

# Class Diagrams

Software Requirements and Design  
T-216-GHOH

Skúli Arnlaugsson | 14. október 2019





# What are class diagrams ?

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- Class diagrams are the main building block in object-oriented modeling
- They are used to show the **different objects** in a system, their attributes, their operations and the relationships among them



# This lecture

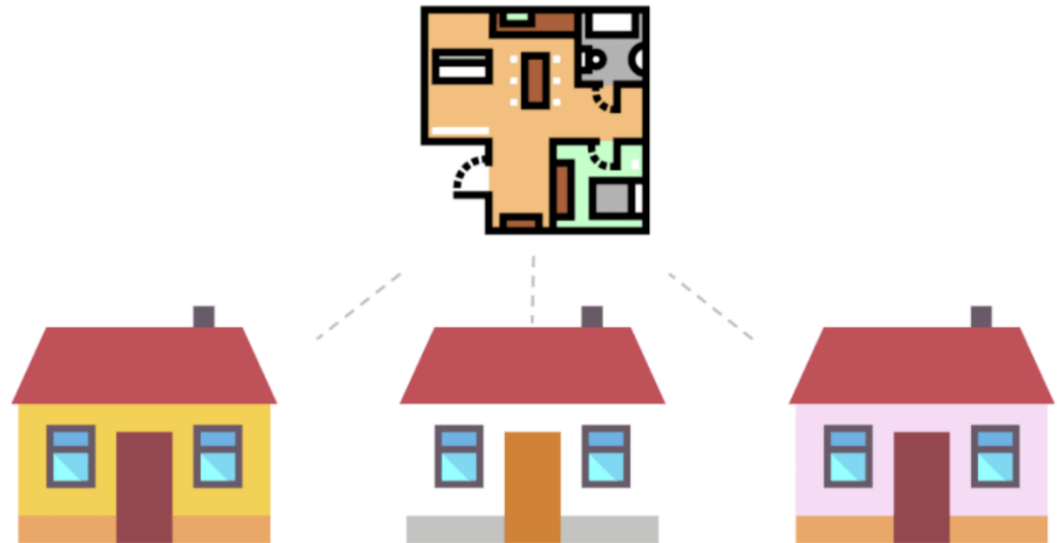
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- Objects in object-oriented-programming (*ísl. hlutbundindinni forritun*)
- Class diagrams notation (*ísl. skrifháttur klasarita*)
  - Inheritance (*ísl. erfðir*)
  - Association (*ísl. vensl*)
  - Dependency (*ísl. háð tengsl*)
  - Multipliers (*ísl. margfeldispáttur*)

# Class



- A **class** is sort of a template for making a new object
- A class is like a blue print of a house
  - But not quite. A house is still a house even if you add or remove a window, while the blueprint would need to change.
- You can build many houses from the same drawing
  - Each house is one instance





