

Smalltalk in a Nutshell

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Goals

Syntax in a Nutshell

OO Model in a Nutshell



Smalltalk OO Model



Everything is an object

- Only message passing

- Only late binding

- Instance variables are private to the object

- Methods are public

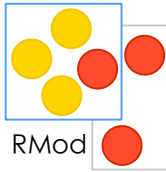
- Everything is a pointer

- Garbage collector

- Single inheritance between classes

- Only message passing between objects

Complete Syntax on a PostCard



exampleWithNumber: x

“A method that illustrates every part of Smalltalk method syntax except primitives. It has unary, binary, and key word messages, declares arguments and temporaries (but not block temporaries), accesses a global variable (but not an instance variable), uses literals (array, character, symbol, string, integer, float), uses the pseudo variable true false, nil, self, and super, and has sequence, assignment, return and cascade. It has both zero argument and one argument blocks. It doesn't do anything useful, though”

|y|

true & false not & (nil isNil) ifFalse: [self halt].

y := self size + super size.

#(\$a #a 'a' | 1.0)

do: [:each | Transcript

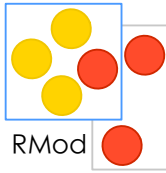
show: (each class name);

show: (each printString);

show: ' '].

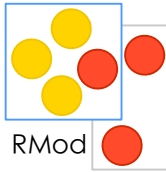
$x < y$

Language Constructs



^	return
“	comments
#	symbol or array
‘	string
[]	block or byte array
.	separator and not terminator (or namespace access in VW)
;	cascade (sending several messages to the same instance)
	local or block variable
:=	assignment
\$	character
:	end of selector name
e, r	number exponent or radix
!	file element separator
<primitive: ...>	for VM primitive calls

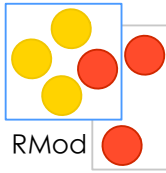
Syntax



comment:	"a comment"
character:	\$c \$h \$a \$r \$a \$c \$t \$e \$r \$s \$# \$@
string:	'a nice string' 'lulu' 'l'idiot'
symbol:	#mac #+
array:	#[1 2 3 (1 3) \$a 4)
byte array:	#[1 2 3]
integer:	1, 2r101
real:	1.5, 6.03e-34, 4, 2.4e7
float:	1/33
boolean:	true, false
point:	10@120

Note that @ is not an element of the syntax, but just a message sent to a number. This is the same for /, bitShift, ifTrue:, do: ...

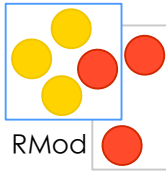
Syntax in a Nutshell (II)



assignment: `var := aValue`
block: `[:var ||tmp| expr...]`

temporary variable:	<code> tmp </code>
block variable:	<code>:var</code>
unary message:	receiver selector
binary message:	receiver selector argument
keyword based:	receiver keyword1:arg1 keyword2:
arg2...	
cascade:	<code>message ; selector ...</code>
separator:	<code>message . message</code>
result:	<code>^</code>
parenthesis:	<code>(...)</code>

Class Definition in St-80



```
NameOfSuperclass subclass: #NameOfClass  
  instanceVariableNames: 'instVarName I'  
  classVariableNames: 'classVarName I'  
  poolDictionaries: "  
  category: 'LAN'
```


Method Definition



- Normally defined in a browser or (by directly invoking the compiler)
- Methods are **public**
- **Always return self**

Node>>accept: thePacket

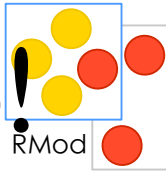
"If the packet is addressed to me, print it.
Else just behave like a normal node"

(thePacket isAddressedTo: self)

ifTrue: [self print: thePacket]

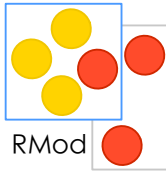
ifFalse: [super accept: thePacket]

Instance Creation: Messages Too!



- 'I', 'abc'
- Basic class creation messages are
new, new:,
basicNew, basicNew:
Monster new
- Class specific message creation (messages sent to classes)
Tomagoshi withHunger: I 0

Messages and their Composition



Three kinds of messages

Unary: Node new

Binary: 1 + 2, 3@4

Keywords: aTomagoshi eat: #cooky furiously: true

Message Priority

(Msg) > unary > binary > keywords

Same Level from left to right

Example:

(10@0 extent: 10@100) bottomRight
s isNil ifTrue: [self halt]



Blocks



- Anonymous method
- Passed as method argument or stored
- Functions

`fct(x) = x*x+3, fct(2).`

`fct := [:x | x * x + 3]. fct value: 2`

`Integer>>factorial`

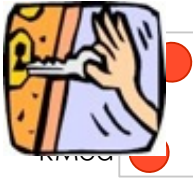
`| tmp |`

`tmp:= 1.`

`2 to: self do: [:i | tmp := tmp * i]`

`#(1 2 3) do: [:each | Transcript show: each printString ; cr]`

Yes ifTrue: is sent to a boolean



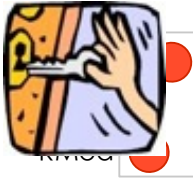
Weather isRaining

ifTrue: [self takeMyUmbrella]

ifFalse: [self takeMySunglasses]

ifTrue:ifFalse is sent to an object: a boolean!

