

PRG - PROGRAMMING ESSENTIALS

Lecture 10 – Classes & Objects II

Milan Nemy

Czech Technical University in Prague,
Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Dept. of Cybernetics

https://beat.ciirc.cvut.cz/people/milan-nemy/ milan.nemy@cvut.cz



RECAP: OOP PERSPECTIVE

OOP is about changing the perspective

- Syntax for a function call: function_name(variable)
 function is the one who executes on the variable
- Syntax in OOP: object_name.function_name()
 object is the one who executes its method on given data /
 attribute



RECAP: CLASS vs. TUPLE

```
class Point:
    """ Create a new Point, at coordinates x, y """

def __init__(self, x=0, y=0):
    """ Create a new point at x, y """
    self.x = x
    self.y = y

def distance_from_origin(self):
    """ Compute my distance from the origin """
    return ((self.x ** 2) + (self.y ** 2)) ** 0.5
```

- Advantage of using a class (*e.g. Point*) rather than a tuple is that class methods are sensible operations for points, but may not be appropriate for other tuples (*e.g. calculate the distance from the origin*)
- Class allows to group together sensible operations as well as data to apply the methods on
- Each instance of the class has its own state
- Method behaves like a function but it is invoked on a specific instance



RECAP: CLASS METHODS

@classmethod

- In the same way class attributes are defined, which are shared between all instances of a class, class methods are defined using @classmethod decorator for ordinary method
- Class method still has its calling object as the first parameter, but by convention it is cls
 instead of self
- If class method is <u>called from an instance</u>, this parameter will contain the instance object, but if it is <u>called from the class</u> it will contain the class object
- Naming the parameter cls serves as reminder that it is not guaranteed to have any instance attributes



RECAP: CLASS METHODS

What are class methods good for?

- For tasks associated with a class utilizing constants and other class attributes without the need to create any class instances
- **EXAMPLE**: when we write classes to group related constants together with functions which act on them no need to instantiate these classes at all

12/12/25



RECAP: EXAMPLE – INSTANCE METHODS

```
class Inst:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name

    def introduce(self):
        print("Hello, I am %s, and my name is " %(self, self.name))
```

```
myinst = Inst("Test Instance")
otherinst = Inst("An other instance")
myinst.introduce()
# outputs: Hello, I am <Inst object at x>, and my name is Test Instance
otherinst.introduce()
# outputs: Hello, I am <Inst object at y>, and my name is An other instance
```



RECAP: EXAMPLE – CLASS METHODS

```
class Cls:
    @classmethod
    def introduce(cls):
       print("Hello, I am %s!" %cls)
```

```
Cls.introduce() # same as Cls.introduce(Cls)
# outputs: Hello, I am <class 'Cls'>

Notice that again Cls is passed hiddenly, so we could also say Cls.introduce(Inst) and get output "Hello, I am <class 'Inst'>. This is particularly useful when we're inheriting a class from Cls:
```

```
class SubCls(Cls):
    pass

SubCls.introduce()
# outputs: Hello, I am <class 'SubCls'>
```



RECAP: STATICS METHODS

@staticmethod

- Static method does not have the calling object passed into it as the first parameter
- Static method does not have access to the rest of the class or instance
- Static method is most commonly called from class objects (like class methods)



RECAP: EXAMPLE – STATIC METHODS

```
class Person:
   TITLES = ('Dr', 'Mr', 'Mrs', 'Ms')
   def __init__(self, name, surname):
       self.name = name
       self.surname = surname
   def fullname(self): # instance method
       # instance object accessible through self
       return "%s %s" % (self.name, self.surname)
   @classmethod
   def allowed_titles_starting_with(cls, startswith): # class method
       # class or instance object accessible through cls
       return [t for t in cls.TITLES if t.startswith(startswith)]
   @staticmethod
   def allowed_titles_ending_with(endswith): # static method
       # no parameter for class or instance object
       # we have to use Person directly
       return [t for t in Person.TITLES if t.endswith(endswith)]
```

```
In[3]: jane = Person("Jane", "Smith")
In[4]: print(jane.fullname())
Jane Smith
In[5]: print(jane.allowed_titles_starting_with("M"))
['Mr', 'Mrs', 'Ms']
In[6]: print(Person.allowed_titles_starting_with("M"))
['Mr', 'Mrs', 'Ms']
In[7]: print(jane.allowed_titles_ending_with("s"))
['Mrs', 'Ms']
In[8]: print(Person.allowed_titles_ending_with("s"))
['Mrs', 'Ms']
```