# Object Oriented Programming

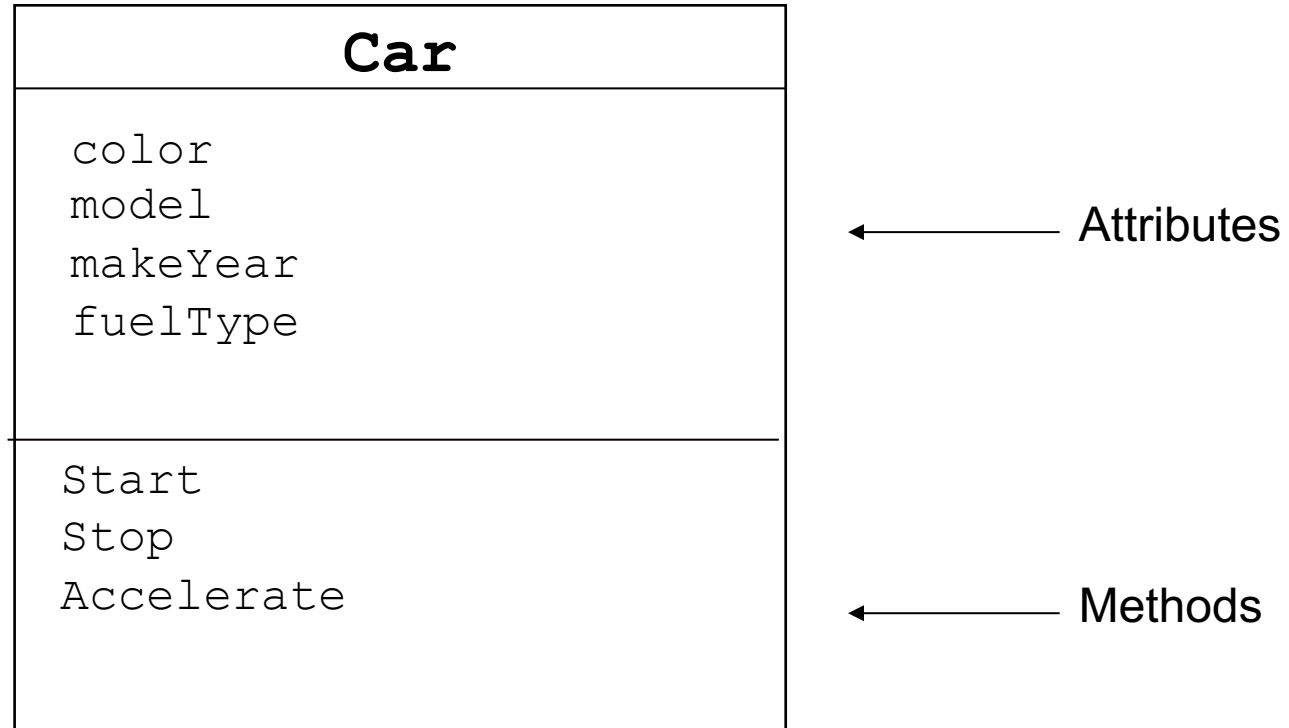
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- A program is a set of objects
- Each object has some number of **attributes** that describe the object
  - color, make, name, age
- The object responds to some **methods** that are particular for that object
  - print, move, open

# Attributes vs Methods



- Methods describe what the object can do

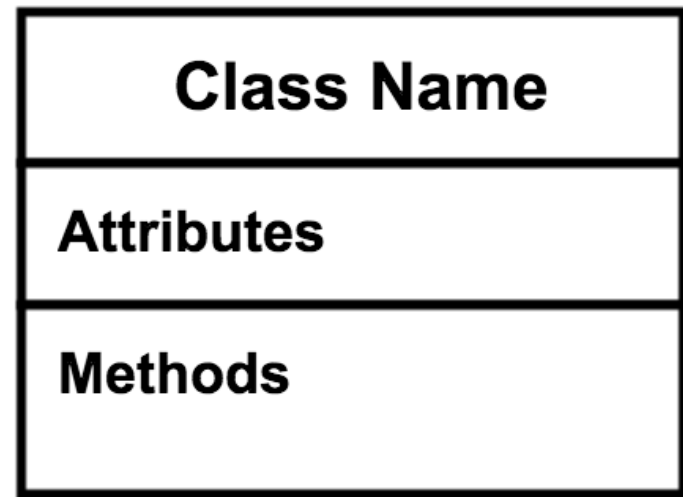


# Classes UML

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The UML representation of a class is a rectangle containing three compartments





# Classes UML

## Attribute notation

```
visability name: type multiplicity = default {property-string}
```

```
+ name: string [1] = "Untitled" {readOnly}
```

**visability:** (+) public, (-) private, (#) protected

**name:** The attribute name - only field that is necessary

**type:** restriction on what kind of object may be placed in this attribute

**multipliciy:** How many objects may fill the attribute(more later)

**default value:** the value for newly created objects if the attribute isn't specified during creation

**{property-string}:** additional properties for the attribute





# Classes UML

## Methods notation

```
visability name(parameterList): return-type {property-string}
```

```
+ sum(a: int; b: int) : int
```

