CS107 / AC207

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT FOR COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE LECTURE 8

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RECAP OF LAST TIME

- The concept for consistency in the python language:
 - The python data model
 - Special class methods (also called "dunder" methods)
- A custom sequence: French deck of cards
- Software Licenses

OUTLINE

- Class methods, static methods and instance methods
- python modules
- python packages and the python package index (PyPI)

At this point you should feel comfortable with user-defined classes, special class methods and the python data model. You should develop an intuition for the *consistency* of the python programming language once you have understood these *key concepts*.

Recall the *decorator* design pattern discussed in Lecture 5:

- A decorator *wraps* hidden code around a function argument and returns a new decorated function object.
- python makes use of decorators to further specialize methods in a user-defined class.
- These decorators are available since python 2.2 (new-style classes, see previous lecture).
- There are two such decorators (PEP318):
 - @classmethod:transforms a method into a class method.
 - @staticmethod:transforms a method into a static method.

Let us revisit the Complex class from Lecture 6:

```
class Complex:
       def __init__(self, real, imag):
 2
           """Default initialization of a complex number"""
 3
           self.real = real
 4
           self.imag = imag
 5
 6
       @classmethod
       def make_complex(cls, real, imag):
 8
            """Factory method for a complex number"""
 9
           return cls(real, imag)
10
11
12
       def __repr__(self):
           """String representation"""
13
14
           return f"{type(self).__name__}({self.real}, {self.imag})"
15
16
       def __eq (self, other):
           """Equality of two complex numbers"""
17
           return (self.real == other.real) and (self.imag == other.imag)
18
```

Let us revisit the Complex class from Lecture 6:

```
1 class Complex:
2  def __init__(self, real, imag):
3     """Default initialization of a complex number"""
4     self.real = real
5     self.imag = imag
6
7  @classmethod
8  def make_complex(cls, real, imag):
9     """Factory method for a complex number"""
10     return cls(real, imag)
```

- make_complex is a special class method; a result from the @classmethod decorator.
- Note the difference in the function signature:
 - Regular methods take self as first argument (reference to instance of class).
 - Class methods take cls as first argument (reference to class type).
- The name cls is again *a convention* just as self is chosen by convention.
- The return value cls(real, imag) is the same as Complex(real, imag). The @classmethod decorator strips away the reference to the instance of the class and returns a reference to the Complex class type instead.

Example usage of our decorated class method:

1 >>> z1 = Complex(1, 2) # calls ___init___

2 >>> z2 = Complex.make_complex(1, 2) # create an instance from the Complex type directly 3 >>> z3 = z2.make_complex(1, 2) # create an instance via another instance

4 >>> z1 == z2 and z2 == z3 # the three instances are all equal

True

The instances are all equal but they are separate objects in memory:

- 1 >>> id(z1); id(z2); id(z3)
- 140022962355792
- 140022964138048
- 140022964039344

Takeaway:

- A @classmethod has access to what is defined in the class itself, but no access to the state of a particular instance of the class. (Note that self is a reference to state, this state is initialized only when __init__ is called and may change over time. The cls reference does not have access to such state.)
- The main use case for @classmethod is to provide alternate ways of constructing an object of your class:
 - The original client only needed the Cartesian form to create complex numbers.
 - A new client requires complex numbers to be constructed from Polar coordinates (radius r and angle φ). This new class feature is implemented with a <code>@classmethod</code>.

Construct complex numbers from Cartesian and Polar coordinates:

```
1 import numpy as np
       def __init__(self, real, imag):
           """Default initialization of a complex number"""
           self.real = real
           self.imag = imag
       @classmethod
9
       def from_polar(cls, r, phi):
10
           """Construct a complex number from Polar coordinates"""
11
           return cls(r * np.cos(phi), r * np.sin(phi))
12
       def __repr__(self):
           return f"{type(self).__name__}({self.real}, {self.imag})"
       def ___eq__(self, other):
           return (self.real == other.real) and (self.imag == other.imag)
```

Construct complex numbers from Cartesian and Polar coordinates:

```
1 import numpy as np
   class Complex:
       def __init__(self, real, imag):
           """Default initialization of a complex number"""
           self.real = real
           self.imag = imag
       @classmethod
 9
       def from_polar(cls, r, phi):
10
           """Construct a complex number from Polar coordinates"""
11
           return cls(r * np.cos(phi), r * np.sin(phi))
12
1 >>> z1 = Complex(np.cos(np.pi / 4), np.sin(np.pi / 4))
2 >>> z2 = Complex.from_polar(1, np.pi / 4)
3 >>> z1 == z2
 True
```

The <code>@staticmethod</code> decorator is similar but *strips away* the first argument completely:

```
class MyClass:
       def init (self):
 2
            """Default initialization of MyClass with reference to an instance"""
 3
           print(self)
 4
 5
       @classmethod
 6
       def class_method(cls):
            """Class method with a reference to MyClass"""
 8
           print(cls)
 9
10
       @staticmethod
11
       def static_method(): # no first argument here!
12
            """Static methods are just normal functions in the scope of the class"""
13
14
           pass
```

1	class MyClass:
2	<pre>definit(self):</pre>
3	"""Default initialization of MyClass with reference to an instance"""
4	print(self)
5	
6	<pre>@classmethod</pre>
7	<pre>def class_method(cls):</pre>
8	"""Class method with a reference to MyClass"""
9	print(cls)
10	
11	@staticmethod
12	<pre>def static_method(): # no first argument here!</pre>
13	"""Static methods are just normal functions in the scope of the class"""
14	pass
1 >	>>> c = MyClass()
2 <	<mainmyclass 0x7f06d0ce1b20="" at="" object=""></mainmyclass>
3 >	>>> MyClass.class_method()
4 <	<class 'mainmyclass'=""></class>
5 >	>>> type(MyClass.static_method)
6 <	<class 'function'=""></class>

- 1 >>> c = MyClass()
 2 <__main__.MyClass object at 0x7f06d0ce1b20>
 3 >>> MyClass.class_method()
 4 <class '__main__.MyClass'>
 5 >>> type(MyClass.static_method)
 6 <class 'function'>
- Static methods are just *normal functions* inside the class scope (MyClass in this example).
- You can call them directly from the class type like MyClass.static_method() or from an instance like this c.static_method().
- Static methods in python are the same as C++ methods declared with the static keyword.
- Can you use static methods to modify state?

Let's look at it from another perspective (Fluent Python):

```
1 class Demo:
       def instance method(*args):
 2
 3
            return args
 4
       @classmethod
 5
       def class_method(*args):
 6
            return args
 8
       @staticmethod
 9
       def static method(*args):
10
11
            return args
1 >>> d = Demo()
2 >>> dummy_args = ('A', 'B', 'C')
 >>> d.instance_method(*dummy_args)
3
  (<__main__.Demo object at 0x7fec186bab80>, 'A', 'B', 'C') # fist arg: reference self
5 >>> d.class_method(*dummy_args)
  (<class '___main___.Demo'>, 'A', 'B', 'C') # first arg: reference to cls
6
7 >>> d.static_method(*dummy_args)
8 ('A', 'B', 'C') # static methods: no implicit first argument like other methods do!
```

- Static methods are used for global class operations that *do not depend on state* (an instance of the class carries state).
- Just as there are *static* and *instance* methods for a class, there are also *static variables (class variables)* and *instance variables*.
- Class variables are global to the class itself (just like static methods), whereas instance variables are local to the class instance (they represent state and may hold different values for different instances of the class).

