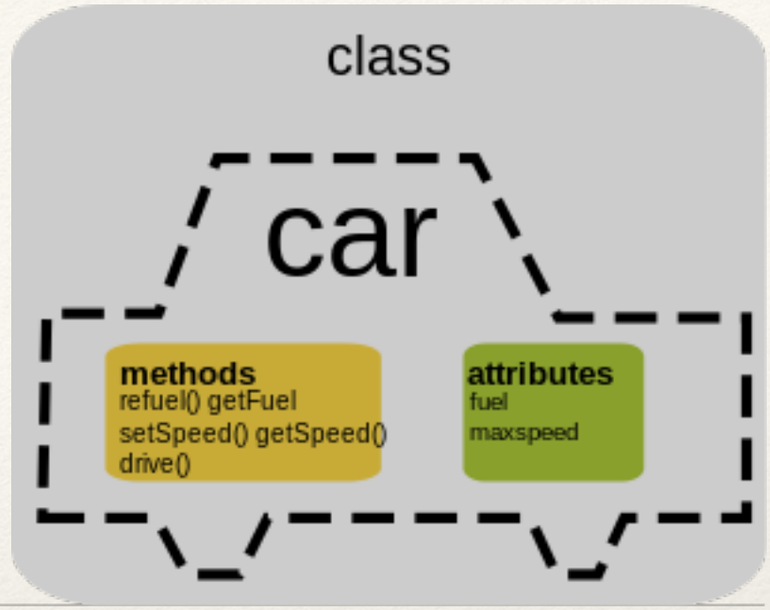
Dr. Sarah Abraham
University of Texas at Austin
Computer Science Department



Object-Oriented Programming

Elements of Graphics
CS324e

Objects in Code

- Objects are:
  - A grouping of related functions and variables
- This assists programmers by:
  - Providing code structure and organization
  - Allowing for more modular, higher level considerations

Classes

- Defines a group of related methods (functions) and fields (variables)
- Defines the behaviors and interactions of these methods and fields
- Outside classes do not need to consider implementation — just expected behavior

Object Instances

- Constructed based on the parent class's **specifications**
- Multiple objects from the same class are independent
  - Can act (and be acted upon) in individual ways
- But objects still have same expected behavior even if they occupy different states

Class Versus Object

Car Class

Name: Car

Fields: make, model, color, speed

Methods: accelerate(), brake()

Car Object

a_car

make: Honda

model: Civic

color: black

speed: 0

Class Code Example

```
class Spot {
  float x, y, radius;

  void display() {
    ellipse(x, y, radius, radius);
  }
}
```

What's Missing?

- Write a method that will "complete" our Spot class!

Constructors

- Block of code that is activated upon object instantiation
- Method always shares class name
- Can assign values to object fields

Multiple Constructors

```
Spot() {
  x = 50;
  y = 50;
  radius = 30;
}
```

```
Spot(float _x, float _y,
float _r) {
  x = _x;
  y = _y;
  radius = _r;
}
```

Using Objects

- Each object from a class must be created using keyword `new`:

```
sp1 = new Spot();
sp2 = new Spot(75, 80, 15);
```

- Now we can display each object individually in `draw()`:

```
void draw() {
  sp1.display();
  sp2.display();
}
```

Class Files

- A single file can contain all of a program's classes BUT please use separate files for each class
- Multiple files:
  - Provide modularity
  - Are easier for groups to coordinate

Using Multiple Files

1. Create main program (`setup()` and `draw()` functions) in a sketch folder
2. Select “New Tab”
3. Give the file the name of the class it contains
4. Reuse class files by copying them to other sketch folders

Note: Each Processing sketch can only have **one** setup and draw function call

Extending Class Functionality

- Fields represent meaningful object values
  - What might `speed` represent in `Spot`?
  - What might `direction` represent in `Spot`?
- Methods represent meaningful object behaviors
  - How could we use a `move()` method in `Spot`?