**visability:** (+) public, (-) private, (#) protected

**name:** The methods name - only field that is necessary

**parameterList :** Parameters passed to the method, if any

```
parameter1: type1; parameter2: type2; ...
```

**return-type:** the type of the returned value, if there is one

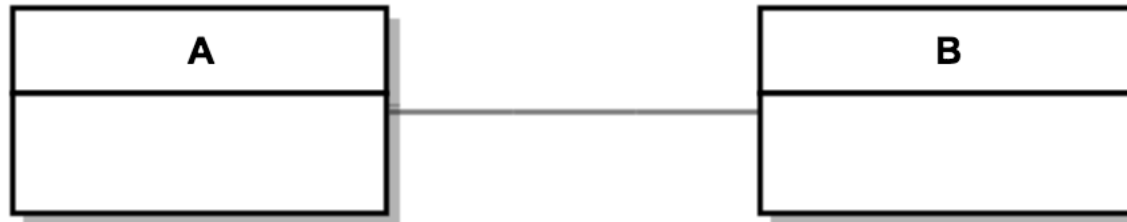
**{property-string}:** additional properties for the method



# Classes - relationships

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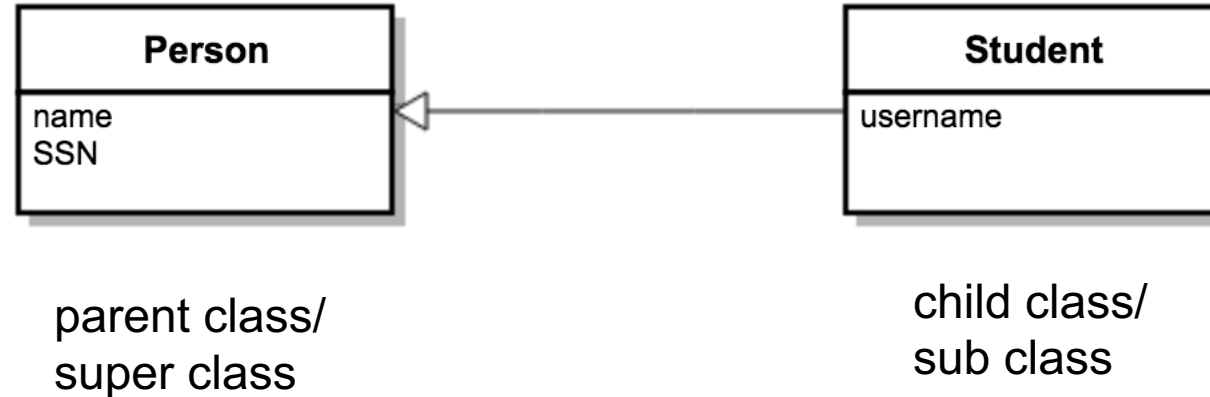
- The relationship between two classes is just as important as the class itself
- In UML, class relationship is defined using a single unbroken line





