Introductory Computer Science Week 4 — Object Oriented Programming

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August 4, 2019

Administrative Items

A bit more on tracing

Introduction to OOP

Terminology

Objects

self

"Security" in Python

__init__ and __str__

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- Exercises

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- ► Problem Sets

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- Exercises
- Problem Sets
- Assignment

Itinerary

- 1. Introduction and Git
- 2. Programming with Python*
- 3. Memory Model and Debugging*
- 4. Object Oriented Programming
- 5. Object Oriented Programming
- 6. Test day
- 7. Linked Lists
- * = What will be tested

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```
>>> x = f3(4, 5)
>>> print(x)
```

What's printed?

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- ► A lot of the data structures and types that was presented from week 2 was pretty neat
- But, if you program for a while these types can be boring (especially in the software engineering realm)
- ▶ What if we made our own? If there were only one way...

OBJECT

OBJECT ORIENTED

OBJECT ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

Introduction

- Functions were the initial focus as it a way in which we received output from input
- Object Oriented Approach:
 - my_object.method(input) has its own methods and data

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- Method: A function the belongs to a class
- We somewhat saw this:
 - my_str = str(12.57)
 - my_str.ljust(10)
 - my_str is an object, of the str class, and we called the ljust method on it

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Leading Example

Person

Object Creation

- ▶ Begin with class ClassName
 - ► CamelCase is conventional for ClassNames

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Object Creation

- Begin with class ClassName
 - ► CamelCase is conventional for ClassNames
- Defining a method method_name
- ► After this, you are capable of creating a new object
 - my_object = ClassName()
- And the object can now access the methods defined
 - my_object.method_name()

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- self generally has representative attributes (e.g. as a person, you have certain amount of fingers, you have a certain eye colour, you have certain medical conditions etc.)
- Using self is a way to manipulate instantiated objects of the class within defined methods
- ► For every method in a class (in Python), it is necessary to have self as the first parameter

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- ► There's barely any constraints! You don't even have to put semi-colons at the end of lines
- ► Going back to the previous example, would you want anybody to access your medical records?
- ▶ In Python, to combat this is using an underscore
 - self._blood_type = "0"

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Built-In Methods

- __init__
 - Initialize: This is known as a constructor method (a method that returns an instantiation of an object)
 - Every class must have one (in Python)
 - Defines the code that runs when we first create a new object of this type
- __str__
 - Return what you want to output when an object of this class is cast to a string (or printed)