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Interpreted: Basic, HTML, ...

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- C# (3): You can create and shoot a gun in C#, but you can't shoot your foot in managed code

 Lua: You come up with a decent way to shoot yourself in the foot, but you're unsure if it's the optimal way to go about it. You ask the mailing list. Someone points out that Lua has a "shoot foot" function built in, but it's only exposed via the C API. The discussion devolves into a long debate about whether various functions should be exposed, how objects and OOP should be implemented, and whether nil should be a valid table index

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- Lua (2): You shoot yourself in the foot while watching enviously how Scheme shoots you in the foot

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Or compile the bytecode to native machine code and run that

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Generally a modest overhead in loss of speed in the execution of the bytecode

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The idea that this is a "safe" language, running in a secure sandbox, preventing all kinds of nasty things from happening: memory overruns, execution of virus code, connecting to rogue Web sites, and so on

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Inaccurately and misleadingly, but to a decent approximation

managed = bytecode unmanaged = compiled

and the word "managed" is mostly used to make "unmanaged" sound bad by comparison

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Large overhead in loss of speed as each line of code has to be interpreted before it can be executed

Note: any given language can be compiled/interpreted/run in any of these ways

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For example, C is almost always compiled, while Basic tends to be interpreted

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Lua is similar to Perl in these respects

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This is important for targeting an application: compactness (for small machines) can be exchanged for raw speed of the running program. Or to allow mobility of the code

Some systems initially interpret the program but keep note of those parts of code that are used frequently, e.g., loops

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Occasionally JIT can produce faster running code than simple static compilation as the compilation process can be informed by the profile information gained from running the program (e.g., which methods are actually being called)

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Exercise. Look at the optimisations that modern implementations of JavaScript use

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Suitable compilation and optimisation is done just once, when the app is installed

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- a faster running app, as there is no run-time overhead of interpretation or compilation
- less energy used, as we don't repeatedly use energy in doing the same compilation every time the app is run

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- installing the app will take a lot longer if a thorough optimising compiler is used. A user would do this just once, though
- the compiled code takes up more space. Becoming less of an issue as memory capacity on small devices improves

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When your phone is idle it then sneakily uses AOT while you are not looking

And it also uses JIT to tune apps as they run

You get the advantages of fast installation and AOT and JIT

You get the advantages of fast installation and AOT and JIT But this makes the Android runtime very complicated!

Exercise. Look at several languages and determine their usual methods of execution

Exercise. Then determine the positives and negatives of doing it differently (e.g., compiling Java to machine code; bytecoding C)

Exercise. Another approach is for the app store to take the code and compile and pre-optimise it into separate codes for each of the various kinds of hardware out there. Then it delivers the appropriately optimised code at download time. Find out about this

Exercise. How is using AOT different from using a classical compiler?

Compilation

You may wish to think about how compilation affects optimisation of your code

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So if the code includes a call f(x+1,y/2), where f is defined in another module, the compiler generally only has the type signature int $f(int \ a, \ int \ b)$ so it knows enough to generate the correct code to pass the arguments and return the value

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But without knowing more about f, it can't do anything clever like that

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Practically, this is clearly quite difficult for larger programs

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Modules are compiled separately as normal, but in the link phase, when all the compiled parts are joined together, the linker can make some optimisations

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Again, technically difficult, but starting to make a big difference

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Used to good effect in JIT compilers

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The rest is easy

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Many people have the implicit assumption that if you know Java then you know all about OO

This is far from the truth: Java way of doing OO is just one way of many

It is sometimes said that an OO language has

"Abstraction, Encapsulation, Inheritance, Polymorphism"

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We shall see the several ways that this is wrong!

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Classes are secondary, and sometimes not there at all!

It was obvious to me 20-some years ago that OOP wasn't a panacea. That's the reason C++ supports several design and programming styles.

In the first edition of "The C++ Programming Language," I didn't use the phrase "object-oriented programming" because I didn't want to feed the hype. One of the problems with OOP is exactly that unscrupulous people have hyped it as a panacea. Overselling something inevitably leads to disappointments.