# Class relationships - Inheritance

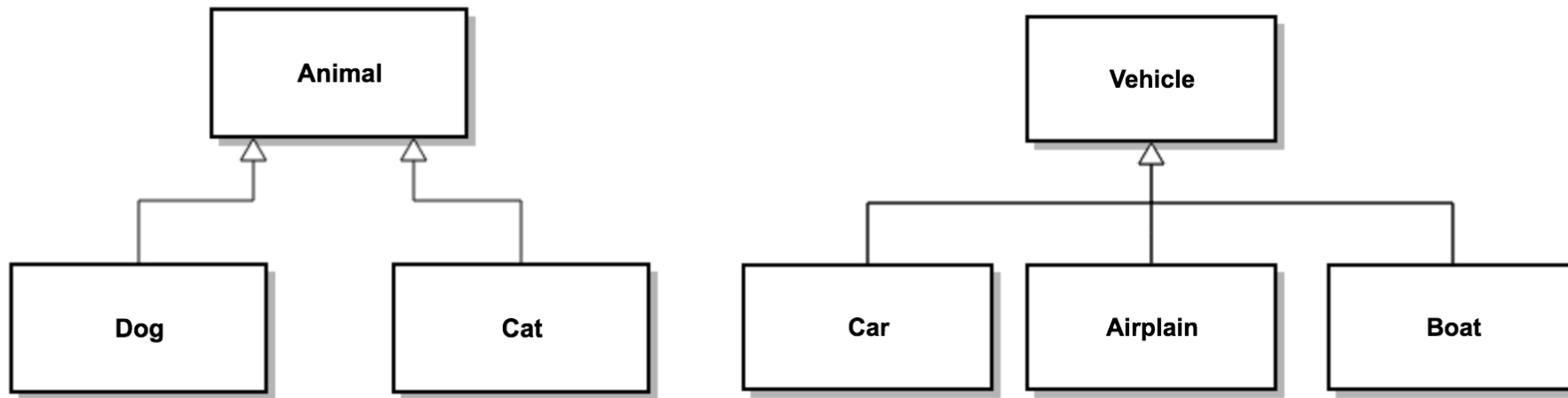
- Inheritance describes the "is-a" relationship between objects
- **Inheritance:** ability of one class (child class) to *inherit* the identical functionality of another class (super class), and then add new functionality of its own





# Inheritance and UML

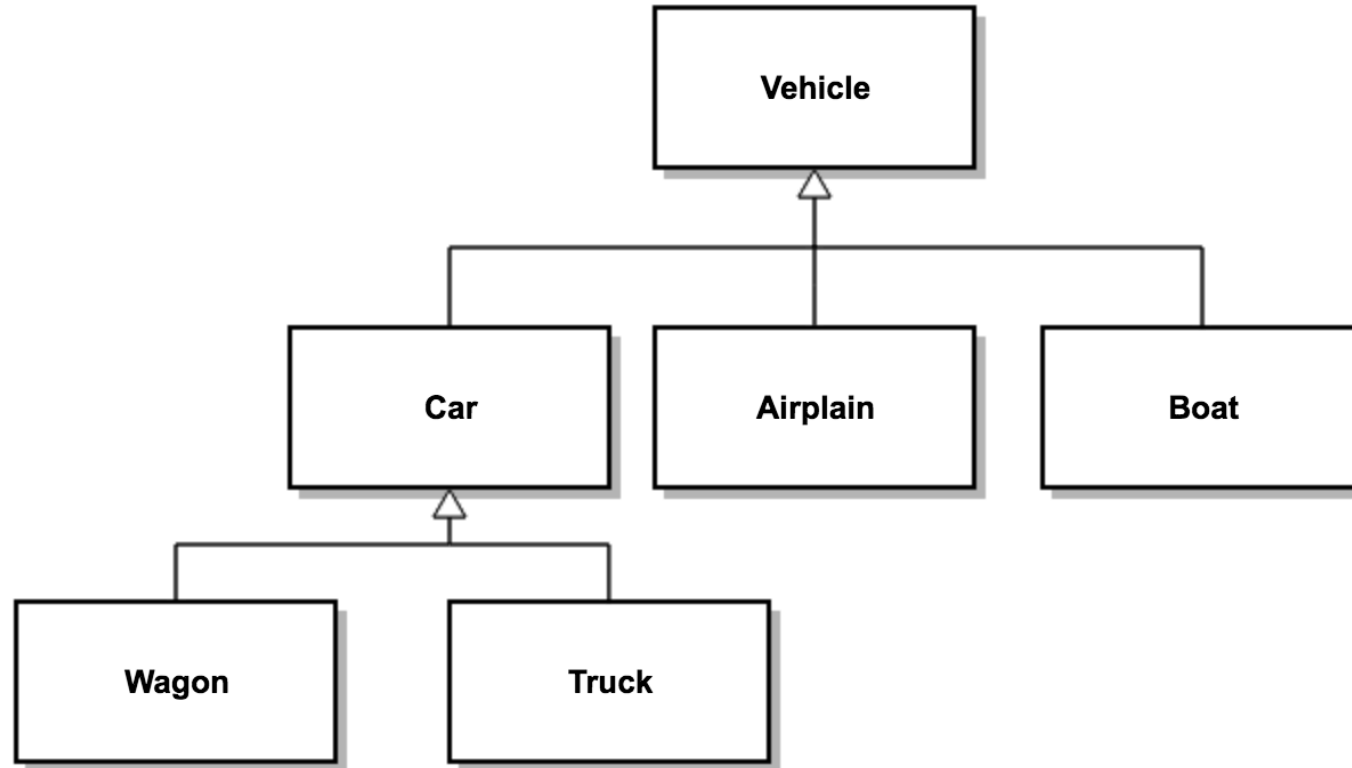
- In UML, inheritance is represented using a hollow arrowhead on one side of the relationship line, pointing to the base class
- Sometimes, the arrowhead is reused





