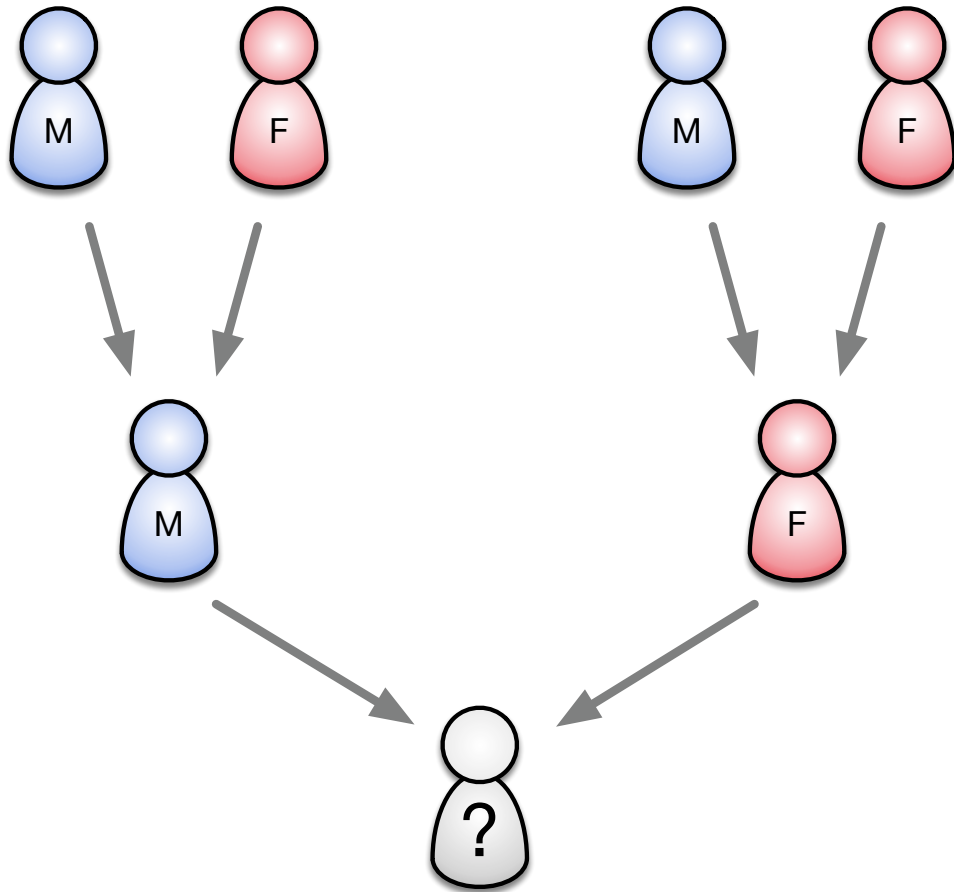


Inheritance

Prof. Dr. Harald Gall

University of Zurich, Department of Informatics

Family Tree



Specific traits are passed on in a family tree.

