SChool of Computing Lancaster & SCC.111 Software Development - Lecture Lecture 22: Principles of Object Oriented Programming

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Agenda

Introduce a new programming language paradigm – Object Oriented Programming

- Motivation: How to write scalable code.
- The importance of a well-defined API (Application Programmable Interface)
- The anatomy of an object
- Introductory C++ syntax
- A worked example

Applicability

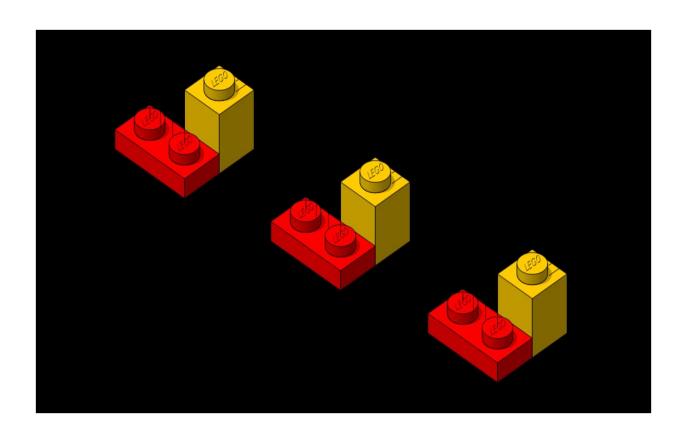
- Let's briefly discuss the applicability of this lecture topic...
- In our first lecture, we identified the most popular programming languages (currently):
 - C / C++
 - Java / C#
 - Python
 - JavaScript
- Do you know which of these languages are object oriented?
- C++ is a backward compatible, evolution of C. The biggest difference between C and C++ is the introduction of Object Oriented principles into the language.

How to write scalable code

■ Rule #1: Write modular code

Modularity





Modularity: Lego examples



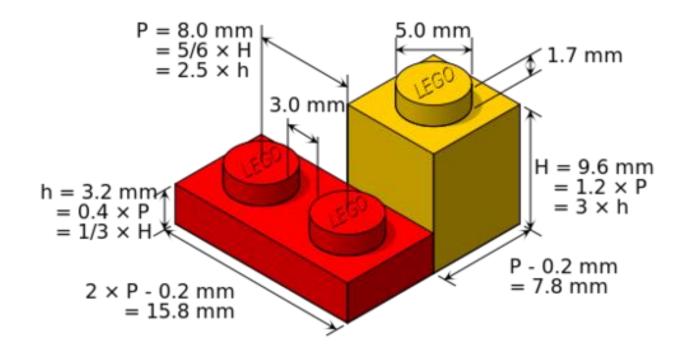




Modularity: Standards



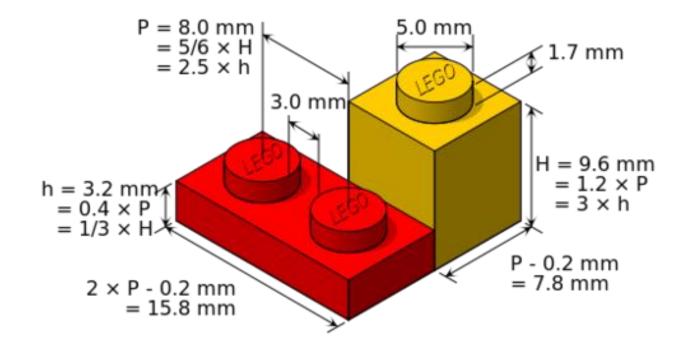
 Modularity relies on standards. The interface between a module and the world must be well defined.



Modularity: Software



• In software, those standards are called an Application Programmable Interface (API).