Recall the French deck class from the previous lecture:

```
1 from collections import namedtuple
 2
   Card = namedtuple('Card', ['rank', 'suit'])
 3
 4
 5
   class FrenchDeck:
       """French deck of 52 playing cards"""
 6
       ranks = [str(rank) for rank in range(2, 11)] + list('JQKA')
       suits = 'spades diamonds clubs hearts'.split()
 8
 9
10
       def ___init___(self):
            """Initialize ordered deck of cards"""
11
           self. cards = [
12
                Card(rank, suit) for suit in self.suits for rank in self.ranks
13
14
            ]
15
       # skipping other methods shown in previous lecture
16
```

Recall the French deck class from the previous lecture:

```
1 from collections import namedtuple
2
3 Card = namedtuple('Card', ['rank', 'suit'])
4
5 class FrenchDeck:
6 """French deck of 52 playing cards"""
7 # the following are class variables, there is no `self.` in front!
8 ranks = [str(rank) for rank in range(2, 11)] + list('JQKA')
9 suits = 'spades diamonds clubs hearts'.split()
10
11 def __init__(self):
12 """Initialize ordered deck of cards"""
13 # this is an instance variable, remember: `self` is a reference to an instance
14 self._cards = [
15 Card(rank, suit) for suit in self.suits for rank in self.ranks
16 ]
```

Note that class variables (global to the class type itself) do not have a self. prepended, because self is a reference to an instance of the class.

- ranks and suits are global (class) properties. The card deck will always consist of 52 cards.
- self._cards *is a state* that is local to the instance because the deck might be shuffled differently between two instances, hence their *state* is different.

Class variable and instance variable example:

```
1 >>> class Demo:
2 ... class_variable = 1 # a class variable (global to the type Demo)
3 >>> demo = Demo() # create an instance of Demo
4 >>> demo.class_variable = 2 # this shadows Demo.class_variable
5 >>> demo.class_variable # the value 2 is now local to the instance!
6 2
7 >>> demo.__class_.class_variable # but the global class variable is still untouched
8 1
```

Class variable and instance variable example:

```
1 >>> class Demo:
2 ... class_variable = 1 # a class variable (global to the type Demo)
3 >>> demo = Demo() # create an instance of Demo
4 >>> demo.class_variable = 2 # this shadows Demo.class_variable (duck-typing)
5 >>> demo.class_variable # the value 2 is now local to the instance!
6 2
7 >>> demo._class_.class_variable # but the global class variable is still untouched
8 1
9 >>> demo._class_.class_variable = 3 # change the class variable globally
10 >>> # Note that this is the same statement: Demo.class_variable = 3
11 >>> new_demo = Demo()
12 >>> new_demo.class_variable
13 3
```

Same example on pythontutor

Note: the reason the code in line 4 *shadows* the class variable is because of *duck typing* in python. The duck typing rules create a new self.class_variable attribute *for the instance*, you can see that in the pythontutor example above.

Class variable and instance variable example:

- We can further investigate this duck typing phenomenon with the dir() and vars() built-in functions.
- dir(): lists the names of the class attributes and recursively of its base classes:



vars():lists the contents of the __dict__ attribute (local to instance):

1 >>> vars(demo) # affected by the duck-typing phenomenon (see line 4 in previous slide)
2 {'class_variable': 2}
3 >>> vars(new_demo) # we did not duck-type anything on this instance
4 {}

Summary:

- @classmethod is primarily used as a *factory* to create new class instances in different ways other than how you define it in __init__(). In the @classmethod you perform the desired transformation first and then create a new instance by calling __init__ with the result of your data transformation.
- @classmethod does not need to return an instance of cls all the time, it is just often used this way.
- **Optional reading:** The factory pattern is further described in Chapter 3 of **Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software** by E. Gamma, R. Helm, R. Johnson and J. Vlissides, Addison Wesley Professional, 1995.
- @staticmethod are regular functions that are contained within the class scope. You can either call them via an instance self.static_method() (assuming self is an instance of MyClass) or via the class type directly MyClass.static_method().