SOURCE http://python-textbok.readthedocs.io/en/1.0/Classes.html# UNDER CC BY-SA 4.0 licence Revision 8e685e710775



EXAMPLE – CLASSES, OBJECTS

```
class Rectangle:
         """ A class to manufacture rectangle objects """
        def __init__(self, posn, w, h):
            """ Initialize rectangle at posn, with width w, height h """
            self.corner = posn
            self.width = w
            self.height = h
 8
 9
10
        def str (self):
11
            return "({0}, {1}, {2})"
12
                       .format(self.corner, self.width, self.height)
13
```

- Assume a rectangle that is oriented either vertically or horizontally, never at an angle;
- Specify the upper-left corner of the rectangle, and its size



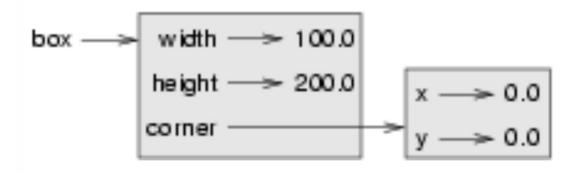
EXAMPLE – CLASSES, OBJECTS

```
class Rectangle:
        """ A class to manufacture rectangle objects """
        def init (self, posn, w, h):
            """ Initialize rectangle at posn, with width w, height h """
            self.corner = posn
            self.width = w
            self.height = h
10
        def str (self):
            return "({0}, {1}, {2})"
11
                      .format(self.corner, self.width, self.height)
12
13
    box = Rectangle(Point(0, 0), 100, 200)
    bomb = Rectangle(Point(100, 80), 5, 10) # In my video game
16
    print("box: ", box)
    print("bomb: ", bomb)
17
                                box: ((0, 0), 100, 200)
                                bomb: ((100, 80), 5, 10)
```

- To specify the upper-left corner embed a Point object within the new Rectangle object
- Create two new Rectangle objects, and then print them



DOT OPERATOR COMPOSITION



- The dot operator composes.
- The expression box.corner.x means:

"Go to the object that box refers to and select its attribute named corner, then go to that object and select its attribute named x"



OBJECTS ARE MUTABLE

```
class Rectangle:
         # ...
 3
 4
         def grow(self, delta width, delta height):
              """ Grow (or shrink) this object by the deltas """
 5
 6
              self.width += delta width
              self.height += delta height
 8
                                                           >>> r = Rectangle(Point(10,5), 100, 50)
                                                           >>> print(r)
 9
         def move(self, dx, dy):
                                                           ((10, 5), 100, 50)
              """ Move this object by the deltas
10
                                                           >>> r.grow(25, -10)
              self.corner.x += dx
11
                                                           >>> print(r)
12
              self.corner.y += dy
                                                           ((10, 5), 125, 40)
                                                           >>> r.move(-10, 10)
                                                           print(r)
                                                           ((0, 15), 125, 40)
```

- Change the state of an object by making an assignment to one of its attributes
 box.width += 50
 box.height += 100
- Provide a method to encapsulate this inside the class
- Provide another method to move the position of the rectangle elsewhere

```
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)
>>> p2 = Point(3, 4)
>>> p1 is p2
False
```

```
>>> p3 = p1
>>> p1 is p3
True
```

- If two objects are the same, does it mean they contain the same data or that they are the same object?
- The **is** operator was used in previous examples on the lists when explaining aliases: it allows us to find out if two references refer to the same object



