# Software Engineering – Architectures, Designs, and Code

#### L01 on Coding

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Location of the material:

https://github.com/GiancarloSucci/UniBo.SE.A2023



### Structure of the Part on Coding

- Part 0:
  - Revision of the strategy pattern in Java (and, a very little bit, on C++)
- Part 1:
  - Introduction on Python as a self-proclaimed multiparadigm language
- Part 2:
  - Patterns in Python with an eye on ChatGPT and around



### Caveat on Python (1/2)

- Here we will reflect on the concepts we saw on architecture and design looking at the code
- We will focus on a concrete example, which could be used also in the overall course
- We will see many examples of code
- Also very detailed, step-by-step examples
- Our focus will be on the software engineering side, though
- That is in understanding why and how people achieved what they achieved
  - not on hacking solutions



### Caveat on Python (2/2)

- The most liked programming languages by the instructor
  - 1. C++
  - 2. C
  - 3. Java
  - 4. Haskell
  - 5. SmallTalk
  - 6. ...
  - o . . .
  - n-1. ...
  - n. Python
- We use Python because it is becoming a standard
- But we start with a mention of the ancestor



#### Python for our purposes

- About the language
- Structure of the execution of Python
- Virtual Environment



#### About the language

- Origin and principles of the language
- Fundamental syntax
- Structure of execution
- String formatting
- Object orientation
- Polymorphism and late binding
- Functions as objects
- Decorators
- Static members
- Structure of the virtual machine



#### Origin of the language

- The language was conceived by Guido van Rossum at CWI in the '80s, got its first implementation in the early '90, and then was modified and upgraded multiple times
- The latest stable version of Python (at the time of writing these slides) is 3.11.5, released on 5th October 2022
- The language is releases in a "kind of" open source license, the Python Software Foundation License but there are debates about it
- Apparently, Python comes from ABC and SETL (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\_of\_Python)
- The instructor sees a strong resemblance of SmallTalk (see the references below)

#### References:

- Python vs. Smalltalk: from StackOverflow and from Medium.
- About Python in wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Python\_(programming\_language), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\_of\_Python and related pages



#### Principles of the language

- Multiparadigm (scripting, imperative, object oriented, and functional)
- Dynamically typed
- Garbage collected
- "Batteries included"
- Based on a virtual machine ("kind of" interpreted)
- References:
  - $\verb| About Python in wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Python_(programming_language)| \\$



### The Zen of Python (1/2)

#### • By Tim Peters

- 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.
- Unless explicitly silenced.

#### References:

About the Zen of Python in wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zen\_of\_Python



### The Zen of Python (2/2)

#### By Tim Peters

- 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!

#### References:

About the Zen of Python in wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zen\_of\_Python



### Multiparadigm

- We will now explore Python in its 4 paradigms
  - Scripting
  - Imperative
  - Functional
  - Object Oriented
- With such an approach we will cycle over the syntax and the semantics of the language to get a comprehensive view of it and revising the fundamental principles of software engineering



### Python as a scripting language



# Scripting (1/3)

- Install the Python interpreter: multiple options including
  - Mac: see the guidelines in Pip Upgrade And How to Update Pip and Python
  - Windows: like here: pyenv for Windows
- Open the Python interpreter ...
- ... and try :)
- Analysing the scripting perspective of Python exposes us to the fundamental control structures
  - variables, if, blocks via indentation, while, for, collections, iterations



# Scripting (2/3)



# Scripting (3/3)

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/interpreter.html



#### Indentation

• If I forget the indentation ...

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/interpreter.html



#### Dynamic Typing

• Typing is dynamic and enforced ...



#### Math

• Mathematics follows mostly the usual approaches ...

```
% python3.11
>>> 3+4
>>> 6-3.4
2.6
>>> 4*7.0
28.0
>>> 7/3
2.33333333333333335
>>> 7//3
2
>>> 7%3
>>> 7**3
343
>>> 3 +
346
>>>
```



#### Strings (1/2)

• Strings are a bit more peculiar ...

```
>>> x='strings can be single quoted '
>>> y="or double quoted "
>>> x + y + "and joined with + "
'strings can be single quoted or double quoted and joined with + '
>>>
>>> z=''' strings can span
   multiple lines using triple
... quotes,,,
>>> z
' strings can span\nmultiple lines using triple\n\nquotes'
>>> print(z)
strings can span
multiple lines using triple
quotes
>>>
```



### Strings (2/2)

• Strings are a bit more peculiar ...

```
>>> w='And I can add \n special chars like in C, which are printed using print'
>>> 147
'And I can add \n special chars like in C, which are printed using print'
>>> print(w)
And I can add
special chars like in C, which are printed using print
>>> c='concatenation ' 'is done just sequencing strings '
>>> c
'concatenation is done just sequencing strings'
>>> c ' but not using variables'
 File "<stdin>", line 1
    c ' but not using variables'
SvntaxError: invalid svntax
>>> 2*' and the n* operator repeats the string n times'
' and the n* operator repeats the string n times and the n* operator repeats the
     string n times'
```



#### Indexing Strings (1/2)

• Strings can be indexed ...

```
>>> e='My Example of Python'
>>> e[0]
'M'
>>> e[19]
'n,
>>> e[20]
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
IndexError: string index out of range
>>> e[-1]
'n,
>>> e[-19]
, y,
>>> e[-20]
, M,
>>> e[3:5]
'Ex'
>>> e[-4:-1]
'tho'
```



#### Indexing Strings (2/2)

- Ranges are start-included, end-excluded ...
- Slicing can include the step as third parameter

```
>>> e[0:3]
'My '
>>> e[11:]
'of Python'
>>> e[:11]+e[11:]
'My Example of Python'
>>> e[2:10:2]
' xml'
>>> e[::2]
'M xml fPto'
>>> e[::-1]
'nohtyP fo elpmaxE yM'
```



#### More on Strings

#### • Strings are immutable

```
>>> e[0]='T'
Traceback (most recent call last):
   File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: 'str' object does not support item assignment
>>> w = 'T' + e[1:]
>>> w
'Ty Example of Python'
>>>
```

#### • Length of a string

```
>>> len(w)
20
>>> len("123")
3
```



#### Collections

- Python does not have arrays
- Python has 4 basic collection types, partly with syntax similar to that of strings:
  - Lists: ordered, mutable collections with duplicates
  - Tuples: ordered, immutable collection with duplicates
  - Sets: unordered collection, without duplications, whose members are immutable
  - Dictionaries: ordered, mutable collections without duplicates

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_tuples.asp



### Lists (1/8)

• List are ordered collections of elements, with a syntax resembling that of strings

```
>>> odd = [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
>>> odd
[1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
>>> odd[0]
1
>>> odd[4]
>>> odd[-1]
>>> odd[-5]
1
>>> odd[1:3]
[3, 5]
>>> odd[:2]+odd[2:]
[1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
>>> len(odd)
5
```



### Lists (2/8)

• List are mutable, append-able, slice-able

```
>>> odd[2]=20
>>> odd
[1, 3, 20, 7, 9]
>>> odd.append(11)
>>> odd
[1, 3, 20, 7, 9, 11]
>>> odd[3:5]=[100,200,300]
>>> odd
[1, 3, 20, 100, 200, 300, 11]
>>> odd[1:3] = []
>>> odd
[1, 100, 200, 300, 11]
>>> odd[:] = []
>>> odd
```



### Lists (3/8)

• List are nestable and heterogeneous

```
>>> a = [1,2,3]
>>> b = [10,20]
>>> c = [90, 800, -34]
>>> n = [a, b, c]
>>> n
[[1, 2, 3], [10, 20], [90, 800, -34]]
>>> n[2][1]
800
>>> z = [1, "xxx", 3]
>>> z
[1, 'xxx', 3]
>>> z[1]
'xxx'
```



# Lists (4/8)

#### • Copy of references

```
>>> x = [1, 2, 3, 4]

>>> y = x

>>> y[2]=200

>>> x

[1, 2, 200, 4]
```

 $Source: \ \mathtt{https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/copy-python-deep-copy-shallow-copy/}$ 