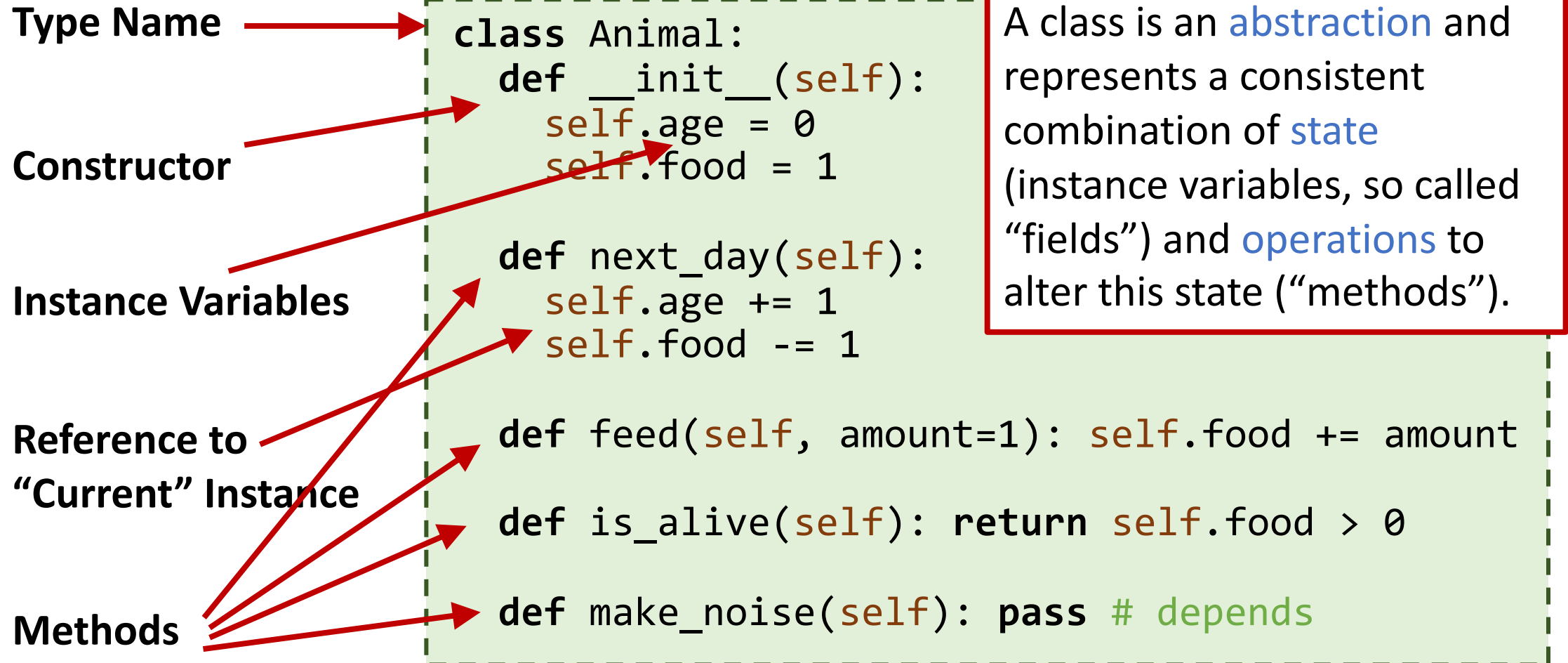
Eye Color

Hair Color

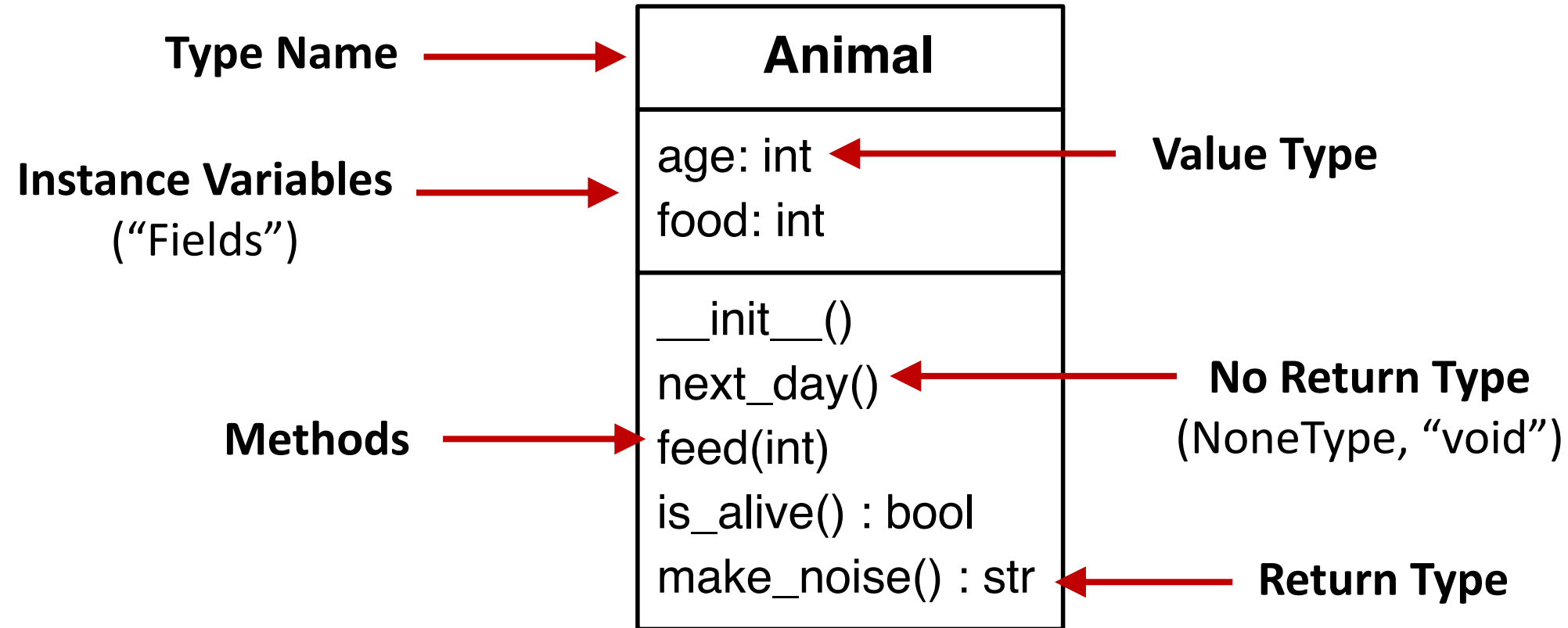
Facial Shape

...

