

**Class 22:  
Inheritance**

David Evans  
<http://www.cs.virginia.edu/evans>

CS150: Computer Science  
University of Virginia  
Computer Science

## Menu

- Objects Review
- Object-Oriented Programming
- Inheritance

CS150 Fall 2005: Lecture 22: Inheritance 2 Computer Science

## Objects

- When we package state and procedures together we have an *object*
- Programming with objects is *object-oriented programming*

CS150 Fall 2005: Lecture 22: Inheritance 3 Computer Science

## Counter in Scheme

```
(define (make-ocounter)
  ((lambda (count)
    (lambda (message)
      (if (eq? message 'reset) (set! count 0)
          (if (eq? message 'next)
              (set! count (+ 1 count))
              (if (eq? message 'how-many)
                  count))))))
  0))
```

CS150 Fall 2005: Lecture 22: Inheritance 4 Computer Science

## Counter in Scheme using let

```
(define (make-ocounter)
  (let ((count 0))
    (lambda (message)
      (if (eq? message 'reset) (set! count 0)
          (if (eq? message 'next)
              (set! count (+ 1 count))
              (if (eq? message 'how-many)
                  count))))))
```

CS150 Fall 2005: Lecture 22: Inheritance 5 Computer Science

## Defining ask

*(ask Object Method)*

```
> (ask bcounter 'how-many)
0
> (ask bcounter 'next)
> (ask bcounter 'how-many)
1
```

```
(define (ask object message)
  (object message))
```

CS150 Fall 2005: Lecture 22: Inheritance 6 Computer Science

## make-number

```
(define make-number
  (lambda (n)
    (lambda (message)
      (cond
        ((eq? message 'value)
         (lambda (self) n))
        ((eq? message 'add)
         (lambda (self other)
           (+ (ask self 'value)
              (ask other 'value))))))))
```

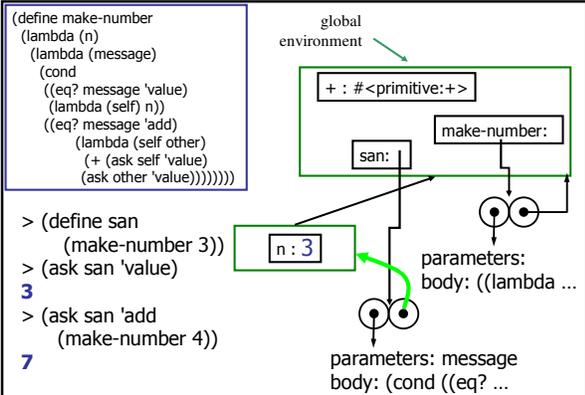
Why don't we just use n?  
(Well see why later today.)

## ask with arguments

```
(define (ask object message)
  (object message))
```

The . means take all the rest of the parameters and make them into a list.

```
(define (ask object message . args)
  (apply (object message) object args))
```



## Object-Oriented Programming

## Simula

- Considered the first "object-oriented" programming language
- Language designed for *simulation* by Kristen Nygaard and Ole-Johan Dahl (Norway, 1962)
- Had special syntax for defining classes that packages state and procedures together

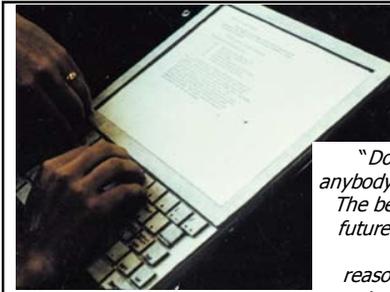
## Counter in Simula

```
class counter;
  integer count;
  begin
    procedure reset(); count := 0; end;
    procedure next();
      count := count + 1; end;
  integer procedure how-many();
    how-many := count; end;
end
```

## XEROX Palo Alto Research Center (PARC)

1970s:

- Bitmapped display
- Graphical User Interface
  - Steve Jobs paid \$1M to visit and PARC, and returned to make Apple Lisa/Mac
- Ethernet
- First personal computer (Alto)
- PostScript Printers
- **Object-Oriented Programming**

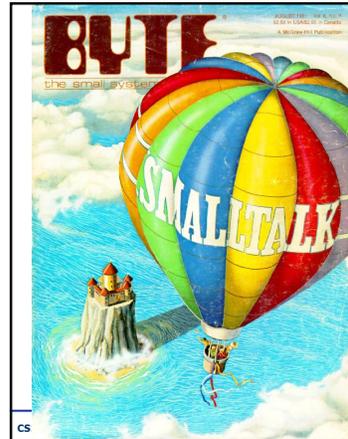


Dynabook, 1972  
(Just a model)

*"Don't worry about what anybody else is going to do... The best way to predict the future is to invent it. Really smart people with reasonable funding can do just about anything that doesn't violate too many of Newton's Laws!"*  
— Alan Kay, 1971

## Dynabook 1972

- Tablet computer
- Intended as tool for learning
- Kay wanted children to be able to program it also
- Hallway argument, Kay claims you could define "the most powerful language in the world in a page of code"
- Proof: Smalltalk
  - Scheme is as powerful, but takes two pages



BYTE  
Magazine,  
August  
1981

## Smalltalk

- Everything is an *object*
- Objects communicate by sending and receiving *messages*
- Objects have their own state (which may contain other objects)
- How do you do  $3 + 4$ ?  
  
send the object **3** the message **" + 4 "**

## Counter in Smalltalk

```
class name counter  
instance variable names count  
new count <- 0  
next count <- count + 1  
how-many ^ count
```

## Inheritance

There are many kinds of numbers...

