Objects
Announcements
Object-Oriented Programming
Object-Oriented Programming

A method for organizing programs

• Data abstraction
• Bundling together information and related behavior

A metaphor for computation using distributed state

• Each object has its own local state
• Each object also knows how to manage its own local state, based on method calls
• Method calls are messages passed between objects
• Several objects may all be instances of a common type
• Different types may relate to each other

Specialized syntax & vocabulary to support this metaphor
A class describes the general behavior of its instances

**Idea:** All bank accounts have a `balance` and an account `holder`; the `Account` class should add those attributes to each newly created instance

```python
>>> a = Account('Catherine')
>>> a.holder
'Catherine'
>>> a.balance
0

>>> a.deposit(15)
15
>>> a.withdraw(10)
5
>>> a.balance
5
>>> a.withdraw(10)
'Insufficient funds'
```

**Idea:** All bank accounts should have `withdraw` and `deposit` behaviors that all work in the same way

**Better idea:** All bank accounts share a `withdraw` method and a `deposit` method
Class Statements
A class statement creates a new class and binds that class to `<name>` in the first frame of the current environment.

Assignment & def statements in `<suite>` create attributes of the class (not names in frames).

```python
>>> class Clown:
...     nose = 'big and red'
...     def dance():
...         return 'No thanks'
... >>> Clown
<class '__main__.Clown'>
>>> Clown.nose
'big and red'
>>> Clown.dance()
'No thanks'
>>> Clown
<class '__main__.Clown'>
```
Object Construction

**Idea:** All bank accounts have a **balance** and an account **holder**; the **Account** class should add those attributes to each of its instances

```python
>>> a = Account('Catherine')
>>> a.holder
'Catherine'
>>> a.balance
0
```

When a class is called:

1. A new instance of that class is created:

2. The **__init__** method of the class is called with the new object as its first argument (named **self**), along with any additional arguments provided in the call expression

```python
class Account:
    def __init__(self, account_holder):
        self.balance = 0
        self.holder = account_holder
```

**__init__** is called a constructor
Object Identity

Every object that is an instance of a user-defined class has a unique identity:

```python
>>> a = Account('Alex')
>>> b = Account('Albert')
>>> a.balance
0
>>> b.holder
'Albert'
```

Identity operators "is" and "is not" test if two expressions evaluate to the same object:

```python
>>> a is a
True
>>> a is not b
True
```

Binding an object to a new name using assignment does not create a new object:

```python
>>> c = a
>>> c is a
True
```
Methods
Methods

Methods are functions defined in the suite of a class statement

```python
class Account:
    def __init__(self, account_holder):
        self.balance = 0
        self.holder = account_holder

    def deposit(self, amount):
        self.balance = self.balance + amount
        return self.balance

    def withdraw(self, amount):
        if amount > self.balance:
            return 'Insufficient funds'
        self.balance = self.balance - amount
        return self.balance
```

These `def` statements create function objects as always, but their names are bound as attributes of the class.

`self` should always be bound to an instance of the Account class.
Invoking Methods

All invoked methods have access to the object via the self parameter, and so they can all access and manipulate the object's state.

class Account:
    ...
    def deposit(self, amount):
        self.balance = self.balance + amount
        return self.balance

Dot notation automatically supplies the first argument to a method.

```python
>>> tom_account = Account('Tom')
>>> tom_account.deposit(100)
100
```
Dot Expressions

Objects receive messages via dot notation

Dot notation accesses attributes of the instance or its class

\(<expression>.<name>\)

The \(<expression>\) can be any valid Python expression

The \(<name>\) must be a simple name

Evaluates to the value of the attribute looked up by \(<name>\) in the object that is the value of the \(<expression>\)
Attributes

(Demo)
Accessing Attributes

Using `getattr`, we can look up an attribute using a string

```python
>>> getattr(tom_account, 'balance')
10

>>> hasattr(tom_account, 'deposit')
True
```

`getattr` and dot expressions look up a name in the same way.

Looking up an attribute name in an object may return:

- One of its instance attributes, or
- One of the attributes of its class
Methods and Functions

Python distinguishes between:

• *Functions*, which we have been creating since the beginning of the course, and
• *Bound methods*, which couple together a function and the object on which that method will be invoked

Object + Function = Bound Method

```python
>>> type(Account.deposit)
<class 'function'>
>>> type(tom_account.deposit)
<class 'method'>

>>> Account.deposit(tom_account, 1001)
1011
>>> tom_account.deposit(1008)
2019
```

*Function*: all arguments within parentheses  

*Method*: One object before the dot and other arguments within parentheses
Looking Up Attributes by Name

To evaluate a dot expression:

1. Evaluate the `<expression>` to the left of the dot, which yields the object of the dot expression

2. `<name>` is matched against the instance attributes of that object; if an attribute with that name exists, its value is returned

3. If not, `<name>` is looked up in the class, which yields a class attribute value

4. That value is returned unless it is a function, in which case a bound method is returned instead
Class Attributes

Class attributes are "shared" across all instances of a class because they are attributes of the class, not the instance.

```python
class Account:
    interest = 0.02  # A class attribute

    def __init__(self, account_holder):
        self.balance = 0
        self.holder = account_holder

    # Additional methods would be defined here
```

The `interest` attribute is _not_ part of the instance; it's part of the class!

```python
>>> tom_account = Account('Tom')
>>> amy_account = Account('Amy')
>>> tom_account.interest
0.02
>>> amy_account.interest
0.02
```