Animal Class



Unified Modelling Language (UML)



Adding Concrete Animals

```
class Cat(Animal):  
    def make_noise(self):  
        return "Purrrr"
```

Base Class

```
class Dog(Animal):  
    def make_noise(self):  
        return "Woof"
```

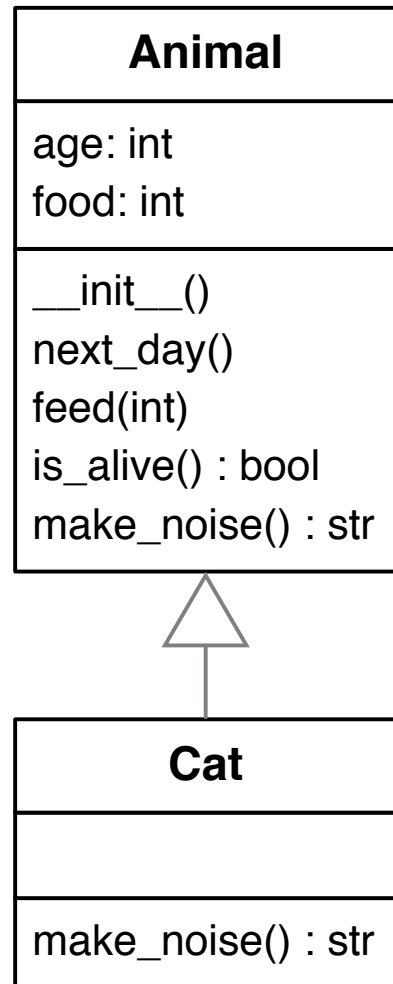
"Overridden" Method

The concrete class has all
functionality of the base class

```
c = Cat()  
c.feed()  
print(c.is_alive()) # True  
c.next_day()  
print(c.is_alive) # True  
c.next_day()  
print(c.is_alive) # False
```

In OOP languages, classes can **extend** existing classes to **inherit** their behavior. At the same time, they can **change** and **extend** the behavior.

UML: Inheritance



Animal is the **super class** of **Cat**

Animal is the **base class** of **Cat**

Cat is a **sub class** of **Animal**

Cat **is an** **Animal**

Cat() is an **instance of** **Animal**

Cat and **Animal** are a **type hierarchy**.

make_noise is dynamically “dispatched”

OOP languages support **Polymorphism**. They can decide at the **runtime** of a program, depending on the **type** of the **receiver object**, which implementation of a specific method needs to be invoked.

```
Cat().make_noise() # Purrr  
Dog().make_noise() # Woof  
Animal().make_noise() # None
```

It does not make sense to instantiate “Animal”, how can we prevent it?

Abstract Base Class

```
from abc import ABC, abstractmethod

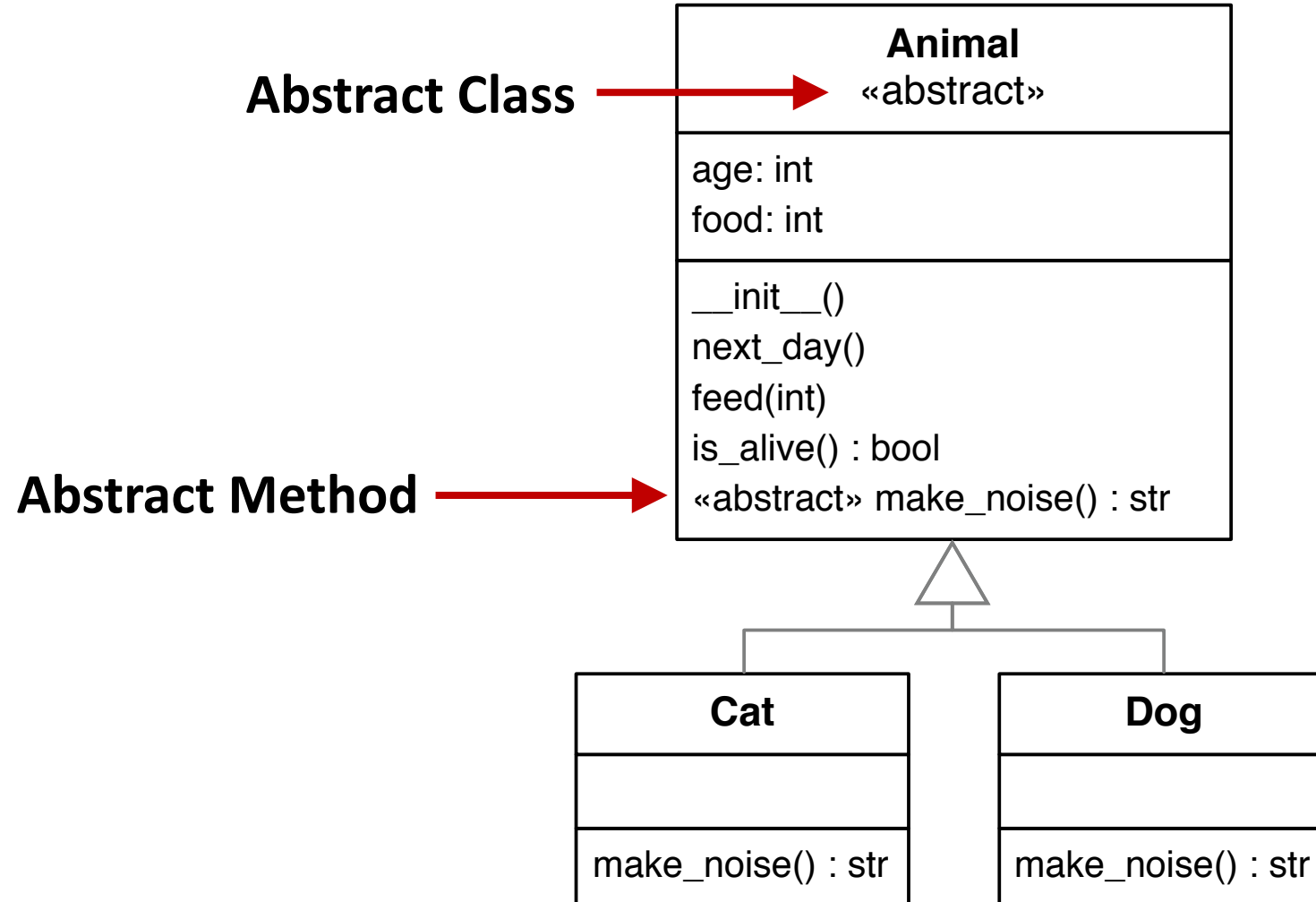
class Animal(ABC): # "A"bstract "B"ase "C"lass
    ...
    @abstractmethod
    def make_noise(self):
        pass
```

```
a = Animal()
# TypeError: Can't instantiate abstract class
Animal with abstract methods make_noise
```

