



Module 2

Objects

Create custom Objects

Extend existing Objects

Format Output



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What is an Object?



Object definition and its elements

- **An object is an instance of particular datatype or class.**
 - Datatypes: Integer (int), Double, bool, etc.
 - Classes: program-code-template for creating objects
 - Instance: a specific realization of an object based on datatype or class
- **Objects consist of**
 - Variables
 - Methods
 - Events



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How Objects are used in PS?



Working with existing objects in PS

- **Most cmdlets will return an object or object list**

- get-service, get-process, get-item, get-aduser, ...

- **Get-Member**

- Object type
 - Members (Properties, Methods, ...)

- ***-object cmdlets**

- where-object: filtering object lists
 - select-object: selecting/reducing object or object lists
 - -first; -last; -unique; -skip
 - -property —————— `get-process | select-object -property processname,handles`
 - -expandproperty —————— `get-process notepad.exe | select-object -expandproperty modules`
 - sort-object: sorting object lists
 - group-object: group objects lists by a property



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How Objects are used in PS?



Create a new object based on an existing data type or class

- **Variables are objects**

```
[int]$a = 123  
$a.GetType()
```

- **.Net Object**

```
Add-Type -AssemblyName System.Speech  
$obj = New-Object -TypeName System.Speech.Synthesis.SpeechSynthesizer  
$obj.Speak('there is a new mail.')
```

- **COM Object**

```
$ie = New-Object -ComObject InternetExplorer.Application  
$ie.Navigate("http://www.microsoft.com")  
$ie.Visible = $true
```

- **Check**

- get-member
 - *.gettype()



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Create custom objects



How to create custom objects with properties and methods

▪ Procedure 1 – detailed, comprehensive and PS-like

- Create a new object of type *psobject*
- Add properties and methods

▪ Some Membertypes

- *NoteProperty*
 - This kind of property can be set to any kind of value without validation.
- *AliasProperty*
 - A second name for an other property.
- *Scriptmethod*
 - PS-Script code which return a value or list.
- *ScriptProperty*
 - Consists of two parts. First part is the get-part. This is a PS-Script code which returns a value. The second part is the set-part. This is also a PS-Script code but to set a noteproperty. A Scriptproperty could contain a validation or is able to set more than one noteproperty at the same time.

```
$myobj = New-Object -TypeName Psobject  
Add-Member -InputObject $myobj `  
-MemberType 'NoteProperty' `  
-Name Greeting `  
-value "Hello World!"
```

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Create custom objects



How to create custom objects with properties and methods

▪ Procedure 2 – quick & simple

- Similar to extend an existing data type
- Create a variable and pipe it to select-object

```
$myObj = 123 | select-object -property Name,Age  
$myObj.Name = "Trainer"  
$myObj.Age = 29
```

- Gettype() returns the type PSCustomObject
- Get-Member shows the initial type but extended by 'Selected.*'
 - Selected.System.Int32 e. g.

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Create custom objects



How to create custom objects with properties and methods

▪ Procedure 3 – only for developers

- First create a class in c#
- and then create a new object based on the new class

```
Add-Type -Language CSharp ` 
@"
public class Car
{
    public string Color {get;set;}
    public int HorsePower {get;set;}
} "
$myCar = New-Object -TypeName Car
$myCar.Color = "Red"
$myCar.HorsePower = 140
$myCar
```

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Creating custom objects



New keyword Class in PowerShell 5.0

▪ Procedure 4 – requires PowerShell 5.0 and above

- Class Classname { ... }
- Within declare Properties and Methods
- Characteristics:
 - All Members are public, but in a *.type.ps1xml hidden member possible
 - New-Object –typename Classname doesn't work
 - Use instead: [Classname]::new()
 - Classes can not be used outside the script/module
 - Methods different syntax from functions
 - If return is used a type of the return-value must be declared.
 - Method overloads are possible

