

CS 617 Object Oriented Systems
Lecture 3
Object Abstractions, Encapsulation, Abstract
Data Types
3:30-5:00pm Thu, Jan 10

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Outline

- 1 The Object Abstraction
- 2 Encapsulation
- 3 Abstract Data Types
- 4 Readings

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Objects

Every object has its own:

- Id
- State
- Behavior

Id

- Objects are identified and distinguished from one another through their identities.
- At a given point of time during execution, two objects may have the same state and the same behavior, but they are distinguishable through their identities.
- Can objects with nil state and nil behavior exist?

State

- Each object has its own set of local variables
- The values of these variables represents the current state of the object
- Can objects with nil state but non-nil behavior exist?

Behavior

- How does an object undergo state changes?
- Member functions define the behavior
- Objects with nil behavior (no member functions) but non-nil state?

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What is Encapsulation?

- How do you guarantee the integrity of an abstraction?
- Imagine an electronic equipment shipped with open access to internal circuitry
- Encapsulation is a process of concealing the implementation and making sure that access to the object occur only through the interface that represents the abstraction.
- Is encapsulation a new contribution from object orientation? Or did we know it before?

Examples of Encapsulation

- A Process's internal data (pid,page tables etc) may not be manipulatable through the process system calls
- The body of a procedure may not be manipulatable through the prototype
- Local variables within a function are not accessible outside the function scope
- Hidden variables inside a file cannot be linked to
- Private variables and member functions in classes, of course!

Breakage of Encapsulation

- If one gets direct access to internal state, encapsulation is broken.
- Abstraction may then no longer work.
- Pointers in C++ can cause breakage of encapsulation
- Pure object oriented languages do not permit violation of abstraction i.e. they do not permit breakage of encapsulation: **Support and Enforce Abstraction!**

Levels of Encapsulation in Object Oriented Programs

- Internal visibility
- External visibility
- Subclass visibility
- Exclusive (Friend) visibility
- Package or module visibility

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An ADT Example: Unbounded Stack

Let E be the element type and T be Stack type.
 T holds elements of type E .

The below operations are defined for this type.

T new (void)

T push (E, T)

E top(T)

T removetop(T)

Boolean empty (T)

Properties of the operations

- $\text{empty}(\text{new}())$
new creates a nil stack
- $\text{top}(\text{push}(e,t)) = e$
pushed element goes on top, top gives the recently pushed element
- $\text{removetop}(\text{push}(e,t)) = t$
removetop retains the old stack prior to last push
- $\text{not empty}(\text{push}(e,t))$
when a push operation is performed, the stack becomes non empty

Partial Functions

- Some functions are not defined on all members of the input set
- Which of the those defined above are partial functions?

Partial Functions in our Example

- *top* cannot return a value of type E for all values of input type T.
- Which one is that value?
- Similarly *removetop* does not work on all values of input type T.
- Which one is that value?
- How to handle the partially defined functions in ADT specification?

Preconditions of Partial Functions

- $T \text{ removetop } (T)$ requires not empty (T)
- $E \text{ pop } (T)$ requires not empty (T)

Summary of ADT Specification

- Types (used in the ADT)
- Functions (operations defined on these types)
- Axioms (properties over the functions defined)
- Preconditions

Observations

- Nowhere we used the notion of state
- Behavior was defined in terms of a set of pure functions and their properties
- It's not easy to generate an ADT specifications
- Convert ADT specifications into classes

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Readings

- Allan Snyder, Encapsulation and Inheritance in Object-Oriented Programming Languages, OOPSLA 1986, pages 38-45.
- Chapter 6 from Bertrand Meyer's book 'Object Oriented Software Construction'.