Object-Oriented Programming

Functions vs. Classes

```
data = None
def setdata(value):
    global data
    data = value
def display():
    global data
    print data
setdata("King Arthur")
display()
setdata(3.1419)
display()
data = "New value"
display()
```

```
class MyClass:
                    Encapsulation
    data = None
    @staticmethod
    def setdata(value):
        MyClass.data = value
    @staticmethod
    def display():
        print MyClass.data
MyClass.setdata("King Arthur")
MyClass.display()
MyClass.setdata(3.1419)
MyClass.display()
MyClass.data = "New value"
MyClass.display()
```

object.attribute

Classes, Instances, and Attributes

```
class
>>> class FirstClass:
                                        # Define a class object
                                                                  instance
         def setdata(self, value):
                                        # Define class's methods
                                                                                is-a
             self.data = value
                                        # self is the instance
                                                                    - data
                                                                                              FirstClass
         def display(self):
             print(self.data)
                                        # self.data: per instance
                                                                                              - setdata

    display

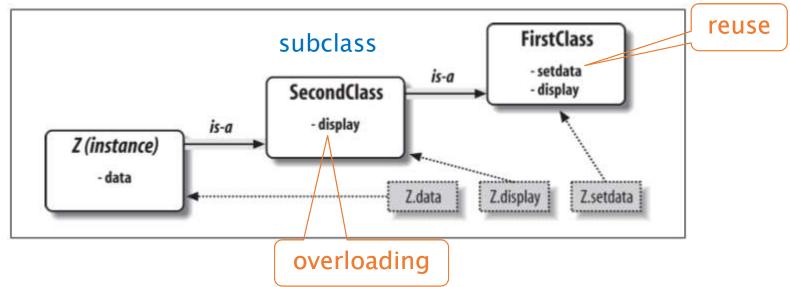
                                        # Make two instances
                                                                                is-a
>>> x = FirstClass()
>>> y = FirstClass()
                                        # Each is a new namespace
                                                                    - data
 >>> x.setdata("King Arthur")
                                         # Call methods: self is x
 >>> y.setdata(3.14159)
                                         # Runs: FirstClass.setdata(v, 3.14159)
                                                                                              methods
>>> x.display()
                                        # self.data differs in each instance
King Arthur
>>> y.display()
                                         # Runs: FirstClass.display(y)
3.14159
                                                                         equivalent to:
                                                                  FirstClass.display(y)
>>> x.data = "New value"
                                        # Can get/set attributes
                                        # Outside the class too
>>> x.display()
New value
```

- Class objects provide default behavior and serve as factories for instance objects.
- Instance objects are the real objects your programs process—each is a namespace in its own right, but inherits

Classes Are Customized by Inheritance

```
>>> class SecondClass(FirstClass):
                                                      # Inherits setdata
        def display(self):
                                                      # Changes display
            print('Current value = "%s"' % self.data)
                                                               OOP is about code reuse!!
>>> z = SecondClass()
>>> z.setdata(42)
                             # Finds setdata in FirstClass
>>> z.display()
                             # Finds overridden method in SecondClass
Current value = "42"
                             class name(superclass,...):
                                                                        # Assign to name
                                  attr = value
                                                                        # Shared class data
>>> x.display()
                                  def method(self,...):
                                                                        # Methods
New value
                                      self.attr = value
                                                                        # Per-instance data
```

superclass



Operator Overloading

- Classes can intercept Python operators

```
>>> class ThirdClass(SecondClass):
                                                           # Inherit from SecondClass
        def init (self, value):
                                                           # On "ThirdClass(value)"
             self.data = value
        def add (self, other):
                                                           # On "self + other"
            return ThirdClass(self.data + other)
        def str (self):
                                                           # On "print(self)", "str()"
            return '[ThirdClass: %s]' % self.data
        def mul(self, other):
                                                            # In-place change: named
             self.data *= other
                              >>> rec = ('Bob', 40.5, ['dev', 'mgr'])
>>> a = ThirdClass('abc')
                                    # __mit__ called
>>> a.display()
                                       # Inherited method called
Current value = "abc"
>>> print(a)
                                       # __str__: returns display string
                                                                                      (self, other)
[ThirdClass: abc]
                                                                               add
>>> b = a + 'xyz'
                                       # add: makes a new instance
                                       # b has all ThirdClass methods
>>> b.display()
Current value = "abcxyz"
>>> print(b)
                                       # __str__: returns display string
[ThirdClass: abcxyz]
                                       # mul: changes instance in place
>>> a.mul(3)
>>> print(a)
[ThirdClass: abcabcabc]
```

