

Operator Overloading

- 1 OOP to count Flops
 - a flop = a floating-point operation
 - overloading arithmetical operators
 - counting number of flops in a sum
- 2 Quaternions
 - hypercomplex numbers
 - application in computer graphics
- 3 Operator Overloading
 - the class `Quaternion`
 - defining functional attributes
- 4 Summary + Assignments

MCS 260 Lecture 25
Introduction to Computer Science
Jan Verschelde, 9 March 2016

Object-Oriented Programming

A definition from Grady Booch et al.:

Object-oriented programming is a method of implementation in which

- 1 programs are organized as cooperative collections of **objects**,
- 2 each of which represents an instance of some **class**,
- 3 and whose classes are all members of a **hierarchy** of classes united via inheritance relationships.

Objects — not algorithms — are the building blocks.

Algorithms are central in procedure-oriented programming.

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Counting Flops

floating-point operations

A flop is short for floating-point operation.

In scientific computation, the cost analysis is often measured in flops.

Note: before version 6, MATLAB had a `flops` command.

Using Object Oriented Programming:

- 1 we define a class `FlopFloat`,
- 2 every object stores its `#flops`:
these are the flops used to compute the number,
- 3 the overloaded arithmetical operators
count also the flops for each result.

the class FlopFloat

```
class FlopFloat(object):
    """
    An object of the class FlopFloat records
    the number of floating-point operations
    executed to compute the float.
    """

    def __init__(self, f=0.0, n=0):
        """
        Construct a FlopFloat from a number f
        and an operational cost n, by default 0.
        """
        self.float = float(f)
        self.flops = n
```

interactive usage

If we save the class definition in `flopfloats.py`, then we can import the definition as follows:

```
>>> from flopfloats import FlopFloat
>>> x = FlopFloat(3.14159625)
>>> x
3.1416e+00
>>> str(x)
'3.1416e+00'
>>> print(x)
3.1416e+00
>>> x.__str__('%.8f')
'3.14159625'
```

The representation of a `FlopFloat` is defined by `__repr__()`.
The string representation is defined by `__str__()`.

representations of FlopFloat

```
def __str__(self, form='%.4e'):  
    """  
    Uses the formatting string in the %  
    to return a string representation.  
    """  
    return form % self.float  
  
def __repr__(self):  
    """  
    Returns the default string representation.  
    """  
    return str(self)
```

Because of the definition of `__repr__()`, we have:

```
>>> x  
3.1416e+00
```

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overloading operators

Recall the addition of strings:

```
>>> "ab" + "bc"  
'abbc'
```

and the addition of lists:

```
>>> [1, 2] + [2, 3]  
[1, 2, 2, 3]
```

The + operator is defined via the `__add__` method:

```
>>> L = [1, 2]  
>>> L.__add__([3, 4])  
[1, 2, 3, 4]
```

the class list

Typing `help(list)` in a Python session shows:

Help on class list in module `__builtin__`:

```
class list(object)
| list() -> new list
| list(sequence) -> new list initialized
|                   from sequence's items
|
| Methods defined here:
|
| __add__(...)
|     x.__add__(y) <==> x+y
...

```

comparison operators and methods

comparison operation	operator	method
equality	==	<code>__eq__</code>
inequality	!=	<code>__ne__</code>
less than	<	<code>__lt__</code>
greater than	>	<code>__gt__</code>
less or equal	<=	<code>__le__</code>
greater or equal	>=	<code>__ge__</code>

motivation for an equality test

Without having defined the equality in `FlopFloat`:

```
>>> x = FlopFloat(3)
>>> x == 3
False
```

But we have:

```
>>> x.float == 3
True
```

And consider:

```
>>> y = FlopFloat(3)
>>> x == y
False
```

We get `False` because `x` and `y` are different objects.