# Inheritance chains and trees

- There is nothing that prevents us from using inheritance on more than one level

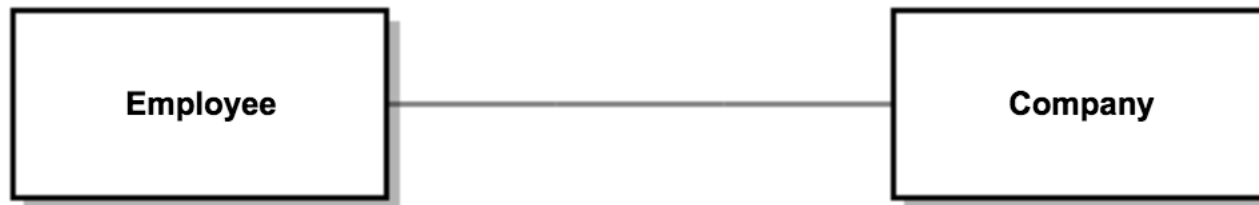




# Association

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- An association between two classes indicates that objects at one end "recognize" objects at the other end
- **Example:** An employee works for a company

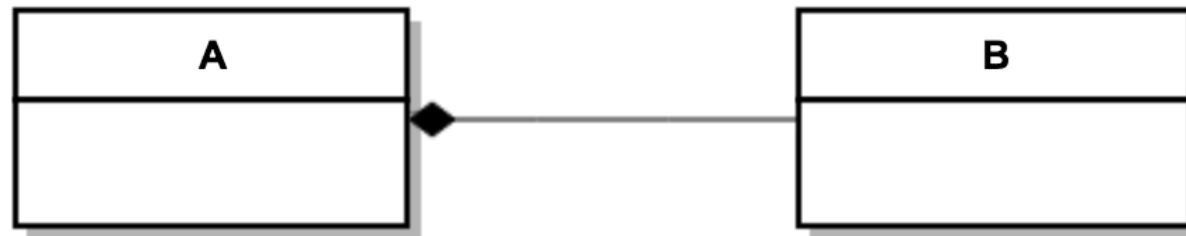




# Composition

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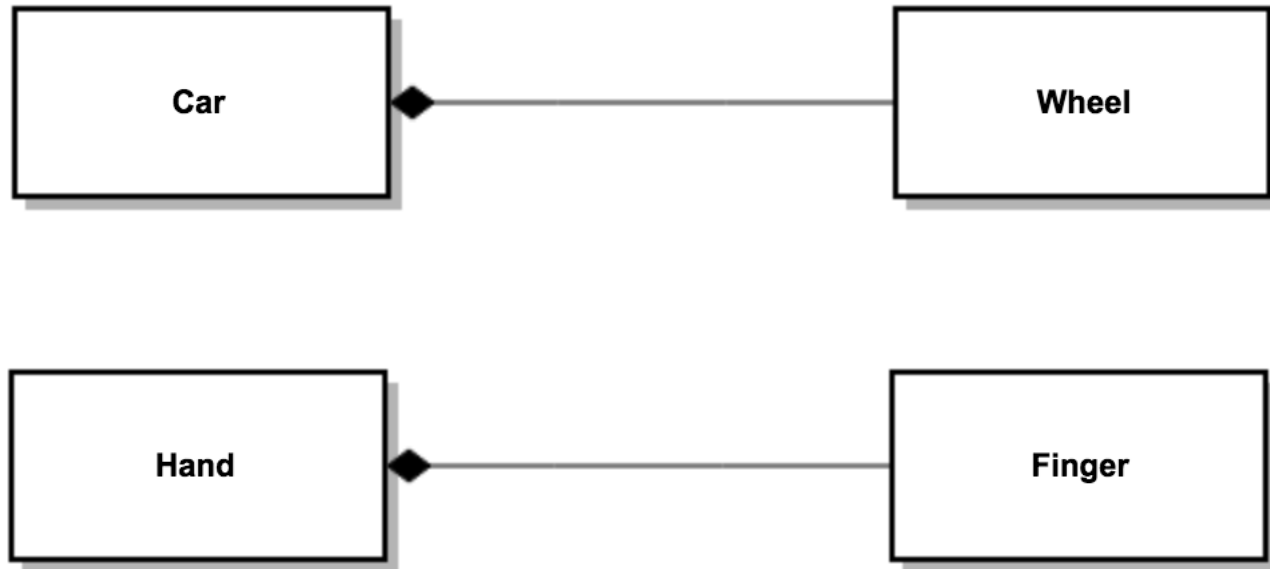