- We are now at a point where we can take our python knowledge one step further.
- You learned about the basic python language features such as defining functions, writing user-defined types (classes) all aligned with the consistency enabled by the python data model.
- This knowledge allows you develop large software projects already but when you are starting to scale up your code, *structure is important*.
- Just like when you are cooking for a large party, you want your mise en place in the kitchen (python modules and packages) and sharp knifes (your dev environment, tools, editor or IDE).
- python *modules* contain subsets of your code project.
- python *packages* are a collection of modules. This collection is often *hierarchical* in the same way as your Linux filesystem is and they can form components of your software projects.

- A python module most of the time is a simple python file with code inside, e.g. my_module.py. You could execute a module with python my_module.py.
- The more common use case is to import a module in your code where you need the *functionality* provided by that module:

1 import my_module
2 retval = my_module.some_function() # use a function implemented in my_module

Note: some_function is *inside* the namespace of my_module.

• You could have done this to import into the current namespace (**but you know it is bad practice!**):

1 from my_module import *
2 retval = some_function() # use a function imported from my_module



Good practice:

• Import only the functionality you actually need:

1 from my_module import some_function
2 retval = some_function() # use a function imported from my_module

Importing into the current namespace does not prevent from **name clashes**

• It is usually a better idea to *keep the namespace* of the module. We are *lazy* typists—use the as keyword to make your life easier:

1 import my_module as mm
2 retval = mm.some_function() # use a function implemented in my_module

• You may have seen this many times with more widely used packages: (these are again *conventions* that the python community sticks with)

```
1 import numpy as np # numerical python package (linear algebra, regression, etc.)
2 import pandas as pd # data analysis package
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt # powerful plotting package
```

• Other useful python packages: scipy (scientific library), sympy (symbolic math), numba (performance)

Where does python look for modules:

• python searches some system dependent locations for modules:

1 >>> import sys
2 >>> print(sys.path)
3 ['', '/usr/lib/python39.zip', '/usr/lib/python3.9', '/usr/lib/python3.9/lib-dynload',
4 '/home/fabs/.local/lib/python3.9/site-packages', '/usr/lib/python3.9/site-packages']

- '': current directory
- /home/fabs/.local/lib/python3.9/site-packages:version dependent user directory for packages on Linux. Everything you install with python -m pip install --user goes there. To find out the user base of your python installation run python -m site --user-base.
- The others are system directories. Anything you install via your package manager or by sudo python -m pip install goes there.
- Use the PYTHONPATH environment variable to extend the search path to your own locations. This is also very useful for *development*: point the PYTHONPATH to the module/package you are developing in order to skip installing it into the default search path all the time! PYTHONPATH behaves the same as PATH, you know how that works.
- If a module can not be found, you will get a ModuleNotFoundError.

When and in what order should you *import* modules:

- If you need to import other modules in your module, you should import *after* your module's documentation.
- The order of imported modules should be as follows:
 1. Standard library modules
 2. Third-party modules: numpy, pandas, pytorch, etc.
 3. Your own modules

Example: simple module in current directory - module_1.py

```
нин
   Docstring for module_1
   11 11 11
 3
 4
   import numpy as np
 5
 6
 7 # the __all__ attribute will be honored when somebody executes
      from module 1 import *
 8
   # it will import only what you specify in the __all__ list
 9
   __all__ = ['foo']
10
11
   pi = np.pi # \pi in module scope
12
13
   def foo():
14
       print(f"module_1.foo(): pi = {pi:.6f}")
15
16
  def bar():
17
       print(f"module_1.bar(): pi = {pi:.6f}")
18
```