# Lists (5/8)

#### • Shallow copies

```
>>> w = x.copy()
>>> w[1]=350
>>> w
[1, 350, 200, 4]
>>> x
[1, 2, 200, 4]
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/copy-python-deep-copy-shallow-copy/



### Lists (6/8)

#### • Shallow copies (more)

```
>>> z = [11,22,33]
>>> k = [121, 132, 143, 154]
>>> j = [z,k]
>>> j
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 132, 143, 154]]
>>> i = j.copv()
>>> k[1] = 222
>>> i
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 222, 143, 154]]
>>> i[0] = [5, 8, 13]
>>> k[1] = 222
>>> i
[[5, 8, 13], [121, 222, 143, 154]]
>>> j
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 222, 143, 154]]
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/copy-python-deep-copy-shallow-copy/



# Lists (7/8)

#### Deep copies

```
>>> j
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 222, 143, 154]]
>>> import copy
>>> dc = copy.deepcopy(j)
>>> k[1] = 423
>>> j
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 423, 143, 154]]
>>> dc
[[11, 22, 33], [121, 222, 143, 154]]
```

#### Membership

```
>>> aList = [1, 2, 3, 5, 0, 9, 0, 7, 1, 5]
>>> 3 in aList
True
>>> 12 in aList
False
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/copy-python-deep-copy-shallow-copy/



### Lists (8/8)

#### Deletion

```
\Rightarrow aList = [1, 2, 3, 5, 0, 9, 0, 7, 1, 5]
>>> aList.pop(2)
3
>>> aList
[1, 2, 5, 0, 9, 0, 7, 1, 5]
>>> aList.pop(-3)
7
>>> aList
[1, 2, 5, 0, 9, 0, 1, 5]
>>> aList.remove(5)
>>> aList
[1, 2, 0, 9, 0, 1, 5]
>>> del aList[1]
>>> aList
[1, 0, 9, 0, 1, 5]
>>> aList.clear()
>>> aList
```

Source: https://note.nkmk.me/en/python-list-clear-pop-remove-del//



#### Tuples (1/5)

• Tuples are ordered, immutable collections of elements, with syntax resembling arrays

```
>>> aTuple=("touple", 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], "start")
>>> aTuple
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start')
>>> aTuple[0]
'touple'
>>> aTuple[-1]
'start'
>>> aTuple[2:]
(9, [10, 2, 3], 'start')
>>> aTuple[1] = "tryToChange"
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
>>> aTuple.append(3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'append'
```



### Tuples (2/5)

#### • Tuples are immutable!

```
>>> anAlias=aTuple
>>> aTuple = aTuple + (1, 2, 3)
>>> aTuple
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start', 1, 2, 3)
>>> anAlias
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start')
>>> aTuple = aTuple + (3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: can only concatenate tuple (not "int") to tuple
>>> aTuple = aTuple + (3,)
>>> aTuple
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start', 1, 2, 3, 3)
>>> len(aTuple)
9
>>> 2 in aTuple
True
>>> 12 not in aTuple
True
```



#### Tuples (3/5)

• Tuples are immutable ... but be careful of references!

```
>>> a = [3.4.5]
>>> b=(a,6)
>>> h
([3, 4, 5], 6)
>>> a[0]=1
>>> h
([1, 4, 5], 6)
>>> c = b
>>> a[1]=10
>>> h
([1, 10, 5], 6)
>>> c
([1, 10, 5], 6)
>>> c = b.copy()
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'copy'
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_tuples.asp/



#### Tuples (4/5)

• Tuples are immutable ... but be careful of references!

```
>>> import copy
>>> d = copy.deepcopy(b)
>>> d
([1, 10, 5], 6)
>>> a[2]=8
>>> b
([1, 10, 8], 6)
>>> c
([1, 10, 8], 6)
>>> d
([1, 10, 5], 6)
>>> d
([1, 10, 5], 6)
>>> d
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_tuples.asp/



### Tuples (5/5)

#### Shortcuts and conversions.

```
>>> anAlias=aTuple
>>> aTuple += (55,)
>>> aTuple
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start', 1, 2, 3, 3, 55)
>>> anAlias
('touple', 2, 9, [10, 2, 3], 'start', 1, 2, 3, 3)
>>> aList = [1, 2, 3]
>>> aConvertedTuple = tuple(aList)
>>> aList
[1, 2, 3]
>>> aConvertedTuple
(1, 2, 3)
>>> aList[2]=5
>>> aList
[1, 2, 5]
>>> aConvertedTuple
(1, 2, 3)
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_tuples\_update.asp/



# Sets (1/3)

• Sets are unordered collections without duplicates whose elements cannot change

```
>>> aSet = {1, 2, "red"}
>>> aSet
{1, 2, 'red'}
>>> anotherSet = {3, 4, "green", 4, "green"}
>>> anotherSet
{3, 4, 'green'}
>>> 1 in aSet
True
>>> "green" in aSet
False
>>> "green" in anotherSet
True
>>> oneIsLikeTrue = { 1, True, "green"}
>>> oneTsLikeTrue
{1. 'green'}
>>> len(oneIsLikeTrue)
2
```



# Sets (2/3)

```
>>> aThirdSet = aSet | anotherSet
>>> aThirdSet
{1, 2, 3, 4, 'green', 'red'}
>>> aFourthSet = aThirdSet & {2, 3, 200, 'green'}
>>> aFourthSet
{2, 3, 'green'}
>>>
>>> aSetFromAList = set([9, 8, 7])
>>> aSetFromAList
{8, 9, 7}
>>> aSetFromATuple = set((6, 5, 4))
>>> aSetFromATuple
\{4, 5, 6\}
>>> aSetFromATuple + aSetFromAList
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>". line 1. in <module>
TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for +: 'set' and 'set'
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_sets.asp/



# Sets (3/3)

• Mutable elements like lists, the same sets, and dictionaries cannot be part of sets

```
>>> a = \{3, 1, 5, 4\}
>>> b = [10, 11, 12]
>>> a.add(b)
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: unhashable type: 'list'
>>> c = (10, 11, 12)
>>> a.add(c)
>>> a
\{1, 3, 4, 5, (10, 11, 12)\}
>>> d = \{3, 4, 1\}
>>> a.add(d)
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: unhashable type: 'set'
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_sets.asp/



### Dictionaries (1/2)

• Dictionaries are ordered collections of pair (key:value), indexed by key, where each key can appear only once

```
>>> aDictionary = { "breed": "Dog", "weight": 8, "name": "Deimon", "age": 3}
>>> aDictionary
{'breed': 'Dog', 'weight': 8, 'name': 'Deimon', 'age': 3}
>>> aDictionary["breed"]
'Dog'
>>> len(aDictionary)
>>> aDictionary.keys()
dict_keys(['breed', 'weight', 'name', 'age'])
>>> aDictionary.values()
dict_values(['Dog', 8, 'Deimon', 3])
>>> aDictionary.update({"weight":7.5,"color":"blenheim"})
>>> aDictionary
{'breed': 'Dog', 'weight': 7.5, 'name': 'Deimon', 'age': 3, 'color': 'blenheim'}
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_dictionaries.asp/



# Dictionaries (2/2)

• Dictionaries can be largely manipulated

```
>>> aDictionary.popitem()
('color', 'blenheim')
>>> aDictionary
{'breed': 'Dog', 'weight': 7.5, 'name': 'Deimon', 'age': 3}
>>> aDictionary.pop('weight')
7.5
>>> aDictionary
{'breed': 'Dog', 'name': 'Deimon', 'age': 3}
>>> del aDictionary["age"]
>>> aDictionary
{'breed': 'Dog', 'name': 'Deimon'}
```

Source: https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_dictionaries\_remove.asp/



### The range function

- The range function is used to generate lists of numbers for iterations
- It returns a range object, which could then be converted in a list for printing

```
>>> list(range(3))
[0, 1, 2]
>>> list(range(-4, 5))
[-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> list(range(2, 20, 3))
[2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17]
>>> list(range(2, 20, 7))
[2, 9, 16]
>>> list(range(0))
П
>>> range(4.3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: 'float' object cannot be interpreted as an integer
```



#### Control flow - if

• The if statement is all based on indentation