after extending FlopFloat with `__eq__`

```
>>> from floppoints import FlopFloat
>>> x = FlopFloat(3)
>>> x == 3
True
>>> y = FlopFloat(3)
>>> x == y
True
>>> z = x + 0
>>> z
3.0000e+00
>>> z == x
False
>>> z.flops
1
>>> x.flops
0
```

defining the equality operator

```
def __eq__(self, other):  
    """  
    Two floppfloats are equal if both  
    their float and flops match.  
    """  
    if isinstance(other, FlopFloat):  
        return (other.float == self.float) \  
            and (other.flops == self.flops)  
    else:  
        return self.float == other
```

arithmetical operators and methods

arithmetical operation	operator	method
negation	-	<code>__neg__</code>
addition	+	<code>__add__</code>
inplace addition	<code>+=</code>	<code>__iadd__</code>
reflected addition	+	<code>__radd__</code>
subtraction	-	<code>__sub__</code>
inplace subtraction	<code>-=</code>	<code>__isub__</code>
reflected subtraction	<code>-=</code>	<code>__rsub__</code>
multiplication	*	<code>__mul__</code>
inplace multiplication	<code>*=</code>	<code>__imul__</code>
reflected multiplication	*	<code>__rmul__</code>
division	/	<code>__div__</code>
inplace division	<code>/=</code>	<code>__idiv__</code>
reflected division	<code>/=</code>	<code>__rdiv__</code>
invert	~	<code>__invert__</code>
power	**	<code>__pow__</code>

Overloading Operators, e.g.: addition

The `other` may be an ordinary float:

```
def __add__(self, other):
    """
    Returns the result of the addition,
    the other may be an ordinary number.
    """
    if isinstance(other, FlopFloat):
        result = FlopFloat(self.float + other.float)
        result.flops = self.flops + other.flops + 1
    else: # treat other just as ordinary number
        result = FlopFloat(self.float + other)
        result.flops = self.flops + 1
    return result
```

Other arithmetical operations are defined similarly.

We store the class definition in the file `flopfloats.py` and import it as a module.

reflected addition

The reflected (or swapped) addition happens when the first operand in `+` is not a `FlopFloat` but an ordinary number.

```
def __radd__(self, other):
    """
    Addition when operand is not a FlopFloat,
    as in 2.7 + x or 3 + x (reflected operand).
    """
    result = self + other
    return result
```

When `x` is a `FlopFloat`, then `x+y` is executed as `x.__add__(y)`, where `x` is `self` and `y` is `other`.

For `x + y` when `x` is not a `FlopFloat`, but `y` is a `FlopFloat`, then `y.__radd__(x)` is executed.

inplace addition and negation

The inplace operator allows for shorter notation.

```
def __iadd__(self, other):
    """
    Defines the inplace addition, x += y.
    """
    result = self + other
    return result
```

Flipping sign is a unary operator (no other):

```
def __neg__(self):
    """
    Returns -x.
    """
    result = self
    result.float = -result.float
    # flipping sign does not count as a flop
    return result
```

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A Simple Test of Use

summing numbers in flopsum.py

```
"""
```

```
We use FlopFloats to count the number  
of operations when summing n floats.
```

```
"""
```

```
from flopfloats import FlopFloat  
from random import gauss
```

```
print('counting flops in a sum' + \  
      ' of n floating-point numbers')
```

```
N = int(input('Give n : '))
```

```
RANDSUM = FlopFloat()
```

```
for i in range(0, N):
```

```
    RANDSUM = RANDSUM + gauss(0, 1)
```

```
print('sum = ' + str(RANDSUM) + \  
      ' #flops is %d' % RANDSUM.flops)
```

running flopsum

At the command prompt \$:

```
$ python flopsum.py
counting flops in a sum of n floats
Give n : 100
sum = -2.8354e+00 #flops is 100
```

It works!

A less trivial application:

Use `FlopFloats` to count #operations to evaluate

$$p(x) = 6x^4 - 3.23x^3 - x^2 + 0.3453x - 9.23.$$

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Complex Numbers

Typing `help(complex)` in a Python session shows

Help on class complex in module `__builtin__`:

```
class complex(object)
|   complex(real[, imag]) -> complex number
|
|   Create a complex number from a real part
|   and an optional imaginary part.
|   This is equivalent to (real + imag*1j)
|   where imag defaults to 0.
|
|   Methods defined here:
|
|   __abs__(...)
|       x.__abs__() <==> abs(x)
...