- A variant of the "has a" association
- More specific than association
- Class A “**has or owns**” one or more instances of another class B



# Composition and UML



- Composition is represented with a filled diamond at the end of the relationship line
- Example:

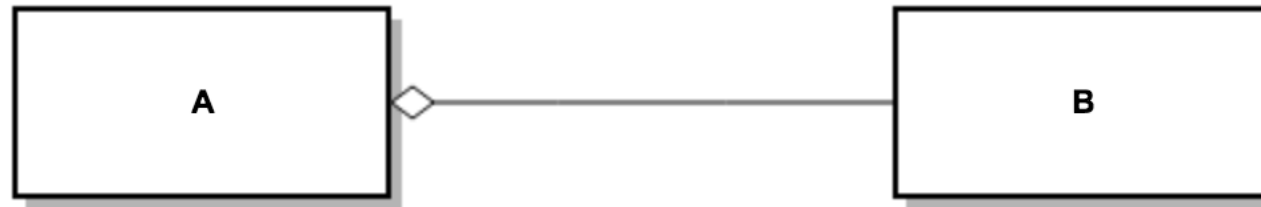




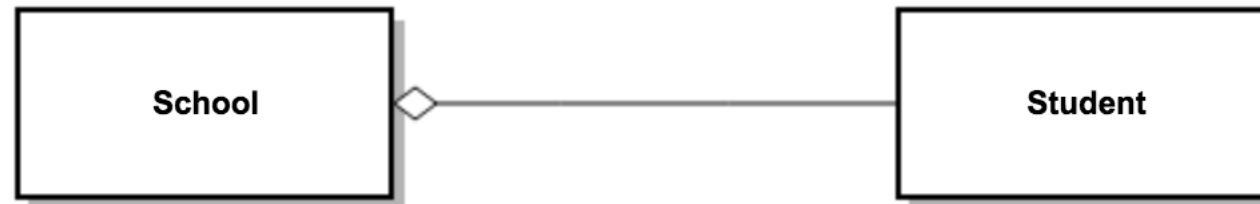


# Aggregation

- Aggregation: class A “**has an**” instance of class B, class B may also stand alone