```
>>> import math
>>> a = 4
>>> b = 5
>>> c = -1
>>> delta = b**2 - 4*a*c
>>> if delta > 0:
   x1 = (-b - math.sqrt(delta))/(2*a)
x2 = (-b + math.sqrt(delta))/(2*a)
... elif delta == 0:
        x1 = x2 = -b / (2*a)
... else:
        x1 = complex(-b, math.sqrt(-delta)/(2*a))
        x2 = complex(-b, math.sqrt(-delta)/(2*a))
>>> x1
-1.425390529679106
>>> x2
0.17539052967910607
>>>
```



#### Control flow - while

• The while statement is the typical top-tested loop based on indentation

```
>>> i = 5
>>> factorial = 1
>>> while i > 1:
... factorial *= i
... i -= 1
... else:
... print("the result is ",factorial)
...
the result is 120
>>>
```

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/controlflow.html/



### Flow in loops

- Python has three construct to manage the flow in loops:
  - break: like in C and Java breaks the loop (the else statement is not executed)
  - continue: like in C and Java, suspends the current iteration and jumps directly to the next one
  - pass: absent in C and Java, moves to the next block
- Now we analyse in details the following snippets

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/controlflow.html/



#### break and continue

```
i = 0
print("break")
while i in range(10):
   i += 1
    if i == 5:
       print("i is 5!")
       break
        print("break: I should not get here!")
    print("Standard printout for iteration ",i)
else:
    print("End of loop break")
i = 0
print("continue")
while i in range(10):
   i += 1
   if i == 5:
       print("i is 5!")
        continue
        print("continue: I should not get here!")
    print("Standard printout for iteration ",i)
else:
    print("End of loop continue")
```





```
i = 0
print("pass")
while i in range(10):
    i += 1
    if i == 5:
        print("i is 5!")
        pass
        print("pass: I should not get here!")
    print("Standard printout for iteration ",i)
else:
    print("End of loop pass")
```



# Output (1/2)

```
break
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration 3
Standard printout for iteration 4
i is 5!
continue
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration 3
Standard printout for iteration 4
i is 5!
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration 7
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration
Standard printout for iteration 10
End of loop continue
```



# Output (2/2)

```
pass
Standard printout for iteration 1
Standard printout for iteration 2
Standard printout for iteration 3
Standard printout for iteration 4
i is 5!
pass: I should not get here!
Standard printout for iteration 5
Standard printout for iteration 6
Standard printout for iteration 7
Standard printout for iteration 7
Standard printout for iteration 8
Standard printout for iteration 9
Standard printout for iteration 9
Standard printout for iteration 10
End of loop pass
```



### iterator (1/2)

- This is a case when superclasses are very useful
- iterator is a class supporting iterations over collections, that is, referring to a collection of objects, sequentializing and indexing them, and with a method \_\_next\_\_() that:
  - returns one by one the elements of the object
  - updaties the state of the iterator so that it always refers to *next* element in the sequence
  - raises an exception StopIteration when there are no more elements to point to
- Please notice the mix of scripting and object orientation

Source: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/9884132/what-are-iterator-iterable-and-iteration#:~:
text=An%20iterable%20is%20a%20object,\_\_next\_\_()%20in%203/



### iterator (2/2)

```
>>> string = "iter"
>>> stringIterator = iter(string)
>>> next(stringIterator)
1;1
>>> next(stringIterator)
11.
>>> stringIterator.__next__()
, ,
>>> stringIterator.__next__()
'r'
>>> stringIterator.__next__()
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
StopIteration
>>>
```

Source: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/9884132/what-are-iterator-iterable-and-iteration#:~:
text=An%20iterable%20is%20a%20object,\_\_next\_\_()%20in%203/



#### iterable

- An iterable is the base class for anything that can be iterated over
- It has a method \_\_iter\_\_() that returns an iterator
- This is also what is done by the global function iter() (see slide ??)
- Notice the duality global functions and member functions, like for the global function next() and member function \_next\_\_()
- The duality iterable iterator is heavily used in for loops, list comprehension etc (see later)

```
>>> string = "iter"
>>> stringIterator = string.__iter__()
>>> next(stringIterator)
'i'
```

 $Source: \ https://stackoverflow.com/questions/9884132/what-are-iterator-iterable-and-iteration$ 



### for loop

- The for loop in Python iterates over an iterator
- At every step in the loop there is an implicit call to the \_next\_\_() member function of the iterator
- At the last step there is an implicit catch of the StopIteration exception
- else, break, continue, and pass work like in a while loop

```
>>> string = "iter"
>>> for i in string:
...    print(i)
... else:
...    print("end of string")
...
i
t
e
r
end of string
```



### Command line (1/2)

- Command line arguments work like in Java with argv
- In addition there is the function getopt that helps parsing the arguments one by one

```
import sys, getopt
print("Argument line: ",sys.argv)
print("Number of arguments: ",len(sys.argv))
i = 0
for arg in sys.argv:
        print("argument ",i," : ",arg)
        i += 1
options, arguments = getopt.getopt(sys.argv[1:],"nh:o:")
for opt, val in options:
        if opt=="-h" : print ("Help: ",val)
        elif opt=="-o" : print ("Other: ",val)
        elif opt=="-n" : print ("n means ", end=""); print("\t no arguments")
        else : print(opt, " and ", val, " are not acceptable")
print("The other arguments are ", arguments)
```

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/library/getopt.html



### Command line (2/2)

#### • The output is:

```
% python3 commandLine.py -o xxx -h help -n a b c
Argument line: ['commandLine.py', '-o', 'xxx', '-h', 'help', '-n', 'a', 'b', 'c
Number of arguments: 9
argument 0 : commandLine.py
argument 1 : -o
argument 2 : xxx
argument 3 : -h
argument 4 : help
argument 5 : -n
argument 6 : a
argument 7 : b
argument 8 : c
Other: xxx
Help: help
n means no arguments
The other arguments are ['a', 'b', 'c']
```

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/library/getopt.html



### Python as an imperative language



### Functions (1/4)

 In Python there are functions with parameters and return values

```
# exampleFunction.py
import math
def secondOrderEquation(a, b= 3, c= 0.5):
  delta = b*2 - 4*a*c
  x1 = (-b - math.sqrt(delta))/(2*a)
  x2 = (-b + math.sqrt(delta))/(2*a)
  return a. b. c. x1. x2
print(secondOrderEquation(1, 6, 1))
print(secondOrderEquation(1, 6))
print(secondOrderEquation(1))
print(secondOrderEquation(1, c=-1))
% python3 exampleFunction.py
(1, 6, 1, -4.414213562373095, -1.5857864376269049)
(1, 6, 0.5, -4.58113883008419, -1.4188611699158102)
(1, 3, 0.5, -2.5, -0.5)
(1, 3, -1, -3.08113883008419, 0.08113883008418976)
```



### Functions (2/4)

- Parameters are all passed by values and values can be references, as in Java
- But there are mutable and immutable objects!
- Functions can be parameters of other functions

```
# higherOrder.py
def apply(f,a):
  return f(a)
def increment(x):
  return x+1
def square(x):
  return x**2
def main():
  x = apply(increment,3)
  y = apply(square,4)
  print(x, y)
if __name__ == "__main__":
  main()
% python3 higherOrder.py
4 16
```



### Functions (3/4)

- There are anonymous functions
- They are called lambda as they resemble lambda expressions

```
# exampleLambda.py
def apply(f,a):
    return f(a)
def main():
    x = apply(lambda x: x+1,3)
    y = apply(lambda x: x**2,4)
    print(x, y)
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
% python3 higherOrder.py
4 16
```



# Functions (4/4)

- There is a kind of main function
- Every module has an internal variable, \_\_name\_\_
  - this value is set to \_\_main\_\_ if the module is the one invoked directly in the command line
- Otherwise, it is set to the *name of the module*, that is, the name of the file without the suffix .py
- There is a convention to call a function main() as the first function to be executed by a module that is directly called in the command line

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```



#### Nested functions

• Functions can be nested, like in Pascal

