Python Programming Inheritance with Super Function

Mostafa S. Ibrahim
Teaching, Training and Coaching since more than a decade!

Artificial Intelligence & Computer Vision Researcher PhD from Simon Fraser University - Canada Bachelor / Msc from Cairo University - Egypt Ex-(Software Engineer / ICPC World Finalist)



Super Function

- An issue in previous calling for the parent is using the class name explicitly
 - Person.__init__(self)
 - With every class name change, you have to change it!
 - If you changed your inheritance hierarchy, you have to change it!
 - But Cons: Making code less explicit violates The Zen of Python
- Can we make things more dynamic? Yes super function
- super() returns an object of the superclass
 - Now we can just force call to its __init__
 - Later, I will explain more details
- Note: Python 2 is a bit different

Side note: Zen of Python (guiding principles)

```
Beautiful is better than ugly.
Explicit is better than implicit.
Simple is better than complex.
Complex is better than complicated.
Flat is better than nested.
Sparse is better than dense.
Readability counts.
Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.
Although practicality beats purity.
Errors should never pass silently.
```

Side note: Zen of Python (guiding principles)

```
Unless explicitly silenced.
In the face of ambiguity, refuse the temptation to guess.
There should be one-- and preferably only one --obvious way to do it.
Although that way may not be obvious at first unless you're Dutch.
Now is better than never.
Although never is often better than *right* now.
If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad idea.
If the implementation is easy to explain, it may be a good idea.
Namespaces are one honking great idea -- let's do more of those!
```

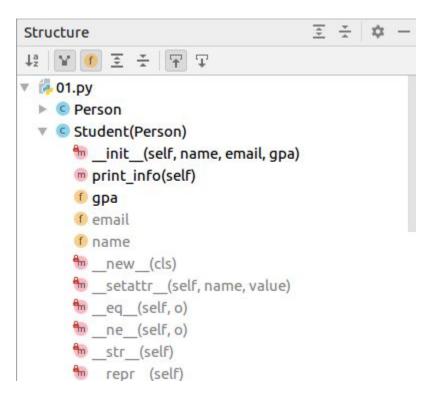
super() function

```
3 ol | class Person:
4 ol def init (self, name, email):
      self.name = name
    self.email = email
  ol | def print info(self):
      print(f'name: {self.name} ', end=' ')
    class Student(Person):
         def init (self, name, email, gpa):
      super(). init (name, email) # make it first line
    self.gpa = gpa
    def print info(self):
      super().print info() # Delegate to parent
18
19
      print(f'GPA: {self.gpa}')
20 ▶
     if name == ' main ':
         st = Student('Mostafa', 'Mostafa@gmail.com', 3.82)
         st.print info() # name: Mostafa GPA: 3.82
```

super() call order

```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name, email):
             self.name = name
6
      self.email = email
             self.qpa = None
      def print info(self):
             print(f'name: {self.name} ', end=' ')
     class Student(Person):
    def init (self, name, email, gpa):
             self.qpa = qpa
16
17
             super(). init (name, email)
18 of def print info(self):
             super().print info()
      print(f'GPA: {self.gpa}')
      if name == ' main ':
      st = Student('Mostafa', 'Mostafa@gmail.com', 3.82)
        st.print info() # name: Mostafa GPA: None
24
```

Inheritance in PyCharm



```
if name
                == ' main ':
        st = Student('Mostafa', 'Mostafa@gmail.com', 3.82)
       st.print info() # name: Mostafa GPA: 3.82
        name name
                                                Person
         mprint info(self)
                                               Student
         f email
                                                Person
                                               Student
         gpa
         init (self, name, email, qpa)
                                               Student
            dict
                                                object
           repr (self)
                                                object
            class
                                                object
         m str (self)
                                                object
    if no annotations
                                                object
            delattr (self, name)
                                                object
/envs/py/Use Tab to overwrite the current identifier with the chosen variant
```

Protected in C++ UML: # (Optional)

Class

- + m_PublicMemberVariable : int
- # m_ProtectedMemberVariable : int
- m_PrivateMemberVariable : int
- m StaticVariable : int
- m IntVariable: int
- + PublicMemberFunction(): void
- # ProtectedMemberFunction(): void
- PrivateMemberFunction(): void
- # PureVirtualMemberFunction(): void
- + StaticFunction(): void
- ClassBoolArgsReturnsInt(in Arg1 : Class, out Arg2 : bool) : int

- + private
- - public
- # protected

"Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people."

"Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave."