

Lecture 18

# Using Classes Effectively

# Announcements for Today

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## Assignments

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- A4 is due tonight!
  - Survey is still open
- A5 to be posted tonight
  - Short written assignment
  - Due next Thursday
- A6 to be posted Sunday
  - Due a **day before** prelim
  - Designed to take two weeks
  - So get started on it early

## Reading

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- Chapter 17 for today
- Chapter 18 for Tuesday
- But only follow loosely



# Recall: The `__init__` Method

two underscores

```
w = Worker('Obama', 1234, None)
```

```
def __init__(self, n, s, b):
```

```
    """Initializer: creates a Worker
```

```
    Has last name n, SSN s, and boss b
```

```
    Precondition: n a string,  
    s an int in range 0..9999999999,  
    b either a Worker or None. """
```

```
    self.lname = n
```

```
    self.ssn = s
```

```
    self.boss = b
```

Called by the constructor

id8

Worker

lname 'White'

ssn 1234

boss None

# Recall: The `__init__` Method

two underscores

```
w = Worker('Obama', 1234, None)
```

```
def __init__(self, n, s, b):  
    """Initializer: creates a Worker  
  
    Has last name n, SSN s, and boss b  
  
    Precondition: n a string,  
    s an int in range 0..9999999999,  
    b either a Worker or None. """  
    self.lname = n  
    self.ssn = s  
    self.boss = b
```

Are there other special methods that we can use?

# Example: Converting Values to Strings

---

## str() Function

---

- **Usage:** `str(<expression>)`
  - Evaluates the expression
  - Converts it into a string
- How does it convert?
  - `str(2) → '2'`
  - `str(True) → 'True'`
  - `str('True') → 'True'`
  - `str(Point3()) → '(0.0,0.0,0.0)'`

## repr() Function

---

- **Usage:** `repr(<expression>)`
  - Evaluates the expression
  - Converts it into a string
- How does it convert?
  - `repr(2) → '2'`
  - `repr(True) → 'True'`
  - `repr('True') → "'True'"`
  - `repr(Point3()) → '<class 'Point3'> (0.0,0.0,0.0)'`

# Example: Converting Values to Strings

## str() Function

- **Usage:** `str(<expression>)`
  - Evaluates the expression
  - Converts it into a string
- How does it convert?
  - `str(2) → '2'`
  - `str(True) → 'True'`
  - `str('True') → 'True'`
  - `str(Point3()) → '(0.0,0.0,0.0)'`

What type is this value?

## repr() Function

- `repr()` is for *unambiguous* representation
- How does it convert?
  - `repr(2) → '2'`
  - `repr(True) → 'True'`
  - `repr('True') → "'True'"`
  - `repr(Point3()) → '<class 'Point3'> (0.0,0.0,0.0)'`

The value's type is clear

# What Does `str()` Do On Objects?

- Does **NOT** display contents

```
>>> p = Point3(1,2,3)
```

```
>>> str(p)
```

```
'<Point3 object at 0x1007a90>'
```

- Must add a special method
  - `__str__` for `str()`
  - `__repr__` for `repr()`
- Could get away with just one
  - `repr()` requires `__repr__`
  - `str()` can use `__repr__` (if `__str__` is not there)

```
class Point3(object):
```

```
    """Class for points in 3d space"""
```

```
    ...
```

```
    def __str__(self):
```

```
        """Returns: string with contents"""
```

```
        return '('+str(self.x) + ',' +
```

```
                str(self.y) + ',' +
```

```
                str(self.z) + ')'
```

```
    def __repr__(self):
```

```
        """Returns: unambiguous string"""
```

```
        return str(self.__class__)+
```

```
                str(self)
```

# What Does `str()` Do On Objects?

- Does **NOT** display contents

```
>>> p = Point3(1,2,3)
```

```
>>> str(p)
```

```
'<Point3 object at 0x1007a90>'
```

- Must add a special method
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```
    """Class for points in 3d space"""
```

```
    ...
```

```
    def __str__(self):
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```
        """Returns: string with contents"""
```

```
        return '('+str(self.x) + ',' +
```

```
                str(self.y) + ',' +
```

```
                str(self.z) + ')'
```

```
    def __repr__(self):
```

```
        """Returns: unambiguous string"""
```

```
        return str(self.__class__)+
```

```
                str(self)
```

Gives the class name

`__repr__` using `__str__` as helper



# Designing Types

From first  
day of class!

- **Type**: set of values and the operations on them
  - **int**: (**set**: integers; **ops**: +, −, \*, //, ...)
  - **Time** (**set**: times of day; **ops**: time span, before/after, ...)
  - **Worker** (**set**: all possible workers; **ops**: hire, pay, promote, ...)
  - **Rectangle** (**set**: all axis-aligned rectangles in 2D;  
**ops**: contains, intersect, ...)
- To define a class, think of a *real type* you want to make
  - Python gives you the tools, but does not do it for you
  - Physically, any object can take on any value
  - Discipline is required to get what you want

# Making a Class into a Type

---

1. Think about what values you want in the set
  - What are the attributes? What values can they have?
2. Think about what operations you want
  - This often influences the previous question
- To make (1) precise: write a *class invariant*
  - Statement we promise to keep true **after every method call**
- To make (2) precise: write *method specifications*
  - Statement of what method does/what it expects (preconditions)
- Write your code to make these statements true!

# Planning out a Class

```
class Time(object):
    """Class to represent times of day.