Example: simple module in current directory - module_1.py

```
1 import numpy as np
 2
   <u>__all__</u> = ['foo']
 3
 4
   pi = np.pi # \pi in module scope
 5
 6
 7 def foo():
       print(f"module_1.foo(): pi = {pi:f}")
 8
 9
10 def bar():
       print(f"module_1.bar(): pi = {pi:f}")
11
1 >>> dir()
2 ['__annotations__', '__builtins__', '__doc__', '__loader__', '__name__',
  '__package__', '__spec__']
4 >>> from module_1 import *
5 >>> dir()
6 ['__annotations__', '__builtins__', '__doc__', '__loader__', '__name__',
7 '___package___', '___spec___', 'foo']
8 >>> foo()
9 module_1.foo(): pi = 3.141593
```

- Modules are a great way to organize your code into *logical* units.
- This one-level organization is usually not deep enough for larger projects.
- python packages allow you to organize your project
 hierarchically, just like you would organize your code in your
 project directory on your file system (this is not a coincidence).

Example package hierarchy:



Example package hierarchy:



- The root of the python package
- You could also have modules on this level (there are none in this example).

Example package hierarchy:



- A sub-package within your package. It again contains a number of modules.
- You could have another sub-packages inside here.

The __init__.py file:

- The <u>__init__</u>.py is used for package-level initialization either when your package is imported *or* a module within the package is imported.
- You write normal python code in that file which is then executed when the package is imported (once).
- You can use the __all__ list inside __init__.py to define what should be imported when someone does from cs107_package import *.
- Often the file is empty. Since python 3.3 you do not need to have the file *if* it is empty.

How to import nested packages:

• You import a package or a nested sub-package just like a module:

1 >>> import cs107_package.subpkg_1.module_1
2 >>> cs107_package.subpkg_1.module_1.foo() # call a function inside that module, phew!

• This can be tedious! Use the __init__.py file to make the life your customer enjoyable.

How to import nested packages:

Let's assume we have this code in our You could then write your __init__.py files modules: like this:

cs107_package/subpkg_1/module_1.py:

1 # of course you can have classes in your modules
2 class Foo:
3 pass
4
5 def foo():
6 print("cs107_package.subpkg_1.module_1.foo()")

• cs107_package/subpkg_1/module_2.py:



• cs107_package/subpkg_2/module_3.py:

1 def baz(): 2 print("cs107_package.subpkg_2.module_3.baz()") • cs107_package/__init__.py:

```
1 # note the '.': relative import in packages
2 from .subpkg_1 import (foo, bar)
3 from .subpkg_2 import baz
4
5 __all__ = ['foo', 'bar', 'baz']
```

• cs107_package/subpkg_1/__init__.py:

```
1 from .module_1 import foo
2 from .module_2 import bar
3
4 __all__ = ['foo', 'bar']
```

• cs107_package/subpkg_2/__init__.py:

1 from .module_3 import baz

3 __all__ = ['baz']

How to import nested packages:

With this structure defined in out __init__.py files, we can use our package

in a more natural way we are used to from other packages we work with:

1	>>>	import	CS107_	_package	as	pkg		
2	>>>	pkg.bar	-()					

- 3 cs107_package.subpkg_2.module_3.baz()
- 4 cs107_package.subpkg_1.module_2.bar()

Compare to:

1 >>> import numpy as np
2 >>> dir(np)
3 # a lot of output...

We can use the ___init___.py files to define what we want to export from our code and what should remain hidden in the package. The top-level ___init___.py of numpy 1.21.2 contains 429 lines of code.

• Let us enter the python interpreter, and investigate the ____name___ attribute:



- The top-level environment in python is called '__main__'.
- When we *import* a module, its name is set to the module filename without suffix.
- When we pass the module through the python interpreter directly, the module __name__ attribute will be set to '__main__' by the interpreter. The difference to the example above is that we do not import the module into another namespace. It allows us to add functionality to modules when run by the interpreter. This is why you may have seen code like this at the end of a module:
 - 1 if ___name__ == "___main___":
 - main() # function to be run when module is passed to the interpreter

- We can do the same with *packages*
- Because a package is a hierarchy of files and directories, we must implement this functionality in the __main__.py file.
- This file is then passed to the interpreter whenever we pass the -m option. Assume this is our __main__.py file in our test package:

1 import datetime as dt
2 print(f"Hello from cs107_package! Today is: {dt.datetime.now()}")

We can then do this:

This is exactly what happens when you use the pip package, for example.