```
# nested.py
def outer(x):
  v = 10
  def inner(z):
     return z + y
  w = inner(x)
  return w
if __name__ == "__main__":
  print(outer(3))
% python3 nested.py
13
```



# Scoping rules (1/5)

- LEGB scoping
  - Local
  - Enclosing
  - Global
  - Builtin
- The keyword global declares a variable as global
- The keyword nonlocal declares a local variable in an inner scope associated to the outer scope



# Scoping rules (2/5)

- Without a global or a nonlocal declaration:
  - if a variable is initialized with a name already used in an outer scope, then it is treated as a new local variable, which then hides the global one
  - if a variable is used with a name already used in an outer scope, but
    - then if its value is then changed inside the scope
    - an error is raised, as
    - it is treated as a local variable that previously was used without being initialized.



# Scoping rules (3/5)

```
# scoping.py
x = 5
def testScope(a):
    y = x + a
    global z
    z = y + 1
    return y + z
def main():
    print (testScope(5) + z)
if __name__ == "__main__" :
    main()
% python3 scoping.py
32
```



# Scoping rules (4/5)

```
# nonLocalScoping.py
x = 1; y = 2; w = 3; z = 4
def testScope():
  v = 20; w = 30; k = z;
  def testInnerScope():
     w = 300
     global x
     nonlocal v
     x = 100; y = 200; z = 400
     print("testInnerScope: x=",x,",y=",y,",w=",w,",z=",z)
  testInnerScope()
  print("testScope: x=",x,",y=",y,",w=",w,",z=",z)
def main() :
  testScope()
  print("main: x=",x,", y=",y,", w=",w,", z=",z)
if name == " main ":
  main()
% python3.11 nonLocalScoping.py
testInnerScope: x= 100 ,y= 200 ,w= 300 ,z= 400
testScope: x = 100, y = 200, w = 30, z = 4
main: x = 100, y = 2, w = 3, z = 4
```



# Scoping rules (5/5)

```
# simpleScopingError.py
x = 1
v = 2
z = 3
w = 0
def testScope():
  global x
  v = 4
  z = 5 + w
  global z
  w = -1
def main() :
  print("in main x =",x,", y =",y)
global z
SyntaxError: name 'z' is assigned to before global declaration
z = 5 + w
UnboundLocalError: cannot access local variable 'w' where it is not associated
    with a value
```



# Default parameters as static (1/3)

- Default parameters are evaluated only once, at the first call
  - they are like static local variables in C
  - normally objects are immutable
  - but when objects are mutable something unexpected may happen



### Default parameters as static (2/3)

```
# defaultParametersStatic.py
def f(a=[50]):
  global i
   print("Call ", i, "At the beginning of f a is:",a)
  a[0] +=1
  print("At the end of f a is:",a)
  i+=1
def main():
  x = [2]
  print("Before the first call to f x is: ",x)
  f(x)
  print("After the first call to f x is: ",x)
  f()
  print("After the second call to f x is: ",x)
  f()
  print("Before the third call to f x is: ",x)
  f(x)
  print("Before the third call to f x is: ",x)
if __name__=="__main__":
  main()
```



### Default parameters as static (3/3)

```
% python3.11 defaultParametersStatic.py
Before the first call to f x is: [2]
Call 1 At the beginning of f a is: [2]
At the end of f a is: [3]
After the first call to f x is: [3]
Call 2 At the beginning of f a is: [50]
At the end of f a is: [51]
After the second call to f x is: [3]
Call 3 At the beginning of f a is: [51]
At the end of f a is: [52]
Before the third call to f x is: [3]
Call 4 At the beginning of f a is: [3]
At the end of f a is: [4]
Before the third call to f x is: [4]
```



# Modules (1/3)

- Python structure the code quite like C
- Every file is a module
  - the name of the module is the name of the file without the extension .py
  - it is stored in the variable \_\_name\_\_
  - such name is changed to \_\_main\_\_ if the module is the one directly invoked
- A module is an object in Python

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/modules.html



# Modules (2/3)

- To access the module you need to specify the instruction import amodule
  - where amodule.py is the file where the module is located
  - such file must reside in a location specified by the environmental variable PYTHONPATH
  - and any name to use from such module has to be prefixed by the name of the module
  - that is, to use function goofy(), the full name amodule.goofy() must be specified

 $Source: \ \texttt{https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/modules.html}$ 



# Modules (3/3)

- To load the names of the module inside the current namespace: from amodule import goofy
- To import all the names inside amodule.py: from amodule import \*, in which case only the names starting with an \_ will not be directly accessible
  - in this way it is possible just to call goophy()
- Be careful, but is also possible to rename an entity or module as
  - import amodule as unmodulo, leading to calls like unmodulo.goophy() or even
  - from amodule import goofy as pippo, leading to calls like amodule.pippo()

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/modules.html



### Namespaces

- A namespace is the set of all names associated to objects visible at a certain time and place
- The current namespace is accessible with the instruction dir()
- It is also possible to view the namespace of a specific module with dir(amodule)

Source: https://py-pkgs.org/04-package-structure.html



# Packages (1/2)

- A package is a collection of modules
- From a system viewpoint, a package is a directory:
  - inside the list specified by sys.path
  - with a \_\_init\_\_.py file, which can also be empty but must exist
- From an internal perspective, a package is a module object
- The import statement applies for packages like for modules
- A subpackage is a directory of a (sub)packages with a with a \_\_init\_\_.py file
- The . separates a package from subpackages and modules

Source: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4881897/python-project-and-package-directories-layout and https://py-pkgs.org/04-package-structure.html



# Packages (2/2)

- When a package is loaded, its \_\_init\_\_.py is executed
- It acts as a kind of constructor of the package
- packages can contain references to other packages using absolute or relative paths
- using relative paths
  - the . refers to the current directory
  - the .. refers to the parent directory

Source: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4881897/python-project-and-package-directories-layout and https://py-pkgs.org/04-package-structure.html



# Importing elements (1/3)

- import is the statement defines the connection between the current module to the one containing the entities we are interested
- when the statement import A is executed:
  - the runtime looks for
    - a file named A.py (a module) or
    - a directory named A with a file \_\_init\_\_.py (a packages)

in a list of directories specified in the sys.path variable

- if the results is a module, then the names inside it become visible
- if the result is a package, then the names inside it become visible and \_\_init\_\_.py is executed

Source: https://chrisyeh96.github.io/2017/08/08/definitive-guide-python-imports.html



# Importing elements (2/3)

- The import directive has many variants
  - o import <module or package>
  - o from <package> import <module or (sub)package or object>
  - o from <module> import <object>
- in Python functions are objects!
- The structure of the naming after an import of X is:
  - if X is a module or a package:
    - X.entity
  - if X is a variable:
    - X is used as is

Source: https://chrisyeh96.github.io/2017/08/08/definitive-guide-python-imports.html



### Importing elements (3/3)

- if X is a function:
  - the invocation is X()
- ullet The imported entity can be renamed placing after the  ${\tt import}$  X directive the  ${\tt as}$  Y
  - That is:
    - o import <module or package> as Y
    - o from <package> import <module or (sub)package or object> as Y
    - o from <module> import <object> as Y
- From such point on, Y must be used instead of X

Source: https://chrisyeh96.github.io/2017/08/08/definitive-guide-python-imports.html



### Python as a functional language

- Already covered
- Lambda expressions
- Some kind of referential transparency
  - Immutable objects
  - Unchangeable (by default) global variables inside local scopes



# About overloading of functions (1/3)

- In Python there is not a full overloading of functions as we know it in Java or C++
- If we define multiple times a function, only its latest definition will be used

```
>>> def f(a):
...     return a
>>> f(3)
3
>>> def f(a,b):
...     return (a,b)
>>> f(3,4)
(3, 4)
>>> f(3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
    File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: f() missing 1 required positional argument: 'b'
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/python-method-overloading/



# About overloading of functions (2/3)

- The standard way to do it is via classes (see later)
- Default parameters may help
- They can be coupled with a defaulting to None
- Or we can use "decorators" (also explained later) but with care
- To use the required decorator we first need to install the suitable package multipledispatch

```
% pip3 install multipledispatch
Collecting multipledispatch
Downloading multipledispatch-1.0.0-py3-none-any.whl.metadata (3.8 kB)
Downloading multipledispatch-1.0.0-py3-none-any.whl (12 kB)
Installing collected packages: multipledispatch
Successfully installed multipledispatch-1.0.0
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/python-method-overloading/



# About overloading of functions (3/3)