    Inv: hour is an int in 0..23
    Inv: min is an int in 0..59"""

    def __init__(self, hour, min):
        """The time hour:min.
        Pre: hour in 0..23; min in 0..59"""

    def increment(self, hours, mins):
        """Move time hours and mins
        into the future.
        Pre: hours int >= 0; mins in 0..59"""

    def isPM(self):
        """Returns: True if noon or later."""
```

## Class Invariant

States what attributes are present and what values they can have.

A statement that will always be true of any Time instance.

## Method Specification

States what the method does.

Gives preconditions stating what is assumed true of the arguments.

# Planning out a Class

```
class Rectangle(object):
```

```
    """Class to represent rectangular region
```

```
    Inv: t (top edge) is a float
```

```
    Inv: l (left edge) is a float
```

```
    Inv: b (bottom edge) is a float
```

```
    Inv: r (right edge) is a float
```

```
    Additional Inv: l <= r and b <= t."""
```

```
    def __init__(self, t, l, b, r):
```

```
        """The rectangle [l, r] x [t, b]
```

```
        Pre: args are floats; l <= r; b <= t"""
```

```
    def area(self):
```

```
        """Return: area of the rectangle."""
```

```
    def intersection(self, other):
```

```
        """Return: new Rectangle describing  
        intersection of self with other."""
```

## Class Invariant

States what attributes are present and what values they can have.

A statement that will always be true of any Rectangle instance.

## Method Specification

States what the method does.

Gives preconditions stating what is assumed true of the arguments.

# Planning out a Class

```
class Rectangle(object):
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    """Class to represent rectangular region
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```
    Inv: b (bottom edge) is a float
```

```
    Inv: r (right edge) is a float
```

```
    Additional Inv: l <= r and b <= t."""
```

## Class Invariant

States what attributes are present and what values they can have.

A statement that will always be true of any Rectangle instance.

```
def __init__(self, t, l, b, r):
```

```
    """The rectangle [l, r] x [t, b]
```

```
    Pre: args are floats; l <= r; l
```

Special invariant **relating** attributes to each other

## Method Specification

States what the method does.

Gives preconditions stating what is assumed true of the arguments.

```
def area(self):
```

```
    """Return: area of the rectangle."""
```

```
def intersection(self, other):
```

```
    """Return: new Rectangle describing intersection of self with other."""
```

# Planning out a Class

```
class Hand(object):  
    """Instances represent a hand in cards.
```

```
    Inv: cards is a list of Card objects.  
    This list is sorted according to the  
    ordering defined by the Card class."""
```

```
    def __init__(self, deck, n):  
        """Draw a hand of n cards.  
        Pre: deck is a list of  $\geq n$  cards"""
```

```
    def isFullHouse(self):  
        """Return: True if this hand is a full  
        house; False otherwise"""
```

```
    def discard(self, k):  
        """Discard the k-th card."""
```

## Class Invariant

States what attributes are present and what values they can have.  
A statement that will always be true of any Rectangle instance.

## Method Specification

States what the method does.  
Gives preconditions stating what is assumed true of the arguments.

# Implementing a Class

---

- All that remains is to fill in the methods. (All?!)
- When **implementing methods**:
  1. **Assume preconditions** are true
  2. **Assume class invariant** is true to start
  3. Ensure method specification is fulfilled
  4. Ensure class invariant is true when done
- Later, when **using the class**:
  - When calling methods, **ensure preconditions** are true
  - If attributes are altered, **ensure class invariant** is true

# Implementing an Initializer

---

```
def __init__(self, hour, min):  
    """The time hour:min.  
    Pre: hour in 0..23; min in 0..59"""
```

← This is true to start

```
self.hour = hour  
self.min = min
```

← You put code here

```
Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59
```

← This should be true at the end



# Implementing a Method

Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59

This is true to start

```
def increment(self, hours, mins):  
    """Move this time <hours> hours  
    and <mins> minutes into the future.  
    Pre: hours [int] >= 0; mins in 0..59"""
```

What we are supposed  
to accomplish

This is also true to start