Classes vs. Dictionaries

```
class-based record
tuple-based record
                                         >>> class rec: pass
>>> rec = ('Bob', 40.5, ['dev', 'mgr'])
                                         >>> rec.name = 'Bob'
dict-based record
                                         >>> rec.age = 40.5
>>> rec = {}
                                         >>> rec.jobs = ['dev', 'mgr']
>>> rec['name'] = 'Bob'
>>> rec['age'] = 40.5
>>> rec['jobs'] = ['dev', 'mgr']
                                         OO records
instance-based records
                                        >>> class Person:
>>> class rec: pass
                                                def init (self, name, jobs, age=None):
                                                    self.name = name
>>> pers1 = rec()
                                                    self.jobs = jobs
>>> pers1.name = 'Bob'
                                                    self.age = age
>>> pers1.jobs = ['dev', 'mgr']
                                                def info(self):
>>> pers1.age = 40.5
                                                    return (self.name, self.jobs)
>>>
>>> pers2 = rec()
                                        >>> rec1 = Person('Bob', ['dev', 'mgr'], 40.5)
>>> pers2.name = 'Sue'
                                        >>> rec2 = Person('Sue', ['dev', 'cto'])
>>> pers2.jobs = ['dev', 'cto']
                                        >>>
>>>
                                        >>> rec1.jobs, rec2.info()
>>> pers1.name, pers2.name
                                        (['dev', 'mgr'], ('Sue', ['dev', 'cto']))
('Bob', 'Sue')
```

More Realistic Examples

```
person.py:
 class Person:
     def __init__(self, name, pay=0, job=None):
        self.name = name
        self.pay = pay
        self.job = job
     def lastName(self):
         return self.name.split()[-1]
     def giveRaise(self, percent):
         self.pay *= (1.0 + percent)
     def __repr__(self):
         return '[Person: %s, %s]' % (self.name, self.pay)
 class Manager(Person):
     def __init__(self, name, pay):
         Person. init (self, name, pay, 'manager')
     def giveRaise(self, percent, bonus=0.1):
         Person.giveRaise(self, percent + bonus)
if name == ' main ':
   bob = Person('Bob Smith')
    sue = Person('Sue Jones', 40000, 'hardware')
   print bob
   print sue
                                                              [Person: Bob Smith, 0]
   print bob.lastName(), sue.lastName()
                                                              [Person: Sue Jones, 40000]
   sue.giveRaise(0.1)
                                                              Smith Jones
    print sue
                                                              [Person: Sue Jones, 44000.0
   tom = Manager(name='Tom Doe', pay=50000)
                                                              Doe
   tom.giveRaise(0.1)
                                                              [Person: Tom Doe, 60000.0]
   print tom.lastName()
                                                              >>>
   print tom
```

Composite Objects: embedding objs

```
class Person:
    ...same...
class Manager(Person):
    ...same...
class Department:
    def init (self, *args):
        self.members = l1st(args)
    def addMember(self, person):
        self.members.append(person)
    def giveRaises(self, percent):
        for person in self.members:
            person.giveRaise(percent)
    def showAll(self):
        for person in self.members:
            print(person)
1f name == ' main ':
   bob = Person('Bob Smith')
    sue = Person('Sue Jones', job='dev', pay=100000)
    tom = Manager('Tom Jones', 50000)
    development = Department(bob, sue)
                                                 # Embed objects in a composite
    development.addMember(tom)
    development.giveRaises(.10)
                                                 # Runs embedded objects' giveRaise
    development.showAll()
                                                 # Runs embedded objects' __repr__
```

Special Class Attributes

```
>>> from person import Person
>>> bob = Person('Bob Smith')
>>> bob
                                                 # Show bob's __repr__ (not __str__)
[Person: Bob Smith, 0]
>>> print(bob)
                                                 # Ditto: print => __str__ or __repr__
[Person: Bob Smith, 0]
                                                 # Show bob's class and its name
>>> bob. class
<class 'person.Person'>
>>> bob. class . name
'Person'
>>> list(bob. dict .keys())
                                                 # Attributes are really dict keys
['pay', 'job', 'name']
                                                 # Use list to force list in 3.X
>>> for key in bob. dict :
        print(key, '=>', bob. dict [key])
                                                 # Index manually
pay => 0
job => None
name => Bob Smith
>>> for key in bob. dict :
        print(key, '=>', getattr(bob, key)) # obj.attr, but attr is a var
pay => 0
                         >>> dir(bob)
                                                                  # Plus inherited attrs in classes
job => None
                         [' doc ', ' init ', ' module ', ' repr ', 'giveRaise', 'job', 'lastName',
name => Bob Smith
```