```
>>> from multipledispatch import dispatch
>>> @dispatch(int)
... def f(a):
      return a
>>> @dispatch(int, int)
... def f(a,b):
... return a+b
>>> f(3.4)
>>> f(3)
>>> def f(a,b):
... return a-b
>>> f(3.4)
-1
>>> f(3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
 File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: f() missing 1 required positional argument: 'b'
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/python-method-overloading/



#### Functions are first class citizens

```
>>> def aFunction(a):
      return a+1
>>> aFunction(3)
4
>>> x = aFunction
>>> x(3)
4
>>> 1 = [x, aFunction, 88, "bye"]
>>> 1[0]
<function aFunction at 0x100ff0d60>
>>> 1[1]
<function aFunction at 0x100ff0d60>
>>> 1[2]
88
>>> 1[3]
'bye'
>>> type(x)
<class 'function'>
```

Source: https://realpython.com/python-functional-programming/



#### Functions as parameters

- There are also predefined functions for this, such as map, filter, and reduce, which are used with the *map-reduce* pattern present in big data
- map returns an iterator

```
>>> def apply(f,x):
...     return f(x)
>>> def incr(x):
...     return x+1
...
>>> apply(incr,3)
4
>>> x = map(incr,[1,2,3,4])
>>> x
<map object at 0x100b9bf40>
>>> list(x)
[2, 3, 4, 5]
```

Source: https://realpython.com/python-functional-programming/



### map plays a pivotal role

- It may take a different form using polymorphism
- Notice the polymorphic structure of the operator +
- map can be computed in constant time if there are enough processors, also taking advantage of a data-parallel approach

```
>>> def f(a,b,c):
... return a+b+c
>>> f(1,2,3)
6
>>> f("a","b","c")
'abc'
>>> list(map(f,["a","b","c","d"],["e","f","g","h"],["i","j","k","l"]))
['aei', 'bfj', 'cgk', 'dhl']
>>>
```

Source: https://realpython.com/python-functional-programming/



#### filter selects elements

- The elements of a filter can be selected via the filter
- Inside filter the lambda functions are particularly handy
- filter returns an iterator
- Also filter can be computed in constant time if there are enough processors

```
>>> def f(a):
...    return a>10
>>> f(3)
False
>>> f(11)
True
>>> filter(f,[8,9,10,3,11,2,100,-11])
<filter object at 0x1006815d0>
>>> list(filter(f,[8,9,10,3,11,2,100,-11]))
[11, 100]
>>> list(filter(lambda x: x>10,[8,9,10,3,11,2,100,-11]))
[11, 100]
>>>
```



#### reduce synthesises elements

- The elements of an iterator can be folded in one with reduce
- They can be the result of a map and/or a filter
- The function for the reduction must have two elements, where the second must be of the type of the elements of the iterator
- reduce can be computed in log time if there are enough processors



# Lazy evaluation (1/3)

- Python has an eager evaluation of parameters passed to functions
- Python provides some form approximating lazy evaluation
- There are objects supplying a large stream of data one element at a time *on demand*, using the statement **yield** instead of the usual **return**
- This is very similar on how the elements of a list are accessed via iteration
- They can also be expanded in other data structures, like tuples
- Note that, once expanded, they are completely consumed, that is, lost

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/howto/functional.html



# Lazy evaluation (2/3)

```
>>> 1 = [2,4,6,8,10,12]
>>> y = iter(1)
>>> y
<list_iterator object at 0x100681390>
>>> next(y)
2
>>> next(y)
4
>>> tuple(y)
(6, 8, 10, 12)
>>> tuple(y)
()
```

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/howto/functional.html



# Lazy evaluation (3/3)

```
>>> def generateIntegers(N):
     for i in range(N):
            yield i
>>> x = generateIntegers(10)
>>> x
<generator object generateIntegers at 0x1002caf60>
>>> next(x)
>>> next(x)
1
>>> t = tuple(x)
>>> t.
(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
>>> tuple(x)
()
>>> ±
(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
```

Source: https://docs.python.org/3/howto/functional.html



### List comprehension

- Python has very effective means to generate lists, as several functional languages; such means are collectively referred to with the term redlist comprehension
- Iterators are at the base of list comprehension
- List comprehension is heavily used in Python, as it is a very compact and expressive

```
>>> [x for x in range(10)]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
>>> [x*x for x in (filter(lambda 1: 1%2==0,range(5,12)))]
[36, 64, 100]
>>> [x*x for x in range(5,12) if x%2==0]
[36, 64, 100]
>>> [x*x if x%2==0 else -x*x for x in range(5,12)]
[-25, 36, -49, 64, -81, 100, -121]
```

Source: https://realpython.com/list-comprehension-python/ and https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\_lists\_comprehension.asp



#### Beyond List comprehension

- There are also set comprehension and dictionary comprehension
  - dictionary comprehension requires the pairs with:
- we could have nested or zip-ed comprehension
  - zip returns an iterator of tuples

```
>>> [x**2 for x in range(-3,3)]
[9, 4, 1, 0, 1, 4]
>>> {x**2 for x in range(-3,3)}
{0, 9, 4, 1}
>>> [(i,j) for i in range(3) for j in range(3)]
[(0, 0), (0, 1), (0, 2), (1, 0), (1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 0), (2, 1), (2, 2)]
>>> [(i,j) for (i,j) in zip(range(3),range(3))]
[(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2)]
>>> {i:j[::-1] for (i,j) in zip(range(1,4),["one","two","three"])}
{1: 'eno', 2: 'owt', 3: 'eerht'}
```

Source: https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/dictionary-comprehension-in-python-explained-with-examples/ and https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref func zip.asp



# Python as an object oriented language (1/5)

- Python is an object oriented language (to a certain extent)
- Classes are defined with class and with the usual indentation
- The reference to the object itself is self
- Instance methods requires are identified by having as parameter self, which is then omitted when calling
- The initializer (a kind of constructor) is \_\_init\_\_
- Instance variables are usually defined in the constructor

```
class Animal:
    def __init__(self):
        self.name=""
    def setName(self,name):
        self.name=name
if __name__ == '__main__':
    animal = Animal()
    animal.setName("Pippo")
```



## Python as an object oriented language (2/5)

- Class variables are defined globally in the class
- Class methods are defined with the **@classmethod** decoration, with a reference to the class, **cls**, and with the usual indentation

```
class Animal:
    numberOfAnimals = 0
    def __init__(self):
        Animal.numberOfAnimals += 1
        self.name=""
    def setName(self.name):
        self.name=name
    @classmethod
    def getNumberOfAnimals(cls):
        return cls.numberOfAnimals
if __name__ == '__main__':
    animal = Animal()
    animal.setName("Pippo")
    i = Animal.getNumberOfAnimals()
```



## Python as an object oriented language (3/5)

- There are static methods non containing any reference to the class and defined with the <code>@staticmethod</code> decoration
  - Static methods exist only for naming reasons
- Protected methods and data start with the single underscore
- Private methods and data start with the double underscore \_\_
- However, both can be accessed outside the class with *name mangling*, that is, prefixing its name with <u>ClassName</u>

```
class Animal:
   numberOfAnimals = 0
   def __init__(self, name):
        Animal.numberOfAnimals += 1
        self.name=name
        self.__private = 1
        self._protected = 1
        self.public = 1
```

Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/private-methods-in-python/ and https://jellis18.github.io/post/2022-01-15-access-modifiers-python/



# Python as an object oriented language (4/5)

```
def identifyYourself(self):
    print("Hello! I am a generic animal and my name is " + self.name)

def __privateChangeName(self, name):
    self.name = name

@classmethod
def getNumberOfAnimals(cls):
    return cls.numberOfAnimals

@staticmethod
def increment(i):
    return i+1
```



# Python as an object oriented language (5/5)

```
if __name__ == ',_main__':
    animal = Animal("Mistery")
    animal.identifyYourself()
    # animal.__privateChangeName("pippo")
    animal._Animal__privateChangeName("MoreMistery")
    i = Animal.getNumberOfAnimals()
    i = Animal.increment(i)
    animal._Animal_protected = i
    print(animal._Animal_protected)
    print(animal.name)
2
MoreMistery
```