```

Quaternion

hypercomplex numbers

A quaternion q (or a hypercomplex number) is

$$q = a_0 + a_1i + a_2j + a_3k,$$

where the tuple (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3) is the coefficient vector of q and the symbols i , j , and k satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}i^2 &= -1 & j^2 &= -1, & k^2 &= -1, \\ij &= k, & jk &= i, & ki &= j, \\ji &= -k, & kj &= -i, & ik &= -j,\end{aligned}$$

defining the multiplication of two quaternions.

The set of all quaternions is often denoted by \mathbb{H} , in honor of Sir William Rowan Hamilton who introduced them in 1843 before vector algebra was known.

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Applications of Quaternions

computer graphics

Quaternions represent coordinate transformations in 3-space more compactly than matrices:

$$q = (a_0, \mathbf{a}), \quad \mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, a_3).$$

Also composition of coordinate transformations goes faster with quaternions.

Quaternion multiplication \otimes
with scalar, dot (\cdot), and cross product (\times):

$$(a_0, \mathbf{a}) \otimes (b_0, \mathbf{b}) = a_0 b_0 - \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + a_0 \mathbf{a} + b_0 \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}.$$

Rotations in Space

Rotation about a unit vector $\vec{\mathbf{u}}$ by angle θ :

$$q = (s, \vec{\mathbf{v}}) \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} s = \cos(\theta/2), \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}} = \sin(\theta/2)\vec{\mathbf{u}}. \end{cases}$$

Applying the rotation to a point $\mathbf{p} = (x, y, z)$:

- 1 represent \mathbf{p} by the quaternion $P = (0, \mathbf{p})$,
- 2 compute $q \otimes P \otimes q^{-1}$.

For $q = (q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3)$, its inverse is $q^{-1} = \frac{q^*}{\|q\|^2}$,

where

- the conjugate of q is $q^* = (q_0, -q_1, -q_2, -q_3)$, and
- the magnitude of q satisfies $\|q\|^2 = q_0^2 + q_1^2 + q_2^2 + q_3^2$.

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the class `Quaternion` in the file `quaternion.py`

```
"""
Another illustration of operator overloading.
"""
class Quaternion(object):
    """
    Quaternions are hypercomplex numbers.
    """
```

With the class definition in a file:

```
>>> import quaternion
>>> quaternion.__doc__
'\nAnother illustration of operator overloading.\n'
>>> from quaternion import Quaternion
>>> Quaternion.__doc__
'\n    Quaternions are hypercomplex numbers.\n'
```

The `__doc__` gives the documentation strings of the module `quaternion` and the class `Quaternion`.

data attributes for classes and objects

```
class Quaternion(object): # documentation string omitted

    count = 0    # class data attributes
    who = []

    def __init__(self, a=0, b=0, c=0, d=0):
        """
        Constructs the Quaternion with
        coefficients a,b,c,d.
        """
        self.cre = a    # real part
        self.cim = b    # imaginary part
        self.cjj = c    # j-part
        self.ckk = d    # k-part
        Quaternion.count += 1
        Quaternion.who.append(self)
```

count and who are *class* data attributes

a, b, c, and d are *object* data attributes

instances of data attributes for classes and objects

Consider

```
>>> from quaternion import Quaternion
>>> x = Quaternion(2, 3, 0, 1)
>>> y = Quaternion(0, 1, 0, 0)
>>> Quaternion.count
2
```

The numbers 2,3,0,1 are attributes for the object `x`, just as 0,1,0,0 are for `y`.

The value 2 counts the number of quaternions, stored by the class data attribute `count`.

The other class data attribute, `Quaternion.who` keeps the list of all quaternions.