1 \$ python -m pip # runs the __main__.py file in the pip package

More reading on python modules and packages can be found in the python tutorial.

- You now know what python modules and packages are for.
- You are still missing the tools to properly *install* and *distribute* packages.
- Most python packages are available through the Python Package Index (PyPI). It is simply a remote server to fetch the software from.
- By default, python -m pip install <package> obtains the package from PyPI.
- Because PyPI is a *production platform* you should use the PyPI testing server when playing around with pip. Use it like this:
 - Simple package without dependencies:

1 \$ python -m pip install --index-url https://test.pypi.org/simple/ your-package

If you need to resolve dependencies:

There are many ways in python to create packages and distribute them. The main documentation you should consult is:

- Installing packages: https://packaging.python.org/tutorials/installing-packages/
- Packaging projects: https://packaging.python.org/tutorials/packaging-projects/

The main tool to install packages in python is pip. The classical way is through distutils/setuptools but pip can handle these cases as well and should be preferred. There are two parts to pip:

1. pip itself is a *frontend* for installing python packages.

2. It uses a *backend* to accomplish this task.

The backend is *modular*, it can be setuptools, for example, or anything else that conforms to PEP517.

- The basics steps to create a release that is publishable on PyPI: 1. Add a pyproject.toml file to your project (PEP518)
- 2. Install build: python -m pip install build (a PEP517 package builder)
- 3. Build your next package release: python -m build .
- 4. Upload to PyPI: twine upload dist/* (use https://test.pypi.org/)
- Steps 1 and 2 need to be done only once. To create a new release, this is sufficient (steps 3 and 4):

1 \$ rm dist/* && python -m build && twine upload dist/*

(twine can be installed via pip)

The dist/ directory contains the built distributions. There are two distinctions:
 1. Source distributions: contains source code only
 2. Binary distributions: called wheels

Assume we have this project structure: file:



The cs107_package is our python package from the previous discussion.

Create a pyproject.toml file:

- This file is used to specify the minimum build system requirements
- It is defined in PEP518
- For our example the pyproject.toml file looks like this:



For setuptools we need to create a setup.cfg file:

```
1 [metadata]
 2 name = cs107_package
 3 \text{ version} = 0.0.2
 4 author = Fabian Wermelinger
 5 author email = fabianw@seas.harvard.edu
 6 description = A small example package
 7 long_description = file: README.md
   long_description_content_type = text/markdown
   url = https://harvard-iacs.github.io/2021-CS107/
   classifiers =
10
        Intended Audience :: Developers
11
        Programming Language :: Python :: 3
12
        Topic :: Software Development :: Libraries :: Python Modules
13
14
   [options]
15
   package_dir =
16
17
        = src
   packages = find:
18
   python_requires = >=3.6
19
20
   [options.packages.find]
21
22 \text{ where} = \text{src}
```

See https://packaging.python.org/tutorials/packaging-projects/#configuring-metadata

Building and distributing the project is now easy:

- 1 \$ python -m build # omitting output
- 2 **\$** ls -1 dist/
- 3 cs107_package-0.0.2-py3-none-any.whl
- 4 cs107_package-0.0.2.tar.gz
- 5 \$ twine upload --repository testpypi dist/*
- The package is now available at https://test.pypi.org/project/cs107-package/
- Note that we published on the *testing server*
- Once you have published a release (version) you can not overwrite it if you found a mistake. You must create a new release for this.
- You can install the package with:

\$ python -m pip install -i https://test.pypi.org/simple/ cs107-package

RECAP

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- python modules
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