

CSE 3421

UML Class Diagram

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Why This Lesson?



It is a crucial task in OOP

What is a UML class diagram?

- A UML class diagram is a picture of the classes in an OO system
 - their fields and methods
 - connections between the classes that interact or inherit from each other
- Not represented in a UML class diagram:
 - details of how the classes interact with each other
 - algorithmic details; how a particular behavior is implemented

Class attributes (fields, instance variables)

visibility name : type [count] = default_value

- Visibility
 - + public
 - # protected
 - private
 - ~ package (default)
 - / derived
- Method listed as name: return type
- Parameters listed as name: type
- Omit return type on constructors and when return type is void

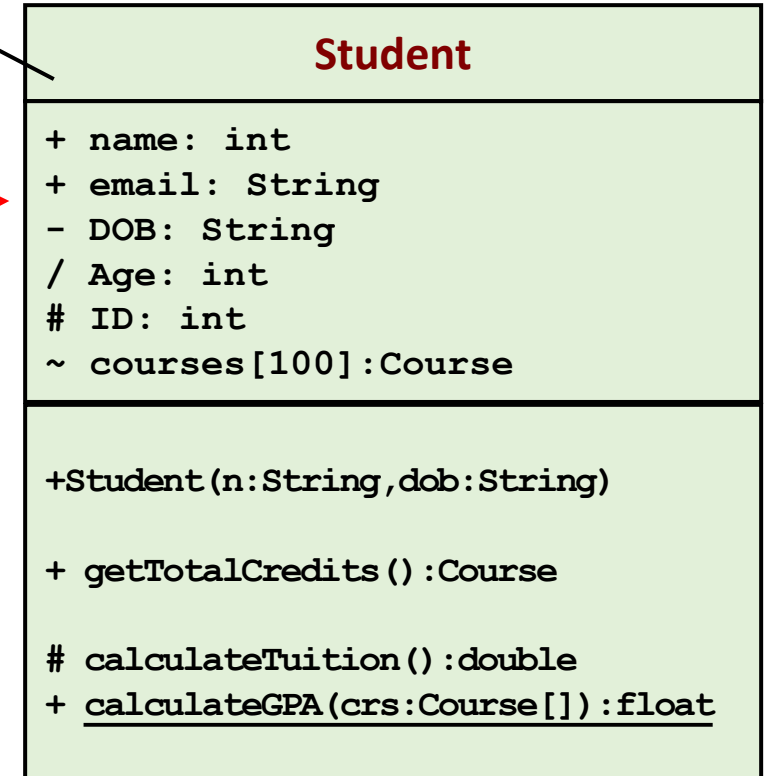
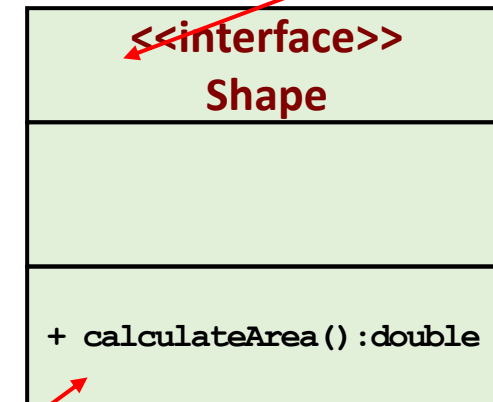
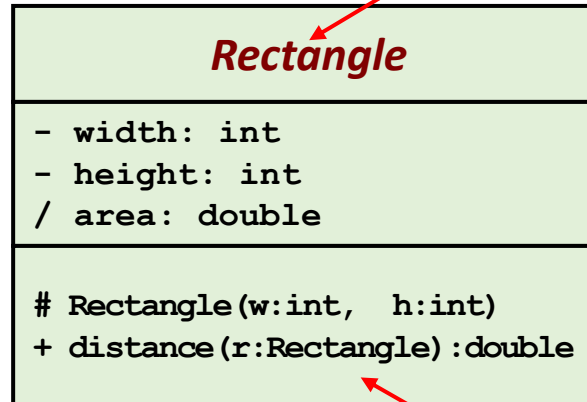
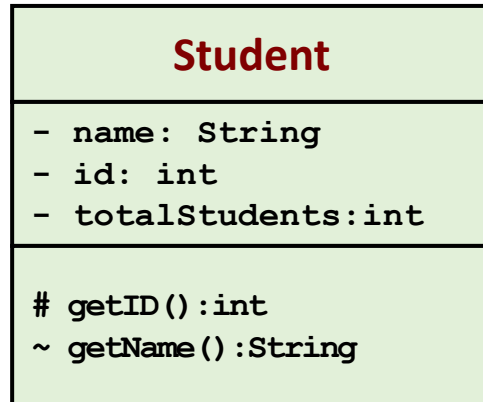