An **abstract base class** can provide functionality that is relevant for subclasses without being constructable.

Define **abstract methods** in an **abstract base class** to indicate that subclasses **must implement** a particular method (template methods).

UML: Abstract



Elephants Need More Food

```
class Elephant(Animal):  
    def next_day(self):  
        self.food -= 3  
  
    def make_noise(self):  
        return "Toot"
```

Use **visibility modifiers** to hide implementation details. In contrast to **public** variables, **private** ones are visible in the class, **protected** ones are visible to the hierarchy.

Private

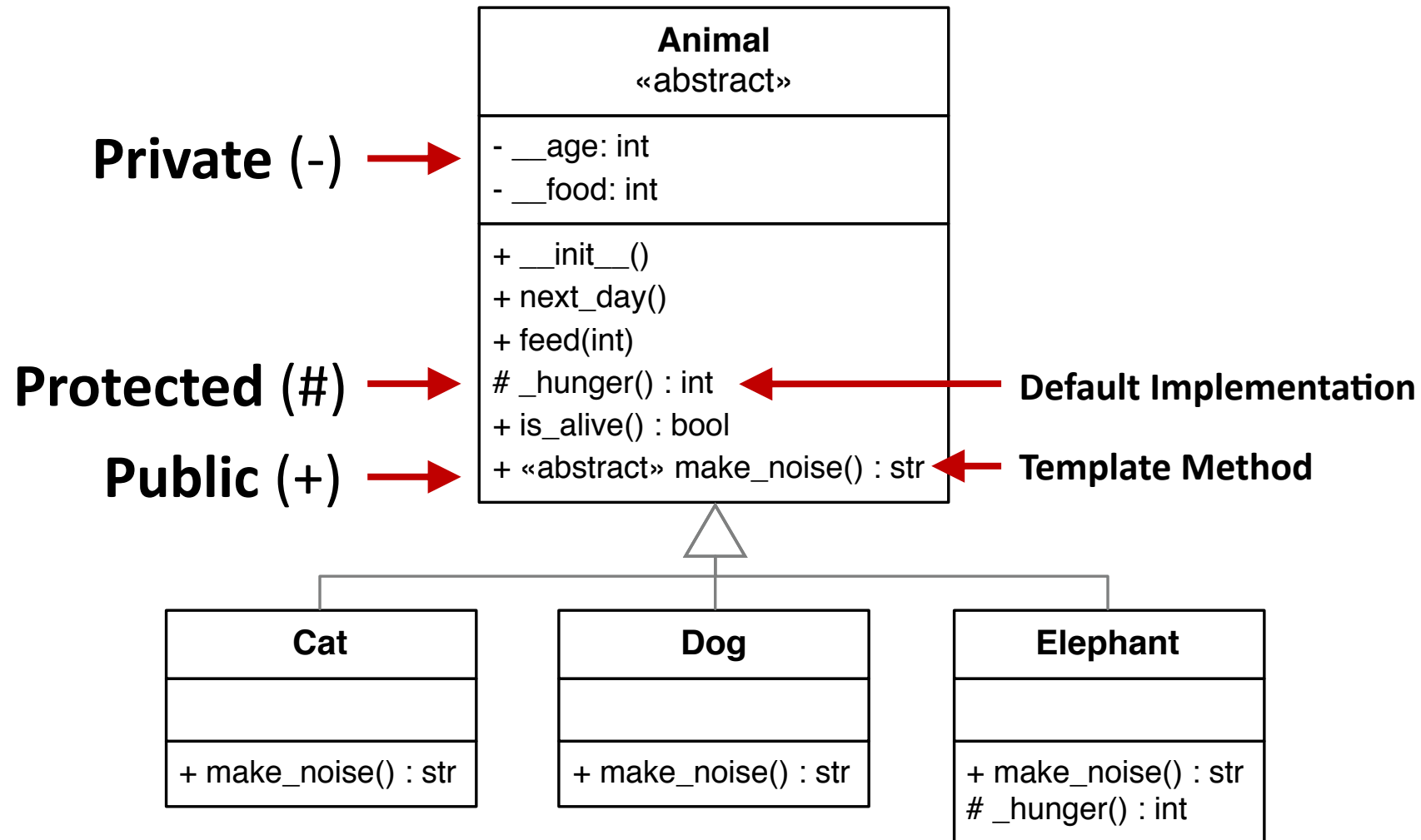
```
class Animal(ABC):  
    ...  
    def next_day(self):  
        self.__food -= self._hunger()  
    def _hunger(self):  
        return 1
```