```
self.min = self.min + mins  
self.hour = self.hour + hours
```

?

You put code here

Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59

This should be true  
at the end

# Implementing a Method

Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59

```
def increment(self, hours, mins):  
    """Move this time <hours> hours  
    and <mins> minutes into the future.  
    Pre: hours [int] >= 0; mins in 0..59"""
```

```
self.min = self.min + mins  
self.hour = (self.hour + hours +  
             self.min // 60)  
self.min = self.min % 60  
self.hour = self.hour % 24
```

Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59

What we are supposed  
to accomplish

This is also true to start

You put code here

This should be true  
at the end

# Object Oriented Design

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## Interface

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- How the code fits together
  - interface btw programmers
  - interface btw parts of an app
- Given by **specifications**
  - Class spec and invariants
  - Method specs and preconds
  - Interface is **ALL of these**

## Implementation

---

- What the code actually does
  - when create an object
  - when call a method
- Given by method **definitions**
  - Must meet specifications
  - Must not violate invariants
  - But otherwise flexible

Important concept for making  
large software systems

# Implementing a Class

---

- All that remains is to fill in the methods. (All?!)
- When **implementing methods**:
  1. **Assume preconditions** are true
  2. **Assume class invariant** is true to start
  3. Ensure method specification is fulfilled
  4. Ensure class invariant is true when done
- Later, when **using the class**:
  - When calling methods, **ensure preconditions** are true
  - If attributes are altered, **ensure class invariant** is true

# Recall: Enforce Preconditions with assert

---

```
def anglicize(n):
```

```
    """Returns: the anglicization of int n.
```

```
    Precondition: n an int, 0 < n < 1,000,000"""
```

```
    assert type(n) == int, str(n)+' is not an int'
```

```
    assert 0 < n and n < 1000000, repr(n)+' is out of range'
```

```
    # Implement method here...
```

Check (part of)  
the precondition

(Optional) Error message  
when precondition violated

# Enforce Method Preconditions with assert

```
class Time(object):
```

```
    """Class to represent times of day."""
```

```
    def __init__(self, hour, min):
```

```
        """The time hour:min.
```

```
        Pre: hour in 0..23; min in 0..59"""
```

```
        assert type(hour) == int
```

```
        assert 0 <= hour and hour < 24
```

```
        assert type(min) == int
```

```
        assert 0 <= min and min < 60
```

```
    def increment(self, hours, mins):
```

```
        """Move this time <hours> hours  
        and <mins> minutes into the future.
```

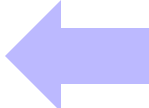
```
        Pre: hours is int >= 0; mins in 0..59"""
```

```
        assert type(hour) == int
```

```
        assert type(min) == int
```

```
        assert hour >= 0
```

```
        assert 0 <= min and min < 60
```



```
Inv: hour is an int in 0..23  
Inv: min is an int in 0..59"""
```

Initializer creates/initializes all of the instance attributes.

Asserts in initializer guarantee the initial values satisfy the invariant.

Asserts in other methods enforce the method preconditions.

# Hiding Methods From Access

- Hidden methods
  - start with an **underscore**
  - do not show up in `help()`
  - are meant to be **internal** (e.g. helper methods)
- But they are **not restricted**
  - You can still access them
  - But this is bad practice!
  - Like a precondition violation
- Can do same for attributes
  - Underscore makes it hidden
  - Only used inside of methods

```
class Time(object):
    """Class to represent times of day.
    Inv: hour is an int in 0..23
    Inv: min is an int in 0..59"""

    def _is_minute(self,m):
        """Return: True if m valid minute"""
        return (type(m) == int and
                m >= 0 and m < 60)

    def __init__(self, hour, min):
        """The time hour:min.
        Pre: hour in 0..23; min in 0..59"""
        assert self._is_minute(m)
        ...
```

Helper

# Hiding Methods From Access

- Hidden methods
  - start with an **underscore**
  - do not show up in `help()`
  - are meant to be **internal** (e.g. helper methods)
- But they are **not restricted**
  - You can still access them
  - But this is bad practice!
  - Like a precondition violation
- Can do same for attributes

Will come back to this

```
class Time(object):
    """Class to represent times of day.
    Inv: hour is an int in 0..23
    min is an int in 0..59"""
    def _is_minute(self,m):
        """Return: True if m valid minute"""
        return (type(m) == int and
                m >= 0 and m < 60)
    def __init__(self, hour, min):
        """The time hour:min.
        Pre: hour in 0..23; min in 0..59"""
        assert self._is_minute(m)
    ...
```

**HIDDEN**

Helper



# Enforcing Invariants

```
class Time(object):
```

```
    """Class to repr times of day.
```

```
    Inv: hour is an int in 0..23
```

```
    Inv: min is an int in 0..59
```

```
    """
```

**Invariants:**  
Properties that  
are always true.

- These are just comments!