Modularity: Procedural Programming

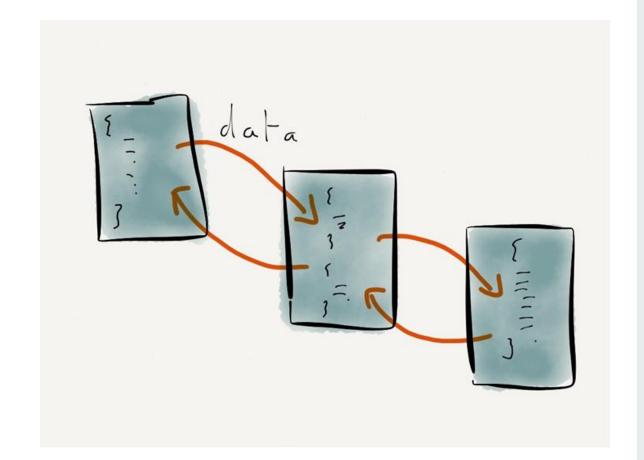


- Programming languages can be classified based on the core paradigm on which they are based
- C is an example of a **procedural** programming language:
 - There is a well-defined start point to a program (the main function)
 - Code is broken down into manageable chunks (functions)
 - These functions are called by one another
 - Programs hold information in the form of variables
 - Variables are passed as parameters to those functions, or can be global
- Procedural programming languages are structured around the code

Procedural Programming: code and data



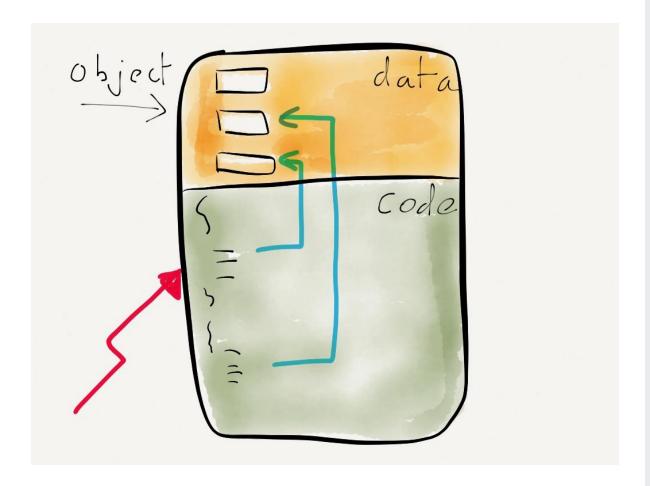
- Procedural programming languages give little thought to the location of the data!
 - Computer programs are made up of code and data
 - Code modularity occurs in functions and libraries (collection of functions)
 - Data modularity occurs only in data structures (or not at all!)
- Procedural languages treat code and data as separate concepts



Object Oriented Programming



- Object Oriented (OO) programming languages combine code and data
- Objects are the "lego bricks" of the software world
- They group similar data and functions (something known as tight cohesion)
- They isolate parts of your program from the rest... therefore reducing the complexity of your software



Object Oriented Programming 2

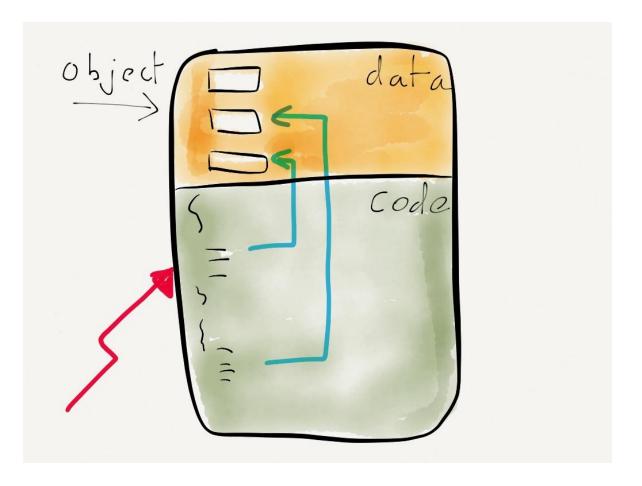


- Objects provide encapsulation
 - Data and code cannot be separated
 - Data is defined through attributes
 - Behaviour is defined through methods
- Objects protect their inner workings through an API
 - Interactions with objects occur through its methods
 - Programmer only exposes what they choose to
 - This provides very tight controls over how it can be used
 - This allows programmers to provide sealed boxes of code in order to promote simplicity.