- Shallow copy: is defined as constructing a new collection object and then populating it with references to the child objects found in the original, i.e. a shallow copy is only one level deep. The copying process does not recurse and therefore will not create copies of the child objects.
- Deep copy: is defined as recursive copying process, i.e. first constructing a new collection object and then recursively populating it with copies of the child objects found in the original. Copying an object this way walks the whole object tree to create a fully independent clone of the original object and all of its children.



```
def same_coordinates(p1, p2):
    return (p1.x == p2.x) and (p1.y == p2.y)

>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)
>>> p2 = Point(3, 4)
>>> same_coordinates(p1, p2)
True
```

- Shallow equality: When is is True, this type of equality is shallow equality because it compares only the references and not the contents of the objects
- Deep equality: To compare the contents of the objects a function like *same_coordinates* needs to be created
- IMPORTANT: If two variables refer to the same object, they have both shallow and deep equality



```
p = Point(4, 2)
s = Point(4, 2)
print("== on Points returns", p == s)
# By default, == on Point objects does a shallow equality test

a = [2,3]
b = [2,3]
print("== on lists returns", a == b)
# But by default, == does a deep equality test on lists

== on Points returns False
== on lists returns True
```

- Think about shallow & deep copy when designing classes!
- Even though the two lists (or tuples, etc.) are distinct objects with different memory addresses, for lists the == operator tests for deep equality, while in the case of objects (points) it makes a shallow test



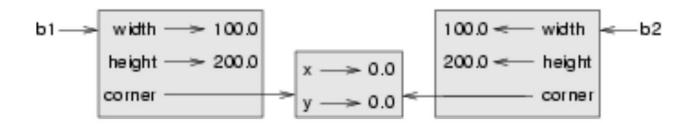
OBJECT COPY

```
>>> import copy
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)
>>> p2 = copy.copy(p1)
>>> p1 is p2
False
>>> same_coordinates(p1, p2)
True
```

- Aliasing makes code difficult to read changes made in one place might have unexpected effects in another place
- Copying object is an alternative to aliasing: the copy module contains a function copy that can duplicate any object
- EXAMPLE: To copy objects import the copy module and use the copy function to make a
 new Point: p1 and p2 are not the same point, but they contain the same data (shallow
 copy)



OBJECT COPY



- Assume Rectangle, which contains a reference to a Point: copy copies the reference to the Point object, so both the old Rectangle and the new one refer to the same Point
- Invoking grow on one of the Rectangle objects would not affect the other,
- Invoking move on either would affect both since shallow copy has created an alias to the Point that represents the corner
- Copy module contains a function named deepcopy that copies not only the object but also any embedded objects



OBJECT COPY

- Deep copy: To copy the contents of an object as well as any embedded objects, and any
 objects embedded in them, etc. (implemented as deepcopy function in copy module)
- Deep equality: Equality of <u>values</u>, or two references that point to objects that have the <u>same</u> <u>value</u>
- Shallow copy: To copy the contents of an object, including any references to embedded objects (one level copy).
 (implemented by the copy function in the copy module)
- Shallow equality: Equality of references, or two references that point to the same object



EXAMPLE MYTIME – OBJECT DEFINITION

```
class MyTime:

def __init__(self, hrs=0, mins=0, secs=0):
    """ Create a MyTime object initialized to hrs, mins, secs """
    self.hours = hrs
    self.minutes = mins
    self.seconds = secs

tim1 __ hours __ 11
    minutes __ 59
    seconds __ 30
```

- **EXAMPLE**: User-defined type called **MyTime** that records the time of day
- Initializer using an __init__ method to ensure that every instance is created with appropriate attributes



```
def add_time(t1, t2):
    h = t1.hours + t2.hours
    m = t1.minutes + t2.minutes
    s = t1.seconds + t2.seconds
    sum_t = MyTime(h, m, s)
    return sum_t
```

```
>>> current_time = MyTime(9, 14, 30)
>>> bread_time = MyTime(3, 35, 0)
>>> done_time = add_time(current_time, bread_time)
>>> print(done_time)
12:49:30
```

EXAMPLE: Create two MyTime objects

- current_time, which contains the current time
- bread_time, which contains the amount of time it takes for a breadmaker to make bread
- use add_time to figure out when the bread will be done