Protected

Public

```
class Elephant(Animal):  
    def _hunger(self):  
        return 3  
    def make_noise(self):  
        return "Toot"
```

UML: Visibility



What is the advantage of OOP?

```
zoo = [Cat(), Dog(), Elephant()]

for animal in zoo:
    assert isinstance(animal, Animal)

    # next day
    animal.next_day()

    # feed it
    if animal.is_alive():
        animal.feed(1)
    else:
        zoo.remove(animal)
```

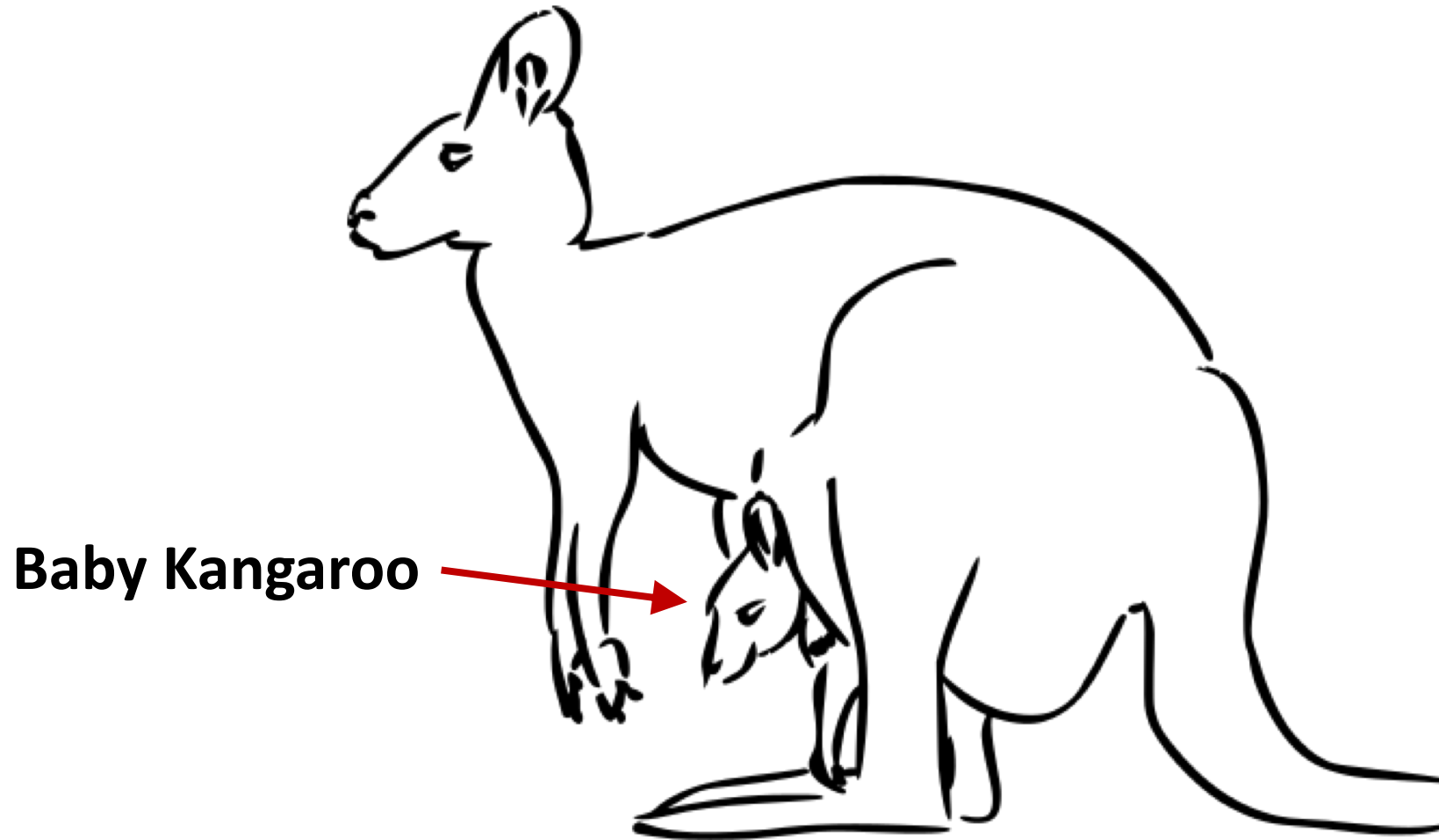
Often, you do not need the **exact type** of an object, it is enough to know the interface of an **abstraction**. This allows hiding implementation details of subtypes that add features.

```
if isinstance(animal, Elephant):
    # maybe "hunger" should be public
    animal.feed(3)
```

Little Word of Caution


- You CAN check for the concrete type, i.e., `isinstance(o, «Type»)`
- We are in an *Introduction to Programming* course, so this is ok!
- However, adding checks for concrete types **breaks extensibility!**
- If it is strictly required, it is a *smell* of a bad system design.
- More advanced techniques for type checking exceed the scope the lecture; if you are interested have a look at the **Visitor** design pattern.