Putting It Together

```
Spot sp;

void setup() {
   size(100, 100);
   sp = new Spot();
   sp.x = sp.y = 50;
   sp.radius = 15;
}

void draw()
{ sp.display(); }
```

```
class Spot {
   float x, y, radius;
   Spot() {…};
   void display() {
      ellipse(x, y,
radius, radius);
   }
}
```

Question

- What does the keyword `this` mean?

```
Spot(float x, float y,
float r) {
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
  this.r = r;
}
```

```
Spot(float x, float y,
float r) {
  x = x;
  y = y;
  r = r;
}
```

Referring to an Instance

- Keyword `this` refers to the instance calling on the class functions or fields
  - Same thing as `self` in Python
- Every instance knows who they are (`this` is implicit to all function calls and fields!)
  - Must explicitly use `this` if a field is hidden by a local variable

Instapoll Question: Classes

Given this code and assuming all Spot methods have been implemented, what will happen?

```
void setup() {
   size(100, 100);
}
void draw() {
   Spot sp = new Spot(50, 50, 15);
   sp.display();
   sp.move();
}
```

Using Objects in Objects

- Objects can be fields of other objects
  - Allows for better code reuse and cleaner division between concepts
- `PVector` is a class that provides support for vectors
  - Stores x, y, z values as fields
  - Provides methods with useful mathematical functionality

Where to Call "new"

- Calling `new` in `draw` will instantiate an object that is local to the `draw` call
- Possible to save the object into a global array to make it accessible between frames
  - Must be done with great care!
  - `new` (the allocation of memory) is expensive
- Try to create objects as infrequently as possible
  - Create objects upfront during `setup`
  - Create objects based on user input in mouse/key callbacks
  - Create objects using timers (will be discussed later)

Designing Classes

- What should be stored in fields?
  - Data that creates a meaningful representation of the object in question
- What methods should be implemented?
  - Functionality that has a clear purpose and is likely to be called multiple times
  - Helper methods are smaller methods that can assist in building out clean functionality

Designing Classes

- There are no hard rules for when and how to build classes!
  - Take problem into consideration before starting the design
  - Use naming conventions for both fields and methods that express the purpose of that variable or function
  - If possible, avoid writing the same functionality out in multiple places

Object Oriented Programming

- Object-oriented programming works well for programming that models "real world" objects and interactions as physical objects are tangible
  - Have properties and characteristics
  - Have behaviors and interactions
  - Can be categorized into broader categories
- Most useful when creating large-scale systems

Object Oriented Principles

- OOP has 4 principles guiding its design:
  1. Abstraction
  2. Encapsulation
  3. Inheritance
  4. Polymorphism
- Principles should be incorporated into design of a large-scale systems

Abstraction

- Hide internal implementation details and reveal only requested services of the class/object
- Goals:
  - Allows for localized changes to enhance functionality
  - Allows for easier maintainability of class
  - Prevents external changes that could break functionality

Encapsulation

- Use of data hiding to place connected functionality into a single class/object
- Closely tied to abstraction
- Goals:
  - Creates logical groupings to help with maintainability
  - Directly connects data to its associated functionality
  - Controls how data is accessed and modified

Inheritance

- Technique that allows a **child** class to build upon an existing **parent** class
- Goals:
  - Allows for shared code between classes reducing potential bugs
  - Allows for a clear ontology, or categorization, between objects

Polymorphism

- Technique that allows for a class or method to have multiple names or types associated with it
  - Method overloading (same method name, different parameters)
  - Method overriding (same method name, different class functionality)
- Closely tied to inheritance
- Goals:
  - Provides underlying power to inheritance/code reuse
  - Allows for dynamic interactions with objects in a strongly typed, safe way

Instapoll Question: OOP

- Name one of the 4 pillars of object-oriented programming and give a tangible example of its use

Hands-on: Creating Classes

- Today's activities:

  1. Implement the `Spot` class in a Processing sketch.
     Be sure that it is within its own file
  2. Add a `speed` field and a `move()` method, so the spot's position can update
  3. Create at least two Spot objects that start out with different positions and speeds