

Python Programming

Class and Static Methods

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Static Methods

- So far we used **Instance** Methods
 - def something ([self](#)).
 - Self is an instance of object. We can access/change the attributes
- **Static methods** are defined at the class level not the object
 - They don't get [self](#) object \Rightarrow they can't change object attributes
 - You shouldn't use to alter class static variables
- Best usage: as a [utility](#) that neither depend on the object or the class
 - filter_duplicates(lst)
 - is_even(n)
 - get_position_neighbours(x, y, cnt)

Static Methods

```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self.first, self.last = Person.process(name)

    def __repr__(self):
        return f'Person first name: {self.first} -- last name: {self.last}'

    @staticmethod
    def process(name): # No self -- no interaction with class/objects
        """Convert to lower, get first word as first name, remaining as last"""
        first, *last = name.lower().split()
        last = ' '.join(last)
        return first, last

if __name__ == '__main__':
    print(Person('Mostafa Saad Ibrahim Mohamed'))
# Person first name: mostafa -- last name: saad ibrahim mohamed
```

Class Methods

- **Class methods** are at the class level not the object
 - They don't get **self** object \Rightarrow they can't change object attributes
 - They get an object of the **class type**
 - They may access/modify the class attributes
- Best usage:
 - A **factory method** to generate objects from the class
 - This is a popular simple design pattern to create objects
 - A shared method among objects to manipulate attributes

Class Methods

```
2 class Person:
3     def __init__(self, first_name, last_name):
4         self.first, self.last = first_name, last_name
5
6     def __repr__(self):
7         return f'Person first name: {self.first} - last name: {self.last}'
8
9     @classmethod
10    def get_person_from_full_name(cls, full_name):
11        first, last = cls.process(full_name)
12        return cls(first, last)
13
14    @staticmethod
15    def process(name):...
16
17
18
19
20
21 if __name__ == '__main__':
22     per = Person.get_person_from_full_name('Mostafa Saad Ibrahim Mohamed')
23     print(per)
24     # Person first name: mostafa - last name: saad ibrahim mohamed
```

Class Methods

- A few remarkable things about it
 - The method depends on passed argument cls for the class itself
 - If the class name changed, the method won't :)
 - DRY principle
 - Soon, we learn about inheritance
 - If you implemented the method at the parent the level, it is visible for the child too!
 - Static method doesn't have this great feature. It only can use `Person.somestatic`

For educational purpose

- Similar to the property class, we can create without the decorator

```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self.first, self.last = Person.process(name)
    def __repr__(self):
        return f'Person first name: {self.first} -- last name: {self.last}'

    def myprocess(name):
        first, *last = name.lower().split()
        last = ' '.join(last)
        return first, last

if __name__ == '__main__':
    # staticmethod: Convert a function to be a static method.
    Person.process = staticmethod(Person.myprocess)

    print(Person('Mostafa Saad Ibrahim Mohamed'))
    # Person first name: mostafa -- last name: saad ibrahim mohamed
```

“Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people.”

“Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave.”