```
>>> t = Time(2,30)
```

```
>>> t.hour = 'Hello'
```

- How do we prevent this?

- **Idea:** Restrict direct access
  - Only access via methods
  - Use asserts to enforce them

- **Example:**

```
def getHour(self):
```

```
    """Returns: the hour"""
```

```
    return self.hour
```

```
def setHour (self,value):
```

```
    """Sets hour to value"""
```

```
    assert type(value) == int
```

```
    assert value >= 0 and value < 24
```

```
    self.numerator = value
```

# Data Encapsulation

---

- **Idea:** Force the user to only use methods
- Do not allow direct access of attributes

---

## Setter Method

- Used to change an attribute
- Replaces all assignment statements to the attribute
- **Bad:**  

```
>>> t.hour = 5
```
- **Good:**  

```
>>> t.setHour(5)
```

---

## Getter Method

- Used to access an attribute
- Replaces all usage of attribute in an expression
- **Bad:**  

```
>>> x = 3*t.hour
```
- **Good:**  

```
>>> x = 3*t.getHour()
```

# Data Encapsulation

```
class Time(object):  
    """Class to repr times of day. """  
  
    def getHour (self):  
        """Returns: hour attribute"""  
        return self._hour  
  
    def setHour(self, h):  
        """ Sets hour to h  
        Pre: h is an int in 0..23 """  
        assert type(h) == int  
        assert 0 <= h and h < 24  
        self._hour = h
```

**Getter**

**Setter**

**NO ATTRIBUTES**  
in class specification

**Method specifications**  
describe the attributes

**Setter precondition** is  
same as the **invariant**

# Data Encapsulation

```
class Time(object):  
    """Class to repr times of day. """
```

**NO ATTRIBUTES**  
in class specification

**Getter**

```
def getHour (self):  
    """Returns: hour attribute"""  
    return self._hour
```

**Method specifications**  
describe the attributes

**Setter**

```
def setHour(  
    """ Sets h  
    Pre: h is an  
    assert type(h) == int  
    assert 0 <= h and h < 24  
    self._hour = d
```

Hidden attribute user  
should **NOT** know about

Precondition is  
same as the **invariant**

# Encapsulation and Specifications

```
class Time(object):
```

```
    """Class to represent times of day. """
```

No attributes  
in class spec

```
    ### Hidden attributes
```

```
    # Att _hour: hour of the day
```

```
    # Inv: _hour is an int in 0..23
```

```
    # Att _min: minute of the hour
```

```
    # Inv: _min is an int in 0..59
```

These comments  
make it part of the  
**class invariant**  
but not part of the  
(public) **interface**

These comments  
do not go in help()

# Encapsulation and Specifications

```
class Time(object):
```

```
    """Class to represent times of day. """
```

No attributes  
in class spec

```
    ### Hidden attributes
```

```
    # Att _h
```

**New style for 2019!**

These comments  
are part of the  
**invariant**

```
    # Inv: _h
```

but not part of the  
(public) **interface**

```
    # Att _min: minute of the hour
```

```
    # Inv: _min is an int in 0..59
```

These comments  
do not go in help()

# Class Invariant vs Interface

---

## Class Invariant

---

- List attributes that are present
  - Both hidden AND unhidden
  - Lists the invariants of each
- For the **implementer**
  - Guide for the initializer
  - Guide for method definitions

## Interface

---

- Describes what is accessible
  - Unhidden methods/attribs
  - What is visible in help()
- For user/**other programmers**
  - Enough to create an object
  - Enough to call the methods

Previous years of CS1110  
confused these two topics

# Mutable vs. Immutable Attributes

---

## Mutable

---

- Can change value directly
  - If class invariant met
  - **Example:** `turtle.color`
- Has both getters and setters
  - Setters allow you to change
  - Enforce invariants w/ asserts

## Immutable

---

- Can't change value directly
  - May change “behind scenes”
  - **Example:** `turtle.x`
- Has only a getter
  - No setter means no change
  - Getter allows limited access

May ask you to differentiate on the exam



# Mutable vs. Immutable Attributes

## Mutable

- Can change value directly
  - If class invariant met
  - **Example:** `turtle.color`
- Has both **getters and setters**
  - Setters allow
  - Enforce invar

**Where?**  
Next week.

## Immutable

- Can't change value directly
  - May change “behind scenes”
  - **Example:** `turtle.x`
- Has only a getter
  - No setter means no change
  - Getter allows limited access

May ask you to differentiate on the exam

# Exercise: Design a (2D) Circle

---

- What are the **attributes**?
  - What is the bare minimum we need?
  - What are some extras we might want?
  - What are the invariants?
- What are the **methods**?
  - With just the one circle?
  - With more than one circle?