Chapter 18: Case Study: Imperative Objects

What Is Object-Oriented Programming? Objects/Class Implementation



Review





What is Object-Oriented Programming

- Multiple representations
 - Object (instances)
- Encapsulation
 - Internal representation/implementation is hidden
- Subtyping
 - Object interface (code reusing)
- Inheritance
 - Class, subclass, superclass
- Open recursion.
 - Self (this)

This chapter: lambda-calculus with subtyping, records, and references can model all these features!



Object

• object = internal state + set of methods

$$c = let x = ref 1 in$$

$$\{get = \lambda_: Unit. !x,$$

$$inc = \lambda_: Unit. x:=succ(!x)\};$$



Object

• object = internal state + set of operations

Counter = {get : Unit \rightarrow Nat, inc : Unit \rightarrow Unit }



Object

object invocation





Object Generator

• A function that creates and returns a new counter every time it is called.

```
newCounter =
    <u>\lambda_:Unit</u>. let x = ref 1 in
    {get = \lambda_:Unit. !x,
        inc = \lambda_:Unit. x:=succ(!x)};

newCounter : Unit → Counter
```

Exercise: Can you define inc3 c to apply inc of a counter c three times?



Subtyping

• Permit objects of many shapes to be manipulated by the same client code.

```
newResetCounter =

\lambda_:Unit. let x = ref 1 in

{get = \lambda_:Unit. !x,

inc = \lambda_:Unit. x:=succ(!x),

reset = \lambda_:Unit. x:=1};
```

▶ newResetCounter : Unit → ResetCounter

newResetCounter unit <: newCounter unit



Grouping Instance Variables

Allows a group of variables

$$c = let r = \frac{\{x = ref 1\}}{\{get = \lambda_: Unit. !(r.x), inc = \lambda_: Unit. r.x:=succ(!(r.x))\};}$$

0

► c : Counter



Simple Classes

• Describing the common functionality in one place

Abstract the methods with respect to the instance variables



Subclass

 The method bodies from one class can be reused to define new classes

```
resetCounterClass =
    λr:CounterRep.
    let super = counterClass r in
    {get = super.get,
        inc = super.inc,
        reset = λ_:Unit. r.x:=1};
```

```
newResetCounter =
```

 λ :Unit. let r = {x=ref 1} in resetCounterClass r;

▶ newResetCounter : Unit → ResetCounter



Exercise (at class)

18.6.1 EXERCISE [RECOMMENDED, ★★]: Write a subclass of resetCounterClass with an additional method dec that subtracts one from the current value stored in the counter. Use the fullref checker to test your new class.



Adding Instance Variables in Subclasses

 How to define a class of "backup counters" whose reset method resets their state to whatever value it has when we last called the method backup, instead of resetting it to a constant value?

BackupCounterRep = {x: Ref Nat, b: Ref Nat};











Calling Superclass Methods

• Extend the superclass's behavior with something extra

▶ funnyBackupCounterClass : BackupCounterRep → BackupCounter



Classes with Self

 Allowing the methods of classes to refer to each other via self

▶ newSetCounter : Unit \rightarrow SetCounter



Open Recursion (Late Binding of Self)

"fix" is moved from class definition to object creation



 Advantage: allowing a superclass to call a method of a subclass

Example: building a subclass of our set-counters that keeps track of how many times the set method has been called:

InstrCounterRep = {x: Ref Nat, a: Ref Nat};



Open Recursion and Evaluation Order

 Problem with instrCounterClass: we cannot use it to build instances!

Object generator

```
newInstrCounter =

λ_:Unit. let r = {x=ref 1, a=ref 0} in

fix (instrCounterClass r);

► newInstrCounter : Unit → InstrCounter
```



• Solution: delay the evaluation of self

▶ newSetCounter : Unit \rightarrow SetCounter



▶ newInstrCounter : Unit → InstrCounter



More Efficient Implementation

All the "delaying" we added has an unfortunate side effect:

Instead of computing the "method table" just once, when an object is created, we will now re-compute it every time we invoke a method!



Section 18.12 in the book shows how this can be repaired by using references instead of fix to "tie the knot" in the method table.