Kangaroos Have Pouches



Let's Implement Kangaroos (Take 1)

```
class Kangaroo(Animal):  
    def __init__(self):  
        self.__pouch = []  
    def reproduce(self):  
        self.__pouch.append(Kangaroo())  
    ...
```



**Now we have a pouch, but
what about age and food?**

Let's Implement Kangaroo (Take 2)

```
class Kangaroo(Animal):  
    def __init__(self):  
        super().__init__() ←  
        self.__pouch = []  
    def reproduce(self):  
        self.__pouch.append(Kangaroo())  
    ...
```

Use `super()` to redirect method calls to the implementation in the super class

How do the baby kangaroos get fed? How do they age?

Let's Implement Kangaroo (Take 3)

**“Override”
existing
methods**

```
class Kangaroo(Animal):  
    ...  
    def next_day():  
        for baby in self.__pouch:  
            baby.next_day()  
    def feed(self, amount):  
        for baby in self.__pouch:  
            baby.feed(amount)
```

**Pass on the calls
to the children**

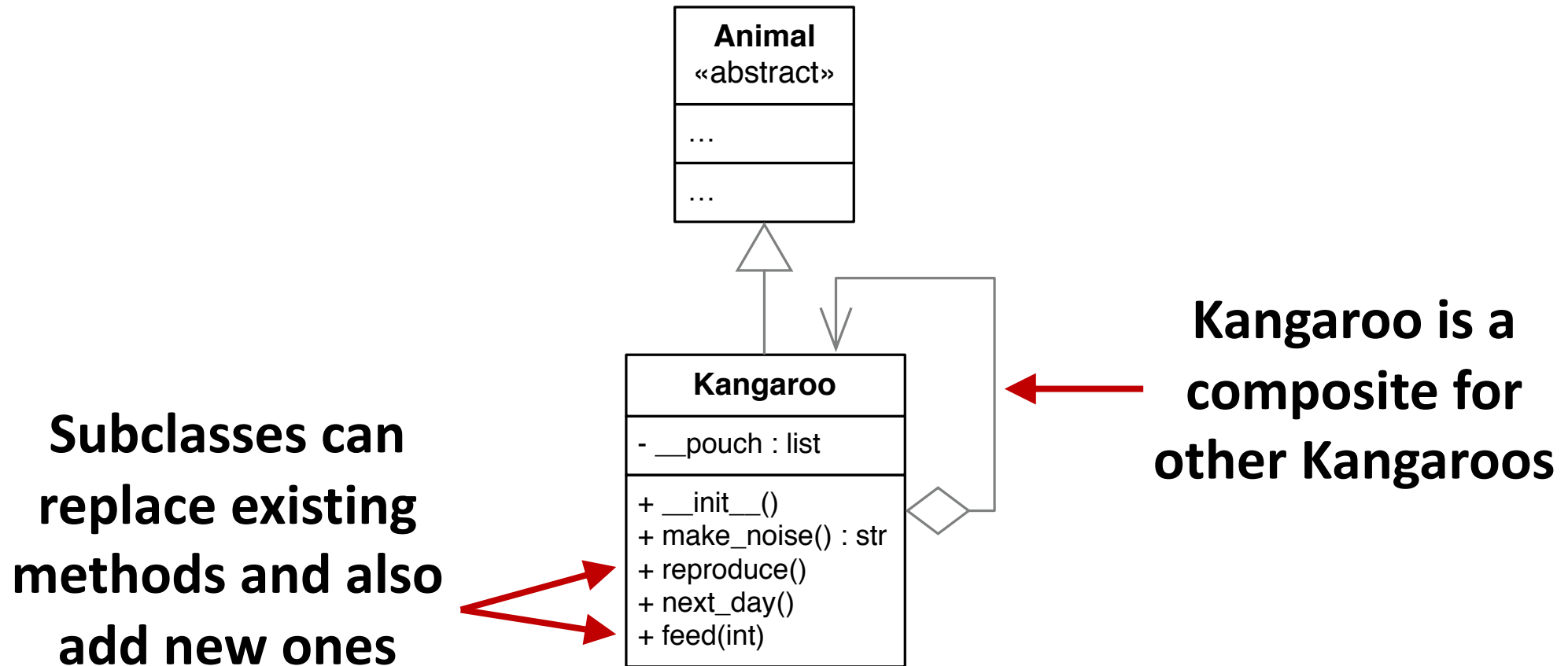
How does the mother get fed? How does she age?