Yes a collection is iterating on itself



```
#(1 2 -4 -86)  
  do: [:each | Transcript show: each abs  
  printString ;cr ]
```

> 1

> 2

> 4

> 86

Yes we ask the collection object to perform the

Summary



Objects and Messages

Three kinds of messages

unary

binary

keywords

Block: a.k.a innerclass or closures or lambda

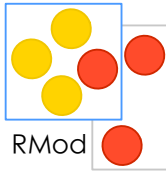
Unary>Binary>Keywords

Goals

Syntax in a Nutshell
OO Model in a Nutshell

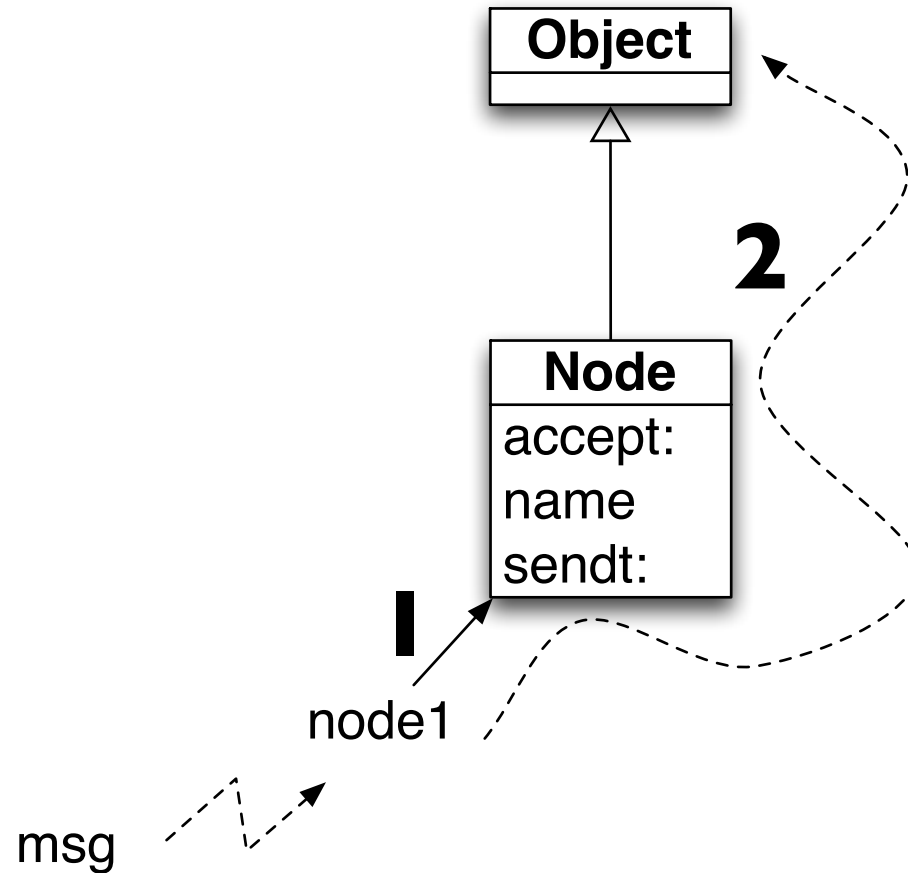