Class Interface Techniques

```
class Super:
    def method(self):
                                                                     abstract
        print('in Super.method')
                                            # Default behavior
                                                                     super class
    def delegate(self):
        self.action()
                                            # Expected to be defined
class Inheritor(Super):
                                            # Inherit method verbatim
    pass
class Replacer(Super):
                                            # Replace method completely
    def method(self):
        print('in Replacer.method')
class Extender(Super):
                                            # Extend method behavior
    def method(self):
        print('starting Extender.method')
        Super.method(self)
        print('ending Extender.method')
class Provider(Super):
                                            # Fill in a required method
    def action(self):
                                             implementation of action()
        print('in Provider.action')
x = Provider()
                       77
x.delegate()
```

Namespaces: Assignments classify names

```
# Global (module) name/attribute (X, or manynames.X)
X = 11
def f():
    print(X)
                                 # Access global X (11)
def g():
    X = 22
                                 # Local (function) variable (X, hides module X)
    print(X)
class C:
    X = 33
                                 # Class attribute (C.X)
    def m(self):
         X = 44
                                 # Local variable in method (X)
         self.X = 55
                                 # Instance attribute (instance.X)
```

```
# Global in module
X = 11
def g1():
    print(X)
                                # Reference global in module (11)
def g2():
    global X
    X = 22
                                # Change global in module
def h1():
                                # Local in function
    X = 33
    def nested():
         print(X)
                                # Reference local in enclosing scope (33)
def h2():
                                # Local in function
    X = 33
    def nested():
         nonlocal X
                                # Python 3.X statement
                                # Change local in enclosing scope
         X = 44
```

```
X = 1
def nester():
   print(X)
                              # Global: 1
   class C:
       print(X)
                              # Global: 1
        def method1(self):
            print(X)
                              # Global: 1
       def method2(self):
                              # Hides global
            X = 3
            print(X)
                              # Local: 3
   I = C()
   I.method1()
   I.method2()
print(X)
                              # Global: 1
nester()
                              # Rest: 1, 1, 1, 3
print('-'*40)
```

Common Operator Overloading Methods

Method	Implements	Called for
init	Constructor	Object creation: X = Class(args)
del	Destructor	Object reclamation of X
add	Operator +	X + Y,X += YIfnoiadd
or	Operator (bitwise OR)	X Y,X = YIfnoior
repr,str	Printing, conversions	<pre>print(X), repr(X), str(X)</pre>
call	Function calls	X(*args, **kargs)
getattr	Attribute fetch	X.undefined
setattr	Attribute assignment	X.any = value
delattr	Attribute deletion	del X.any
getattribute	Attribute fetch	X.any
getitem	Indexing, slicing, iteration	X[key], X[i:j], for loops and other iterations if no iter
setitem	Index and slice assignment	<pre>X[key] = value, X[i:j] = iterable</pre>
delitem	Index and slice deletion	<pre>del X[key],del X[i:j]</pre>

Common Operator Overloading Methods

len	Length	len(X), truth tests if nobool
boo1	Boolean tests	bool(X), truth tests (namednonzero in 2.X)
lt,gt, le,ge, eq,ne	Comparisons	X < Y, X > Y, X <= Y, X >= Y, X == Y, X != Y (or elsecmp in 2.X only)
radd	Right-side operators	Other + X
iadd	In-place augmented operators	X += Y (or elseadd)
iter,next	Iteration contexts	<pre>I=iter(X), next(I); for loops, in if nocon tains, all comprehensions, map(F,X), others (next is named next in 2.X)</pre>
contains	Membership test	item in X(any iterable)
index	Integer value	hex(X), bin(X), oct(X), O[X], O[X:] (replaces 2.Xoct,hex)
enter,exit	Context manager (Chapter 34)	with obj as var:
get,set, delete	Descriptor attributes (Chapter 38)	X.attr, X.attr = value, del X.attr
new	Creation (Chapter 40)	Object creation, beforeinit