### Inheritance in Python

- Python supports single and multiple inheritance
- Every class without a superclass is implicitly derived from the class object
- object is then of type of type
- When a new object is created the initialized method \_\_init\_ is called
- Here below a summary of a derived class

```
class Dog(Animal):
    def __init__(self, name):
        super().__init__(name)

def identifyYourself(self):
        print("Hello! I am a dog and my name is " + self.name)
```



# About \_\_init\_\_ (1/2)

- Remember that \_\_init\_\_ is an initializer, therefore, by default the creation of a derived class does not trigger the \_\_init\_\_ of the base class
  - If an initialization from the superclass is needed, it needs to be explicitly called explicitly
- However, if there is no \_\_init\_\_ in the derived class, the system will look for the closest one going up the hierarchy, since it is a virtual function

```
class Animal:
    def __init__(self):
        print("Creating an animal")

class Penguin(Animal):
    def __init__(self):
        print("Creating a penguin")
```



# About \_\_init\_\_ (2/2)

```
class Parrot(Animal):
    def __init__(self):
        super().__init__()
        print("Creating a parrot")

class Dove(Animal):
        pass

if __name__ == "__main__":
        a = Animal()
        pe = Penguin()
        pa = Parrot()
        d = Dove()
```

#### • And therefore the output is:

```
Creating an animal
Creating a penguin
Creating an animal
Creating a parrot
Creating an animal
```



### Operator overloading (1/5)

- A special kind of such member functions are those supporting operator overloading
- There is a specific mapping between names of functions and operator that is overloaded
- Such functions are "special functions" or "double underscore functions" or "magic methods", such as \_\_add\_\_()

```
class Animal:
    def __add__(self,anotherAnimal):
        return Animal(self.name+anotherAnimal.name)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    animal = Animal("Mistery")
    anotherAnimal = Animal("BigMistery")
    thirdAnimal = animal + anotherAnimal
```



### Operator overloading (2/5)

• A list of the standard mapping of names and operator is presented in this and the following slide

```
A + B
                           add (self, other)
                           __sub__(self, other)
                A - B
                A * B
                           mul (self, other)
                A/B
                           truediv (self, other)
//
               A // B
                           floordiv (self, other)
               A % B
                           mod (self, other)
               A ** B
                           pow (self, other)
>>
               A >> B
                           rshift (self, other)
               A << B
                           __lshift__(self, other)
               A & B
                           and (self, other)
                A|B
                           or (self, other)
                A ^ B
                           xor (self, other)
                           LT (SELF, OTHER)
                A < B
                           __GT__(SELF, OTHER)
                A > B
                           __LE__(SELF, OTHER)
<=
               A <= B
```

Source of the picture

https://faun.pub/the-right-way-to-overload-methods-and-operators-in-python-2f93232af031/



### Operator overloading (3/5)

```
A <= B
                          __LE__(SELF, OTHER)
<=
               A >= B
                          GE (SELF, OTHER)
>=
               A == B
                          EQ (SELF, OTHER)
==
               A != B
                          NE_(SELF, OTHER)
!=
               A -= B
                          ISUB (SELF, OTHER)
-=
               A += B
+=
                          IADD (SELF, OTHER)
*=
               A *= B
                          __IMUL__(SELF, OTHER)
/=
               A /= B
                          IDIV (SELF, OTHER)
//=
              A //= B
                          IFLOORDIV (SELF, OTHER)
%=
              A %= B
                          IMOD (SELF, OTHER)
**=
              A **= B
                         __IPOW__(SELF, OTHER)
              A >>= B
                          IRSHIFT__(SELF, OTHER)
>>=
<<=
              A <<= B
                          ILSHIFT (SELF, OTHER)
&=
              A &= B
                          __IAND__(SELF, OTHER)
```

Source of the picture



### Operator overloading (4/5)

- There are additional "double underscore" functions mimicking the structure of C++, such as
  - \_\_getitem\_\_(self,index) for subscripting in the rhs,
    that is the x = anObject[index]
  - \_\_setitem\_\_(self,index) for subscripting in the lhs, that is the anObject[index] = x
  - \_\_contains\_\_(self,index) for the in operator
  - \_\_repr\_\_(self) to convert an object in a string, used in print with the template pattern
  - \_\_iter\_\_(self) to generate an iterable, like iter(anObject) to use then, say, in a for
  - \_\_enter\_\_(self) and \_\_exit\_\_(self,...) to handle entering and exiting blocks

https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2021/08/explore-the-magic-methods-in-python/



### Operator overloading (5/5)

- \_\_call\_\_(self,whatever) for functional objects, that is for managing structures like anObject(whatever)
  - It is also used to create objects as discussed later
- \_\_new\_\_(...) for allocating space for objects
- \_\_init\_\_(...) for initializing objects



## Understanding the object in Python (1/2)

- In Python an object has:
  - an identity
  - a value or a state, defined by the values of its attributes
  - a type
  - one or more bases, something similar to a superclass

```
>>> type(3)
<class 'int'>
>>> type(animal)
<class '_main__.Animal'>
>>> type(dog)
<class '_main__.Dog'>
>>> type(int)
<class 'type'>
>>> type(Animal)
<class 'type'>
>>> type(Dog)
<class 'type'>
```



# Understanding the object in Python (2/2)

- Also the object has a type
- And also the type!

```
>>> type(object)
<class 'type'>
>>> type(type)
<class 'type'>
```

Source: Shalabh Chaturvedi "Python Types and Objects" https://www.eecg.toronto.edu/~jzhu/csc326/readings/metaclass-class-instance.pdf/



### The notion of object (1/4)

- There is some duality to explore between type and base class, which requires some deepening
- First of all, we notice the reflection primitives, type and dir

```
>>> dir(3)
['_abs_', '_add_', '_and_', '_bool_', '_ceil_', '_class_', '
    delattr ', ' dir ', ...]
>>> dir(int)
['_abs_', '_add_', '_and_', '_bool_', '_ceil_'. '_class_'. '
    delattr ', ' dir ', ...]
>>> dir(animal)
['_Animal__private', '_Animal__privateChangeName', '_Animal_protected', '
    __class__', '__delattr__', '__dict__', '__dir__', '__doc__', '__eq__', '
    __format__', '__ge__', '__getattribute__', '__getstate__', '__gt__', '
    _hash_', '__init_', '__init_subclass_', '__le__', '__lt__', '__module__
    ', '_ne_', '_new_', '_reduce_', '_reduce_ex_', '_repr__', '
    __setattr__', '__sizeof__', '__str__', '__subclasshook__', '__weakref__', '
    _protected', 'getNumberOfAnimals', 'identifyYourself', 'increment', 'name'
    , 'public']
```



## The notion of object (2/4)

```
>>> dir(dog)
['_Animal__private', '_Animal__privateChangeName', '__class__', '__delattr__', '
    __dict__', '__dir__', '__doc__', '__eq__', '__format__', '__ge__', '
    __getattribute__', '__getstate__', '__gt__', '__hash__', '__init__', '
    __init_subclass__', '__le__', '__lt__', '__module__', '__ne__', '__new__', '
    __reduce__', '__reduce_ex__', '__repr__', '__setattr__', '__sizeof__', '
    __str__', '__subclasshook__', '__weakref__', '_protected', '
    getNumberOfAnimals', 'identifyYourself', 'increment', 'name', '
    numberOfAnimals', 'public']
```

- To rationalize our understanding we need to explore the meaning of the attributes \_\_base\_\_ and \_\_class\_\_
- We will use reflection again



## The notion of object (3/4)

```
>>> animal. class
<class '__main__.Animal'>
>>> type(animal.__class__)
<class 'type'>
>>> animal.__class__._base__
<class 'object'>
>>>type(animal.__class__._base__)
<class 'type'>
>>> dog.__class__
<class '__main__.Dog'>
>>> type(dog.__class__)
<class 'type'>
>>> dog. class . base
<class ' main .Animal'>
>>>type(dog.__class__._base__)
<class 'type'>
```



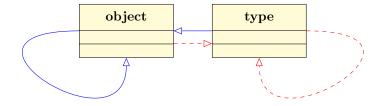
### The notion of object (4/4)

