

CMSC 132: Object-Oriented Programming II



Object-Oriented Design

Department of Computer Science
University of Maryland, College Park

Applying Object-Oriented Design

1. Look at objects participating in system
 - Find **nouns** in problem statement (requirements & specifications)
 - Noun may represent class needed in design
 - Relationships (e.g., “has” or “belongs to”) may represent fields
2. Look at interactions between objects
 - Find **verbs** in problem statement
 - Verb may represent message between objects
3. Design classes accordingly
 - Determine relationship between classes
 - Find state & methods needed for each class

Classes

- A class or interface defines and describes a set of objects
- It describes a set of methods or messages that the object responds to
 - Not only the name and signature of the method, but the contract the method respects
- Classes also provide/describe fields and method implementations

1) Finding Classes

■ **Thermostat** uses **dial setting** to control a **heater** to maintain constant **temperature** in **room**

■ **Nouns**

- **Thermostat**
- **Dial setting**
- **Heater**
- **Temperature**
- **Room**

Finding Classes

■ Analyze each noun

- Does noun represent class needed in design?
- Noun may be outside system
- Noun may describe state in class

Analyzing Nouns

■ Thermostat

- Central class in model

■ Dial setting

- State in class (Thermostat)

■ Heater

- Class in model

■ Room

- Class in model

■ Temperature

- State in class (Room)

Thermostat

Dial Setting

Heater

Room

Temp

Finding Classes

■ Decision not always clear

■ Possible to make everything its own class

- Approach taken in Smalltalk

- Overly complex

 - $2+3 = 5$ vs. `NUM2.add(NUM3) = NUM5`

■ Impact of design

- More classes $\Rightarrow$ more abstraction, flexibility

- Fewer classes $\Rightarrow$ less complexity, overhead

■ Choice (somewhat) depends on personal preference

Singleton Classes

- A Singleton class is a class for which there will only ever be one instance
- Makes sense if the class is a subclass of another class
 - For example, you might have a class Person, and a singleton subclass Elvis
- Avoid making verbs/functions into classes
 - Examples – class ListSorter, NameFinder
 - Unless you might have multiple verb classes that all implement a common interface
 - The Strategy design pattern

2) Finding Messages

- Thermostat **uses** dial setting to **control** a heater to **maintain** constant temperature in room
- Verbs
 - Uses
 - Control
 - Maintain

Finding Messages

- **Analyze each verb**
 - **Does verb represent interaction between objects?**
- **For each interaction**
 - **Assign methods to classes to perform interaction**

Analyzing Verbs

■ Uses

- “Thermostat **uses** dial setting...”
- $\Rightarrow$ Thermostat.setDesiredTemp(int degrees)