Diagram of a single class

Class name on top

- write «interface» on top of interfaces' names
- use *italics* for an abstract class name



Operations/ methods (optional)

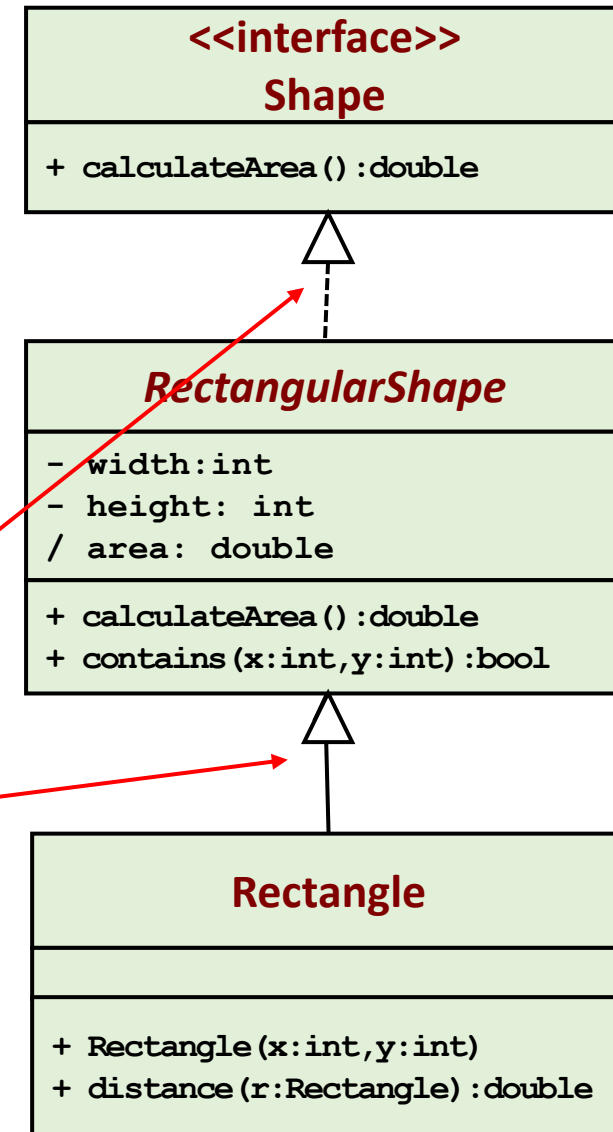
- may omit trivial (get/set) methods
- but don't omit any methods from an interface!
- should not include inherited methods

Relationships between class

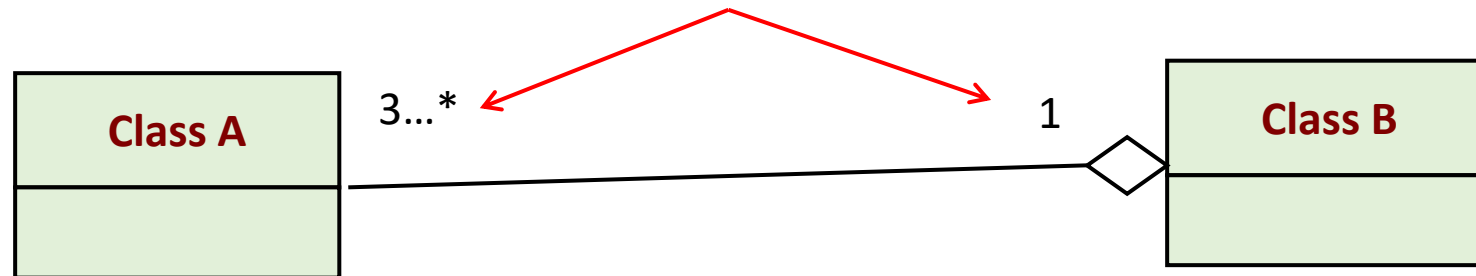
- **Generalization:** an inheritance relationship
 - inheritance between classes
 - interface implementation
- **Association:** a usage relationship
 - dependency
 - aggregation
 - composition