Bjarne Stroustrup, Feb 2000

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Simula looks like a mixture of Pascal and Java, and has been described as "Algol plus classes"

Simula has constructs like objects, classes, subclasses and virtual methods that followed through C++ directly into Java

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However, it was with Smalltalk in 1972 that the OO concept really took off

• Simula: ?

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- Smalltalk: You send the message shoot to gun, with selectors bullet and myFoot. A window pops up saying Gunpowder doesNotUnderstand: spark. After several fruitless hours spent browsing the methods for Trigger, FiringPin and IdealGas, you take the easy way out and create ShotFoot, a subclass of Foot with an additional instance variable bulletHole

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Smalltalk introduced *metaclasses*, classes that determine the behaviour of other classes, thus enabling *reflection* in programs

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But metaobject programming as a way to implement reflection puts a framework on this which makes it safe to use

But still very powerful

Reflection

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Object Oriented Languages Reflection

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Reflection is where the system can go in and modify things, too

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This is more like 2.plus(3) in Java-like syntax

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But we shall start with the most familiar kind of OO: that typified by having classes arranged in a hierarchy

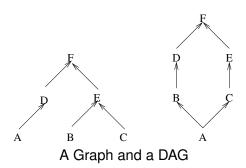
Class Hierarchy

The class hierarchy is the relationship between classes

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This can be in a *graph*, where a class inherits from a single parent class; or a *directed acyclic graph* (DAG) when classes can inherit from more than one parent



Class Hierarchy

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Thus we do not allow loops in the class hierarchy

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Exercise. But look up java.lang.reflect

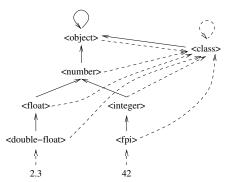
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Exercise. But look up java.lang.reflect

A language will have a default hierarchy of those classes that come with the language



Part of the EuLisp Class Hierarchy (simplified)

There are two hierarchies in this diagram

Dotted arrow is *instance of/member of/is a*; solid arrow is *inherits from/subclass/extends/subset*

Every object is an *instance* of a class (dotted arrow), and is sometimes called a *member* of that class.

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A *subclass* will *inherit* (solid arrow) from its parent *superclass* (or superclass*es*)

It inherits both *structure/attributes* (how the instances are stored in memory); and *behaviour* (the methods)

Every object is an *instance* of a class (dotted arrow), and is sometimes called a *member* of that class.

E.g., the integer 42 is an instance of the class <fpi>

E.g., the class <fpi> is an instance of the class <class>

A *subclass* will *inherit* (solid arrow) from its parent *superclass* (or superclass*es*)

It inherits both *structure/attributes* (how the instances are stored in memory); and *behaviour* (the methods)

Of course, it may override or add to either: generally you override methods, but add to attributes

E.g., <fpi> inherits from <integer>

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And <class> inherits from <object>

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And <class> inherits from <object>

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This is safe to do, as <object> has no structure or behaviour

The class <object> is an instance of the class <class>

Of course, the class <class> is an instance of itself

So there are two kinds of relationships between objects: instance and inherits

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Other kinds of OO dispense with one or both of these relationships

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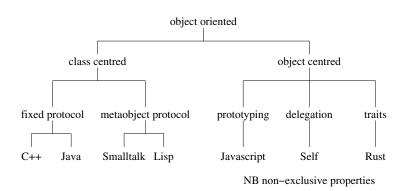
And two kinds of object: classes and non-classes

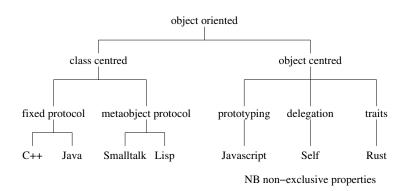
We can make instances of classes, but not of non-classes

Other kinds of OO dispense with one or both of these relationships

Or one of these kinds of object: the classes

Exercise. For Java, C++, Common Lisp, EuLisp and any others determine their initial class hierarchy





Exercise. In this picture, determine which are instance links and which are inheritance links!