

Object Oriented Programming

Objectives:

- Define and understand classes and objects.
- Understand encapsulation and how classes support information hiding and implementation independence.
- Understand inheritance and how it promotes software reuse.
- Understand polymorphism and how it enables code generalisation.
- Exclude: method overloading and multiple inheritance

1. Class Basics

Classes are blueprints/template for objects. They define the **structure** and **behavior** of objects.

- Python is highly object-oriented.
- But it does not force you to use it until you need to do so.

Creating a new object is called `instantiation`. An **object** of a class is also called an **instance** of that class.

- Multiple objects can be created from same class.

Everything is an Object

In Python, everything is an object.

- This includes classes (types).
- The `id()` method can be used to get unique ID of an object.

Question:

What is the ID of the `str` class, and ID of a `str` object `a = 'abc'` ?

```
In [1]: ▶ s = 'abc'
        print(id(s))
        print(id(type(s)))
        print(id(str))
```

```
3046744108272
140722196434160
140722196434160
```

Class Definition

Classes are defined using the `class` keyword followed by CamelCase name.

- Class instances are created by calling the class as if it is a function.

```
In [24]:  ▶ class Vehicle:
           pass

v = Vehicle()
isinstance(v, Vehicle)
```

Out[24]: True

When you print an instance, Python shows its class and its memory location.

```
In [25]:  ▶ print(Vehicle)
           print(v)

<class '__main__.Vehicle'>
<__main__.Vehicle object at 0x000001AEC7D15B38>
```

Initializer Method `__init__()`

Python class has an initializer method, `__init__()`, which will be automatically called to initialize the newly created object.

- `__init__()` is a **dunder** method which generally are used by Python compiler.
- Its definition is similar to function definition except that its first argument is `self`.
- It can take in additional arguments.

Instance Attributes

Its common to initialize **Instance Attributes** in the initializer method `__init__()`.

Keyword `self`

To access any instance method or instance attribute in the class, you need to prefix it with `self.`

```
In [36]:  ▶ class Vehicle:
           def __init__(self, horsepower, color='black', wheels=4):
               self.horsepower = horsepower
               self.color = color
               self.wheels = wheels

v = Vehicle(100)
v.wheels = 6
print(v.horsepower, v.color, v.wheels)
```

100 black 6

Instance Methods

Methods are functions defined within a class. **Instance Methods** are functions can be called on objects.

- It defines the **behavior** of objects of the class.
- Methods are called using `instance.method()` .

Argument `self`

- The `self` attribute must be the first input parameter for all instance methods.
- The `self` attribute is refer to current object of the class, i.e. the instance calling the method.
 - This is similar to the `this` in C# or Java.
- When a instance method is called, `self` argument is omitted.

```
In [4]: ▶ class Vehicle:
        def __init__(self, horsepower, color='black'):
            self.horsepower = horsepower
            self.color = color

        def engine_power_kw(self):
            return self.horsepower * 0.745699872

v = Vehicle(100, 'Blue')
'{} hp = {} kw'.format(v.horsepower, v.engine_power_kw())
```

```
Out[4]: '100 hp = 74.5699872 kw'
```

Implement `__str__()` for Custom Object

By default, our `Vehicle` class inherits `__str__()` method from `Object` class, which print class name and memory location of the object.

```
In [5]: ▶ class Vehicle:
        def __init__(self, plate):
            self.plate = plate

v1 = Vehicle('A1234')

print(str(v1))

<__main__.Vehicle object at 0x000002662B938EF0>
```

Exercise:

For our `Vehicle` class to support `str()` method, we can implement `__str__()` method in the class.

```
In [6]: ▶ class Vehicle:
        def __init__(self, plate):
            self.plate = plate

        def __str__(self):
            return 'Vehicle: {}'.format(self.plate)

v = Vehicle('A1234')
print(str(v))
```

Vehicle: A1234

2. Class Attributes, Static Methods and Class Methods (Optional)

Class Attributes

Class Attributes are attributes which belong to class instead of a particular object.

- It can be accessed through either class or instance.

We can use class attributes to keep a rolling value which is shared among all instances. For example, we would like to keep track of number of Customers and assign each customer a unique serial number.

```
In [7]: ▶ class Customer:

        next_serial = 1

        def __init__(self):
            self.serial = Customer.next_serial
            Customer.next_serial += 1

    ## Test
s1 = Customer()
s2 = Customer()
print(s1.serial)
print(s2.serial)
print(Customer.next_serial, s1.next_serial, s2.next_serial)
```

1
2
3 3 3

Static Methods

In Python, all instance methods have `self` as their first argument.

Static methods in Python are similar to instance methods, the difference being that a static method is bound to a class rather than the objects for that class.

- A static method is a method which does not have `self` as its first argument.
- It can be called without an object of that class.
- This also means that static methods cannot modify the state of an object as they are not bound to it.

Static methods are declared using `@staticmethod` decorator.

- The `@staticmethod` decorator is optional. But a static method without `@staticmethod` decorator cannot be called from its instance.

```
In [ ]: ▶ class Calculator:
        @staticmethod
        def add(x, y):
            return x + y

Calculator.add(1,2)
```

Class Methods

Class methods are much like **static method**. They are methods that are bound to a class rather than its object.

The difference between a static method and a class method is:

- Static method knows nothing about the class and just deals with the parameters.
- Class method works with the class since its parameter is always the class itself.

To create a class method, use `@classmethod` decorator.

```
In [ ]: ▶ class Converter:

        PI = 3.1415926

        @classmethod
        def rad_to_degree(cls, r):
            d = r/cls.PI*180
            return d

Converter.rad_to_degree(3.1415926)
```

3. Inheritance (Optional)

Similar to other programming languages, Python allows class inheritance.

In following code sample, both class `B` and `C` inherit from class `A`.

- The special attribute `__base__` returns its 1st base class. To get all base classes, use attribute `__bases__`.
- We can test whether a class is subclass of one or more classes using `issubclass()` method.

```
In [9]: ▶ class A:
        pass

        class B(A):
            pass

        print(A.__base__)
        print(B.__base__)
        print(issubclass(B,A))

<class 'object'>
<class '__main__.A'>
True
```

Method Overriding

A subclass may override a method defined in its superclass.

Example:

- Class B doesnot override `hi()` method in class A
- Class C overrides `hi()` method in class B

```
In [28]: ▶ class A:
        def hi(self):
            print('hi A')

        class B(A):
            pass

        class C(A):
            def hi(self):
                print('hi C')

        b = B()
        b.hi()
        c = C()
        c.hi()

hi A
hi C
```

Super Function - super()

With inheritance, the `super()` function allows us to call a method from the parent class.

```
In [15]: ► class A:

    def hi(self):
        print('hi A' )

class C(A):

    def hi(self):
        super().hi()
        print('hi C')

c = C()
c.hi()
```

```
hi A
hi C
```

Method Overloading - NOT AVAILABLE

Python doesnot support method overloading. It keeps only the latest definition of the method.

```
In [16]: ► def add(a,b):
    return a+b

def add(a,b,c):
    return a+b+c

add(1,2,3)

## Raise a TypeError
# add(2,3)
```

Out[16]: 6