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Create custom objects



Example

```
Class myClass
{
    [String]$name
    [DateTime]$Birth

    SetDayOfBirth($value)
    {
        If ($value -is [DateTime])
        {
            $this.Birth = $value
        }
        else
        {
            Write-host "Please provide a DateTime as Argument."
        }
    }
    [DateTime]GetDayOfBirth()
    {
        $this.$Birth
    }

    Age([ValidateSet("Year", "Days", "Exact")][String]$Unit = "Exact")
    {
        switch ($Unit)
        {
            "Year"
            { [math]::Round(((Get-date) - $this.Birth).Days/365 , 1)
                break
            }
            "Days"
            { ((Get-date) - $this.Birth).Days; break }
            "Exact"
            { ((Get-date) - $this.Birth); break }
        }
    }
}
```

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Extend existing Objects



How to add additional properties to exiting objects.

- To extend objects create a ‘custom type extension’. It is handled by PowerShell’s Extension Type System (ETS).

▪ Requirements

- Existing objects
- .Net or custom objects
- Xml-file: *.types.ps1xml
- Update-TypeData

▪ Type extensions / Members

- AliasProperty
- NoteProperty
- ScriptProperty
- ScriptMethod
- PropertySet

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<Types>
    <Type>
        <Name>ObjectName</Name>
        <Members>
            ...
        </Members>
    </Type>
</Types>
```

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Extend existing Objects - AliasProperty



How to extend an object with an AliasProperty

▪ *.ps1xml

```
<Type>
  <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
  <Members>
    <AliasProperty>
      <Name>Byte</Name>
      <ReferencedMemberName>Length</ReferencedMemberName>
    </AliasProperty>
    <AliasProperty>
      <Name>Filetype</Name>
      <ReferencedMemberName>Extension</ReferencedMemberName>
    </AliasProperty>
  </Members>
</Type>
```

▪ Usage

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xml -Confirm
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Get-Member
(Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini).Byte
(Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini).FileType
```



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Extend existing Objects - NoteProperty



How to extend an object with a NoteProperty

▪ *.ps1xml

```
<Type>
  <Name>System.IO.DirectoryInfo</Name>
  <Members>
    <NoteProperty>
      <Name>Status</Name>
      <Value>Success</Value>
    </NoteProperty>
  </Members>
</Type>
```

▪ Usage

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xml -Confirm
Get-Item c:\windows | Get-Member
(Get-Item c:\windows).Status
```

▪ Note

- In this example the value of 'Status' of each directory is 'Success'. It cannot be changed, it's read-only.



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Extend existing Objects - ScriptProperty



How to extend an object with an ScriptProperty

▪ *.ps1xml

```
<Type>
  <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
  <Members>
    <ScriptProperty>
      <Name>Encrypted</Name>
      <GetScriptBlock>
        $scorFileName = $this.FullName -replace "\\", "\\"
        (Get-CimInstance -Query ('Select Encrypted FROM Cim_DataFile Where Name = "' + $scorFileName + '"')).Encrypted
      </GetScriptBlock>
    </ScriptProperty>
  </Members>
</Type>
```

▪ Usage

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xlm -Confirm
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Get-Member
(Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini).Encrypted
```



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Extend existing Objects - ScriptMethod



How to extend an object with an ScriptMethod

▪ *.ps1xml

```
<Type>
  <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
  <Members>
    <ScriptMethod>
      <Name>AppendID</Name>
      <Script>
        param ( [String]$ID )
        $this.BaseName + $id + $this.Extension
      </Script>
    </ScriptMethod>
  </Members>
</Type>
```

▪ Usage

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xlm -Confirm
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Get-Member
(Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini).AppendID("123")
```



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Extend existing Objects - PropertySet



How to extend an object with an PropertySet

▪ *.ps1xml

```
<Type>
  <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
  <Members>
    <PropertySet>
      <Name>myPropSet</Name>
      <ReferencedProperties>
        <Name>Fullname</Name>
        <Name>BaseName</Name>
      </ReferencedProperties>
    </PropertySet>
  </Members>
</Type>
```

▪ Usage

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xml -Confirm
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Get-Member
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Select-Object myPropSet
```