Instance and Class

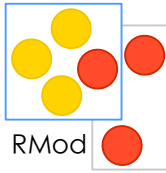


- Only one model
- Uniformly applied
- Classes are objects too

Lookup...Class + Inheritance

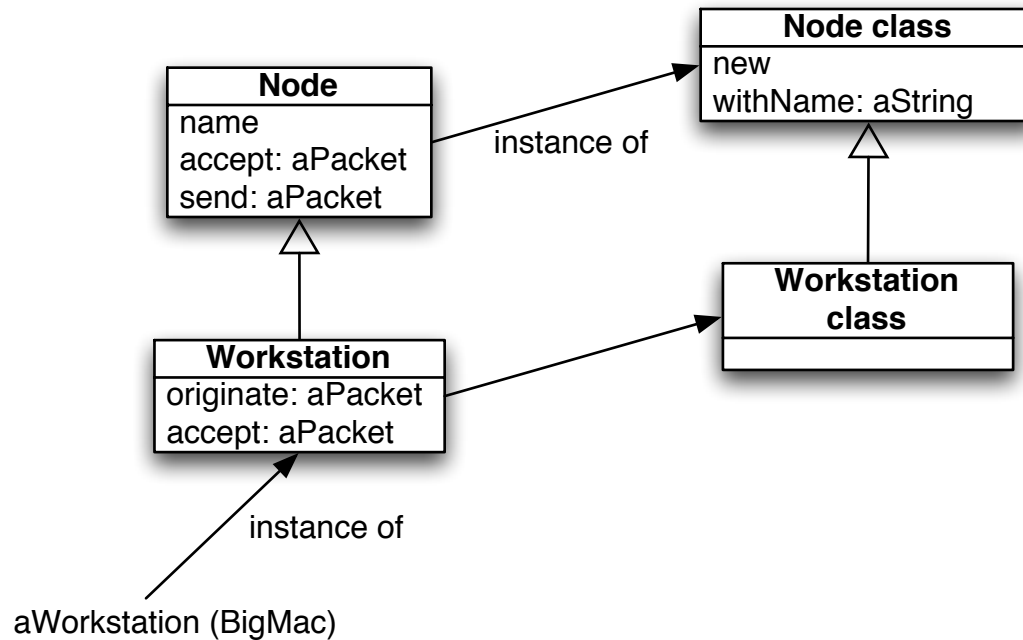


Classes are objects too

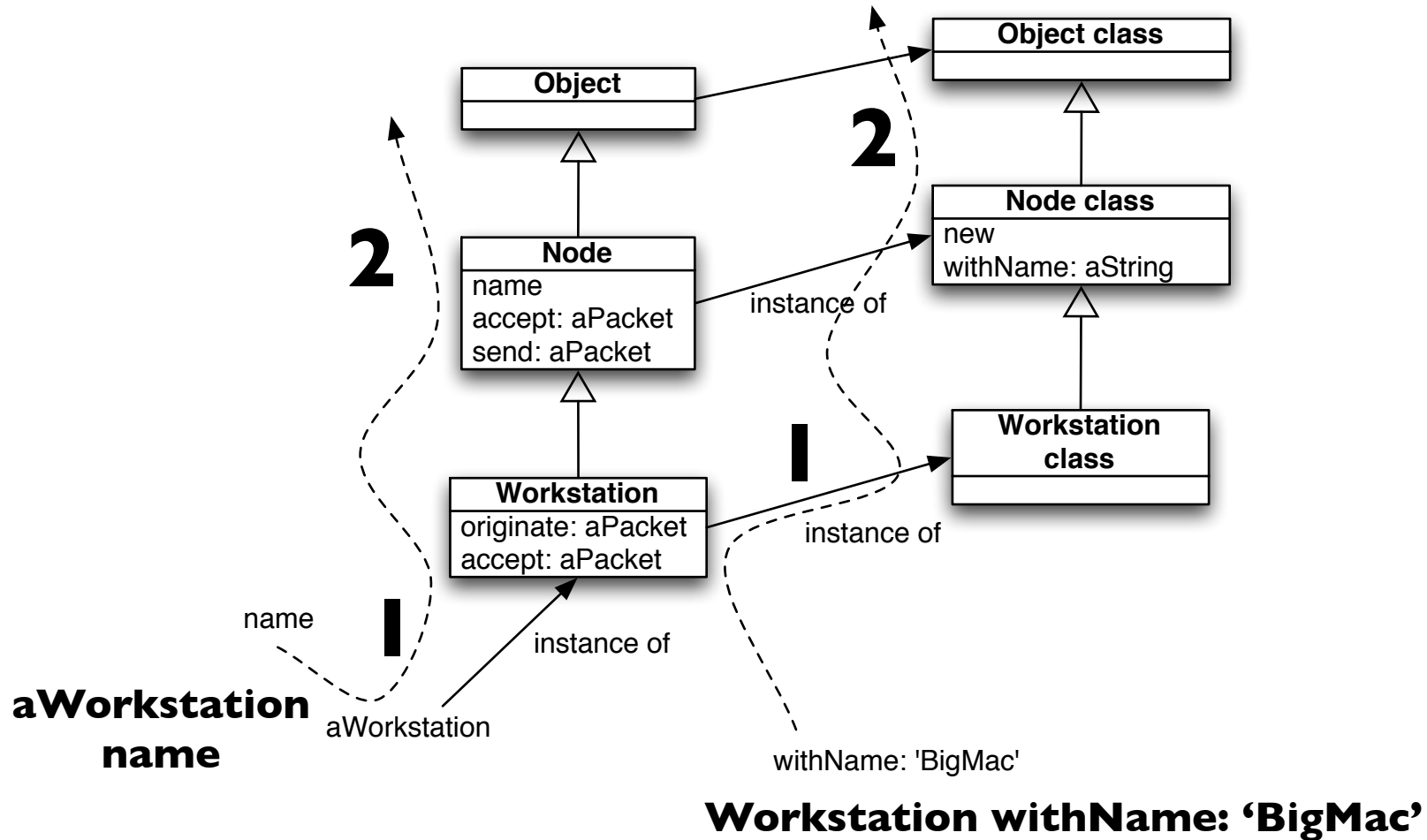


- Instance creation is just a message send to a ... Class
- Same method lookup than with any other objects
- a Class is the single instance of an anonymous class
 - Point is the single instance of Point class

