Attributes

Announcements

Method Calls

Dot Expressions

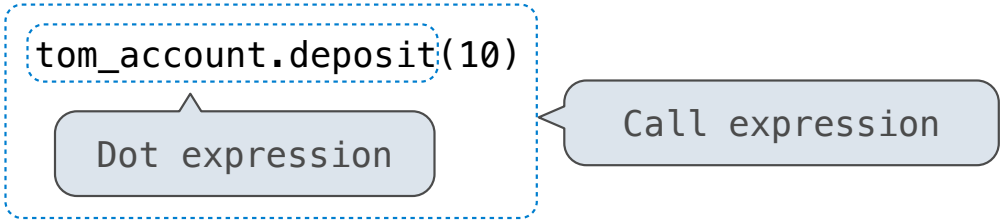
Methods are invoked using dot notation

<expression> . <name>

The <expression> can be any valid Python expression

The <name> must be a simple name

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



(Demo)

Attribute Lookup

Looking Up Attributes by Name

Both instances and classes have attributes that can be looked up by dot expressions

<expression> . <name>

To evaluate a dot expression:

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

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

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

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

Discussion Question: Where's Waldo?

For each class, write an expression **with no quotes or +** that evaluates to 'Waldo'

```
class Town:
    def __init__(self, w, aldo):
        if aldo == 7:
            self.street = {self.f(w): 'Waldo'}

    def f(self, x):
        return x + 1
```

```
>>> Town(1, 7).street[2]
'Waldo'
```

```
class Beach:
    def __init__(self):
        sand = ['Wal', 'do']
        self.dig = sand.pop

    def walk(self, x):
        self.wave = lambda y: self.dig(x) + self.dig(y)
        return self
```

Reminder: s.pop(k) removes and returns the item at index k

```
>>> Beach().walk(0).wave(0)
'Waldo'
```

Class Attributes

The Class Statement

```
class <name>:
    <suite>
```

The suite is executed when the class statement is executed.

A class statement creates a new class and binds that class to <name> in the first frame of the current environment

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

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

Class Attributes

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

```
class Account:

    interest = 0.02   # A class attribute

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

    # Additional methods would be defined here
```

```
>>> tom_account = Account('Tom')
>>> jim_account = Account('Jim')
>>> tom_account.interest
0.02
>>> jim_account.interest
0.02
```

The **interest** attribute is ***not*** part of the instance; it's part of the class!

Bound Methods

Terminology: Attributes, Functions, and Methods

All objects have attributes, which are name-value pairs

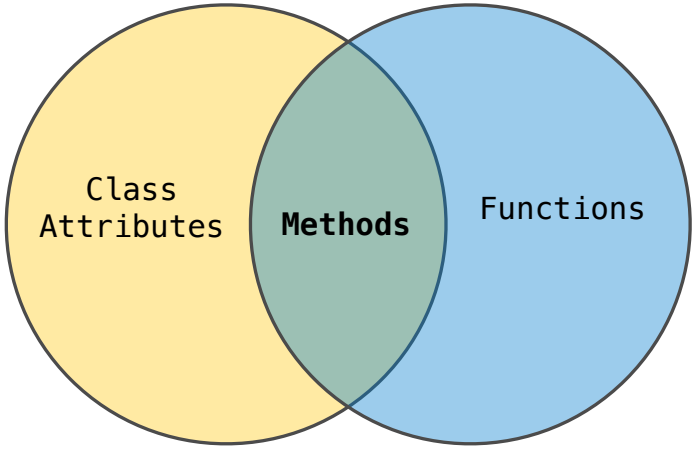
A class is a type (or category) of objects

Classes are objects too, so they have attributes

Instance attribute: attribute of an instance

Class attribute: attribute of the class of an instance

Terminology:



Python object system:

Functions are objects

Bound methods are also objects: a function that has its first parameter "self" already bound to an instance

Dot expressions evaluate to bound methods for class attributes that are functions

<instance>.<method_name>

Advice…

Refer to class attributes by the class name whenever practical.

e.g.

```
>>> Account.interest
```

don’t write:

```
>>> tom_account.interest
```

Next week, we’ll break this pattern a little bit more…

Methods and Functions

Python distinguishes between:

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

Object + Function = Bound Method

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

```
>>> Account.deposit(tom_account, 1001)
1011
>>> tom_account.deposit(1007)
2018
```

Function: all arguments within parentheses

Method: One object before the dot and other arguments within parentheses

Attribute Assignment

Attribute Assignment Statements

Account class attributes

```
interest: 0.02  0.04  0.05
(withdraw, deposit, __init__)
```

Instance attributes of jim_account

```
balance:  0
holder:   'Jim'
interest: 0.08
```

Instance attributes of tom_account

```
balance:  0
holder:   'Tom'
```

```
>>> jim_account = Account('Jim')
>>> tom_account = Account('Tom')
>>> tom_account.interest
0.02
>>> jim_account.interest
0.02
>>> Account.interest = 0.04
>>> tom_account.interest
0.04
>>> jim_account.interest
0.04
```

```
>>> jim_account.interest = 0.08
>>> jim_account.interest
0.08
>>> tom_account.interest
0.04
>>> Account.interest = 0.05
>>> tom_account.interest
0.05
>>> jim_account.interest
0.08
```