Comparisons: _lt_, _gt_, _le_, _ge_, _eq_, _ne_

```
class C:
    data = 'spam'
    def __gt__(self, other):
                                           # 3.X and 2.X version
        return self.data > other
    def lt (self, other):
        return self.data < other
X = C()
print(X > 'ham')
                                           # True (runs __gt__)
print(X < 'ham')</pre>
                                           # False (runs lt )
          In Python 2.X, a __cmp__ method is used
          if above methods are not defined
          cmp, __cmp__ are removed in Python 3.X
class C:
    data = 'spam'
                                           # 2.X only
    def __cmp__(self, other):
                                          # __cmp__ not used in 3.X
        return cmp(self.data, other)
                                          # cmp not defined in 3.X
X = C()
print(X > 'ham')
                                           # True (runs __cmp__)
print(X < 'ham')</pre>
                                           # False (runs __cmp__)
```

Indexing and Slicing: __getitem__ and __setitem__

```
>>> class Indexer:
       def __init__(self):
           self.data = [5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
     def repr (self):
           return repr(self.data)
     def __getitem__(self, index): # Called for index or slice
           return self.data[index] # Perform index or slice
     def setitem (self, index, value):
           self.data[index] = value
>>> x = Indexer()
>>> y = Indexer()
>>> x
[5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
>>> print x
[5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
                                     >>> for item in x:
>>> x[0]
                                             print item,
5
>>> x[2:4]
                                     06789
[7, 8]
                                     >>> [n for n in x]
>>> x[0] = 0
                                     [0, 6, 7, 8, 9]
>>> x
                                     >>> sum(x)
[0, 6, 7, 8, 9]
                                     30
>>> y
[5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
```

Iterable Objects: __iter__ and next

(<u>next</u> in Python 3)

```
>>> class Squares:
        def __init__(self, start, stop):
            self.value = start - 1
            self.stop = stop
                                Only if no such __iter__ method is found,
        def iter (self):
                                Python falls back on the <u>__getitem__</u> scheme
            return self
        def next(self):
            if self.value == self.stop:
                raise StopIteration
                                              generator functions
            self.value += 1
            return self.value ** 2
                                              and expressions
>>> for i in Squares(1,5):
                                   >>> for i in gsquares(1,5):
        print i,
                                           print i,
1 4 9 16 25
                                   1 4 9 16 25
\rangle\rangle\rangle x = Squares(1,5)
                                   >>> for i in (x ** 2 for x in range(1, 6)):
>>> [n for n in x]
                                           print i,
[1, 4, 9, 16, 25]
>>> 36 in Squares(1,10)
                                   1 4 9 16 25
True
>>> x[1]
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
AttributeError: Squares instance has no attribute ' getitem '
```

Attribute Access: __getattr__ and __setattr__

```
>>> class Empty:
       def getattr (self, attrname):
                                             __getattr__ is called
           if attrname == 'age':
                                             whenever attr is undefined
               return 40
           else:
               raise AttributeError(attrname)
>>> X = Empty()
>>> X.age
40
                                                  __setattr__ always intercepts
>>> X.name
...error text omitted...
                                                 X.attr = value
AttributeError: name
```

Function Interfaces and Callback-Based Code

The __call__ method is called when your instance is called.

As an example, the tkinter GUI toolkit (named Tkinter in Python 2.X) allows you to register functions as event handlers (a.k.a. callbacks)

Polymorphism Means Interfaces, Not Call Signatures

```
class C:
    def meth(self, x):
        ...
    def meth(self, x, y, z):
        ...
```

Do not use C++ style.

var. arguments and type-testing

```
class C:
    def meth(self, x):
        x.operation()
```

write your code to expect only an object interface, not a specific data type.

OOP and Inheritance: "Is-a" Relationships

```
employees.py: from __future__ import print_function
                    class Employee:
                        def __init__(self, name, salary=0):
                            self.name = name
                            self.salary = salary
                        def giveRaise(self, percent):
                            self.salary = self.salary + (self.salary * percent)
                        def work(self):
                            print(self.name, "does stuff")
                        def __repr__(self):
                            return "<Employee: name=%s, salary=%s>" % (self.name, self.salary)
                    class Chef(Employee):
                        def init (self, name):
                            Employee. init (self, name, 50000)
                        def work(self):
                            print(self.name, "makes food")
                    class Server(Employee):
                        def __init__(self, name):
                            Employee.__init__(self, name, 40000)
                        def work(self):
                            print(self.name, "interfaces with customer")
                    class PizzaRobot(Chef):
                        def __init__(self, name):
                            Chef. init (self, name)
                        def work(self):
                            print(self.name, "makes pizza")
```