- **Example:** School may own multiple instances of Students, but a Student can also stand alone

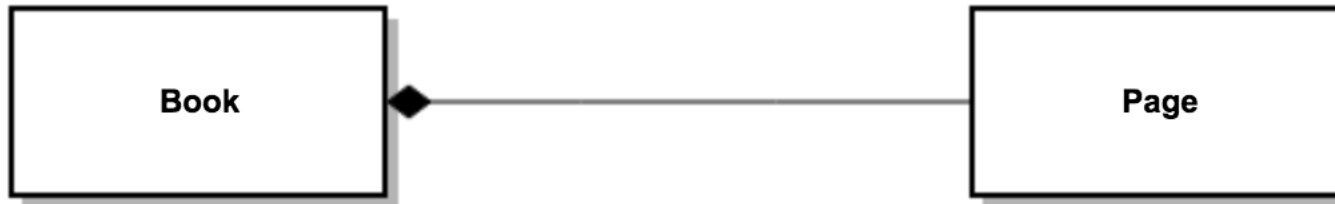




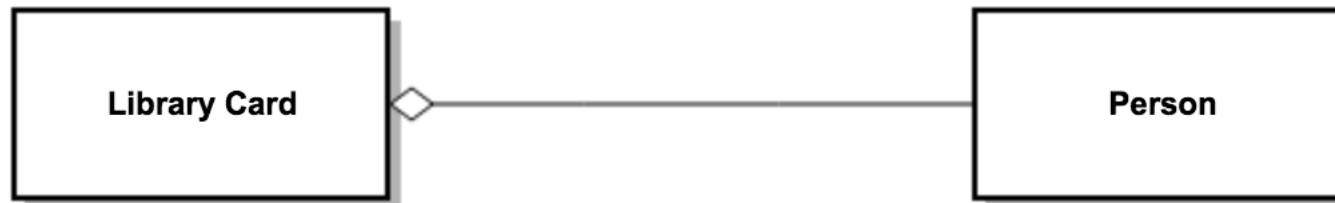
# Composition vs Aggregation

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- **Composition:** A book “owns” the pages in it. If you destroy the book, you destroy the pages



- **Aggregation:** A Library Card “has a” Person. If you destroy the library card, the person still exists



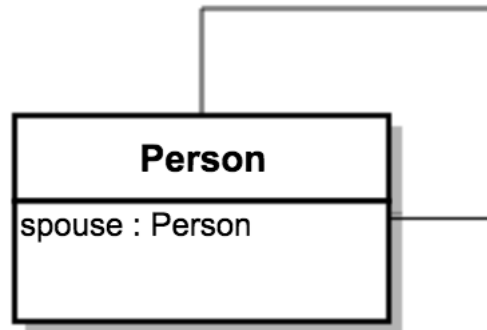


# Association - Reflexive

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Links can exist between instances of the same class.

**Definition:** A reflexive association is an association between instances of the same class.





# Dependency

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## “Uses” relationship

- Dependency is a weaker form of bond that indicates that one class depends on another because it uses it at some point in time.