PROBLEM: ??



```
def add_time(t1, t2):
    h = t1.hours + t2.hours
    m = t1.minutes + t2.minutes
    s = t1.seconds + t2.seconds
    sum_t = MyTime(h, m, s)
    return sum_t
```

```
>>> current_time = MyTime(9, 14, 30)
>>> bread_time = MyTime(3, 35, 0)
>>> done_time = add_time(current_time, bread_time)
>>> print(done_time)
12:49:30
```

EXAMPLE: Create two MyTime objects:

- current_time, which contains the current time
- bread_time, which contains the amount of time it takes for a breadmaker to make bread
- use add_time to figure out when the bread will be done

PROBLEM: We do not deal with cases where the number of seconds or minutes adds up to more than sixty!



```
def add_time(t1, t2):
    h = t1.hours + t2.hours
    m = t1.minutes + t2.minutes
    s = t1.seconds + t2.seconds
    sum_t = MyTime(h, m, s)
    return sum_t
```

```
>>> current_time = MyTime(9, 14, 30)
>>> bread_time = MyTime(3, 35, 0)
>>> done_time = add_time(current_time, bread_time)
>>> print(done_time)
12:49:30
```

- There can be two versions of a function add_time, pure function or the modifier, which both calculate the sum of two MyTime objects
- Function that creates a new MyTime object and returns a reference to the new object is a pure function because it does not modify any of the objects passed to it as parameters and it has no side effects



```
def add time(t1, t2):
        h = t1.hours + t2.hours
        m = t1.minutes + t2.minutes
        s = t1.seconds + t2.seconds
        if s >= 60:
             s = 60
 9
            m += 1
10
11
        if m >= 60:
12
            m = 60
            h += 1
13
14
        sum t = MyTime(h, m, s)
15
16
        return sum t
```

PROBLEM: Do we now deal with cases where the number of seconds or minutes adds up to more than sixty?



EXAMPLE MYTIME – MODIFIERS

```
def increment(t, secs):
                                        def increment(t, seconds):
        t.seconds += secs
                                            t.seconds += seconds
        if t.seconds >= 60:
                                            while t.seconds >= 60:
            t.seconds -= 60
                                                t.seconds -= 60
            t.minutes += 1
                                                t.minutes += 1
         if t.minutes >= 60:
                                            while t.minutes >= 60:
            t.minutes -= 60
                                                t.minutes -= 60
10
            t.hours += 1
                                   10
                                                t.hours += 1
```

- It can be useful for a function to **modify** one or more of the objects it gets as parameters
- Usually, the caller keeps a reference to the objects it passes, so any changes the function are visible to the caller (modifier)
- Function increment, which adds a given number of seconds to a MyTime object, is a natural example of a modifier



EXAMPLE MYTIME – MODIFIERS

```
class MyTime:
         # Previous method definitions here...
        def increment(self, seconds):
 4
             self.seconds += seconds
             while self.seconds >= 60:
                 self.seconds -= 60
 9
                 self.minutes += 1
                                                      current time.increment(500)
10
11
             while self.minutes >= 60:
                 self.minutes -= 60
12
13
                 self.hours += 1
```

- **SOLUTION**: Include functions that work with MyTime objects into the MyTime class, i.e. conversion of the function **increment** to a method
- This conversion means moving the definition into the class and changing the name of the first parameter to **self**



EXAMPLE MYTIME – INSIGHT

```
class MyTime:

# ...

def to_seconds(self):

""" Return the number of seconds represented
by this instance

"""

return self.hours * 3600 + self.minutes * 60 + self.seconds
```

```
hrs = tsecs // 3600
leftoversecs = tsecs % 3600
mins = leftoversecs // 60
secs = leftoversecs % 60
```

- INSIGHT: MyTime object is actually a three-digit number in base 60!
- Another approach —convert the MyTime object into a single number instead, i.e. the method to_seconds can be added to the MyTime class to convert any instance into corresponding number of seconds