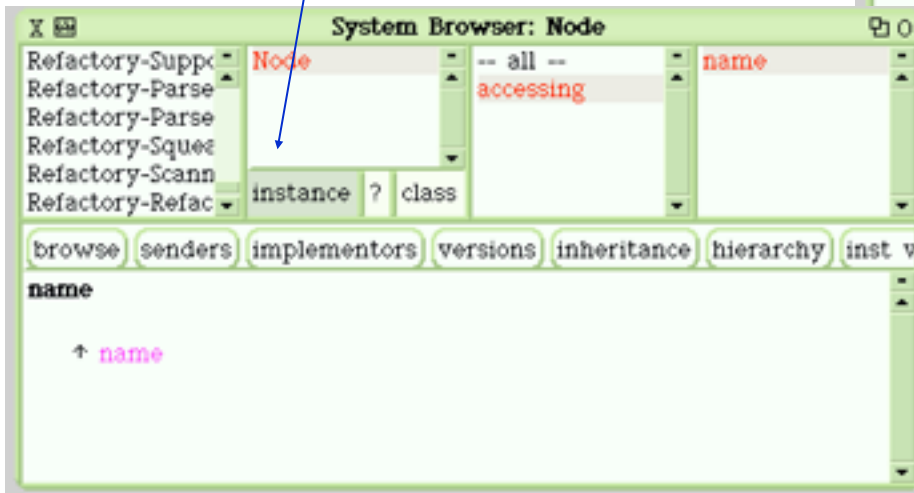
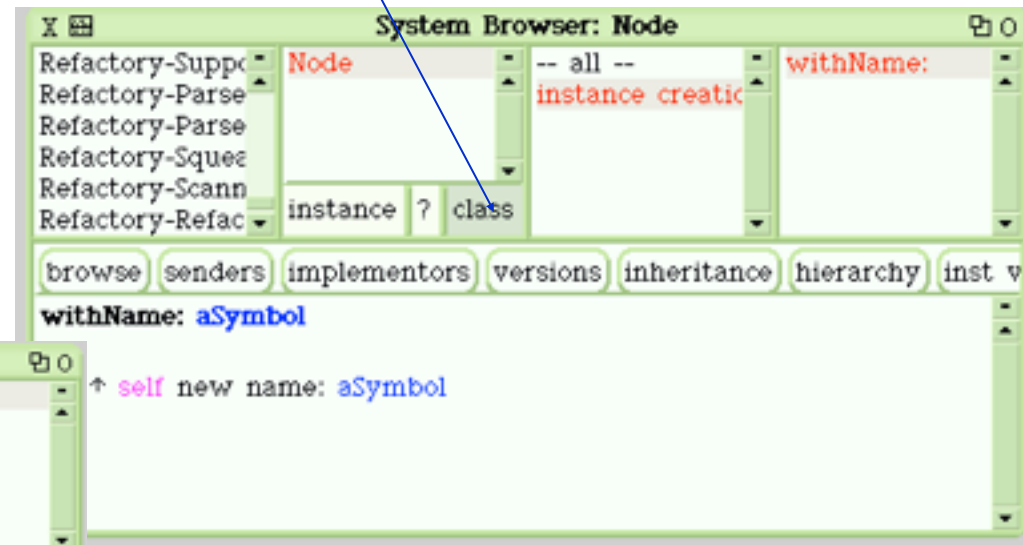
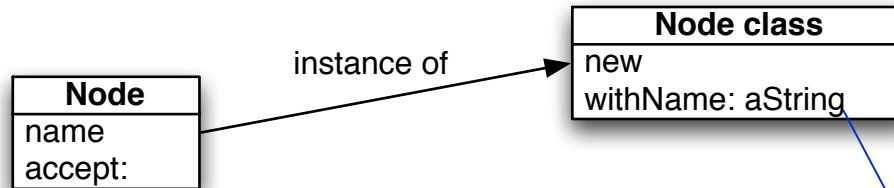
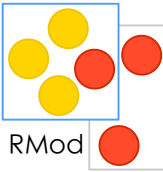
Class Parallel Inheritance



Lookup and Class Methods



About the Buttons



↑ self new name: aSymbol

Summary



- Everything is an object
- One single model
- Single inheritance
- Public methods
- Protected attributes
- Classes are simply objects too
- Class is instance of another class
- One unique method lookup
look in the class of the receiver