

# Object Oriented Programming Through Python (2.7.x)

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## The OOP style

*Objects interacting with each other through their methods.*



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- In python this is implemented through **classes**
  - A class is a description of the structure and functionality of the desired object (abstract)
  - Objects are *instances* of classes (concrete)
- You can have multiple instances of the same class!

```
> z1 = complex(5,3)
> z2 = complex(1,2)
> print(z1 * z2.conjugate())
(11-7j)
```

## Toy Example - Inheritance

```
class Animal():  
    def __init__(self):  
        self.legs = 0  
        self.hasTail = False  
  
    def speak(self):  
        pass
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> tim, marty = Cat(), Bird()
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> tim.legs
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> tim, marty = Cat(), Bird()
> tim.legs
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> marty.speak()
Chirp!
> tim.legs = 3
> #Tim the cat got injured :(
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  - Try to avoid!

## Inheritance and Constructors

Suppose each Animal now keeps track of its age:

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```

```
> larry = Cat(4)
```

*TypeError: \_\_init\_\_() takes exactly 1 argument (2 given)*

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> larry = Animal(3)  
> bob = Animal(age=4)  
> larry = Cat(4)
```

*TypeError: \_\_init\_\_() takes exactly 1 argument (2 given)*

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class Cat(Animal):  
    def __init__(self, *args, **kwargs):  
        Animal.__init__(self, *args, **kwargs)
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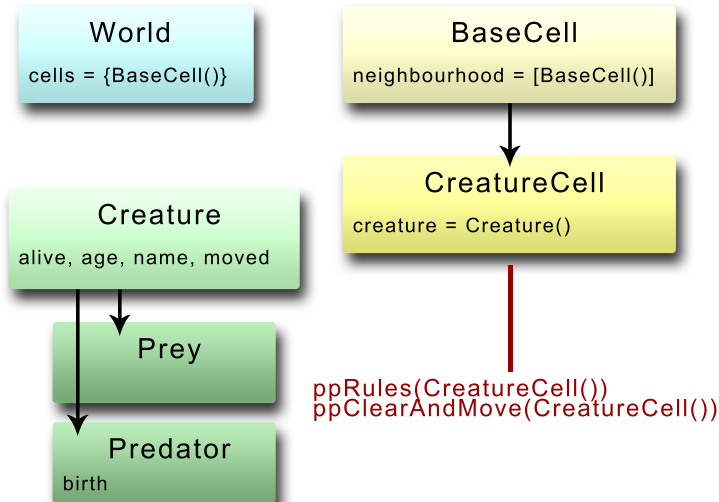
- Not everything needs to be a class!
- Encapsulation is important
- The goal is to achieve good re-usability of the code
- Polymorphism (we can write code for base class)

## Real Example: Predator-prey system

`predator.py`

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- Export that data into a file and plot with your favourite plotting software. Do your results agree with the Lotka–Volterra equations?



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- Write classes and functions to represent our number system (integers, rational numbers).
- Can you think of a better ruleset for the predator–prey system?
- How would you keep track of the number of live predators and prey in each iteration?
- Export that data into a file and plot with your favourite plotting software. Do your results agree with the Lotka–Volterra equations?
- Write a new subclass for BaseCell to follow the rules of Conway's Game of Life.