Design exercise



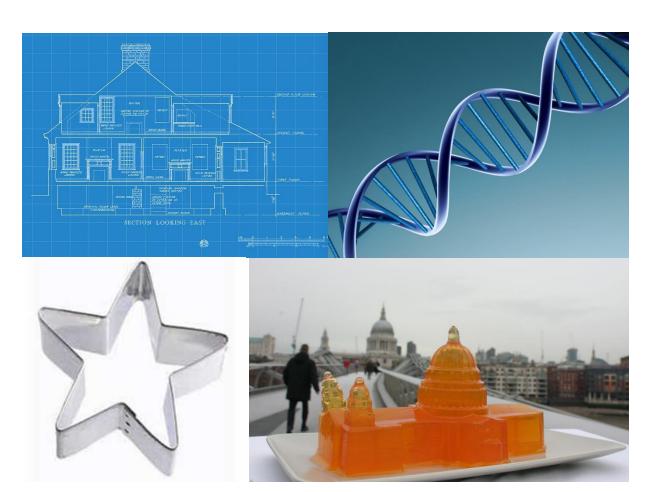
- Think of a real-world object
 - Define its attributes
 - Define its methods
- Write them down on a diagram that looks like this:



Classes



- In OO languages, objects are defined by classes
- A class is a specification of an object someone might build
 - Like a blueprint
 - Like DNA
 - Like a cookie cutter
 - Like a jelly mould



Classes



From the options below, which is most likely a **class** in an object-oriented program?

- A. John Doe
- B. Bank Account
- C. Current Balance
- D. Java

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Classes: writing classes



- By convention, C++ classes are named in capitalised camel case
 - E.g. HelloWorld, UniversityLecturer, FluffyBunny, etc.
- The class keyword defines that everything in the following code block is part of the given class... much like a struct...



Classes: attributes



- An object's attributes are implemented through creating variables
 - These variables are declared inside a class, but outside any methods
- Attributes provide a new level of scope
 - more controlled than a global variables.
 - less specific than a local variable declared in a function.

```
class Car
{
   int milesDriven = 0;
   char *colour;
};
```

Classes: methods



- An object's behaviour is implemented through methods
- Methods are simply functions that are declared within a class.
- By convention, methods are also named in camel case

```
class Car
{
   int milesDriven = 0;
   char *colour;

public:
   void drive(int miles);
   void respray(char *c);
   void show();
};
```

Classes: methods



- C++ Method implementation is normally defined outside the class.
- The class name provides a new scope for your methods as well as your variables...
- We use new notation to identify this new scope – the double colon notation...

```
void Car::drive(int miles)
   milesDriven = milesDriven + miles;
void Car::respray(char *c)
    colour = (char *)c;
void Car::show()
    printf("I'm a %s car, and I've driven %d
miles.\n", colour, milesDriven);
```

Creating objects from classes



- Remember classes are types
 - You use them by creating variables of that type.
 - By yourself, or by other programmers you give your class file to!
- A realised class is called an object instance and is treated just like any other variable...

Car amysCooper;

Using methods and attributes



- We use the "." operator, just like we do on structs!
- The left hand side should be the variable you created.
- The **right hand** side is the name of the method / variable

```
Car amysCooper;
amysCooper.respray((char *)"White");
amysCooper.drive(16);
amysCooper.show();
```

Conclusions



- Object Orientated programming is all about modularity
 - Data + Methods = Object
- Classes provide a specification of objects
- Classes are custom types, defined using the class keyword.
- Object instances are real, concrete "variables" of these new types
 - Use . to access methods and attributed within an object instance
- NOT SO SCARY IS IT?