
CSE 142

Objects, Values and Types

4/5/2004

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Outline

- Role-Playing Demonstration
- Discussion of Demonstration

- Major concepts
 - More about objects (properties and responsibilities)
 - Types
 - Values
 - State
 - Queries and commands (messages)

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Acrobats Role-Playing

- We have objects that are basically responsible for knowing how to:
 - Clap
 - Twirl
 - TellCount
- We have different types of such objects, with slightly different responsibilities:
 - Acrobat
 - Choreographer
 - AcrobatWithBuddy
 - Actor
 - Curmudgeon

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What did we see? (1)

- Acrobats as objects
 - What are their properties?
 - What are their responsibilities?
- Values: pieces of information manipulated by a program
 - Examples: numbers, characters, point on a plane
 - What values did we see?
- State
 - The collection of property values in an object is called its state
 - Values (state) of objects can change over time
 - How did values change?

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What did we see? (2)

- **Commands and Queries**
 - Examples from demonstration?
 - **Commands** can change the state of an object
 - **Queries** determine values associated with an object
- **Commands and queries are messages**
 - May include **Parameters** to pass information
 - May include **Return values**
 - Queries always return a value
 - Chained messages
- **Errors**
 - Did we see any errors?

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Values

- Information manipulated by a program
- May describe a property of an object
- Examples: numbers, characters, point on a plane
- **Simple vs. Composite values**
 - **Atomic** (or *simple* or *elementary*) values: cannot be broken down
 - **Composite** values: composed of multiple simple values



Are the following values atomic or composite?

- 3
- "welcome"
- The point (3,5) on the Cartesian plane
- M
- 2.9783

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State

- At any given time, a particular object can be described by the *values* of its properties.
- The set of all an object's values is called its *state*
- The state of an object changes over time

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Types

- **Type**: Set of possible *values* and associated *operations*
- **Example**: integers with $+$, $-$, $|$, $*$
 - The *values* are the numbers 0, 1, -1, 2, -2, etc.
 - The *operations* are addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication
- The **operations** have to be defined somehow
 - For addition, it may be obvious
 - For division... not necessarily obvious. What is $4/3$?

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Some Types

Primitive types (Yes, this is real Java!)

type name sample values operations

int
double
char
boolean
etc.

Object types (composites)

type name sample values operations

2D Points
Strings
Acrobats
etc.

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Technical Terminology

• *type, value, object, state, message, command, query, parameter, return value...*

• These are not just random English words

• They are widely used in programming, with specific technical meanings

• Unfortunately, giving precise technical definitions for some of them is difficult

• especially at this stage of the course

• Nevertheless, try to use the terms, and use them appropriately!

• (Are those previous two statements contradictory??)

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Objects and Design

• When designing a system

• Determine objects (properties and responsibilities)

• Responsibilities are things an object CAN do

NOT things is "should" do! Different from ordinary English meaning!

• Responsibilities might be can be "knowing" or "doing"

• **Knowing**

Properties of itself

About other objects in system

• **Doing**

Computing

Actions to modify state

Creating other objects

Coordinating activities

• Give examples of knowing and doing responsibilities in the role-playing

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Online Retail Store (1)

• Suppose we want to model an online retail store that sells shirts and pants

• What objects would you use?

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Online Retail Store (2)

• Let's model a shirt:

• Property Type Value

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Online Retail Store (3)

• Shirt

• Responsibility Command or Query Changes state?

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Online Retail Store (4)

• Let's model an online shopping cart

• Property Type Value

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Online Retail Store (5)

• Online shopping cart

• Responsibility Command or Query Changes state?

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Summary

- Values are pieces of information manipulated by a program
- A type consists of a set of values and operations on those values
- Objects have properties with associated values
- The set of property values is the state of the object
- Objects have responsibilities that consist of queries and commands (messages that are passed to the object)