# Dependency

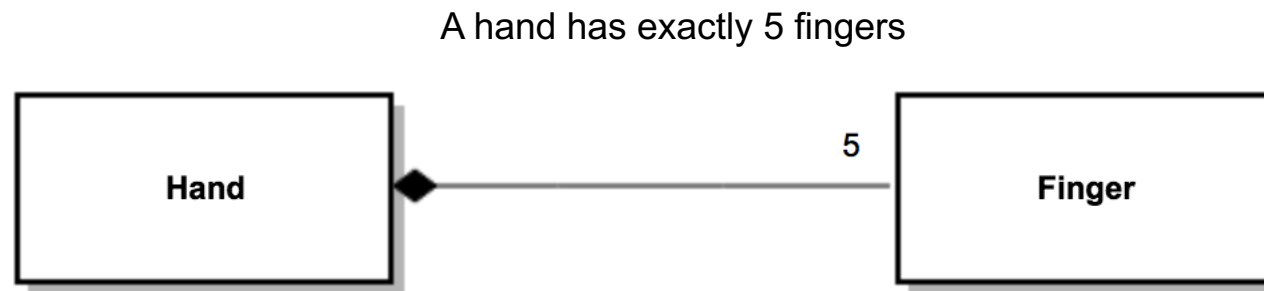
Example: A player rolls a die



# Multipliers



- Multiplicity (*ísl. margfeldispáttur*) defines how many instances of one class can be related to a **single instance** of another class
- Example:

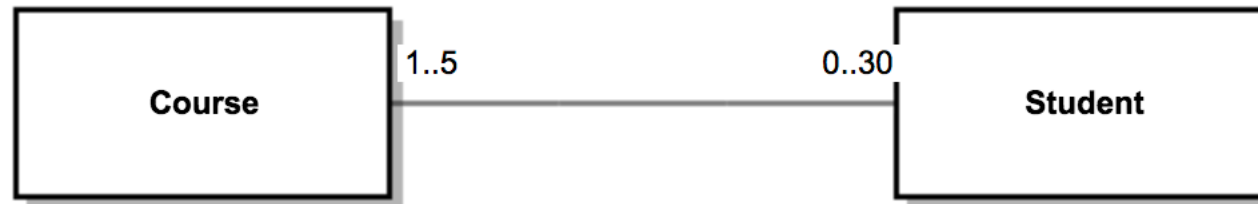




# Multipliers in both directions

- Relationships are often two-way, therefore we often state the multipliers on both sides
- Example:

A course can have from zero (does that make sense?) and up to but no more than 30 students, while a student must always be enrolled in at least 1 course but no more than 5





# Different multipliers

- Sometimes the multiplier is just a single number
- Otherwise, they are in the format `[lower bound]..[upper bound]`
- If there are no restrictions to the number of class instances, the star (\*) is used

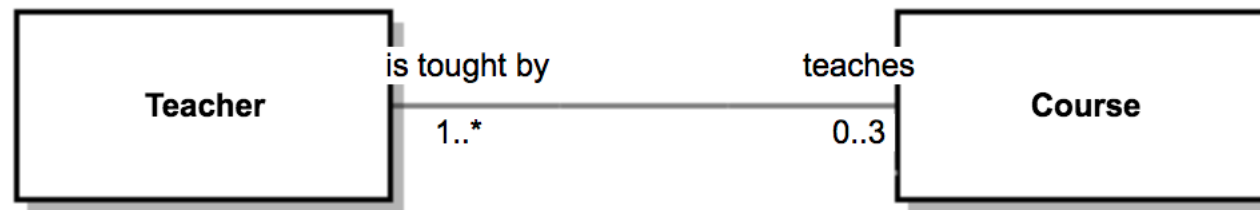
<b>*</b>	Any number (including zero and one)
<b>0..*</b>	Same as *
<b>0..1</b>	Either zero or 1
<b>1</b>	Exactly one
<b>1..*</b>	One or more
<b>2..4</b>	2,3 or 4





# Relationship names

- The name of a relationship - or a sentence which describes it - is sometimes obvious from the context, but is usually helpful to include in a class diagram
- Two classes may have more than one relationship, in that case a name is necessary to identify between them
- Example:





# Relationship names

- What can we read from this diagram?
  - a teacher can teach up to 3 courses
  - A teacher doesn't have to teach any courses (they might be doing research for a semester...)
  - a course must have at least one teacher
  - otherwise, there is no upper limit to the number of teachers a course can have