Generalization relationships

- Hierarchies drawn top-down
- Arrows point upward to parent
- Line/arrow styles indicate if parent is a(n):
 - **class**: solid line, black arrow
 - **interface**: dashed line, white arrow
 - **abstract class**: solid line, white arrow



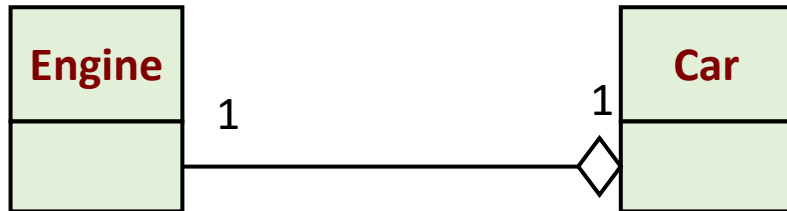
Association (usage) relationships



Association multiplicities

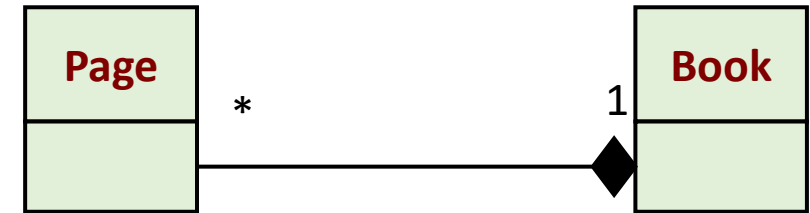
One to one

- Each car has exactly one engine
- Each engine belongs to exactly one car



One to many

- Each book has many pages
- Each page belongs to exactly one book



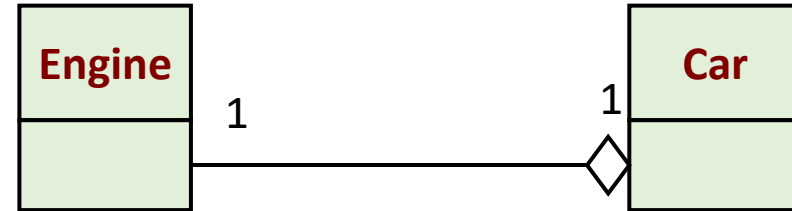
Multiplicity (how many are used)

- * (zero or more)
- 1 (exactly one)
- 2..4 (between 2 and 4, inclusive)
- 3..* (3 or more, * may be omitted)

Association types

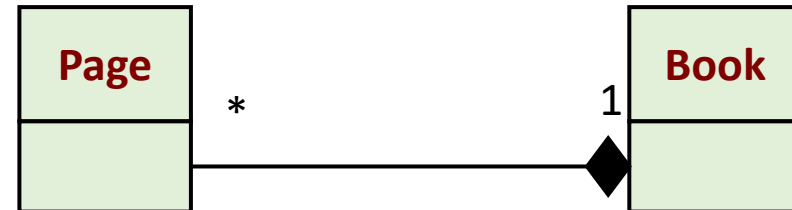
Aggregation: “is part of”

- symbolized by a clear white diamond



Composition: “is entirely made of”

- stronger version of aggregation
- the parts live and die with the whole
- symbolized by a black diamond



Dependency: “uses temporarily”

- symbolized by dotted line
- often is an implementation detail, not an intrinsic part of the object's state