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Extending existing Objects – Code*



Difficult to extend objects by CodeProperty or CodeMethod

▪ CodePro

- Both references
 - Properties
 - Requirements
 - Properties
 - Methods
- ```
<Type>
 <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
 <Members>
 <CodeProperty>
 <Name>customMode</Name>
 <GetCodeReference>
 <TypeName>Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.FileSystemProvider</TypeName>
 <MethodName>Mode</MethodName>
 </GetCodeReference>
 </CodeProperty>
 </Members>
</Type>
```

### ▪ Examples

- Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.FileSystemProvider::Mode
- about\_t

```
<Type>
 <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
 <Members>
 <CodeMethod>
 <Name>customMode</Name>
 <CodeReference>
 <TypeName>Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.FileSystemProvider</TypeName>
 <MethodName>Mode</MethodName>
 </CodeReference>
 </CodeMethod>
 </Members>
</Type>
```

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## Extending existing Objects



You can hide some members

- **Attribute `IsHidden="true"`**
  - It allows you to hide some members
- **Concealable members**
  - `AliasProperty`
  - `NoteProperty`
  - `ScriptProperty`
  - `PropertySet`
- **Example**
- **Hint**
  - Gm –force shows also hidden members

```
<Type>
 <Name>System.IO.FileInfo</Name>
 <Members>
 <PropertySet IsHidden="true">
 <Name>myPropSet</Name>
 <ReferencedProperties>
 <Name>Fullname</Name>
 <Name>BaseName</Name>
 </ReferencedProperties>
 </PropertySet>
 </Members>
</Type>
```

```
Update-TypeData -AppendPath Name.types.ps1xml -Confirm
Get-ChildItem c:\windows\win.ini | Get-Member -force
```



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## Default Display Properties



How to define the default properties for output.

- **Default display properties are defined by a**
  - `MemberSet` and
  - `PropertySet`
- **Mandatory names**
  - `MemberSet/Name: PSStandardMembers`
  - `PropertySet/Name: DefaultDisplayPropertySet`

```
<Type>
 <MemberSet>
 <Name>PSStandardMembers</Name>
 <Members>
 <PropertySet>
 <Name>DefaultDisplayPropertySet</Name>
 <ReferencedProperties>
 <Name>Fullname</Name>
 <Name>Basename</Name>
 </ReferencedProperties>
 </PropertySet>
 </Members>
</MemberSet>
</Type>
```

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## Lab A



### ▪ Type Extension for a 'Service'

- ScriptProperty: StartType
  - Hint: (Get-CimInstance -Query ('Select \* From Win32\_Service Where Name = "bits" ')).StartMode
- ScriptMethod: Restart()
- AliasProperty: Computer for MachineName
- PropertySet: ServiceInfo - ServiceName, StartType, Status

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## Custom Format View



### ▪ Format View

- Definition for the output of objects or object lists
- Saved in \*.format.ps1xml
- Default files in \$PSHome
- Custom files possible

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<Configuration>
 <ViewDefinitions>
 <View>
 ...
 </View>
 </ViewDefinitions>
 </Configuration>
```

### ▪ Requirements

- \*.format.ps1xml
- Update format

### ▪ Different Formats

- Table
- List
- Wide
- Custom

```
Update-FormatData -PrependPath C:\myCustom.format.ps1xml
 - or -
Update-FormatData -AppendPath C:\myCustom.format.ps1xml
```

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## \*.format.ps1xml



Structure of a custom view file

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<Configuration>
 <ViewDefinitions>
 <View>

 <Name>Name of the view</Name>

 <ViewSelectedBy>
 <TypeName>System.IO.FileInfo</TypeName>
 </ViewSelectedBy>

 <GroupBy> ... </GroupBy>

 <TableControl> Definition for a table </TableControl>
 - or -
 <ListControl> Definition for a list </ListControl>
 - or -
 <WideControl> Definition for a single-property-list </WideControl>
 - or -
 <CustomControl> Definition for something else </CustomControl>

 </View>
 </ViewDefinitions>
</Configuration>
```