EXAMPLE MYTIME – INSIGHT

```
class MyTime:
       # ...
       def __init__(self, hrs=0, mins=0, secs=0):
            "" Create a new MyTime object initialized to hrs, mins, secs.
                The values of mins and secs may be outside the range 0-59,
               but the resulting MyTime object will be normalized.
10
           # Calculate total seconds to represent
           totalsecs = hrs*3600 + mins*60 + secs
11
12
           self.hours = totalsecs // 3600
                                                  # Split in h, m, s
           leftoversecs = totalsecs % 3600
1.3
14
            self.minutes = leftoversecs // 60
15
            self.seconds = leftoversecs % 60
```

- In OOP we wrap together the data and the operations
- Solution is to rewrite the class initializer so that it can cope with initial values of seconds or minutes that are outside the range of the normalized values (normalized time: 3 hours 12 minutes and 20 seconds; the same time but not normalized 2 hours 70 minutes and 140 seconds)



EXAMPLE MYTIME – SOLUTION

```
>>> t1 = MyTime(10, 55, 12)

>>> t2 = MyTime(10, 48, 22)

>>> after(t1, t2) # Is t1 after t2?

True
```

- The function after can be defined to compare two times and specify whether the first time is strictly after the second
- This solution is a bit more complicated because it operates on two MyTime objects not just one



EXAMPLE MYTIME – SOLUTION

```
class MyTime:
        # Previous method definitions here...
        def after(self, time2):
             """ Return True if I am strictly greater than time2 """
            if self.hours > time2.hours:
                 return True
            if self.hours < time2.hours:</pre>
9
                 return False
10
11
            if self.minutes > time2.minutes:
12
                 return True
13
            if self.minutes < time2.minutes:</pre>
14
                 return False
15
            if self.seconds > time2.seconds:
16
                 return True
17
18
            return False
                                      if current_time.after(done_time):
                                          print("The bread will be done before it starts!")
```

- **Lines 11-18** will only be reached if the two hour fields are the same.
- The test at **line 16** is only executed if both times have the same hours and the same minutes.



EXAMPLE MYTIME – SOLUTION

```
class MyTime:
    # Previous method definitions here...

def after(self, time2):
    """ Return True if I am strictly greater than time2 """
    return self.to_seconds() > time2.to_seconds()
```

- The whole example can be made easier using the previously discovered insight of converting the time into <u>single integer</u>!
- This is a great way to code this:
 If we want to tell if the first time is after the second time, turn them both into integers and compare the integers.



EXAMPLE MYTIME – OVERLOADING

```
class MyTime:
    # Previously defined methods here...

def __add__(self, other):
    return MyTime(0, 0, self.to_seconds() + other.to_seconds())
```

- Operator overloading: opens the possibility to have different meanings for the same operator when applied to different types
- EXAMPLE: the + in Python means quite different things for integers (addition) and for strings (concatenation)!
- To override the addition operator + provide a method named __add__



EXAMPLE MYTIME – OVERLOADING

```
class MyTime:
    # Previously defined methods here...

def __add__(self, other):
    return MyTime(0, 0, self.to_seconds() + other.to_seconds())
```

```
>>> t1 = MyTime(1, 15, 42)

>>> t2 = MyTime(3, 50, 30)

>>> t3 = t1 + t2

>>> print(t3)

05:06:12
```

- First parameter is the object on which the method is invoked
- Second parameter is named other to distinguish it from self
- To add two MyTime objects create and return a new MyTime object that contains their sum
- The expression t1 + t2 is equivalent to t1. __add__(t2)



```
class Point:
    # Previously defined methods here...

def __add__(self, other):
    return Point(self.x + other.x, self.y + other.y)
```

- **EXAMPLE**: back to the Point class adding two points adds their respective (x, y) coordinates
- There are several ways to override the behavior of the multiplication operator by defining a method named __mul__ or __rmul__ or both



```
def __mul__(self, other):
    return self.x * other.x + self.y * other.y

def __rmul__(self, other):
    return Point(other * self.x, other * self.y)
```

