

Object-oriented concept

Class and Object

- In old style programming, you had:
 - data, which was completely passive
 - functions, which could manipulate any data

Concept: An object has behaviors

- In old style programming, you had:
 - data, which was completely passive
 - functions, which could manipulate any data
- In object- oriented approach, we have **OBJECT**.
 - An **object** contains both data and **methods** that manipulate that data.
 - Think of JAVA
 - An object is *active*, not passive; it *does* things
 - An object is *responsible* for its own data
 - But: it can *expose* that data to other objects

What is an Object?

***“An object is simply
a real-world thing or concept”***

- Kendall Scott

***“which has
behavior, state and identity”***

- Grandy Booch

Find Objects!

*“An object is simply **a real-world thing or concept**”*

“which has behavior, state and identity”

Q: We are here at CAMT216 for the lecture of SE232.

- what objects do we have?
- what are their behavior, state, and identity?

Thing or Concept

An object can be “**a thing** in the system” or “the system representation of a **conceptual thing**”.

“An object need **NOT** represent a physical thing”. It can be **either physical or conceptual**.

Q: We’ve found some objects for this class/lecture.

- which objects are physical?
- which ones are conceptual?

State

An object has its state, which is “*all the data which it currently encapsulates*”.

The state is represented by “*attributes (or instance variables or data members)* each of which has a *value*.”

- Q: For some of the objects we found,
- define their states. What attributes do they have?
 - does the value of each attribute stay the same?

Behavior

Behavior refers to “*the way an object acts and reacts, in terms of its state changes and message-passing*”.

An object **interprets the message** it receives and reacts to it based on the **current values of its attributes**.

- Q: For the objects we found,
- define their behaviors.
 - what messages do they receive and how do they react differently?

Identity

Identity defines **what the object is**, which **does NOT change** even when the values of its attributes change and it may behave different.

“the name of the object is not the same thing as the object”

Q: For the objects we found,
- define their identities.
- what does this really mean?: *“the name of the object is not the same thing as the object”*

Example: Mail Box



Example : Mail Box

- State
 - Empty
 - Full
- Behavior
 - Add mail into its collection
- Identify
 - Home address

What is a Class?

*“a class is a construct that is used to **define a distinct type**. The class is **instantiated** into instances of itself – referred to as class instances, class objects, instance objects or simply objects. A class defines constituent members that enable its instances to **have state and behavior**. [1] Data field members (member variables or instance variables) enable a class instance to **maintain state**.”*

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Class_\(computer_programming\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Class_(computer_programming))

Class

*“A class is the **blueprint** from which individual objects are created.”* – [The Java Tutorials](#)

But.. **why do we need classes?**

Why not just have objects?

Classes .. Why not Objects?

- **Convenience** (*Write Once!*)

Objects share common characteristics. With class, we can describe a set of objects with the same properties at once.

- **Communication and Checking Errors**

Classes specify what values are accepted in given contexts, which helps both the human readers and the compiler.

Class.. Some Facts

1. “every **object** belongs to a **class**”
2. “the class of an object determines its **interface**”
3. “**A method** is a specific piece of code which implements the operation”
4. “the fact that the object provides the operation is **visible** in the object’s interface: the method that implements the capability is **hidden**”

Class.. Some Facts

5. “the set of **attributes** which an object has is determined by its class”
6. “We call the process of creating a new object belonging to class [...] **instantiating**”
7. “we call the resulting object an **instance** of class”
8. “In languages such as C++ and Java, the class has a direct role in the creation of new objects – it actually does the work. [...] a class can often be seen as an **object factory**.”

Benefits of OO Design

*“Classes are intended to be **loosely coupled, highly cohesive** modules.”*

Easier, cheaper, and more reliable development and maintenance

*“It is inherently natural to **look at the world in terms of objects**”*

What if our system views the world in the same way as users see the world? ... impact to requirements process, making changes, and user interaction with the system?