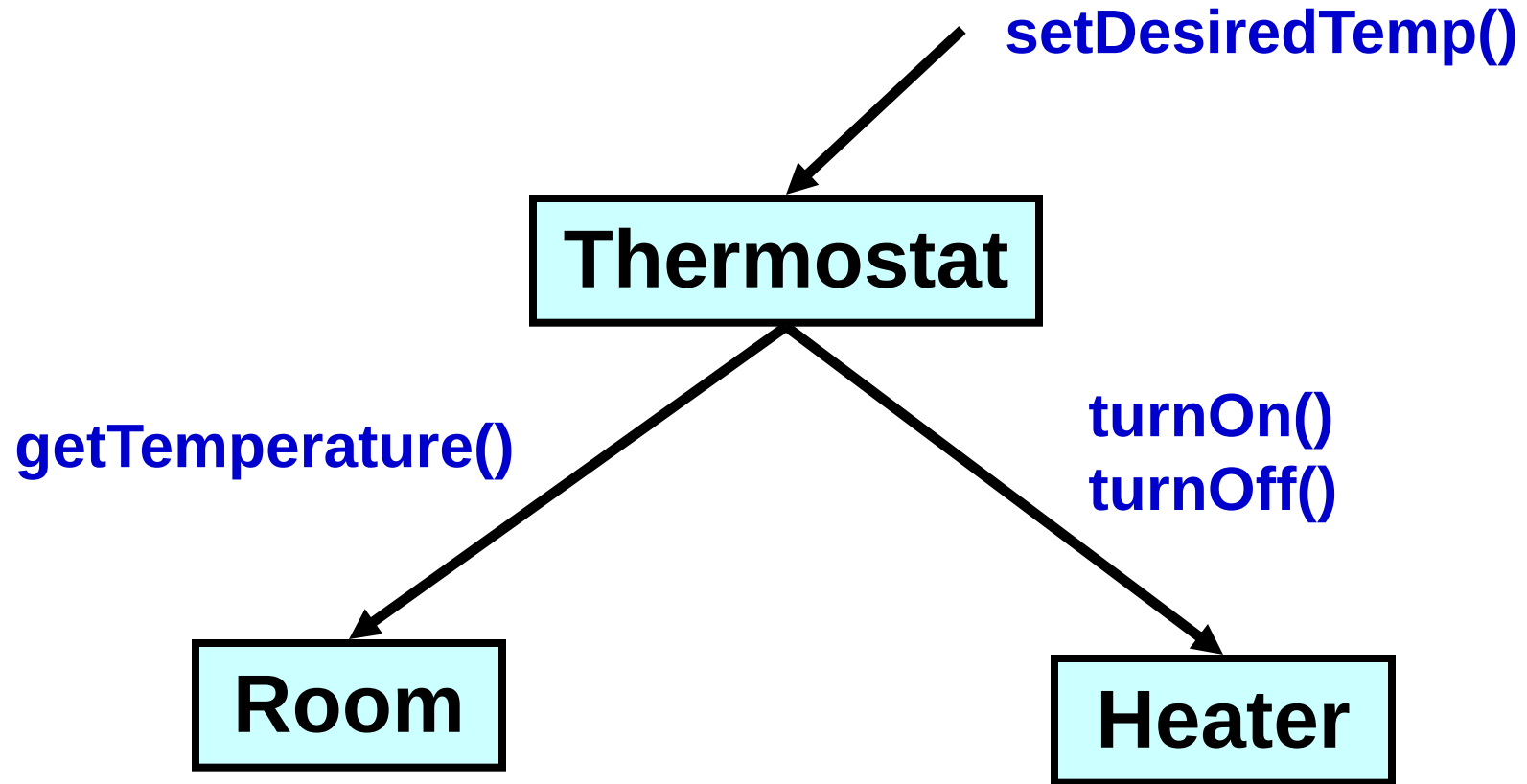
■ Control

- “To **control** a heater...”
- $\Rightarrow$ Heater.turnOn()
- $\Rightarrow$ Heater.turnOff()

■ Maintain

- “To **maintain** constant temperature in room”
- $\Rightarrow$ Room.getTemperature()

Example Messages



Resulting Classes

■ Thermostat

- State – dialSetting
- Methods – setDesiredTemp()

■ Heater

- State – heaterOn
- Methods – turnOn(), turnOff()

■ Room

- State – temp
- Methods – getTemperature()

Subtypes

- If a class Y extends class X and implements interface A
 - then Y is a subtype of both X and A
- If Q is a subtype of P, then Q satisfies P's contract
 - Anyone who expects a P can be given a Q
- This is known as the Liskov Substitution Principle (named for Prof. Barbara Liskov)
 - Not always strictly followed, but an ideal to approach
 - For example, some iterators don't support remove

Which Could be a Subtype?

■ Class B {

```
/** Search for x in a,  
 * return location of first occurrence,  
 * -1 if not found */  
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }
```

■ Class C {

```
/** .. same as above...  
 * uses binary search for speed;  
 * the array a must be sorted */  
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }
```

Which Could be a Subtype?

■ Class B {

```
/** Search for x in a,  
 * return location of first occurrence,  
 * -1 if not found */  
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }
```

■ Class C {

```
/** * Search for x in a,  
 * return location of any occurrence,  
 * -1 if not found */  
int search(int x, int a[]) { ... } }
```

is-a vs. has-a

- Say we have two classes, Engine and Car
- Two possible designs
 - A Car object has a reference to an Engine object
 - has-a
 - The Car class is a subtype of Engine
 - is-a

Prefer Composition to Subtyping

- Generally, prefer composition/delegation (has-a) to subtyping (is-a)
 - Subtyping is very powerful, but easy to overuse and can create confusion and lead to mistakes
- Using is-a restricts you from having a car with more than one engine, or with no engine
- Tempting to use subclassing in places where it doesn't really make conceptual sense to avoid having to delegate methods
 - Don't
- <http://www.feed-squirrel.com/index.cfm?evt=viewItem&ID=53216>

Forms of Inheritance

■ Extension

- Adds new functionality to subclass

- In Java → new method

■ Limitation

- Restricts behavior of subclass

- In Java → override method, throw exception

■ Combination

- Inherits features from multiple superclasses

- Also called **multiple inheritance**

- Not possible in Java

- In Java → implement interface instead

Multiple Inheritance Example

■ Combination

- AlarmClockRadio has two parent classes
- State & behavior from both Radio & AlarmClock

