The World of Objects

Slides borrowed from Maayan Geffet mary@cs.huji.ac.il

The World of Objects

- The World consists of Objects
- Objects are Nouns
- A System of Objects is usually what we want to simulate or implement with a program on a computer



Anything we can put a thumb on

- Traffic System
- Simulate traffic flow, traffic jams
- Objects include:
 - -Cars
 - -Trucks
 - -Pedestrians
 - -Traffic Lights
 - -The Road itself!



- Checkout Counter System
- Simulate throughput at grocery store
- Objects include:
 - -Customers
 - -Cashiers
 - -Groceries



- Class Scheduling System
- Assign students to classes
- Objects include:
 - -Students
 - -Classes
 - -Time slots
 - -Rooms



- Graphical Drawing System
- Allow user to draw shapes and manipulate them on the screen
- Objects include:
 - -Circles
 - -Rectangles
 - -Lines
 - -Polygons



Objects have a State — Attributes



An *attribute* is any characteristic of an object

Objects Can Do Things — Methods



An object has operations it can perform built right into it

Objects Can be Sent Messages



One object can ask another object for a service, by sending it a *message*

One object asks another to use a particular method

Basic Objects

- Objects
 - Nouns, things in the world
- Attributes
 - Properties each of those things have
- Methods
 - Actions that each of those things can do
- Message
 - Communication from one object to another, asking for a method to be used; the way methods are "triggered"

Example – Bank Accounts



- Bank accounts have a state attributes, like owner, balance, kind of account
- Bank accounts (in OOP) can *do* things methods, like deposit() and withdraw()
- Each bank account is represented by an object
- Send an object a message to get it to add or subtract money

Let's Consider Shapes

- Shapes have a state attributes
- Shapes can *do* things methods
- Attributes of a shape:
 - Filled, line width, line color, fill color, location
- Methods of a shape:
 - Fill, Empty, Move, Grow

Fun with Shapes Each Shape is an Object



- Properties of a shape:
 - filled
 - line width
 - line color
 - fill color
 - location
- Methods of a shape:
 - Fill
 - Empty
 - Move
 - Grow

There is a Structure Here

- There are certain shapes of a related kind
- This *prototype* is called a Class



 Each circle is different, but they are all instances of the class Circle

Each Object is an Instance of a Class

• An Instance of the Class "Circle"

• Two Instances of the Class "Square"

• An Instance of the Class "Line"

Classes

- A *Class* is an abstract description of objects having the same attributes and methods
- A specific Object is an instance of a Class
- A Class is the cookie cutter An Object is the cookie





How Do We Create an Object?

- We use a constructor
- This takes a Class and creates an Instance of the class, an object, perhaps with certain properties
- "Construct an Instance of the Class Person, give it the name "bill", and make its Age be 47, its Height be 177 cm, and its Weight be 68 kg."



- Presto! We now have an object "bill", with certain attributes, and with the method Move
- The object "bill" can now be sent the message "Move"

Object Vocabulary

- Classes Prototypes for objects
- *Objects* Nouns, things in the world
- Constructor Given a Class, the way to create an Object (that is, an *Instance* of the Class) and initialize it
- Attributes Properties an object has
- Methods Actions that an object can do
- Messages Communication from one object to another, asking for a method to be used