- Whole Numbers (0, 1, 2, ...)
  - Integers (-23, 73, 0, ...)
  - Fractions (1/2, 7/8, ...)
  - Floating Point (2.3, 0.0004, 3.14159)
- But they can't all do the same things
- We can get the denominator of a fraction, but not of an integer

## make-fraction

```
(define make-fraction
  (lambda (numerator denominator)
    (lambda (message)
      (cond
        ((eq? message 'value)
         (lambda (self) (/ numerator denominator)))
        ((eq? message 'add)
         (lambda (self other)
          (+ (ask self 'value) (ask other 'value))))
        ((eq? message 'get-numerator)
         (lambda (self) numerator))
        ((eq? message 'get-denominator)
         (lambda (self) denominator))
        ))))
```

Same as in  
make-number

Note: our add  
method evaluates  
to a number, not  
a fraction object  
(which would be  
better).

## Why is redefining add a bad thing?

- Cut-and-paste is easy but...
- There could be lots of number methods (subtract, multiply, print, etc.)
- Making the code bigger makes it harder to understand
- If we fix a problem in the number add method, we have to remember to fix the copy in make-fraction also (and real, complex, float, etc.)

## make-fraction

```
(define (make-fraction numer denom)
  (let ((super (make-number #f)))
    (lambda (message)
      (cond
        ((eq? message 'value)
         (lambda (self) (/ numer denom)))
        ((eq? message 'get-denominator)
         (lambda (self) denom))
        ((eq? message 'get-numerator)
         (lambda (self) numer))
        (else
         (super message))))))
```

## Using Fractions

```
> (define half (make-fraction 1 2))
> (ask half 'value)
1/2
> (ask half 'get-denominator)
2
> (ask half 'add (make-number 1))
3/2
> (ask half 'add half)
1
```

```

> (trace ask)
> (trace eq?)
> (ask half 'add half)
|(ask #<procedure> add #<procedure>)
| (eq? add value)
| #f | (ask #<procedure> value)
| (eq? add get-denominator) | (eq? value value)
| #f | #t
| (eq? add get-numerator) | 1/2
| #f | (ask #<procedure> value)
| (eq? add value) | (eq? value value)
| #f | #t
| (eq? add add) | 1/2
| #t | 1
| 1

```

```

make-number
make-fraction
> (trace ask)
> (trace eq?)
> (ask half 'add half)
|(ask #<procedure> add #<procedure>)
| (eq? add value)
| #f | (ask #<procedure> value)
| (eq? add get-denominator) | (eq? value value)
| #f | #t
| (eq? add get-numerator) | 1/2
| #f | (ask #<procedure> value)
| (eq? add value) | (eq? value value)
| #f | #t
| (eq? add add) | 1/2
| #t | 1
| 1

```

## Inheritance

Inheritance is using the definition of one class to make another class

`make-fraction` uses `make-number` to *inherit* the behaviors of number

```

classDiagram
    class Number
    class Fraction
    Fraction --|> Number

```

- **English**  
A Fraction *is a kind of* Number.
- **C++**  
Fraction is a *derived class* whose *base class* is Number
- **Java**  
Fraction *extends* Number.
- **Eiffel**  
Fraction *inherits* from Number.
- **Beta**  
Fraction is a *subpattern* of Number.
- **Smalltalk (72) (and Squeak 05)**  
Don't have inheritance!

Note: people sometimes draw this different ways

## CS 150:

Fraction *inherits* from Number.

Fraction is a *subclass* of Number.

The *superclass* of Fraction is Number.

## Subtyping

- Subtyping is very important in statically typed languages (like C, C++, C#, Java, Pascal) where you have to explicitly declare a type for all variables:
 

```
method Number add (Number n) { ... }
```

Because of subtyping, either a `Number` or a `Fraction` (subtype of `Number`) could be passed as the argument
- We won't cover subtyping (although we will talk more about types later)

## Who was the first object-oriented programmer?

By the word operation, we mean any process which alters the mutual relation of two or more things, be this relation of what kind it may. This is the most general definition, and would include all subjects in the universe. Again, it might act upon other things besides number, were objects found whose mutual fundamental relations could be expressed by those of the abstract science of operations, and which should be also susceptible of adaptations to the action of the operating notation and mechanism of the engine... Supposing, for instance, that the fundamental relations of pitched sounds in the science of harmony and of musical composition were susceptible of such expression and adaptations, the engine might compose elaborate and scientific pieces of music of any degree of complexity or extent.      Ada, Countess of Lovelace, around 1830

## Charge

- PS5: Due Monday
- PS6: Out Monday
  - Programming an adventure game using objects and inheritance