```

print("The drone's altitude is ", d1._Drone__altitude) #_classname__attribute
print("The Drone's altitude is",d1.get_altitude())

```

```

The Drone's altitude is 100
The drone's altitude is 300
The Drone's altitude is 300

```

### 1.2.8 Class Odds and Ends

#### Properties

```

In [22]: class Drone:
    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.altitude=altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
    def fly(self):
        print("The drone is flying at", self.altitude,"feet.")
    def ascend(self,change):
        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1
d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)
d1.altitude = 300
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)

```

```

The Drone's altitude is 100
The Drone's altitude is 300

```

```

In [24]: class Drone:
    def __init__(self,altitude = 0):
        self.__altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0

    def fly(self):
        print("The drone is flying at", self.__altitude,"feet.")

    def ascend(self,change):
        self.__altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1

    def get_altitude(self):
        return self.__altitude

    def set_altitude(self, new_altitude):
        if new_altitude < 0:
            raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude.")
        self.__altitude = new_altitude

    altitude = property(get_altitude,set_altitude)

d1 = Drone(100)
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)

d1.altitude = 300
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)

```

The Drone's altitude is 100  
The Drone's altitude is 300

```
In [25]: d1.altitude = -10
```

```
-----  
  
Exception                                Traceback (most recent call last)  
  
<ipython-input-25-0611421cea68> in <module>()  
----> 1 d1.altitude = -10  
  
<ipython-input-24-cddab28ae739> in set_altitude(self, new_altitude)  
    16     def set_altitude(self, new_altitude):  
    17         if new_altitude < 0:  
----> 18             raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude.")  
    19         self.__altitude = new_altitude  
    20
```

Exception: Drone cannot have a negative altitude.

```
In [28]: class Drone:  
        def __init__(self, altitude = 0):  
            self.__altitude = altitude  
            self.ascend_count = 0  
  
        def fly(self):  
            print("The drone is flying at", self.__altitude, "feet.")  
  
        def ascend(self, change):  
            self.__altitude += change  
            self.ascend_count += 1  
  
        @property  
        def altitude(self):  
            return self.__altitude  
  
        @altitude.setter  
        def altitude(self, new_altitude):  
            if new_altitude < 0:  
                raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude.")  
            self.__altitude = new_altitude  
  
d1 = Drone(100)  
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)  
  
d1.altitude = 300  
print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)  
  
d1.altitude = -10
```

```
The Drone's altitude is 100
The Drone's altitude is 300
```

```
-----

Exception                                Traceback (most recent call last)

<ipython-input-28-219880794b0f> in <module>()
    28 print("The Drone's altitude is", d1.altitude)
    29
---> 30 d1.altitude = -10

<ipython-input-28-219880794b0f> in altitude(self, new_altitude)
    18     def altitude(self, new_altitude):
    19         if new_altitude < 0:
---> 20             raise Exception("Drone cannot have a negative altitude.")
    21         self.__altitude = new_altitude
    22

Exception: Drone cannot have a negative altitude.
```

### 1.3 Class Methods and Static Methods

```
In [31]: class Drone:

        def __init__(self, altitude = 0):
            self.altitude = altitude
            self.ascend_count = 0

        def fly(self):
            print("The drone is flying at", self.altitude, "feet.")

        def ascend(self, change):
            self.altitude += change
            self.ascend_count += 1

        @classmethod
        def print_class(cls):
            print(cls)
d1 = Drone(100)
d1.print_class()

<class '__main__.Drone'>

In [32]: Drone.print_class()

<class '__main__.Drone'>

In [36]: class Drone:
        __num_drones = 0
```

```

def __init__(self, altitude = 0):
    self.altitude = altitude
    self.ascend_count = 0
    Drone.__num_drones += 1

def fly(self):
    print("The drone is flying at", self.altitude, "feet.")

def ascend(self, change):
    self.altitude += change
    self.ascend_count += 1
@classmethod
def get_num_drones(cls):
    return cls.__num_drones
d1 = Drone(100)
print(d1.get_num_drones())
d2 = Drone(200)
print(d2.get_num_drones())

```

1  
2

```

In [37]: class Drone:
    __num_drones = 0

    def __init__(self, altitude = 0):
        self.altitude = altitude
        self.ascend_count = 0
        Drone.__num_drones += 1

    def fly(self):
        print("The drone is flying at", self.altitude, "feet.")

    def ascend(self, change):
        self.altitude += change
        self.ascend_count += 1
    @classmethod
    def get_num_drones(cls):
        return cls.__num_drones

    @staticmethod
    def feet_from_meters(meters):
        return meters * 3.28084

d1 = Drone(100)
d1.altitude = Drone.feet_from_meters(200)
print(d1.altitude)

```

656.168