Classes and Persistency

Instances of classes can be stored away on disk using Python's pickle or shelve modules

```
>>> from pizzashop import PizzaShop
>>> shop = PizzaShop()
>>> shop.server, shop.chef
(<Employee: name=Pat, salary=40000>, <Employee: name=Bob, salary=50000>)
>>> import pickle
>>> pickle.dump(shop, open('shopfile.pkl', 'wb'))
```

```
>>> import pickle
>>> obj = pickle.load(open('shopfile.pkl', 'rb'))
>>> obj.server, obj.chef
(<Employee: name=Pat, salary=40000>, <Employee: name=Bob, salary=50000>)
>>> obj.order('LSP')
LSP orders from <Employee: name=Pat, salary=40000>
Bob makes pizza
oven bakes
LSP pays for item to <Employee: name=Pat, salary=40000>
```

OOP and Composition: "Has-a" Relationships

pizzashop.py:

```
from future import print function
from employees import PizzaRobot, Server
class Customer:
   def __init__(self, name):
       self.name = name
                                                                  if name == " main ":
   def order(self, server):
                                                                      scene = PizzaShop()
       print(self.name, "orders from", server)
                                                                      scene.order('Homer')
   def pay(self, server):
                                                                      print('...')
       print(self.name, "pays for item to", server)
                                                                      scene.order('Shaggy')
class Oven:
   def bake(self):
       print("oven bakes")
class PizzaShop:
                                                                         PizzaShop is:
   def __init__(self):
       self.server = Server('Pat') # Embed other objects
       self.chef = PizzaRobot('Bob')
                                      # A robot named bob
                                                                         a container
       self.oven = Oven()
   def order(self, name):
                                         # Activate other objects
       customer = Customer(name)
                                                                         controller
       customer.order(self.server)
                                          # Customer orders from server
       self.chef.work()
       self.oven.bake()
       customer.pay(self.server)
```

Example: stream processor

stream.py:

```
class Processor:
   def __init__(self, reader, writer):
                                                   abstract super class
       self.reader = reader
       self.writer = writer
   def process(self):
       while True:
           data = self.reader.readline()
           if not data: break
           data = self.converter(data)
                                                          delegates
           self.writer.write(data)
                                                      implementation
   def converter(self, data):
       assert False, 'converter must be defined'
from streams import Processor
class Uppercase(Processor):
                                                  implementation
   def converter(self, data):
       return data.upper()
if name == ' main ':
   import sys
   obj = Uppercase(open('trispam.txt'), sys.stdout)
   obj.process()
```

OOP and Delegation: "Wrapper" Proxy Objects

```
class Wrapper:
     def __init__(self, object):
         self.wrapped = object
                                            like self.attrname
     def __getattr__(self, attrname):
                                            if attrname is undefined
         print('Trace: ' + attrname)
         return getattr(self.wrapped, attrname)
                               getattr(X,N) is like X.N,
                               except that N is an expression that evaluates
                               to a string at runtime, not a variable.
>>> from trace import Wrapper
>>> x = Wrapper([1, 2, 3])
                                                  # Wrap a list
>>> x.append(4)
                                                  # Delegate to list method
Trace: append
>>> x.wrapped
                                                  # Print my member
[1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> x = Wrapper({'a': 1, 'b': 2})
                                                  # Wrap a dictionary
>>> list(x.keys())
                                                  # Delegate to dictionary method
Trace: keys
['a', 'b']
```

Classes Are Objects: Generic Object Factories

```
def factory(aClass, *pargs, **kargs): # Varargs tuple, dict
   return aClass(*pargs, **kargs)
                                    # Call aClass (or apply in 2.X only)
class Spam:
   def doit(self, message):
       print(message)
class Person:
   def __init__(self, name, job=None):
       self.name = name
       self.job = job
object1 = factory(Spam)
                                          # Make a Spam object
object2 = factory(Person, "Arthur", "King") # Make a Person object
object3 = factory(Person, name='Brian') # Ditto, with keywords and default
>>> object1.doit(99)
99
>>> object2.name, object2.job
('Arthur', 'King')
>>> object3.name, object3.job
('Brian', None)
```