• Now we can explore the objects object and type

```
>>> object.__class__
<class 'type'>
>>> type(object.__class__)
<class 'type'>
>>> object.__class__._base__
<class 'object'>
>>> type(object.__class__._base__)
<class 'type'>
>>> type. class
<class 'type'>
>>> type(type.__class__)
<class 'type'>
>>> type.__class__._base__
<class 'object'>
>>> type(type.__class__._base__)
<class 'type'>
```



## A view of object and type in UML





## Revising our objects (1/5)

```
(Class) Animal
identity (Animal.__name__): Animal
a type (Animal.__class__): type
a base (Animal.__base__): object
(Object) animal
there is no attribute animal.__name__
a type (Animal.__class__): __main__. Animal
there is no attribute animal.__base__
```



# Revising our objects (2/5)

```
(Class) Dog
identity (Dog.__name__): Dog
a type (Dog.__class__): type
a base (Dog.__base__): __main__.Animal
(Object) dog
there is no attribute dog.__name__
a type (dog.__class__): __main__.Dog
there is no attribute dog.__base__
```



# Revising our objects (3/5)

```
(Object) object
identity (object.__name__): object
a type (object.__class__): type
a base (object.__base__): None
(Class) object
identity (object.__class__.__name__): type
a type (object.__class__.__class__): type
a base (object.__class__.__base__): None
```



## Revising our objects (4/5)

```
• (Base class of object) aka object.__base__ None
    • there is no attribute object.__base_.._name__
    a type (object.__base__._class__): NoneType
    • there is no attribute object.__base__._base__.
• (Type of the base class of object) aka None.__base__ aka
  object.__base__._class__: NoneType
    • identity (object.__base_.._class_.._name__):
      NoneType
    o type (object.__base_.._class_.._class__): type
    • there is no attribute object.__base__._class__._base__
```



## Revising our objects (5/5)

```
(Object) type
identity (type.__name__): type
a type (type.__class__): type
a base (type._base__): object
(Class of) type
identity (object.__class__._name__): object
a type (object.__class__.__class__): type
a base (object.__class__.__base__): type
It is the object, but with some inconsistency!!
```



#### Putting the pieces together

- We have the structure of the Abstract Factory
- Everything is (derived of) an object
- Every object has a type
- A type is an object and derived (also indirectly) from object
- The type is identified by the \_\_base\_\_ attribute
- The base class is identified by the \_\_class\_ attribute
- A metaclass is a class whose instances are still classes
- Metaclasses play an important role in the creation/instantiation process



### Instantiation of new objects

- The reference for creating new objects is the clone design pattern
- New objects can be created by subclassing

```
class Dog(Animal):
    def __init__(self, name):
        super().__init__(name)
```

new object of type type has been instantiated with base class object (the full specs in slide ??)New objects can be created by applying the operator () to an object of type type

```
dog = Dog()
o = object()
animal = Animal()
```



### Instantiation of new types (1/2)

- Types can be created on the fly
- Extreme care is required

```
>>> Cat = type("Cat",(Animal,),{"nickname":"Prr", "weight":10})
>>> c = Cat("Garfield")
>>> print(c)
<__main__.Cat object at 0x11148fa90>
>>> print(c.nickname)
Prr
>>> print(c.weight)
10
>>> print(c.name)
Garfield
>>> print(c.somethingElse)
    print(c.somethingElse)
AttributeError: 'Cat' object has no attribute 'somethingElse'
>>> c.somethingElse=2
>>> print(c.somethingElse)
2
```

Source: https://realphysics.info/Theory%20of%20Python/classes.html/



## Instantiation of new types (2/2)

• Types can be returned from functions

Source: https://realphysics.info/Theory%20of%20Python/classes.html/



## The creation process (1/2)

- The creation of an object takes two (plus one) steps:
  - \_\_new\_\_(), in principle to allocate memory
  - \_\_init\_\_(), in principle to initialize data
- The original object is taken as a reference
- It is also possible to modify the creation of objects using metaclasses
  - Using metaclasses it is possible to alter the creation process of objects
  - In this case, a rigid protocol is employed, using the template pattern, again, based on overriding / late binding

Source: Shalabh Chaturvedi "Python Types and Objects" https://www.eecg.toronto.edu/~jzhu/csc326/readings/metaclass-class-instance.pdf/, https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses, and https://stackoverflow.com/questions/56514586/arguments-of-new-and-init-for-metaclasses



## The creation process (2/2)

- Overall we see three methods clearly involved in the protocol
  - \_\_call\_\_(), the orchestrator, called every time an object type is invoked to create a new object, like in

```
dog = Dog()
```

- \_\_new\_\_(), called to allocate memory, as mentioned
- \_\_init\_\_(), called to initialize the data, as mentioned
- \_\_call\_\_() calls the other two, therefore imposing a structure on the number and types of parameters
- this is why we may see typing error if they are not properly structured

Source: Shalabh Chaturvedi "Python Types and Objects" https://www.eecg.toronto.edu/~jzhu/csc326/readings/metaclass-class-instance.pdf/, https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses, and https://stackoverflow.com/questions/56514586/arguments-of-new-and-init-for-metaclasses



## Inside the creation (1/5)

- The creation process involves metaclasses
- type is acting as the "metametaclass"
- \* and \*\* allow arbitrary number of parameters:
  - \* implies that the argument (here, args) is a tuple
  - \*\* implies that the argument (here, kw) is a dictonary
  - Here we see the equivalent in Python of the real C code (taken from the reference below)

 $Source: \ https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses, \ and \ https://stackoverflow.com/questions/56514586/arguments-of-new-and-init-for-metaclasses$ 



## Inside the creation (2/5)

- Substantially \_\_new\_\_() and \_\_init\_\_() ought to be redefined
- Let's see an implementation of the singleton pattern

```
class Singleton:
    singleObject = None
   @staticmethod
   def new (cls):
        if Singleton.singleObject is not None:
            return Singleton.singleObject
        else:
            Singleton.singleObject = super().__new__(cls)
            return Singleton.singleObject
   def __init__(self):
        self.aValue = 1
   def increment(self):
        self.aValue += 1
```



## Inside the creation (3/5)

• What is the output?

```
>>> if __name__ == "__main__":
>>>
        x = Singleton()
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
        x.increment()
>>>
>>>
        print(x.aValue)
        y = Singleton()
>>>
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
        print(y.aValue)
>>>
>>>
        print(x==y)
```



## Inside the creation (4/5)

```
>>> if __name__ == "__main__":
        x = Singleton()
>>>
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
>>>
        x.increment()
>>>
        print(x.aValue)
2
>>>
        v = Singleton()
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
>>>
        print(y.aValue)
1
>>>
        print(x==y)
True
```

- \_\_init\_\_() is still called!!
- We need some refinement
  - Remember that for type we cannot modify the sequence of calling first \_\_init\_\_() and then \_\_new\_\_()
    - it is built inside the language



## Inside the creation (5/5)

```
def __init__(self):
        if Singleton.numberOfItems == 0:
            Singleton.numberOfItems = 1
            self.aValue = 1
>>> if __name__ == "__main__":
       x = Singleton()
>>>
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
1
>>>
        x.increment()
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
2
>>>
        y = Singleton()
        print(x.aValue)
>>>
2
>>>
        print(y.aValue)
2
>>>
        print(x==y)
True
```



## Metaclasses (1/9)

- Remember that in Python everything is an object, including classes
- As mentioned,
  - a metaclass is a class whose instances are still classes
  - the creation process involves metaclasses
  - type is acting as the "metametaclass"
- The instruction

```
class Animal:
    def __init__(self):
        print("Creating an animal")
```

results in the creation (instantiation) of:

- a class Animal implicitly derived from class object
- an object Animal instance of the class type

Source: https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses



## Metaclasses (2/9)

• Moreover, with this code

```
animal = Animal()
```

the object Animal creates an instance of class Animal and returns its value to animal

- This is clearly an use of the method \_\_call\_\_()
- So the question is whether it is possible for the class Animal to produce also other classes
- This is the core of metaclasses

 $Source: \ \mathtt{https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses}$ 



## Metaclasses (3/9)

• We start with defining a subclass of class type

```
class AnimalType(type):
   pass
```

- As usual here we create
  - a class AnimalType explicitly derived from class type
  - an object AnimalType instance of the class type

Source: https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses



## Metaclasses (4/9)

• Then we use such class to proceed

```
class Animal(metaclass=AnimalType):
   pass
```