Let's Implement Kangaroo (Final)

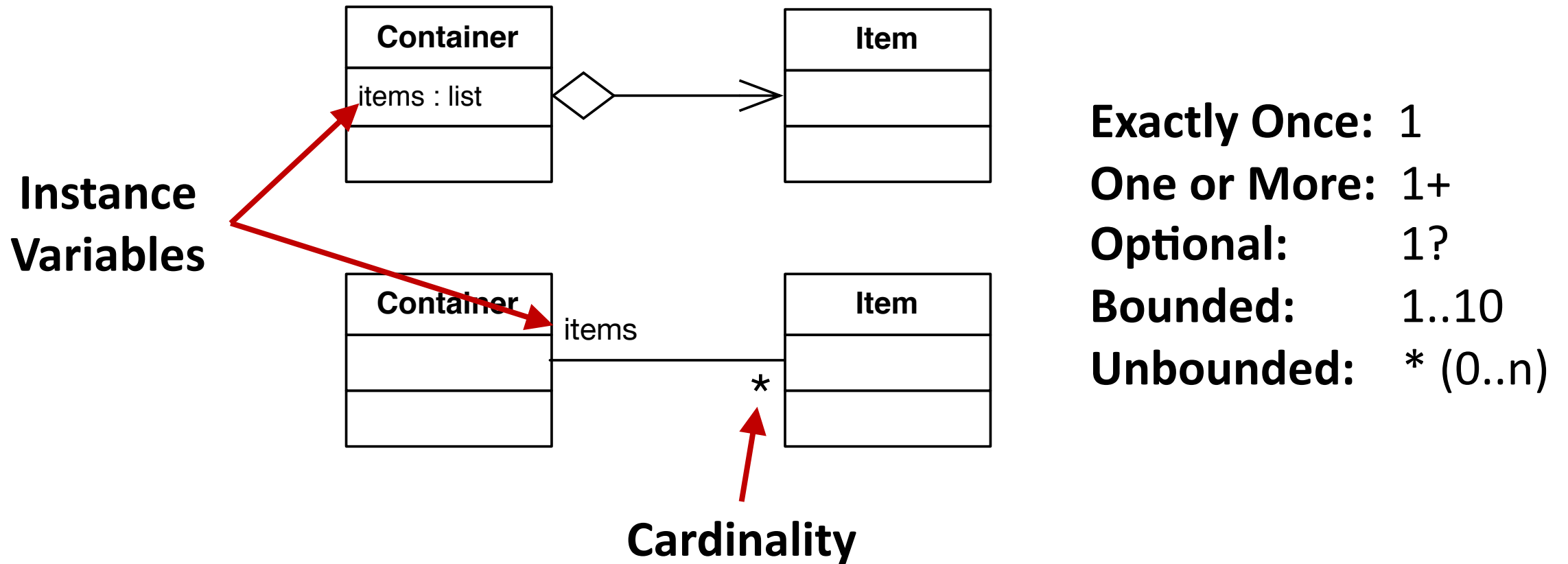
```
class Kangaroo(Animal):
    ...
    def next_day():
        super().next_day()
        for baby in self.__pouch:
            baby.next_day()

    def feed(self, amount):
        super().feed(amount)
        for baby in self.__pouch:
            baby.feed(amount)
```

UML: Composition



UML: Composition and Cardinality



The Safe, Revisited



Requirements for a Safe Implementation

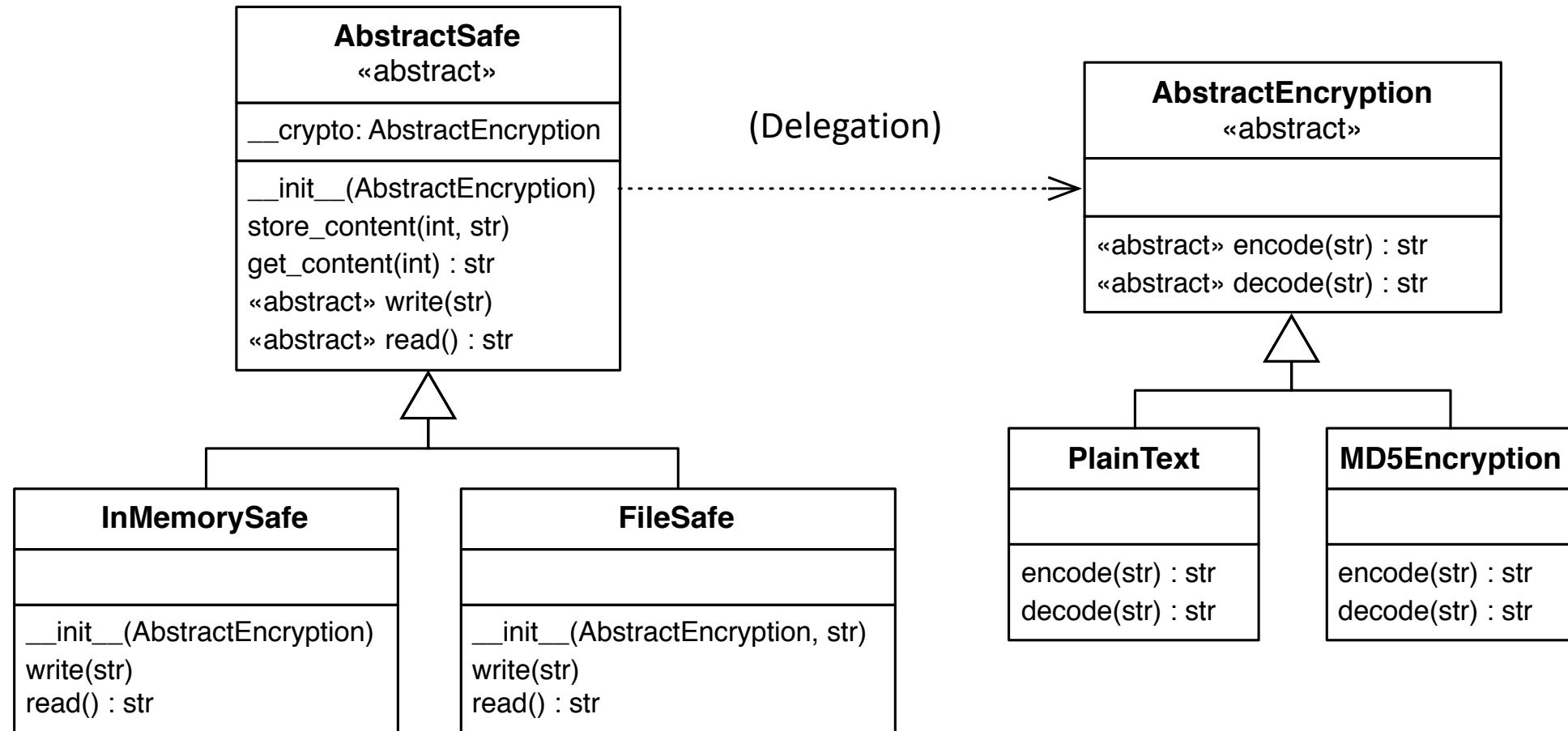
- Two Safe Variants
 - InMemorySafe
 - FileBasedSafe
- Two Encryptions
 - PlainText
 - MD5Encryption

```
a = InMemorySafe(PlainText())  
b = InMemorySafe(MD5Encryption())  
c = FileBasedSafe(PlainText(), "out.sav")  
d = FileBasedSafe(MD5Encryption(), "out.sav")
```

```
def use_safe(safe):  
    assert isinstance(safe, AbstractSafe)  
    safe.store_content(123, "secret")  
    secret = safe.get_content(123)
```