Extending Types by Embedding

```
class Set:
   def __init__(self, value = []):
                                      # Constructor
       self.data = []
                                      # Manages a list
       self.concat(value)
   def intersect(self, other):
                                      # other is any sequence
                                      # self is the subject
       res = []
       for x in self.data:
           if x in other:
                                      # Pick common items
               res.append(x)
       return Set(res)
                                      # Return a new Set
   def union(self, other):
                                      # other is any sequence
                                      # Copy of my list
       res = self.data[:]
       for x in other:
                                      # Add items in other
           if not x in res:
               res.append(x)
       return Set(res)
   def concat(self, value):
                                      # value: list, Set...
       for x in value:
                                      # Removes duplicates
          if not x in self.data:
               self.data.append(x)
   def __len__(self):
                               return len(self.data)
   def __getitem__(self, key): return self.data[key]
   def __and__(self, other):
                               return self.intersect(other)
   def _or_ (self, other):
                               return self.union(other)
   def __repr__(self):
                               return 'Set:' + repr(self.data)
   def __iter__(self):
                               return iter(self.data)
```

Extending Types by Subclassing

```
# Subclass built-in list type/class
# Map 1..N to 0..N-1; call back to built-in version.
class MyList(list):
   def __getitem__(self, offset):
       print('(indexing %s at %s)' % (self, offset))
       return list. getitem (self, offset - 1)
if name == ' main ':
   print(list('abc'))
   x = MyList('abc')
                                  # init inherited from list
                                  # repr inherited from list
   print(x)
   print(x[1])
                                  # MyList. getitem
                                  # Customizes list superclass method
   print(x[3])
   x.append('spam'); print(x)
                                # Attributes from list superclass
   x.reverse(); print(x)
```

Extending Types by Subclassing

```
from __future__ import print_function
                                         # 2.X compatibility
                                                               if name__ == '__main__':
                                                                   x = Set([1,3,5,7])
class Set(list):
                                                                   y = Set([2,1,4,5,6])
    def __init__(self, value = []):
                                        # Constructor
                                                                   print(x, y, len(x))
                                         # Customizes List
                                                                   print(x.intersect(y), y.union(x))
        list. init ([])
                                                                   print(x \& y, x | y)
        self.concat(value)
                                         # Copies mutable defa
                                                                   x.reverse(); print(x)
    def intersect(self, other):
                                         # other is any sequence
        res = []
                                          # self is the subject
        for x in self:
                                                                % python setsubclass.py
            if x in other:
                                                                Set:[1, 3, 5, 7] Set:[2, 1, 4, 5, 6] 4
                                          # Pick common items
                                                                Set:[1, 5] Set:[2, 1, 4, 5, 6, 3, 7]
                res.append(x)
                                                                Set:[1, 5] Set:[1, 3, 5, 7, 2, 4, 6]
        return Set(res)
                                          # Return a new Set
                                                                Set:[7, 5, 3, 1]
    def union(self, other):
                                         # other is any sequence
        res = Set(self)
                                          # Copy me and my list
        res.concat(other)
        return res
    def concat(self, value):
                                         # value: list, Set, etc.
        for x in value:
                                         # Removes duplicates
            if not x in self:
                self.append(x)
    def __and__(self, other): return self.intersect(other)
    def __or__(self, other): return self.union(other)
                         return 'Set:' + list. repr (self)
    def repr (self):
```

Static and class method

Counting instances

```
class Spam:
    numInstances = 0
    def _ init_ (self):
        Spam.numInstances = Spam.numInstances + 1
    @staticmethod
    def printNumInstances():
        print("Number of instances created: %s" % Spam.numInstances)
>>> from spam static deco import Spam
>>> a = Spam()
>>> b = Spam()
>>> c = Spam()
>>> Spam.printNumInstances()
                                         # Calls from classes and instances work
Number of instances created: 3
>>> a.printNumInstances()
Number of instances created: 3
```

```
class Methods(object):
    def imeth(self, x):
        print([self, x])

    @staticmethod
    def smeth(x):
        print([x])

    @classmethod
    def cmeth(cls, x):
        print([cls, x])
```

Why OOP?

- Code reuse
 - by supporting inheritance
- Encapsulation
 - Wrapping up implementation details behind object interfaces
- Structure
 - Classes provide new local scopes, which minimizes name clashes
- Maintenance
 - usually only one copy of the code needs to be changed
- Consistency
 - Classes and inheritance allow you to implement common interfaces
- polymorphism
 - makes code more flexible and widely applicable, and hence more reusable