- And here we create
  - a class Animal with:
    - meta-class class AnimalType, meaning that its associated object is instance of class AnimalType, and
    - implicitly derived from class object
  - an object Animal instance of the class AnimalType, as mentioned above

Source: https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/pvthon-metaclasses



## Metaclasses (5/9)

- Metaclassing allows the manipulation of the class as a whole, especially its creation process
- We now consider an example

```
class AnimalType(type):
   def __init__(cls, name, bases, dct):
        print("__init__ of AnimalType")
   def __call__(self, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__call__ of AnimalType")
        return super().__call__(self, *args, **kwargs)
   def __new__(cls, name, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__new__ of AnimalType")
        return super().__new__(cls, name, *args, **kwargs)
 class Animal(metaclass=AnimalType):
   def __init__(self,*args):
        print("__init__ of Animal")
   def __new__(cls, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__new__ of Animal")
        return super().__new__(cls)
```

Source: https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses



## Metaclasses (6/9)

```
__new__ of AnimalType # To create the object AnimalType at the beginning of the
    module
__init__ of AnimalType # To initialize the object AnimalType
>>> if __name__ == '__main__':
>>>    print("Now creating an Animal")
Now creating an Animal
>>>    a = Animal()
__call__ of AnimalType # This is the result of the call Animal(
__new__ of Animal # Called by AnimalType.__call__
__init__ of Animal # Called by AnimalType.__call__
```

- The \_\_call\_\_() of the metaclass (in our example class AnimalType) orchestrates the overall creation process of the objects of class Animal
  - It is an application of the Template Method design pattern
- This allows a fine-grained control of the creation process

Source: https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/python-metaclasses



## Metaclasses (7/9)

- The \_\_call\_\_() of the metaclass calls of the target class \_\_new\_\_() and \_\_init\_\_()
- Therefore, the metaclass has its own:
  - \_\_call\_\_(cls, \*args, \*\*kwargs), called when an instance of the metaclass is called, for instance when creating an object of the class, like in a = Animal()
    - cls is the reference to the metaclass
    - args is the list of positional arguments
    - kwargs is the list of the keyword arguments

Source:



## Metaclasses (8/9)

- ... therefore, the metaclass has its own:
  - \_new\_\_(mcs, name, bases, namespace), where
    - mcs is the reference to the metaclass
    - name is the name to the metaclass
    - bases is the list of the superclasses, which will become the \_\_base\_\_ attribute of the new class
    - namespace is the namespace in the form of a dictionary, which will become the \_\_dict\_\_ attribute of the new class

Source:

https://www.datasciencecentral.com/understanding-the-complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/



## Metaclasses (9/9)

- ... therefore, the metaclass has its own:
  - o \_\_init\_\_(cls, name, bases, namespace, \*\*kwargs)
    - mcs is the reference to the metaclass
    - name is the name to the metaclass
    - bases is the list of the superclasses, which will become the \_\_base\_\_ attribute of the new class
    - namespace is the namespace in the form of a dictionary, which will become the \_\_dict\_\_ attribute of the new class
    - kwargs is the list of the keyword arguments
- There is also a \_\_prepare\_\_() method, called as the first method to prepare the namespace

Source:

 $\verb| https://www.datasciencecentral.com/understanding-the-complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | the complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | | the complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | the complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | the complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | the complexity-of-metaclasses-and-their-practical-2/| | the complexity-of-metaclasses-$ 



## Singleton with metaclasses (1/4)

• We can use it for an alternative implementation of the Singleton pattern

```
class AnimalType(type):
    singleAnimal=None
   def __init__(cls, name, bases, dct):
        print("__init__ of AnimalType")
   def __call__(cls, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__call__ of AnimalType")
        if AnimalType.singleAnimal is None:
            print("Creating the unique animal")
            AnimalType.singleAnimal = cls.__new__(cls, *args, **kwargs)
            AnimalType.singleAnimal.__init__(*args, **kwargs)
        else:
            print("The unique animal already exists")
        return AnimalType.singleAnimal
   def __new__(cls, name, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__new__ of AnimalType")
        return super().__new__(cls, *args, **kwargs)
```



## Singleton with metaclasses (2/4)

```
class Animal(metaclass=AnimalType):
    def __init__(self,*args):
        print("__init__ of Animal")
        print(f'self = {self}; args = {args}')
        self.weight=10
        print(f'self.weight = {self.weight}; args = {args}')

    def __new__(cls, *args, **kwargs):
        print("__new__ of Animal")
        if AnimalType.singleAnimal is None:
            print("Creating the unique singleton")
            AnimalType.singleAnimal = super().__new__(cls, *args, **kwargs)
        return AnimalType.singleAnimal
```



## Singleton with metaclasses (3/4)

#### Now we start the execution.

```
__new__ of AnimalType # The object AnimalType is created
__init__ of AnimalType
>>> if __name__ == '__main__':
>>>
   print("Now creating an Animal")
Now creating an Animal
>>> print(type(AnimalType))
<class 'type'>
>>> print(type(Animal))
<class '__main__.AnimalType'>
>>> a = Animal() # This is a call to the singleton;
>>>. # there is no need of a method called getSingleton
__call__ of AnimalType
Creating the unique animal
__new__ of Animal
Creating the unique singleton
init of Animal
```



## Singleton with metaclasses (4/4)

```
>>>
        print(a)
<__main__.Animal object at 0x106f24ed0>
>>>
        print(a.weight)
10
>>>
        a.weight = 20
       print(a.weight)
>>>
20
>>>
       b = Animal() # Having overloaded AnimalType.__call__(),
>>>.
        # no new object is created but the singleton is returned
The unique animal already exists
        print(b)
>>>
<__main__.Animal object at 0x106f24ed0>
>>>
        print(a==b)
True
        b.weight = 300
>>>
>>>
        print(a.weight)
300
```



## Generalization of Singleton (1/2)

• It is possible to create a general meta class to use when we need a singleton of any class

```
class Singleton(type):
    _instances = {}

def __call__(cls, *args, **kwargs):
    if cls not in cls._instances:
        cls._instances[cls]=super(type(cls), cls).__call__(*args, **kwargs)
    return cls._instances[cls]
```

• Here we let <u>\_\_call\_\_</u> invoke the <u>\_\_call\_\_</u> of the superclass only if no instances of <u>cls</u> have already been created

Source: https://itnext.io/deciding-the-best-singleton-approach-in-python-65c61e90cdc4



## Generalization of Singleton (2/2)

 Now suppose that we want to create a specialization of a Database class allowing only an instance of it

```
class Database():
    def __init__(self, url):
        self.url = url

    def connect(self):
        if 'https' not in self.url:
            raise ValueError("invalid url: it must be encrypted")
        return True

class DatabaseSingleton(Database, metaclass=Singleton):
    pass
```

• Specifying as metaclass Singleton we have achieved our goal

Source: https://itnext.io/deciding-the-best-singleton-approach-in-python-65c61e90cdc4



#### Structure of the execution

- Python is executed on a virtual machine with packages that are loaded at run time
- In this it is similar to Java
- https:
   //leanpub.com/insidethepythonvirtualmachine/read



## String formatting

 $\circ$  f-syntax



### Reflection and Introspection

#### basics

 $Taken\ from\ https://betterprogramming.pub/python-reflection-and-introspection-97b348be54d8\ and\ https://betterprogramming.pub/python-reflection-and-introspection-97b348be54d8$ 



#### Decorators

basics

 ${\bf Taken\ from\ https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/decorators-in-python/}$ 



#### Generics

basics

 ${\bf Taken\ from\ https://www.tutorialspoint.com/python/python\_generics.htm/}$ 



## Type Hints

basics

 ${\bf Taken\ from\ https://www.pythontutorial.net/python-basics/python-type-hints/}$ 



#### Structure of the virtual machine

- As said, Python is executed on a virtual machine with packages that are loaded at run time
- In this it is similar to Java
- https:
   //leanpub.com/insidethepythonvirtualmachine/read



#### Inversion of Control

basics

 $Taken\ from\ \texttt{https://python-dependency-injector.ets-labs.org/introduction/di\_in\_python.html}$ 



### Questions?

End of the introductory lectures on Python.