Using abstractions allows
to **freely mix and match**
concrete implementations.
Users don't need to know.

UML: Designing a Safe



Advanced: Multiple Inheritance

Date and Time

```
class Time:
    def __init__(self, h, m, s): ...
    def add_hour(self): ...
    def add_minute(self): ...
    def add_second(self):
        self.__sec += 1
        if self.__sec > 59:
            self.add_min()
            self.__sec %= 60
    def __repr__(self):
        return "{:02}:{:02}:{:02}".format( \
            self.__hour, self.__min, self.__sec)
```

```
t = Time(1, 2, 3)
print(t) # 01:02:03
for i in range(70):
    t.add_second()
print(t) # 01:03:13
```

```
class Date:
    def add_year(self):
        ...
    def add_month(self):
        ...
    def add_day(self):
        ...
```

Multiple Inheritance

```
class DateTime(Date, Time):

    def __init__(self, d,m,y, h,min,s):
        Date.__init__(self, d, m, y)
        Time.__init__(self, h, min, s)

    def __repr__(self):
        d = Date.__repr__(self)
        t = Time.__repr__(self)
        return "{}-{}".format(d, t)

    def add_hour(self):
        before = self._hour
        Time.add_hour(self)
        if before > self._hour:
            self.add_day()
```

```
t = DateTime(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
print(t) # 01.02.0003-04:05:06
for i in range(25):
    t.add_hour()
print(t) # 02.02.0003-05:05:06
```

Using **multiple inheritance**, a class inherits the behavior of multiple parents. **Conflicts** are resolved by parent order, **"super"** needs to be explicit.

Mix-In

```
class TimeMixin:
    def add_several_hours(self, amount):
        for i in range(amount):
            self.add_hour()

tm = TimeMixin()
tm.add_several_hours()
# AttributeError: 'TimeMixin' object
# has no attribute 'add_hour'
```

```
class MyTime(Time, TimeMixin): pass

t = MyTime(1, 2, 3)
print(t) # 01:02:03
t.add_several_hours(10)
print(t) # 11:02:03
```

Using **mixins**, it is possible to change behavior of a class that does **not** belong to the **same type hierarchy**.

Summary

The Four Core Principles of OOP

- **Abstraction**

- Define a concept, unrelated to a concrete instance.

- **Encapsulation**

- Hide implementation details (Fields cannot be overridden!).

- **Inheritance**

- Extend classes to reuse code (inherit behavior), *is-a* relationships.

- **Polymorphism**

- Replacing functionality in specializations. Dynamic selection of methods.

You should be able to answer these questions

- What is the idea behind inheritance? What is a type hierarchy?
- How to define (abstract) base classes? How to extend them?
- Which visibility levels exist and how do you declare them?
- How to provide classes that act as a composite for other items.
- How to delegate sub-problems to other referenced classes.
- How to read and write OOP designs in Unified Modelling Language
- How to use multiple inheritance and mixins in Python?
- OOP Core Principles: Polymorphism/Information Hiding

Exercise

Implement the “Safe” Hierarchy

- Left as an exercise for the reader.