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constructing quaternions

To define a general quaternion, we supply 4 arguments:

```
>>> from quaternion import Quaternion
>>> q = Quaternion(1,2,3,4) # 1 + 2 i + 3 j + 4 k
```

but sometimes we want to supply less:

```
>>> c = Quaternion(5)      # defines a constant
>>> k = Quaternion(d = 1) # defines k
```

The constructor `__init__` has 4 default values:

```
def __init__(self, a=0, b=0, c=0, d=0):
    """
    Constructs the Quaternion with
    coefficients a,b,c,d.
    """
```

representing quaternions

```
def __str__(self):
    """
    The string representation of a Quaternion
    uses i, j, and k. Note the + in the format.
    """
    return '%.2f %+.2f i %+.2f j %+.2f k' \
           % (self.cre, self.cim, self.cjj, self.ckk)
```

```
>>> I = Quaternion(b=1)
>>> str(I)
'0.00 + 1.00 i + 0.00 j + 0.00 k'
>>> I
<quaternion.Quaternion instance at 0x402d5dcc>
```

To represent with a string by default, overload `__repr__()`:

```
def __repr__(self):
    "Quaternion Representation is a String"
    return str(self)
```

Typing `I` gives now `0.00 + 1.00 i + 0.00 j + 0.00 k`.

overloading equality

With the builtin `==` operator:

```
>>> x = Quaternion(1)
>>> y = Quaternion(1,0)
>>> x
1.00 + 0.00 i + 0.00 j + 0.00 k
>>> y
1.00 + 0.00 i + 0.00 j + 0.00 k
>>> x == y
False
```

But we wanted (and expected) `True` as answer!

It takes two to compare, besides `self`, we need the `other`.

overloading equality: defining `__eq__`

The `other` is like `self`, used in binary operators:

```
def __eq__(self, other):
    """
    Defines Quaternion Equality.
    """
    return self.cre == other.cre and \
           self.cim == other.cim and \
           self.cjj == other.cjj and \
           self.ckk == other.ckk
```

Now, we will have `True`:

```
>>> x = Quaternion(1)
>>> y = Quaternion(1,0)
>>> x == y
True
```

overloading arithmetical operators

We want to write $z = x + y$ and even $z += x$ when adding two quaternions.

Consider first the negation, i.e.: $z = -x$

```
def __neg__(self):
    """
    The negation of a Quaternion.
    """
    return Quaternion(-self.cre, \
                      -self.cim, \
                      -self.cjj, \
                      -self.ckk)
```

Defining `__neg__` we overloaded the negation `-`.

overloading addition the other and inplace addition

It takes two to add, besides `self`, we need the `other`.

```
def __add__(self, other):  
    """  
    Adding two Quaternions"  
    """  
    return Quaternion(self.cre + other.cre, \  
                      self.cim + other.cim, \  
                      self.cjj + other.cjj, \  
                      self.ckk + other.ckk)
```

If we also want to update quaternions as `z += x`,
then we overload the inplace addition operator `__iadd__`.

magnitude and conjugate

```
def __abs__(self):
    """
    Returns the magnitude of a Quaternion.
    """
    from math import sqrt
    return sqrt(self.cre**2+self.cim**2 \
                +self.cjj**2+self.ckk**2)

def conjugate(self):
    """
    Returns the conjugate of a Quaternion.
    """
    return Quaternion(self.cre, -self.cim, \
                      -self.cjj, -self.ckk)
```

the inverse of a quaternion

```
def scamul(self, scx):  
    """  
    Product of Quaternion with scalar scx.  
    """  
    return Quaternion(self.cre*scx, self.cim*scx, \  
                      self.cjj*scx, self.ckk*scx)  
  
def __invert__(self):  
    """  
    The Inverse of the Quaternion.  
    """  
    return self.conjugate().scamul(1/abs(self))
```

Summary + Assignments

Assignments:

- 1 Overload the subtraction operator for quaternions. Also do the inplace version.
- 2 Provide a method `Coefficients` that returns a tuple with the coefficients of the quaternion.
- 3 Extend `scamul` so that you can compute the multiplication of any quaternion with any scalar multiple of i , j , and k .
- 4 Write Python code for \otimes and verify whether $q \otimes q^{-1} = 1$, for a random quaternion q .
- 5 Use operator overloading in the Python code for the class `Rational` to work with rational numbers.