- If the left operand of * is a Point, Python invokes __mul__, which assumes
 that the other operand is also a Point
 (this computes the dot product of the two Points)
- If the left operand of * is a primitive type and the right operand is a Point,
 Python invokes __rmul__, which performs scalar multiplication
- The result is always a new Point whose coordinates are a multiple of the original coordinates



```
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)

>>> p2 = Point(5, 7)

>>> print(p1 * p2)

43

>>> print(2 * p2)

(10, 14)
```

PROBLEM: How is p2 * 2 evaluated?



```
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)

>>> p2 = Point(5, 7)

>>> print(p1 * p2)

43

>>> print(2 * p2)

(10, 14)
```

```
>>> print(p2 * 2)
AttributeError: 'int' object has no attribute 'x'
```

- PROBLEM: How is p2 * 2 evaluated?
- Since the first parameter is a Point, Python invokes __mul_
 with 2 as the second argument
- Inside __mul__, the program tries to access the x coordinate of other, which fails because an integer has no attributes



```
def front_and_back(front):
    import copy
back = copy.copy(front)
back.reverse()
print(str(front) + str(back))
```

```
>>> my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> front_and_back(my_list)
[1, 2, 3, 4][4, 3, 2, 1]
```

- EXAMPLE: front_and_back consider a function which prints a list twice: forward and backward
- The reverse method is a modifier therefore a copy needs to be made before applying it (this way we prevent to modify the list the function gets as a parameter!)
- Function that can take arguments with different types and handles them accordingly is called polymorphic



```
def multadd (x, y, z):
    return x * y + z

>>> multadd (3, 2, 1)
7
```

```
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)

>>> p2 = Point(5, 7)

>>> print(multadd (2, p1, p2))

(11, 15)

>>> print(multadd (p1, p2, 1))

44
```

- Polymorphism == ability to process objects differently based on data type
- There are certain operations that can be applied to many types, such as the arithmetic operations ...
- **EXAMPLE**: The **multadd** operation takes three parameters: multiplies the first two and then adds the third



```
def multadd (x, y, z):
    return x * y + z

>>> multadd (3, 2, 1)
7
```

```
>>> p1 = Point(3, 4)

>>> p2 = Point(5, 7)

>>> print(multadd (2, p1, p2))

(11, 15)

>>> print(multadd (p1, p2, 1))

44
```

- **EXAMPLE**: The **multadd** operation takes three parameters: multiplies the first two and then adds the third
- The first case: the Point is multiplied by a scalar and then added to another Point
- The second case: the dot product yields a numeric value, so the third parameter also has to be a numeric value



```
def reverse(self):
    (self.x , self.y) = (self.y, self.x)
```

```
>>> p = Point(3, 4)
>>> front_and_back(p)
(3, 4)(4, 3)
```

- Python's fundamental rule of polymorphism is called the duck typing rule: If all of the operations inside the function can be applied to the type, the function can be applied to the type.
- Operations in the front_and_back : copy, reverse, print
- EXAMPLE: What about our Point class?
 The copy method works on any object; already written
 a __str__ method for Point objects for the str() conversion,
 only the reverse method for the Point class is needed!



REFERENCES

This lecture re-uses selected parts of the OPEN BOOK PROJECT

Learning with Python 3 (RLE)

http://openbookproject.net/thinkcs/python/english3e/index.html available under **GNU Free Documentation License Version 1.3**

- Version date: October 2012
- by Peter Wentworth, Jeffrey Elkner, Allen B. Downey, and Chris Meyers
 (based on 2nd edition by Jeffrey Elkner, Allen B. Downey, and Chris Meyers)
- Source repository is at https://code.launchpad.net/~thinkcspy-rle-team/thinkcspy/thinkcspy3-rle
- For offline use, download a zip file of the html or a pdf version from http://www.ict.ru.ac.za/Resources/cspw/thinkcspy3/

This lecture re-uses selected parts of the PYTHON TEXTBOOK

Object-Oriented Programming in Python

http://python-textbok.readthedocs.io/en/1.0/Classes.html#

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