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## <TableControl>



Structure of a table

```
<TableControl>

 <TableHeaders>

 <TableColumnHeader>
 <Label>Size</Label>
 <Alignment>right</Alignment>
 </TableColumnHeader>

 <TableColumnHeader>
 <Label>Name</Label>
 </TableColumnHeader>

 </TableHeaders>

 <TableRowEntries> ... </TableRowEntries>

</TableControl>
```



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## <TableControl>



Structure of a table

```
<TableControl>
 <TableHeaders> ... </TableHeaders>
 <TableRowEntries>
 <TableRowEntry>
 <TableColumnItems>
 <TableColumnItem>
 <PropertyName>Length</PropertyName>
 </TableColumnItem>
 <TableColumnItem>
 <ScriptBlock> any PS Scriptscode </ScriptBlock>
 </TableColumnItem>
 </TableColumnItems>
 </TableRowEntry>
 </TableRowEntries>
</TableControl>
```



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## <ListControl>



Structure of a list

```
<ListControl>
 <ListEntries>
 <ListEntry>
 <ListItems>
 <ListItem>
 <Label>Size</Label>
 <PropertyName>Length</PropertyName>
 </ListItem>
 ...
 <ListItem>
 <Label>Mode</Label>
 <PropertyName>Mode</PropertyName>
 <ItemSelectionCondition>
 <ScriptBlock>$_.basename -notlike "my*"</ScriptBlock>
 </ItemSelectionCondition>
 </ListItem>
 </ListItems>
 </ListEntry>
 </ListEntries>
</ListControl>
```



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## <WideControl>



Structure of a list

```
<WideControl>
 <WideEntries>
 <WideEntry>
 <WideItem>
 <PropertyName>Basename</PropertyName>
 </WideItem>
 </WideEntry>
 </WideEntries>
</WideControl>
```

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## \*.format.ps1xml for custom Objects



How to use a format file with a custom object

### ▪ Challenge

- Structure and schema like discussed before
- <ViewSelectedBy><TypeName> is what?

### ▪ Name a custom object

- Default type name: `System.Management.Automation.PSCustomObject`
- Define a custom type name

```
$myObject = New-Object -TypeName PSObject
$myObject.PSTypeNames.Insert(0,"Custom.TypeName")
```

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## Links



### ▪ **Formatting file overview**

- <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/scripting/developer/format/formatting-file-overview?view=powershell-7.5>

### ▪ **Formatting file concepts**

- <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/scripting/developer/format/formatting-file-concepts?view=powershell-7.5>

### ▪ **Xml schema**

- <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/scripting/developer/format/configuration-element-format?view=powershell-7.5>

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## Lab B

```
$OS = (Get-CimInstance -ClassName Win32_OperatingSystem)[0].Caption
$RAM =(Get-CimInstance -ClassName Win32_ComputerSystem)[0].TotalPhysicalMemory
$Uptime = (Get-CimInstance -ClassName Win32_OperatingSystem)[0].LastBootUptime
```

### ▪ **Exercise 1: Create a custom object**

- Name: aPS.ComputerInfo
- Properties: OS, RAM, Uptime
- Methods: GetUptime(Unit Minutes or Hours)

### ▪ **Exercise 2: Create a formatting file**

- For aPS.ComputerInfo
- Table: RAM, OS, Uptime

### ▪ **Exercise 3: Extend object**

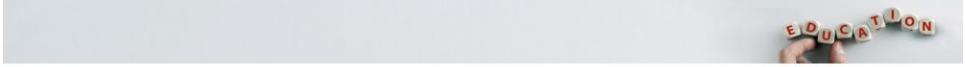
- System.Diagnostics.Process
- Aliasproperty: Computer for MachineName
- ScriptProperty: Uptime

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EDUCATION



**Do You Have  
Any Questions?**



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